

EUROPARC Federation



**Report to Council
September 30th 2010**

Title:

TransParcNet brochure and Vision, Mission and Goals

Summary :

TransParcNet has ratified a vision and mission and has produced a new brochure on Transboundary activities. The brochure is attached as PDF.

Recommendations :

To note.

EUROPARC Transboundary Protected Area Network (TransParcNet)

VISION

Transboundary protected area (TBPA) cooperation in Europe is an effective and widely recognized means to tackle common conservation and other TBPA challenges. The quality of the cooperation is based on EUROPARC's criteria and indicators on well managed TBPAs. The network of certified TBPAs, TransParcNet, forms an innovative platform for further development of European TBPA management cooperation, for safeguarding cross border biodiversity ecosystem services, culture landscape and its heritage and also for inspiring and encouraging people for better understanding of the importance of the TB cooperation.

MISSION

The TransParcNet has been established to strengthen the relationship between certified TBPAs within and with the wider EUROPARC network as well as to function as a forum for active interactions, including joint projects and expertise exchange among the members of the network.

TransParcNet supports the development of European TBPA cooperation by promoting the concept of the Europarc "Transboundary Parks – Following Nature's Design" certificate as an effective tool in improved TBPA management and by encouraging potential TBPAs to apply EUROPARC's certificate and subsequently to join the TransParcNet.

TransParcNet aims at better understanding of the importance of TBPA cooperation among politicians and other policy makers but also by the general public. Successful TBPA cooperation should become an instrument for implementing cross border cooperation as a whole.

GOALS

The main goals of the TransParcNet are:

- to improve cooperation between the wider EUROPARC network and certified TBPAs;
- to improve and motivate further development of cooperation among the certified TBPAs;
- to support capacity building for transboundary cooperation among members of TransParcNet;
- to promote exchange of information and experiences among the network members;
- to promote sharing best practice among network members;
- to establish and keep up-date the platform for exchanging information, experiences and data;
- to help the dissemination of information on transboundary cooperation in Europe and worldwide;
- to work together with the EUROPARC directorate on project development and fund raising;

- to raise awareness on the certificate for "Transboundary Parks - Following Nature's Design" by EUROPARC in Europe and worldwide;
- to implement the EUROPARC standards on transboundary cooperation;
- to help protected areas (PAs) to reach the set standards by using the best practice and lessons learned examples;

- to improve the quality of existing cooperation between PAs in Europe;
- to increase the number of transboundary partnerships between geographically adjoined protected areas;
- to harmonise the legal instruments for the joint management of TBPAs;
- to raise public awareness on the importance of protected area cooperation and cross-border networks;
- to enhance communication between TBPAs to exchange experience and to give advice to avoid and to overcome conflicts.