

Where and how best invest into Green Infrastructure (GI)?
Presentation of Regional Green Infrastructure Strategy & Action Plans
Karkonosze Mts. and Jelenia Góra Valley
(Lower Silesia, Poland)

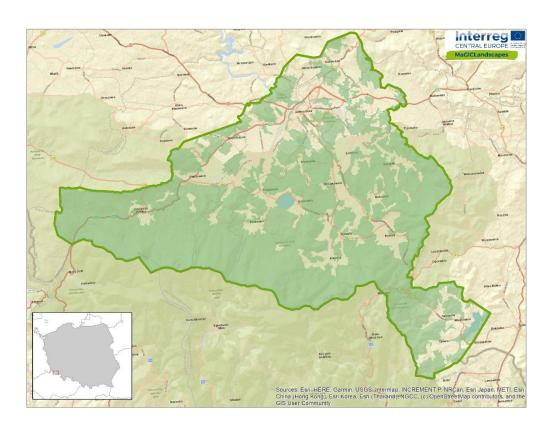
Dorota Wojnarowicz | Karkonosze National Park

DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA



Karkonosze National Park

- Analyzed area: Karkonosze Mts. and Jelenia Góra Valley- southwest Poland, Lower Silesia
- Main Gl elements: woodlands, meadows, subalpine peatbogs, dwarf pine and alpine ecosystems, streams, water springs, historic landscape parks, complex of ponds
- Main needs for GI: to set the boundaries of sustainable GI use in face of growing tourism and development pressure, to save the ecological connectivity, to improve water retention









GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY



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Key issues and challenges identified in our case study area

- a) Tourist pressure especially on the most valuable ecosystems in Karkonosze NP.
- b) Development pressure in mountain villages outside the park, loss of connectivity;
- c) Natural succession on mountain meadows due to decline of agriculture;
- d) Water problems (too much water consumption, inefficient waste water management, climate change episodes, too intensive river regulation)
- e) low emission of pollutants causing smog situations

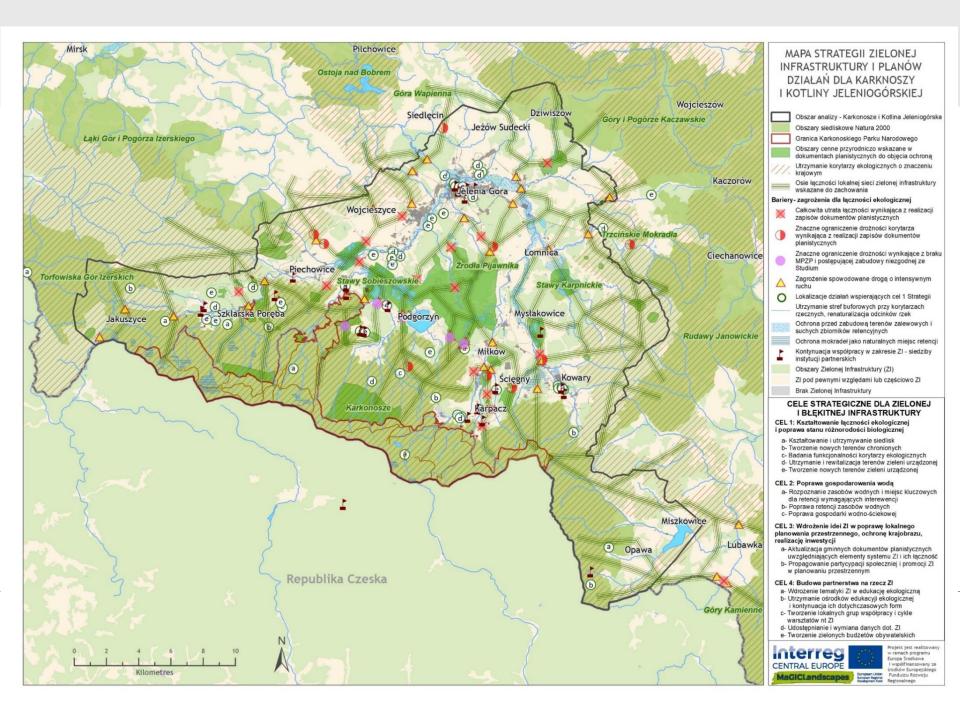
Main aims of the strategy

- a) shape ecological connectivity and to improve the state of biodiversity
- b) improve water management
- c) implement the GI concept in improving local spatial planning
- d) build partnership for the GI in the region









ACTIONS TO MEET THE STRATEGIC AIMS

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Actions planned to fulfil the aims of the strategy

- Formation and maintenance of habitats (purchase of abandoned meadows to be mowned and grazed, forest stands conversion, restrictions in tourist traffic aiming at valuable habitats protection)
- Establishment of new protected areas or enlarging existing ones
- Revitalizing urban green areas (parks, gardens for pollinators, view points)
- Establishment of new urban green areas (flowery meadows, pocket gardens, green bus stops, green alleys)
- Research on the functionality of ecological corridors
- Recognition of water areas requiring protection and improvement of retention (inventory of small-scale wetlands, ditches, erosion lines)
- Increasing water retention (building water retention tanks, valves to slow down the flow of water, footbridges on trails leading through wetlands)
- Improvement of water and sewage management (sewer modernization in mountainous hostels, monitoring and control of water intake)
- Renaturalization of streams
- Implementation of GI/benefits/spatial planning into education, outdoor green actions involving children
- Development of good practice catalogue and rules of sustainable development and sustainable tourism with local stakeholders- working groups, workshops, conferences
- Green participatory budgets in municipalities to involve citizens in GI planning
- Sharing and exchanging data on regional green infrastructure- geoportal
- Upgrading spatial planning documents with GI elements









- Main GI benefits addressed by the strategy and actions
- Related to nature conservation and resilience of ecosystems
- Landscape quality
- Water management and mitigation of climate change
- Health and well being (quality of air, recreation places, image and esthetic of towns)
- Partnership may result in further projects and strengthen the integration of residents
- Strategy implementation who are the main actors and stakeholders Municipalities, RDOŚ- Natura 2000, Landscape Parks Administration, State Forest, local NGO and Karkonosze National Park as well!
- Contact

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