

Socio-economic Monitoring in Biosphere Reserves in Germany

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

Chartreuse, 13.-15.10.2011

Saint-Pierre-de-Chartreuse, Parc Naturel



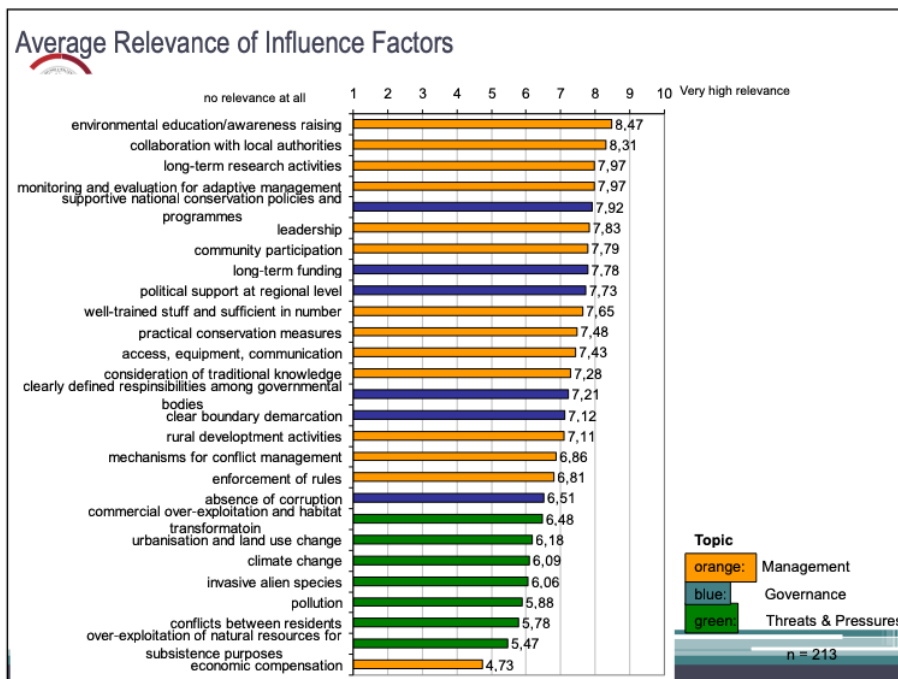
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Chair of Sustainability Science and Applied Geography,
University of Greifswald



Gobi-Project: Experience and Inspiration

- **Governance of Biodiversity (GoBi) Project** - Assessing Biodiversity Governance and Management Approaches
 - Period: 2004 - 2010, funded by Robert Bosch Foundation (1 Mio €)
 - 12 team members and more than 20 diploma theses
- **Inter- and transdisciplinary approach:** cooperations with essential institutions and acteurs (UNESCO; IUCN, BR Manager etc)
 - 229 BRs surveyed globally
 - 198 expert interviews, about 30 case studies
 - Meta- analysis of about 190 cases described in the literature
- **Selected results:** Capacity building and more information regarding societal aspects is needed
 - Integrated monitoring is required to fulfill the integrated approach of sustainable development in biosphere reserves

Link: <http://www.mnf.unigreifswald.de/institute/geo/english/geoen/geographi@chartreuse, October 2011 sustainability-science-and-applied-geography/projects/current-projects/gobi.html>



Research Goals of the Project „Societal Processes in German UNESCO-Biosphere Reserves“

1. Development of a socio-economic monitoring system
→ Implementation in German biosphere reserves and other protected areas is asked for
2. Identification of influencing factors for nature protection and sustainable use in biosphere reserves, with a focus on:
 - Needs and attitudes of local people
 - Processes of biosphere reserve administrations
 - Type and quality of relations between local people and actors of biosphere reserve administrations



Case Study Sites



- Four biosphere reserves:
 - Mittelbe (Saxony-Anhalt)
 - Schorfheide-Chorin (Brandenburg)
 - Schaalsee
 - Southeast-Rügen (both Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania)

- Project period: July 2009 - June 2012

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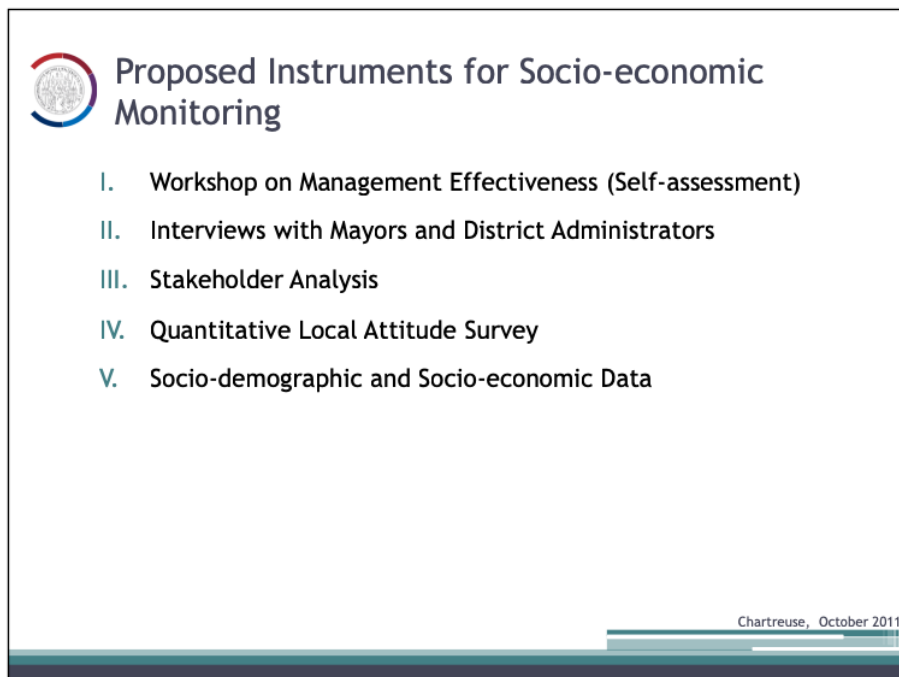
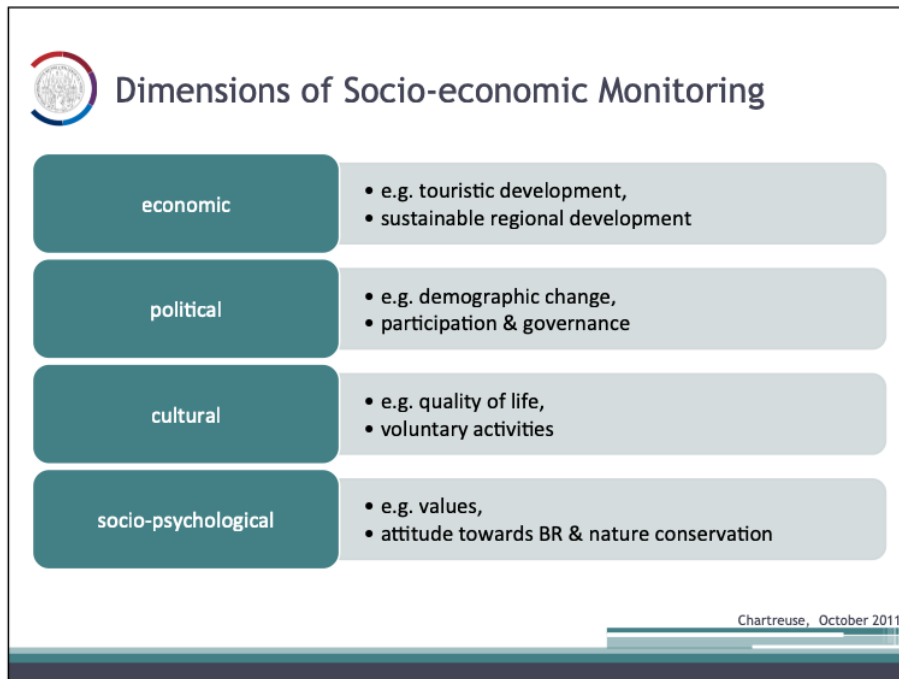
Project Work

Exchange with staff members of other protected areas and external scientists

Last workshop was held from 11th to 14th of September 2011 on isle of Vilm



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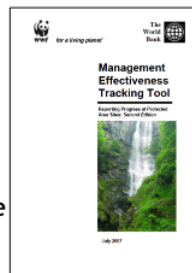




Workshop on Management Effectiveness (Self-assessment)

Method:

- Based on international *Tracking Tool*, adapted to biosphere reserves characteristics and German context
- Duration: ca. 5 hours, frequency: every 2-3 years
- If repeated, changes in development become visible



Content & Aims:

- Assessment of current biosphere reserve situation, evaluation of aims
- Revelation of strengths and weaknesses,

- Precondition for management improvement
- Valuable for reporting requirements, as well as self-reflection

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Interviews with Mayors and District Administrators

Method:

- Semi-structured interviews with local authorities
- Scope: all districts and municipalities with more than 10% surface proportion within the biosphere reserve
- Duration: ca. 45 min
- Transcription and qualitative analysis

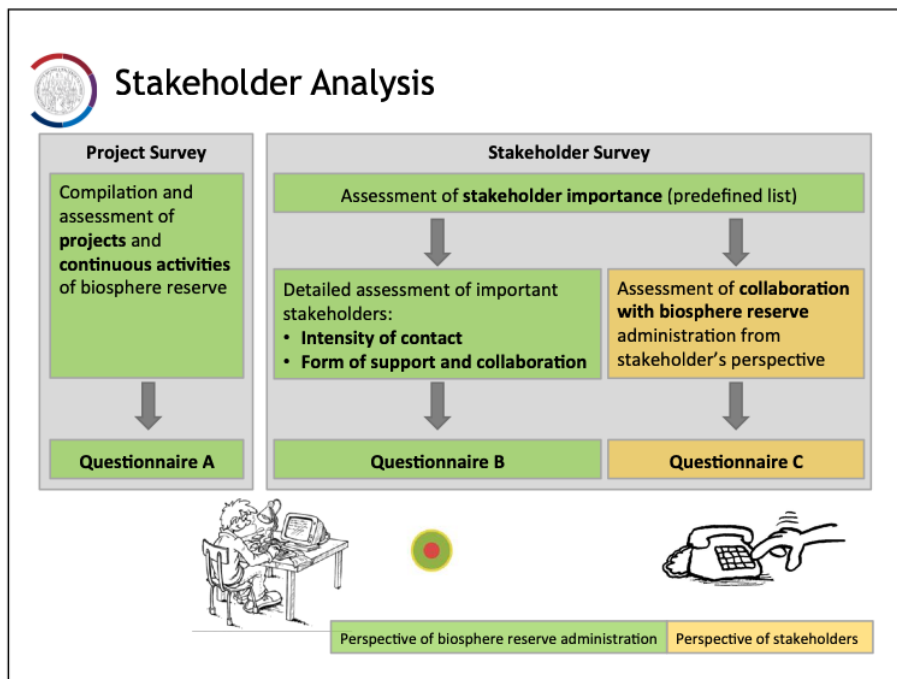


Content and Aims:

- Local authorities' biosphere reserve 'knowledge' and own expectations
- Local authorities assessing:
 - Collaboration with biosphere reserve administration
 - Biosphere reserve advantages & disadvantages
 - Attitudes of local people towards biosphere reserve

- Improvement of collaboration with local authorities possible

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Socio-demographic and Socio-economic Data



Method: Analyses of available data from statistical federal offices on municipality level

Use and Aims: Overview over demographic and economic data for each biosphere reserve

Challenge: Consent about uniformed nationwide indicators and area demarcation

Sources:

- Statistische Ämter des Bundes und der Länder: **Statistik Lokal**. Daten für die Gemeinden, kreisfreien Städte und Kreise Deutschlands
- Bundesinstitut für Bau-, Stadt- und Raumforschung: **INKAR** - Indikatoren und Karten zur Raum- und Stadtentwicklung in Deutschland und in Europa

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Workshop „Socio-economic Monitoring in German Protected Areas - from Field Test to Establishment“,
11.-14.09.2011, Isle of Vilm

Tenor of discussions: proposed socio-economic monitoring system is reasonable

- establishment in German biosphere reserves welcomed,
- gradual implementation planned in two German Länder,
- integration into periodic review of UNESCO-biosphere reserves is required,
- application in National Parks and Nature Parks is possible

Further recommendations:

- Balancing ecological and socio-economic monitoring,
- Development of instruments tackling: economic effects of BR, visitor management, media, volunteers and education for sustainable development

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Local Attitude Survey

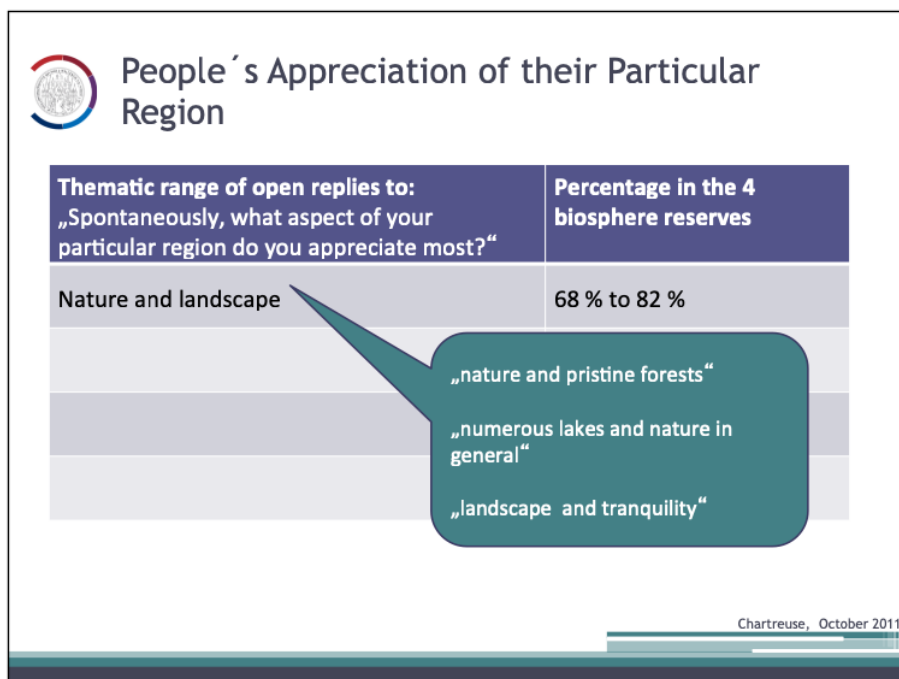
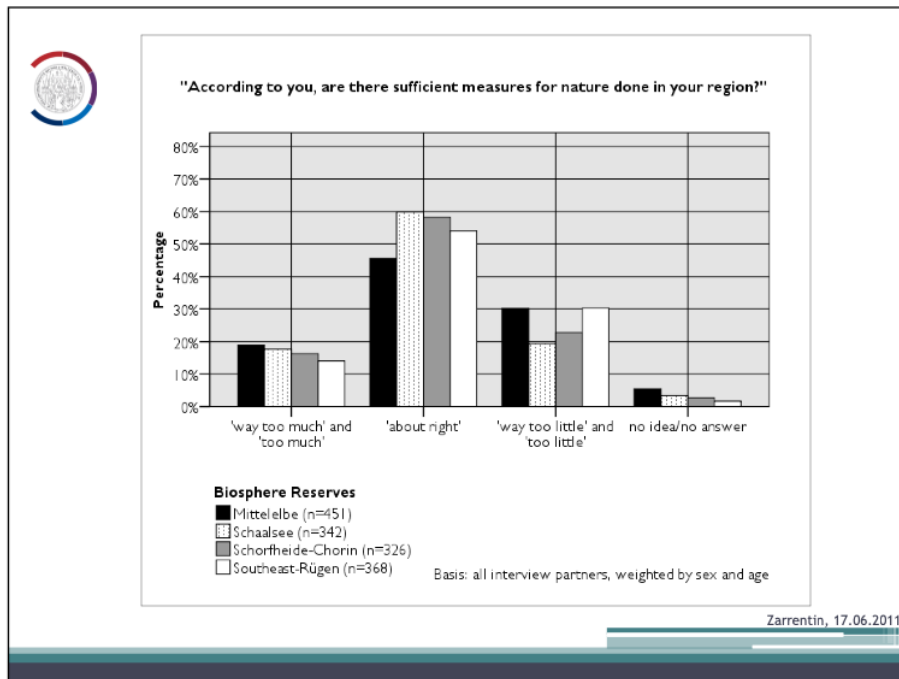
Details of the Survey

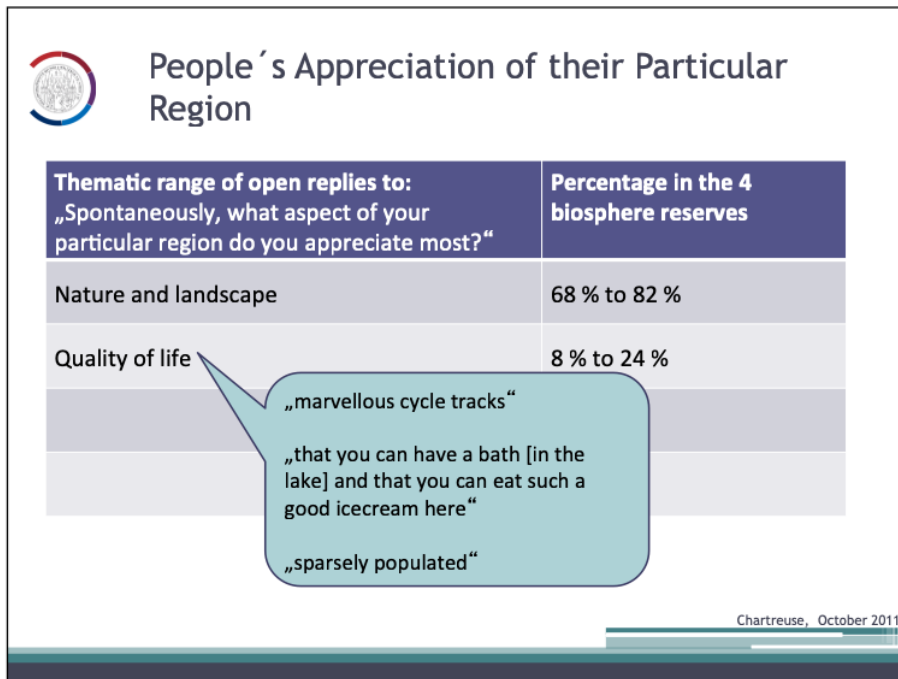
Accomplishment:


- Telephone survey with 1480 interviewees
- Random sampling, last birthday method
- Mostly closed questions (1-5 scale), 9 open questions
- Accomplishment: autumn 2010




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 Attitude Survey - Content (3)


Perception & assessment of the biosphere reserve






<http://1.1.1.2/bmi/www.schaalsee.de/inhalte/images/biosphaerenreservat.jpg>

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 How well known are the biosphere reserves among the local population?

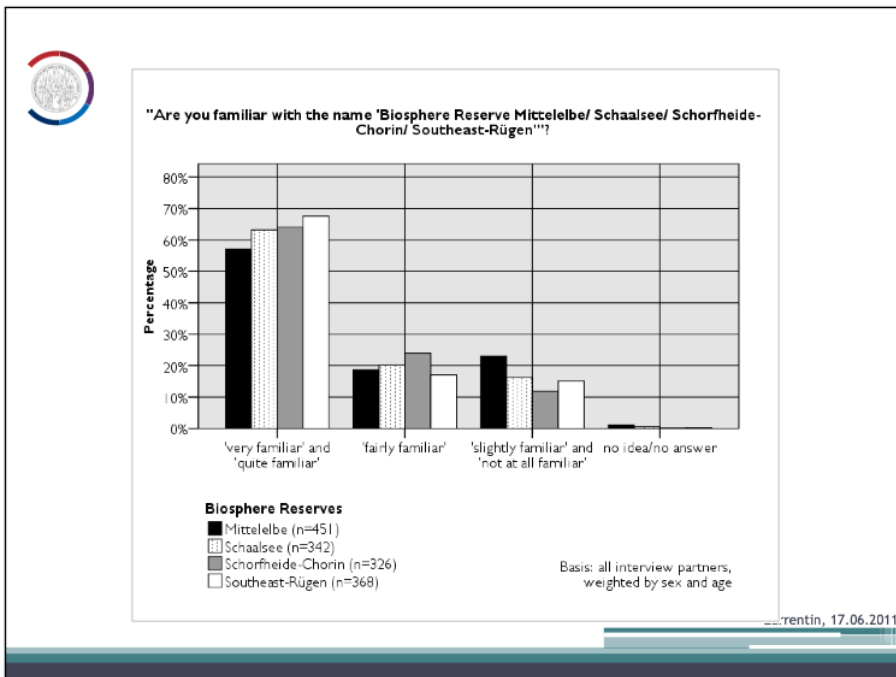





 Biosphärenreservat Schaalsee 


source: www.schaalsee.de

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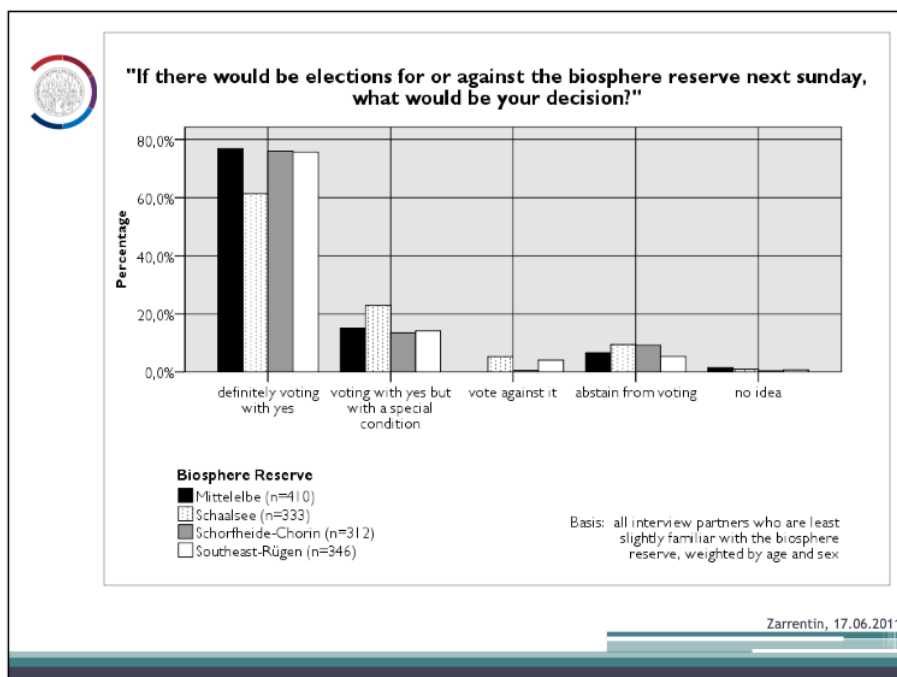






General opinion about the biosphere reserves



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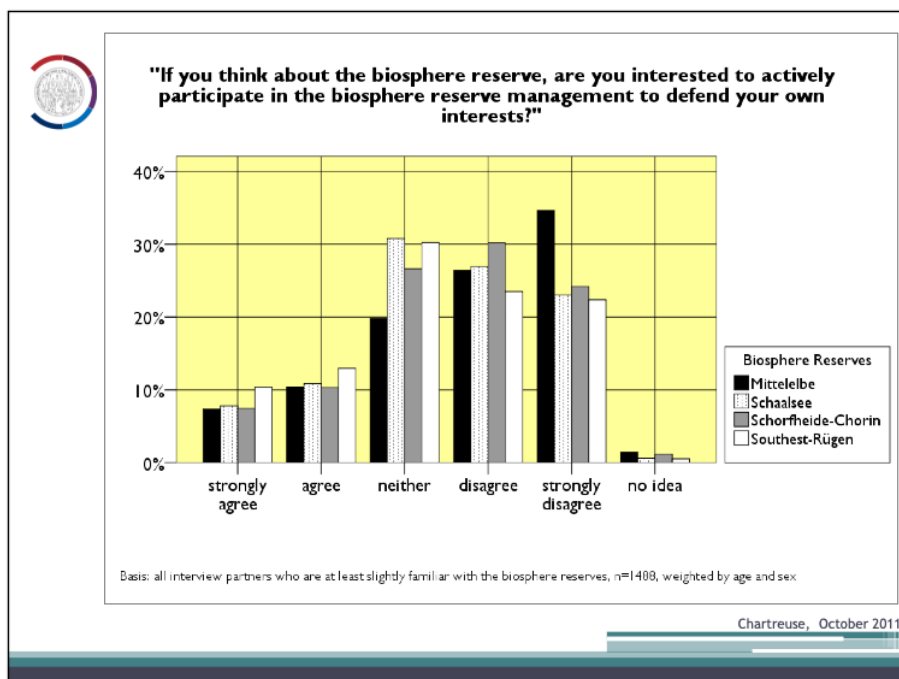



 **Willingness to actively participate in the Biosphere Reserves**



<http://en-mosaik.de/wp-content/uploads/image/KIR/Daumen%20nach%20oben.jpg>

Zarrentin, 17.06.2011





Thank you for your attention!

Zarrentin, 17.06.2011

