PILOT AREAS FOR TESTING NEW MODELS OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM IN PROTECTED AREAS

Germany

UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Southeast Ruegen
Granitz Forest Area

Weaknesses:
The area is overfrequented by tourists, which makes the forest easily accessible via an old railway, an electronic “tourist-train” (on wheels), as well as via sea, on bike, on horse-carriage and by car. This area is being used for recreational purposes, while the natural value of the forest and impacts caused by tourism are often neglected.

Needs:
Within this pilot area the objective is to control and steer tourist flows. The goal is to move visitors of off illegally formed side trails onto the main forest path, alleviating some pressure on the flora and fauna in the forest.

Zicker Mountains
Weaknesses:
The second area for the pilot action are the Zicker Mountains. These pictures mountains are part of the cultural landscape and frequently frequented by tourists as well as locals for recreational activities. There are two entrance ways to the mountains, which can be reached by car, bike and on foot. The reservations for the mountains is highly frequented by tourists and often neglected.

Needs:
The objective for this area is to establish sustainable leisure tourism offflorum and nature. The goal is to infuse tourist about the natural value of the area.

Italy

Po Delta Regional Park

Weaknesses:

The objective for this area is to control and steer tourist flows. The goal is to move visitors offflorum and nature. The goal is to infuse tourist about the natural value of the area.

Needs:

The objective is not only to reach a seasonal adjustment of the tourist flows whilst maintaining the benefits coming from the tourist activities, but also to improve a series of tools able to discourage dangerous behaviours for the environment and biodiversity.

Po Delta Regional Park

Weaknesses:

Some areas of the park are under high tourist stress compared to others. Likewise, there are some areas which are particularly sensitive to tourist flows, but the movement of tourists inside the park is not well known yet.

Needs:

To better understand the movements that tourists make in the park and which are the main areas affected, the move to develop a strategy that allows to adjust the sites according to the season and relocate tourist flows to areas of equal attractiveness to reduce pressure on the environment. This is useful to produce a comprehensive monitoring plan identifying the actions to implement in case of critical situations. In addition, this plan can be the first step towards the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas.

Alto Appennino Modenese Regional Park

Weaknesses:
The park in the area is subject to highly frequented tourist flows because in one of the lakes illegally formed side trails for tourists are the main areas visited in order to develop a strategy that allows to adjust the visits according to the season and relocate tourist flows to areas of equal attractiveness to reduce pressure on the environment. This is useful to produce a comprehensive monitoring plan identifying the actions to implement in case of critical situations. In addition, this plan can be the first step towards the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas.

Needs:

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Weaknesses:
The Bay of Strunjan is especially vulnerable because of the daily impact of marine tourism, especially by unregulated anchoring and mooring. The main problem are permanent illegal moorings which damages the underwater meadows and other sea bottom habitat types. In the high season (summer) there is also high frequences of temporary illegal moorings.

Needs:

The objective is to establish sustainable visiting of the marine area of the park. The goal is to find a solution for the regulation of illegal moorings (study on ecological moorings) and develop series of tools to discourage dangerous behaviour for the environment and biodiversity.

Soelktaeler Nature Park

Weaknesses:

In comparison with the unique landscape and lots of touristic highlights there are only weak possibilities to stay overnight in the area. Additionally there are only few offers for guided tours and other alltivities which bring awareness of the natural value of the area. The area is characterized by illegal car parking and low law enforcement.

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Slovenia

Strunjan Landscape Park

Weaknesses:

The ski centre, one of the main attractions of the Park, is missing a comprehensive monitoring programme. On one hand, the cable car from Sargan to the mountain top is not functioning since 2007. On the other hand, during the winter season (skiing season) the traffic congestions due to the lack of parking lots are frequent, collapsing the only road that leads to the top of the mountain and originating vehicle stoppage lines up to 5 km long. In this occasion, there is no alternative way to reach the top, not even for the mountain rescue teams, police or emergency vehicles.

Needs:

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Soelktaeler Nature Park

Weaknesses:

In addition, these problems are connected with car parking spaces and mobility. There is also a significant problem with tourist congestion because in one of the lakes there are two lakes with similar problems regarding tourist flows, in which high tourist activities are frequent, collapsing the only road that leads to the top of the mountain and originating vehicle stoppage lines up to 5 km long. In this occasion, there is no alternative way to reach the top, not even for the mountain rescue teams, police or emergency vehicles.

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