



ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT OF CLIMATE-INDUCED CHANGES OF HABITAT DIVERSITY IN PROTECTED AREAS

This project is implemented through the CENTRAL EUROPE Programme co-financed by the ERDF

In March 2010 started the implementation of the project *Adaptive management of climate-induced changes of habitat diversity in protected areas – HABIT CHANGE (March 2010 - February 2013)*, approved within the INTERREG IV B Central Europe Programme, 2nd. The project address priority 3.1.: Developing a High Quality Environment by Managing and Protected Resources and Heritage.

The lead partner is Leibniz Institute of Ecological and Regional Development (IOER), Dresden, Germany. The project's overall objective is to evaluate, enhance and adapt existing management and conservation strategies in protected areas, to pro-actively respond on likely influences of climate changes as a threat to habitat integrity and diversity.

Climate change is a worldwide problem and needs transnational cooperation. In this respect a number of 17 partners (protected areas, management agencies, nature conservation structures, universities, research institutes) from Austria, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and Ukraine joint the project.

The project address to protected areas as core zone for biodiversity conservation. The main focus of the project is set on habitats, on how to monitor the relevant changes in habitats induced by climate changes and how to adapt existing management strategies and practices.

The target group include administrations of protected areas, European, national and regional administrations for nature conservation, European and national forests authorities, water authorities, national authorities responsible for Natura 2000 monitoring, applied research, planning institutions, NGO's, tourism offices, farmers, visitors of protected area and the general public.

The University of Bucharest is partner in this project and the protected area which was selected for the project implementation is the Natural Park Bucegi, one of the most eastern part of the Carpathian mountains.



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