



TAKING
COOPERATION
FORWARD



12th CARPATHIAN CONVENTION IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Krakow, Poland | 18th November 2021



**UPDATE ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERREG CENTRAL EUROPE PROJECT
“CENTRALPARKS”**



Isidoro De Bortoli - Eurac Research

CENTRALPARKS - 12th CCIC



WPT1 Update

WPT2 Update

WPT3 Update

WPC Update

Final Conference
and next CNPA
event



WPT1 Update - Integration of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the Carpathian region



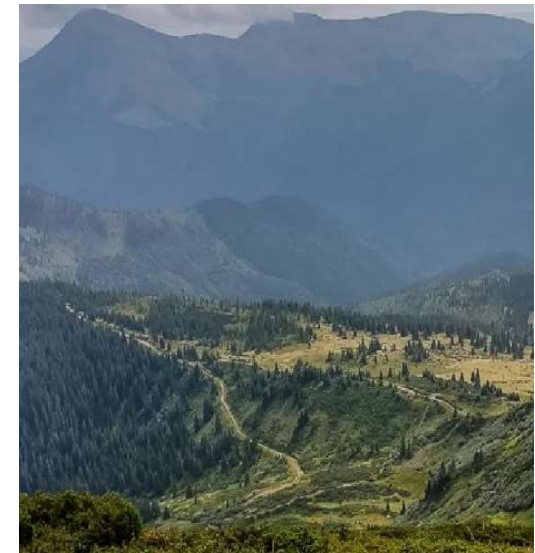
Carpathian Biosphere Reserve, Ukraine

Photo: Vian / Wikimedia Commons



WPT1 UPDATE

- ✓ *The draft strategy for local sustainable tourism development based on natural and cultural heritage of the Carpathians* (D.T1.2.3/O.T1.2) presented by LP to CC WG on Sustainable Tourism (on 15.04.), officially submitted by SCC to CC Parties (on 10.06.) together with a brief factsheet.
- ✓ *The draft Carpathian strategy for enhancing biodiversity and landscape conservation outside and inside protected areas* (D.T1.1.3/O.T1.1), presented by LP to CC WG Biodiversity (20.05.), officially submitted by SCC to CC Parties (on 07.05) together with a brief factsheet.



WPT1 UPDATE



Conceptual phase (2019-2020): 3 Carpathian multinational expert working groups (Thematic Transnational Task Forces, TTTFs) resulting from WPT1 basic concept: Reconciling and linking the conservation of biological/landscape diversity to sustainable local socio-economic development, and raising the support of local communities for protected area operations is possible

- if well protected natural and landscape values (⇒ TTTF Biodiversity)
- are properly used as the driver and asset for the local sustainable tourism development (⇒ TTTF Local Sustainable Tourism Development)
- while conservation objectives, and benefits arising from the above synergy are effectively communicated to the local stakeholders (⇒ TTTF Communication)



WPT1 UPDATE



TTTFs developed 3 mutually reinforcing outputs, targeted at the local and regional level (in support for one of the priorities of the polish Presidency of the Convention):

- (draft) Carpathian strategy for enhancing biodiversity and landscape conservation outside and inside protected areas
 - in support for the implementation of CC 2008 Biodiversity Protocol, presented to WG Biodiversity (20.05.2021), submitted to Parties (07.07.2021) for endorsement at COP7
- (draft) Strategy for local sustainable tourism development based on natural and cultural heritage of the Carpathians
 - in support for the implementation of CC 2011 Protocol on Sustainable Tourism, presented to WG Sustainable Tourism (15.04.2021), submitted to Parties (10.06.2021) for endorsement at COP7 in 2023
- Guidelines on communication between protected areas and local communities in the Carpathians - facilitating public participation and stakeholder involvement.



WPT1 UPDATE

- ✓ **3 pilot actions in PL** (A.T1.4 in Pieniny NP, A.T1.5 in Magurski NP, A.T1.6 communication training for PA administrations) launched, first physical meetings in 2 national parks, held in June 2021
- ✓ **3-day preparatory workshop** with Magura NP staff, local authorities, NGOs and other local stakeholders, held in June 2021
- ✓ **3-day preparatory workshop** with Pieniny NP staff and other nature conservation authorities, held in June 2021
- ✓ **Four 1-day workshops** with local communities surrounding Pieniny NP and **3-day training** for Polish protected area managers, held in September 2021



WPT1 UPDATE

Test phase (2021): 7 pilot actions implementing outputs of WPT1 conceptual phase

- Biodiversity:
 - inside Duna-Ipoly National Park (HU)
 - in the buffer zone of Pieniny National Park (PL)
- Local sustainable tourism development:
 - in Hornácko micro region, PLA Bílé Karpaty (CZ)
 - in the buffer zone of Magura National Park (PL)
 - in Gemer region / Cerová vrchovina PLA (SK)
 - in the transborder region Bílé Karpaty - Biele Karpaty (CZ-SK)
- Communication with local communities:
 - training for protected area managers and nature conservation authorities (PL)



WPT1 DELIVERABLES

- Deliverables D.T1.5.5 - Preparation material for the workshop and D.T1.5.6 - Pilot action implementation of the D.T1.2.3 strategy for culture-based STD around a single PA in SK in a larger region
- Results of the survey on opinions of visitors of Cerová vrchovina PLA, preparation of materials for the workshop, preparation of inquiry for participants, preparatory meeting of the organizers
- Workshop „Sustainable tourism development in Cerová vrchovina Protected Landscape Area“, Veľké Teriakovce, SK, 27 October 2021, 27 participants - relevant stakeholders of nature conservation organizations, environment management authority, municipalities of Gemer region, regional tourism development organization, regional self-government, Geopark, NGOs, with participation and support of PP8 (VIS Bílé Karpaty, CZ)
- Presentations on the Cerová vrchovina PLA, Centralparks project, activities of regional tourism development activities, experience from guided tours in Bílé Karpaty in Moravia (CZ), presentation of results of the related activities in the region in and around Cerová vrchovina PLA



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WPT2 Update - Building capacities of Carpathian PAs managers



Photo: © Zbigniew Niewiadomski



WPT2 UPDATE

Finalization of the following deliverables:

- ✓ D.T.2.2.1 - Pilot action LiDAR
- ✓ D.T.2.2.2 - Habitat mapping
- ✓ D.T.2.2.5 - Forest fauna evaluation

Implementation of the following deliverables:

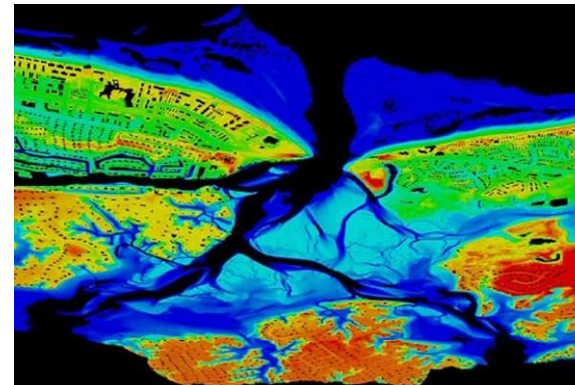
- ✓ D.T.2.2.3 - Forest state evaluation
- ✓ D.T.2.2.4 - Grassland state evaluation
- ✓ D.T.2.2.7 - Nature Conservation Management Plan for Börzsöny Mountains



WPT2 UPDATE

- ✓ **Workshop** with the involvement of National Park Directorates, held in October, to present the main finalized deliverables and discuss about the mapping and evaluation of ecosystem services by National Parks

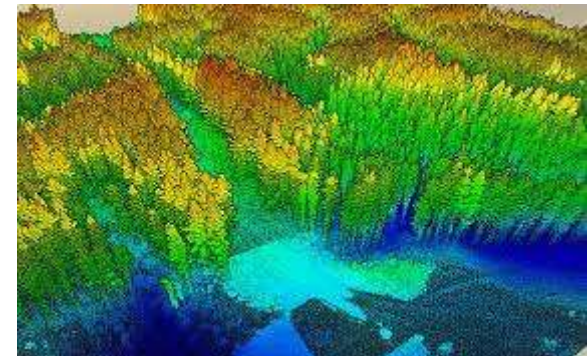
- ✓ Preparation of **Task Force meeting**: evaluation of tested methods, evaluation of lessons learned (D.T2.2.8) to be held in early 2022



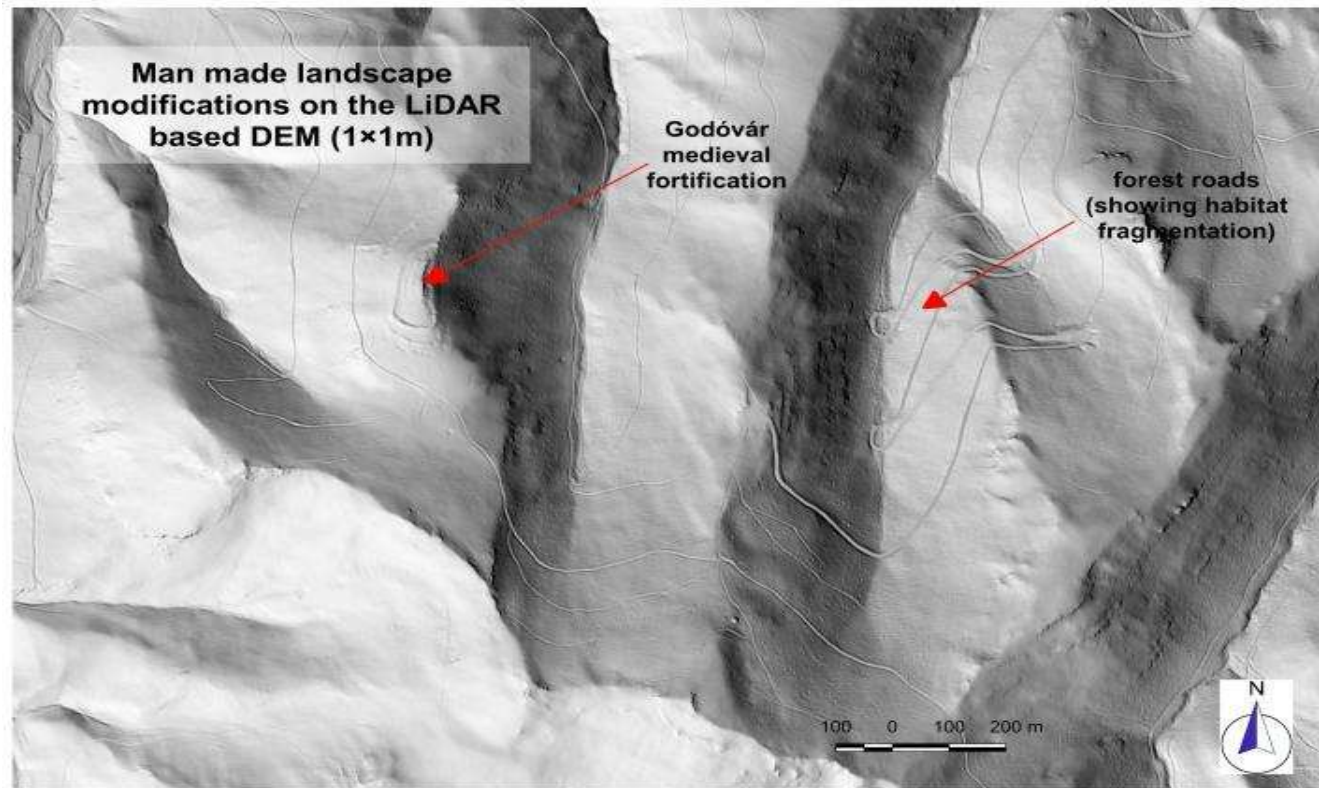
WPT2 DELIVERABLES

D.T2.2.1. PILOT ACTION LIDAR

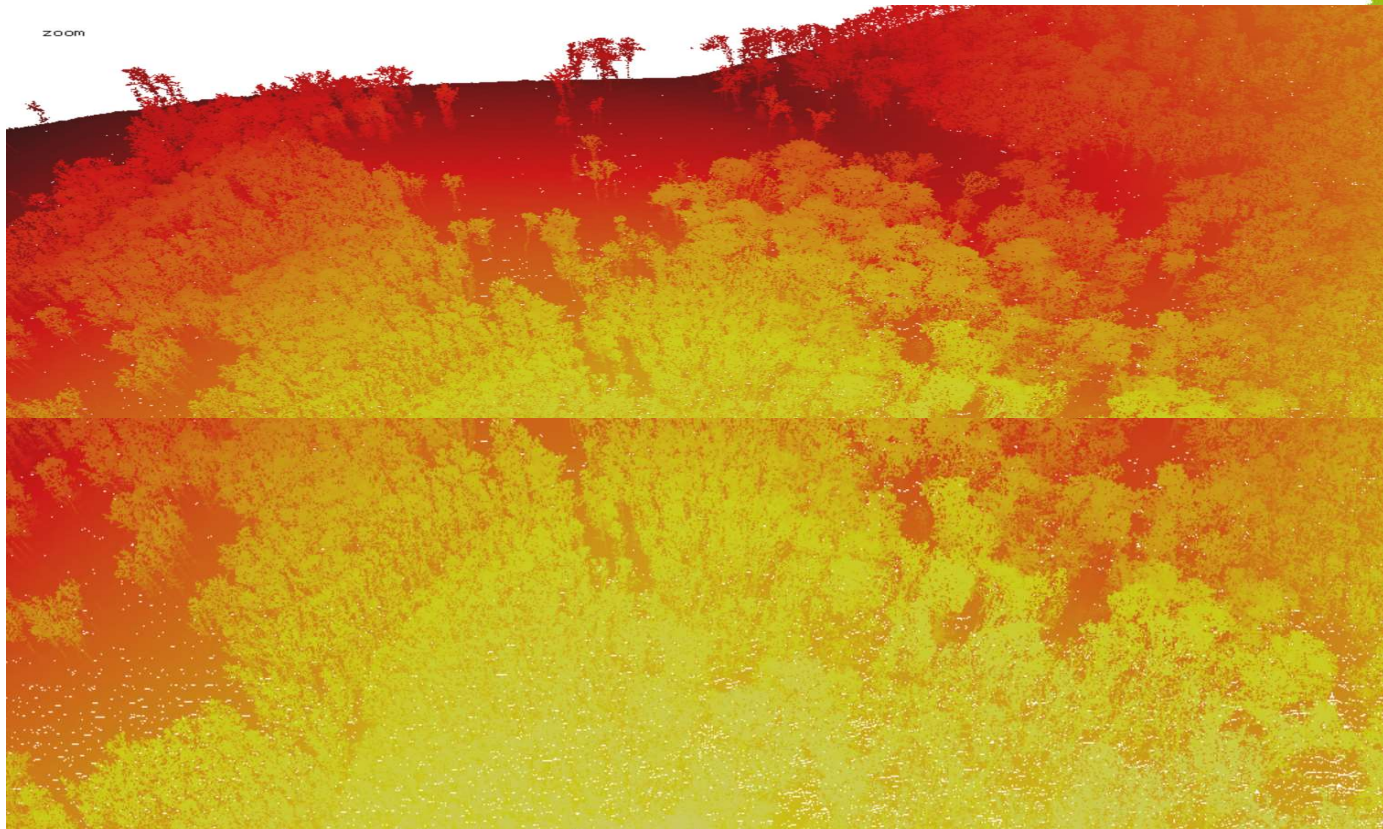
- Innovative 3D scanning and sensory remote sensing technology for conservation management planning purposes
- The pilot action was fully implemented by 13th of August.
- The results were used for
 - modelling flooding paths
 - mapping historical monuments
 - forests' nature conservation management planning
 - 3Dsurface modelling



WPT2 DELIVERABLES - D.T2.2.1. PILOT ACTION LIDAR



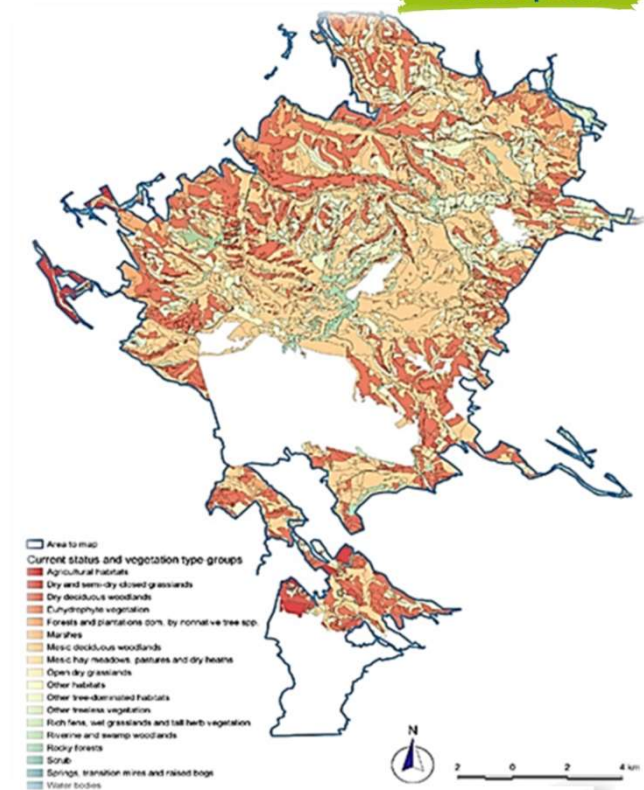
WPT2 DELIVERABLES - D.T2.2.1. PILOT ACTION LIDAR



WPT2 DELIVERABLES

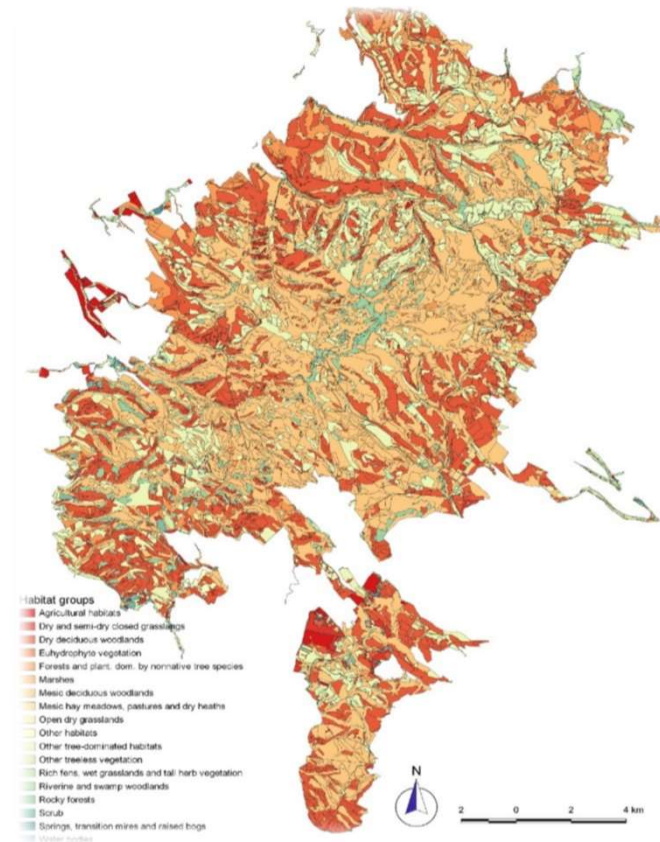
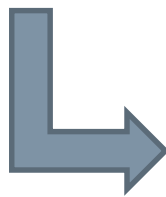
D.T2.2.2 - HABITAT MAPPING

- External expert was contracted for implementation, going smoothly
- In total 22.000 ha of field survey and data analysis was carried out until 02. 2021
- 30.000 ha be finished by 06. 2021
- Deliverable: Habitat Mapping Guidelines was prepared based on the experiences



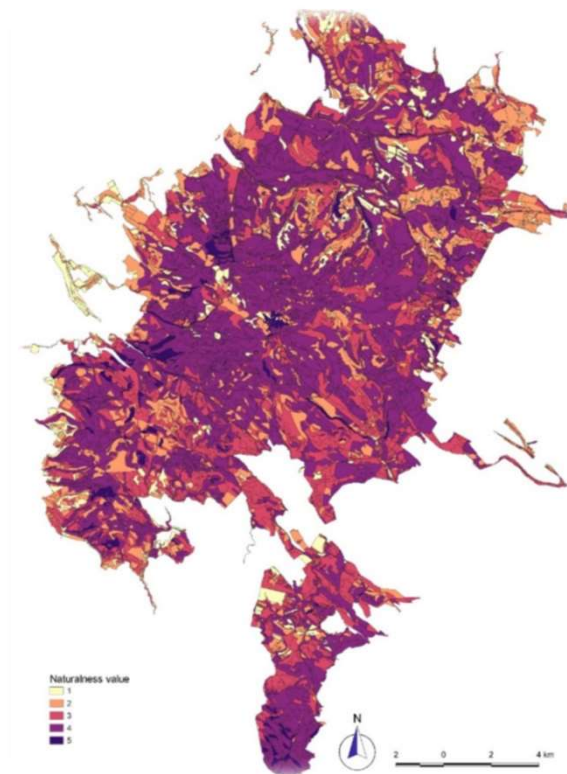
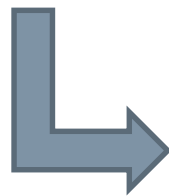
WPT2 DELIVERABLES D.T2.2.2 - HABITAT MAPPING

The habitat types for Börzsöny Mountains



WPT2 DELIVERABLES D.T2.2.2 - HABITAT MAPPING

The naturalness value for the habitats within the Börzsöny Mountains.



WPT2 DELIVERABLES

D.T2.2.3 FOREST STATE EVALUATION

- Based on the methodology of a Swiss Found Project (SH4/13)
- Methodology converted for monitoring purposes
- Tested in the Börzsöny Mountains
- The results are in an active use by the Forestry Authorities, to implement within the forestry management plans
- <https://bit.ly/39Ly2SO>



WPT2 DELIVERABLES

D.T2.24 GRASSLAND STATE EVALUATION

New methodology was prepared by 31.12.2020.

Based on:

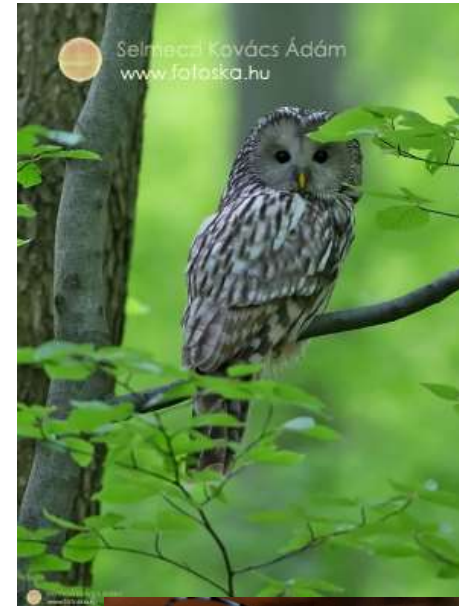
- O.T2.1 “Assuring quality in grassland management with a goal-oriented database”
- The idea of the forest state evaluation protocol (SH4/13 project)
- Natura 2000 external grassland data sheet
- Analysis of the previous treatments or management activities
- Field survey and analysis were carried out by the end of September 2021



WPT2 DELIVERABLES

D.2.2.5 FOREST FAUNA EVALUATION:

- The Saproxylic beetle survey to supplement forest management plans.
- The biotic data collection for bat and bird species according to Hungarian National Biodiversity Monitoring System.



WPT2 DELIVERABLES

D.T2.2.7 - NATURE CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR BÖRZSÖNY MOUNTAINS

- 1st for NP core area, based on the innovative methodologies and pilot actions, international cooperation
- Including the results of all innovative nature conservation management supporting methodologies' results
- Involvement of several external experts and PPs



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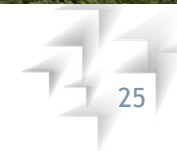
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WPT3 Update - Carpathian Ecosystem Services Toolkit



Photo: © Zbigniew Niewiadomski



WPT3 UPDATE

- ✓ Elaboration of the **final version of the CEST** (D.T.3.1.3) in consultations with TTTF experts, reviewed by 2 reviewers and submitted to all PPs for translation, proofreading and layout
- ✓ Finalization of **CEST shortened version** translation into some Carpathian languages
- ✓ Update of the **step by step guide** for using the CEST (D.T3.2.1)



WPT3 DELIVERABLES

➤ Deliverable D.T3.1.3

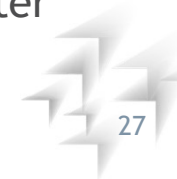
Carpathian Ecosystem Services Toolkit (CEST)

- The final version of CEST in EN - proofreading ready and work on layout (EWS)
- Full version of CEST translated in Slovak, Polish language; Czech translation - draft ready - terminological review with national experts - end of November; Hungarian translation - draft ready
- Development of the annex to CEST on the ES capacity in the Carpathian region by experts - by the end of November

➤ Deliverable D.T3.2.1

Step by step guide for using the CEST

- Draft version 2 ready - included in the final version of CEST - will be finalized after feedback from national workshops by the end of November 2021



WPT3 UPDATE

✓ **CEST training for stakeholder (D.T3.2.2)**

Workshop for stakeholders held in Nová Lhota (CZ) in September 2021 to present ES, CEST, examples of ES assessment and attend to local stakeholders presentation on ES in agriculture, recreation and tourism.

✓ **Activity A.T3.2 Training programme for local/regional authorities**

Workshop for public authorities on use of CEST, using CEST translated in target regions (CZ, HU, SK - Output O.T3.2), held in November 2021

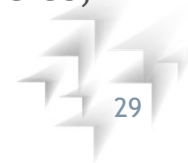


WPT3 DELIVERABLES

➤ Deliverable D.T3.2.2

CEST training for stakeholders

- Workshop - stakeholders meeting in Nová Lhota, CZ, 16 September 2021 (54 participants) - block on Ecosystem Services - presentations on ES, CEST, examples of ES assessment; local stakeholders presented ES in agriculture, recreation and tourism
- Workshop for National Parks Directorates in HU, 27-28 October 2021 with discussion on mapping and assessment of ES in National Parks
- **National workshop at the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic** in Bratislava, 10 November 2021 (11 participants physically, 85 online; over 120 registered) - presentations on ES, development of ES assessment in SK and EU, on CEST, main phases and steps of ES assessment, examples of ES assessment in SK, discussion on practical use of CEST; various stakeholders (regional/national public authorities, sectoral agencies, higher education and research, NGOs...); good feedback



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Communication Activities Update



Protiate Kaminnia Natural Geological Monument, Pokuty-Bukovinian Carpathians, Ukraine

Photo: Sergey Ryzhkov / Wikimedia Commons



WPC UPDATE

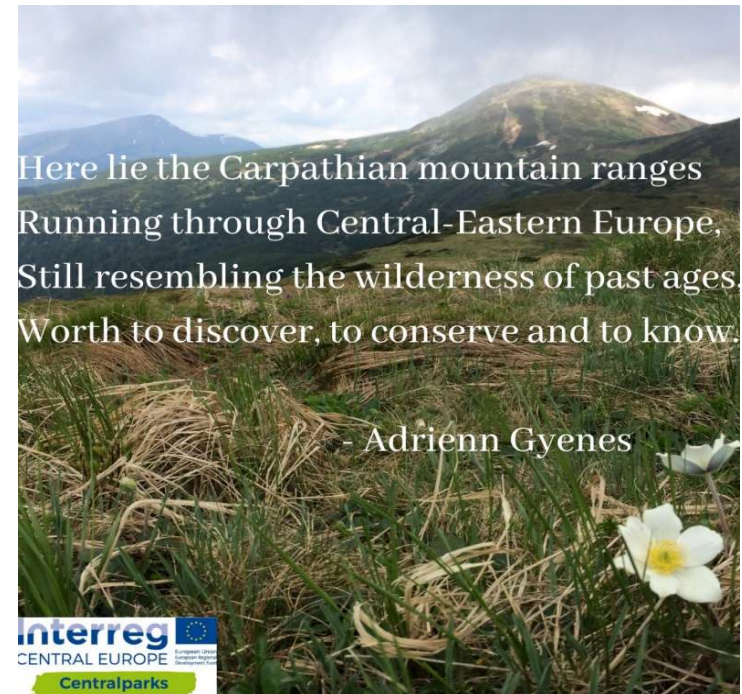
- ✓ Successful launching and closing of **Carpathian quiz**
- ✓ Finalization and distribution of the **Cartoon illustrated poster** (D.C.5.4)
- ✓ Organization of **BEECH POWER synergy meeting**, held online in September 2021
- ✓ Coordination of the **2nd official CNPA SC round table** (D.C.4.1), held online in July 2021 and of a **3rd CNPA SC event** held in Visegrad (HU), in the framework of the ConnectGREEN final conference, in September 2021



WPC UPDATE - CARPATHIAN QUIZ

- From 1st of June to 19th of July, educational Quiz on the Carpathian region. In July, the results were finalised and winners - announced
- The Centralparks Quiz included 17 questions. The basis of these questions consisted of geographical and biological aspects concerning the region, as well as the Centralparks project itself. Over 50 Quiz submissions, including **Carpathian poems**
- **Winners:** 2 from CZ, 4 from SK, 3 from HU, 1 from PL
- Poems are available here:

<https://centralparks.eu/carpathian-poems>



WPC UPDATE - CARPATHIAN CARTOON ILLUSTRATED YOUTH POSTER

English version finalised
Translation to PL, CZ, SK, RO,
HU and UA

Downloadable on the project website:
<https://www.interreg-central.eu/Centralparks>



WPC UPDATE - CNPA STEERING COMMITTEE ROUNDTABLES



- 2nd December 2020
- 19th July 2021



Aiming to:

- Learn about recent developments in the Carpathians;
- Raise awareness on the need for cross sectoral approaches for the identification, conservation and restoration of ecological connectivity in Carpathians and beyond;
- Serve the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas members to get together, exchange knowledge and experience, hear about new methods and approaches to improve and safeguard ecological connectivity;
- Offer space for cross-sectoral discussion, as improvement of ecological connectivity needs more spatial planning, agriculture, forestry, transport etc.
- Foster collaboration between projects dealing with ecological connectivity.



WPC UPDATE - 3RD CNPA CONFERENCE - A NEW AGE FOR THE CNPA NETWORK - 29TH SEPTEMBER, VISEGRAD



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CENTRALPARKS FINAL CONFERENCE



**SAVE
THE
DATE**



Our final conference will take place in 23-24th November 2022 in the town of Wieliczka, in southern Poland. More information will follow soon!



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Carpathian Network of Protected Areas Update



Photo: © Marcin Niewiadomski



CNPA UPDATE



- ✓ Checked and updated the **mailing list** of all the PAs included in the former network and new relevant contacts implemented by all the PPs
- ✓ Detailed **newsletter** sent to all PAs involved and contacts from the updated mailing list, in conjunction with ConnectGREEN, SaveGREEN and CC WG Biodiversity, for a total of **1,065 recipients**
- ✓ Renewal of CNPA official **website**: design and structure



CNPA UPDATE



- ✓ **2nd CNPA SC official roundtable** to gather relevant stakeholders, re-evaluate results and findings, strengthen cooperation project approach, held online in July 2021
- ✓ **3rd CNPA event “A new age for the CNPA network”** within the ConnectGREEN project final conference, held in Visegrad (HU), in September 2021 to evaluate the ongoing progress of the work dedicated to the network and to foster collaboration and future cooperation among the managers of the Carpathian PAs
- ✓ Organization of a **further meeting** to be organized within Centralparks FC, Wieliczka (PL), March 2022



A NEW AGE FOR THE CNPA NETWORK - VISEGRAD, 29.09.2021

- Co-organized by Centralparks and SCC in the framework of ConnectGREEN project final conference.
- Exchange of best practices in protected area management and networking in Carpathian countries.
- Official CNPA SG members invited to evaluate the ongoing progress of the work dedicated to the network
- PAs representatives from each Carpathian country shared the main issues, good practices, threats and future challenges from their national perspective
- Discussion session aimed to foster collaboration and future cooperation among the managers of the Carpathian PAs



CENTRALPARKS FINAL CONFERENCE



23-24 March 2022, Wieliczka, Poland

- Hybrid event to ensure online participation
- Logistics planning in progress: reservations, technical equipment, promotion campaign
- Organization of a concluding CNPA event for SCC and PAs



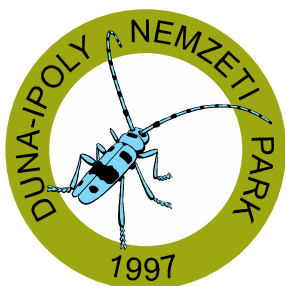
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PROJECT PARTNERSHIP



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Thank you for your attention!



May your mountains rise up to the clouds and overcome them!

