

DRAFT Workplan 2021-2023

Carpathian Convention Working Group on Climate Change

Introduction

The **Workplan** for the CC Working Group on Climate Change sets out concrete activities and expected results **for the implementation period 2021-2023** with regard to achieving the strategic objectives and related targets of the Long-term Vision 2030 (CC/COP6/DOC10/FINAL¹) towards combating climate change in the Carpathians.

The Carpathian Convention's vision for combating climate change is to strengthen collaborative efforts towards a climate-neutral path that delivers climate-resilient and sustainable development in the Carpathians

Suggested activities are selected from the accompanying Implementation Framework 2030 (CC/COP6/DOC11/FINAL²) that provides overall guidance for the Working Group's agenda and related Workplans for the upcoming implementation periods starting 2021 up to 2030. Each proposed activity is allied with one of the seven strategic objectives and further detailed in terms of expected results, actors involved and funding.

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http://www.carpathianconvention.org/tl_files/carpathiancon/Downloads/03%20Meetings%20and%20Events/COP/2020_COP6_Online/official%20documents/CC%20COP6%20DOC10_Long_Term_Vision_2030_FINAL%20DRAFT.pdf

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http://www.carpathianconvention.org/tl_files/carpathiancon/Downloads/03%20Meetings%20and%20Events/COP/2020_COP6_Online/official%20documents/CC%20COP6%20DOC11_Implementation_Framework_2030_WG%20CC_FINAL%20DRAFT.pdf

Workplan 2021 - 2023

Strategic Objective (SO) 1

WG CC Coordination Lead: [Vacant]

Support: Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, UNEP (as project partner in the Adaptation at Altitude programme)

SO 1	TARGETS
<p>Climate Action in mountain areas is given higher attention through targeted outreach and by fostering collaboration with other mountain and neighboring regions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Develop approaches to raise the attention to climate change in mountain areas at the global level (e.g. at designated events; through national representation of the Parties under global commitments; through targeted communication and outreach activities)</i> • <i>Collaborate with other regional frameworks/platforms/initiatives and related institutions and organizations, especially from mountain and neighboring regions, for knowledge exchange, common developments and learning</i>
<p>Proposed Activities</p>	
<p><i>Raise attention to climate change in mountain areas at the global level:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a mechanism for regular exchange of information on meetings/events, global policy processes and other outreach channels suitable for highlighting the importance of combating climate change in mountain areas and ensure respective participation of WG Members • Identify appropriate approaches and tools for accelerating efforts in agenda setting in accordance with ongoing related processes in global policy, science and practice 	
<p>Contributing WG CC Members: [Vacant]</p>	
<p><i>Collaborate with other regional frameworks/platforms/initiatives and related institutions and organizations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with the targeted mountain regions (Tropical Andes, Hindu Kush Himalaya, East Africa, South Caucasus) through the “Adaptation at Altitude – Taking Action in the Mountains”³ programme funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) • Participate in the Adaptation at Altitude inter-regional workshop planned to take place 9-11 December 2021 in Vienna, Austria to discuss various regional mechanisms and processes 	

³ <https://adaptationaltitude.org/adaptation-at-altitude>

- Establish contact and regular exchange with bodies/entities/networks of further mountain and neighboring regions, including lowland areas depending on key environmental services mountain systems provide
- Explore opportunities with the Alpine Climate Board for collaboration on topics of mutual concern (e.g. along the Implementation Pathways of the Alpine Climate Target System 2050)

Contributing WG CC Members: [Vacant]

Further Actors involved

Alpine Climate Board, Himalayan Council, East African Community, Arctic Council

Expected Result(s)

- Climate action in mountain areas at Carpathian level is actively promoted by the Members of the WG Climate Change guided by a regularly updated overview of relevant meetings/events, global policy processes and other outreach channels
- Partnerships and contacts with other regional mechanisms and processes are initiated (e.g. Alpine Climate Board, Himalayan Council, East African Community, Arctic Council)

Funding

state budget, core budget of the Carpathian Convention

Strategic Objective (SO) 2

WG CC Coordination Lead: Poland

Support: Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention

SO 2	TARGET
Regional cooperation and interaction among the Parties of the Carpathian Convention are strengthened through identifying common priority actions and harmonizing them	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Identify common priority areas of concern and facilitate mutual support in meeting national commitments stemming from EU and international agreements under all climate related policy frameworks⁴ through information exchange and collaboration</i>

⁴ In particular: UNFCCC, 2015 Paris Agreement; Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction; 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework; European Green Deal.

with ongoing regional and national efforts on climate change in the Carpathians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify mechanisms for all contracting Parties to duly consider the Carpathians in their respective climate and other related strategies and action plans at all relevant levels. Harmonizing climate policies across all governance levels will ensure successful outcomes towards a climate-neutral and climate-resilient development
Proposed Activities	
<p><i>Exchange and collaborate on the EU and international commitments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify commitments of the Parties under the EU and international climate related policy frameworks and prioritize common areas of concern Exchange on methods and approaches (e.g. for data collection, reporting) used to meet the EU and international commitments and streamline where feasible and meaningful <p style="background-color: #fff9c4; padding: 2px;">Contributing WG CC Members: Romania</p> <p><i>Duly consider the Carpathians in Parties' respective climate strategies and action plans at all relevant levels:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take stock of the policy cycles of Parties' climate and other related strategies and action plans and identify potential entry points for including mountain mitigation and adaptation options, where relevant <p style="background-color: #fff9c4; padding: 2px;">Contributing WG CC Members: Hungary (to be confirmed)</p>	
Further Actors involved	
TBD	
Expected Result(s)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Common areas of concern under the EU and international commitments are identified Methods and approaches for meeting the EU and international commitments are shared and possibly streamlined Relevant climate and other related strategies and action plans and respective entry points at all respective governance levels are identified for the inclusion of climate change mitigation and adaptation action in the Carpathians 	
Funding	
state budget, core budget of the Carpathian Convention	

Strategic Objective (SO) 4

WG CC Coordination Lead: [Vacant]

Support: Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention

SO 4	TARGETS
<p>Interlinkages between climate issues and other relevant areas of work of the Carpathian Convention are taken into account</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Strengthen close cooperation and exchange with the other thematic Working Groups of the Carpathian Convention to ensure mainstreaming of climate action and information exchange in all relevant areas of work</i> • <i>Develop mechanisms for identifying, developing and implementing joint activities</i>
<p>Proposed Activities</p>	
<p><i>Strengthen close cooperation and exchange with the other thematic Working Groups of the Carpathian Convention</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange with other thematic Working Groups on their priority topics and make suggestions for incorporating climate change considerations • Further explore the preliminary collection of ideas for potential cooperation with other thematic Working Groups, recommended by the WG on Climate Change at its 7th meeting⁵ • Engage with the Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management and the Working Group on Biodiversity for developing and undertaking a comprehensive assessment of the impacts of climate change on the Carpathian forests and their ecosystem services, including climate change effects on large carnivores and their habitats and possibly further relevant topics <p style="background-color: #fff9c4; padding: 5px;">Contributing WG CC Members: [Vacant]</p> <p><i>Develop mechanisms for identifying, developing and implementing joint activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support regular meetings of the Chairs of all thematic Working Groups for information exchange and identifying topics of mutual interest • Explore possibilities of organizing WG meetings back-to-back with other Working Groups to allow for collaborative sessions on strengthening joint activities • Discuss and agree on a timeframe for proposing and implementing joint activities <p style="background-color: #fff9c4; padding: 5px;">Contributing WG CC Members: [Vacant]</p>	

Further Actors involved
Other thematic WGs of the Carpathian Convention, especially WG Forest and WG Biodiversity, Carpathian Wetland Initiative, Science for the Carpathians
Expected Result(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular exchange with other thematic Working Groups is established and concrete topics for collaboration are explored Assessment of the impacts of climate change on the Carpathian forests and their ecosystem services is finalized and published
Funding
state budget, core budget of the Carpathian Convention, project based, if available

Strategic Objective (SO) 5

WG CC Coordination Lead: [Vacant]

Support: Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention

SO 5	TARGET
Climate research on both qualitative and quantitative levels is promoted, including fostering the application of its results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and close knowledge gaps and encourage transnational research needs for the Carpathians to improve the understanding of future climate and other socio-economic developments and provide a solid decision-making basis
Proposed Activities	
<p><i>Identify and close knowledge gaps and encourage transnational research needs for the Carpathians:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exchange on and gather information deficits on climate and other socio-economic developments needed for decision making Actively engage with the Science for the Carpathian initiative (S4C) on transnational research needs and contribute to the organization a specific climate change session at the next Forum Carpathicum, held 2021 in Brno, Czech Republic Strengthen further the cooperation with ICPDR, especially the Tisza Group and engage in developing a proposal for a follow-up project in the Tisza River Basin 	

- Continue collaboration with the EUSDR PA 4 and EUSDR PA 5 and support project development on integrated water/river basin management and climate change
- Support further development of project ideas from the Carpathian Wetland Initiative

Contributing WG CC Members: [Vacant]

Further Actors involved

Science for the Carpathians, Tisza Group, EUSDR PA 4, EUSDR PA 5, Carpathian Wetland Initiative

Expected Result(s)

- A specific climate change session was successfully held at the Forum Carpaticum 2021, focusing on “Forest ecosystem and resource vulnerabilities to climate change in the Carpathian Mountain region”
- Knowledge gaps/Information deficits are identified and shared with the Science for the Carpathian initiative (S4C) and contacts to relevant ongoing scientific work are established
- Project proposals are explored and supported, including:
 - A project proposal for a follow-up project in the Tisza River Basin
 - Proposals on integrated water/river basin management and climate change in mountains and connected low-land areas
 - Project proposal on the impacts of climate change on Carpathian wetlands and recommendations for planning and policy responses

Funding

state budget, core budget of the Carpathian Convention, dedicated EU Funding Instruments and Programmes, other funding sources (to be identified)

Strategic Objective (SO) 6

WG CC Coordination Lead: [Vacant]

Support: Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, UNEP (as project partner in the Adaptation at Altitude programme)

SO 6	TARGETS
<p>Science - policy - practice interfaces and innovative approaches are further explored and promoted</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Focus on finding and showcasing practical and innovative approaches for sustainable and climate-resilient mountain development (within the Carpathian region and beyond) to support mutual action learning</i>

Proposed Activities
<p><i>Focus on finding and showcasing practical and innovative approaches for sustainable and climate-resilient mountain development</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to and make use of the collection of innovative approaches for climate change adaptation in mountains undertaken by the global “Adaptation at Altitude – Taking Action in the Mountains”⁶ programme funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and made available at https://www.weadapt.org/knowledge-base/adaptation-in-mountains Regularly share and exchange on new/innovative approaches in the Carpathians (e.g. bottom up initiatives led by NGOs, women and community-based organizations, national/regional policies and strategies, and innovations by the private sector) <p>Contributing WG CC Members: [Vacant]</p>
Further Actors involved
TBD
Expected Result(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous exchange on practical and innovative approaches for sustainable and climate-resilient mountain development is set up using appropriate tools for sharing experience and mutual learning
Funding
state budget, core budget of the Carpathian Convention

Strategic Objective (SO) 7

WG CC Coordination Lead: [Vacant]

Support: Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention

SO 7	TARGETS
<p>Joint efforts are taken on identifying funding opportunities and drawing the attention of donors towards the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify funding opportunities for implementation of concrete climate action proposals in the Carpathians (linking to financing single or combined activities proposed under Strategic Objectives 2-6), support

⁶ <https://adaptationaltitude.org/adaptation-at-altitude>

benefits of greater regional cooperation	<i>project development and cooperate on resource mobilization with relevant stakeholders, organizations and donors</i>
Proposed Activities	
<p><i>Identify funding opportunities, support project development and cooperate on resource mobilization:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore and assess funding opportunities and identify implementing partners/institutions, in particular for implementing single or combined activities suggested under Strategic Objectives 2, 3, 5 and 6 and along priority topics (linked to the collection of ideas for potential cooperation with other thematic Working Groups for implementing Strategic Objective 4) • Engage on additional resource mobilization with potential public and private donors • Foster joint project application development within the ENI programs in the Carpathian region, involving scientists, policy-makers and stakeholders from different sectors particularly impacted by climate change and/or of high priority for CC Parties 	
Contributing WG CC Members: [Vacant]	
Further Actors involved	
Science for the Carpathians, Tisza Group, EUSDR PA 4, EUSDR PA 5, Carpathian Wetland Initiative	
Expected Result(s)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential funding opportunities including possible implementing partners/institutions are identified and assessed • Contacts with potential public and private donors are established towards additional resource mobilization • Joint project applications within the ENI programs are identified and developed 	
Funding	
state budget, core budget of the Carpathian Convention	