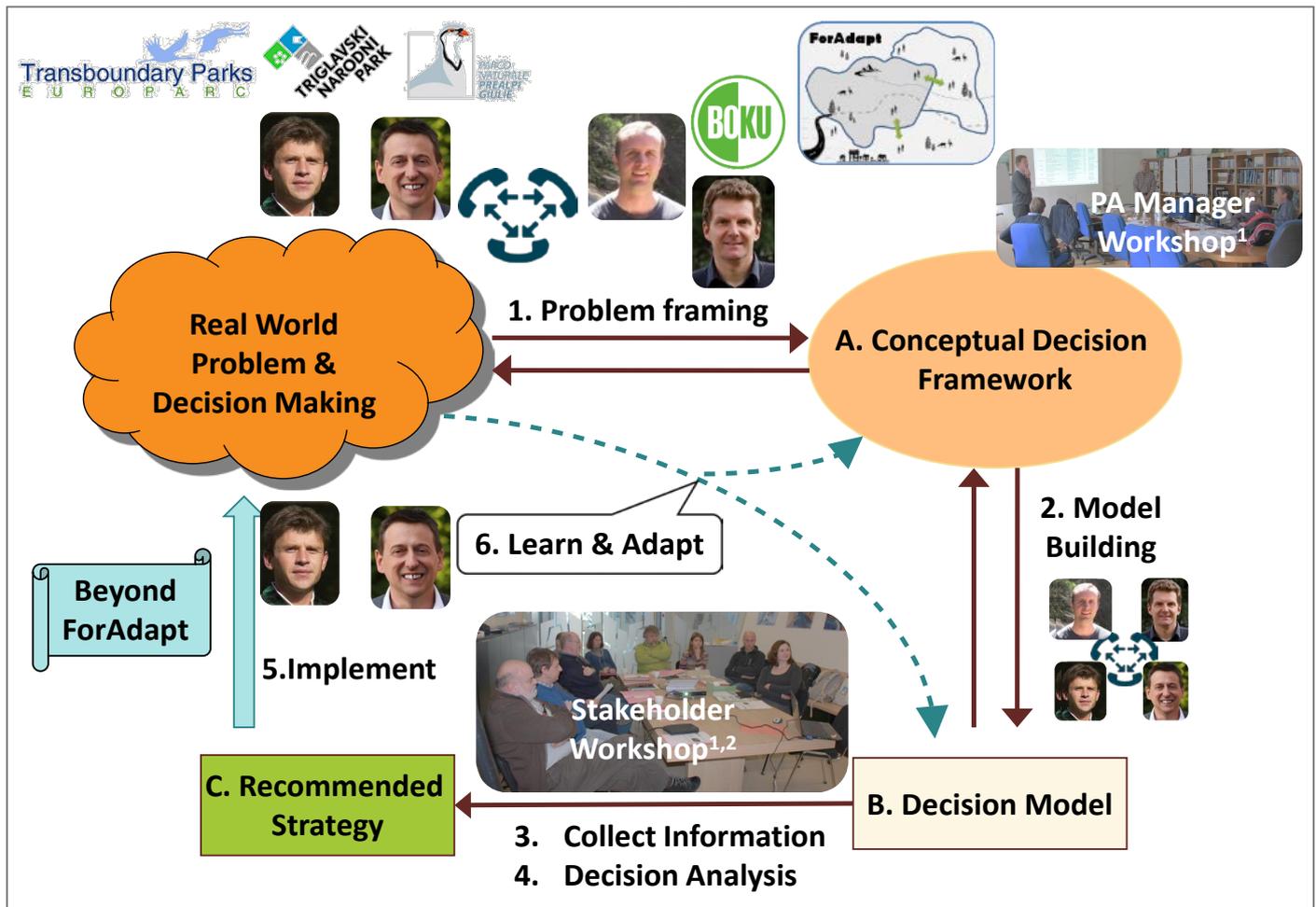


ForAdapt Case Study on Transboundary Bear Management in the Julian Alps Ecoregion

Summary of Final Results, 9. September 2016

Questions? Contact brady.mattsson@boku.ac.at



- The case study began in June 2015 with a series of conference calls between the coordinators and facilitators (core team), where they arrived at a management question to address a real-world decision problem: "Over the next 10 years, how can the managers of Triglav National Park and Nature Park Prealpi Giulie best satisfy all stakeholders concerned about brown bears?" They also identified several [desired final products](#) from the case study.
- During a [workshop in October](#), the core team developed a conceptual decision framework (represented as an [influence diagram](#)) showing how all the possible actions that the two parks could take would relate to a diversity of ultimate management objectives.
- In the remainder of 2015 and January 2016, the core team identified the crucial factors to include as [main elements in a decision model](#) that would be informed by stakeholder input, and a decision analysis would be used to identify a recommended allocation strategy for the parks to best satisfy all stakeholders concerned about brown bears.
- On 11th February 2016, we held a second workshop ([info packet](#), [minutes](#)) where we received input from stakeholders to complete a decision analysis and identified a recommended allocation strategy for the 2 parks over the next 10 years (see attachment).
- From March through August 2016, we developed a detailed [table of allocations and concrete activities](#) for both parks over the next two 5-year intervals.
- The parks will implement the recommendations from the case study over the next two 5-year periods through the parks' respective management plans 2016-2025 and [LIFE WolfAlps](#) 2016-2018. Recommendations will be further implemented through two pending Interreg projects (Alpine Space project 2017-2019 and Italy-Slovenia project 2017-2010). The facilitators will develop a manuscript describing the case study results and submit this to a scientific journal for publication.

¹ Coordinators: Andrej Arih (Triglav National Park [TNP]), Stefano Santi (Nature Park Prealpi Giulie [NPPG]); Facilitators/Analysts: Brady Mattsson, Harald Vacik (University of Natural Resources & Life Sciences, Vienna Austria).

² Stakeholders represented from Italy: NPPG, Municipalities surrounding NPPG, Regional Forestry Corps, University of Udine; Slovenia: Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Slovenia Forest Service, TNP, Tourism Bohinj, University of Ljubljana.

Recommended Percent Allocations among Actions for Each Park – Based on Stakeholder Input

50	25	0	25	50
<p>Action 1. <u>Organize forums for info exchange with stakeholders</u>: organize at least 2 transboundary (TB) meetings per year with relevant representatives to prepare common protocol for TB info exchange including a common database and sophisticated communication tools to improve effectiveness of TB bear management efforts.</p>				
TNP % Allocation		NPPG % Allocation		
	<p>Action 2. <u>Create inclusive TB bear management position paper</u>: create draft position paper highlighting areas of agreement among stakeholders; in case of open questions seek common solutions through workshops; regularly update draft; and incorporate agreed position paper into parks' management plans to ensure that stakeholder wishes are taken into account when implementing TB bear management measures.</p>			
<p>Action 3. <u>Involvement with strategic & operational decisions</u>: participate in meetings with state administration for taking strategic decisions; initiate or participate in national and TB meetings to discuss crucial management questions and participate in developing decision documents; and organize operational meetings at local level; and participate in implementing operational decisions, e.g. measures to mitigate conflicts and raise public awareness.</p>				
	<p>Action 4. <u>Participate in EU management projects</u> (e.g. LIFE, Interreg): exchange ideas through TB meetings to develop proposals that incorporate TB management principles and incorporate regular info transfer among stakeholders and between parks; both parks participate in project implementation; and ensure proper inclusion of project results into parks' management plans and operational protocols to facilitate effective TB management of bears.</p>			
<p>Action 5. <u>Pressure government authorities to give out bear-prevention tools</u>: ask relevant state authorities in IT and SL to provide bear prevention tools free of cost to relevant stakeholders (e.g. farmers, bee-keepers); and initiate legislative framework amendment to enable farmers in the region to apply for preventative tools free of cost or with at least partly reduced costs [already accomplished on SL side] to improve efficiency of TB bear management.</p>				
	<p>Action 6. <u>Protected area distributes prevention tools</u>: prepare criteria/protocol for equipment allocation/donation; organize trainings for the proper installation and use of equipment; and monitor the effectiveness of equipment use, to improve efficiency of TB bear management</p>			
<p>Action 7. <u>Organize regular meetings of data-gatherers</u>: organize TB meetings including pressuring data-gatherers about the necessity of sharing data; during meetings with data-gatherers, identify the type of information required for comprehensive management, reach agreement concerning data submission, and exchange and interpret the information to improve effectiveness of TB bear management efforts</p>				
	<p>Action 8. <u>Manage conflict bears</u>: participate in administrative procedures (written opinions, coordination, alternatives); work closely with farmers and other stakeholders to reach agreement on most appropriate solutions beyond administrative procedures to prepare initiative for state administrations to reduce administrative barriers; and data exchange between authorities of TNP and PNPG regarding conflict bears to improve efficiency of TB bear management</p>			
<p>Action 9. <u>Participate in research projects</u>: follow relevant calls through the European Union framework programme funding research and innovation; and work closely with researchers when developing project ideas to incorporate work packages and tasks that will inform TB bear management</p>				