

**UNESCO BIOSPHERE RESERVE: NOTRANJSKI  
KRAS AS A STRATEGY FOR CONSERVATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT**

**UNESCO BIOSFERNO OBMOČJE: NOTRANJSKI  
KRAS KOT STRATEGIJA ZA SOČASNO VARSTVO  
IN RAZVOJ**

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**Izvleček**

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**Branka Berce-Bratko: UNESCO biosferno območje: Notranjski kras kot strategija za sočasno varstvo in razvoj**

UNESCO MAB Biosferno območje Notranjski Kras predlagamo kot strategijo, ki sočasno omogoča varstvo in razvoj območja. Osrednji del je Notranjski park, ki sodi v kategorijo regionalnih parkov. Le ta predstavlja osrednjo in varovalno cono MAB - Biosfernega območja, prehodno cono MAB območja pa ozemlje vseh štiri občin: Logatec, Postojna, Cerknica in Ilirska Bistrica. Poleg prednosti in slabosti UNESCO kategorije "Biosferno območje" je predstavljen tudi eko-turizem kot oblika primerne razvoja ter možne oblike upravljanja Notranjskega parka glede na dejstvo, da je pretežna večina zemljišč v zasebni lasti.

Ključne besede: Biosferno območje, človek in kras, varstvo, razvoj, trajnostni-sonaravni razvoj, biološka raznovrstnost, kulturna raznovrstnost, sprejemljivost oz. obremenitvena zmogljivost, sonaravni turizem, eco-turizem, upravljanje, sistemi upravljanja, ureditveni in upravljalški plani.

**Abstract**

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**Branka Berce-Bratko: UNESCO Biosphere Reserve: Notranjski kras as a Strategy for Conservation and Development**

UNESCO-MAB Biosphere Reserve is proposed as contemporaneous conservation and development strategy based on Notranjski Park in a category of Regional park. The Core and Buffer zones of the MAB Reserve are within the Park's territory, and the Transitional zone is within the boundary of the four Municipalities: Logatec, Postojna, Cerknica and Ilirska Bistrica. Beside advantages and deficiencies of the MAB Reserve eco-tourism is discussed as one of the suitable development strategies and different management plans for the Notranjski park are discussed in a view of predominantly private ownership of the land.

Key words: Biosphere reserve, man and Karst, conservation, development, sustainable development, biodiversity, cultural diversity, carrying capacity, sustainable tourism, eco-tourism, management plans, system plans.

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The group Notranjski Park in AREA Cerknica has achieved to propose the area of the four Municipalities: Logatec, Postojna, Cerknica and Ilirska Bistrica to UNESCO as Man and Biosphere Reserve (MAB-Reserve) called Notranjski kras. The idea was to establish Notranjski Park as first international recognition as MAB Reserve and the strategy was devised to achieve it.

For cooperation with inhabitants, employees of AREA and local politicians, including promotion of the eco-tourism Liliana Mahne was responsible, for legal status of the park Matjaž Mlinar and the theoretical part and international connections were the responsibility of Branka Berce-Bratko. This paper is a joint venture of the group which collaborated in research project: Man and Karst. In this paper strategies of UNESCO for MAB reserves will be discussed in perspective of the regional park of Notranjski park, eco-tourism and management strategies for the Park in a view of participation in management as the majority of the land is owned privately.

## **WHAT IS UNESCO MAB RESERVE**

The MAB Programme is a nationally based, international programme of research, training, demonstration and information diffusion aimed at providing the scientific basis and the trained personnel needed to deal with problems relative to rational utilisation and conservation of resources and resource systems and, to human settlements.

The MAB Programme emphasizes research for solving problems: it thus involves research by multi-disciplinary teams on the interactions between ecological and social systems; field training; and the application of a systems approach to understanding the relationships between the natural and human components of development and environmental management (Practical Guide to MAB, 1987).

## **MAIN CONCERNS OF MAB**

There were three main concerns present in the biosphere reserve concept from the beginning, and these are:

1. the need to reinforce the conservation of genetic resources and ecosystems and the maintenance of biological diversity (conservation concern);
2. the need to set up a well-identified international network of areas directly related to MAB field research and monitoring activities, including the accompanying training and information exchange (logistic concern);
3. the need to associate concretely environmental protection and land resources development as a governing principle for research and education activities of the MAB programme (development concern).

It is the combination - and harmonization - of these three concerns which characterize the Biosphere Reserve.

## **SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF MAB**

The biosphere reserve should normally consist of the three following types of areas:

### **1. Core area or areas**

Each biosphere reserve includes one or several core areas which are strictly protected according to well defined conservation objectives and consist of typical samples of natural or minimally disturbed ecosystems. Collectively these core areas should be large enough to be effective as *in situ* conservation units and, whenever possible, have value as benchmarks for measurements of long term changes in the ecosystems they represent and in the biosphere. The size and the shape of the core area(s) depend on the type of landscape or aquatic environment in which they are located and on the conservation objectives they are intended to meet. They can obviously be much larger in regions of low human population density than in regions with heavier human pressure and less available land. Core areas are usually delineated, but may remain undelineated in certain cases within a delineated buffer zone.

### **2. Buffer zone**

The core areas are normally surrounded by a buffer zone which must be strictly delineated and very often corresponds, together with the core areas, to a single and autonomous administrative unit (e.g: national park). This buffer zone must have a clearly established legal or administrative status even when several administrative authorities are involved in its management. Only activities compatible with the protection of the core areas may take place. This includes, in particular, research, environmental education and training, as well as tourism and recreation or other uses carried out in accordance with the management requirements. Besides its other functions, the buffer zone often serves to protect areas of land that could be used to meet future needs for experimental research.

### **3. Transition area**

The core area(s) and the buffer zone are surrounded by a transition area which promotes several characteristic functions of the biosphere reserve, particularly its development func-

tion. It may include experimental research areas, traditional use areas or rehabilitation areas. Usually, the transition area as a whole is not strictly delineated and corresponds more to biogeographic than to administrative limits. It normally extends the above-mentioned areas into a larger and open area where efforts are made to develop cooperative activities between researchers, managers and the local population, with a view to ensuring appropriate planning and sustainable resource development in the region while maintaining the greatest possible harmony with the purposes of the biosphere reserve. The management of the transition area is usually the responsibility of a variety of authorities and therefore requires appropriate coordination arrangements.

### MAB networks

MAB supports international cooperation in research through its international networks where the sharing of information and resources is mutually beneficial to the cooperating countries. These networks are all informally constituted and there is no "official" MAB elaboration procedure. They differ greatly in character and in objective, as well as in their regional or international extent and degree of development. Some are based on geographical proximity, such as the countries of the southern cone of South America, and others on common linguistic or socio-cultural background, such as Francophone African countries. Wider in scope are the MAB Pilot Project Networks and the Biosphere Reserve Network, where common research frameworks and well-developed scientific exchange are encouraged.

MAB Networks, whether regional or international are linked through:

- voluntary cooperation;
- information exchange;
- exchange of scientists and researchers through consultant missions, study tours, field visits, training courses, etc.;
- joint meetings, seminars, workshops.

In addition, some Networks are linked through:

- comparability of research design and data collection;
- joint training programmes;
- formal information systems;
- network newsletters.

## **PROPOSAL FOR BIOSPHERE RESERVE: NOTRANJSKI KRAS**

The proposed area is a part of karst area placed in Slovenia, a newly established European state. The boundary of this area is formed by four local communities: Logatec, Cerknica, Postojna and Ilirska Bistrica.

Biosphere area:	1672 km <sup>2</sup>
Number of inhabitants:	59904
Number of settlements:	279
Number of Local Communities	52
Number of Municipalities	4

The proposed conservation area or core zones are protected areas which are a part of proposed Regional park - Notranjski Park. The Buffer zone is estimated on 570 km<sup>2</sup>. To this area additional 200 or 400 km<sup>2</sup>, might be added as a part of scenic areas of karst geology in Slovenia serving as buffer and transitional zones. The natural landscape area is designated as Nature reserves with exceptional values according to IUCN categorisation:

- a) IUCN Category I: 2 000 ha
- b) IUCN Category III: 14 000 ha
- c) IUCN Category IV and V: 41 000 ha

These are:

- a) Parts of Snežnik massif and some caves,
- b) Snežnik and Javornik massif, and some periodical lakes (2), parts of Cerknica lake (3) and karst caves (10),
- c) various unique habitats: proteus, brown bear, lynx, wolf, different endemic birds, and Protected Cultural Landscapes.

These areas of karst geology are of outstanding value in terms of world's natural heritage as:

- karst eco-systems,
- preserved biological resources in terms of genetic resources, and caves as heritage of karst geomorphology,
- preserved traditional ways of farming, land use and landscape management,
- drinking water resource reserve,
- scientifically very important area for the research of cohabitation between natural systems and man's impacts on karst nature.

The Cerknjsko polje ( Cerknjsko plain) and its intermittent lake are proposed as Natural Heritage to be declared by Regional Government and is proposed to RAMSAR international convention. Cerknica lake is the the first drying up karst lake to be explored, and Valvasor became a Member of Royal Society in 1664 because of his description of that lake. Cerknjsko jezero is internationally recognised as IBA, there are breeding about 90 species of birds. In IUCN Red List of Threatened Animals are 9 species of birds in category (E), 19 are in category V, and 6 are in category R (Gregory, Matvejev 1992).

The karst area is particularly valuable for the biological diversity of its underground habitat, with 30 endemic species in Notranjski Karst recorded in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Animals. Significant is the karst system of river Ljubljana with unique karst

fields (polje), sink wholes and caves (e.g. Križna, Postojnska and Planinska jama) on the North West border of Dinaric mountains. On pure limestone area the river has found her underground way, but on impermeable areas is still running on the surface, and always with different name. It sinks eight times, and so the same river has 7 different names. there are some smaller periodical lakes like, collapsed dolina Rakov Škocjan. The only tectonically undisturbed transact through Mesozoic of South Eastern Europe from Borovnica to Kališe, the system of river Ljubljana has the biggest known number of hypogean Taxons in the world. Many of them are endemic, even narrow endemic.

The area has also the largest uninterrupted, natural and intact woodland area on the border between Dinaric and Alpine mountain chain. It is also known as Western most habitat of the brown bear in Europe with wolfs and lynx.

The area is also a European foot-path between Baltic and Adriatic sea, and a nature reserve for endangered species of birds and plants. Visually the area changes every day, when the water is at its peak it is the greatest karst lake surface with the biggest island in Slovenia. The area offers a great landscape variety within a small area.

Beside the core zones as strictly protected areas, there are cluster buffer zones as a part of protection policies concerning UNESCO -World Natural Heritage - Škocjanske jame. The Notranjska river is a wider buffer zone to Škocjanske caves. The smaller part of the South West buffer zone is a part of future Kras Regional Park and is proposed on behalf of local inhabitants. The area proposed to MAB as Notranjski Karst is a part of the Kras Region in Slovenia. Long term we expect this area to be proposed as an extension of the proposed MAB Reserve. The proposal for an extension is viable after local people agree to it, like in the case of Notranjski Karst.

The decision to make the border of the proposed MAB reserve was the convinience of four Municipalities which agreed to nomination of this area to UNESCO.

Figure No.1. is showing the MAB area with zonation, Park area and neighbouring protected landscapes (Fig.1).

In Notranjski Kras efforts are made to preserve the regional spatial, social and cultural identity. In that context originality and independence of inhabitants are their advantage, and the awareness of landscape values, such as:

- identity of cultural landscape, natural and cultural heritage
- variety enabling choice, and the choice means freedom
- comprehension that man is an integral part of nature
- ecological value of drinking water and conservation value.

## **PROPOSAL FOR REGIONAL PARK: NOTRANJSKI PARK**

The buffer zone of the MAB Reserve is Notranjski Park shown on Figure No.1.

Regional park is defined according to International Union for Conservation of Nature and Nature Resources- IUCN (1975) as:

a relatively large area where one or several ecosystems are not materially altered by human exploitation and occupation, where plant and animal species, geomorphological





sites and habitats are of specific scientific, educative and recreative interest or which contain a natural landscape of great beauty.

The proposed conservation area of Notranjski Regional Park is estimated on 400 km<sup>2</sup>. To this area additional 200 or 400 km<sup>2</sup>, might be added as a part of scenic areas of Carst geology in Slovenia. The natural landscape area is designated as Regional Park and the cultural landscape area as the Country Park.

A) Regional Park includes Cerknica and Planina plains, Pivka and Javor massive, Postojna and Križna caves.

B) Country Park includes Snežnik and Javor massive.

These areas of karst geology are of outstanding value in terms of world's natural heritage, such as karst caves, drying up or seasonal karst lakes. Cerknica lake is the biggest drying up karst lake in the world, and the largest continuous (uninterrupted) natural or intact woodland area, and as Western most habitat of the brown bear in Europe. The area is European foot-path between Baltic and Adriatic sea, and a nature reserve(ation) for endangered species of birds and plants. Visually the area changes every day, when the water level is at its peak it is the greatest karst lake surface with the biggest island in Slovenia. The area offers a great landscape variety within a small area.

Beside natural qualities there are some small scattered settlements, approximately 20 hamlets with not more than 3000 inhabitants.

Strategies and measures to achieve conservation and development:

To promote both in the karst area which is known as one of the most sensitive ecosystems, it is needed:

- information and education of local people and visitors in ecological terms and sustainable development options
- raising awareness of the uniqueness of the karst systems
- democratic approach with widespread public involvements to achieve ecologically sound development
- participation and collaboration of local people in all matters of conservation and development
- monitoring and research of the area utilising the special knowledge and expertise of scientists, both those who live locally and experts from abroad
- action plan to prepare Management Plan
- preparation of Management plan in consultation with inhabitants.

To elaborate this proposal eco-tourism is discussed in more detail.

## **ECO-TOURISM AS STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION**

The Biosphere reserve offers unique opportunity to maintain the natural and cultural heritage enhanced with human activities appropriate to the formal status of the area.

Tourism can be beneficial to local residents in economic and social terms, but can cause problems in terms of conservation of the area. There are conflicts between conservation

and development, local identity in economic terms has to be enhanced by initiating locals to be entrepreneurs in tourism, for the purpose of conservation some strategies has to be devised.

## **CONFLICT BETWEEN CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

The concept of sustainable development is a relatively recent one, resulting from concern that the needs and ways of life of an ever growing world population are outstripping our planet's capacity to support us. "Caring for the Earth" a report produced in 1991 by the World Conservation Union (IUCN), World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), sets out a strategy for sustainable living. The strategy defines sustainable development to mean: "improving the quality of human life while living within the carrying capacity of supporting ecosystems" (Loving them to death, p.36).

According to IUCN, there are categories as follows:

- I - Scientific reserve/strict nature reserve with exceptional visits allowed.
- II - National Park, primarily serves the function of conservation.
- III - Natural monument, strictly protected.
- IV - Managed nature reserve or wildlife sanctuary with limited visits.
- V - Protected landscape which enable visiting under certain rules of sustainability and equals regional designation ( Notranjski park ) and English National Parks. These landscapes are less protected and allow visitors to enjoy and explore the area.
- VI - Resource reserve has different uses which are ecologically viable.
- VII - Natural biotic area or anthropological reserve important on local and regional level.
- VIII - Multiple use management area/manager resource has different uses which has to be in terms of sustainable development.
- IX - Biosphere reserve which has three zones : core-zone which equals to nature reserve and is strictly protected, buffer-zone equals to IUCN category V, and those two zones are either natural original territories, transitional-zone where more or less scarcely populated areas around the park are joined together into MAB-reserve.
- X - World Heritage Site is outstanding site of international importance in rarity, scientific importance and beauty.

Conservation is of particular concern, but some of the growing demand for leisure-tourism or special interest-tourism has to be met within such areas because it is believed that it can generate local economy in a sustainable way.

The IUCN recommendations:

1. Additional legislation is needed at European and national levels to ensure that effective national systems for protected areas are established in all european courtiers. This legislation should include controls over tourist activities and tourism developments. Sufficient resources must be provided to manage protected areas adequately;

2. Tourism development should only take place in and around protected areas if it is sustainable in the long term;
3. National sustainable tourism strategies and policies must be developed which set protected areas and their immediate surroundings in a wider context;
4. Improved information and trends on tourism related to protected areas is needed at European, national and local levels. Better information systems are needed to use this data and these should be compatible between different parks;
5. The tourism sector must adopt policies for sustainable operation for tourism associated with protected areas and adapt their practices so its to be sustainable;
6. Protected - area managers and the tourism sector must work more closely together to develop sustainable forms of tourism for protected areas and in order to pool resources and skills;
7. Standards and safeguards are needed for sustainable tourism operations related to protected areas. A European Charter for Sustainable Tourism for Protected Areas needs to be agreed by protected - area managers and the tourism sector and adopted for use throughout Europe.

Inhabitants and tourism Looking to this problems it is important to establish the potential market and organise locally based initiative in entrepreneurship in tourism "industry" developing soft tourism with local inhabitants where tourism is a part of their income generated in the park area.

## **MODERN TOURIST TRENDS AND MARKET GROUPS**

Initial characteristics of contemporary tourist trends in the world:

- gradual increase of numbers of tourists,
- aging of the tourist population in general,
- general increase of tourist flexibility in terms of time and space concerning the spatial distances,
- in general search for a higher quality in every aspect of tourist service,
- aspirations for contents of vacations enriching personal development,
- the importance of activities on vacations has gradually increased, -general increase in ecological consciousness of tourists.

For the analysis of tourist trends in Slovenia the data from the research of Ingrid Petrovič and Petra Kalan for the year 1991 can be used. According to authors mentioned in Slovenia there were 32% tourists of domestic origin. The same data can be traced in Studio Marketing research stating that Slovenians are the most important tourist guests to Slovenia as they represent 33% of all official overnight lodgings.

The age structure varies considerably, but the majority represent guests of middle age group. The vast majority are traveling with their families, 57 percent; with friends 22 percent, with partners 18 and alone 3. The surveyed tourists mainly stay in one place, 1/5 is traveling and taking a vacation together, while 1/5 is only traveling. The highest percentage takes vacations only once a year at the coast. 25 percent are taking holidays in the spring

and autumn. Beside the coast the most popular vacation is to the mountains. For Slovenia it is characteristic that 7 percent of domestic tourists are taking their vacation in the countryside. Their intents are:

- rest 20 percent
- the discovery of new places and people 29 percent
- recreation 18 percent

The destination is decided mainly according to the recommendation of friends. The primary transport is by car, but it is encouraging that 3 percent are cycling and 4 percent are on foot.

It is characteristic, that 41 percent of the surveyed tourists has at least 10 one-day-trips a year.

The potential markets were distinguished into: home, neighbouring and distant markets.

## **STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE CONSERVATION IN AREAS OPENED TO TOURISM**

To achieve conservation it is necessary to establish carrying capacity for different areas and to zonate areas accordingly. As a pilot example the Cerknjško jezero is proposed for zonation.

In the case of Notranjski park most of the IUCN recommendations are acceptable and are enhanced with UNESCO - MAB programme guidelines.

One of the important development tasks is the tourist-product of the Notranjski regional park.

## **NOTRANJSKI PARK ZONATION**

From the international data of (Boo,WWF 1988) it is evident that country's natural areas were the main criterion in selecting destination (56%), very important (28%) for visitors. Similar results were obtained in our own Survey (Bratko et al., 1992). Therefore it is of prime importance to preserve the most valuable areas from destruction. From the experience abroad and in our country it appears that zonation is the most appropriate strategy. In the central zone of Notranjski park only scientific visitors are allowed in buffer zone guided visit and free access to visitors is enabled. The proposed zonation corresponds to UNESCO-MAB recommendations.

## ZONES FOR RECREATION AND TOURISM IN AND AROUND PROTECTED AREAS

1. A sanctuary zone which is strictly protected from any form of tourism development.
2. A quiet zone where access is limited to small, mainly guided groups and few facilities are provided.
3. A zone for compatible forms of tourism without additional development where activities and facilities compatible with the type of protected area continue but without further development of facilities.
4. A zone for development of sustainable forms of tourism where activities and developments, compatible with the type of protected area concerned, are developed. Tourism should be based around nature, cultural and educational activities. Developments should be small-scale and in keeping with the local culture and building styles.

The zonation of the Cerknjško jezero is presented in Figure no.2

After looking to the the conservation and development aspects the aims for the project were decided as follows:

- a. The continuance of relationship between man and environment on this territory in such a way, that the natural environment is preserved also for next generations;
- b. employment opportunities of local people;
- c. making the conditions for promotion, visiting and researching of this territory;
- d. making a collective product of Notranjska territory and indirectly creating the Notranjska identity as the today's and world's principles demand in tourist market.

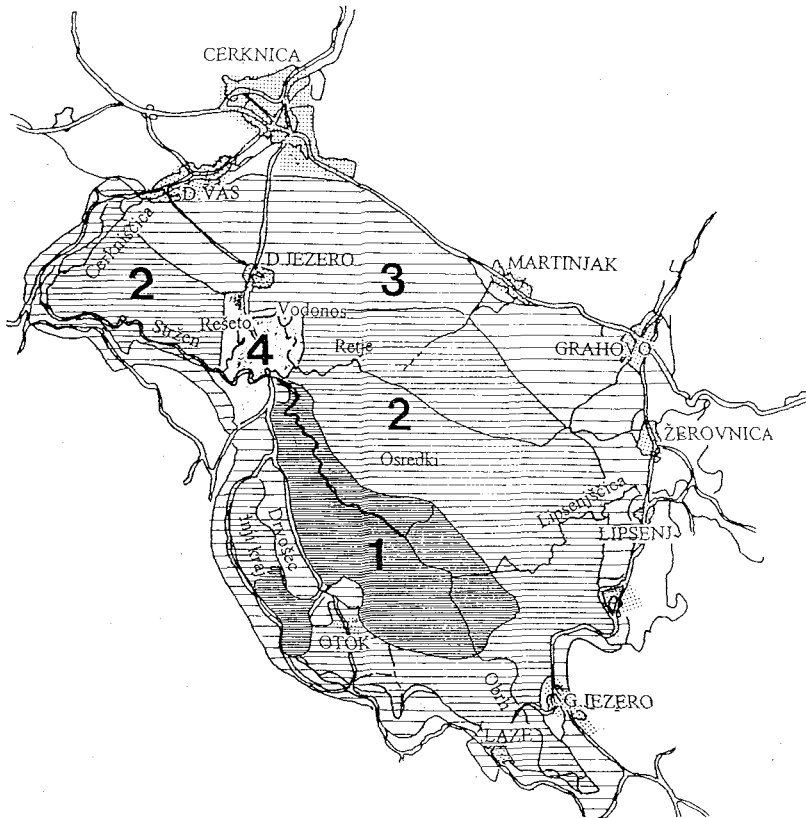
## ACTIONS

The first step in developing sustainable tourism was to hold seminar involving researchers, local administrations, managers of protected areas and tourism developers. The action plan for sustainable tourism in Notranjski park will be an integral part of the national plan for tourism. It includes the following aspects:

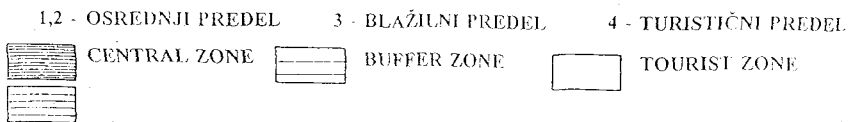
1. The control of tourism in the reserve: the issue of regulations and the training and testing of guides.
2. The diversification of tourism: including rest cures and recreation such as sport fishing, canoeing, flying, cycling, caving, rural and scientific tourism.
3. Zoning in time and territory: tourism activity will be spread across the buffer and transitional zones according to their carrying capacity. This will enable the karst and the forest areas to be more fully used throughout the year.
4. A system of information: is needed for both: tourists and local people and includes: the publication of information, the marking of strictly protected areas, camping, fishing zones, caves, the organization of guided traveling.....

In order to attain these goals which are in accordance with UNESCO - MAB programme listed strategies were defined:

# THE NOTRANJSKI PARK ZONATION



## PROPOSED DIVISION OF THE PROTECTED AREA:



- a. arrangements that are necessary for protection, conservation and sustainable development;
- b. a consistent protection of natural and cultural environment;
- c. research of needs for the protection and conservation and establishment of conditions for advancing the co-natural model of development;
- e. establishment of international connections;
- f. promotion and information;
- g. permanent education of inhabitants and visitors.

## **MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL ORGANISATION OF NOTRANJSKI PARK**

To discuss this matter it is of prime importance to look for legislative background to be able to find proper management and financial organisation.

### **LEGISLATIVE BACKGROUND**

Important existing legislation where the Bill on Notranjski Park can endorse acts and paragraphs with comments are:

- Bill on Natural and Cultural Heritage, 1981

On the basis of this particular legislation the Triglav National Park had been established, at the very moment the only park of "national - state " importance which represents 4% of the national territory. According to the last Strategy of Nature Protection there is the intention to designate for protection approximately 20% of the total territory of the State of Slovenia.

The major shortcomings of the Bill Of Natural and Cultural Heritage is that it regimes of protection are based on prohibitions, and there is not specified what is permitted and under what conditions. There is no guidance given in what way it would be permissible to develop this area, so also no directions are available on competence of administration and control of protection ( guardianship) and the same applies to the problem of development.

The most important regulations are:

- competence,
- authority(authorization),
- finance,
- relations towards other users,
- relations towards local government,
- relations towards inhabitants, and
- relations towards associations.

If all these regulations are not determined there are major problems which are evident not only in financial side but could eventually lead towards the closure of the Park.

Because of these shortcomings only Bill on Natural and Cultural Heritage is not suitable as the basis to designate and establish the parks.

- The Bill on Environmental Protection, 1992

The Bill is widely based as the Bill on Natural and Cultural Heritage as it also deals with problems of environmental protection, pollution, quality of life. This Bill is of prime importance because it allows direct designation in a package in connection with spatial planning legislation.

The main problem is that spatial planning legislation is only being prepared.

Management concerns are based on the fact that Regional park is dependent on many development sectors, not only nature conservation. Therefore the proposal is put forward for the management system which is called GOVERNMENT AGENCY and its main task is to be integral to overcome problems seen by one sector only.

The concessions for:

- scientific research,
- promotion and information,
- coordination of conservation and protection,
- coordination of development.

Beside concessions there is a need to provide the genuine democracy in establishment of park by naming the COUNCIL of the park which consists of political bodies and local people, especially professionals of nature conservation and different nature conservation and ecological associations. This Agency should establish legal body to enable the financial construction for the establishment of the Notranjski Regional Park.

The actual political position is that Government Agency should be in place for the Notranjski Park funded either from National or Regional budget. The proposal presented in figure No. 3. is an alternative where there is Public Agency funded nationally and has the responsibility of programming park activities, planning responsibilities, the overall co-ordination of conservation and development with mainly budgetary funding for conservation and responsibility for financing the operation of the park required as their statutory duty. Beside already described responsibilities they are responsible for concessions and licensing for conservation and development purposes. The new idea is that inhabitants will be participants in shareholder company called Notranjski Park responsible for actual conservation implementation on their properties, promotion and marketing of the park. The idea behind it is that marketing part is located in a separate company which operates as shareholder company where profits are used privately.

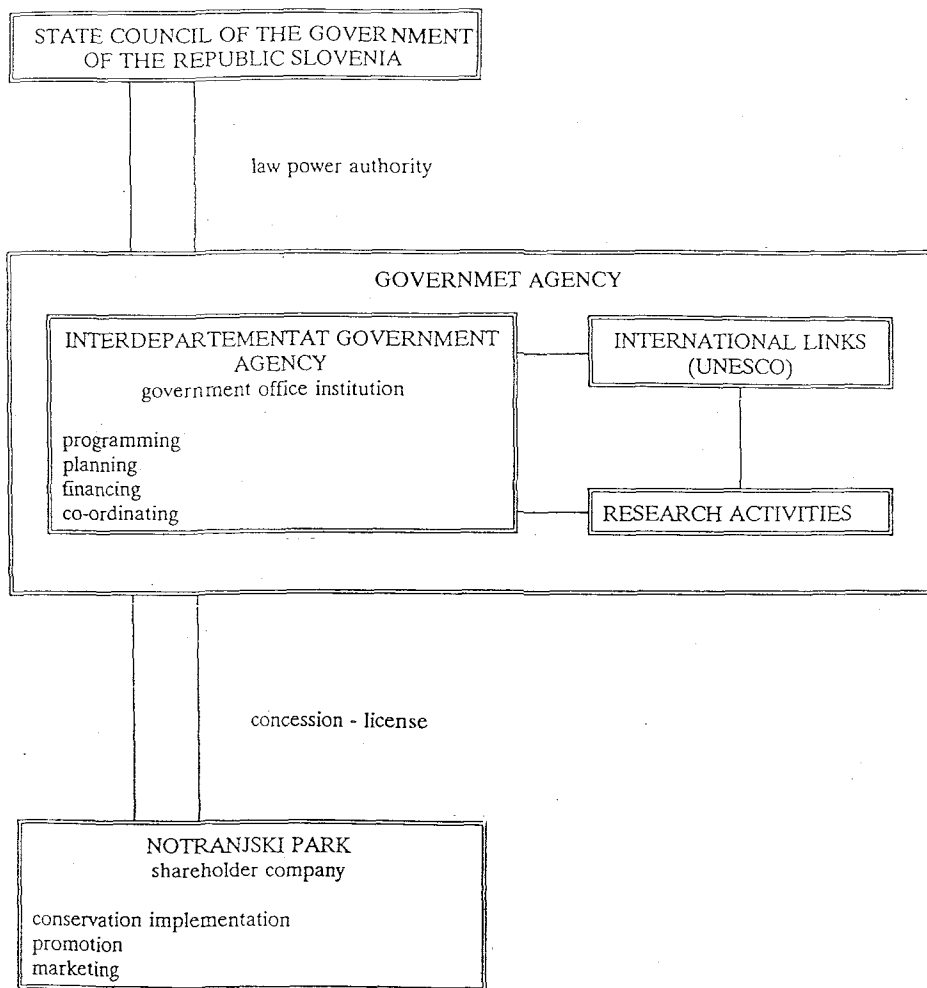
## CONCLUSIONS

In the case of Notranjski park most of the IUCN recommendations are acceptable and are enhanced with UNESCO - MAB programme guidelines.

The aim of the project is to establish MAB Reserve Notranjski Kras and Regional Park. Eco-tourism and management possibilities were discussed in order to show possibilities and the variety of approaches. Major activities are:

- conservation,
- appropriate development,





- research - logistics,
- international co-operation,
- legal status - managerial and financial,
- promotion and information.

In order to attain these goals which are in accordance with UNESCO - MAB programme listed strategies were defined and arrangements that are necessary for protection, conservation and sustainable development like:

- consistent protection of natural and cultural environment by helping with proper legislation and implementation,
- research of needs for the protection and conservation,
- establishment of conditions for advancing the co-natural model of development,
- establishment of international connections,
- promotion and information,
- permanent education of inhabitants and visitors,

are the first priority and are being implemented in the proposed area of the MAB Reserve and Notranjski Park in striving for balanced approach to conservation and development.

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## **UNESCO BIOSFERNI REZERVAT - OBMOČJE: NOTRANJSKI KRAS KOT STRATEGIJA ZA VAROVANJE IN SOČASNI RAZVOJ OBMOČJA**

### **Povzetek**

Biosferni rezervati, ki smo jih v Sloveniji poimenovali Biosferna območja, ponujajo enkratno priložnost, da združimo ohranitev, zaščito in razvoj na osnovah trajnega razvoja. Strategija obravnava človeka kot del narave in pravilnega fizičnega, socialnega (ekonomskega) in kulturnega okolja. Razvoj je osnova za zaščito. Poleg ohranitve biološke raznovrstnosti je cilj ohranitev in ojačanje kulture v najširšem pomenu besede. Pomembno je, da je tako območje razdeljeno na več con treh kategorij, kar omogoča, da so obrobna območja vključena brez omejitev razen služiti kot ekonomski faktorji skupaj z naravno zavarovanimi območji, kot npr. v Notranjskem parku. Torej je meja biosfernega rezervata - MAB-a na območju štirih občin: Cerknica, Postojna, Logatec in Ilirska Bistrica. Najpomembnejši je obstoj človeka na Krasu s tremi glavnimi nalogami:

- ohranitev narave,
- razvoj,
- logistika.

Da bi te tri naloge izpeljali je bistveno, da se:

- zviša zavest med prebivalci in obiskovalci krasa, da je to območje enkratno in unikatno,
- doseže ekološko zdrav razvoj z demokratičnim pristopom in visoko udeležbo prebivalstva,
- doseže sodelovanje lokalnega prebivalstva pri vseh poskusih ohranitve in razvoja,
- opazuje in preučuje območje s pomočjo izkušenj znanstvenikov iz tega področja in od drugod,
- gleda na relacijo človek - narava oz. človek - kras kot na osnovo za kulturno krajinski in ekološko prijazen razvoj.

Del razvoja je v skladu z ekoturizmom, ki je mehke narave in se z njim ukvarjajo lokalni

kmetovalci kot s postransko zaposlitvijo ter lokalni podjetniki, ki delujejo na osnovi koncesij, ki jih podeljuje Uprava parka.

Glavno vprašanje ostaja: Kako upravljati regionalni park, za katerega država pričakuje, da se bo financiral sam. Bodisi kot delniška družba, kjer bi imela večino delnic v rokah država, druge pa bi pripadale prebivalcem bodisi kot družba, ki je bolj odprta tudi tujim investitorjem, kot pa samo domačim oziroma lokalnim prebivalcem. Zadnja alternativa je, da bi park prešel v državno last, čeprav je že doslej več ko 80 % zemljišč v zasebni lasti prebivalcev. Trenutno bi bila taka odločitev proti ustavi, je pa v skladu z obstoječim zakonom o naravni in kulturni dediščini. Ta zakon je iz leta 1984 in se trenutno pripravlja njegova revizija, zato je primeren čas, za izražanje dilem in predlogov za vnos sprememb.