



9th Meeting of the CC WG on Biodiversity, Ostrava, CZ, 30 May 2019

Carpathian Convention COP5 (2017)



DECISION COP5/4 Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity

- *...notes* the existing synergies between the Convention on Wetlands and the CWI, *invites* the CWI to enhance cooperation and to mobilize resources in support of appropriate action on the effective conservation, restoration, management and sustainable use of Carpathian wetlands, as well as on development of education and training in these topics

Ramsar COP13 (2018)

Res. XIII.9 on RRIs 2019-2021



- CWI formally endorsed again by COP as one of 19 RRIs in the world
- ENCOURAGES Contracting Parties and INVITES other potential donors, bilateral or multilateral, to support RRIs, ..., and INVITES Contracting Parties that are geographically related to an RRI to consider giving financial support;
- ENCOURAGES Contracting Parties, as appropriate, to invite regional intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations, ... and may invite transboundary river and groundwater basin organizations as well, to participate in or collaborate with RRIs;
- ENCOURAGES the Contracting Parties concerned to take the necessary steps to achieve financial sustainability for the RRIs, preferably from a variety of sources, as well as to establish mechanisms and procedures to ensure their sustainability beyond specific project periods, and try to avoid RRIs from becoming dependent on a single major donor, thus improving the possibility for financial stability for the RRI;

CWI Work programme / strategy 2019-2024



based on already by Carpathian Parties agreed documents

- Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024,
- Strategic Action Plan for the implementation of the Biodiversity Protocol of the Carpathian Convention,
- Decisions of the Carpathian Convention COP5 and Programme of Work 2018-2020,
- Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ramsar Convention and Carpathian Convention,
- ToR CWI

CWI Work programme / strategy 2019-2024



1. Mainstreaming - *Promote integration of wetlands and their services and benefits into sectoral policies*

- Means: CC working groups, cooperation within ICPDR, workshops, conferences

2. River Basin Management - *Cooperate on development and implementation of projects integrating wetlands in river basin management*

- Means: cooperation with ICPDR and Tisza Group (JOINTISZA project), cooperation with DANUBEPARKS, Alpine Convention, NGOs, translation of relevant guidelines to national languages, management planning

3. Invasive Alien Species - *Cooperate on identification and prioritization of invasive alien species and pathways of their introduction and expansion, on control and eradication of priority invasive alien species, and on preparation and implementation of management responses to prevent their introduction and establishment*

- Means: CC Biodiversity Working Group, CNPA, NGOs, translation of relevant guidelines to national languages, transborder projects, workshops, conferences, trainings

CWI Work programme / strategy 2019-2024



4. Ecological Networks and Management of Sites - *Cooperate on development of ecological network, continuity and connectivity of habitats in the Carpathians, including through integrated management of Ramsar Sites, designation of new Ramsar Sites, expansion of existing sites, maintenance and restoration of wetlands*

- Means: cooperation in running projects and development of new projects, cooperation with CNPA, DANUBEPARKS and ALPARC within existing MoC, NGOs, workshops, conferences, consultation on designation of new Ramsar Sites, Natura 2000 sites, trans-border cooperation, joint management planning

5. Prevention of environmental damages in wetlands - *Facilitate exchange of information on risk of change in ecological character of wetlands (including transborder rivers), addressing the threats to wetlands*

- Means: cooperation within ICPDR, involvement in/of cross-border river basin commissions, cooperation with CNPA, DANUBEPARKS, cooperation agreements between protected areas in cross-border regions, joint management planning

6. Wetland Inventories – *Support of inventory of wetland habitats and species, development of Red Lists, inventory of cultural values in wetlands, common database and maps on wetlands in the Carpathians, documentation, promotion and dissemination of their functions, values, conservation and effective management*

- Means: CC working groups (Biodiversity, Forestry, SARD, Cultural Heritage), Carpathian Countries Integrated Biodiversity Information System (CCIBIS), cooperation with CNPA, Science for Carpathians S4C, NGOs, workshops, conferences, management planning, translation of guidelines

CWI Work programme / strategy 2019-2024



7. Wetlands conservation, restoration and maintenance - *Identify priorities for common actions and for wetlands restoration and develop and implement common projects aimed at long-term conservation, maintenance, restoration and sustainable use of wetland habitats and species to be jointly undertaken in the Carpathians, in particular in border areas and transboundary protected areas*

- Means: cooperation with CC Biodiversity WG, CNPA, AEWA, NGOs, translation of guidelines, agreements on transborder cooperation, management planning

8. Climate Change - *Identify wetlands most at risk due to climate change based on an assessment of the vulnerability of Carpathian wetlands to climate change impacts, propose and implement measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change*

- Means: cooperation with CC Biodiversity WG, WG Climate Change, S4C, NGOs, workshops, conferences, trainings, web pages

9. Research, monitoring, information system - *Facilitate cooperation in species and habitats monitoring, research in wetlands, development of joint information system and joint guidelines and methodologies to make them available to decision makers and practitioners*

- Means: cooperation with CC Biodiversity WG, CNPA, S4C, ICPDR, NGOs, CCIBIS, workshops, conferences, projects

CWI Work programme / strategy 2019-2024



10. Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness - *Develop and implement CWI Programme on communication, capacity development, education, participation and awareness, develop Carpathian Wetland Centre*

- Means: cooperation with CC working groups, CNPA, NGOs, questionnaires, workshops, conferences, trainings, campaigns, education activities, publications, web sites, detailed communication plan, detailed training plan, projects

11. Capacities and financing - *Provide personal and financial support for implementation of the CWI strategy and related strategies and actions plans, mobilize financial resources for CWI work*

- Means: voluntary contributions, projects, national allocations for transboundary cooperation

Relevance of CWI work plan to CC activities



Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity (Biodiversity Protocol)

CWI Work Plan 2019:

3. Invasive Alien Species

- Identification and prioritization of invasive alien species and pathways of their introduction and expansion;
- Cooperation in control and eradication of IAS and in preparation and implementation of management responses;

Relevance of CWI work plan to CC activities



Biodiversity Protocol

CWI Work Plan:

4. Ecological Networks and Management of Sites

- Cooperation in development of ecological network in the Carpathians, contribution to relevant projects on continuity and connectivity of habitats in the region, cooperation in designation of new Ramsar Sites, expansion of existing sites; joint management planning;
- Cooperation with CNPA, DANUBEPARKS, ALPARC within existing MoC in development of new projects on ecological connectivity of wetland habitats in the region;

Cooperation ALPARC-DANUBE PARKS-CNPA



Within Interreg DTP Seed Money Facility Project „**Three Networks, Two Macroregions and One Vision**“ the CNPA/CWI invited to jointly develop a project proposal for LIFE programme

- **Theme proposed: Tributaries as bio-corridors**
- Current project „INTERREG Alpine Carpathian River Corridor“ should be advanced to tackle current challenges in improving ecological connectivity
- Outputs and lessons learned from INTERREG Alpine Carpathian River Corridor are the basis for a transition from INTERREG to LIFE Project



Cooperation ALPARC-DANUBE PARKS-CNPA



Till end of 2019 a LIFE Concept Note should be developed together with current project and strategic partners

First step was a brainstorming session during the SEED Money **Workshop in Ingolstadt 22 May 2019**

- **Environmental Problem:**

- Lack/gaps of green infrastructure
- Invasive species
- Barriers
- Climate Change

- **Achieve:** - Improved riverine habitats / improved habitat connectivity

- Improved connectivity between existing protected areas (?) or between macro-regions (?)
- Habitat restoration as climate change mitigation

- Use JECAMI tool to define local project objectives/actions – further strategic studies needed?

Cooperation ALPARC-DANUBE PARKS-CNPA



Connection to LIFE funding

- species is hard – do we find a priority species that connects the 3 macroregions and is it affected by the environmental problems?
Common factor could also be green infrastructure/climate change
Habitats could also be included – but hard considering the different bio regions

Focus on tributary rivers

There are already some projects in the pipeline – funding is needed (e.g. the Morava river)

Species could be a connecting factor

Cooperation ALPARC-DANUBEPARKS-CNPA



Next steps:

- Get back to partners/strategic partners and get feedback on the vision/scope

Unanswered Questions:

- Actions

What actions/means will be utilised to counteract the cause and achieve the impact and objective?

Ensure logical links between the cause, activity and result!

- Expected Results

What is the outcome of addressing each cause of the problem?

Expected results should not be the project objectives, but they should be the outputs and quantified achievements allowing the project to reach its objectives!

Concrete, realistic and quantified as far as possible

- Project Character

- Policy

Relevance of CWI work plan to CC activities



Biodiversity Protocol and (Draft) Protocol on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge

CWI Work Plan:

6. Wetland Inventories

- Inventory of wetland habitats and species; cultural values of / in wetlands;
- Update of the Carpathian Red Lists of habitats and species;



Relevance of CWI work plan to CC activities



Biodiversity Protocol and Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

CWI Work Plan:

10. Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness

- Development of the training programme on wetland management and restoration...;
- Development of a project for training on identified priorities; support of other trainings;

International course

Sustainable agriculture in wetlands

Czech Republic, **22-27 September 2019**

- ❖ 5-day international course
- ❖ Complex information will be provided to those involved in wetland management, landscape planning and land and water resource management, as well as to the personnel employed in state administrations responsible for protection of nature, environment and sustainable use of natural resources associated with wetlands and shallow water bodies, farmers and other relevant stakeholders.
- ❖ Partially covered by MoE CZ (board, refreshments, field trips, materials for practical workshop)

Participants: About 16 representatives of the target groups from CWI members

- All participants will obtain a certificate

Ministry of the Environment
of the Czech Republic



International Training Course

Sustainable agriculture in wetlands

Main topics of the course:

- ❖ Sustainable management in river basins
- ❖ Wetlands, climate and water cycle
- ❖ Sustainable management in floodplains
- ❖ Sustainable management of fishponds
- ❖ Using of artificial wetlands for agricultural waste water purification
- ❖ Importance of coastal wetlands in agricultural landscape
- ❖ Wetland plants and their use in agriculture
- ❖ Development of fishery and sustainable fishponds management
- ❖ Permaculture

The programme includes two thematic excursions to the (a) Třeboň fishponds and Lužnice River Basin in the Czech Republic and Austria, and (b) Permaculture and sustainable agriculture practices in the agriculture landscape as well.

International course

Sustainable agriculture in wetlands

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Deadline for application: **10 July 2019**

Ministry of the Environment
of the Czech Republic



Relevance of CWI work plan to CC activities



Partnerships: MoU Alpine Convention, SAC, ICPDR

CWI Work Plan:

2. River Basin Management

- Development of Carpathian projects integrating wetlands in river basin management; consultations with ICPDR, Water Platform of the Alpine Convention;

9. Research, Monitoring, Information System

- Facilitation of cooperation in species and habitats monitoring, research in wetlands in collaboration with Science for Carpathians, development of joint information system and joint guidelines and methodologies to make them available to decision makers and practitioners;

Other cooperation



Cooperation with EUROPARC Central and Eastern European Section

- Connect activities / events of CWI and EUROPARC Central and Eastern European Section autumn meeting – proposals for common topics;

Wetlands International

- Peatland conservation, management, restoration
- workshop “Exploring Synergies for Peatlands - Detecting and enhancing the global importance of peatlands in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals” (Isle of Vilm, DE, May 2019) - road map of activities to support consolidated processes and activities for conserving, sustainably managing and restoring peatlands that involve a multitude of actors, synergies...

Future CWI governance



- **Coordination by SNC SR** – written agreement with Parties and the Ramsar Secretariat
- **Support from CC Secretariat**
- **Support from Parties** (Ramsar and CC Focal Points, CNPA), other partners; voluntary contributions
- Establishment of **independent NGO** for coordination (which country?, membership fees), or involvement of existing NGO (?)

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