

FACTS & FIGURES OF PROTECTED SITES IN HUNGARY

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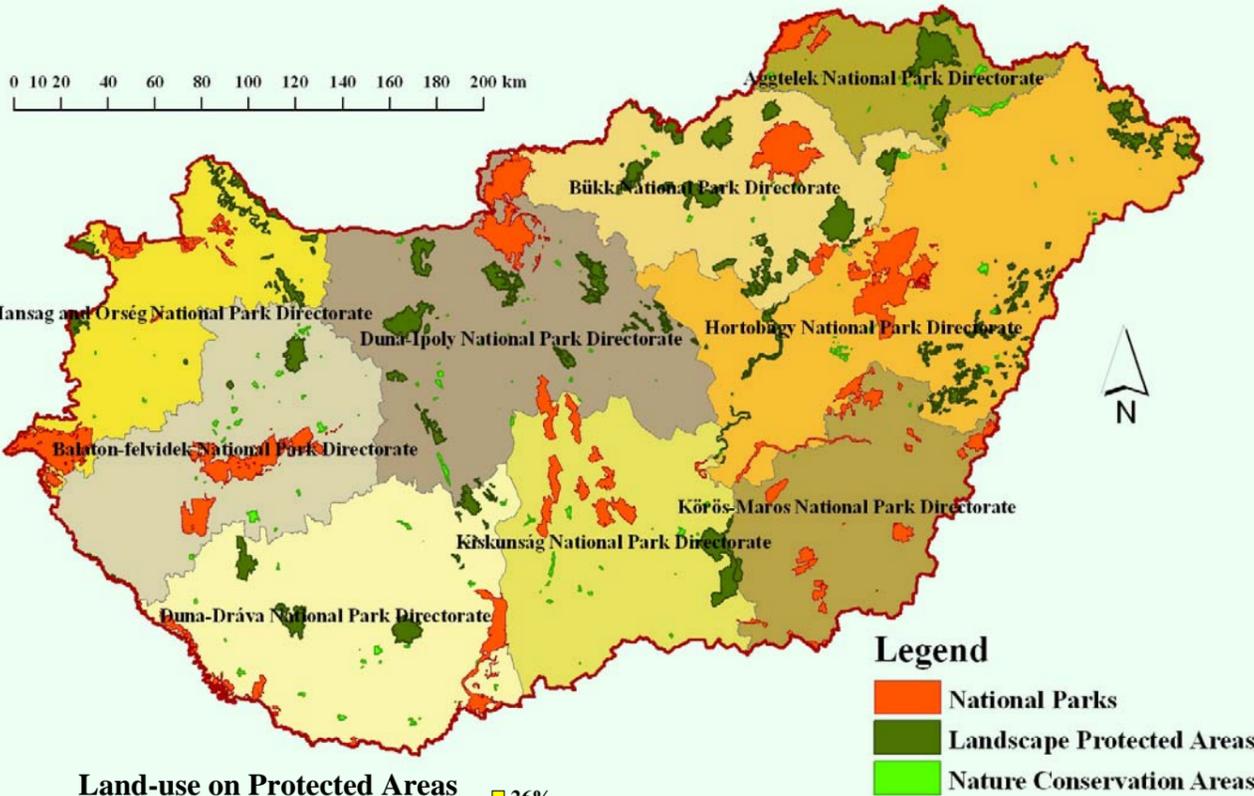
Protected Sites of National Importance

In Hungary the proportion of the protected natural areas grew to 10.4% of the country's area, including the registered, 'ex lege' protected bogs, mires and sodic lakes (the size of nature conservation areas has grown the most during 2006). Nowadays 10 national parks, 37 landscape protection areas, 162 nature conservation areas and 1 natural monument – all qualified as protected natural areas of national significance protected by specific regulations – existed in Hungary on 31 December 2007. In the last reporting period (2004-2007) 9,942 hectares became protected.

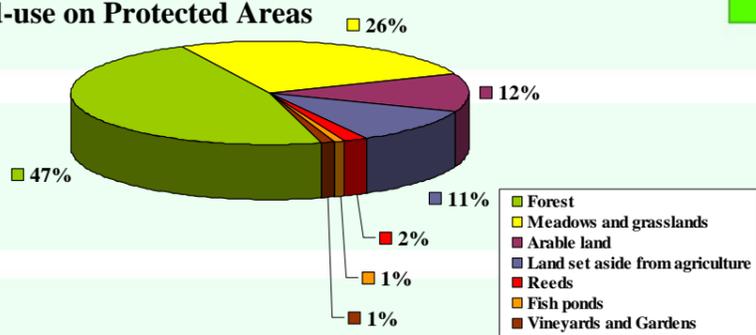
Hungary plans to increase the total area under protection by 180,000 hectares in the next 10 years.

Ownership is a key issue in the implementation of the nature conservation objectives. This target is typically implemented by land purchases (appropriations) of the state and by the transfer of management rights to the nature conservation competent authorities (National Park Directorates).

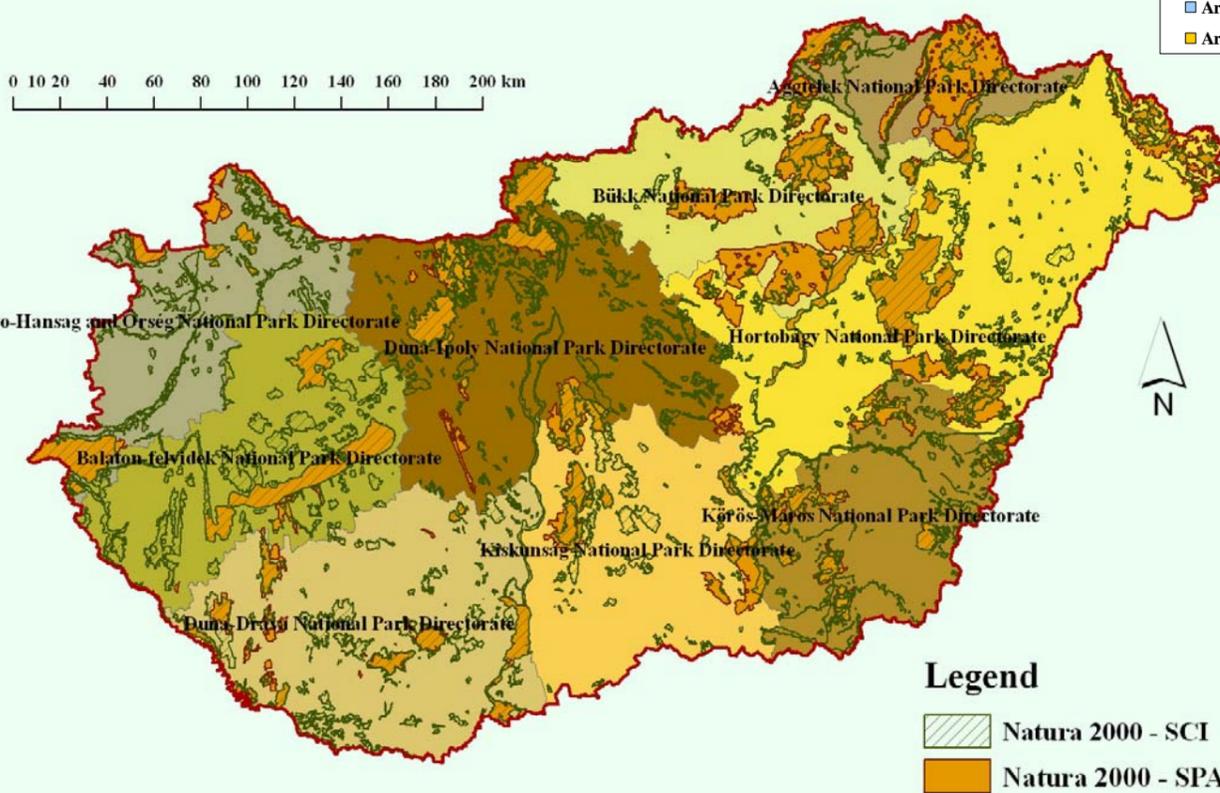
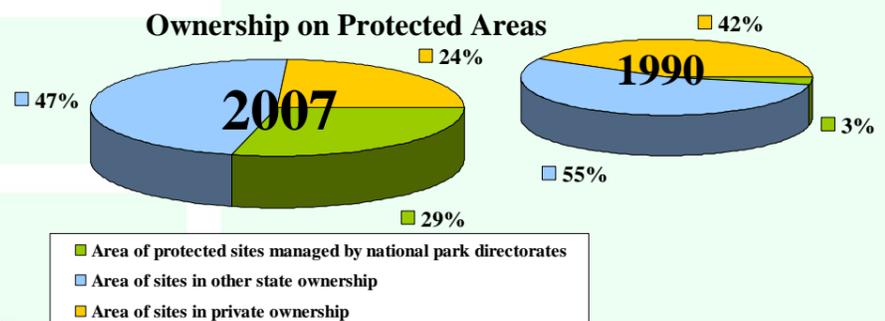
Act on the Restoration of the Level of Protection of Protected Natural Areas (1995), largely contributed to the success of this process. According to that Act, approximately another 100,000 hectares of lands are expected to be purchased by the state. Furthermore, the transfer of the management rights of state-owned areas previously managed by other agencies, such as the Ministry of Defence and water authorities to the national park directorates also represent an important achievement as well.



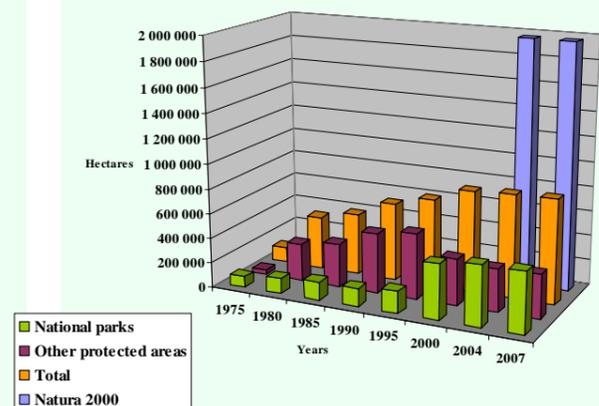
Land-use on Protected Areas



Ownership on Protected Areas



Natura 2000 Sites



After the accession of Hungary to the European Union, the Natura 2000 network – which forms part of the National Ecological Network and also protected to some extent – has been established. Special provisions and restrictions apply to the areas of this network which facilitate the protection and conservation of these areas. 55 special protection areas and 467 proposed sites of Community interest show a 38% overlap with the protected natural areas of national relevance.