

CARPATHIAN EXPO

11 October 2023 | 15:00 – 18:00 | CC COP7 venue

The Carpathian Expo event of the Carpathian Convention COP7 brings together policy makers, researchers and practitioners to share their invaluable experience, expertise and ideas at the COP7. As a crucial partner in fostering a thriving and sustainable Carpathian region, regional and local actors were invited by the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention to participate in the Carpathian Expo.

The Carpathian Expo seeks to promote the projects and activities relevant for the Carpathian Convention, facilitate exchange and networking among the stakeholders, and give space to brainstorm about future projects. The invited actors will deliver a 3-minute pitch about their project and activities; represent their projects at a booth to display project materials, publications, roll-ups, posters and more; and brainstorm with other stakeholders on new project ideas and activities, partnership opportunities and further actions relevant for the Carpathian region.

PROGRAMME

15:00 – 16:00 **Promote** the projects and activities relevant for the Carpathian Convention

16:00 – 17:00 Facilitate **exchange** and networking among the stakeholders

17:00 – 18:00 Give space to **brainstorm** about future projects

CARPATHIAN EXPO EXHIBITERS



NaturaConnect

PRESENTED BY MARTIN JUNG OF THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED SYSTEMS ANALYSIS

NaturaConnect aims to design and develop a blueprint for a truly coherent Trans-European Nature Network of conserved areas that protect at least 30% of land in the European Union. Funded by Horizon-Europe, it will continue from 2022 to 2026. NaturaConnect will create a range of new openly available data products and spatial intelligence to aid implementation of European policy agendas, natural restoration, and green and blue infrastructure.

The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) is a non-governmental research organization founded in 1972, located in Laxenburg, Austria. IIASA conducts interdisciplinary scientific studies on environmental, economic, technological and social issues in the context of human dimensions of global change in a politically independent setting.



TRANSGREEN, ConnectGREEN and SaveGREEN

PRESENTED BY HILDEGARD MEYER OF THE WORLD WILDLIFE FUND
CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

From June 2017 until December 2022, WWF-CEE and WWF-RO conducted three projects on various aspects of ecological connectivity:

TRANSGREEN – Integrated Transport and Green Infrastructure Planning in the Danube-Carpathian Region for the Benefit of People and Nature.

ConnectGREEN – Restoring and Managing Ecological Corridors in Mountains as the Green Infrastructure in the Danube Basin.

SaveGREEN – Safeguarding the Functionality of Transnationally Important Ecological Corridors in the Danube Basin.

World Wildlife Fund Central and Eastern Europe (WWF-CEE)

coordinates WWF-CEE's offices in Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine. As a collaborator of the Carpathian Convention, WWF-CEE has implemented various projects related to the Convention Action Plans, including large carnivores, biodiversity, forests, protected areas, wetlands and ecological connectivity.



CENTRALPARKS

PRESENTED BY MIRCEA VERGHELET OF THE CARPATHIAN NETWORK OF
PROTECTED AREAS AND ISIDORO DE BORTOLI OF EURAC RESEARCH

CENTRALPARKS promotes joint actions for integrated management of biodiversity through transnational thematic task forces and expert involvement from Carpathian countries. The project will develop and test innovative environmental management tools and encourage transnational networking. Strategies developed by CENTRALPARKS will be endorsed by the Carpathian Convention at the COP7.

Eurac Research is a private research center founded in 1992 in Bozen, Italy (South Tyrol). Eurac's cross-disciplinary research develops concrete solutions for keeping societies healthy, fostering intact environments, promoting sustainable energy, and developing well-functioning political and social systems. Eurac addresses regional problems and global application by opening new paths with science and innovation.

The Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA) is a tool for implementing the Carpathian Convention by representing the interests of Carpathian protected areas to national and international authorities. CNPA promotes cooperation between Carpathian protected areas, and between Carpathian protected areas and other mountain ranges.

CarpathianNature

PRESENTED BY ZBIGNIEW NIEWIADOMSKI OF ECOPSYCHOLOGY ASSOCIATION

CarpathianNature is a proposed project to support transboundary cooperation of nature protection services in Polish and Ukrainian parts of the Carpathian region by enhancing implementation of the Biodiversity Protocol and building their operational capacities.

Ecopsychology Association in Poland has implemented 22 projects supporting the Carpathian Convention since 2003 and coordinated two strategies elaborated under the CENTRALPARKS project, which will be endorsed at COP7.



BioLine: Restoration of Biodiversity and connectivity for ecological management of powerLINE corridors in Danube – Carpathian region

PRESENTED BY RASTISLAV RYBANIČ OF THE SLOVAK ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY / BIRDLIFE SLOVAKIA

The BioLine project aims at testing and introducing ecological powerline management to ensure safe distribution of energy and boost natural habitat restoration and migration connectivity for biodiversity in the Danube – Carpathian region. Energy companies, universities and nature conservation organisations from Czechia, Hungary, Serbia, Slovakia and Ukraine partnered together to make powerline corridor management ecologically work for nature.

The Slovak Ornithological Society / BirdLife Slovakia is an NGO and BirdLife International Partner in Slovakia, whose main mission is the protection and research of nature, especially wild birds and their habitats. It focuses on the protection of species, habitats and sites; conservation research; environmental policy; and environmental education.

Alpine Biodiversity Board

PRESENTED BY PAOLO ANGELINI OF THE ITALIAN MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY SECURITY

The activities of the Alpine Biodiversity Board contribute to 1) awareness and knowledge of mountain biodiversity and its specificity at the international and national level to support its integration in international and national policies; 2) achieving the European

biodiversity targets in the Alps and implementing the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030; and 3) supporting global ecosystem restoration efforts.

The Alpine Convention is the first international treaty aimed at the sustainable development and protection of an entire mountain range. The XV Alpine Conference recognised the key role of biodiversity by establishing an Alpine Biodiversity Board, which serves as a platform to bring together different stakeholders and facilitate dialogue.



Information Systems for Biodiversity Policy and Reporting

PRESENTED BY PHILIP BUBB OF UNEP-WCMC

This project aims to develop capacity and guidance materials for governments to have information systems and indicators for biodiversity policy and reporting. The information system guidance materials were developed by the UNEP Regional Office for Europe with the Ministries of Environment of Ukraine and Moldova. Products will be available in November 2023.

UNEP-WCMC is a centre of global excellence in biodiversity, working at the interface of science, policy and practice to tackle the global nature crisis to develop knowledge and capacity for a nature-positive world.



Supporting the coexistence and conservation of Carpathian Large Carnivores - LECA

PRESENTED BY MARTIN DUL'A OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREST ECOLOGY, MENDEL UNIVERSITY

In recent years, conflicts between large carnivores and humans have increased, but for unknown reasons because data is not collected in a harmonised way across borders. **The LECA project** introduces a consistent and efficient monitoring approach involving local stakeholders for up-to-date population information, coupled with effective conflict prevention measures.

The Department of Forest Ecology, Mendel University in Brno is a public institution with a long tradition of excellence in teaching and research that has driven new ways of thinking since 1919 and proudly bears the name of Gregor Johann Mendel, founder of modern genetics.



Successful wildlife crime prosecution in Europe (SWiPE): Addressing human-wildlife conflict in Europe

PRESENTED BY CRISTIAN-REMUS PAPP OF WORLD WILDLIFE FUND
ROMANIA

The **SWiPE project** was launched to discourage and reduce wildlife crimes by improving compliance with EU environmental law, and to contribute to a more successful prosecution of wildlife crimes. The project comprised 13 partners in 11 European countries under the funding of the LIFE Programme.

WWF Romania is a key player in biodiversity conservation in the Carpathians. It focuses on conserving the most valuable biodiversity elements—from species like large carnivores, bison and sturgeons to forest and freshwater ecosystems—with the engagement and participation of key stakeholders.



Policy Guidance on Tackling Riverine Plastic Pollution in the Danube River Basin

PRESENTED BY GERGELY HANKÓ OF THE HUNGARIAN ASSOCIATION OF
ENVIRONMENTAL ENTERPRISES

The **Danube River** carries almost 1,500 tonnes of waste to the Black Sea each year, and its most polluted tributary is the Tisza. The project aims to prevent pollution with technology and knowledge transfer, transboundary cleanup actions and through strategic and legislative recommendations to decision-makers.

The **Hungarian Association of Environmental Enterprises (HAE)** is the largest Hungarian environmental advocacy organization, whose 265 members are key players in the Hungarian green industry and environmental activities. For more than 30 years, the HAE coordinates and educates actors in Hungarian environmental protection and the environmental industry, partnering with policymakers and stakeholders to promote members' demands at national and international levels.



Wetland Projects in the Carpathian Region

PRESENTED BY JÁN KADLEČÍK OF CARPATHIAN WETLAND INITIATIVE,
HENK ZINGSTRA AND SILKE NAUTA OF WETLANDS INTERNATIONAL
EUROPE, AND PAVOL POLÁK OF DAPHNE - INSTITUTE OF APPLIED
ECOLOGY



Carpathian Wetland Initiative: The CWI is a platform for developing relevant projects with partners and helps implement training activities on wetland restoration with the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic. **The CWI** is the Ramsar Regional Initiative that facilitates international cooperation and supports improved implementation of the Convention on Wetlands in the Carpathian region.

Natural Sponges: Sponge restoration aims to restore the natural water-absorbing capacity of drained soils in European middle-mountain regions, contributing to flood and drought management. **Wetlands International Europe** is a partner organization of the CWI and strives to raise awareness and advocate for the sustainable use of wetlands for people and nature by linking science, policy and practice.

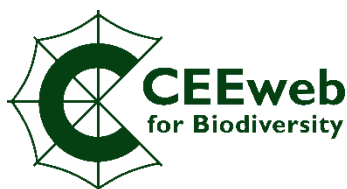
Ecohydrological Restoration of Peatlands in the Western Carpathians: The project aims to reduce CO₂ emissions by restoring fragile wetland habitats and degraded peatlands in Slovakia to regenerate their function as carbon sinks. **Daphne - Institute of Applied Ecology** is partner organization of the CWI focused on nature conservation and environmental education by managing and restoring non-forest ecosystems and mapping and monitoring species and habitats.



Assessment of Climate Risks and Adaptation Options for Carpathian Forests and Their Services

PRESENTED BY WILLIAM KEETON OF THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT,
ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CARPATHIAN CONVENTION

At the 6th meeting of the Carpathian Convention Conference of the Parties, an assessment of the impacts of climate change on the Carpathian forests and their ecosystems services was called for by relevant Carpathian Convention Working Groups and with support of the Convention Secretariat. Working closely with the National Focal Points, the Secretariat obtained detailed information on key risks, climate impacts, and adaptation options for the resulting assessment report.



Game On! Don't let climate change end the game!

PRESENTED BY THOR MORANTE OF CEEweb FOR BIODIVERSITY

Game On! is a 4-year project working on activating youth to face the existential threat climate change represents for the future of humankind. The project has had a gamification approach to its mission of raising awareness of the challenges of and solutions to climate change, thus developing board games, mobile apps, climate comedy shows, intervening museums, and more.

Since 1994, **CEEweb**'s mission has been to work for the conservation of biodiversity through the promotion of sustainable development. CEEweb does so through advocacy, networking with decision-makers, implementing national and transnational projects, and carrying out capacity-building and raising-awareness activities.

Network of Education for Sustainable Development Experts in the Carpathians



PRESENTED BY TAMARA MITROFANENKO OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CARPATHIAN CONVENTION

The Carpathian Convention developed a **Carpathian Educational for Sustainable Development (ESD) Expert Network**, which aims to strengthen the Convention's networks, communication efforts and awareness-raising by facilitating cross-thematic linkages. The network brings together Party-nominated governmental experts, NGO practitioners, teachers and academic experts engaged in activities at the intersection of learning, education and sustainable development. The network aims to become embedded into the Convention structure to support project implementation and strengthen the science-policy-practice interface.

Carpathian Pastoralism and cooperation with International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) 2026



PRESENTED BY VERONICA BACIU OF THE NATIONAL AGENCY FOR MOUNTAIN AREA, IYRP

The IYRP 2026 is collaborating with the Secretariat, Working Group Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development, and Convention partners to strengthen collaboration, raise capacities and raise awareness about tradition, knowledge and practice of pastoralism in the Carpathian region: a leading topic for the Carpathian Convention in the coming years.

The National Agency of Mountain Area is under the direct subordination of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and has 7 regional centers and 32 mountain development offices. The agency's purpose is to implement government strategies and policies to develop and protect mountain areas.



eurac
research

CentralMountains

PRESENTED BY DAWID LASEK OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE CARPATHIAN EUROREGION POLAND AND ISIDORO DE BORTOLI OF EURAC RESEARCH

CentralMountains improves governance structures to achieve long-term, sustainable cooperation across borders in the Alpine-Carpathian Mountain areas. These cross-border and transnational cooperation structures will strengthen regional development and cohesion, while supporting autonomous operation, through modern participatory approaches.

The Association of the Carpathian Euroregion Poland (ACEP) was established in 2000 to support international, cross-border cooperation between five Carpathian countries: Poland, Ukraine, Slovakia, Romania and Hungary. ACEP'S mission is the socio-economic development of the Carpathians, especially through tourism. ACEP operates the Carpathian Common Sustainable Tourism Coordination Platform (CSTCP) and is implementing the brand CARPATHIA to make the Carpathians a global tourist destination.

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Information center
"Green Dossier"

Activities of Charity Information Center "Green Dossier"

PRESENTED BY TAMARA MALKOVA OF THE CHARITY INFORMATION CENTER "GREEN DOSSIER"

Recent activities of Green Dossier include strengthening the resilience of Ukrainians and their post-war green recovery, supporting Euro integration in Ukraine, implementing Education for Sustainable Development initiatives, and supporting the Aarhus Convention and the Carpathian Convention.

Charity Information Center "Green Dossier" has operated since September 1994 and their mission is to engage all people in addressing problems of environment and sustainable development and encourage public participation in decision making at various levels. Green Dossier promotes sustainable development principles in society by disseminating objective environmental and social information to media, local communities, government and businesses.

Serbia's Nature Expo - Ministry of Environmental Protection, Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

PRESENTED AT THE BOOTH

The presentation aims to provide a comprehensive and integrated presentation of the activities and measures implemented by the Ministry of Environmental Protection, the Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia and UNDP. The results of activities implemented in the protected areas of the Carpathian region and in other protected areas in the Republic of Serbia will be presented along with important projects in the field of environmental protection.

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and the Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia are the most important institutions in the Republic of Serbia that are responsible and thus implement activities pertaining to the protection, conservation and nature improvement. The continuous and efficient cooperation of these two institutions, along with UNDP, contributes to the management of existing and the declaration of new protected areas.

Carpathian Serbia - National Park Djerdap

PRESENTED AT THE BOOTH

Several projects conducted in National park Djerdap related to natural and cultural values of the region, geopark experiences and other activities will be presented. Since this area is considered as a future cross-border Ramsar site, wetlands will be emphasised.

National park Djerdap with its surroundings in Carpathian Serbia stands as unique natural and cultural value of Europe. Public enterprise "National park Djerdap" manages the territory of the national park and as well UNESCO Geopark Djerdap. With many different projects and activities, this area is becoming a pearl of biodiversity.
