



**Generalitat de Catalunya**  
Government of Catalonia

# **Social and Economic Impacts of Protected Areas in Catalonia**

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**Secretary for Environment and Sustainability**



**INVESTING**  
**in our countryside**  
EU Green Week > 31 May 2016



## Aim of the Study

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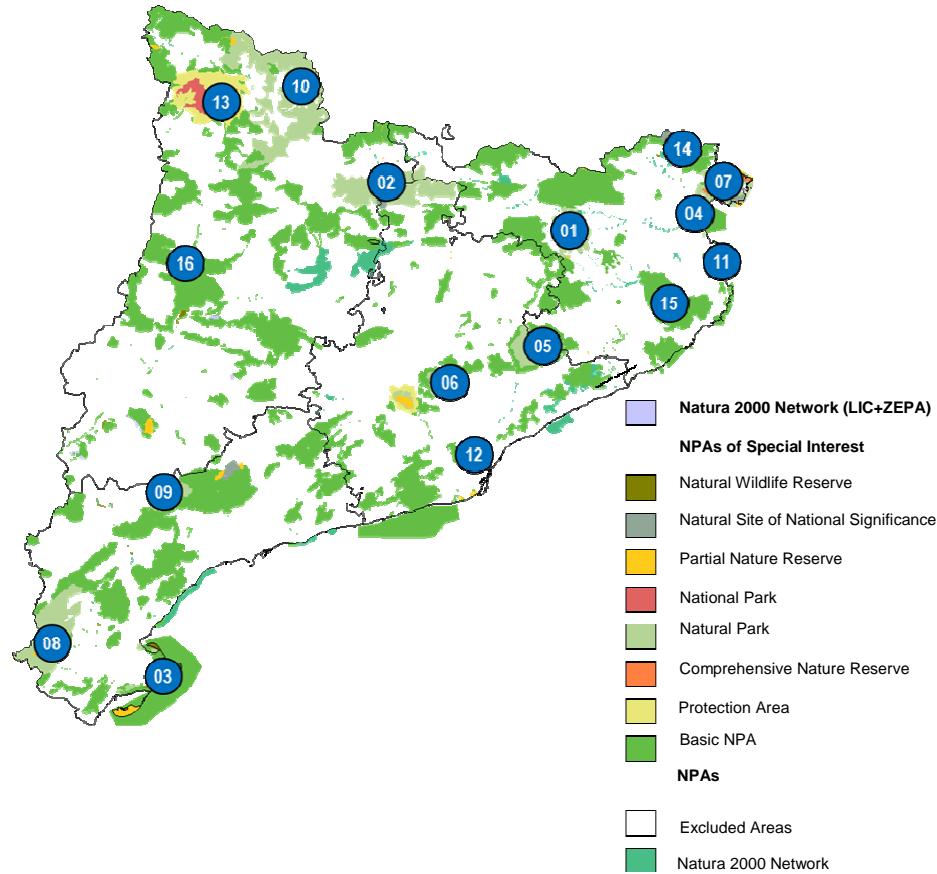
**Departing from an innovative and integrated perspective, the aim is to quantify and evaluate the effects of NPAs on the economy and society**

*As a starting point, the data obtained will be useful for the effective management and planning of the PA System of Catalonia; in addition, this will drive strategies for the revitalization and enhancement of the region's economy regarding the protection of natural heritage*



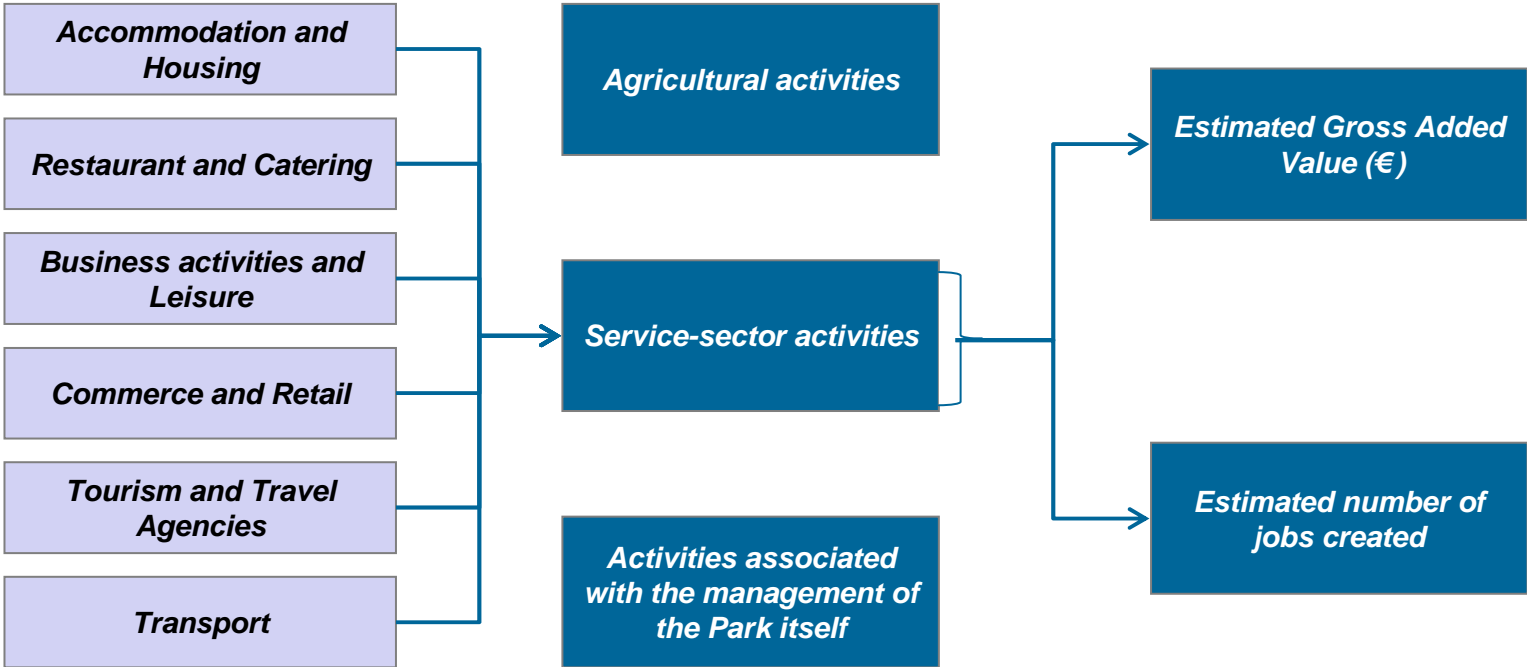
# Tasks carried out

16 NPAs were analysed, under different categories, to assess protection category vs economic activity generated



# Gross Added Value & Job Creation

We focus on the gross added value and the number of jobs created in agriculture, in the service sector related to existing PAs and in activities regarding to the management of the protected areas themselves



Impacts assessed



# Direct and Indirect Impacts

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Socio-economic impacts generated directly and indirectly include ...

## *Direct impact*

- *Job creation and revenue generated directly by the activity assessed*

## *Indirect impact*

- *Revenue and jobs generated by businesses related to those activities that generate direct effects (basically through the provision of goods and services)*

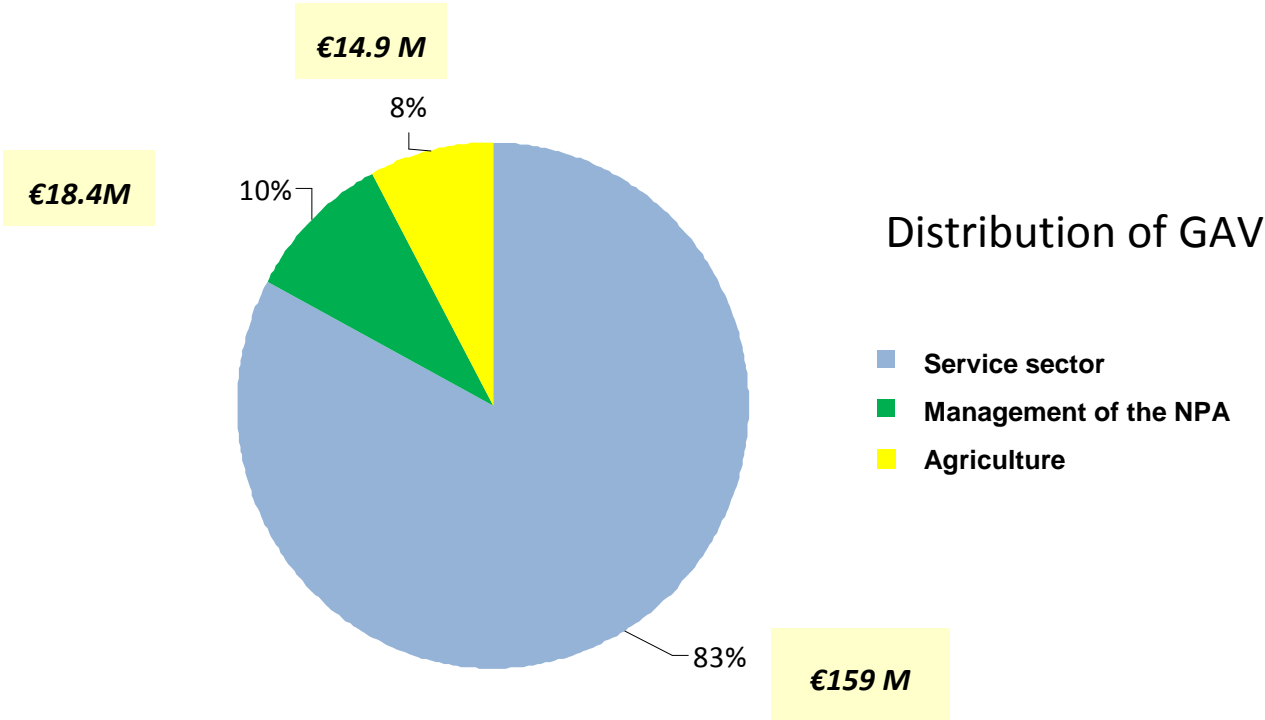
## *Induced impact*

- *Economic value and jobs created as a result of the consumption activities of the employees & staff members of the activities directly and indirectly related to each sector*



# Main Findings - GAV

The 16 PAs assessed generate €192 million per annum in terms of Gross Added Value



# Main Findings

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- ***The revenue from the service sector generates 1.26% of the GAV of tourism in Catalonia.***

***This is equivalent to:***

- *1.5 times the revenue generated by the Gala-Dali Foundation*
- *2.6 times the revenue generated by the National Art Museum of Catalonia*
- *5% of the revenue generated by the cultural heritage of Catalonia as a whole*

- ***For every Euro invested in a PA, 8.8 Euros of GAV are generated through a wide range of economic activities***

- ***The differences in budgetary allocation in different PAs have a direct effect on the volume and types of management activities conducted in each PA, both in terms of:***

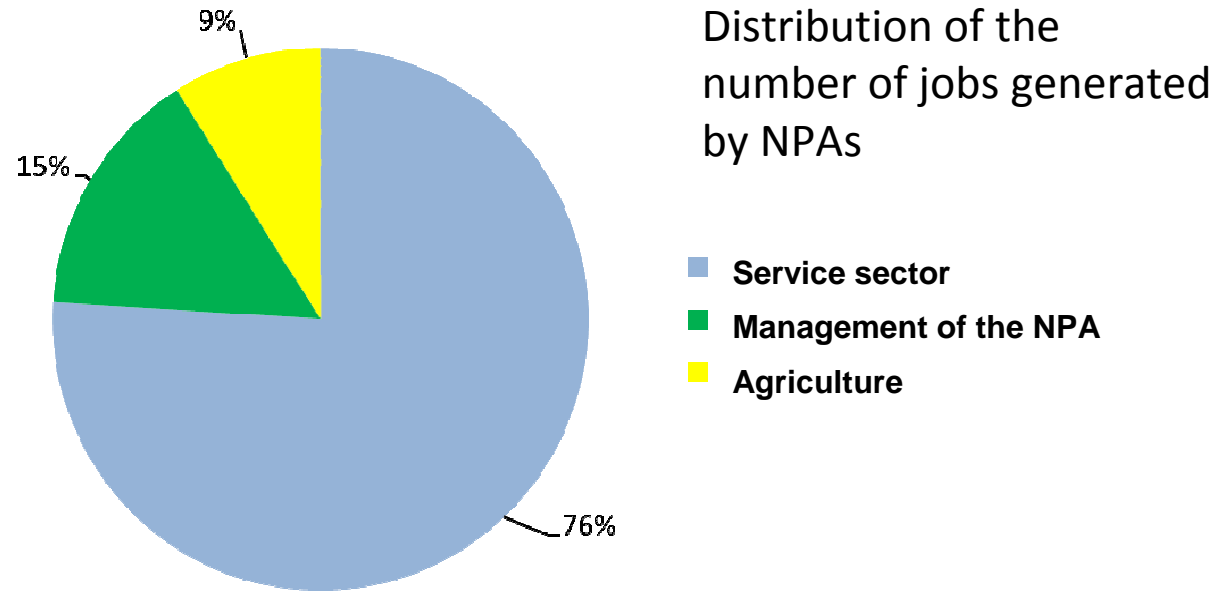
- a) activities directly related to conservation of the area and***
- b) other kinds of measures related to the socio-economic aspects of the surrounding area***



## Main Findings - Jobs

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The 16 PAs assessed generate 5,110 jobs associated with the activities studied





# Conclusions

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- *The socio-economic impact is especially significant in mountain areas, where there are no alternative economic activities (i.e. tourism in coastal areas) and also in the counties far away from Barcelona that have a rather less diversified economic structure*
- *PAAs generate complementarities and synergies between the primary sector (agriculture and farming) and the services sector (tourism), which the PA management bodies usually endeavour to boost through a wide range of tools: direct financial support, infrastructure investment, PA labelling & branding, local product trade fairs and brochures, merchandising and other products and activities to attract visitors, etc.*
- *There is still a long way to go to continue exploring and developing the potential of PAAs as key elements for social, economic and environmental revitalization, placing special emphasis on their role to provide the backbone of the territory and to guarantee social and territorial cohesion*





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