GRASSROOTS OR TOP OF THE DECISION MAKING TREE?

- for implementing the conservation agenda -
This presentation is about the Romanian situation. The situations and events depicted are NOT fictitious, but any similarity to situations and events in other countries are purely coincidental.
WE ALL KNOW!

Existence of our Society

Economy

Social structures

Nature

Quality of Life for each of us

Social relations

Health and Security

Resources for Industry and Agriculture

Time use

Education

Culture

Living conditions

NATURE

Existence of our Society

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NATURE
THE KEY FACTOR FOR CONSERVATION:

"Field" staff

Very active
Fights for conservation

Neutral
Might be "activated"

Passive
Does not care
THE KEY FACTOR FOR CONSERVATION

"Field" staff

Ministries - staff
THE KEY FACTOR FOR CONSERVATION

"Field" staff

Political Government

Technocratic Government

Very active
Fights for conservation

Neutral
Might be "activated"

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THE KEY FACTOR FOR CONSERVATION

"Field" staff

Parliament

Very active
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THE KEY FACTOR FOR CONSERVATION

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How much TIME for the CHANGES we need??

Very active
Fights for conservation

Neutral
Might be "activated"

Passive
Does not care
"Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference."

Winston Churchill

Attitude changes in 13 months???

Maybe ... ?!
CHANGE – GOOD GOVERNANCE

National Forest Administration

• New, completely independent BOARD (no NFA employees)

• Performance indicators:
  profit
  + sustainable forest management
  + conservation – primeval forests, PA management
  + cooperation / transparency
  + communication
Real consultation processes for 16 legal documents – very time consuming, but...

Public debates – very good organizational and facilitation capacities needed
CHANGE - TRANSPARENCY

National Forest Council - legal framework

Forest Inspector

- Improved mobile application
- New web platform

Tools for public participation
Priorities for 2016: status – every months, Final Report


Primeval forest layers – developed 2003, published 2016


Reports of the Forest Guards (results of controls) – published 2016
CHANGE – INVOLVING OTHERS

4 Working Groups lead by the Ministry

4 Working Groups lead by stakeholder representatives: universities, NGOs
GRASSROOTS OR DECISION MAKING?
GRASSROUTE OR DECISION MAKING?

Compensation payments for conservation and environmental service - forest owners -

10 years – no result

9 months: draft government decision + EC Decision
GRASSROUTE OR DECISION MAKING?

Protecting Pimeval Forests

12 years:
• Identification Criteria
• Obligation for protection, but no real protection

9 months:
• Virgin Forest protection procedure
• First version of Virgin Forest Catalogue
• Fines!
SOME OF THE CHALLENGES

• Decision making: Power???

Responsibility!!!

• Technocratic Government vs Political Government: +++ and ----

Would I join a Political Government now???

Political gvt RO: "Part of the problem is that the politicians seem not to believe that anything is more important than their ministerial limousines and the extra fat superannuation they get. Nothing is worth resigning over. No principle matters enough to fight for, and try to win over the unconvinced. […] There must be more to it than limos and perks. Or maybe not.” James Alan
GRASSROOTS OR DECISION MAKING?

- Legislation - lobby – time!
- Resource allocation – lobby
- Making things happen – yes, but no authority
- Changing legislation – yes
- Decisions within the existing legal framework
- Resource allocation – lobby and decision
- Bringing people together – authority
- Changing legislation – yes
- Approves and oversees the activity of the Government
- Resource allocation - decision
CHANGE – TEAM WORK!!!

Grassroots or ....? Do we want to make the leap? Are we ready?
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