“Partnerships, Governance, Capacity Development and Mobilisation of Resources”

Sarah Gindre
Environmental Consultant (Spain)
29 May 2015
Workshop 4A1: Engaging (and Empowering!) Youth in Conservation

Key Recommendation 1: Start acting now (fewer recommendations and more actions)!

Action point 1: Commitment to start a youth group in a school in Serbia.
Key Recommendation 2: Change the paradigm of how adults view young people, switching to seeing them as real players. Do this by:

- Creating meaningful possibilities for youth to get involved in conservation.
- Including youth on decision-making bodies.
- Setting up mentoring programmes that provide job insights, skills and knowledge.
- Creating peer-to-peer education programmes.
Workshop 4A1: Engaging (and Empowering!) Youth in Conservation

Key Recommendation 2 (continued):

**Action point 1:** Commitment to set up a youth advisory board in a protected area in the Czech Republic.

**Action point 2:** Commitment to create a co-management area for youth to actively be involved in the management of a Croatian National Park.

**Action point 3:** IUCN to consider creating an internship/mentoring platform to connect young people to meaningful PA work.

**Action point 4:** Commitment from WWF Austria to share lessons learned on mentoring and youth empowerment.
Workshop 4A1: Engaging (and Empowering!) Youth in Conservation

Key Recommendation 3: Reach out to different types of youth e.g. disadvantaged youth (migrants, refugees, low-income families), young professionals working in other sectors.

Action point 1: WWF Austria and River Jump commitment to involve youth from different sectors into their programmes by 2016.
Workshop 4A2: Transboundary Parks: not only to understand each other but to cooperate

Key Recommendation 1: Start connecting, even in the simplest of ways!

Action point 1: Start with small things such as a phone call or informal outings, and don’t forget to have fun! This will most probably lead to further and more formal cooperation.
Workshop 4A2: Transboundary Parks: not only to understand each other but to cooperate

Key Recommendation 2: Develop an accessible methodology for evaluating transboundary cooperation.

Action point 1: WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group to create a new, non-expensive methodology based on existing methodologies.
Workshop 4A2: Transboundary Parks: not only to understand each other but to cooperate

**Key Recommendation 3:** Harmonize management plans and strategies...in writing.

**Action point 1:** Develop joint management plans or strategies, and do it in writing. Even if they are not official it is important to have the joint collaboration process.
Workshop 4A2: Transboundary Parks: not only to understand each other but to cooperate

Key Recommendation 4: Ensure government involvement and support.

Action point 1: Talk to authorities and show them the benefits of transboundary cooperation e.g. Polish and Czech Ministers were invited to the signing of a new agreement and, therefore, got involved in the conservation of the transboundary protected area.
Workshop 4A3: Opportunities for Improving Tourism Sustainability in Protected Areas in Europe

Key Recommendation 1: Manage tourism within the framework of each site’s conservation objectives.

**Action point 1:** Understand the types and amounts of tourism, including no-go areas for tourism.

**Action point 2:** Identify the rationale for tourism in a protected area (e.g. benefits for local communities, raising awareness of the site and conservation, generating revenues, etc.).

**Action point 3:** Monitor tourism impacts and benefits, as well as visitor satisfaction, to adjust tourism management.
Workshop 4A3:
Opportunities for Improving Tourism Sustainability in Protected Areas in Europe

Key Recommendation 2: Plan and manage tourism using existing tools that promote sustainability.

**Action point 1**: Use the CBD guidelines on biodiversity and tourism, the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism, and similar tools from international and regional organizations.

**Action point 2**: Provide appropriate green infrastructure for tourism, including facilities for disabled visitors.

**Action point 3**: Increase awareness of the value of conservation through strong interpretation services.
Workshop 4A3: Opportunities for Improving Tourism Sustainability in Protected Areas in Europe

Key Recommendation 3: Involve the tourism and other professional sectors, as well as local communities.

**Action point 1:** involve tourism professionals in tourism marketing and development.

**Action point 2:** use detailed professional analysis of tourism markets, products, etc.

**Action point 3:** provide training for tour operators on appropriate conduct of tourism at each site.
Workshop 4A3: Opportunities for Improving Tourism Sustainability in Protected Areas in Europe

Key Recommendation 3 (continued):

**Action point 4**: Involve local communities in planning for tourism and conservation and ensure they receive benefits from both.

**Action point 5**: Foster good communication and cooperation between all public, private, community and civil society bodies involved in or affected by tourism.
Workshop 4B1: Opportunities to Improve PA Professionalization in Europe

Key Recommendation 1: Develop and promote protected area and professional standards, as well as investment in people through existing European frameworks.

Action point 1: Start by establishing minimum standards for management of PAs in Europe to define what constitutes adequate management and what it takes to not be a paper park.

Action point 2: Maximize the accessibility to professional programmes and/or promote practical training opportunities at the European and country level (using the EUROPARC / ProPark webpage).
Workshop 4B1: Opportunities to Improve PA Professionalization in Europe

Key Recommendation 2: Establish EU/European occupational standards for protected area work (specialist and ranger levels).

Action point 1: Set quality standards for PA professionals and register these occupational standards at the country level in EU and non-EU countries e.g. through the WCPA network.
Workshop 4B1: Opportunities to Improve PA Professionalization in Europe

Key Recommendation 3: Improve the competencies and performance of protected area professionals.

Action point 1: Invest in PA experts, and improve competencies and performance, using existing European frameworks such as Natura 2000/Emerald network, LIFE, WH, IUCN, Europarc.
Workshop 4B1:
Opportunities to Improve PA Professionalization in Europe

Key Recommendation 4: Support and encourage protected area authorities to prioritize and institutionalize capacity development.

Action point 1: Develop performance review and professional assessment guidelines for Europe adapted to the country level.
Workshop 4B1: Opportunities to Improve PA Professionalization in Europe

**Key Recommendation 5:** Help ‘bridge the generation gap’ to benefit both young professionals and protected areas.

**Action point 1:** For example, through pilot projects.
Workshop 4B2:
Diversification of Natura 2000 Governance

Key Recommendation 1: Adopt and enable a diverse range of governance types, shifting towards more participatory systems (which cover at least shared governance types).

Action point 1: Develop an appropriate legal and institutional framework.

Action point 2: Develop standards, guidelines and effectiveness assessment systems.
Workshop 4B2: Diversification of Natura 2000 Governance

Key Recommendation 2: Improve knowledge and understanding of governance types and issues.

Action point 1: Set up regional committees and stakeholder platforms to get institutions and individuals meaningfully involved in decision-making.

Action point 2: Showcase best practice examples of Natura 2000 governance types that include community-based sustainability.
Cross-cutting Issues

Partnerships
Start communicating at all levels and with all types of stakeholders...small steps can lead to much more!

Governance
Diversify and increase understanding of governance types (especially participatory ones).

Capacity Development
Invest in “effective people for effective protected areas”.

Mobilisation of Resources
There are many resources and tools already available....use them!