



4 October 2013

Dear Madame/Sir,

The National Forest Administration ROMSILVA and UNDP Romania have the pleasure to invite you to the "CNPA learning community International Workshop" to be held at the Hotel Mara in Sinaia, between 13-15 November 2013.

The workshop will be held under the UNDP-GEF project "Improving the Financial Sustainability of the Carpathian System of Protected Areas" implemented by the Romanian National Forest Administration ROMSILVA. The overarching objective of the project is to secure the financial sustainability of Romania's Carpathian protected areas, which could further be used as a model for replication in the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA). This objective is achieved through the strengthening of the legislative framework, the development of a sustainable finance strategy, and the strengthening of institutional capacities of protected areas management authorities and other stakeholders to implement sustainable financial plans.

The workshop targets the CNPA Focal Points and relevant Carpathian protected areas and will be supported by the project management team, including national and international consultants. It aims to test the eLearning platform while presenting the sustainable financing modules, to analyze the sustainable financing strategy and the Pilot business plans, all in the context of sharing the best cases and to support building the sustainable financial future for the PAs. The workshop will engage participants in discussions on improving the financial sustainability of the Carpathian protected areas, by presenting management plans, business opportunities and financial mechanisms. The establishment of a Carpathian learning community for sharing experiences and knowledge between the practitioners is also envisaged by the workshop.

A draft agenda of the workshop, as well as the registration form is attached. The costs of participation in the Workshop will be met by the organizers, for a maximum of 3 participants from each Carpathian country. Please send us the completed registration form no later than 11 October 2013.

We look forward to receiving your confirmation and welcoming you at Hotel Mara, Sinaia. Should you have additional queries, please do not hesitate to contact the management team (*Robert Pache at* <u>robert pake@yahoo.com</u> or Alexandra Ghenea at <u>alexandra.ghenea@undp.org</u>).

Adam Craciunescu

General Manager NFA ROMSILVA