



**EUROPARC Federation
Report to Council
25th October 2015**

Title:

French_Section_of_Europarc_part_III

Recommendations:

For information

French Section of Europarc

Context

In France, there are two types of Parks and two structures which gather Parks :

- Regional Natural Parks with the Federation des Parcs naturels régionaux de France (FPNR)
- National Parks : with Parcs nationaux de France (PNF)

The French Section of Europarc is an informal structure which includes French members of Europarc. The French Section presidency is alternately chaired every three years by a representative administrator from Parcs Nationaux de France and Fédération des Parcs Naturels Régionaux de France (2009-2012 : PNF ; 2013-2016 : FPNR).

Currently, the French Section of Europarc is chaired by FPNR represented by Dominique Lévêque.

The coordination of the section is realized by Katy Monier.

The design of Charter Part 3's method of implementation was entrusted by IPAMAC, ten Natural Parks Massif central.

French Section of Europarc : Activities concerning ESCT

Coordination

- Insuring the French Charter website updating
- Monitoring the sharing of experiences between parks (meetings :2 x year)
- Participate in the meetings of Europarc

Promotion

Promotion of the ESCT to parks, institutions and others actors

Designing Charter methodologies

- Designing a methodology frame for Charter Part 2 implementation
- Designing a Charter Part 3 methodology of implementation and managing its first applications in 12 Charter Parks with 25 tour operators

Management of Charter Part 3 tour operators certification (tours operators)

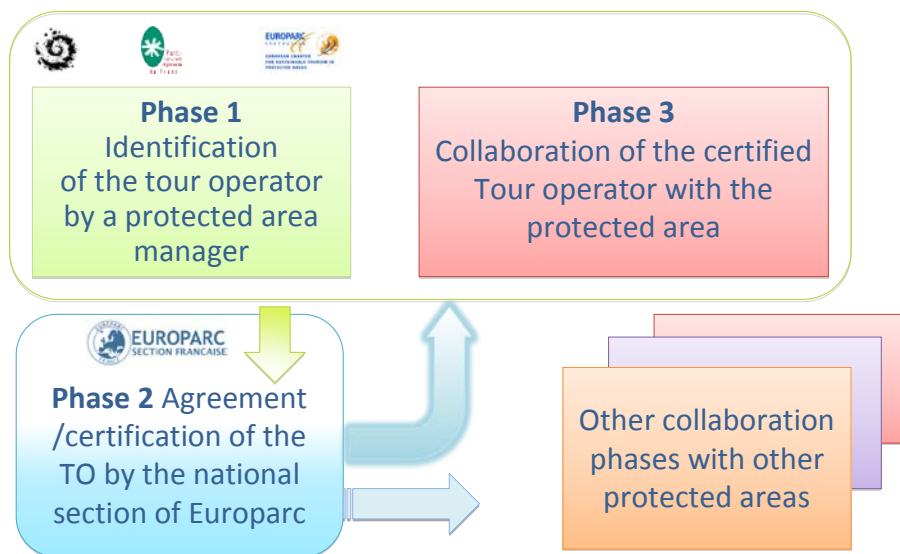
- Joint Committee organization
- Datas updating management

Charter Part 3 method of implementation Summary

3 phases :

1. Identification
2. Agreement/ certification
3. Collaboration

General architecture of Charter Part III implementation
presented by the French Section of Europarc for validation



Phase 1 : IDENTIFICATION OF THE TOUR OPERATOR

Identification is built up by the first protected area manager which embarks on the relationship with the tour operator.

- **Checking the preliminary requirements** (regulation frame compliance).
- **Constitute or reinforce the value chain** in a way respecting faithfully the principles of sustainable development.
- **Collecting informations provided in a declarative way** by the tour operator with the support of documentary databases.
- **The protected area manager is not involved in verification of the datas**
- **The datas are pooled at a national level** and will be available to other signatories of the Charter.

Phase 2 : AGREEMENT OF THE TOUR OPERATOR

- **The tour operator candidacy file is built up by the protected area manager, and is transmitted to the National Section, to be examined by the Joint Commission.**
- **The National Section of Europarc decides to agree/certify, to postpone or refuse the candidacy.**

Phase 3 : COLLABORATION WITH THE TOUR OPERATOR

- **The collaboration focuses on**
 - A collaborative production of eco-touristic trips
 - The tour operator involvement at the local level : *Participation to the forum, support to development projects (program return on capital), consultation and partnership with the tourism offices and other territorial tourism organizations, public services and utilities, press, associations and private initiatives...*
 - The continuous improvement process of the travel operator including all its activities.
- Once the tour operator agreed for his implementation of Charter Part III, it is allowed to mention its agreement for promotional purposes, following instructions specified in the following pages
- Phase collaboration follows a cycle of three years.

Annexes :

Tools are provided to Charter Parks involved in Part 3 implementation :

- Templates dedicated to the three phases of the method
- Didactical tools helping the stakeholders to understand some concepts of the Charter, and help them to conceive their collaboration.

Tableau des Annexes et leur correspondance avec les phases de la méthode