



Participatory Protected Area Management in Romania - Current Status and Future Trends

WORKSHOPS:

- The role of participation in the current management of protected areas in Romania
- What type of participation do we want in protected areas?
- Opportunities and challenges in implementing strong participatory management of protected areas in Romania

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*Conclusions of a seminar organised by
The Administration of Rodna Mountains National Park
in Singeorz-Bai on 24th november 2006*

What is participatory protected area management?

Participatory management = collaborative management

In recent decades major changes have occurred in nature conservation philosophy. We have witnessed a move towards ecosystems and processed; embracing of adaptive management; and increasing recognition of the role of participation and the value of local knowledge and traditional institutions involved in natural resource protection.

Participation in protected area (PA) management is the process through which some or all stakeholders relevant

for a protected area **are involved substantially in management activities.**

As part of this process, the institution responsible for administering the PA develops partnerships with stakeholders (first and foremost with local people and users of natural resource) which

specify and guarantee the role, the rights and responsibilities of each party with respect to the PA.

There are several types of participation (see page 2) which can be employed, depending on the aims of those concerned and local circumstances.



Presentations of issues relating to protected area management and participation formed the first part of the seminar

Seminar purpose and programme

This seminar was organised within the project "Youth Participation in Protected Area Management in Rodna Mountains, Romania" and it aimed to disseminate project

results and to facilitate an exchange of experience between institutions involved in protected area management in Romania.

The programme included

two parts: presentations were made in the first part by organizers and some of the participants, followed by three parallel workshops where key aspects of participatory protected area management were discussed and analysed.



Discussions on the role of participation in protected area management in Romania