

Mindfactory 6

Communication between protected areas

Conclusions

There are high diversity of communication activities among protected areas (PA-s) which are in many different situation in many kind of organization types in Europe. It can be said that communication is more or less well done by PA-s both in countrywide and transboundary and European level too.

Communication on countrywide level among PA-s inside the countries:

The needs of communication can be **rooting**:

- **in tasks given by decision makers**, supervisory organizations of the PA-s, ministries.
Sample: joint data service and reporting to national and international supervisory institutes /like Natura 2000 country reports, reports to UNESCO, RAMSAR, CBD (Convention of Biological Diversity).
- **from common needs and interests of PA-s**.
Sample 1: There are countrywide national Federation, Foundation and other organisation as coordination bodies for PA-s in many countries which help them to do more effective activities in many topics jointly than alone (like joint implementation of protection programs of different wildlife elements, or joint public awareness, visitor management and stakeholder involvement for PA-s' activities, etc.
Sample 2: joint regional or national workshops, conferences, study visits, exchange of knowledges, joint expo-s etc.
Sample 3: preparation and implementation of joint projects.
Sample 4: many joint activities among PA-s are not institutional activities but based on high collegial friendship of PA-s' employees offering benefits for the organizations (like joint scientific cooperation of experts, field expeditions etc.).

Crossborder communication of transboundary PA-s

The EUROPARC Federation has got a clear standards to transboundary (TB) system of PA-s. The well done joint communication is also part of those 14 important criteria-s which are the base of TB PA-s' audit by the EUROPARC Federation.

The TB PA-s can be situated in different countries. But there are some examples for NP-s which are situated in different provinces in one country which sometimes are working as a "transboundary" PA (f.e. the Austrian Hohe Tauern NP belongs to three different Austrian provinces with three different directorates).

It is desirable to have a common TB vision of TB PA-s. If it is given the joint communication can be well organized by all parts of TB PA-s.

The communication of TB PA-s follows their management system. Thus it is based on three following important "pillars".

1. **Joint TB PA-s Committee**. It is important because this Committee gives legitimacy for the TB PA-s. This as a good strategic and lobbying body of TB PA-s which can offer a good help for all TB partners' TB communication on the decision and supervisory levels.
2. **Daily joint activities** of the leadership, departments and colleagues of all TB PA-s' partners. It is the best guarantee of joint successes of TB PA-s in all topic related to the nature conservation.

3. **Joint TB projects.** Preparing and implementing TB projects and taking part jointly in transnational projects can strengthen the cohesion between the TB PA's partners offering better financial and other conditions to do the best joint nature conservational activities for them.

The question of joint directorates of TB PA-s are very sensitive in some countries. There are different status of TB PA-s as state owned, regional public or non-public organizations can also occurs among PA-s' organizations. The joint organizations of TB PA-s can be real aimed in those case where the suppositions are given for it. But the harmonization of the management plans of TB partners should be desirable which can contain clear guidance of joint communication too.