

CSOs experience in public participation in IFIs funded projects

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Geneva, September 4th, 2012

Where we are?

- **European Development Banks refer to Aarhus convention in their policies**
- **There is limited knowledge of Aarhus conventional and article 3.7 among country representatives in the board**
- **Most of disclosure of env information (except EIAs) is passive, web information are frequently outdated.**
- **Major problem is access to environmental conditions in contracts**

Breakthrough in contracts?

EIB disclosed environmental conditionality for project:

Conditions of disbursement

(...)

(g) Documentary evidence from such competent authorities in Ireland and the United Kingdom as are agreed between the Borrower and the Bank that no part of the Project is likely to have a significant negative effect on any site of nature conservation importance or that potential effects have been identified and that adequate compensation/mitigation measures will be applied; and

(...)

Where we are?

- **Economic situation is frequently used to reduce IFIs “high standards”**
- **There is trend of increase funding through intermediaries - which restricts application of policies**
- **Compliance processes are very lengthy which restricts access to justice**

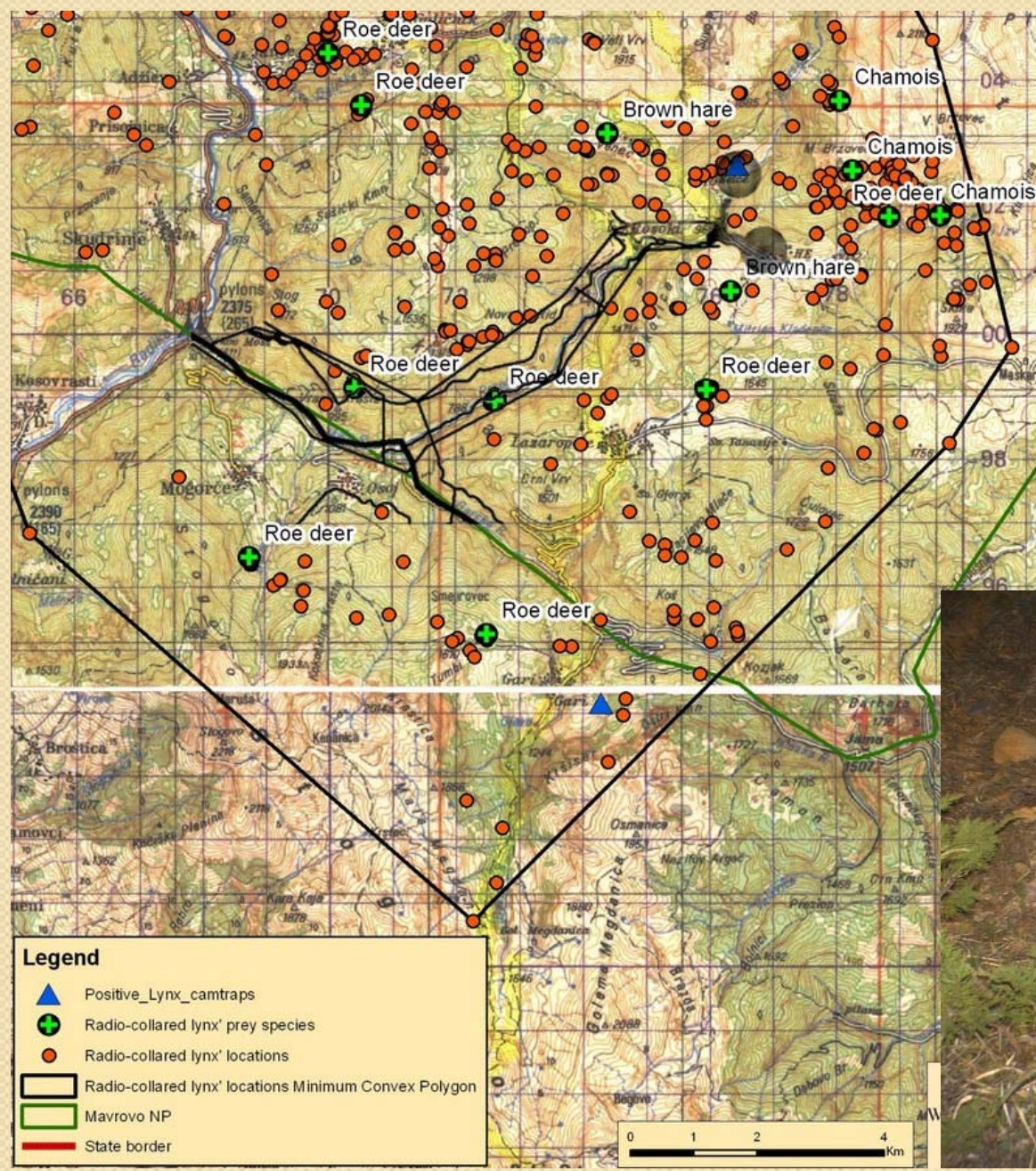
Example: Hydro in Mavrovo NP, Macedonia

- **Boskov Most HPP (EBRD), Lukovo Polje HPP (World Bank), small HPPs (EBRD)**
- **The EIA did not provide a reasonable analysis of the risks on the wildlife: the area of the project is home of the Balkan Lynx, a subspecies of the Lynx lynx, and IUCN is considering it as critically endangered.**
- **After protest EBRD recommended to organise bio-monitoring phase of 12 months prior to the construction of the dam, but “preparatory activities” and construction of small HPPs compromise results**

Boskov Most HPPs

Movement of the GPS monitored lynx, 2010

Source: MES



Recommendations

- **Focal Points to contact country representatives in various IFIs to provide training/feedback on policies or projects**
- **2013 - EBRD will review its Environmental and Social Policy and Compliance Mechanism**
- **Major improvements is needed in all IFIs:**
 - **Releasing of environmental requirements that are included into project contracts**
 - **Regular disclosure of environmental information (eg. monitoring reports)**
 - **Ensuring that compliance mechanisms provide response in timely manner**

Thanks for your attention!

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