



NeReGro



International Workshop

Protected Areas as Tools for Regional Development – Perspectives for Research and Management

Thursday and Friday, 13/14 October 2011, field-trip Saturday, 15 October 2011

Location

Saint-Pierre-de-Chartreuse, Parc Naturel Régional de la Chartreuse, French Alps

Organising institutions

ISCAR - International Scientific Committee on Research in the Alps: Axel Borsdorf, Thomas Scheurer

Parc Naturel Régional de la Chartreuse: Gérard Hanus

ALPARC - Alpine Network of Protected Areas: Guido Plassmann

NeReGro - Regional Development and Protected Areas Working Group: Thomas Hammer, Ingo Mose, Dominik Siegrist, Norbert Weixlbaumer

Background situation

Protected areas like national parks, biosphere reserves, UNESCO world heritage sites and regional nature parks are next to nature and landscape protection in a narrow sense, the most part of them have also other functions, e.g. in the field of environmental education, sustainable use of natural resources, marketing of local quality products or promotion of nature based tourism. According to recent research protected areas can make various contributions to regional development by their existence and activities. Protected areas are even increasingly seen as virtual catalysts or even motors for regional development. However, this view implicates risks due to the latent danger of nature and landscape protection on the one hand and regional development on the other hand being played off against each other and hence blocking each other. Therefore one objective should be creating synergies between protection and use – that is, enable sustainable regional development.

The workshop addresses the state of the art as well as gaps in research and perspectives of future research indicated by the present debate about the integration of nature and landscape protection and regional development in protected areas and their adjacent regions. What are major findings of recent research, what are obvious research gaps and what are essential challenges for future research? – Researchers and appointees for research of protected areas as well as practitioners discuss and mutually identify themes and focal points for future research.

Aims of the workshops

The overriding aim of the workshop is to identify and address perspectives for research in the field of protected areas and regional development and make major contributions to the identification of new research themes in this area.

In detail the aims are

- to gather the present state of research (e.g. previous projects, major findings) regarding protected areas and regional development and mostly addressed issues and topics („state of the art“),
- to identify major gaps of knowledge and challenges for future research related to these issues and topics,
- to identify topics and questions that have been neglected or overlooked so far,
- to name thematic focal points of a research agenda both visionary and feasible,
- to foster exchange among researchers as well as between researchers and practitioners regarding knowledge, deficits and perspectives,
- to identify possible demand for cooperation among researchers as well as between researchers and practitioners,
- to improve concrete forms of cooperation between researches and practitioners,
- to initiate new research activities in the area of identified research-gaps..

Target audience

The workshop addresses researchers and experts from related areas of practice (e.g. park administration, regional policy, tourism, agriculture) who deal with the subject of protected areas and regional development.

Participants

The number of participants is limited to 25 to 35 persons: international researchers and park administrators with a responsibility for research.

On Friday the workshop will be opened for additional regional actors: people responsible for park development, researchers, politicians and media from the region will join.

Guiding questions

The following guiding questions are meant to support speakers and discussants to prepare themselves for the workshop. The guiding questions are always to consider in relation to the topic of the workshop:

- Which topics have I addressed so far and what are the major findings of my research?
- What are obvious research deficits regarding the topics I am familiar with?
- What are topics and questions beyond my own competence which have been neglected or overlooked so far?
- Which topics and questions should be in the focus of future research and why?
- Which topics and questions could I imagine to address myself? What are my personal research interests?
- Which theoretical aspects of the regional development debate are of major relevance and should be addressed also with regard to protected areas?
- To which topics and questions of research would I like to make personal contributions? In which networks am I involved and what kind of perspectives could yield from these?

Additional questions for practitioners/representatives of protected areas responsible for research:

- What are major findings of research in the prospect of practice work? What are research deficits?
- Which topics and questions should receive major attention in the prospect of practice?
- Which topics and questions and which kind of research are important for politics and the media?
- According to which topics and questions am I prepared to make own contributions? Which kind of resources could I provide?
- Which protected areas are most suitable to function as case studies for selected areas of research?

Major research questions

According to the actual literature the following questions are in the focus of the present research debate. Input-statements during the first day will particularly address these questions and provide participants with a state of the art overview.

- Which relevance do protected areas have for sustainable regional development?
- What kind of sustainable (land-) use is compatible with the targets of protected areas?
- How can sustainable forms of (land-) use contribute to the promotion of protected areas (e.g. regarding finance, education, policy)?
- How can forms of economic use and nature conservation be optimized as to prevent protected areas from any sort of damages and to maintain a balance between protection and use?
- What are appropriate models of governance to support the aims of protected areas?
- What are suitable tools to avoid that regional development and protection are played off each other?

Structure of the programme

The *first day* (Thursday, 13 October 2011, 14:00-18:15 hrs) is dedicated to the present state of research as well as to the identification of research gaps and new research topics.

The *second day* (Friday, 14 October 2011, 09:00-17:30 hrs) is meant firstly to identify priority topics of future research (according to the agenda of the day before), secondly to identify new topics, questions, projects and cooperation, thirdly possible core areas of future research, forms of cooperation and projects, and fourthly to agree upon possible ways of further advancement.

The *third day* (Saturday, 15 October 2011, 09:00-12:00 hrs) finally is reserved for a field-trip which offers the opportunity to become acquainted with some activities of the Parc Naturel Régional de la Chartreuse NRP Chartreuse and meet with park staff and discuss about their experiences.

NB: For people arriving at Wednesday evening or Thursday before the beginning of the Conference, restaurants will be reserved. Please indicate asap. whether you will participate on dinner Wednesday evening and/or lunch on Thursday before starting the meeting.

Wednesday dinner: Restaurant “La Coquelle”, St. Pierre de Chartreuse (near to the hotels, 2 min by feet) – 20:00 o'clock

Thursday lunch: Restaurant “La Pierre Chaude” (near to hotels and meeting place, 2 min by feet) - 12:30 o'clock

Programme

Thursday, 13 October 2011		
14:00	<p><i>Welcome address and aims of the workshop (Thomas Scheurer, ISCAR-P, Bern, Switzerland)</i></p> <p><i>Introduction of moderator (Dirk Strijker, University of Groningen, The Netherlands)</i></p> <p><i>The workshop topic in the perspective of Parc Naturel Régional de la Chartreuse (Gérard Hanus)</i></p>	
14:15-16:00	<p>The state of the art: Protected areas as tools for regional development – attainments and deficits of research 3 statements of 10 minutes each (30 minutes in total) Questions/discussion/statements among plenum (60 minutes)</p> <p>Topics and speakers:</p> <p>+ Protected areas as tools for regional development – multiple dimensions of a demanding topic (Ingo Mose, University of Oldenburg, Germany) Aim: Introduction to the multiple dimensions of the topic – special focus on regional development</p> <p>+ What kind of research do protected areas require? (Andreas Weissen, Network of Swiss Parks, Bern, Switzerland) Aim: Learn to know the parks perspective</p> <p>+ Economy, private businesses, and regional development, (Andreas Voth, University of Vechta, Germany, and Sevilla, Spain) Aim: Overview of recent research regarding regional economic perspective - part I</p> <p>Guiding questions for speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What are to your mind essential insights of research in the area of your expertise? – What are to your mind gaps and deficits which need further research? <p>Guiding questions for plenum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Which topics of research do you regard well answered yet? – Which topics would need further research? – What are topics which have been overlooked or neglected so far? – What do you regard high priority research questions? 	<p>Plenum Moderator: Dirk Strijker Observer: Thomas Scheurer)</p> <p>Aims: Present overview of state of the art in research regarding protected areas and regional development; develop common basis of understanding; animate participants for discussion list research topics and research gaps; identify major research questions</p> <p>Idea: Researchers and practitioners present their perspective of the topic Participants jointly discuss Observer structures results</p> <p>Presenter and observer develop mind map of discussion</p>
16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break		

16:30-18:00	<p>The state of the art: Protected areas as tools for regional development – attainments and deficits of research</p> <p>Continuation: 3 statements and discussion as above</p> <p>Topics and speakers: + Recreation and tourism – socio-cultural and socio-economic impacts on protected areas (Knut Björn Stokke, Kristian Björnstad, Aurland Naturwerkstad, Norway)</p> <p>Aim: Overview of recent research regarding regional economic perspective, part II</p> <p>+ Management of protected areas – participation and acceptance as key factors (Birgit Reutz-Hornsteiner, Satteins, Austria)</p> <p>Aim: Overview of recent research regarding participation, acceptance, local identity and cooperation</p> <p>+ Governance of protected areas - which forms of governance are appropriate? (Susanne Stoll-Kleemann, University of Greifswald, Germany)</p> <p>Aim: Overview of recent research regarding governance and related challenges (biodiversity, climate change etc.)</p>	As above
18:00-18:15	<p>Mind map – presentation of results gained during afternoon, by observer and moderator</p> <p>Opportunity for bilateral talks and apéro</p>	Plenum Observer and moderator
<p><i>18:15 – 18:45 Possibility for short hotel visit</i> <i>18.45 Bus to the „Col de Porte“</i> <i>19:00 Presentation of a example of regional touristic development (Gérard Hanus, director of the Natural regional park of Chartreuse)</i> <i>19.30 Joint dinner in the restaurant CARTUSIA</i></p>		

Friday, 14 October 2011		
<i>From 08:00 Breakfast</i>		
<i>09:00 Welcome and introduction to programme of the day: Axel Borsdorf (ISCAR-P, Innsbruck, Austria) and Guido Plassmann (ALPARC, Chambéry, France)</i>		
09:15-10:00	<p>According to the order of last day, what are high priority topics which require further research in the future?</p> <p>Short presentation of possible topics (Axel Borsdorf and/or Guido Plassmann)</p> <p>According to the definition of selected research topics participants organize in groups to discuss topics, questions and projects in more detail</p>	<p>Plenum plus additional regional actors (protected areas management, researchers, politicians, media)</p> <p>Moderator: Dirk Strijker Observer: Thomas Scheurer)</p> <p>Aim: Identify clusters of relevant topics for future research (cluster) Form groups</p>
<i>10:00-10:15 Coffee break</i>		
10:15-12:15	<p>New topics, questions, projects and forms of cooperation in the defined areas of research</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> _ Which topics and questions should be discussed within the identified areas of research? _ What kind of concrete projects seem to be possible? _ Who would like to participate in which topics and projects? _ Who could contribute what kind of resources? _ Which ways of funding (programmes) seem appropriate? 	<p>Group work (2-3 groups, each 1 or more topics depending on overall suggestions) Composition by interest No moderation: groups organize themselves Aim: identify new topics and questions in identified areas of research, first sketch of possible projects</p>
<i>12:30 Buffet of regional specialities offered by PNR Chartreuse at the conference place</i>		
14:00-15:30	<p>Presentation and discussion of group work findings: New topics, questions, projects, and forms of cooperation</p>	<p>Plenum :Groups present their findings; discussion in plenum Moderator: Dirk Strijker Aim: agree upon core topics and questions for future research; first ideas for concrete projects and forms of cooperation become apparent</p>
<i>15:30-16:00 Coffee break</i>		
16:00-17:00	<p>Perspectives of future research and for cooperation between protected areas and research</p> <p>Observer, moderator, representatives of participating institutions and additional actors comment on workshop findings</p>	<p>Plenum plus additional regional actors(protected areas management, researchers, politicians, media)</p> <p>Moderator: Dirk Stijker</p> <p>Aim: Actors comment on findings – exchanges</p>
17:00-17:30	Closing	Moderator and observer
<i>18:00 Bus to the Church of Modern Holy Art by ARCABAS (visit guided)</i>		
<i>20:00 Joint dinner at the restaurant “La Brévardière” – Bus leaving back to St. Pierre at 22:30</i>		

Saturday, 15 October 2011*From 07:30 breakfast*

08:30-12:00	Field-trip to selected sites of PNR Chartreuse 08:30 Bus leaving for Museum of Corriere 9:00 -10:00 : visit of the Museum 10:30 -11:30 visit of the "Coop" 12:00 : lunch at the restaurant <i>L'auberge</i> , <i>Entremont le Vieux</i>	PNR Chartreuse guides
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14:00-14:15 Shuttle Bus to Chambéry main train station (Arrival in Chambéry: 15:20h)