



WWF

FACTSHEET

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Nature Restoration

Liberty Islands

Riverine habitat restoration along the Danube river in Hungary.



LIFE+ project

In 2007, with the financial contribution of Coca-Cola Hungary, WWF Hungary was able to submit a tender to the LIFE+ program of the European Union supporting projects focusing on the protection of the environment.

The aim of the project is to save the Liberty Island and its side arm that has been silted-up due to a rock-fill dam built in 1982.

1,8 million €

THE LIFE+ PROJECT
FOR THE RESTORATION
OF LIBERTY ISLAND TO
PROVIDE GOOD LIFE
CONDITION FOR
PROTECTED SPECIES

The key advantages of the project

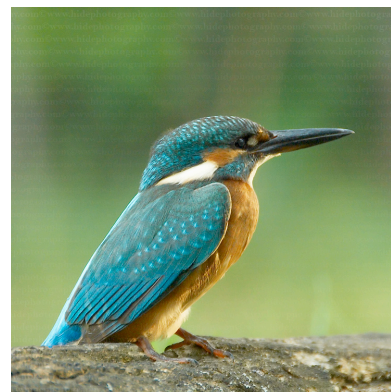
- Save a natural island from disappearing and becoming one with the main land
- Ensured continuous water flow in the side-arm
- The side-arm will serve as a "fish cradle" for rare Danube species (e.g. sterlet);
- Preserve alluvial nature forest;
- Secure pure, safe drinking water for the south part of Baranya county;
- An aquarium nature trail created on the island for students and visitors interested to learn about wetlands;
- The town of Mohacs will receive the side arm back, which will serve as a safe area for bathing, fishing and boating.

Restoration step by step

The Liberty Island has been purchased for the Hungarian state to be managed by the Danube-Drava National Park Directorate as the first step of the 5-year-long project.

- After the conciliatory and preparatory process the following actions will be taken:
- transformation of hybrid poplar plantations into forests composed of native species, and reduction of invasively spreading tree species in the project area,
- ecological dredging of the silted-up sediments from the side channel,
- disassembly of the closing rock-fill dam in the side channel,
- relocation of the hydraulical delivery pipe under the riverbed.

The co-operation aimed at saving the island is a perfect example of how non-governmental organizations, representatives of the public sector and large enterprises joining forces and taking joint responsibility can lead to new opportunities opening up to protect our natural resources.



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Facts

**+47 available rare habitats
restored and protected**

**+200,000 m³ of silt removed
fro the side channel**



Why we are here

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

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