

Dynamic park models and integrated rural development: a European perspective



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Dynamic park models and integrated rural development



Research background

- ZENARiO - Centre for Sustainable Spatial Development at Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg
- German Association of Geographers – Rural Geography Working Group
- ISCAR - Interacademic Commission for Alpine Studies



Dynamic park models and integrated rural development

Thematic focus

- Rural areas and parks in Europe: a hopeful relation
- Dynamic park models: laboratories for sustainable development?
- Integrated rural development: theoretical aspects and practical applications to parks
- Conclusion



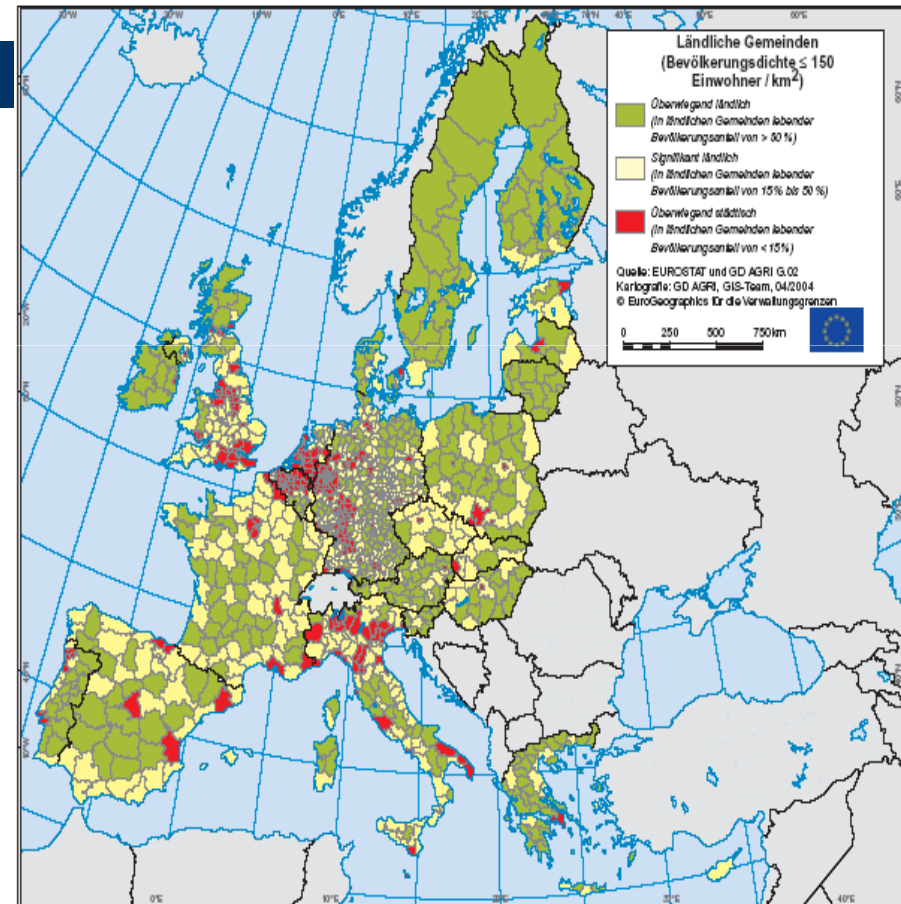
Dynamic park models and integrated rural development

Rural areas and parks in Europe: a hopeful relation

- Rural areas in Europe often have been (and still are) perceived as residuals of spatial development
- Repeated campaigns to increase attention for specific problems of rural areas had rather ambivalent effects
- Actual focus of spatial development in most European countries on urban resp. metropolitan regions being centers of political and economic power in the global competition of regions
- However, recent process of EU enlargement demands special attention for rural areas

Dynamic park models and integrated rural development

- Statistical figures underline relevance of rural areas at European level
- Rural areas cover 92% of EU-25 territory and 56% of population according to OECD
- Significant deviations from the average
 - Germany: 81% of territory and 43% of population
 - Poland: 97% of territory and 60% of population

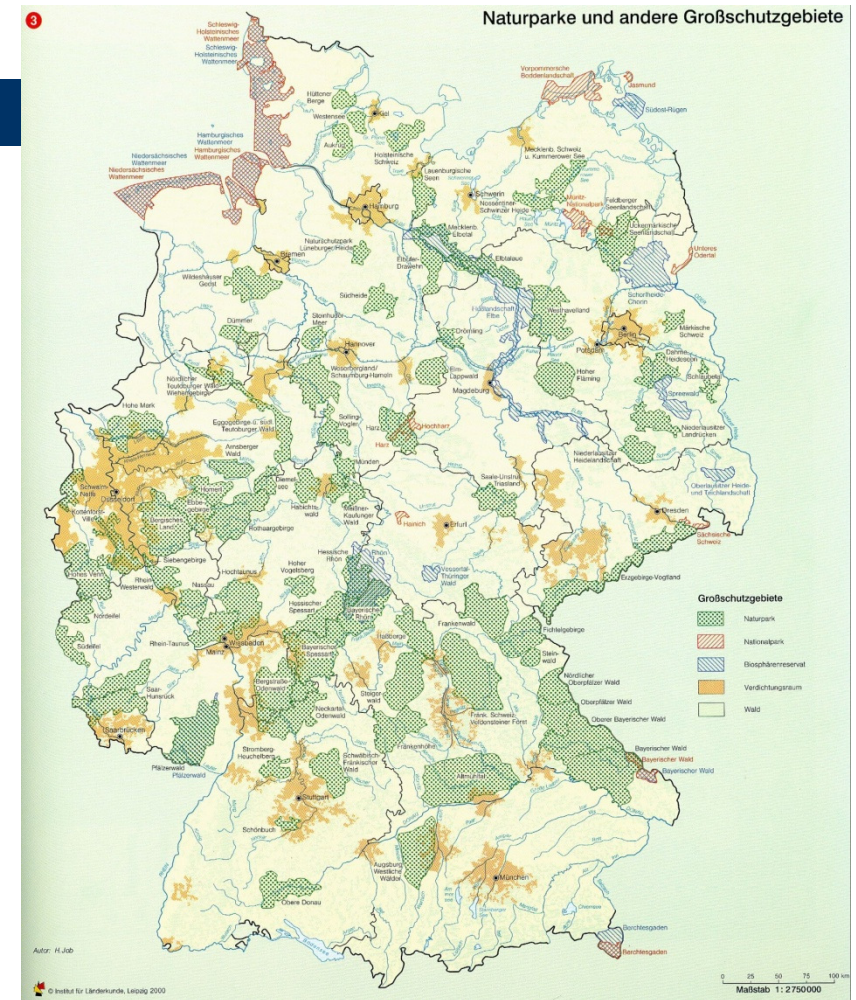


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- Rural areas are undergoing structural change throughout Europe
- Thereby, complex systems of multiple functions replace traditional agrarian characteristics of rural areas
- Among other functions, protection of valuable natural and cultural landscapes is gaining more and more importance
- Growing number of parks reflects this perspective
- Hence, parks are not only territorial frames for the purpose of protection but rather for a multiplicity of functions: agriculture, tourism, education, research etc.

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- Advancement of area protection in the countryside is eye-catching
- Example of Germany illustrates significant dimension in a highly urbanized country
- Question remains, what quality of protection has been achieved yet!



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- Two conceptual approaches require further exploration reg. potential relations between conservation and development goals:
 - Dynamic park models
 - Concepts of integrated rural development

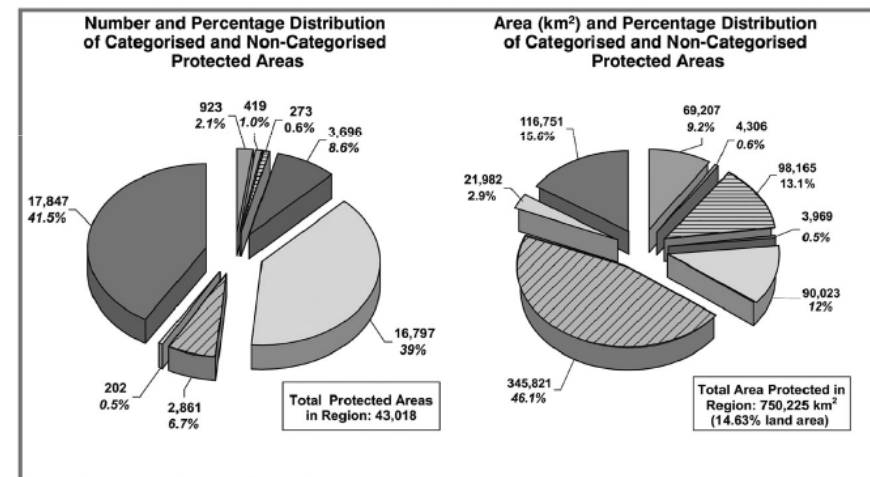
„(...) protected areas are increasingly being viewed in the context of regional development expressly for the sake of achieving conservation objectives. (...) It is (...) broadly accepted that coordinating conservation and the utilization of nature is advantageous for both conservation and regional development.“
(Hammer, 2007)

Dynamic park models and integrated rural development

Dynamic park models: laboratories for sustainable development?

- Present state of area protection characterized by obvious advancement in number and area
- Distribution of protected areas mirrors major role of IUCN Category V: Protected Landscape/ Seascape

Europe



Region contains: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, Gibraltar, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Vatican City State (Holy See), Yugoslavia,

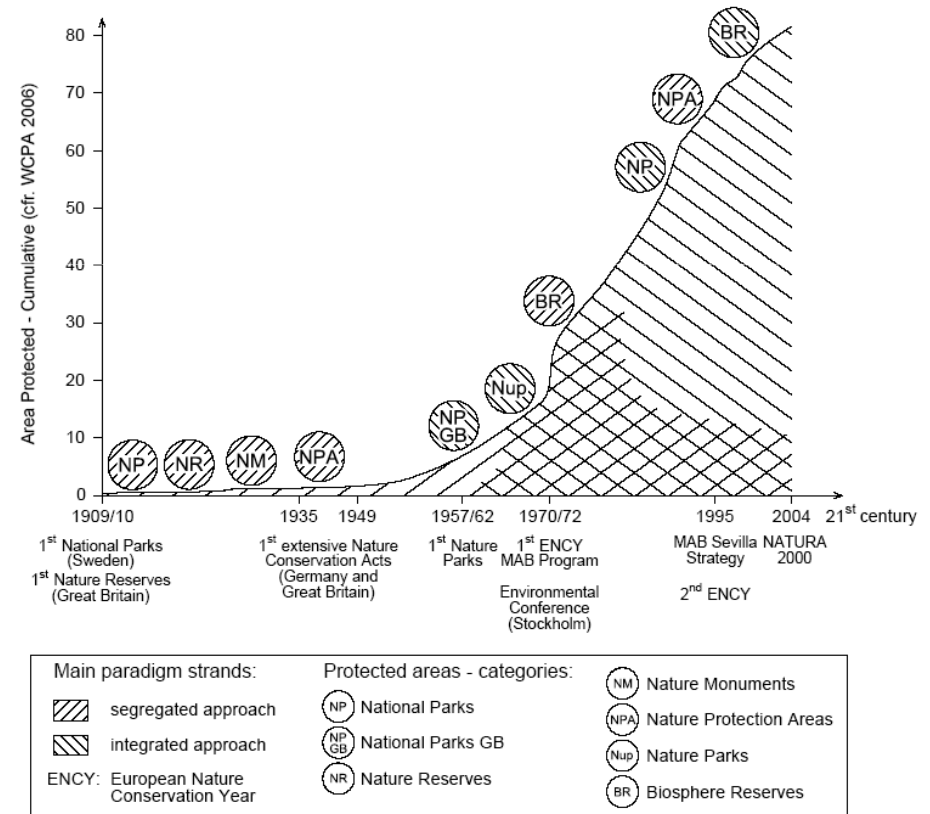


Quelle: CHAPE et al. 2003, S. 40

Dynamic park models and integrated rural development

- Historical development: eye-catching increase of protected areas over last 100 years
- Further advancement highly predictable, e.g. Switzerland, Norway
- At the same time distinctive differentiation of types: Nature Reserves, National Parks, Nature Parks, Biosphere Reserves etc.

Advancement of Protected Area Policy in Europe



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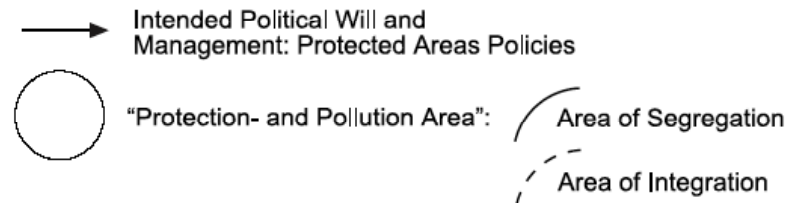
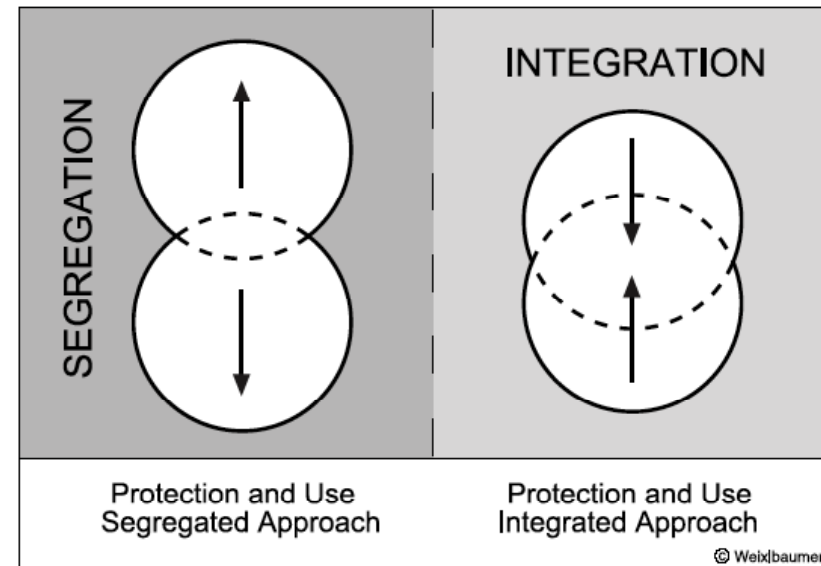
- Recent development dominated by protected areas of IUCN Category V labelled „dynamic parks“
- Sometimes confusing complexity of terminology hinders easy orientation

Major types of dynamic parks in Europe

- Nature Parks (Germany, Austria, South Tyrol)
- Regional Nature Parks (France, Italy, Spain, Switzerland)
- National Parks (UK)
- Biosphere Reserves (international)

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- Increasing implementation of dynamic parks reflects obvious paradigm change (or paradigm extension) in conservation and protected areas policies
- According to Weixlbaumer (1998), two basic principles of area protection can be distinguished today



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- What attributes are associated with the idea of dynamic parks?
- Generally speaking, dynamic parks should serve two major goals:
 - Integrate diverse functions in an equal sense (instead of only conservation)
 - Provide test beds to create model landscapes for sustainable development

Questions reg. dynamic park models

- Are these multifunctional areas adequately protected?
- What kind of functions do they serve concretely and how can these become connected? Are they integrated at all?
- Do the new types of protected areas live up to their wide promises?

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- Multifunctionality of parks: challenge and risk at the same time
- Different impacts of functions by the example of Germany's National Parks

Nutzungsformen in Nationalparks und ihre Belastungsintensität

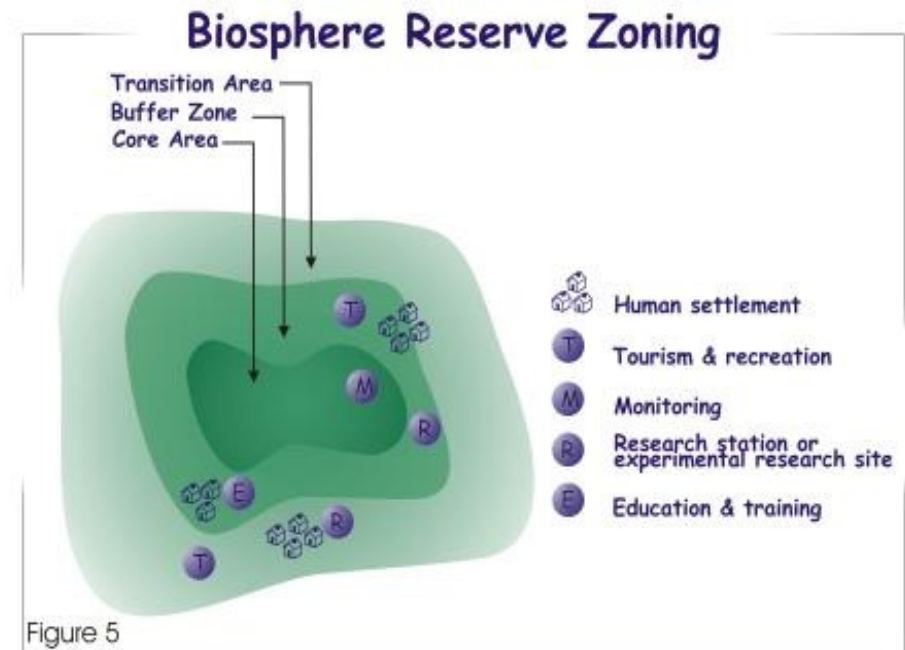
	Forstwirtschaft	Jagd	Landwirtschaft	Küstenschutz/ Landwirtschaft	Rohstoffabbau	Fischerei	Militär	Siedlung	Verkehr	Versorgung	Entsorgung	Tourismus
Hamburgisches Wattenmeer		1	2	1	2		3	2	4	2	1	3
Niedersächsisches Wattenmeer		3	1-2	2	3	4	1-3	2	4	3	1	3
Schleswig-Holsteinisches Wattenmeer		1	1-2	2	3	4	2		4		1	3
Unteres Odertal	2	2	4	4	4		k.A.		4	1-3	2	1
Jasmund	4	4	3		2		1	2	3	1	3	3
Vorpommersche Boddenlandschaft	4	4	3	3	2		1	3	3	2	2	1-3
Müritz	4	4	2	2	2		1	1	2	1-2	1-2	1
Sächsische Schweiz	3	3	2	2	1		2	2	4		3	4
Hochharz	3	3	1			1	2	2	4	2	2	4
Harz	3	3		2			1	3	4	1	2	4
Bayerischer Wald	1	2	1	1				2	3	1-2	1	1-3

Ausmaß der Belastung: 1 = gering, 2 = mittel, 3 = gravierend, 4 = bedrohend

(Source: Revermann/ Petermann 2003)

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- Above all, Biosphere Reserves are regarded as *the* model parks for sustainable spatial development
- Qualitative attributes
 - Zoning concept
 - Professional management structures
 - Consequent use of development programmes (e.g. LEADER)
 - Monitoring



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Integrated rural development: theoretical aspects and practical applications to parks

- Last three decades have seen controversial conceptual debate in rural policies
- Background: limitations and shortcomings of traditional development concepts
- Call for alternative approaches to rural development
- Actually, growing attention being paid to ideas of a so called integrated rural development (IRD)
- National as well as European dimension of recent discourse

Dynamic park models and integrated rural development

- Major influences on IRD by reform of EU Agricultural and Structural Policies since 1990s
- National approaches give additional support to idea of IRD
- Several roots in earlier concepts of the 1970/80ies: endogenous development, community planning etc.

Corner stones of political discourse related to IRD

- LEADER programme (since 1991): IRD in practice
- Further initiatives, e.g. PRODER in Spain, POMO in Finland, ILE in Germany
- Declaration of Cork (1996): General political call for IRD
- Agenda 2000: Second Pillar of CAP
- Actual funding period: LEADER transferred into horizontal principle

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- Despite engaged debate on IRD no clear definition available yet
- Sometimes targets of LEADER programme are regarded as a ersatz definition
- Alternatively, empirical observations of rural policy making may help to define key elements

Elements of integrated rural development

- Use of endogenous resources
- Cross-sectoral approach
- Decentralisation of powers
- Area-based approach
- Working in networks of public, private and civic actors
- Participative planning
- Animation and capacity-building

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Territorial dimension

- No riskful distribution of resources by watering-can principle
- Spatial concentration of efforts
- Better manageability
- Linkage with area-based programmes/ funding (e.g. LEADER)
- Allowing clearer visibility of outcomes

Social dimension

- Serious consideration of human potentials
- Social competences as a motor of development: Confidence, reliability, trust etc.
- Cooperation as a key qualification
- Shared responsibility by building of networks and partnerships

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- Different responses to the debate of IRD across Europe
- Practical applications in different countries show significant variations (see Terluin 2001, Moseley 2003, Brodda 2007)
- However, studies proof clear evidence for „success factors“ of IRD-based policy approaches

„Leading regions tend to be characterized by a development process, which is organized and experienced in a (...) bottom-up process, involving a wide range of local actors. (...) This (...) mainly depends on the capacity of (...) networks in which they are involved (...) and is related to the degree of mobilization and organization of local actors, be they private or public.“
(Terluin 2001)

Dynamic park models and integrated rural development

- Concept of IRD consists of several elements clearly related to dynamic park models
- Without surprise, IRD increasingly being used as a tool also for park development
- Heterogeneous experiences across Europe with IRD in different types of dynamic parks

Application of IRD in park development

- Nature Parks: slow response in Germany with few positive examples (e.g. marketing of tourism), generally broader adaptation in Austria
- National Parks (UK): high correlation in theory, quality of practice rather diverse
- Regional Nature parks (e.g. France): in theory IRD-based development, but generally very weak practice
- Biosphere Reserves: strong correlation of concepts, many positive examples of successful application

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- South Downs National Park founded 1 April 2011 provides test case for the future
- Intended development of management plan in participatory manner
- Sustainable development is regarded core issue from the onset
- National Parks as models of sustainable development in England at large (DEFRA 2010)



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Conclusion

- Continuous advancement of area protection in Europe in number and area over last decades
- In comparison eye-catching increase of dynamic park models
- Dynamic park models provide necessary framework to integrate conservation and development functions in practice
- Concept of integrated rural development highly applicable – various examples illustrate best practices across Europe
- However, a number of considerations need to be made
- Goals and chances of protected areas have to be made visible in the park regions – and beyond

Dynamic park models and integrated rural development

- Parks require extensive participation of population and stakeholders to achieve wide and lasting acceptance
- Parks have to be promoted as „innovation centres“ for sustainable spatial development
- Successful planning of parks is the work of at least one generation



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