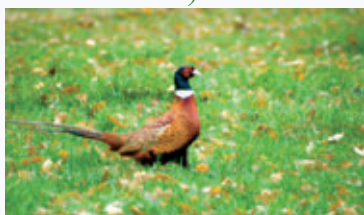


SUSTAINABLE HUNTING

ELO believes that properly managed hunting activities are compatible with NATURA 2000 requirements when these fall within the scope of sustainable rural development and contribute to the protection of biodiversity. We recall the necessity to transmit this positive message to society: **sustainable hunting and appropriate management of hunting estates bring added value to the common good, not only in terms of environmental protection, but also in terms of socioeconomic aspects such as diversification of revenue sources for the rural world through the creation of an economy around wildlife products (i.e hunting products, bird watching, gastronomy, landscape conservation...)**



*The ELO's "Pilot Wildlife Estates" and "Sustainable Hunting" Initiatives are in line with the **Guidance Documents on Hunting of the EU Commission** and the **Agreement between BirdLife and FACE**, the Federation of the E.U Associations for Hunting and Conservation, with which ELO is running the Secretariat of the European Parliament Intergroup on Sustainable Hunting, Biodiversity and Countryside activities.*

I. "Pilot Wildlife Estates" Initiative (PWED)

This initiative aims at establishing, within the framework of a sustainable development policy:

- simple principles of good management and conservation of wildlife estates all over Europe which can be adapted according to the different hunting methods of the various regions of the European Union.
- A network of well-managed and exemplary estates.

The idea is to identify "exemplary" estates, which will be studied in order to determine criteria and indicators on the basis of which it will be possible to create a "label". Once the estates will be identified, it will be possible to bring out exemplary management practices in order to produce guidelines for each bio-geographic area.

ELO advocates that hunters are above all wildlife, flora and landscape producers.

This initiative addresses various aspects falling within the scope of DG Environment. **The "Pilot wildlife Estates" initiative is in a "grey zone" stage, which will increase in importance in the near future, as it does not merely focus solely on the protection of biodiversity, but also associates economic aspects (=sustainability).** This is very important given the budgetary restrictions of pillar 1 and the foreseeable development of pillar 2.

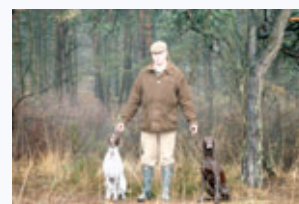
These estates represent a considerable potential for society, namely as regards the visibility they give to the public. It will raise people's awareness of the quality of the wildlife population.

II. Sustainable Hunting Initiative (SHI)

This initiative is the result of an agreement between FACE (coordinator), ELO (partner) and BirdLife International (collaborator)

It aims to contribute to biodiversity conservation through

- **Improving understanding of NATURA 2000**
- **Promoting dialogue between hunters & other stakeholders**
- **Favouring users' active participation in the management of N2000 sites**



It takes the form of a European workshop composed of 5 seminars such as the one organised in the Mediterranean region by ELO/FCSGREA for 15th / 16th of June 2006 in Madrid (Spain).