

Brașov, Romania, 12 September 2013

In Brasov experts work to find innovative solutions for the responsible management of natural resources based on an integrated strategic planning.

ProPark the Foundation for Protected Areas, in collaboration with MILVUS Group Association, will prepare a set of complex guidelines to include all relevant information for the responsible management of the following natural resources: water and fisheries, forests, fauna of interest for hunting, agricultural resources. The guidelines will contribute to improving the territorial planning process in Romania by including some biodiversity elements and by guiding the main economic sectors that use natural resources to actively contribute to the preparation of regional plans to reflect biodiversity elements, including the Natura 2000 network objectives.

The guidelines will be prepared by experts in work groups who will meet between September - November 2013 within the project "**Efficient Managers for an efficient Natura 2000 Network**" - **EME Natura 2000** implemented by ProPark - the Foundation for Protected Areas in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, the Municipal Agency of Sustainable Development in Brasov and the EUROPARC Federation.

"Do we really know how important natural resources are for our economy and for the future? Do we think now on the long term and with responsibility for our children when we prepare development strategies? Or do we rather do everything for short term gains, sacrificing Nature, that is, the future? These are questions to be asked by all those who, one way or another, are involved in or should contribute to the preparation of sustainable development strategies. The guidelines on which specialists in various fields work now will tell us how to plan responsibly our future development actions, so as to be able to answer the questions above with confidence and bright eyes, trusting that we do all we can to respect Nature, which provides our resources for life." Erika Stanciu, executive director of ProPark - the Foundation for Protected Areas.

The project "Efficient Managers for an efficient Natura 2000" - EME Natura 2000 aims to strengthen the administration capacity for Natura 2000 sites in Romania by developing communication abilities of Natura 2000 site administrators and by supporting the integration of certain biodiversity conservation elements in the land planning process both within the sites and in the surrounding areas.

The Project "Efficient Managers for an efficient Natura 2000" (**LIFE11 INF/RO/000819**) is financed by the European Union through the project Life + Information and Communication.

For more details:

Laura Istrate

Communication Officer

0724305534

laura.istrate@propark.ro

For more details regarding the **EME NATURA 2000** project, please see: <http://www.emenatura2000.ro/>