

Občianske združenie PRONATUR

Profesora Sáru 654/24, Banská Bystrica

Activity report 2015

Civic Society PRONATUR (OZ PRONATUR) is a volunteer organization of associated persons according to the Act No. 83/1990 Coll. The organization was established in 2007 with focus on the nature protection, sustainable regional development, support of marginalized social groups and sound lifestyle. While reaching the set aims we use the support of geoinformatic technologies and services.

OZ PRONATUR continuously carry out activities focused on the regional development, ecosystem services, geoinformatic services. Activities are carried out either on volunteer basis or financed by diverse project schemes.

OZ PRONATUR successfully completed implementation of the „Nature to people – people to nature“ that was focused on the participative management model of the biosphere reserves in Slovakia and on the evaluation of ecosystem services in the Biosphere reserve Poľana. This project was financed by the Swiss financial mechanism. The main project partners were the Swiss partners Biosphere Reserve Entlebuch and the University Rapperswil. Further partners were the Slovak Committee Man and Biosphere, State Nature Conservancy and the University Bern – Centre for regional development.

The results of the project were presented at different events e.g. at the international conference of the Programme of the Swiss-Slovak cooperation „Nature tourism and regional development“ held on 23rd June 2015 in High Tatras, at the conference „Sustainable development of mountain areas in Slovakia“ held on 12th March 2015 in Banská Bystrica, at the conference Enviro-i-fórum held on 16th June 2015 in Banská Bystrica.

In 2015 continued the implementation of the project SDI4Apps in cooperation with partners from Slovakia and EU countries. Project is aimed to improve the utilisation of the potential of open geospace information and services through the innovation based on interconnected data (Linked Data) of the semantic web, whereby OZ PRONATUR participates mainly in activities connected to the valuation of ecosystem services – identification of relevant ecosystem services, available data sources and analysis of an appropriate technology and further use of SDI4Apps cloud infrastructure. OZ PRONATUR co-organized the event DanubeHack held on 15-17. October 2015 that created a forum for development of new geospace data, services and applications through Hackathon in a reasonable combination with workshops focused on sharing data and experience from relevant fields.

Outputs of activities of our organisation were published in an article *On the valuation of ecosystem services in Muránska Planina National Park (Slovakia)* in the science current journal Eco.mont – Journal on Protected Mountain Areas Research and Management.

Information on activities of our organisation was published in the newspaper Pravda (23.5.2015) in an article *National parks earn invisible billions*

Following the call of the Ministry of foreign affairs, our organisation submitted the application for registration of partnership of the UNESCO. The partnership idea was presented at the Ministry of foreign affairs on 11th June 2015.

OZ PRONATUR permanently continues in implementation of activities which contribute to aims of our organisation stated in Statute.

In 2015 there was a change of the administration address, the new one is Profesora Sáru 654/24, Banská Bystrica, Slovakia.

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For the year 2015 organisation OZ PRONATUR was registered as the receiver of the tax contribution.

Detailed information is available on our webpage: www.ozpronatur.sk.