



REPORT

ANPED Carpathian Working Group meeting

(under the project "Carpathian Cultural Heritage Inventory/Phase One: Pilot Actions in 4 targeted regions in Ukraine and the Czech Republic")

September 8, 2010

Rytro, Poland

Main objectives of the project are to produce a coherent set of suggestions and recommendations, on the basis of the results of the pilot activities and the feedback from all countries, for the development of a comprehensive programme for a Carpathian Heritage Inventory and web portal that will cover the whole Carpathian region. The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the implementation of the Carpathian Convention, especially of the provisions of Article 11 of the Carpathian Convention, outlining the need to preserve and promote the Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge of the Carpathians.

1. Presentations of UA and CZ experience in pilot regions were done by the project partners Green Dossier, Ukraine, and IEP, Czech Republic. They included a short history of the project, description of current activities and suggestions for developing the process (available by request). Jana Urbancikova, Czech CNPA focal point and a representative of the new project on Clearing House Mechanism presented its opportunities. It can be found on: chm.natura2000.ro
2. A number of questions needed recommendations and advices from the group were stated after presentations:
 - a. Starting from the definition: relations between culture and nature.
 - b. Do we need splitting to categories?
 - c. Are you agree with our application proceeding?
 - d. Who should make decisions? Where the experts should place?
 - e. Webs coordination...

Further discussion demonstrated the following:

- participants agreed that we don't need to split cultural sites to categories (tangible, intangible and mixed);
- selection criteria for the list creation are taken into account but need further discussion; there are some differences from UA and CZ point of view (see in colours); would be good to have comments for this.

Selection criteria suggested

- to be an example of smth traditional that have a positive influence on ecosystem and people of certain region during producing and exploring (UA);
- to be a living item – smth, which has been kept spontaneously by local people and not in just in museums (CZ)
- to be related with the formation and preservation of unique cultural traditions of certain region;
- to represent a traditional lifestyle of certain region (village) existing only there;

- to be a unique testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared (UA);
- to have an outstanding ethnographical and historical value (UA);
- to be connected with the unique Carpathian nature and its conditions
- to be related with historical, religious events or personalities (UA);
- to be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or water-use which represent a culture, or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change.

- - as to the proceeding, participants agreed that a site may be nominated by anybody (according to the form), that local experts should play the main role in decision making, but there is no need to create an expert group under the Secretariat as this will make a process more difficult, long and formal.
 - The main point of the discussion was – how to collect necessary data and protect the sites included in the same time. A suggestion was to have several levels of the Inventory according to possible access of target groups: some information may be absolutely open for any people, some – with limited access.
3. Creating a proper web resource – the next part of the discussion. There are several options as the task is very important for different structures. The clearing house mechanism creating by WWF Danube – Carpathian program was presented by Jana Urbancikova, another way is being created by the Polish tourism project, IEP created a web as well. Mr. Egerer said that the secretariat has a plan to produce a pan-Carpathian map for the COP3 where all projects may be presented. This map will be a tourist map highlighting interesting things for politicians. A representative from a mapping company “Kartographie Huber” presented their work as well, and gave their recommendations.

4. Recommendations of the 2nd Meeting of the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee (December 2009).

Decision of the CCIC (December 2009):

- *Parties welcomed the proposal submitted by ANPED and recommended to support it; and urged all countries to follow the example of the Czech Republic and Ukraine in providing a pamphlet highlighting the heritage in the respective countries as important contribution and incentive for COP3 to discuss and agree on a comprehensive operational plan related to the “Carpathian Heritage Inventory”.*

No real suggestions for this request, just reminding to push the process.

5. Contribution to the WGST.

The Carpathian cultural heritage is closely connected with tourism development:

- Cultural heritage items are attractive tourist destinations
- So far, eg. in CZ (maps of CH examples) but they are not just tourism maps
- The inventory needs to be collected in the form of a database but some items cannot be made public (sensitive sites/ivents/ceremonies)

Recommendations to the WGST:

- Take into account the unique value of cultural heritage, which makes the Carpathian identity
- Tourism authorities need to be responsible for preserving these items
- Strategy should stress the importance of preventing these sensitive items from tourism (even a rather small-scale one)
- How to support creation of the database but taking into account that some items need to be left hidden
- Local people are essential parts of the cultural heritage and they need (financial) support from tourism