

Imagining cultures of cooperation: Universities networking to face the new development challenges

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PARTICIPATORY METHODOLOGIES FOR A RESPONSIBLE TOURISM: THE ZINAVE NATIONAL PARK (MOZAMBIQUE)

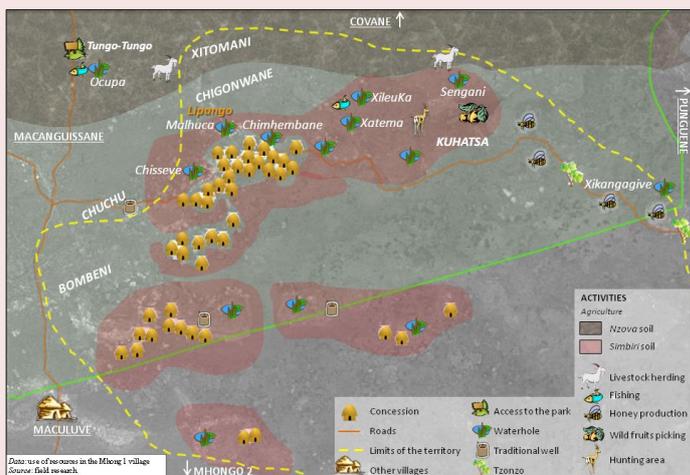
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Abstract

The Zinave National Park (Mozambique), included in a system of protected areas as the **Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park**, is the experimental area for the application of a particular form of involvement of local communities in the conservative actions: the **community conservation**. As part of a *Ph.D. thesis*^{*}, it was carried out a field research in order to recover the local knowledge and the traditional values about the use of resources in the villages located within the protected area to achieve this implicative form.



The traditional status of the villages in the Zinave National Park



The system of use of resources in the village of Mhongo 1 in the PNZ

Conclusion

The field data were used to bring out the **systems that govern the territory**, recovering local knowledge, and has allowed to highlight some conflict situations about: i. **land ownership**, for the competition between Park and local communities and for the change of the boundaries of the protected area; ii. **use of resources**, due to the incompatibility of the hunting, fishing and agriculture with the environmental management of the Park; iii. **tourism**, for the difficulty of achieving a sustainable system that will ensure the practice of tourism without causing negative impacts on the land system and the local production.

Achieved results

Through the **observation**, the **inquiry** and the use of **participatory mapping** have been investigated the **traditional status** and the **organization of the villages** of PNZ recovering the **systems of resource use**. In particular, the research has allowed to realize:

- the **census of 25 villages**, ever before cartographically represented, and the reconstruction of their traditional organizational structure;
- an in-depth analysis of **two sample villages**, Mongho 1 and Makitchile, recovering their traditional system of resource use;
- the study of the potentiality of a **sustainable tourism development** as an alternative activity to the livelihood of local communities, in view of the implementation of new regulations for the use of resources in the Park.

Objectives

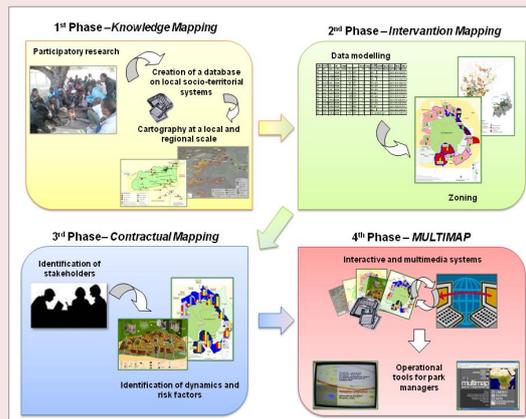
The research has highlighted the importance of the territorial organization of local communities for the recovery of **spatial capital**^{**} in order to manage and develop tourism in the African protected areas.

Methodological approach

The **SIGAP Strategy** is a **participatory methodology of research** based on: i. **field work** for collecting data; ii. **mapping systems** for communicating results. In particular, this research presents the application of the first phase knowledge-based of that strategy, who allowed the creation of a **participatory database**, that was digitized in order to realize **GIS cartographic documents**, useful to improve the **environmental governance** and the **participation of the people** in the field of environmental conservation and promotion of tourism initiatives.



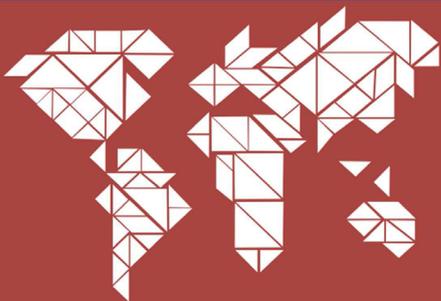
The Zinave National Park and the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park



The SIGAP Strategy

^{*} The PhD thesis in Geography of Development entitled "The Transfrontier Conservation Area of Great Limpopo: participation and tourism promotion in the Zinave National Park (Mozambique)", is coordinated by Prof. Emanuela Casti, head of the Diathesis Cartographic Laboratory of the University of Bergamo (www.unibg.it/diathesis). The defense is expected for the beginning of 2014.

^{**} The term *spatial capital* refers to the heritage of places, territories and networks built up by a social actor and the set of skills acquired over time to manage it, which can give benefits for his own survival (J. Levy, M. Lussault, Dictionnaire de la Géographie, Belin, Paris, 2003, p. 124-126.)



Immaginare culture della cooperazione: le Università in rete per le nuove sfide dello sviluppo

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OLTRE LA CARTOGRAFIA PARTECIPATIVA.
Raccolta coordinate con palmari GPS
e condivisione di Geodati via web (2.0)

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Introduzione

In Mozambico, a sud del fiume Save, lungo 40km di Savana semidesertica compresa tra il 33° e il 34° meridiano, si trovano insediate sei comunità investite da un coraggioso progetto di *ecoturismo* finanziato dalla Banca Mondiale e appoggiato da altri attori tra cui l'Ong italiana LVIA.

Tra l'ottobre e il dicembre 2012, sono stato incaricato di realizzare una rappresentazione cartografica delle risorse culturali e naturali della regione.

Approccio metodologico

Attraverso la cartografia partecipativa ho svolto la prima parte del lavoro. Successivamente, i luoghi segnalati nella carta disegnata insieme a rappresentanti del villaggio, sono stati rintracciati sul terreno e georiferiti con un comune GPS. Tornato dietro la scrivania, i dati raccolti sono stati organizzati in un geodatabase tramite semplici funzioni del software QuantumGIS.

I geodati - esportati in formato shapefile da Qgis - con pochi semplici passaggi sono poi stati pubblicati - senza alcun costo - sul rivoluzionario portale Mangomap.com.

Obiettivi e risultati ottenuti

Oltre alla manifestazione in scala ridotta del territorio investigato, uno dei risultati più affascinanti raggiunti attraverso la cartografia partecipativa risiede nel processo di autocoscienza che talvolta coinvolge i partecipanti al disegno della carta. La fase di rilievo GPS, invece, permette di conoscere in prima persona ogni singolo luogo degno di nota delle comunità.

Infine l'esportazione sul web consente di analizzare e comunicare in modo dinamico e multiscalare le realtà sociali, culturali e ambientali conosciute sul campo.

Conclusioni

Ogni luogo nasconde ponti e dirupi. Ecco perché l'attività diagnostica qui illustrata dovrebbe essere considerata indispensabile per aiutare (tutti) a capire, dove siamo, dove vogliamo andare e qual è la strada migliore da percorrere.



I links che seguono portano ad un blog dal quale è possibile accedere alla carta dinamica.
Following the links you can read it in English and access to an interesting dynamic-map.

www.mapitlab.blogspot.com.br

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