

TAKING
COOPERATION
FORWARD



D.C.7.2 CEETO project Final Conference

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PP06: UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Southeast-Rügen, Germany



Katrin Hüsken, MSc

BRSAOR - UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Southeast-Rügen

UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Southeast-Rügen

Characteristics and problems

- Biosphere Reserve was founded 1990 and 1991 became part of the UNESCO MAB Program
- Five core nature protection zones: Zickerschen Höft – cliff and deciduous forest area – included in Pilot Action

Pilot Action Area: Zicker Berge

- mountains are part of the cultural landscape
- Tourist spot for hiking and recreational activities
- Two main entrance ways reachable by car, bike and on foot
- Many small footpath lead into the mountains from the villages Groß Zicker and Gager
- Highest Mountain , Bakenberg= 66m above sea level

Why the Zicker Berge?

- Visitor numbers and flows were unknown
- Problems including littering were being observed
- Code of conduct was not respected (no mountain biking, dogs have to be on a leash)



Map - Zoning © Biosphere Reserve Southeast-Rügen



Parish Widow House, Groß Zicker © Biosphere Reserve Southeast-Rügen

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Process

- Development of monitoring measures together with the University of Greifswald (Master Thesis)
- Workshop with local Stakeholder to identify problems and develop management solutions
- Development of a 5 year action plan for the entire Biosphere Reserve

Main objective/strategy

- Gain knowledge about visitors (profiles) as well as the use of the area
- Raise awareness / change behavior

Implemented Monitoring Actions

- Installation of two electronic counting systems
- Extensive and “blitz” questionnaires

Implemented Management Actions

- Audio-Guide telling local stories via izi.travel app
- New trash-cans designed by local school children
- Updated hiking-trail sign posts
- Establishment of search and rescue routes



Stakeholder Workshop © Biosphere Reserve Southeast-Rügen



Promotional Postcard © Biosphere Reserve Southeast-Rügen

Main Results

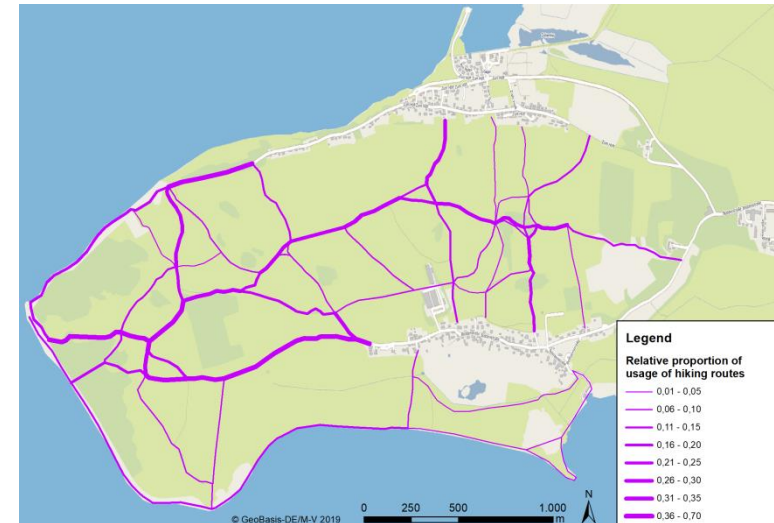
- Critical point of visitor numbers has not been reached
- Based on questionnaires – visitors fully/very satisfied
- Audio Guide accessed 6401 times (01.07.2019-29.04.2020); entire content played 1077 times

Challenges

- Short time period – hard to draw general conclusions
- Implementation difficult due to resource constraints
- Results are not always as expected due to the rigidity /set project objectives

Outlook

- Due to the short time period – reevaluation in 3 to 5 years seems reasonable
- The audio guide could be transferred to other areas



Relative Proportion of usage of hiking trails © Biosphere Reserve Southeast-Rügen



Visitor Questionnaires © Biosphere Reserve Southeast-Rügen