

# Report about site visit in the pilot area Julian Prealps Nature Park



## REPORT ABOUT THE SITE VISIT IN THE JULIAN PREALPS NATURE PARK (ITALY) ON 20-21 NOVEMBER 2013

### Organisation / (legal) structure /management of the park

- Regional Park of the Friuli Venezia Giulia region, established in 1996.
- Covers 100 square kilometres.
- Located within territories of six municipalities.
- The original plan of autonomous region Friuli Venezia Giulia in 1978 foresaw 11 parks with permissions for hunting - after the national law on protected areas (394/91) hunting was prohibited in the park which has provoked big conflicts with hunting associations.
- The current extension of the park is the original “core area” (protection zone 1) of the previous plan.
- It is the only Italian park recognized as “trans boundary” and carries on a strong co-operation with the Triglav National Park in Slovenia.
- Multi annual plan for touristic/naturalistic utilization.
- Multi annual plan for game/wildlife management.
- The management board includes external experts to decide about activities and interventions (e.g. forestry, game management).
- Convention with University and Museum of Natural History of Udine.

### Funding

- 70% of the total budget of the park is provided by the region.
- Additional funding comes mainly from the participation to national/international projects.
- Strong co-operation with Triglav National Park.

### Main projects carried on by the park

- fanALP
- Europarc Junior Ranger
- E R A
- Climaparks

<http://www.parcoprealpigiulie.it/en/Principale/Projects/Projects.aspx>

## Regional development and awareness raising

- Use of the main naturalistic amenities, local traditions and natural disasters (earthquake) as touristic offers.
- The earthquake of 1976 and the reaction of the local population have been used to create a museum to inform the visitors and to promote the municipalities close to the park.
- Provision of a sort of “quality brand”.
- Ability for transforming main features in economic opportunities for local populations.
- Promotion of environmental education through publications, excursions, sport activities, events with local traditions and jobs.
- Barrier-free paths and paths for blind people.
- Enhancement of local network to promote the connection between nature and man, passing through: accommodation / landscape / agriculture / forestry / water/energy / culture/history / information and education / management/planning / promotion and tourism.
- Local communities co-operate with the park and its value is recognized.

## Provided ecosystem services (ESS) in the region

- water – used by almost 300.000 people
- High quality of ecological habitat with more than 1.200 flower species and subspecies plus a high presence of wildlife.
- wilderness
- Non-wood products regulated by regional laws but not adapted to the real park’s necessities.

## Needs of / within the pilot area

- Increase the relations with local communities → the park as depositary of historical/cultural knowledge.
- Increase the visibility of the park and opportunities for regional development.
- Promote stakeholders meetings.
- Support to local products (garlic, “slow food”).
- Management and maintenance of habitats.

- Plan for conservation and development almost finished, missing only last steps of procedure; this lasts since 1996.
- Improve the accessibility / alternative mobility

Additionally, some weak points have been identified:

- Absence of sustainable accommodation (e.g. albergo diffuso).
- Ownership of park's territory not of the park itself.
- Small park's extension → limit to sustainable development.
- depopulation
- Absence of young people's enterprises.
- Low communication with regional administration on hunting plans.
- Low awareness of local people about ecosystem services.