

Soils Need People Who Talk About Soils!

Project: Soil Perception for Nature Guides in Protected Areas

Who?

Nature guides in protected areas are

- ❖ Experienced visitor guides
- ❖ Professionals of informal environmental education

The project aims at raising the interest of nature guides on the soil topic, in order to enable them to work as competent **multipliers** for visitors in protected areas.



Where?

Biosphere reserves and other protected areas provide a lot of recreational activities and information for their visitors, especially concerning flora and fauna.

„Soil“ is underrepresented in this context. The special educational mandate of UNESCO Biosphere reserves provides a good starting point for the soil perception project .



What?

Nature guides use a wide range of topics and themes for their guided tours. These may include natural history, cultural aspects, literary topics or even art themes.

Nearly all themes provide good hooks for additional soil topics:

- ❖ Landscape – Soil landscape
- ❖ Land use - current and historical
- ❖ Landscape elements (walls, stone graves, artificial hills...)
- ❖ Regional building materials (boulders, bricks, loam)
- ❖ etc...



How?

Specialised further education for nature guides in protected areas as part of their regular advanced training:

1.) Basic Workshop

Slogan: „Explore the invisible soil – landscape in the visible landscape of your protected area!“

2.) Individualised Advice

Development of an individualised concept for already existing visitor-tours, in order to newly integrate soil aspects in a way that „fit“ the individual guide's preferences and needs and so enriches his guided tours.

