


TAKING  
**COOPERATION**  
FORWARD

 9th Meeting of the Carpathian Convention Working Group on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity

Ostrava, Czech Republic | 30-31st May 2019

 **Centralparks**

Building management capacities of Carpathian protected areas for the integration and harmonization of biodiversity protection and local socio-economic development

 Filippo Favilli | Eurac Research

# THE CARPATHIANS



# THE CARPATHIANS

- One of the most important European wildlife refuges
- harbours some of the last primeval beech forests
- one-third of European endemic and threatened plant species
- supports vital populations of all large carnivores (brown bear, grey wolf, Eurasian lynx) and all big native herbivores (European bison)
- Of the main European ecological corridors allowing dispersal of animal populations and genetic exchange



# INCREASING THREATS

infrastructure development  
tourism pressure  
habitat destruction and fragmentation  
poaching  
illegal logging  
pollution  
climate change  
over-harvesting  
inappropriate natural resource  
management methods



Nature conservation policies and management cultures vary among the Carpathian countries...

...Traditional approaches to natural resource management and biodiversity conservation will may no longer be sufficient to reach long-lasting economic benefits and provision of ecosystem services!



# CENTRALPARKS

Aims at building management capacities of Carpathian protected areas for the integration and harmonization of biodiversity protection and local socio-economic development.



# PROJECT IN NUMBERS

## Project duration

1 April 2019 - 31 May 2022

## Project partners

8 project partners from 7 countries

## Associated partners

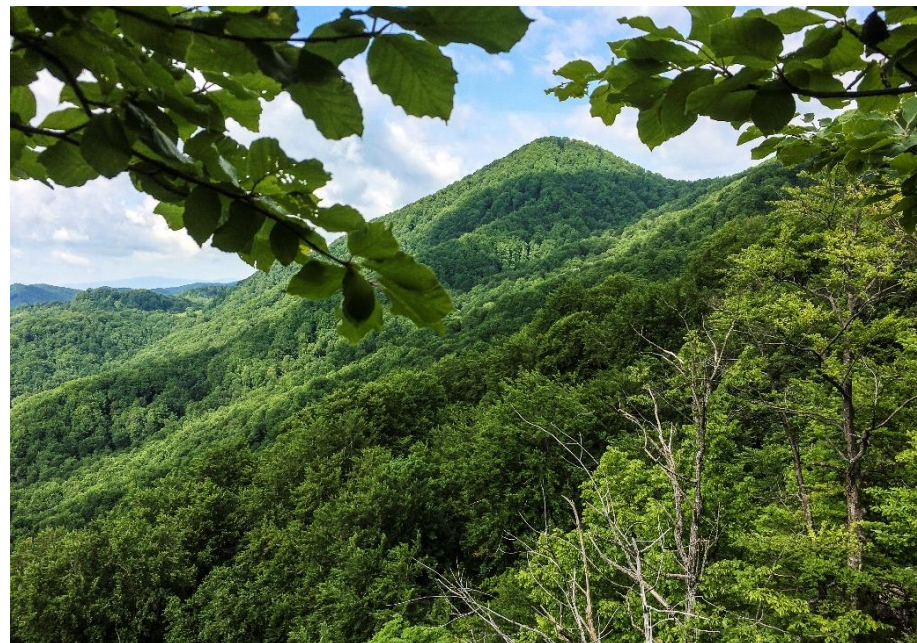
8 associated strategic partners

## Project budget

1.6 mio €, 1.3 mio € ERDF Funds

## Outputs

13 outputs planned



# PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

1. **Italy:** European Academy of Bolzano/Bozen - Eurac Research (Lead Partner)
2. **Austria:** European Wilderness Society
3. **Czech Republic:** Education and Information Centre of Bílé Karpaty Mountains
4. **Hungary:** Danube-Ipoly National Park Directorate
5. **Poland:** Ekopsychology Society
6. **Romania:** NFA-Romsilva-Piatra Craiului National Park Administration R.A.
7. **Slovakia:** Pronatur NGO, The State Nature Conservancy of the Slovakia

**eurac**  
research



**PRO**  
**NATUR**



# ASSOCIATED PARTNERS

1. **Italy: Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea - IMELS**
2. **Austria: DANUBEPARKS**
3. **Germany: European Beech Forest Network**
4. **Hungary: CEEweb for Biodiversity**
5. **Ukraine: Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine**
6. **Poland: Ministry of Environment of Poland**
7. **Romania: Ministry of Environment of Romania**
8. **Slovakia: Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic**





## Programme priority

3. Cooperating on natural and cultural resources for sustainable growth in CENTRAL EUROPE

## Programme priority specific objective

3.1 To improve integrated environmental management capacities for the protection and sustainable use of natural heritage and resources



# SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. **Improving integrated environmental management capacities** of protected area administrations and other public sector entities dealing with the protection and sustainable use of natural resources
2. **Reconciling and linking the conservation of biological and landscape diversity** to sustainable local socio-economic development
3. **Promoting the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas** as the framework and tool for transnational collaboration between the protected areas of the Carpathian countries in the Central Europe cooperation area



# TARGET GROUPS

1. Protected area administrations in the Carpathians
2. Local public authorities
3. National public authorities
4. Interest groups including NGOs
5. Nature conservation authorities
6. Higher education and research institutions active in the Carpathian region
7. General public



# THEMATIC WORK PACKAGES

1. Integration of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the Carpathian region
2. Building capacities of Carpathian Protected Areas managers
3. Carpathian Ecosystem Services Toolkit

## Expected work package results:

- establishing **three transnational thematic task forces** involving experts from Carpathian countries, addressing the main substantive socio-economic issues
- setting up a **long-term management of the Carpathian Protected Areas**
- raising awareness and **enhance livelihoods** of local communities
- enhancing Carpathian Protected Areas management models by developing **innovative management tools**
- developing an **outdoor environmental education training program**
- strengthening pro-environmental attitudes



## WP T1: Integration of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the Carpathian region

- Carpathian strategy for enhancing biodiversity and landscape conservation outside and inside protected areas
- Pilot workshops on strategy for enhancing biodiversity conservation outside and inside protected areas
- Strategy for local sustainable tourism development based on natural heritage of the Carpathians
- Pilot workshops of the strategy for sustainable tourism development
- Guidelines on communication between protected areas and local communities in the Carpathians
- Training on effective communication between protected areas and local communities in the Carpathians



## WP T2: Building capacities of Carpathian Protected Areas managers

- Strategic document on raising good protected areas management capacities
- Innovative habitat evaluation tool (LIDAR) for forest and grassland state evaluation
- Guidelines for proper integrated nature conservation planning
- Integrated Nature Conservation Management Plan
- Pilot testing of the LiDAR laser scan study on mountainous and river valley in Hungary



# OUTPUTS

## WP T3: Carpathian Ecosystem Services Toolkit

- Carpathian Ecosystem Services Toolkit (CEST)
- Training programme for local/regional authorities for using the CEST



# COMMUNICATION OUTPUTS

- 2 Centralparks Leaflets
- Ecosystem Services Toolkit Study Book
- Guidelines for proper integrated nature conservation planning
- CNPA roundtable session
- Project Multimedia clips
- Cartoon illustrated game poster





# POLICY CONTEXT

- EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy
- Convention on Biological Diversity
- Carpathian Convention Protocol



# SYNERGIES

- **CEETO** - Central Europe Eco-Tourism (Central Europe, ongoing: 2017-2020) on sustainable tourism in protected areas: <https://www.interreg-central.eu/CEETO>
- **MaGICLandscapes** (CE, ongoing: 2017-2020) on managing green infrastructure manual on green infrastructure functionality assessment:  
<https://www.interreg-central.eu/MaGICLandscapes>
- **Green-Go! Carpathians** (LIFE, ongoing: 2017-2020) - Green-Go guidebook on formation of green infrastructure in N2000 sites:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=search.dspPage&n\\_proj\\_id=639&docType=pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=search.dspPage&n_proj_id=639&docType=pdf)
- **BEECH POWER** (CE, ongoing: 2019-2022) on empowering and catalyzing an ecosystem-based Sustainable Development of WH Beech forests: <https://www.interreg-central.eu/BEECH-POWER>



The project builds on results and experiences from:

- **Carpathian Project** (INTERREG IIIB CADSES Neighbourhood Prog, 2005-2008)
- **The Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians**
- **BIOREGIO Carpathians** (South East Europe - Transnational Cooperation Programme, 2011-2013)



# OFF TO A GOOD START



Kick-off Meeting, 16-17<sup>th</sup> April, Bolzano, Italy



# UPCOMING MEETINGS

## Transnational Thematic Task Force (TTTF) Establishment Meetings

Meeting of TTTF on Developing guidelines on communication between protected areas and local communities in Carpathians, 24-26<sup>th</sup> June, Ciche, Poland

Meeting of TTTF on Local Sustainable Tourism Development, 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> June, Ciche, Poland

Meeting of TTTF on the Carpathian strategy for Enhancing Biodiversity and Landscape Conservation, 17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> June, Banska Bystrica, Slovakia



# Thank you for your attention!



<https://www.interreg-central.eu/Centralparks>

Photos were provided by the European Wilderness Society

