

Implementation of the Pan-European Ecological Network in Russia

Nikolay Sobolev

Institute of Geography of the Russian Academy of Sciences

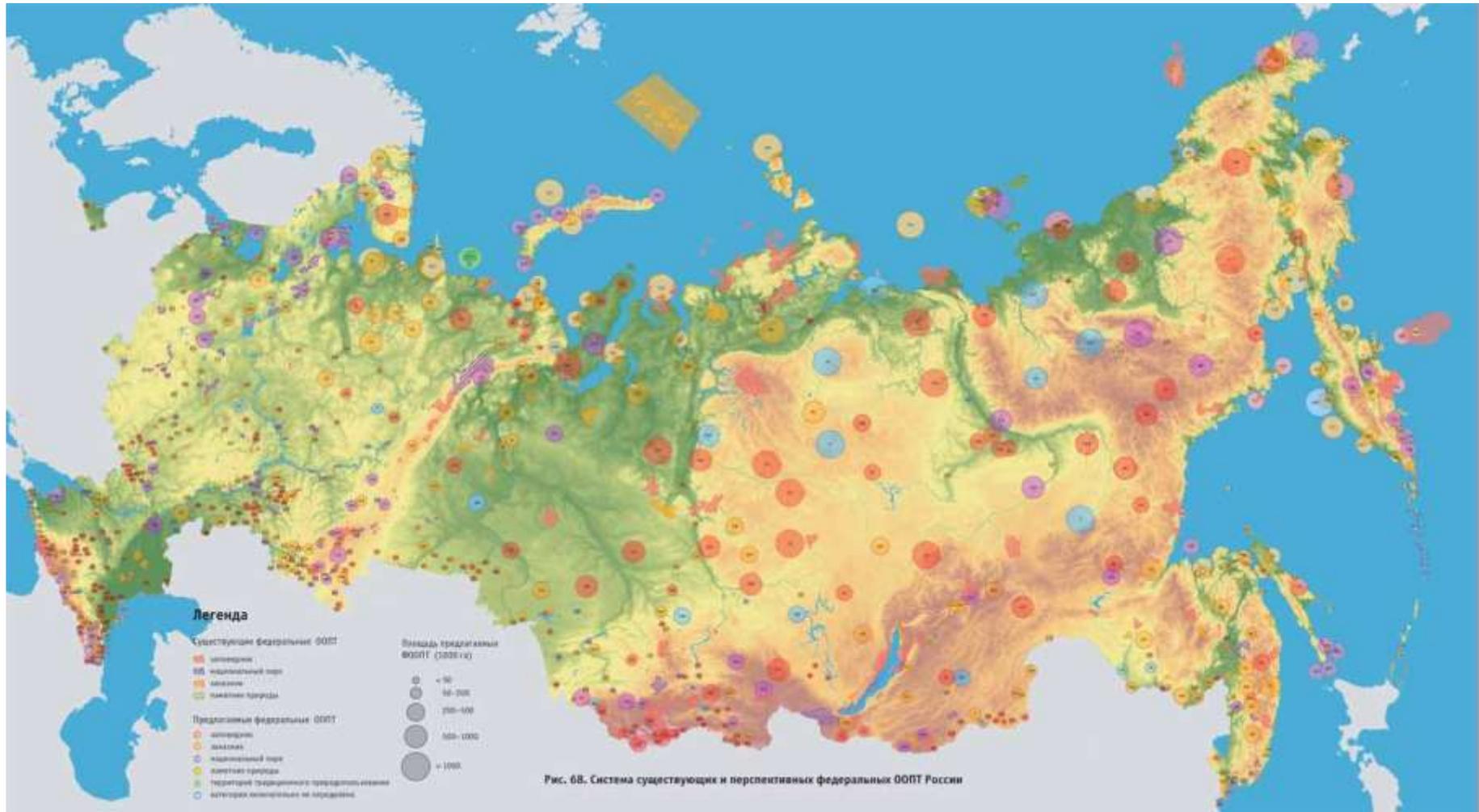
Transparent World Partnership

Biodiversity Conservation Centre

Baltic Fund for Nature

Ryazan State University

Gap analysis of Russian federal PA (WWF, 2009)



238 PAs of federal level –
44,77 mln ha of lands and inland waters
9,31 mln ha of sea waters

We need additionally 546 federal PAs –
119 mln ha of lands and inland waters (508 PAs)
63 mln ha of sea waters (38 PAs)

So, we need new approach to the development of
our PAs system

Ecological doctrine of the Russian Federation

Establish the Reserved Natural Land System basing on:

- Specially Protected Natural Areas
- Other areas where natural processes prevail

The future ECONET development

- The principal position:
Ecological Networks save Biodiversity – it's not a final goal but the obligatory means of supporting effective functioning of natural ecosystems and so ensuring the human right on the favourable environment.

We differ «**the Ecological Network**» it-self from

the «**the Natural Backbone [of the environmental stability]**» - an integrated system of natural areas able supporting the ecological balance on the adjacent areas – but may be effectively managed – or may be remained occasionally and being now under threats.

It's still not an ECONET!

ECONET is the expected output of the territorial conservation.

An experience:

New challenges

Mining and forestry within large natural tracts;

Intensive management of green spaces in cities and towns;

New linear communication including Pan-European transport corridors.

An experience:

Strategic direction in ECONET establishment -

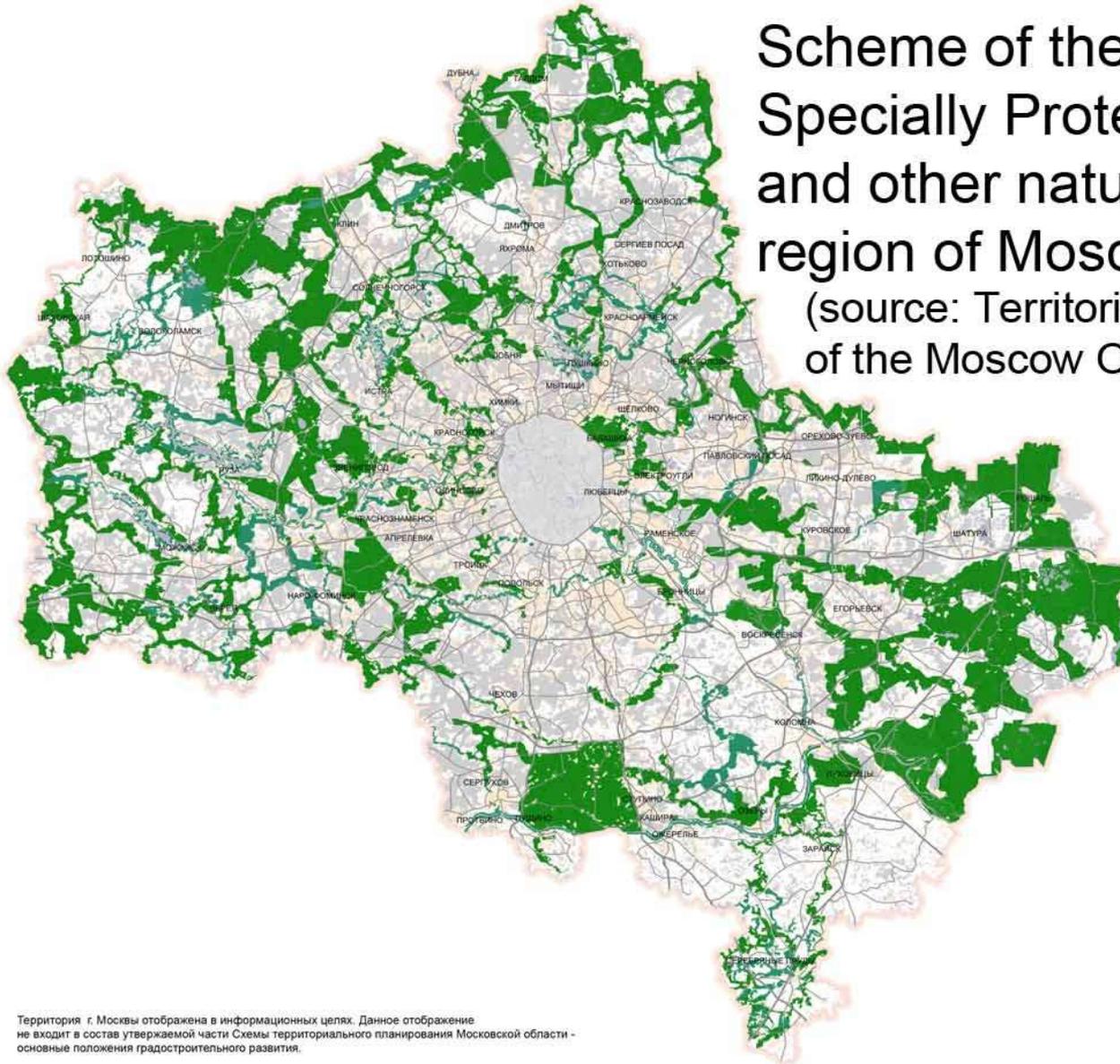
A long-term territorial planning on the basis of biodiversity and landscape approach.

Town-planning Code of the Russian Federation envisions the obligatory compiling of PAs development Scheme for each administrative entity of the Russian Federation.

An experience: Ecological terminals

Scheme of the development of
Specially Protected Natural Areas
and other natural areas in the
region of Moscow

(source: Territorial development scheme
of the Moscow Oblast, 2006)



Legend:

■ natural areas

- We agree in general with the identification of the **PEEN Core Areas as the ASCI of the Emerald Network**;
- So, we are ready promoting **the Emerald Network or its analogous** in all the Pan-European regions;
- But we must take into account that the Pan-European conservation **priorities are not identical** to these ones established in some states or its entities.

An experience:

Implementation of the Emerald Network

Species occurring in European Russia

Main groups of species	Emerald Network	Red Data Book of the Russian Federation	Both lists
Cyclostomata	4	3	2
Pisces	16	27	5
Amphibians	3	7	1
Reptilians	6	12	2
Birds	146	64	61
Mammals	39	35	22
Invertebrates	37	45	4
Plants	80	303	28

Possible solutions

- Use of all the stated **criteria for ASCI** identification in line **with the Rec. 16**;
- **Regional adaptation** of the lists of species and habitat types of European importance **and synergising** them with taking attention to the species indicating a good state of ecosystems in various regions;
- **Adaptation of ASCI identification** methods to local specificity.

- Simplifying and speeding as far as possible the assessment of potential ASCI,
- Maximal rising the status of potential ASCI.
- Encouraging responsible land users,
- Recognising the input of the countries having submitted them,
- Promoting activities for setting-up the Pan-European Ecological Network

- Large international investment project should envision the identification and **supporting connectivity and green structure**;
- **Monitoring** the state of the ecosystem cover basing on the large scale mapping and related databases and GIS;
- **Involving civil society** in territorial conservation on the basis of the modern means of monitoring and communication

- The Institute of Geography is ready to organise in collaboration with the Council of Europe the biogeographical seminar on the assessment of the potential Emerald Sites
- We expect the scientific issues may be discussed at the 3rd European Congress on Conservation Biology