

REPORT 2015



PRO PARK
PENTRU ARII PROTEJATE





REPORT 2015

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A long-exposure photograph of a large waterfall cascading over mossy rocks. The water is blurred into a soft, white flow, creating a sense of continuous motion. The surrounding rocks and vegetation are covered in vibrant green moss, adding to the lush, natural feel of the scene. The text "About ProPark" is overlaid in the center in a bold, white, sans-serif font with a subtle drop shadow.

About ProPark



Vision

"Romania has an efficient network of Protected Areas, managed by competent and dedicated professionals, supported by ProPark, a reference organisation in professional training for protected area management in Eastern Europe".

Mission

"For the benefit of society, our mission is to improve the competences of people directly or indirectly involved in protected area management, to help them better preserve the natural and cultural heritage. This shall be achieved by quality professional training activities, by counselling and technical support provided to protected area teams".





Projects



Dan Dinu
nature & travel photography

1. Nature in Schools and Schools in Protected Areas

PURPOSE

The project aim is to raise awareness among citizens with respect to the role and importance of protected areas, by stimulating children and parents to visit protected areas, by strengthening the capacity of teachers and protected area staff to provide ecological information and by involving children in practical activities such as Junior Ranger.



TESTIMONIAL

Rusan Mirela, teacher at Corneliu Medrea High School in Zlatna

„During the entire course I felt encouraged to state my opinion and to freely express my imagination. The training was an abundant source of information, experiences, interactions and idea exchanges. I am going to use certain animation games or activities, learned from the fellow trainers, with the pupils and maybe also with colleagues/friends. I would recommend others to attend a similar course and to collaborate with the course organisers, as they are real professionals.”

Chirilă Pătrașcu Mirela Mihaela, Pre-school education teacher, Kindergarten no. 31 in Târgu Jiu

„I felt like a student setting out on a journey of knowledge, experiment and responsibility. I felt the desire to spread around the information I acquired. I am going to use everything!”

Juganaru Corina Mihaela, Biology teacher, Hercules High School in Băile Herculane

„Team work, communication, discovery, relaxation...all of these from a passion for Nature. I will adapt everything I learned from this experience to the conditions in my school and I will particularly use animations in Nature. In my capacity of person in charge with training, I will have a lot to share with my colleagues.”

Bujor Lăcrămioara, Teacher, Ion Ciorănescu Secondary School in Moroieni

“It was the nicest experience, not only for teaching but also a life experience. I met really professional people, with a passion for nature and for their fellow humans, people who are unconditionally dedicated to other people and to the environment. I am eager to apply everything I learned here within the classes I teach at school, in order to make children aware of what Life means. Congratulations and deep respect for our trainers and their dedication.”

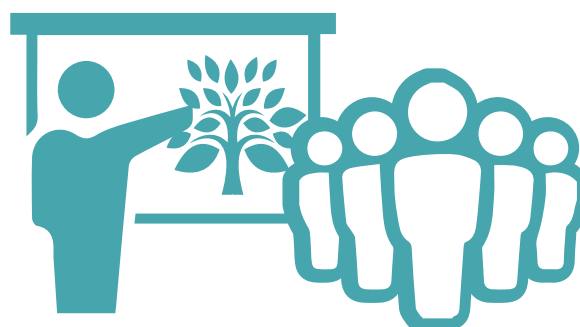
Funding	SEE Grants 2009-2014, through the programme NGO Fund in Romania, Component 3 Sustainable Development
Link site	www.pasaportnatura.ro
Budget	160,808.71 euro
Project Manager	Andra Croitoru andra.croitoru@propark.ro



ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN 2015



5 JUNIOR RANGER CAMPS
161 children participating



3 Training sessions
EDUCATORS FOR NATURE for teachers and professors



91 PUBLICATIONS
uploaded in the
Virtual Library
of Nature on environmental
education - www.pasaportnatura.ro



31 VISITS TO SCHOOLS
nationwide, with
demonstrative
lessons on
environmental education with
585 children participating



1000

copies of **CHILDREN'S PASSPORTS**
offered to the partner protected area
administrations, to the teachers who
participated in training sessions and
to the children involved in camps and
demonstrative lessons in schools

2. EME Natura 2000 - Efficient managers for an Efficient EME Natura 2000 Network

PURPOSE

The project aims to strengthen the administration capacity for Natura 2000 sites in Romania by developing communication abilities of Natura 2000 site administrators and by supporting the integration of certain biodiversity conservation elements in the land planning process, both within the sites and in surrounding areas.



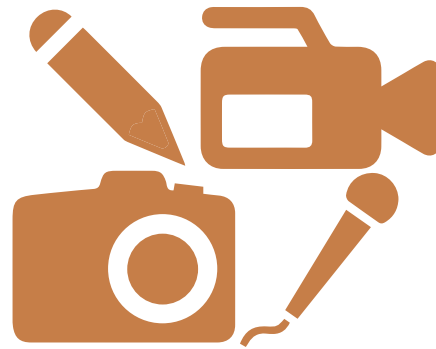
Funding	European Commission through the Programme Life + Information and Communication
Link site	http://www.emenatura2000.ro/
Budget	513,114 Euro, of which 254,129 Euro are the European Union
Proiect Manager	Ioana Bejan ioana.bejan@propark.ro



ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN 2015



6 NATIONAL COMMUNICATION COURSES
180 participants



6 WORKSHOPS WITH JOURNALISTS
60 participants



1 INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION COURSE
20 participants



**National event
(Protected Area Gala)**



**Support for
preparing a local
strategy**



**Information
seminars, strategic
planning guidelines**

3. Enhancing the professional management capacity of protected areas in Eastern Europe

PURPOSE

The project aims to emphasise the importance of enhancing professional capacity in the context of protected areas, by preparing national and regional plans to address an improvement in their management. The main activities include: assessment of training needs in 23 countries in Eastern Europe, organising training events for trainers in this field and creating a web page to provide relevant information on significant initiatives related to enhancing professional capacity in Eastern Europe.



Funding	Federal Agency for Nature Conservation in Germany (Bundesamt für Naturschutz – BfN)
Link site	http://propark.ro/ro/proiecte/cresterea-capacitatii-de-management-a-ariilor-protejate-in-europa-de-est-144.html
Budget	420.662 Euro
Proiect Manager	Alina Ioniță alina.ionita@propark.ro



ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN 2015



25 TRAINERS IN
EASTERN EUROPE
TRAINED



2 TRAINING MODELS
CREATED FOR
2 KEY SPECIALISATIONS
(RELATIONSHIP WITH COMMUNITIES
AND CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT)



**The first plans worldwide
for professional capacity
development for
protected areas**

(2 national plans - Croatia and Georgia and
a regional plan - Romania and Moldova)

**The first online platform
in Europe dedicated to
professional capacity for
protected areas** (a section on the site
of EUROPARC Federation - www.europarc.org/tools-and-training/capacity-building)



13 PARTICIPANTS IN AN
EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE
IN THE NATIONAL PARK
BAYERISCHER WALD - GERMANY



**PARTICIPATION IN
EUROPARC CONFERENCE
(PROJECT COMPLETION
SESSION)**

4. Discover Nature in Braşov County

PURPOSE

Promoting natural protected areas in Braşov county by organising awareness raising events for the general public on the value and importance of these areas.

TESTIMONIAL

"I thought I knew everything about Tâmpa. However the trip organised by Propark Foundation demonstrated to me that this mountain still has secrets for me. The history, geology and flora were presented to me by real experts and the guided tour finally opened a new way in life for me and a new way in environmental protection." **Silviu Neculai**



Funding	Foundation for Partnership and Mol Romania
Link site	http://www.propark.ro/ro/proiecte/descopera-natura-din-judetul-brasov-299.html
Budget	25.050 lei
Project Manager	Roxana Iordăchescu roxana.iordachescu@propark.ro



ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN 2015



3 MEETINGS OF
PROTECTED AREA
ADMINISTRATORS IN
BRAȘOV COUNTY



**Photography contest
and exhibition**



5 PRESENTATIONS ON
NATURAL PROTECTED
AREAS IN BRAȘOV
COUNTY IN 5 SCHOOLS



5 INFORMATION SESSIONS
ON PROTECTED AREAS



5 VISITS TO PROTECTED
AREAS IN BRAȘOV
COUNTY



**Catalogue and web
page with a description
of protected areas in
Brașov County**

5. Get involved! It’s Natural to be a volunteer

TESTIMONIAL

“I believe it is useful both for me and for anyone else to become aware and to participate in volunteering activities, as they help us understand that the natural environment is an important component of our life and we should respect it and take care of it as it deserves.”

Mihai Trifina – Voluntar

PURPOSE

Enhancing the professional capacity of protected area administrators to implement volunteering programmes in protected areas in Romania

Funding	SEE Grants, 2009-2014, within the programme NGO Fund in Romania.
Link site	www.propark.ro/ro/proiecte/implica-te-e-natural-sa-fii-voluntar-297.html www.voluntariatnatura.ro
Budget	38.800 euro
Project Manager	Laura Istrate laura.istrate@propark.ro



ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN 2015



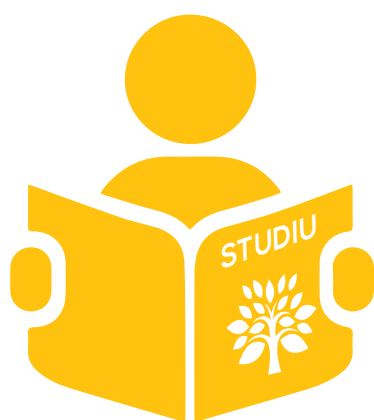
2 TRAINING SESSIONS
„MANAGEMENT OF
VOLUNTEERS IN
PROTECTED AREAS”
31 trainees



12 VOLUNTEERING
ACTIVITIES IN 10
PROTECTED AREAS
IN ROMANIA



1 VOLUNTEERING
PLATFORM –
VOLUNTARIATNATURA.RO



Performing the study
“Volunteering for
Nature”



Promotion film: Get
involved! It's Natural
to be a volunteer

6. Enhancing education opportunities in the field of sustainable development for protected area managers in Romania

PURPOSE

To create mechanisms and use innovative approaches to enhance the transfer of information and knowledge to protected area staff, with respect to nature conservation activities, their importance and the way how they should be integrated in sustainable development processes.

TESTIMONIAL

"The Protected Area Specialist programme was one of the most useful, interesting and complex learning experiences in which I participated so far. From my point of view, the programme's success factor is the wonderful team of trainers- real professionals but most of all people with a passion for nature. I recommend this course from all my heart. Congratulations!". **Enescu Mihai**



Funding	DBU- Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (German Federal Foundation Environment)
Link site	http://www.propark.ro/ro/proiecte/cresterea-oportunitatilor-de-educatie-in-domeniul-dezvoltarii-durabile-pentru-managerii-de-arii-protejate-din-romania-197.html proparktraining.ro
Budget	208.000 euro
Project Manager	Georgiana Andrei georgiana.andrei@propark.ro



ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN 2015



150 PARTICIPANTS
IN THE ONLINE
PROGRAMME



43 PROTECTED
AREA SPECIALIST
GRADUATES IN 2015



12 ONLINE COURSE MODULES
(WWW.PROPARKTRAINING.RO)



30 TRAINERS INVOLVED
IN PREPARING THE 38
ONLINE LESSONS

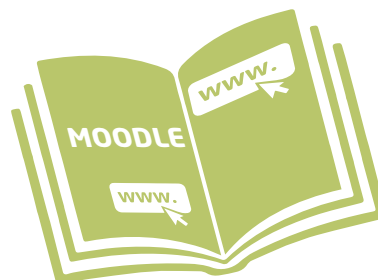


14 TRAINERS IN 12
DAYS OF FACE-TO-
FACE COURSES



3 PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES
DEVELOPED IN 2015, COMBINING ONLINE AND
OFFLINE (FACE-TO-FACE) TRAINING

1 GUIDELINE FOR PREPARING AND
STRUCTURING ONLINE LESSONS AND FOR
USING THE MOODLE PLATFORM




30 STUDY SCHOLARSHIPS
GRANTED WITHIN THE PROJECT
FOR FACE-TO-FACE SESSIONS

7. Beautiful professions in beautiful destinations

PURPOSE

Enhancing the management performance of ecotourism destinations, improving the quality of ecotourism sectors and the visibility/promotion of this type of tourism in Romania.



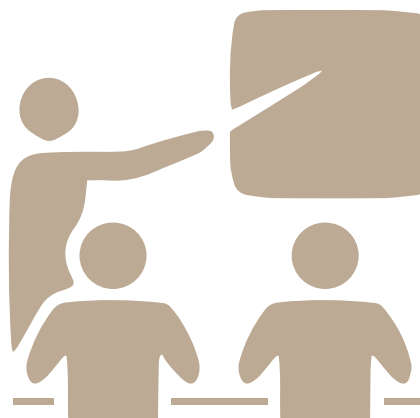
Funding	Swiss Contribution for the extended European Union.
Link site	http://www.propark.ro/ro/proiecte/meserii-frumoase-in-destinatii-frumoase-295.html
Budget	273.713,00 CHF
Proiect Manager	Mihaela Toma mihaela.toma@propark.ro



ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN 2015



**Preparation of
the occupational
standard for "Tourism
Destination Manager"**



**2 SPECIALISATION COURSES
FOR THE TOURIST GUIDE
OCCUPATION**



**1 SPECIALISATION COURSE –
HIKING GUIDE**



**1 STUDY TOUR IN
SWITZERLAND, IN THE
AREA OF ENTLEBUCH
UNESCO BIOSPHERE**



8. Natura 2000 and Rural Development in Romania

PURPOSE

The project aims to improve the management of EU Natura 2000 network and of the national protected area network by promoting sustainable rural development in Romania and by demonstrating local development opportunities related to protected areas, a better integration of protected area management and natural resources in planning for infrastructure and regional development and by improving long-term financial support for the management of protected areas and natural resources.

TESTIMONIAL

"Fruitful as usual. Interaction with interesting people. Professional and useful presentation by the trainer. I acquired information on potential funding sources for the activity of our association." **Proca Mihai, "Tura Natura Association" - Project management/funding opportunities – Natura 2000**

Funding	Swiss Contribution for the extended European Union.
Link site	http://www.propark.ro/ro/proiecte/natura-2000-si-dezvoltarea-rurala-in-romania-191.html
Budget	273.713,00 CHF
Project Manager	Mihaela Toma mihaela.toma@propark.ro



ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN 2015



9. Rural development and agricultural lands with a high natural value in Romania

PURPOSE

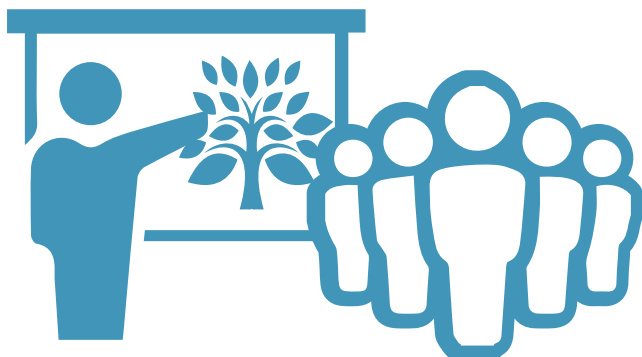
Improving the economic viability of small rural communities with agricultural lands of high natural value in Romania and protecting the benefits for agriculture and the environment.



Funding	Swiss Contribution for the extended European Union
Link site	http://www.propark.ro/ro/proiecte/natura-2000-si-dezvoltarea-rurala-in-romania-191.html
Budget	238.000 CHF (activitati ProPark)
Proiect Manager	Laura Istrate laura.istrate@propark.ro



ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN 2015



1 TRAINING SESSION
FOR SPECIALISATION
IN COMMUNITY
FACILITATORS
14 participants



480
FARMERS PARTICIPATING IN
THE INFORMATION-TRAINING
SESSIONS



10. Sălbăticia din Carpați, bogăție pentru oameni

PURPOSE

The project aims to develop the management of wildlife areas by supporting sustainable businesses and revenue-generating nature-based activities, and creating a functional network of wilderness areas, on the territory of five protected areas in the South-Western Carpathians in Romania.

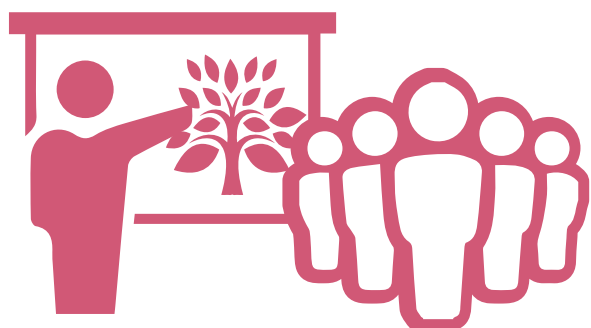
TESTIMONIAL

“The Wildlife Communication course was an opportunity for me to acquire ideas and skills on how wildlife can be promoted. At the same time I met beautiful and interesting people in this field, who are very involved in the course. The trainers delivered the information in a well structured manner and combined training methods appropriately, using examples to explain the wildlife concept.”

Funding	Swiss Contribution for the extended European
Link site	http://www.propark.ro/ro/proiecte/salbaticia-din-carpati-bogatie-pentru-oameni-193.html
Budget	109 CHF (activitati ProPark)
Project Manager	Laura Istrate laura.istrate@propark.ro



ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN 2015



TRAINING SESSIONS
4 **100** participants



COURSE MATERIALS
4



Propark Projects 2015

www.propark.ro/ro/proiecte

1. Nature in Schools and Schools in Protected Areas (NINS)

Project Manager: Andra Croitoru

Contact: andra.croitoru@propark.ro



2. EME Natura 2000 - Efficient Managers for an Efficient EME Natura 2000 Network

Project Manager: Ioana Bejan

Contact: ioana.bejan@propark.ro



3. Enhancing education opportunities in the field of sustainable development for protected area managers in Romania (DBU)

Project Manager: Georgiana Andrei

Contact: georgiana.andrei@propark.ro



4. Discover Nature in Braşov County

Project Manager: Roxana Iordăchescu

Contact: roxana.iordachescu@propark.ro



5. Get involved! It's NATURAL to be a volunteer!

Project Manager: Laura Istrate

Contact: laura.istrate@propark.ro



6. Strengthening the management capacity of protected areas in Eastern Europe

Project Manager: Alina Ionita
Contact: alina.ionita@propark.ro

7. Beautiful professions in beautiful destinations

Project Manager: Tiberiu Chiriches
Contact: tiberiu.chiriches@propark.ro



PROGRAMUL DE COOPERARE ELVETIANO-ROMÂN
SWISS-ROMANIAN COOPERATION PROGRAMME



8. . Natura 2000 and Rural Development in Romania (Swiss N2000)

Project Manager: Laura Istrate
Contact: laura.istrate@propark.ro



PROGRAMUL DE COOPERARE ELVETIANO-ROMÂN
SWISS-ROMANIAN COOPERATION PROGRAMME

9. Rural Development and agricultural land with a high natural value in Romania

Project Manager: Laura Istrate
Contact: laura.istrate@propark.ro

32/33

10. Carpathian wildlife, people's wealth (Wild)

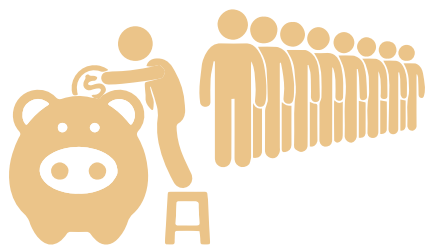
Project Manager: Laura Istrate
Contact: laura.istrate@propark.ro





Consultancy





APPROXIMATELY

75.000

ATTRACTED FOR CO-FUNDING
PROPARK PROJECTS



11 MANAGEMENT PLANS
approx. 10%
of the surface of protected
areas in Romania



187 TRAINEES
approx. 10% of
the total Propark trainees since the
organisation's establishment

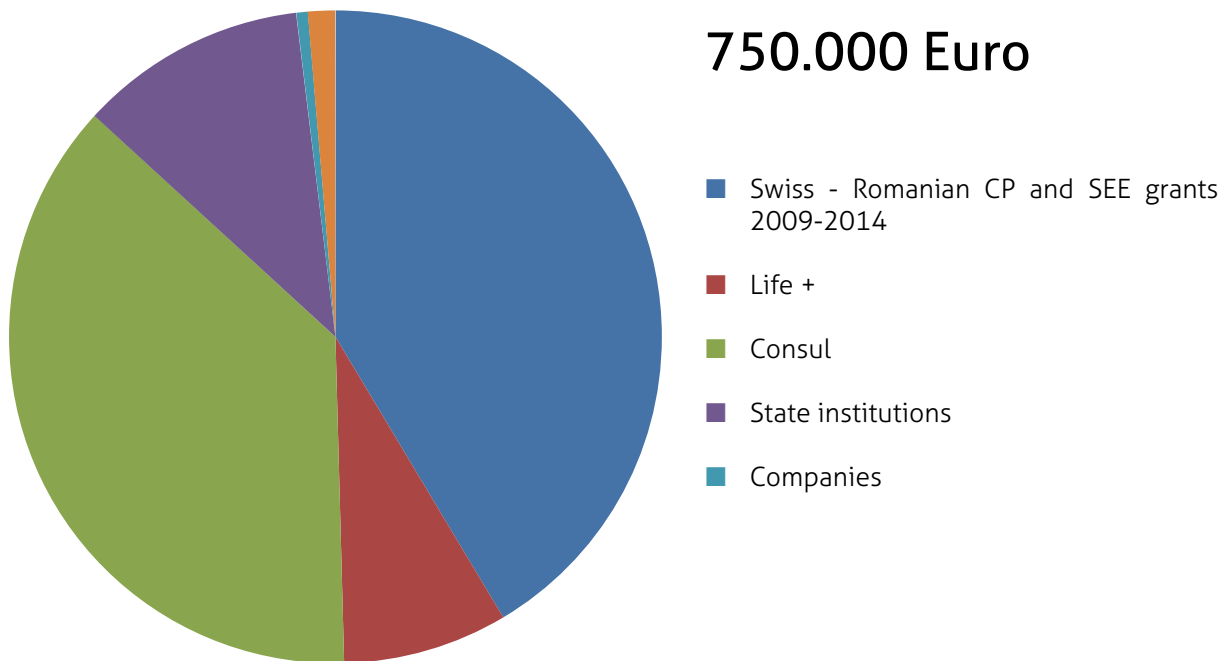




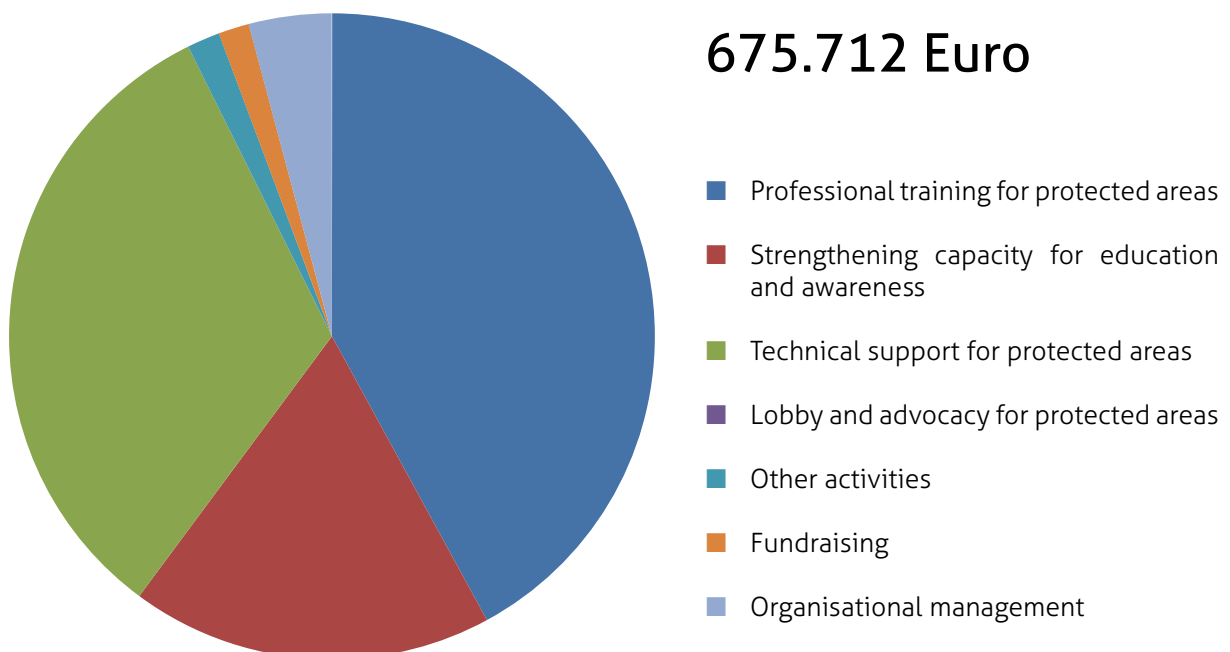
Finance



Funding sources 2015



Expenses 2015







Propark Team



Dan Dini

mountain & travel photography

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Hotham Paul Antony Edward
Chairman



Tobias Garstecki
Member



Roger Laird De Freitas
Member



Promberger Christoph Franz Johannes
Member



Gheorghe Catalin Radu
Member

TEAM PRESENTATION



Tiberiu CHIRICHEȘ
Executive Director
SC ProPark Aarii Protejate SRL



Laura FLORESCU
Financial Manager



Laura ISTRATE
Project manager/
Communications responsible



Georgiana ANDREI
Programme Coordinator



Alina IONIȚĂ
Project Manager



Ioana BEJAN
Project Manager



Andra CROITORU
Project Manager



Roxana IORDĂCHESCU
Project Assistant



Mihaela TOMA
Project Assistant
Human Resources Specialist



Antonia CUCU
Project Assistant

