Review of solutions for minimizing the invasive tourist and recreational activities in CEE countries

Sustainable tourism development in CEE countries have showed in many cases that the bottom-up cooperation in the destinations and common interest in nature protection results in formulation of a Tourist Access Code. The code may take various forms:

- as local custom (which says for example that the visitors respect “holy” or “private” property),
- as national law for biodiversity protection (which e.g. ask visitor to leave certain species of plants intact in the habitat),
- as zoning of nature protected areas (which e.g. gives the visitor right to enter and remind quiet and follow only the indicated route),
- as local management plan (which e.g. indicates place for tourism infrastructure and activity in the region),
- and many others.

Some of these forms have legislative power, some not. But all of them need monitoring according to the real impact on the environment. The trouble always is that very often neither local authorities, nor nature protection authorities, nor local people know how to proceed. Once an access code is broken, they do not know what to do. The action in that case need to be taken “in the moment”. It is certainly not easy as the negative impacts are connected very often to luck of stuff, corruption, luck of organization, luck of awareness etc. But there are certainly good examples of practical solutions.

Therefore STWG has prepared a review of solutions for minimizing the invasive tourist and recreational activities in CEE countries. The first aim of the review is then to show the examples of successful management of tourism activities which lead to negative impact on the environment. Secondly the review shows the suggested potential solutions.