

## National Park as a Social Corporation

Dr. Yoram Krozer  
Cartesius Institute,  
Institute for Sustainable Innovations of the Netherlands Technical Universities  
Leeuwarden, 22-5-2006  
[krozer@xs4all.nl](mailto:krozer@xs4all.nl)  
tel. + 31 6 51 23 13 71

Abstract for the BEST Think Tank Conference at the University of Girona in Catalonia, Spain, on June 13-16, 2006

Authorities of National Parks, areas mandated to preserve natural and cultural heritage as an option value for society, are under pressure to enlarge a present value of the parks by income generation, which is perceived a burden on the option. A question is posed how to govern the National Parks. After brief introduction of diversity of the Parks on a few continents, it is illustrated for the National Park Alde Faenen that some income can be generated without distorting the option but on the contrary, it can enlarging the option value. Cost-benefit assessment indicates short payback of environment-based products and services, which are called sustainable innovations. It is argued that governance of the National Parks is a problem because the organization resists sustainable innovations. The decision making engages public organizations whereas land is private. For sustainable innovations could be strengthened by private decisions within strict framework devoted to the public interest. A turnaround can be corporation, a co-operative of regional private interests with a statutory framework imposing to preserve the option value. It is practical elaboration of theoretical proposal of Mishan from the sixties to introduce amenity rights that can be privately hold to maintain the option value of nature and cultural heritage.