



Research line 2

Biodiversity and land use restrictions

This research line investigates human behaviour related to protected areas and biodiversity. It explores narratives associated with the human impact of land use in areas which are protected due to their ecological function or unique biodiversity, such as national parks or Natura2000 sites. The research line also covers activities in the vicinity of protected areas which could have significant impact (e.g. illegal waste dumping).

Research approach

Narratives associated with informal use and human impact of protected areas will be investigated. The human and behavioral perspective complies with ACCTING's intersectional approach and includes vulnerable groups in outermost regions, while considering the urban-rural context. The research will be implemented as five case studies **in Bulgaria, Hungary, Portugal, Romania, and Turkey.**

Research Cycle #1

May 2022 – April 2023

Narrative interviews combined with a set of case-specific sub questions will be the main method to explore the situation at selected sites.

Acknowledging the informality and the "illegal" status of activities, relevant authorities or representatives of affected communities will be reached through interviews.

Cases which include communities acting as "agents of change" will be identified and covered where present.

Research Cycle #2

April 2023 – January 2025

Research line partners will focus on the impact pathways of biodiversity protection on vulnerable groups.

Vice versa, a second focus will be the impact pathways emphasising the active role of vulnerable groups for biodiversity protection.

Identified impact pathways will be validated with active members of vulnerable groups.

Expected impacts

Interviews will identify the inequalities due to biodiversity protection restrictions experienced by specific groups of high-value natural areas beneficiaries.

Overall, the range of narratives will provide insights in existing and potential conflicts. Natural resources often create an “emotional” ownership of users who in the long run can also become agents of change. Narratives will highlight the specific role of vulnerable groups as agents of change.

About ACCTING

ACCTING is an EU-funded project aiming to understand the impact of Green Deal policies on vulnerable groups, prevent inequalities, and produce knowledge and innovations to advance behavioural change at individual and collective levels.

Running until May 2025 and based on two research cycles, ACCTING mobilises research experimentation and innovation to promote an inclusive and socially just European Green Deal, focusing on the inequalities produced by its policies.

Find out more about the project goals, methodology and timeline, and discover more factsheets at <https://accting.eu>

Contact us: accting-eu@esf.org

 [@company/accting/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/accting/)

 [@ACCTING_EU](https://twitter.com/ACCTING_EU)

Authorship and acknowledgment

Contact persons: Felix Martin Gajdusek and Gabor Szudi (Zentrum für Soziale Innovation)

Contributing partners: IGOT, ZSI, ZSI UAIC, SU.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101036504