



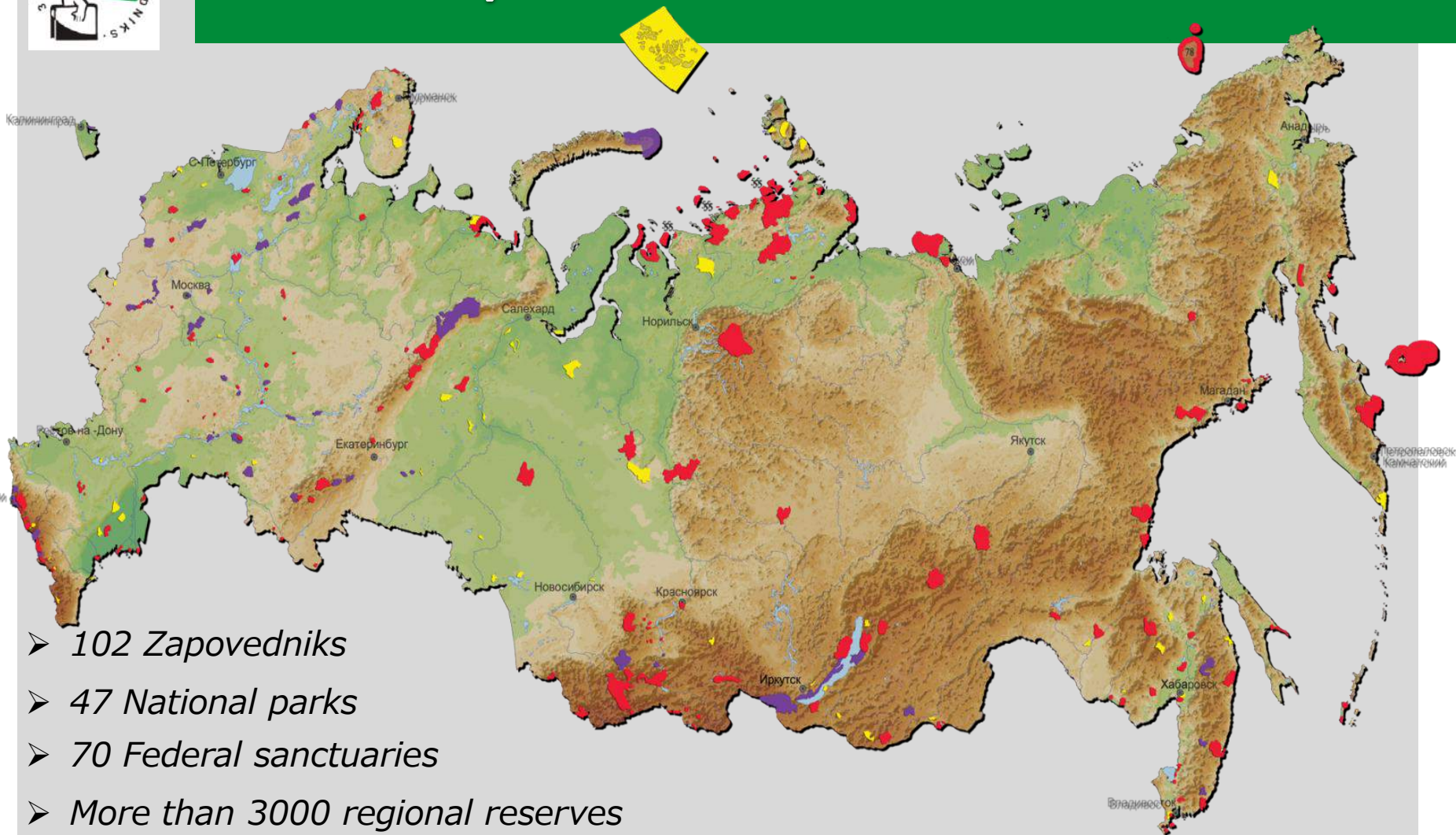
Environmental education Centre "Zapovedniks"

Moscow, Russia

Olga Khimchenko



Russian System of Federal-level Protected Areas



- 102 Zapovedniks
- 47 National parks
- 70 Federal sanctuaries
- More than 3000 regional reserves
- More than 10000 nature monuments of regional and local level

In total protected areas cover about 12% of Russia



Centre "Zapovedniks":

Environmental Education Centre "Zapovedniks" – working since 1996 in the field of environmental education and capacity building for protected areas in the Russian Federation.

Mission Centre:

Improving of public awareness and support on Protected Areas in Russia

Goals and objectives Centre:

- Improving the efficiency of the system of Protected Areas in Russia through professional development specialists.
- Providing consulting services in the design of environmental educational and tourism infrastructure for PA.
- Promotion of the best practice and innovative approaches to the management of protected areas.
- Tourism strategy development for PAs including local people involvement





Centre "Zapovedniks":

- Team of 10 employees
- Network of more than 60 PAs experts, including PA managers, specialists on environmental education and tourism, researchers, designers, etc
- Cooperation with the leading Russian and international environmental organizations
- Membership in IUCN and GEF NGOs
- Cooperation with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental of Russia, regional environmental agencies, governments of Moscow, Republics of Tatarstan, Bashkortostan, the Public Chamber of Russia
- Participation in international environmental activities, including those related to implementation of the Convention on Biodiversity, and others.





PAs Training Center (success stories):

- The concept of environmental education in zapovedniks (Russian traditional nature reserves) and national parks of Russia was developed, confirmed by the Government and implemented in protected areas.
- A new job position - “environmental education specialist” – was developed and confirmed by the Ministry of Natural Resources.
- Training Centre for PA staff in Russia was developed and work. More than 4000 people from 4 countries (Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan) have been trained on Centres seminars and international study tours.
- The network of training centers for PA was created and works successfully in 4 countries (Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Belarus and Russia)



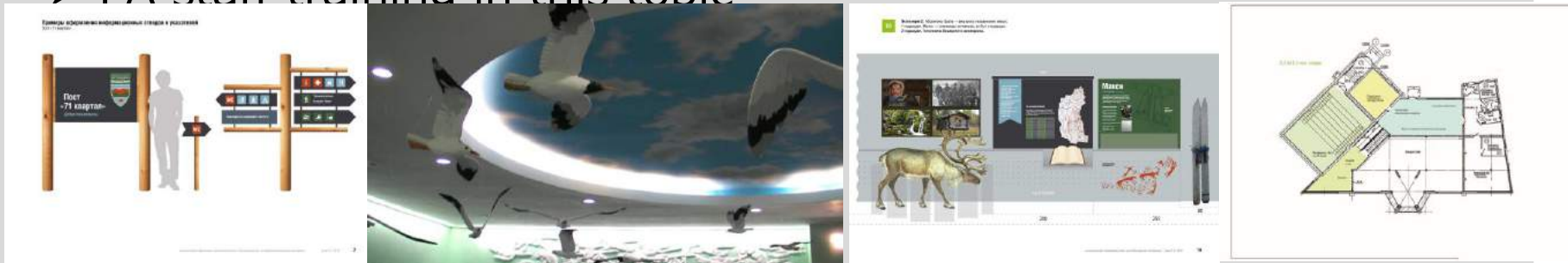


Designing visiting infrastructure for PAs



Development of ecological trails and visitor center expositions in PAs

- creation of a database of best practice to establish an visiting infrastructure in protected areas
- creation design project of visit centres and trails for protected areas
- PA staff training in this topic





International Volunteer Program:



- Promotion PAs volunteer activities in Russia
- Training of PAs staff for the development of volunteer programs
- Organisation of 5-8 international volunteers camps in cooperation with zapovedniks and national parks of every year

Center – the member of SCI (Service Civil International) , Alliance of European Voluntary Service Organisations and YEE (Youth and Environment Europe).





Environmental education for children and youth "PAs Friends":



- Development and replication of modern interactive methods of environmental education in the school and in nature (more than 20 programs, methodics and books).
- Coordination of all-Russia movement "Friends of Protected Areas"
- Organization of educational events (4 All Russian festivals, 13 Moscow city festivals, more than 30 children's environmental





Sustainable tourism on PAs



- Development of local and regional strategies of environmental, educational and rural tourism in collaboration with Pas.
- Catalyzing civil activities and local social-economic initiatives using the potential of protected areas and PA-based NGOs
- Organization of inter-sector cooperation for the conservation of natural and cultural heritage and tourism.





Challenges and problems

New challenge: Development of visitation in Protected Areas System

Problems:

- Growth of anthropogenic pressure on the PA
- Lack of infrastructure for tourism and system of certification
- Lack of investment in tourism development
- Not enough public support: not enough knowledge about the role of PA in biodiversity conservation, potential in the development of local economies.
- Passive attitude of local community and poverty and unemployment in remote areas of Russia

New tasks:

- Training of PAs staff in the field of management of ecotourism.
- Interaction with local people: environmental education, raising of public awareness, creation nature friendly business on surrounding areas .
- Attract government support and investment for the development of eco-tourism at the regional, national and international levels.



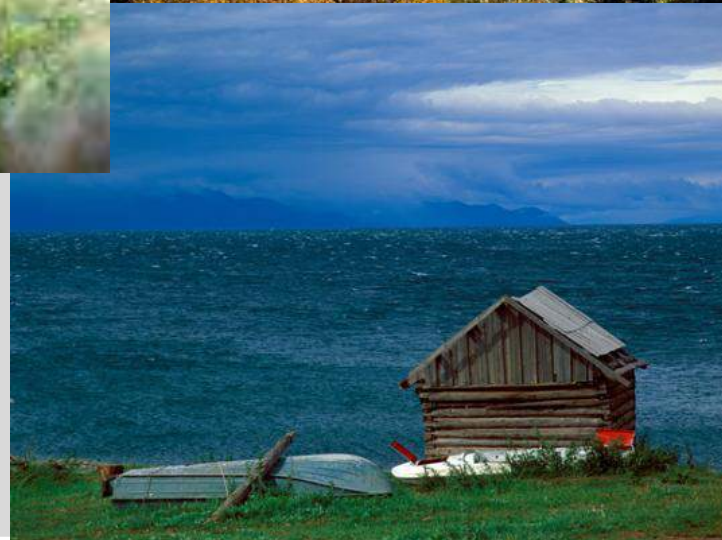
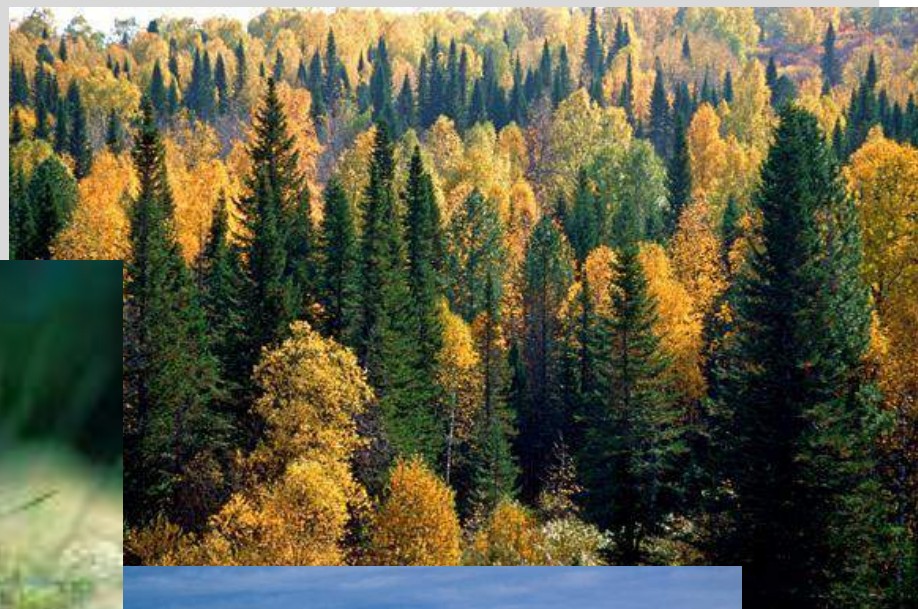


Welcome to my country! Kenozersky National Park





Welcome to my country! Baikal



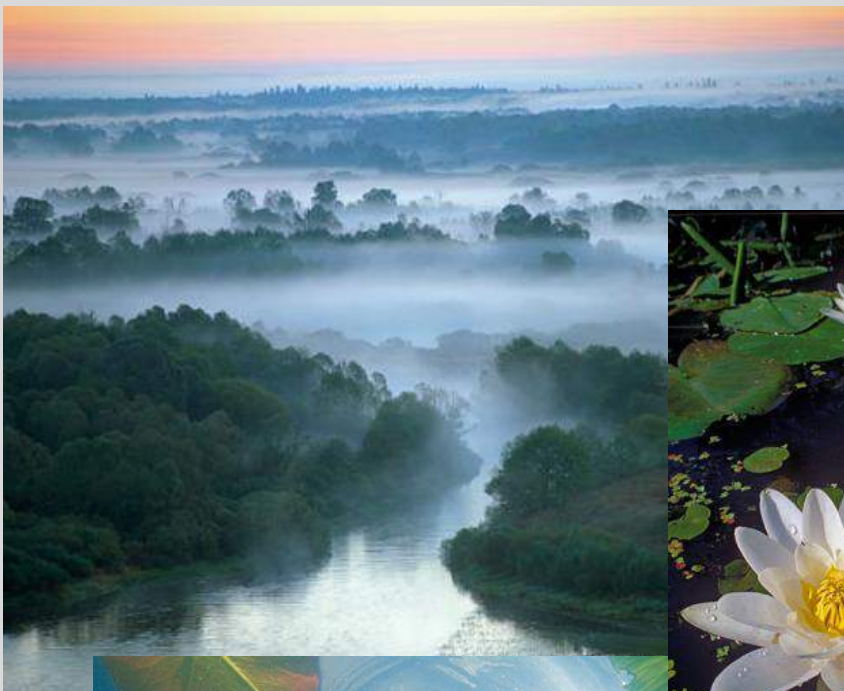


Welcome to my country! Caucasus





Welcome to my country! Bryansk forest





Welcome to my country! Kamchatka





Centre "Zapovedniks" invites all :

who are interested in protection of natural and cultural heritage,
in development of environmental education and sustainable
tourism in Protected areas.



Olga Khimchenko, PR coordinator; volunteer coordinator

Tel/fax: +7(495) 6262857, e-mail:
ecocenterzapovedniks@gmail.com

www.wildnet.ru