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# Funding of Protected Areas: A purely Public Task?

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Dipl.-Ing. Grazia Withalm  
Vienna University of Technology  
Department of Spatial Planning  
Center of Public Finance and Infrastructure Policy (IFIP)

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## 1. Approach

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*"Who is responsible for the funding of protected areas?"*

Dual approach:

- (1) recent situation and trends (international and in Austria)
- (2) empirical analysis of funding responsibilities and the confirmity with funding sources

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## 1. Approach



Central Assumptions:

- (1) Protected Area = business operation
- (2) ecosystem services (ES) = public, private, club or common good
- (3) indicator of publicness = expresses the share of ecosystem services that are public goods

## 2. 'Publicness' of Protected Areas



### Analysis Steps:

- (1) identification of ES and assignment to framework of ES functions
- (2) classification of ES as public, private, club or common good
- (3) evaluation of ES according to their contribution to the management objectives → 'Publicness'
- (4) comparison with actual funding sources

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## 2. 'Publicness' of Protected Areas – NP 'Hohe Tauern'



Functions	Goods and Services	Characteristic	Application to the PG-Scheme	Importance
Provisioning	agricultural products	rival and excludable	private	medium
Habitat & Supporting	wildlife reserve, habitat management	non rival, non excludable	public	high
	protection of genetic diversity	non rival, non excludable	public	high
Cultural & Scientific	conservation of the landscape characteristic	non rival and non excludable	public	high
	cultivation and signage of hiking trails	rival and non excludable	common	medium
	information center, National Park Academy, field trips, scientific publications	rival and excludable	club	high
	landscape conservation by sustainable cultivation	non rival, non excludable	public	high
Regional Development	regional marketing	rival, excludable	public	medium
	maintenance of alpine refuge	rival, non excludable	common	medium
	NP regional employer	rival, excludable	private	medium

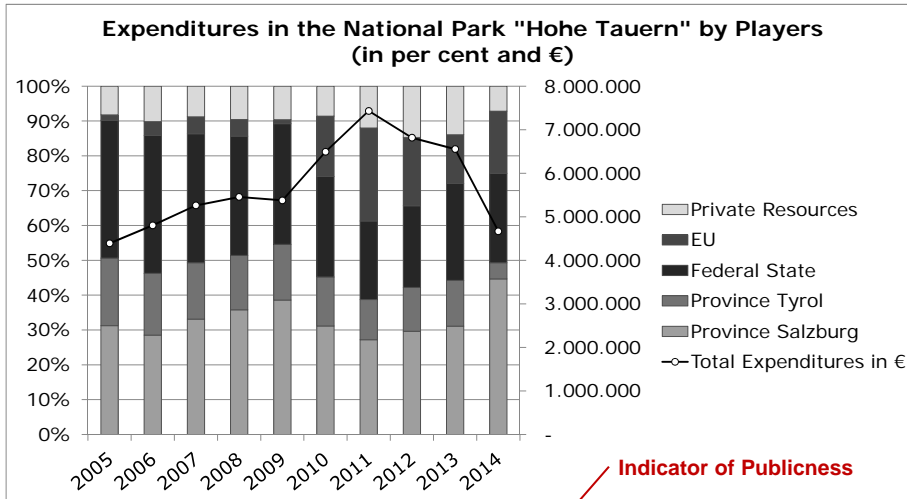
Indicator of Publicness

Public vs. Private = 65 : 35

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## 2. 'Publicness' of Protected Areas – NP 'Hohe Tauern'



Public vs. Private = 90:10

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## 3. Results



- public sector is **responsible** from an efficiency point of view, but potential of **private funding** mechanisms **to support** the public sector
- PAs provide a **mixture of public and private goods**, common and club goods
- civil society and private funding sources** provide only a **small share** in comparison to public expenditure

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### 3. Results



	Description (positive) Who are and were the actors?			Justification (normative) Why should the state intervene?		
	<i>State</i>	<i>Civil society</i>	<i>Market</i>	<i>Equality</i>	<i>Morality</i>	<i>Efficiency</i>
Provision	Takes care of transaction costs	Citizen commitment		Poverty alleviation	Regulative ES are necessary to provide for basic human needs	ES are mostly public goods
Funding	Special subsidies	Supports public funding				Free-rider problem, information failure
Regulation	Nature conservation laws, international commitments				Public sector sets limit, for the commodification of nature	Property rights missing

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**Thank you for your  
attention!**