Research and activities on climate change in a cross-border context

**Tackling climate change together: the cooperation of Julian Prealps Nature Park and Triglav National Park in the Climaparks project**

In the year 2013, Triglav National Park and Julian Prealps Nature Park collaborated intensively in the project Climaparks - Climate Change and Management of Protected Areas. The project is funded within Cross-border Cooperation Programme Slovenia - Italy 2007-2013.

Within work package 2 both parks carried out comparable monitoring activities, aimed at setting up new long-term monitoring and research protocols, focused on possible effects of climate change on the selected species of flora and fauna. Preliminary monitoring results were published this year in a common volume, edited jointly by representatives of both parks, and translated into three languages. Some of these research papers were presented at the final project conference in Portoroz, as well as published on the common project website.

Besides monitoring, both parks collaborated in exchanging experience and knowledge about implementation of diverse project activities that aim at integration and promotion of sustainable methods of management and visitation of the park, as for example: make parks' infrastructure energy efficient, promote sustainable visiting to the protected areas, set up new exhibitions, organise workshops, lectures, and other educational activities. Information about project activities and results are accessible for visitors of both parks at the respective information centres and points.

During the year first steps for the common monitoring of chamois and alpine ibex in the border area have been undertaken. In the Kanin area, park experts, rangers and hunters of local associations counted these animals on the same days on both sides of the mountain. In 2014 this activity will be repeated in mixed teams. The participating experts exchanged data, impressions and evaluation on future activities to be organised in the area.

The experts Fulvio Genero from Julian Prealps Nature Park and Tomaž Mihelič from DOPPS Slovenia had prepared a lecture and an exhibition on Griffon vulture (Gyps fulvus), that were presented at an event in Kobarid (SI) at the info point Zelena hiša. In January 2014 the event will be repeated on the Italian side of the Transboundary Area in Moggio Udinese (I).

Griffon vulture conference in Kobarid (Zelena hiša)

Text: Mojca Smolej, Triglav National Park (SLO) and Stefano Santi, Julian Prealps Nature Park (I)