

ANNEX M6**MONITORING VISIT REPORT****Part I**

Contract title:	BIOLFISH		
Contract number:	2005-0017-634016		
Beneficiary:	EKO Liburnia - Association for Development of Ecotourism, Organic Agriculture and Environmental Protection		
Project duration:	11 months	Project start day:	27/09/2007
4-monthly report(s) received (date):	17/05/2008	Interim Report received (date):	N/A
Previous project visits:	None		

Date of the visit:	24/06/2008
Project month:	9th month
Venue/place:	Beneficiary's premises at Jelacicev trg 1/III, Rijeka
Participants (position and name):	1. Ranko Tadić, Project manager & expert 2. Kristina Badurina, Project administrator 3. Damir Kuzmić, Task manger, MRDFWG

1. Project aims, activities and present state of play

Total project amount is € 79.657,50, out of which 88,95% (€70.855,35) is co-financed by the Contracting authority.

Up to date the project **was monitored** by means of 1 progress report covering period from start date to 31st April 2008. Progress report was reviewed and conclusion is that, in terms of activities and funds disbursement, the project implementation is progressing very well and in accordance with the schedule.

The **aim** of the project is quality improvement and the valorisation of olive oil and seafood products from sustainable fishery, organic agriculture and breeding on the Adriatic coast.

The general objectives of the project are:

1. To create a framework that would include the olive oil sector, fisheries and aquaculture sector, with the objective to promote sustainable fishing activities and to diffuse the organic agriculture and breeding method.
2. To valorise the territorial productions using the strong symbolic value of the olive tree and the particular familiarity of the local populations with this product, also in a way to improve knowledge of the territory and of the Adriatic seafood productions.
3. To create a stable network that would aim to institutionalize an event of significant international importance - BIOLFISH - that, taking advantage of the success of Premio Biol, would bring the attention of the buyers and of the general public on the union between the soil and the sea, using the strongly evocative value of the relation between seafood and olive oil.

The **direct beneficiaries** of the *BIOLFISH* project are the producers, while the indirect beneficiaries are buyers and/or large consumer groups, general public and territory of interest of the project.

Project partners are coming from Italy, Albania and Croatia. Lead partner is Region of Puglia, Italy.

Project activities implemented/being implemented are:

B1 BIOLFISH Committees and front office

- BIOLFISH front office in Croatia was established on 26.09.2007. in head office of Eko Liburnia in Rijeka with Project administrator as operator. In its every-day work BIOLFISH front office is supported by: (i) AgriBioCert office in Omisalj (Project manager - technical advise); (ii) Centre for sustainable development of north Adriatic islands office in Punat (covering project area north); and (iii) Regional development agency DUNEA Dubrovnik (covering project area south) BIOLFISH front office in Croatia is composed of an office and one operator, and it is active during office hours for all the duration of the project so as to answer the consumers' and operators' requests regarding quality of seafood products and olive oil obtained with the organic method. It is also having the task of organizing seminars and course on nutritional & organoleptic characteristics of the products.

B2 Partnership Seminars and Territorial Events

- Four partnership seminars were held, out of which, three were held in Italy and one seminar in Croatia, hosted by Eko Liburnia, held in Dubrovnik from 2-6 April 2008 (including travel). Besides study trips to Peljesac (3rd April) and Konavle (4th April) twenty participants from Italy and Croatia took part in the 2. Mediterranean Conference on Organic Agriculture in Croatia with a BIOLFISH round table on 5th April.

- 4 out of 10 territorial events were organised so far

B3 Courses on nutritional and organoleptic characteristics

- First course was organised during BIOLFISH event in Monopoli, Italy, with 3 attending participants from Croatia and second one will be organized in Croatia, in August.

C1 Publication and Promotional Activities

- Italian partners are responsible for this activity. Eko Liburnia assisted through participation to fairs and regular contacts with Croatian media during B2 activities.

C2 Participation to fairs

- Beneficiary participated on three fairs. However, due to delay in official starting of Biolfish project activities in Croatia, only participation to BioFach fair (Nuremberg; Germany, 21-24.02.2008) is financially covered by the Project unlike for Italian partners. BiolFish participation in Olio Capitale was covered by the Croatian radio and TV.

D1 Conference Organization

- Italian partners are responsible for this activity. Eko Liburnia assisted through participation of its Project Manager as the speaker to the conference in Monopoli. Furthermore, BIOLFISH representatives took part in the 2. Mediterranean Conference on Organic Agriculture in Croatia in Dubrovnik in April 2008

E1 BIOLFISH International Prize

- Activity was held in Monopoli near Bari, Puglia region from 19-28.04.2008.. Italian partners were responsible for this activity. Eko Liburnia assisted through: (1) selection of the best Croatian organic oils in BIOL 2008 competition; (2) participation in the course for organic inspectors` in

aquaculture; (3) exhibiting at the Croatian stand displaying organic products; (4) participation in Biol Photo competition; and (5) participation in the Project organised conferences.

2. Project progress (activities, outputs/results, indicators, disbursement, interim/final reports)

In terms of the activities, the project is progressing very well and in accordance with the schedule. All activities planned for the first half of project implementation are carried out. Consequently, there are no significant delays in disbursement and it is predicted that the budget will be consumed at the time of the final report.

The cross border effect of the project is achieved through constant exchange of best practices and experiences between project partners on regular partner meetings and workshops as well as by organizing joint events such BIOLFISH International Prize.

3. Project management (staff capacity, oversight of project, cooperation with partners, knowledge of procedures)

Project management and coordination as well as technical part of the work are done by Project manager, Mr Ranko Tadić.

Administrative management, bookkeeping and finances are done by Ms Kristina Badurina, Project administrator.

Technical and administrative management is going smoothly due to several circumstances: the beneficiary's experience in international projects and nature of the project which envisages only "soft" activities focused on the work with operators in field of olive oil industry and organic agriculture which is the area in which the Beneficiary is highly experienced.

Coordination with international partners is done via periodic meetings, joint events and daily communication as needed.

4. Sustainability

The action of the informative front offices will have numerous positive consequences for the producers. They will have access to a reference point for information on organic agriculture methods, on eco-compatible fishing methods and on various initiatives at the local and international level. The producers who participate to the local events and seminars will become aware of the quality of their products and of the best commercialisation strategies.

The participation to international meetings will enable them to familiarize themselves with the most recent production technologies and with the general status of the sector at the international level.

The *BIOLFISH* event will allow the producers to come in contact with the main international buyers, thus favoring commercial possibilities. The presence of wholesalers and representatives of the seafood and olive oil markets represents an appointment of great importance in this age of global economy.

The consumers will benefit from the activities of the informative front offices by receiving information on the quality of the local productions. Moreover, they will be able to participate to the courses on nutritional and organoleptic characteristics as well as to local seminars.

The acquisition of knowledge about the quality of products featured in *BIOLFISH* will allow the consumers to decide with full awareness in regard to alimentation.

5. Procurement (progress and procedures used)

Documentation for all procurement procedures carried out so far (one above € 5000 and few below € 5000) was inspected during the project visit and seem full and in order.

6. Results/activities/outputs seen (including EU visibility guidelines)

During the visit, internal technical project documentation was inspected - materials from workshops, seminars and meetings, press releases, etc. All purchased equipment is properly marked respecting the EU visibility requirements.

7. Filing (general, content, procurement, payments)

The beneficiary's filing system seems logical and in order; files are organised per content (workshops, meetings), management (contracts, reports, timesheets, travel sheets etc) and finances (receipts, orders, payment records). VAT exemption certificates are orderly acquired and archived.

8. Problems/deviations (including irregularities)

Important problems / deviations not observed. No irregularity noticed.

9. Recommendations to beneficiary: (activity, responsibility, deadline)

Upon the request, the beneficiary was advised on specific practicalities of project implementation. Other than that, there are no particular recommendations to the beneficiary as the project is progressing very well and in accordance with the schedule.

Part II

1. Conclusion

The project is progressing very well and in accordance with the schedule and it will most probably fulfil its aim and purpose.

2. Recommendations to PIU/CFCU: (activity, responsibility, deadline).

There are no recommendations for the PIU or CFCU staff at this time.

Prepared by:	Endorsed by HPIU:	Approved by SPO:
Name of the PM: Damir Kuzmić	Name: Darko Stilinović	Name:
Date: 6th August 2008	Date: 6th August 2008	Date:
Signature:	Signature:	Signature: