

*UNDP/GEF Project “Improving coverage and management effectiveness of the Protected Areas System in Moldova”*

# Protected areas governance in Moldova.

Gaps and recommendations for change.

Alexandru Rotaru, Project manager



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# What do we mean by governance

Governance is about power, relationships and accountability. It is about who has influence, who makes decisions, and how decision-makers are held accountable.



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# Governance ≠ Government

Governance does not just refer to government and government structures.

It is about the entire system and process through which decisions are made.

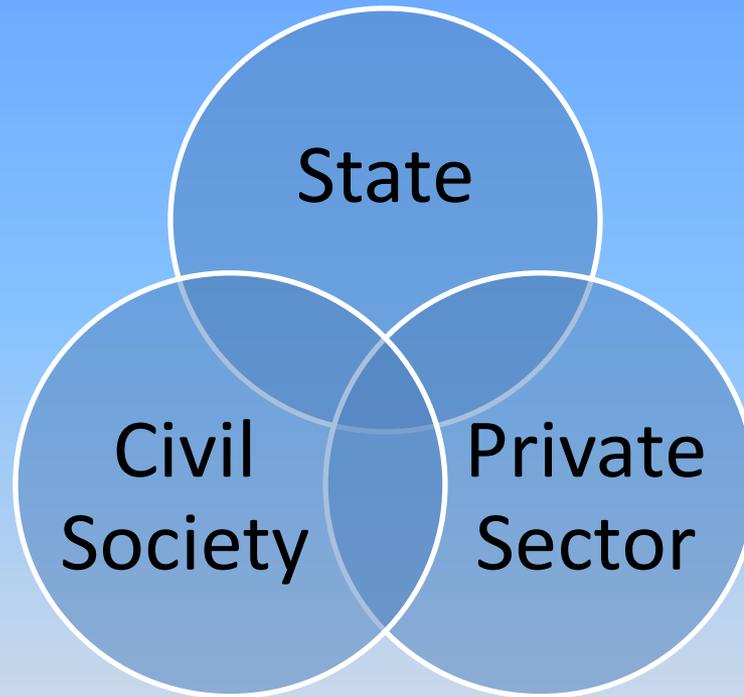


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# Governance > Government



Relationships and processes may be Legal, institutional, structural, formal, informal, cultural, collective, individual.....



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# Governance and Protected Areas



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In a protected area (PA) context, governance covers a broad range of issues— from policy to practice, from behavior to meaning, from investments to impacts.

Governance has an influence on the achievement of protected area objectives (management effectiveness) but also determines the sharing of relevant costs and benefits (management equity). And it affects the generation and sustenance of community, political and financial support.

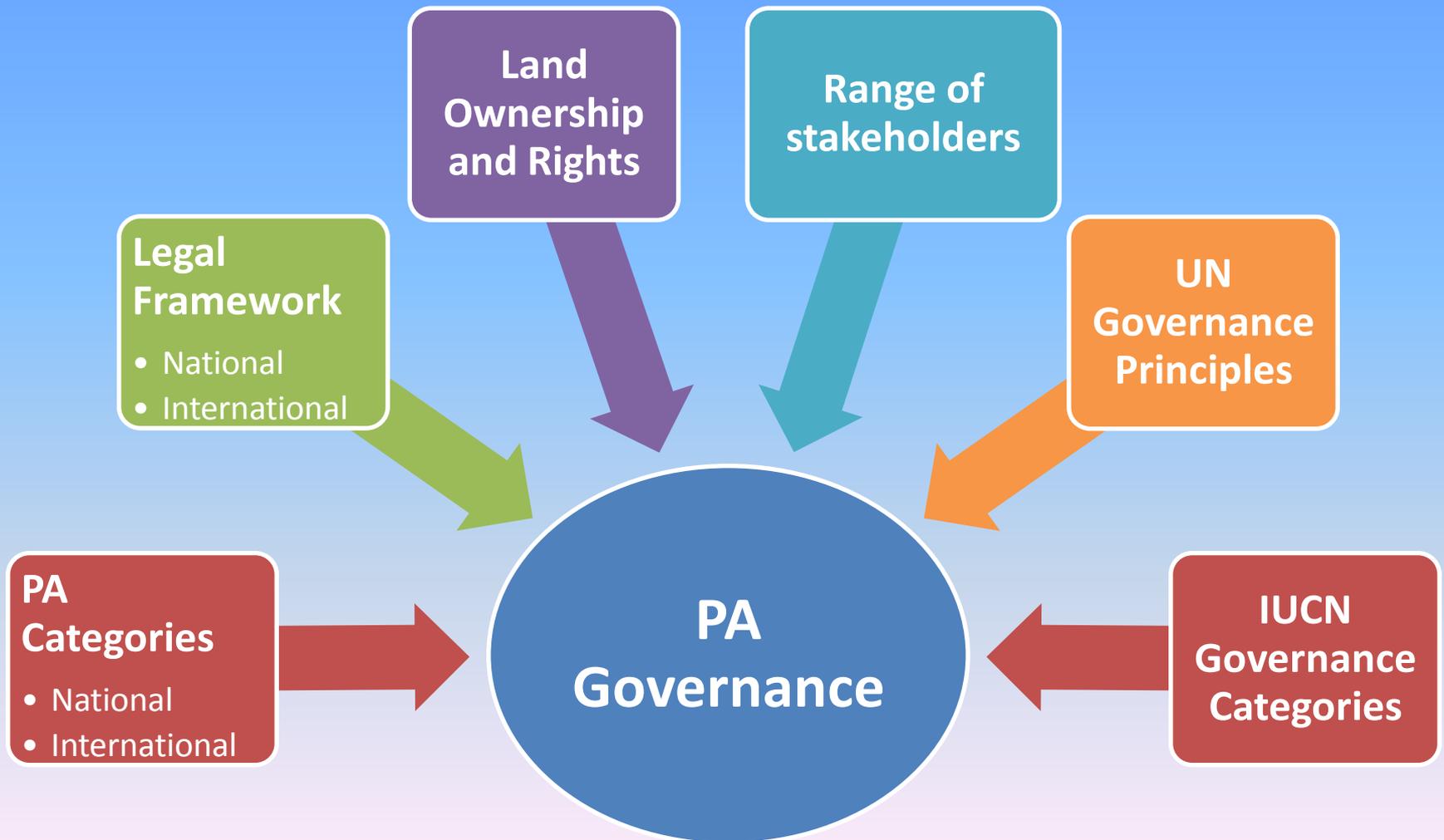


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# Influences on PA Governance



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# The IUCN and Protected Area Governance

**A clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values**



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# IUCN Protected Categories

**Ia** Strict nature Reserve

**Ib** Wilderness Area

**II** National Park

**III** Natural Monument/Feature

**IV** Habitat/Species Management Area

**V** Protected Landscape/Seascape

**VI** Protected Area with Sustainable  
Use of Natural Resources

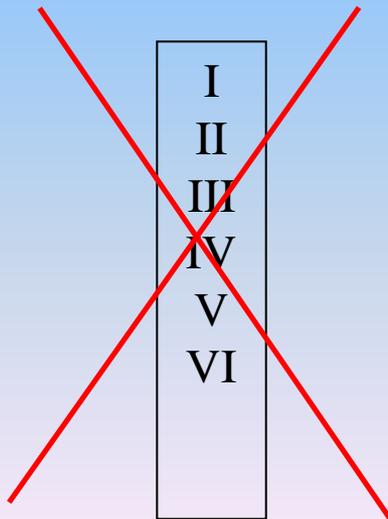


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# Categories and their importance / "values" of the PA's



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What is it  
like to  
manage a  
complex  
protected  
area?

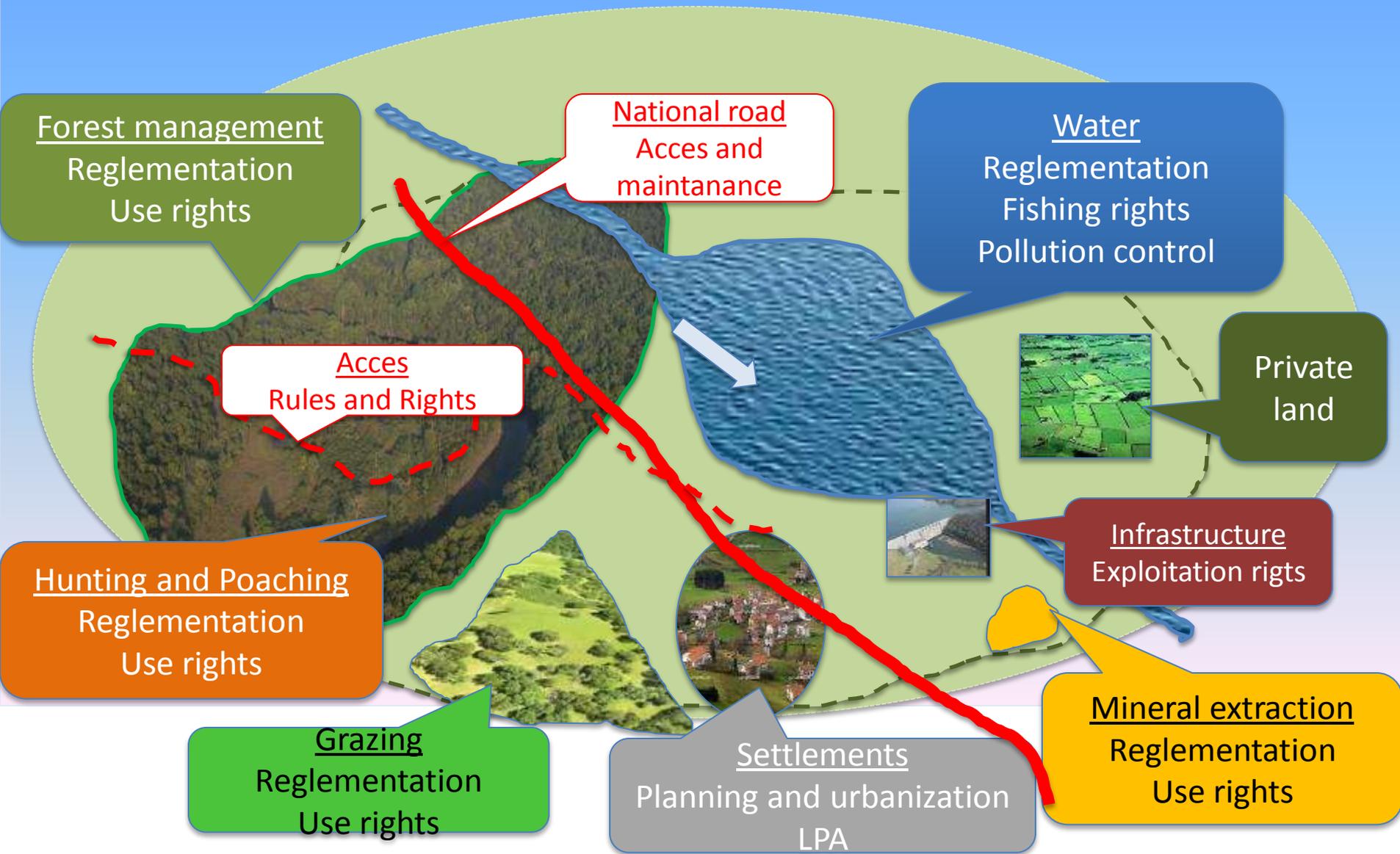


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# Ownership and Rights in a complex PA



# The IUCN Governance Categories



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# Type A: Government Managed

**The Established  
Approach  
(and still the  
most common)**

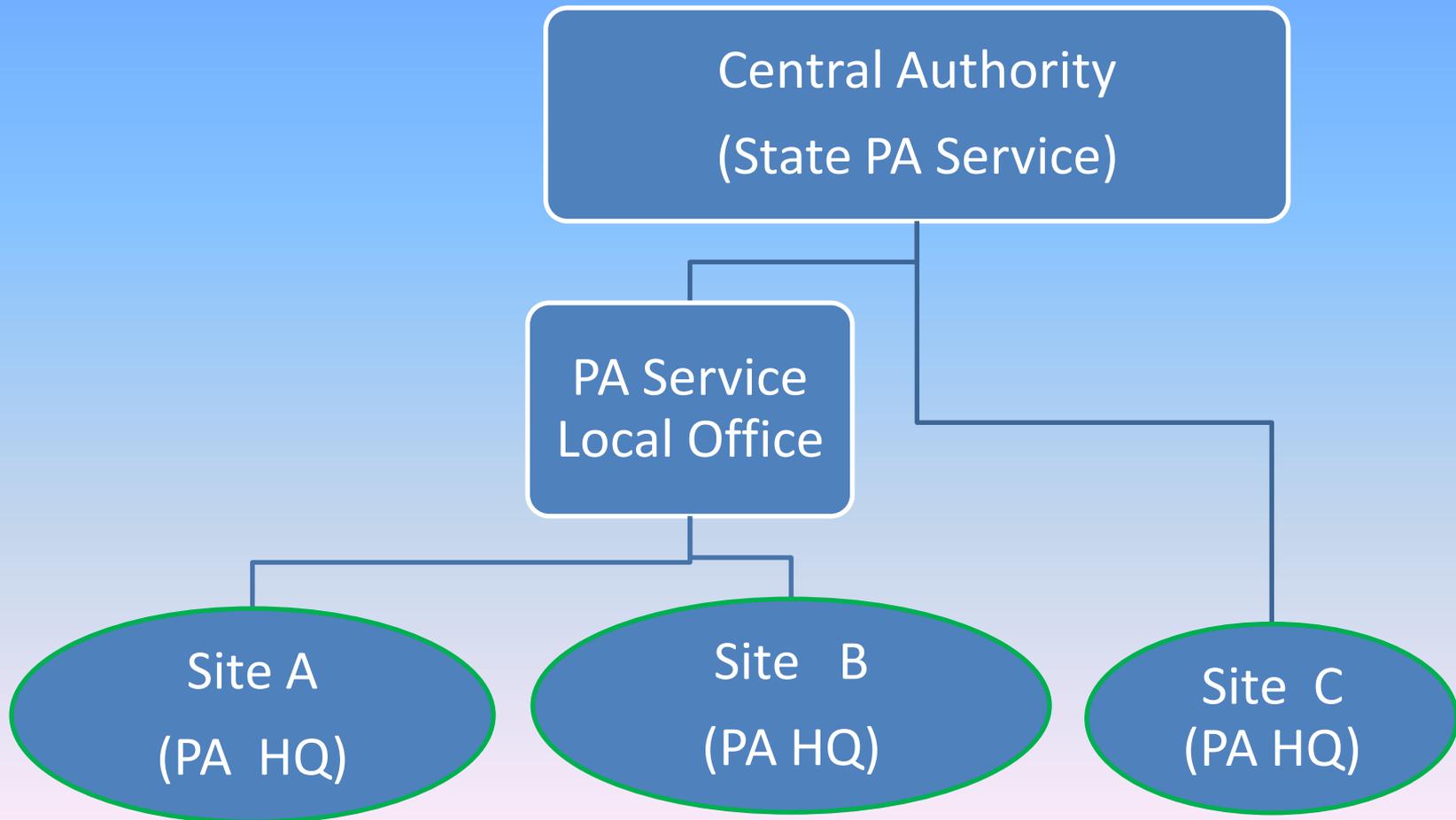


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# A (i) Government Managed (Centralised)



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# Site Managed by a Central PA Service

**National Park Yugyd Va, Komi Republic, Russia**

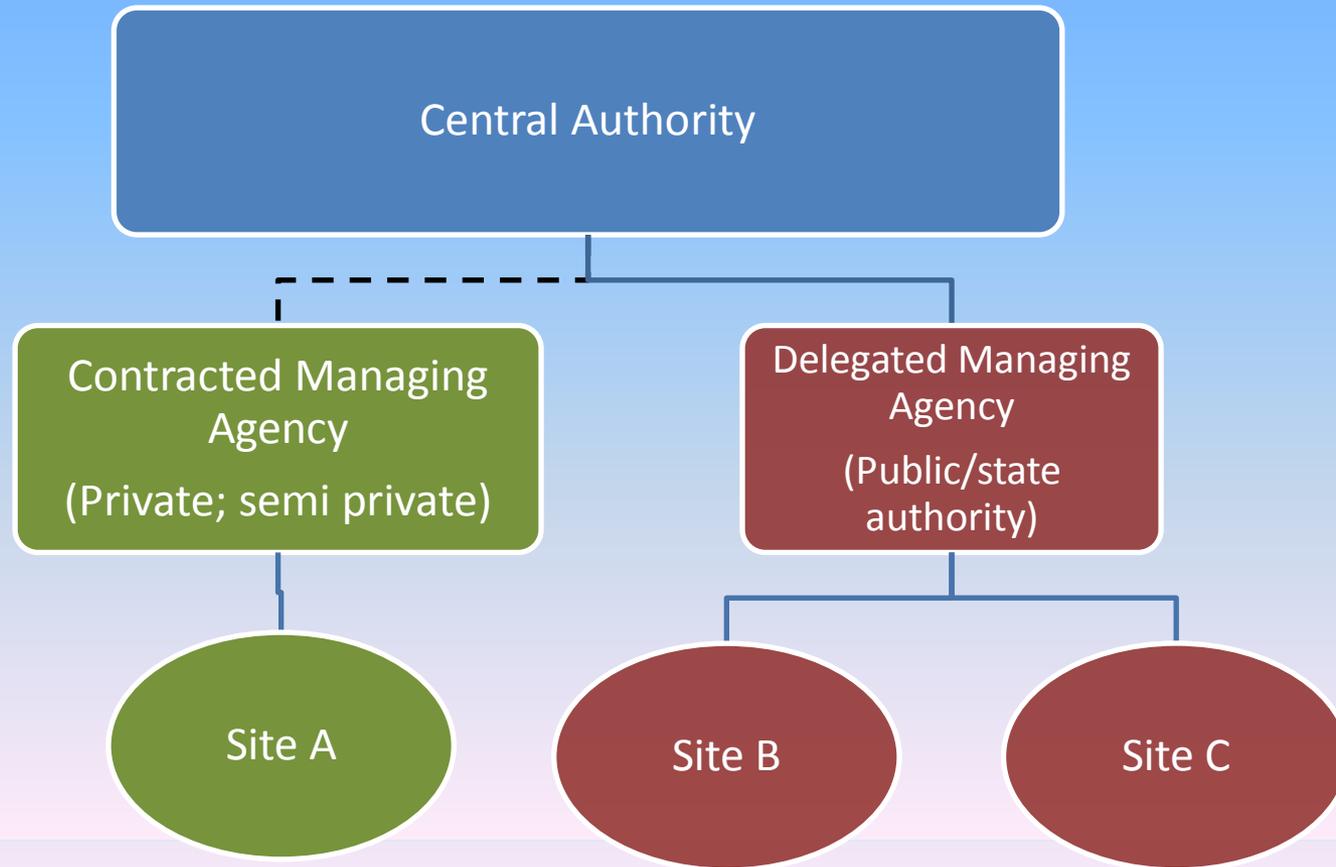


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# A(ii) and A(iii) Government Managed (Delegated or contracted)



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Site managed by a delegated agency

Macin Mountains National Park, Romania  
(Romsilva)



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# Site managed by a contracted agency

## Mavrovo NP Macedonia



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# Type B Co-Managed

Responsibility for  
decision making and  
management is  
shared (to varying  
extents)

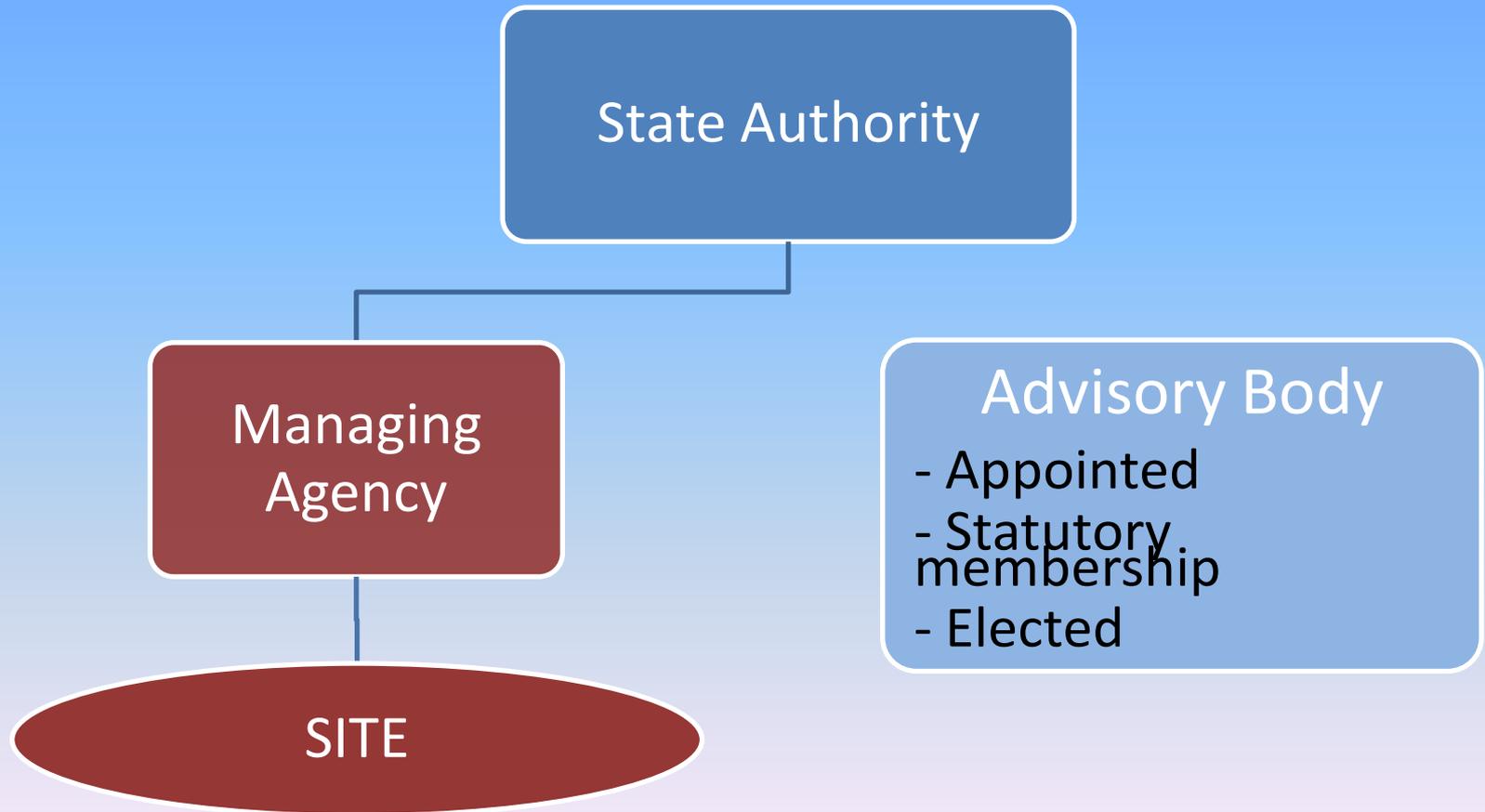


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# B(i) Collaborative Management



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# Collaborative Management: Phnom Samkos Wildlife Sanctuary, Cambodia

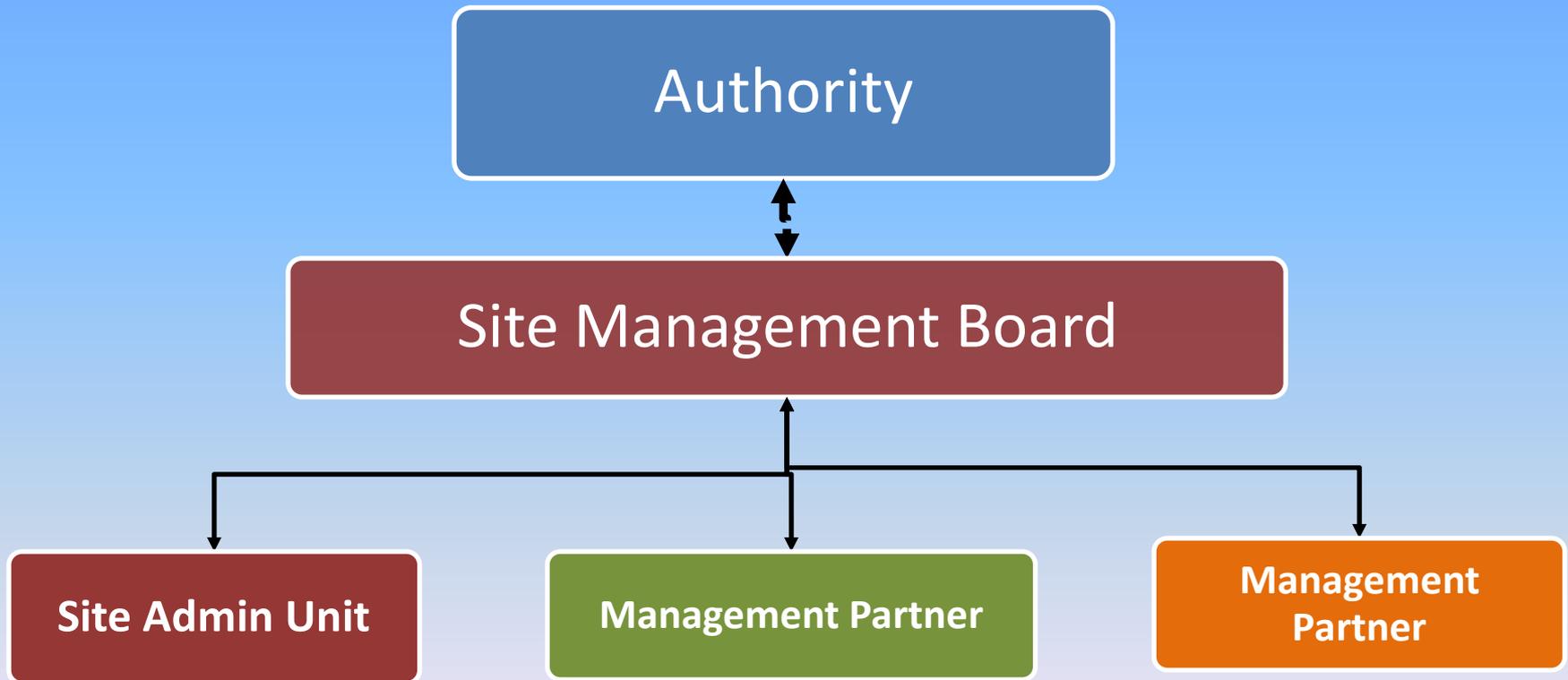


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# B(ii) Joint Management

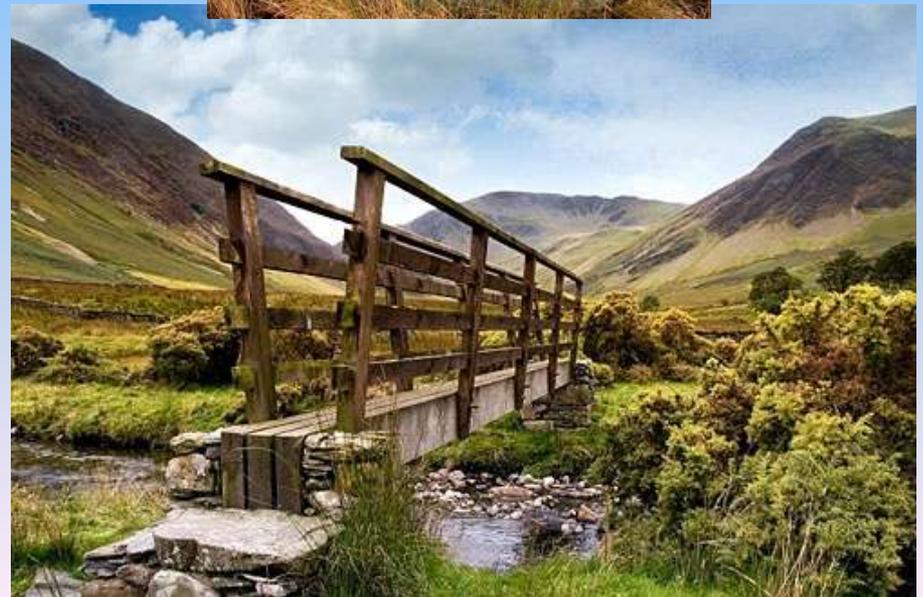


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# Joint Management

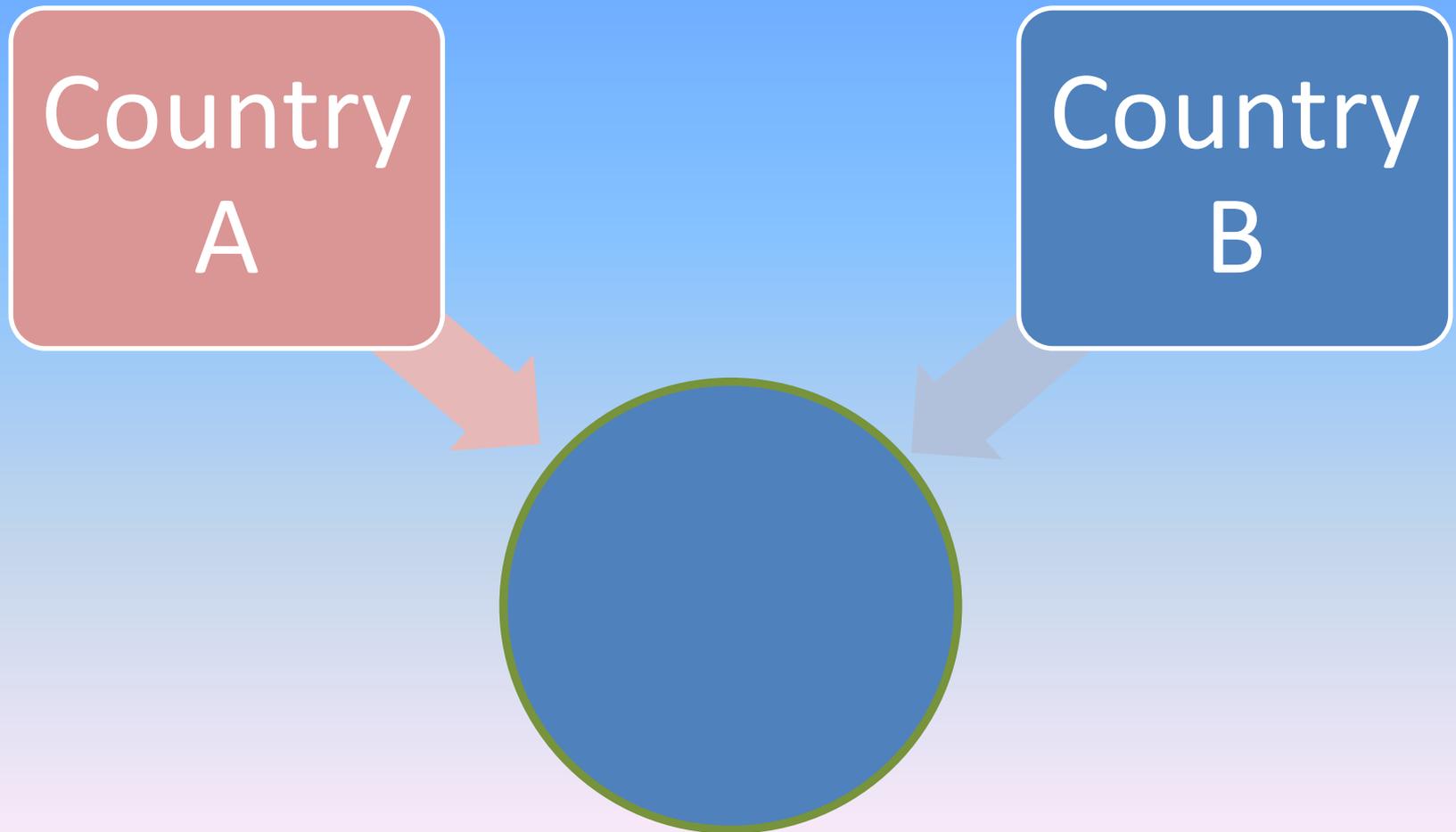


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# B(iii) Transboundary Management



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# A Transboundary Site

Carpathian Biosphere Reserve:  
Poland, Ukraine, Slovakia

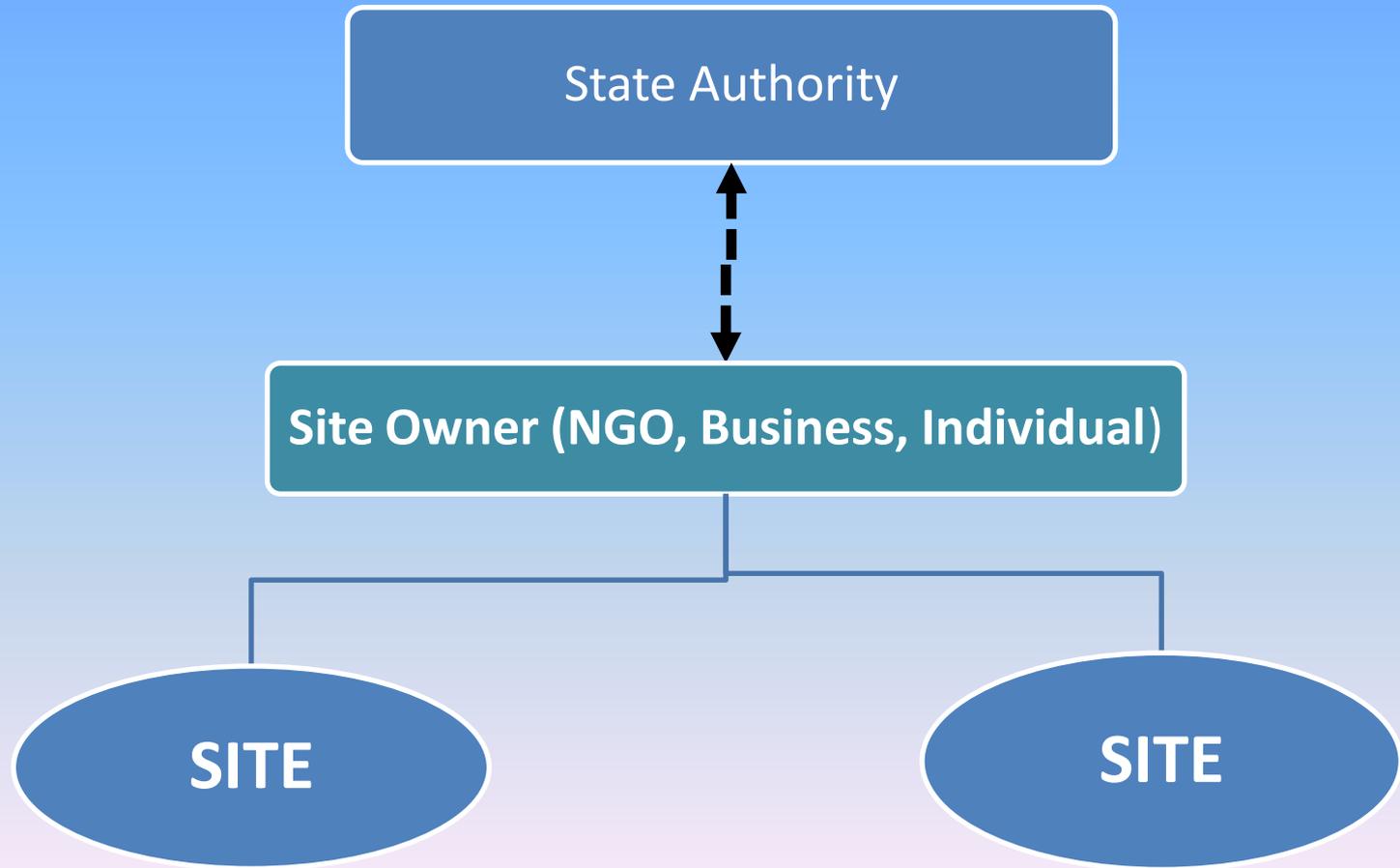


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# C. Private Protected Areas



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# Private Protected Areas



New Zealand



South Africa



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# D. Community conserved areas

State Authority (National Law)

Community  
Governance  
Structure

SITE



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# Community Conserved Area



## Shimshal, Pakistan



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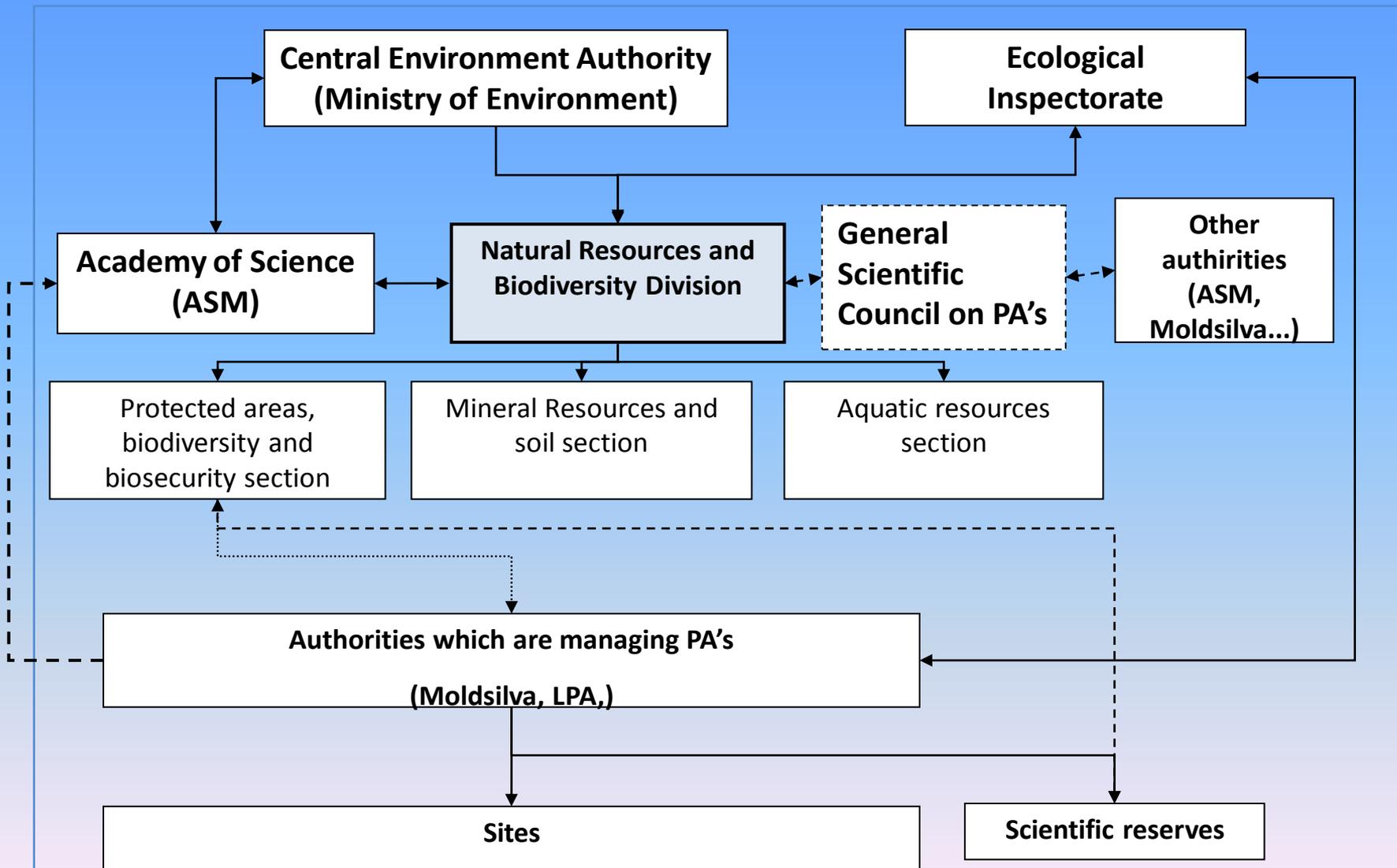
# The Protected areas in Moldova and the governance current situation



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# The limitations and challenges for successful PA Governance in Moldova



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# Legislation

The Legal Framework is generally quite adequate, but does include some elements that are unclear or that are subject to dispute or different interpretations (particularly with respect to management of Scientific Reserves). There is a lack of secondary legislation to determine the exact means of implementing the law.



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# Institutional arrangements

The Ministry of Environment lacks capacity effectively to fulfil all of its functions with respect to protected areas. There is a lack of clear institutional arrangement between the Ministry and Moldsilva on management of Scientific Reserves.



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# Management capacity

Management capacity and effectiveness is very limited among all potential managing entities with the exception of Moldsilva. Most Local Authorities do not have the capacity or resources to manage PAs in their administrative areas. The Ministry does not have the capacity directly to manage the Scientific Reserves or other types of PA's.



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# PA's clasiffication

The existing PA's are not “organized” in a efficient way. The protected area categories needs to be defined in a simpler way that is consistent with international norms and standards.



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# Public participation in governance

Although there are mechanisms for public participation in identifying, managing and monitoring PAs, there are no legal requirements for formalising stakeholder involvement (e.g. through Consultative Councils), except in National Parks.



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# Systems of planning management, monitoring, reporting

Without a clear and common system of planning, monitoring and reporting it cannot be guaranteed that Moldova's protected areas will be managed according to their objectives and needs. There is a significant risk of mismanagement and degradation of nationally and internationally important sites.



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# Resource mobilization

Without improved funding and increased human capacity it will not be possible maintain the system of protected areas in an acceptable condition.



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# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RESTRUCTURING AND STRENGTHENING THE PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM



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# Recommendations on establishment of a rational representative and comprehensive system of protected areas



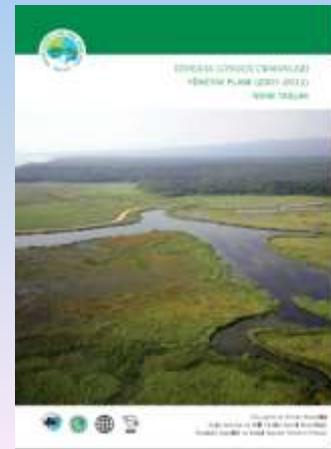
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# Recommendations on establishing effective and efficient and consistent management of individual protected areas

1. Require administering authorities for all protected areas to prepare management plans (including budgets and financial plans) to standard formats.
2. Introduce a standard format and system for protected area monitoring and reporting.
3. Develop and disseminate operational guidelines for sustainable protected area management.



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# Recommendations on governance structures at the national level

1. Reorganise the Natural Resources and Biodiversity Division in the Ministry of Environment to include a Protected Areas Unit.
2. Amend the role of the State Ecological Inspectorate with respect to protected areas.
3. Clarify and strengthen the role of the National Scientific Authority.
4. Convene the General Scientific Board for Protected Areas as a 'National Protected Area Coordination Council' with wider membership.
5. Reconvene the national Man and Biosphere Committee.
6. Finalise and approve the Law on Landscapes and establish the State National Committee on Landscapes.



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# Recommendations on the role of Moldsilva in protected areas management

1. Establish a unit in Moldsilva responsible for Protected Areas (under the Forest Fund Department).
2. Establish responsibilities for management of protected areas at the level of the forest enterprise.
3. Update and reorganise protected areas with their own administrations within Moldsilva.

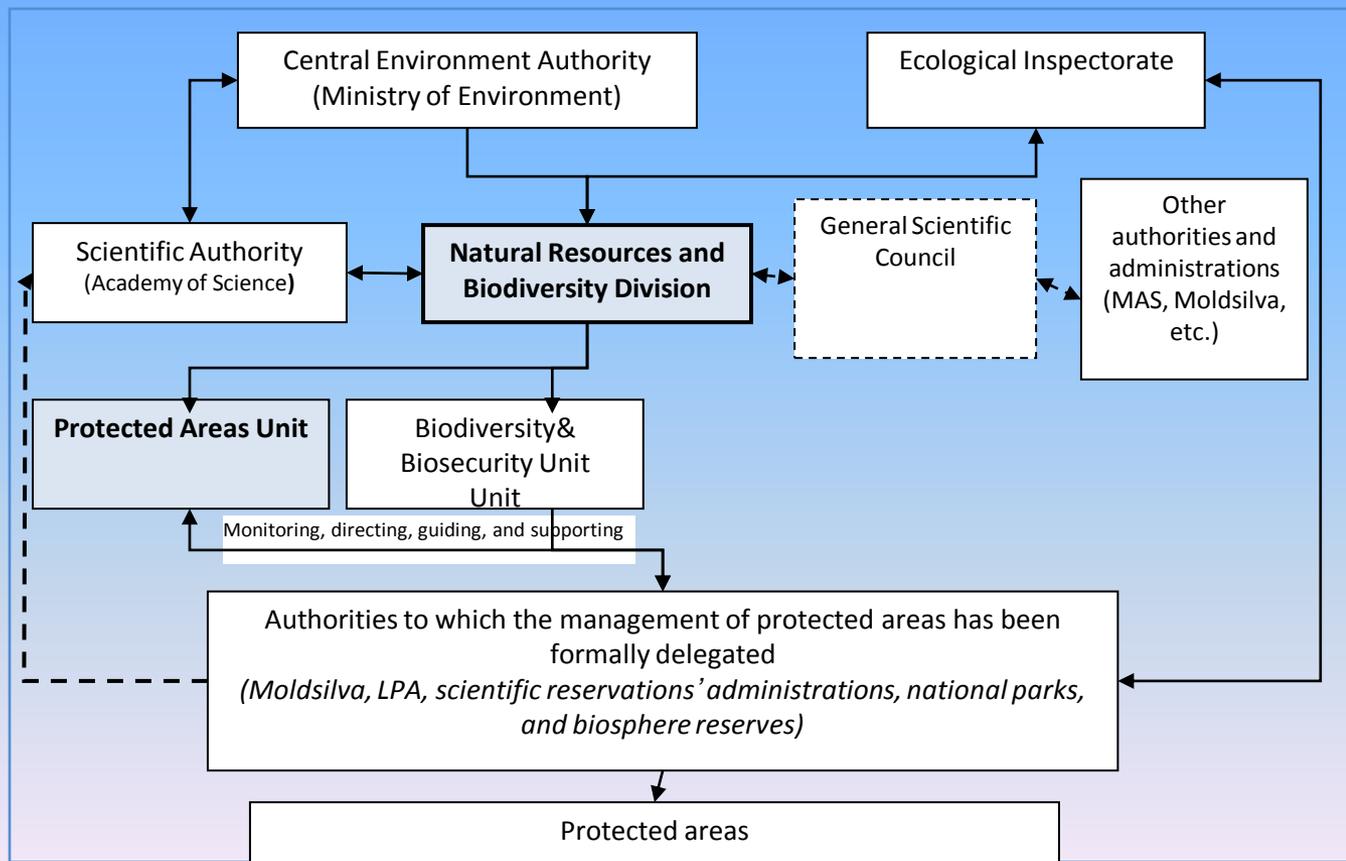


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# The recommended governance structures at the national level



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# Recommendations on strengthening and extending the decentralised management of protected areas



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# Recommendations on Financing and resourcing of protected areas

1. Prepare norms and standards for resourcing each category of protected area.
1. Prepare a detailed strategy and plan for long term financing of the protected areas system and for individual protected areas

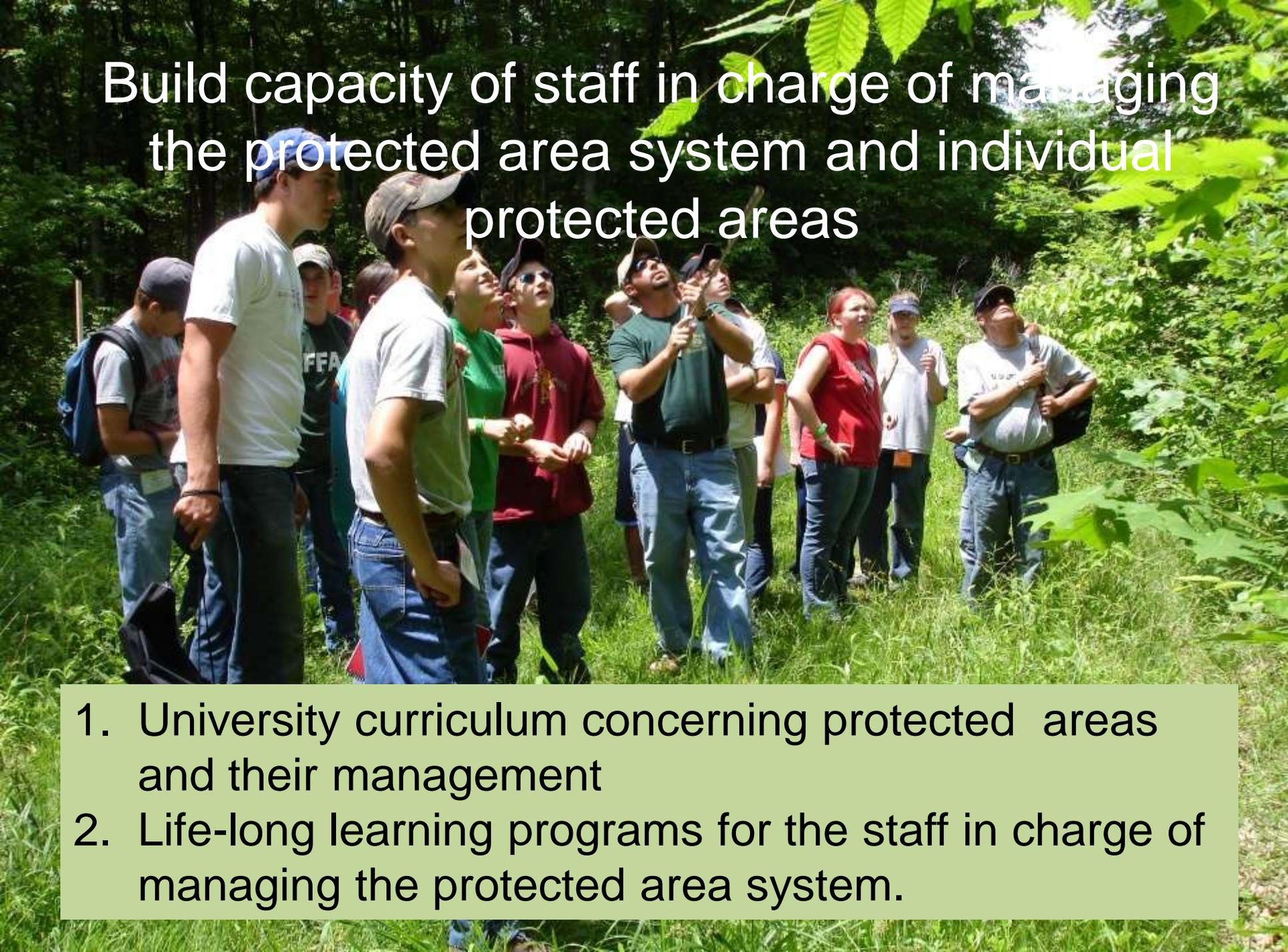


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# Build capacity of staff in charge of managing the protected area system and individual protected areas

A group of approximately 15 people, including staff and students, are gathered in a grassy field with trees in the background. They are engaged in a discussion or training session. Some are looking towards the right, while others are looking towards the center. The scene is outdoors and appears to be a field trip or a practical training exercise.

1. University curriculum concerning protected areas and their management
2. Life-long learning programs for the staff in charge of managing the protected area system.

# Recommendations for building public awareness and support for protected areas and public participation in management

1. Enhance the role of Non-Governmental Organisations and civil society in Protected Areas.
2. Establish stakeholder consultative committees for all major protected areas
3. Establish and maintain a public access website and information portal about protected Areas in Moldova.
4. Increase public awareness about the importance of protected areas and biodiversity conservation.



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# Recommendations on Legal Amendments



Amend relevant laws and regulations to incorporate accepted recommendations as required.

# Thank you !

**More detailed information at:  
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