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## Viva la Fauna - ensuring the preservation of biodiversity



## Angermünde (ots) -

The 'Viva la Fauna' project creates new habitats for birds and bats in the Pomerania Euroregion. Workshops, nest box building and cross-border cooperation not only protect biodiversity, but also raise awareness of nature conservation - a win-win situation for people and animals!

The "Viva la Fauna" project is committed to preserving biodiversity by creating bird breeding sites and bat roosts in the Pomerania Euroregion.

The districts of Uckermark in Brandenburg and Wałcz in Poland are working together here. Due to the increasing scarcity of nesting and breeding sites, the populations of endangered bird species and some bat species are declining and there is a simple solution: provide replacements so that the animals have space to breed again.

As part of the project, a symposium with experts and co-operation partners will be held at the Blumberger Mühle near Angermünde. At the same time, two school classes, one from Poland and one from Germany, come to the mill for a workshop. The pupils first learn from Julia Teubner, the project manager of "Viva la Fauna", about the direct influence bats have on popular foods such as chocolate/cocoa and rice. They ensure that pests are significantly contained and thus ensure a more productive harvest. After a few more fun facts, it's time for the practical part, the building of breeding and nesting boxes outside.

Julia Teubner reports that there are also unsuitable boxes that are easily cracked by the birds' enemies and can therefore become a trap for the animals. Today, the good ones are being assembled. These construction kits were ordered especially for such workshops. A total of 2790 breeding boxes are to be installed as part of the project, but not all of them have to be assembled by schoolchildren.

Nesting sites for the animals is just one of the aims of the project. The project manager on the Polish side, Arkadiusz Niefiedowicz, explains: 'Above all, we want to improve the ecological awareness of the inhabitants of the Wałcz district, but also support environmentally friendly measures in connection with the protection of birds and bats.'

Dr Torsten Blohm, Head of Department at the Lower Nature Conservation Authority in Prenzlau, believes that awareness can be created particularly well by letting children experience it, who then take their experiences home and report on them. He says that people can be reached if they have a relationship with the individual animals.

Relationships between the two school classes also improved significantly over the course of the day. They communicated with hands and feet and in English, which was a complete success, Julia Teubner tells us. The boxes were also completed and are ready for the next family of birds or bats.

You can find more information here: https://www.uckermark.de/EU-Zusammenarbeit/Projekte-Interreg-VI-A/Viva-la-Fauna/

Cohesion policy has defined clear objectives for the 2021-2027 funding period: A smart Europe through innovation, a greener, low-carbon Europe, a more connected Europe, a more social Europe and a Europe that is closer to its citizens. Sustainable challenges are becoming the focus of society, particularly in Germany and its neighbouring countries. The "EU4regions" project will produce high-quality multimedia and journalistic information on cohesion policy and then disseminate it widely. Within 12 months, Interreg projects from western and eastern Germany and neighbouring countries/regions will be presented to highlight local challenges. The countries concerned are Poland, the Czech Republic, Austria, Switzerland, France, the Netherlands and Denmark. Our thematic focus is on sustainability, whereby we understand sustainability as a whole. Although climate issues are at the centre of attention, they are complemented by economic and social aspects. The aim is to show how EU cohesion policy affects regions and people.

EU4regions receives funding from the EU Commission.

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## Medieninhalte



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