Improving the Financial sustainability of the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas

Medium Size GEF Project
UNDP Romania, Romanian National Forest Administration
Objective

The **objective** is to secure the financial sustainability of Romania’s Carpathian network of PAs, and share the experience with the other administrations of Carpathian Protected Areas.
Component 1 - Supportive legislative framework and Sustainable PA Financing Strategy

- A set of by-laws developed and amendments to existing laws adopted
- Sustainable Financing Strategy (SFS) for 22 large PAs in the Romanian portion of the Carpathians developed
- Government commits to gradually increase funding
- Model business plans developed to demonstrate specific market-based revenue mechanisms for 5 clusters of PAs in the Romanian Carpathians
- A set of PA diversified income-generation mechanisms (market and market options) validated in at least 3 PAs (Vanatorii Neamt Nature Park, Piatra Craiului National Park and Maramuresului Mountains Nature Park)
capacities of management authorities and other local stakeholders to realize sustainable financing of PAs developed

A critical number of PA finance professionals trained

Carpathian National Association of Protected Area administrations established in Romania

Improved information management linking PA management plans (programs and activities) with financial management/accounting systems and knowledge documented and transferred to key actors representing PAs from other Carpathian countries
Learning community
Countries

- Romania
- Czech
- Poland
- Slovakia
- Ukraine
- Serbia
- Hungary
CZ, SK, PL, UA, HU - budgetary institutions
Poland changed recently
RO – Various – NFA, Local Authorities, Universities
SRB - state enterprise
Objectives

- permanent cooperation framework on financing PAs
- improve financial management
- offer for sharing best examples of legislation and institutional framework
- offer information on PAs financing opportunities – self-financing or from projects
- cooperation with other networks in this field– especially Alparc and Danube Parks
Structure and members

- Core working group on finance within CNPA - WGF – 1 person/country - keep costs low + CNPA SC
- PAs from the network
- Scientists, academic, S4C
- National authorities, other structures linked to PAs
- Other networks - Alparc, Danube
- Partners in international projects in the region
- Potential donors, land owners, resource users
- English
Core working group

Involvement in financial decision-making or direct responsibility of financial management, either at the administration level or at the central level;

Familiarized with the daily PA activities, management planning, costs, income generating activities.

Willing to take part as active members in the core team;

IT skills;

Preferably experienced in international cooperation or projects;

English language
Key thematic areas

The project will develop a series of training modules which will include aspects such as:

- Financial analysis and result-oriented cost accounting
- Optimization of financial management systems
- Assessing cost-saving opportunities and developing strategies
- Screening and selection of financial mechanisms
- Financial feasibility analysis
- Formulation of PA financial strategies
- Formulation of PA business and general business management.
Development of learning material

- project reports
- documented processes from the activities of the project
- webpages designers
- project booklet - project team
- training modules - developed by a specialized body (NGO, academic institution etc) – ex. Nature Conservancy training modules for PAs management
Delivery

- CNPA site - carpathianparks.org
- WWF CHM - natura2000.ro
- Association - ariiprotejate.eu
- Carpathian convention carpathianconvention.org
- Printed best practice booklet for PAs - maybe a version for WCPA???
- Explained methodologies of the project findings
- Creating training modules or guidelines for trainers for students and professionals - to be used in universities, training NGOs etc. (Propark in Ro)
select and appoint the members of the core WGF

replication of financial analysis - SK - January, Ukraine, Serbia, Poland...

meeting of the WGF – June/July?

autumn - start working on training modules

put info on virtual delivery mechs. - permanent, as activities are finalized

end of year - meeting of WGF for business plans, booklet, modules