



Ukraine Report - Consultations for Carpathian Heritage

The work started at February with planning and signing of agreements with potential participants and channels for information dissemination.

The Main information channels were :

- National radio
- Radio Freedom
- Regional radio
- Environment and mass media working groups (e-mail list moderated by Green Dossier, with about 50 members)
- Carpathian Convention e-mail list, moderated by Green Dossier, about 60 members
- Green Dossier web-site
- Radio Freedom web-site
- 'Independent Cultural Magazine'

Participants of the Consultations :

- Ukrainian radio listeners
- NGOs and journalists from the information networks
- Invited experts from cultural and environmental organizations
- Officials from cultural and environmental structures
- UNESCO Commission of Ukraine

Project Activities

An announcement was prepared and sent out via all information channels (see Attachment 1 – Announcement (in Ukrainian)). Official letters were sent to the Ministry of Environment, UNESCO, the Cultural Department of the Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Government. The project was announced and information disseminated at the Reporting and Planning Meeting of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and at the Public Council of Tourism.

After making an agreement on co-operation with the National radio service, the next piece of information was sent out, with an invitation to support a radio-discussion which would be broadcast live. During the radio programme (50 minutes in length) we received about twenty calls from different parts of Ukraine. All recommendations were collected, summarized and the next set of information was sent out, via the information channels.

At the same time negotiations concerning the consultation meeting (round table) were underway with the Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Government and the Kolomya Museum of Ethnography. This museum, of the Huculshina and Pokuttya traditional culture, is the only one such museum in all of Ukraine, and it operates as a scientific, research and educational institution. Therefore it was chosen as the local host for the event. For the consultation meeting itself participants, mostly from the Ivano-Frankivsk region were invited, as well as experts from Kiev. Representatives from the Lviv region and the Transcarpathian region also sent their recommendations, via e-mail. The Executive Secretary of the UNESCO Commission for Ukraine was interviewed in Kiev and gave support materials for a presentation at the round table. The Ministry of Environment clarified a responsible person for communication with the project and

invited Green Dossier to make a presentation at the Ukrainian Co-ordination Council for the Carpathian Convention, the official ministerial co-ordination meeting, which was held on 21st March.

The round table started with a presentation concerning the ANPED project and the proposal to create a Carpathian Heritage List. The participants welcomed the initiative and were happy to support it. The results of the radio, and first stage of consultations, was presented and commented upon by the participants. The main questions were mostly covered. The round table meeting was covered by regional and local radio, and local TV. The results of the meeting, and further consultations, again via all information channels, were used to prepare the final recommendations for UNEP ISCC, (see Attachment 2 - Recommendations and Attachment 3 - List of Participants of the Consultations).

Project Results

- Recommendations (see Attachment 2)
- Proposals for experts and documents :
 - a) Expert groups should be created according to the type of values selected and be formed from public representatives, ethnographic experts, environmental scientists, museums staff, folk crafts practitioners, modern technologies providers, as well as the representatives of the state bodies, who are responsible for the conservation of the cultural heritage and traditional churches representatives.
 - b) Public consultations and hearings should be carried out. The decisions are to be taken on the basis of public hearings and consultations, supported by consultations with experts. A consultative experts committee for the Carpathian Convention should approve the values for the creation of the Carpathian Heritage List, and it should be provided with official status.
 - c) There is a need for creation of a State Scientific Centre for collection and conservation of tangible and spiritual cultural heritage, and for coordination of field researches, safe keeping of materials, counseling and providing expert conclusions.
- Proposed experts for the establishment of the Carpathian Heritage List (see Attachment 3)
- Development of the relevant networks
- Co-operation with the Ukrainian UNESCO Commission

Future Plans

The consultations are still on-going. Radio Freedom, plans to continue the discussion as part of its current website reconstruction. The Ukrainian UNESCO Commission is interested in future active participation in the project. The government's Tourism Public Council is planning to produce a publication on the topic of cultural heritage this year.

Announcement of Project Activities – in Ukrainian

Карпатська культурна спадщина: поки є що зберігати!

Певне, ніхто сьогодні не буде заперечувати, що в українських Карпатах збереглася унікальна культурна спадщина й традиції нашого народу. Навряд чи хто відмовиться від ідеї про необхідність охорони й підтримки карпатської культурної спадщини.

Що саме можна вважати Карпатською культурною спадщиною?

Що треба негайно взяти під охорону?

Хто зацікавлений в збереженні карпатських цінностей?

Хто має визначати, що є цінним і вартим охорони, а що – ні?

Карпатські гори, де живе майже 18 мільйонів людей, вже два роки знаходяться під охороною міжнародного договору по збереженню багатой живої природи, дивовижних ландшафтів та культурної спадщини краю. Рамкова Конвенція про охорону та сталий розвиток Карпат (Карпатська конвенція) була прийнята в травні 2003 року на 5-й конференції міністрів „Довкілля для Європи”, в Києві, за спільної згоди семи країн (Чеська Республіка, Угорщина, Польща, Румунія, Сербія, Словацька Республіка і Україна). Вітаючи вступ конвенції у дію в січні 2006 року, тодішній виконавчий директор Екологічної Програми ООН (UNEP) *Клаус Топфер зазначив:* «...це є сигналом надії для людей і живої природи цього регіону, що зазнає тиску від швидких змін у світі. Цей регіон, благословенний багатом і щедрою природою, зустрічається з численними загрозами, серед яких бідність, безробіття, погане планування розвитку, нераціональне використання природних ресурсів, забруднення, вирубка лісів і надмірне полювання. Законний віднині договір має на меті врівноваження економічних потреб людей і необхідність збереження довкілля”.

Отже, конвенція описує основні принципи співпраці між зацікавленими країнами, їх місцевою владою і громадянським суспільством задля збалансованого розвитку Карпат.

У грудні 2006 року в Києві відбулася перша конференція Сторін конвенції, де було ухвалено основні напрямки подальшої роботи по її впровадженню. Зокрема, серед інших, створено міжурядову Робочу групу по впровадженню Статті 11 „Культурна спадщина та традиційні знання” (Ст. 11: „Сторони проводять політику, спрямовану на збереження та підтримку культурної спадщини та традиційних знань місцевого населення, виробництва та продажу місцевих виробів, предметів мистецтва та народної творчості. Сторони спрямовують свої зусилля на збереження традиційної архітектури, особливостей землекористування, місцевих порід домашніх тварин та різноманіття культивованих рослин і стале використання диких рослин у Карпатах”.)

Один з основних висновків діяльності Робочої групи – визнання за необхідне створити Список карпатської культурної спадщини та фонд для її підтримки. Як саме має визначатися поняття Карпатських цінностей? Хто має визначати цінність? Які будуть процедури для внесення до списку? Які принципи і методи треба застосовувати? Відповіді на ці запитання вже почали шукати представники міністерств екології та культури в усіх семи країнах, регіональний офіс ЮНЕСКО для Європи у Венеції, міжнародний секретаріат Карпатської конвенції у Відні та кілька спеціалізованих дослідницьких інститутів. Але, перш за все, вирішила Робоча група, - треба запитати в людей, небайдужих до Карпатської культурної спадщини їхніх порад та рекомендацій. Ініціатор створення Списку карпатських цінностей, міжнародна коаліція громадських організацій ANPED, розпочала громадські консультації в усіх семи країнах конвенції. В Україні проект координує інформаційний центр „Зелене досє” у співпраці з Громадською радою з питань туризму та курортів.

Запрошуємо взяти участь у консультаціях і відповісти на поставлені запитання.

Для контактів: інформаційний центр „Зелене досє”, +380 44 222 7762, tamara@bg.net.ua

Carpathian Cultural Heritage: As It Still Exists!

Recommendations for the Creation of the Carpathian Heritage list

Article 11. Cultural heritage and traditional knowledge

“The Parties shall pursue policies aiming at preservation and promotion of the cultural heritage and of traditional knowledge of the local people, crafting and marketing of local goods, arts and handicrafts. The Parties shall aim at preserving the traditional architecture, land-use patterns, local breeds of domestic animals and cultivated plant varieties, and sustainable use of wild plants in the Carpathians”

Definitions :

“Carpathian Heritage is the diversity of natural and cultural and mixed tangible and intangible assets, and their interaction, which serve for maintaining Carpathian Unity and Identity.”

Importance of Carpathian Heritage

In previous generations people from the Carpathians were educated in their traditional culture, including the culture of traditional products for domestic use. However, now there is a need for special efforts to maintain this culture, and to educate the present and future generations. The ethno-social component of culture also needs to be promoted, to maintain and develop it. The ethnic spirit should be respected, and enriched with a modern vitality.

There are inextricable connections between the environmental, social and cultural components. Therefore intangible and spiritual cultural heritage should also not be forgotten. Carpathian cultural heritage belongs to several nations and Ukrainian sub-nations, which are present in the region. Recently, the processes of globalisation has resulted in the expansion of contemporary culture, which threatens the traditional and authentic culture. However, the Carpathian people are living in unique situation: they possess specific cultural values, they are aware of themselves and they want to impart their stories to others. This concept and attitude towards their own cultural heritage, supported by participants of the consultations indicate *the way to protect it*.

The values of the Carpathian region values (unique worldwide, to the Carpathian region and to Ukraine) should be considered, to create a sound basis for decision-making. So as well as considering the question as to what to protect, it will also be important to develop selected values, and adapt these to modern, changing times.

What needs to be protected ?

Natural heritage:

- Sites with both, natural and cultural value (holy and memorial trees, rocks, spring-wells etc.)
- Ancient beech forests of global value
- Nature, forests, and traditional landscapes
- Rivers and water basins
- Biodiversity

Tangible heritage:

- The register of the churches, including wooden churches should be completed, and their destruction, destructive renovation and plundering of the churches' property should be stopped. The churches, surrounding landscapes and settings should also be protected

- The regional historical studies from the 19th and 20th Centuries should be reprinted, and museum collections should be promoted and made more easily accessible, especially for young people and students, with the inclusion of scientists and education professionals
- Ancient stone monuments and altars (around 20 altars which are said to be from 5-4,000 B.C.) which are found only in the Kosiv region.
- The geological forms across mountain chains need aerial photographic research
- Traditional folk crafts (objects such as “valilas” – the traditional Carpathian laundries in rivers, which are necessary for the manufacture of traditional fleece products “lizhnyky”) are disappearing
- Traditional clothes (stroy) worn for specific traditional celebrations or other events, as well as for regular domestic use
- Traditional trees associated with the mountain lifestyle, should be protected, such as the sycamore maple, which prevents damage from large water run-off and thus floods.

Spiritual (intangible) heritage :

- Emerging authentic dialects
- Authentic highlander’s dances (“Arcan”)
- Legends and fairytales
- Music and songs and their recordings should be promoted
- Traditional rites (e.g. Hutsul wedding)
- Polonyna culture, which is associated with the sheep-breeding culture and the traditional Carpathian mountain valleys. (There is a large inter-connected pattern of farming husbandry, dairy products, music, crafts, and ceremonies which originates from pre-Christian times and is still present today).
- Works of art such as music, songs and figurative arts are to be collected, recorded and promoted

The most urgent aspects

- There is a threat that the low morality of contemporary society affects the young generation, educated in the specific regional culture, and they have a lower immunity to the temptations of modern culture (such as drugs, etc.). Incentives for young people to stay in the mountains should be created, and children’s education should be based on their native traditions and values
- The churches have been for a long time the cultural centres of the Carpathian people and require immediate support. The religious icons of high significance should be protected at the highest level by the Bishops, and the regions and state. (Presently, cases of setting fire to wooden churches in order to steal the religious icons has been recorded, as this kind of vandal “business” has appeared recently).
- Creation and increased protection of existing nature protection areas – National Parks and Nature Reserves, where destruction of natural heritage should be prohibited.

Who should be involved in the creation of the List of Carpathian Cultural Heritage ?

- All the Ukrainian public is interested in this topic
- Expert’s groups should be created according to the type of values selected and be formed from public representatives, ethnographic experts, environmental scientists, museums staff, folk crafts practitioners, modern technologies providers, as well as the representatives of the state bodies, who are responsible for the conservation of the cultural heritage and traditional churches representatives.
- Public consultations and hearings should be carried out. The decisions are to be taken on the basis of public hearings and consultations, supported by consultations with experts. A consultative experts committee for the Carpathian Convention should approve the values for the creation of the Carpathian Heritage List, and it should be provided with official status.
- A National Scientific Centre needs to be created to collect and conserve the tangible and spiritual cultural heritage, and to support the co-ordination of field research, protection of materials and provide expert opinion.

How to conserve Carpathian cultural heritage and traditional knowledge?

- Stop the re-distribution of Carpathian land and damaging private developments, which are out of keeping with the local area.
- Strengthen the existing regulations on nature protection, which at present poorly protect the environment
- Development of the cultural heritage collections, recording the manifestations of culture, especially those aspects carried by the elder generations. Research of cultural heritage should be properly financed, and the results properly processed and stored. There is a need for the research, registration and promotion of the existing register of the Carpathian monuments of architecture.
- Regulation of the protection of cultural heritage artifacts by the state.
- There is a need to develop the cultural heritage expertise and skills of museum staff and education staff and local priests – the persons who are responsible for the education of society
- The useful practice of organising ethno-festivals should be developed.
- The traditions of private donations supporting cultural heritage should be restored, so as not to rely exclusively on state bodies
- Economical conditions for the support and development of traditional mountain crafts should be developed by :
 - providing economic incentives for producers of traditional products, so they can become competitive and reach global markets
 - prohibiting the sale of non-authentic products and imitations at the local traditional craft markets
 - introducing eco-labeling and support local brands
 - providing subsidy for sheep-farming, associated with the mountain culture and traditional lifestyle, to make it competitive
 - providing subsidy for the people living in the mountain regions and maintaining the traditional lifestyles.
- There is a need to promote the expansion of local cultural products
- Promotion of knowledge about Ukraine and the Carpathians for young people
- Support for the recently popular crafts schools (e.g. the pottery school in Kolomyya) should be renewed.
- Specific threats are caused by the uncivilised (unconscious) tourism. Sustainable, balanced tourism, which does not destroy but can economically support traditional culture should be developed in the region
- Modern technologies and infra-structure (including tele-communications) should be developed to connect local people with the rest of the world
- At least one village in the region needs to be granted with the status of village-museum, for example the village of Kryvorivnya, which has unique natural conditions

Carpathian Cultural Heritage: As It Still Exists !

List of Project Participants

No	Name	Organisation	Participant at the Consultation Meeting	Proposed for future co-operation as Experts
1	Petro Arsenych	Prykarpattya University, Chief of Society "Prosvita", Ivano-Frankivsk	X	X
2	Ivan Rybaruk	Priest of Kryvorivnya village	X	X
3	Jaroslava Tkachuk	Director of Museum of Ethnography, Kolomya	X	X
4	Volodymyr Fedorak	Chief of Cultural Department, Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Government	X	X
5	Nadia Shevchenko	Project Co-ordinator NGO "Green Dossier" from Kiev	X	
6	Tamara Malkova	Director NGO "Green Dossier" from Kiev	X	
7	Oleg Lystopad	Expert, Ecologist, from Kiev	X	X
8	Galyna Bashtanenko	Representative Museum of Ethnography and Ecology, Yaremche	X	
9	Bogdan Prots	Research Scientist State Museum of Natural History, National Academy of Science of Ukraine, Lviv		X
10	Kateryna Karkadym	Chief of Art. Department, Museum of Ethnography, Kolomya	X	
11	Iryna Fediv	Deputy Director of Science, Museum of Ethnography, Kolomya	X	X
12	Myroslava Boyko	Director of Museum of Pysanka, Kolomya,	X	
13	Romana Baran	Representative Department of Ceramics, Museum of Ethnography, Kolomya	X	
14	Maria Ivanchuk	Lecturer of Art. Studies, Institute for Applied and Decorative Arts, Lviv National Academy of Arts, Kosiv	X	
15	Mykola Blyznyuk	"Centre for Public Initiatives", Kosiv	X	
16	Oleksandr Kobyletsky	Youth Center, Kolomya	X	
17	Valery Hladunets	Folk- researcher, Kiev	X	X
18	Ivan Zelenchuk	Representative National Institute of Ethnology "Hutsulshyna" branch		
19	Dmytro Vatamanyuk	"Hutsulshyna" Association		X
20	Lyubov Krainya	Regional State TV and Radio company	X	
21	Petro Palamarchuk	Director, Museum of Ethnography and Ecology, Yaremche,	X	
22	Valentyna Molyn	Institute for Applied and Decorative Arts, Lviv National Academy of Arts, Kosiv	X	
23	Oleg Jatsenkivsky	UNESCO Commission for Ukraine		X

24	Natalya Fishko	Mineco		X
25	Bogdana Kostyuk	Radio FREEDOM		
26	Nina Gerasimenko	National Radio		
27	Marko Shpikula	Committee of Environmental Safety of Ukraine, Lviv		X
28	Iryna Magdysh	Independent Cultural Magazine JI, Lviv		
29	Urgen Kreftner	Transcarpathian Association for Local Development, Nyzhne Selyshe		X
30	Oksana Stankevich	RMEO Ekosfera, Ukraine, Uzhgorod		
31	Jaroslav Dovganych	NGO Eco-club "Carpathians", Rakhiv		X