



A KEY TO QUALIFY AND ENGAGE YOUTH FOR NATURE PROTECTION

EUROPARC Germany's Junior-Ranger-Program

Nationale
Naturlandschaften



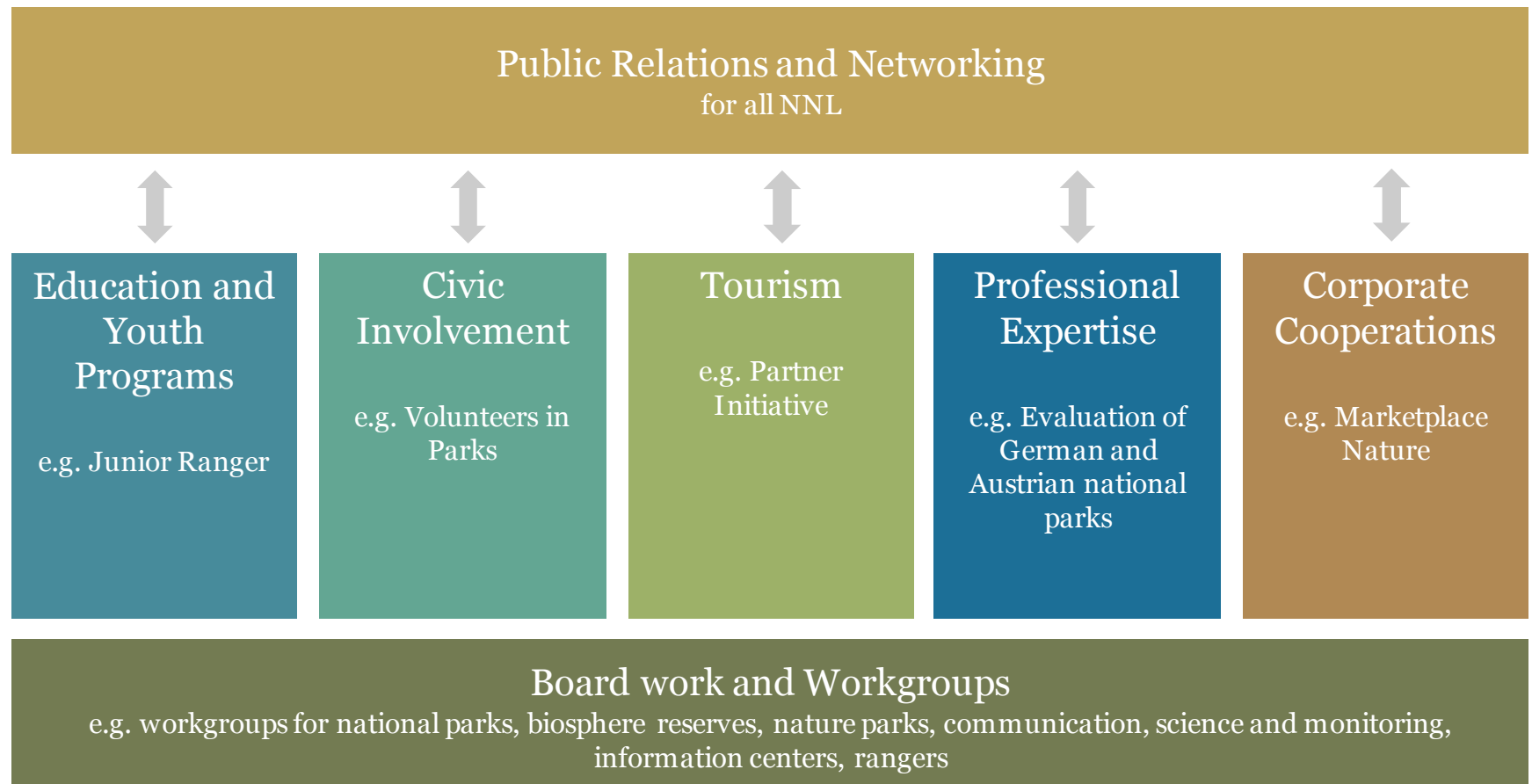


EUROPARC Germany

EUROPARC Germany is the umbrella organization of the German national parks, biosphere reserves as well as nature parks and holder of the germanwide trademark „Nationale Naturlandschaften“ [National Natural Landscapes – abbr. NNL]

- Founded in 1991
- Non-profit and non-party
- 76 Members, mostly administrations
- Part of an European network
- Located in Berlin, 10 employees
- Financed through membership fees, mostly third-party funding and partly donations

Structure of our work

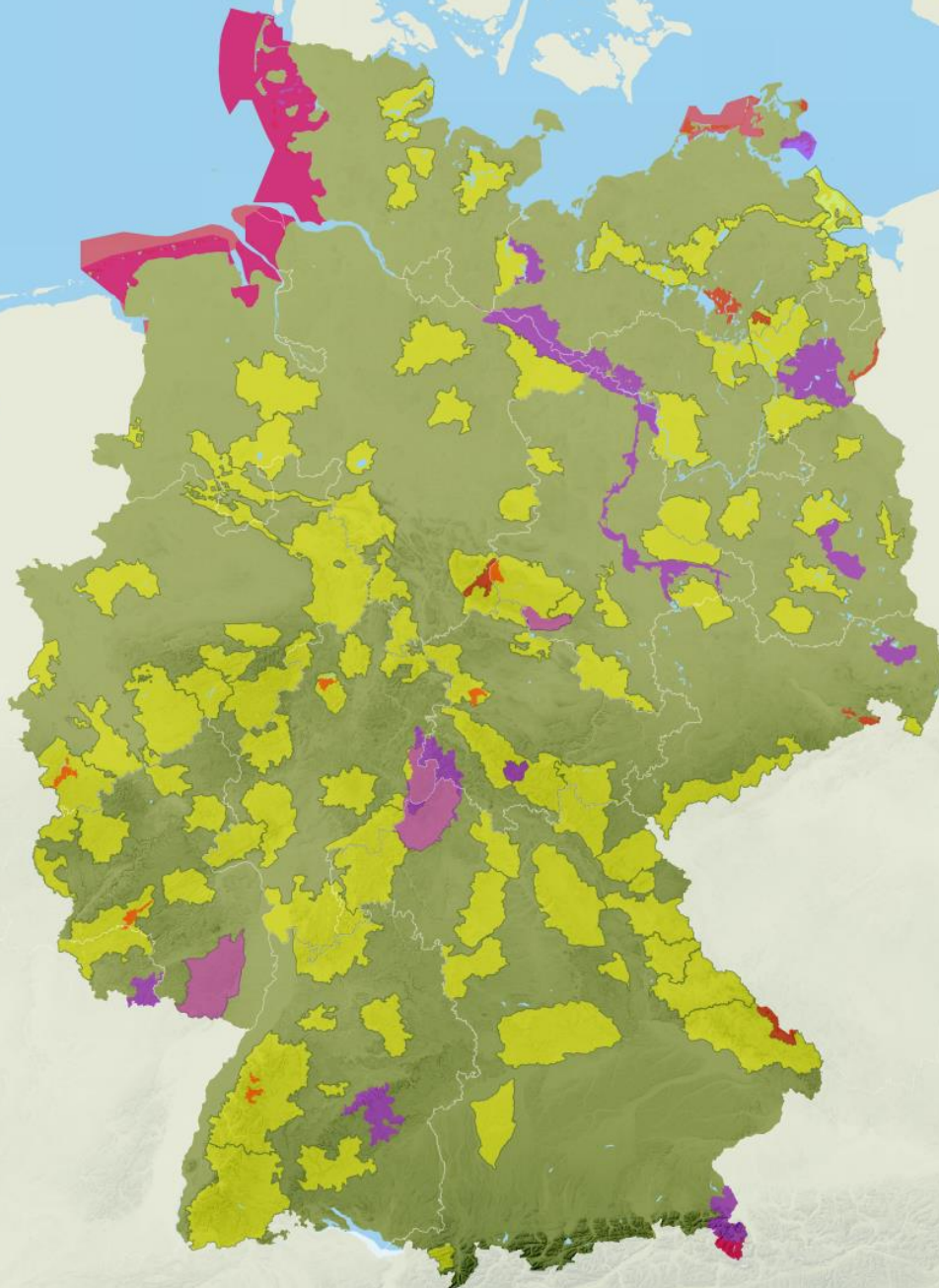


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-  Nationalparks
-  Biosphärenreservate
-  Naturparks

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Introduction

The program was initiated in 2008 as a joint project of EUROPARC Germany, WWF Germany and the NNL.

The aim is to preserve biodiversity and to inspire children for nature, natural dynamics and the NNL, as well as to enable their active participation.

To engage children according to their preferences, we need a variety of offers and options



Introduction

In times of demographic change, inspiring children for nature is a key to sustainable development.

Participation in actions around the program encourages young people to be a part of the European-wide network of Junior Rangers.





Introduction

*“**Nature experience in early ages** plays a significant role in the degree of **ecological awareness** in grown-ups”*

– Kollmuss & Agyeman 2002, Pohl 2003

*“Present and **past positive experiences** in natural environments strengthens emotional **affinity toward nature protection** as key factor”*

– Kals et al 1999

Introduction

**The program is based on 4 pillars -
Region, Discovery Tour, Web and School**

Adapted to the individual situation of the children: outside, in their home, at leisure, at the computer and at school.

This way it is possible for every child to become Junior-Ranger.

All columns are based on uniform guidelines in terms of education for sustainable development.



Junior-Ranger „Region“

In 43 NNL and over 100 regional Junior Ranger groups, children and youth being active as Junior-Rangers. Together with Rangers they explore and protect nature and environment in their regions.

Guidelines and trainings guarantee the nationwide quality of the program.

The aim is to increase the interest for nature and environmental protection within children and youth through direct contact with Rangers.



- **Yearly more than 1.500 Junior Ranger in Germany**
- **Multiple award winner as UN-Dekade Project „Education for sustainable development“ and „Biodiversity“ as well as „Werkstatt-N Project“**

Junior-Ranger „Discovery Tour“

For Junior Rangers on Discovery Tour the “Entdeckerheft” (“discovery booklet”) the program was connected with sustainable tourism. Through discovery booklets children and their families are invited to individually explore a NNL with adventurous, exciting and fun tasks and exercises.

Overall objective is to motivate young people during their holidays and in their spare time for active conservation and environmental protection within the Junior-Ranger-Program.



- **Junior-Ranger-Discovery-Booklet: Quizzes and guidebook for kids and their families**
- **Available in 14 NNL (at 02/2016)**
- **30.000 prints done**

Junior-Ranger „Web“

The online educational game takes children on a virtual trip to the NNL. Different landscapes can be chosen from the coast to the Alps.

Various up-to-date topics on nature protection are communicated in a modern way matched to the target audience.

Overall objective is to increase the interest for nature and environment in a target group, which was/is hard to reach.



- **More than 15.000 players**
- **Awarded with the Comenius EDU-Media seal as „competence fostering computer game“**
- **Nominated for the German Price of Computer Games as „Best-Serious-Game“ 2013**

Junior Ranger „School“

All topics of the nationwide Junior Ranger program are designed with consideration for maximum connectivity to today's school life.

Overall objective is to motivate pupils to be part of the Junior Ranger Program, to protect nature together with Rangers of „their“ NNL and to engage as pupils for environmental topics of their region.



- **Guiding tours for school classes**
- **Offers for school trips**
- **Cooperation with regional schools**
- **Educational materials for preparation and follow-ups of the lessons**

Nationwide Junior-Ranger-Camps

Up to 300 Junior Rangers from 43 NNL meet annually and explore jointly the host NNL. The meeting is a key-element for networking in the Junior Ranger program and is held annually under a specific topic.

All participants develop perspectives and practices for a sustainable future and learn about specific topics of the host NNL.

Overall objective is to link Junior Rangers and their Rangers from all over Germany to enable a networking experience.



- **Annually meetings of up to 300 Junior Rangers of whole Germany**
- **Host NNL changes annually, 2016 Biosphere Reserve Rhone (Bavaria)**
- **Orientation at an annually changing theme, in 2016 "rural-urban development"**

Junior-Ranger „Plus“

Offers for young people between 14 and 21 years have to be adjusted to a different world and life style. Therefore, we identified central needs and motives that guide us in creating special workshops and seminars for Junior-Rangers, which are not as „junior“ anymore.

Overall objective is to provide a supporting environment for youth to self-organize their nationwide network and start up with a motivated and participating common voice in the NNL.



- **Three older Junior Rangers are portrayed by a high-quality film team:**
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwncVAkScbdoBEXuMaMFwfqeboKbGsTh8>
- **European Voluntary Service within the NNL-network as great opportunity for 17+ Junior Rangers**



Contact

For further questions please contact:

Guido Puhmann (Director)

Biosphärenreservat Mittelelbe

guido.puhmann@bioresme.mlu.sachsen-anhalt.de

Jan Wildefeld (Head of Youth and Media)

EUROPARC Deutschland e. V.

jan.wildefeld@europarc-deutschland.de