

RECIPE-meeting in Tampere, FIN, 4-6.6.2004, WR, 9.6.2004

Socio-economy, discussion on Sunday, 6.6.2004

Participants: Anni Takko, Viviane Froidevaux, Daniel Gilbert, Vincent Pheulpin, Walter Rosselli

Recall of the structure of WP01 as discussed in Charquemont, F, October 2003

- 1) General aspects: **Peat and peatland use in the EU and Switzerland.**
- 2) Specific aspects: **Country-specific study of specific issues using different methodologies.**

Part 1 has been done in FIN (→ Anni: her report was submitted to Gerald Schwarz) and CH (→ Viviane; her report in French is available and the English version will be available soon); the results of F, UK and D are expected.

The second part of the study has been done in FIN (→ Anni) and F (→ Carine Maître) and is in progress in CH (→ Viviane and Vincent); the results UK and D are expected

Next steps concerning Switzerland

- Viviane will work until the end of 2004 at the Centre Nature Les Cerlatez (Philippe Grosvernier) and at the Antenne romande WSL. After performing the RECIPE WP01 part 1 she will continue working on WP01 part 2.
- Vincent is presently working on his diploma project (lasting until the beginning of 2005) at the University of Neuchâtel, Institute of Geography (Prof. O. Söderström). He will work on RECIPE WP01 part 2.

Since no peat extraction is being performed in Switzerland, the research will consider other socio-economical aspects that concern peatlands: **agriculture** and **tourism**.

Viviane will focus on the study of the general agricultural impacts and on the economical interest for tourism. Her approach will consider a close analysis of some chosen sites scattered in different regions of Switzerland: Entlebuch (Bern/Lucerne: northern side of the Swiss central Alps, this site is also a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve), another site that has to be determined in the north-eastern part of Switzerland (canton Sankt-Gallen). If enough data are available God da Staz (Graubünden, south-eastern Alps) and Lucomagno (Ticino, southern Alps) may also be considered. Concerning the Entlebuch Biosphere Reserve, an interview with a person responsible for its development will be considered. God da Staz and Lucomagno will be analysed on the basis of what is known by the federal administration. Lucomagno, that also hosts a nature protection and education centre (Centro ecologico Uomo Natura, Acuacalda) will probably require an interview with the director of the centre.

The approach of Vincent will be more sociological than economical. It will also need a global analysis of both sites that will be studied. It will also include the cantonal protection strategy and the investment for protection in both cantons that are concerned. This part of the study will focus onto two sites in the Jura mountains: Les Ponts-de-Martel (canton Neuchâtel) and L'Etang de la Gruère (canton Jura). The choice of these two sites is interesting since they differ in their situation. An environmental management is being performed in La Gruère, whereas huge conflicts were arising in Les Ponts-de-Martel after the protection of peatlands at the national level (Les Ponts-de-Martel are the remaining of one of the largest peatlands in Switzerland. It was exploited up to 90% of its original surface. This work needs first a historical investigation that will define how the sites reached the present situation: what was done up to now, which were the territorial conflicts and which were the solutions proposed or the solutions that could not be reached, perception of peatlands by the different actors (agriculture, tourism, nature protection, etc.). This last aspect should allow him to establish a value scale.