

Pictures: Mircea Verghet

# Think CARPATHIAN, act locally and regionally

Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties  
23 – 26 September 2014, Mikulov



# Welcome to COP4



# Since COP3

1. Success

2. Challenges

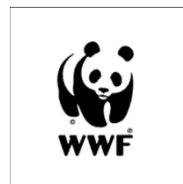
3. Carpathian Convention in action – COP4

4. Future priorities



# 1. Success - Biodiversity

- Entry into force of **Biodiversity Protocol** in all CC Countries
- Biodiversity **Strategic Action Plan** approved
- Biodiversity Protocol Implementation Report Format
- **CNPA Medium Term Work Plan 2013 – 2017**
- Support to Carpathian Network of Protected Areas - **CNPA UNIT**
- 2nd CNPA Conference



# 1. “BIOREGIO Carpathians”



Aimed at implementing the main provisions of the Carpathian Convention Biodiversity Protocol

**Partnership:** 16 Partners from all the Carpathian Countries represented in an integrated consortium. Ministries for the Environment were observers

**Budget:** 2.6 Million Euros

**Project Duration:** 2011 – 2014

**FINAL CONFERENCE**

12 – 13 June 2014

Brasov, Romania

Picture: Pieniny National Park



# 1. “BIOREGIO Carpathians” - outcomes



- Red list of species and habitats, and Red list of invasive alien species in the Carpathians

**SIDE EVENT 25 SEPTEMBER !**

- Common integrated management measures (CIMM)

- A Web-GIS application for Ecological Connectivity  
(<http://webgis.eurac.edu/bioregio/>)



- Carpathian Integrated Biodiversity Information System (CIBIS) - <http://geoportal.ccibis.org/>

Picture: Pleniny National Park



# 1. Success – Sustainable and integrated water/river basin management

- Carpathian Wetland Initiative **developed successfully**
- Carpathian Wetland Centre **opened in 2014**
- Joint Declaration between ICPDR and Carpathian Convention on cooperation in the Tisza Basin – **to be signed**
- Close cooperation with ICPDR on the EUSDR in the Danube area



Picture: M. Vergholet



# 1. Success - Sustainable Agriculture, Rural Development and Forestry

- Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management **entered into force**
- Strategic Action Plan for the Implementation of the Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management **finalized**
- Criteria and indicators for selection of virgin forests in transboundary region **developed**
- Close cooperation with European Environment Agency

Picture: M. Vargheis...





# 1. Success – Sustainable Transport and green infrastructure

Protocol on Sustainable Transport finalized



# 1. Success – Sustainable Transport and green infrastructure

access 2 mountain

SOUTH EAST EUROPE  
Transnational Cooperation Programme

access 2 mountain  
Sustainable Mobility and Tourism in Sensitive Areas of the Alps and the Carpathians  
Outputs and results  
Final brochure

SOUTH EAST EUROPE  
Transnational Cooperation Programme  
Jointly for our common future  
EUROPEAN UNION

A2M Final Conference, April 2014

© GDL Photo



# 1. Success – Sustainable Transport and green infrastructure

**GEMEINSAME  
ABSICHTSERKLÄRUNG**  
über den Alpen - Karpaten Korridor

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**VYHLÁSENIE O SPOLOČNOM  
ZÁMERE**  
k alpsko – karpatskému koridoru

30. 01. 2012

Bratislava, Slowakei  
Bratislava, Slovensko

 Stephan PERNKOPF Landesrat für Umwelt, Landwirtschaft und Energie Niederösterreichische Landesregierung / Krajinský rada pre životné prostredie, pôdohospodárstvo a energiu krajinskej vlády Dolného Rakúska	 Jan FIGEL Prvý podpredseda vlády a minister dopravy, výstavby a regionálneho rozvoja Slovenskej republiky / Erste Stellvertreterin des Bundesministers, Minister für Verkehr, Aufbau und Regionalentwicklung der Slowakischen Republik
 Karl WILFING Landesrat für Bildung, Jugend und Raumordnung Niederösterreichische Landesregierung / Krajinský rada pre vzdelávanie, mládež a územné plánovanie krajinskej vlády Dolného Rakúska	 Jozsef NAGY minister životného prostredia Slovenskej republiky / Účesvntomstrol der Slovakiŝchen Republik
 Andrea LIEGENFELD Landesrat für Landwirtschaft, Umwelt - und Naturschutz Burgenländische Landesregierung / Krajinský rada pre poľnohospodárstvo, životné prostredie a ochranu prírody krajinskej vlády Burgenlandska	 Pavol FREŠO predseda Bratislavského samosprávneho kraja / Vorsteher des Selbstverwaltungsgebietes Bratislava
 Helmut BIELER Landesrat für Finanzen, Struktur- und Kultur Burgenländische Landesregierung / Krajinský rada pre financovanie, výstavbu a kultúru krajinskej vlády Burgenlandska	 Jozsef NAGY predseda Trnavského samosprávneho kraja / Vorsteher des Selbstverwaltungsgebietes Trnava
 Alois SCHEDL Vorstandsdirektor der Autobahnen- und Schnellstraßen-Finanzierungs AG / predseda predstavenstva Autobahnen- und Schnellstraßen- Finanzierungs AG	 Jan KOTIČKA predseda predstavenstva a generálny riaditeľ Národnej diaľničnej spoločnosti, a.s. / Vorstandsvorsitzender und Generaldirektor der Národná diaľničná spoločnosť, a.s.
 Wanda SCHERHACKL Vorstandsdirektor der Autobahnen- und Schnellstraßen-Finanzierungs AG / predseda predstavenstva Autobahnen- und Schnellstraßen- Finanzierungs AG	 Viktória CHOMOVÁ členka predstavenstva Národnej diaľničnej spoločnosti a.s. / Vorstandsglied der Národná diaľničná spoločnosť, a.s.



# 1. Success - Sustainable Tourism

- Protocol on Sustainable Tourism entered into force
- Strategy for the Future Sustainable Tourism Development of the Carpathians developed

Pictures: J. Jaudas, N. Shovkoplias



# 1. Success – Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge



- **Ministerial Declaration** on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge of the Carpathians
- **Road Map** to achieve the objective of Art. 11 of the Carpathian Convention



# 1. Success – Environmental assessment / information system, monitoring and early warning

- Partnership Agreement related Work Plan 2013 – 2015 between the Carpathian Convention and the European Environment Agency **signed**

## Common activities :

- Involvement in CLIMATE - ADAPT Platform and SEIS
- Study on Forest with the involvement of European Topic Centre on Spatial Information and Analysis
- Mutual participation in meetings
- Inputs to the National Report on the Implementation of the Biodiversity Protocol



# 1. Success – Environmental assessment / information system, monitoring and early warning

## ➤ Science for the Carpathians Network

- Idea to develop a special **Carpathian Curriculum** for universities, which could be realised in the form of a virtual network of universities, research institutions, and NGOs joined by common training courses as well as **Bachelor and Master syllabuses**



# 1. Success – Awareness raising, education and public participation

➤ Big Foot Transferability Tool Kit developed

➤ Community Livelihood Platform

<http://platform.bigfoot-project.eu/>

**BIG foot**  
COMMUNITY LIVELIHOOD PLATFORM

Home Platform Communities Projects Events Media Members

**PLATFORM**  
Join the community livelihood platform to read and share stories of local projects, linked to several themes. Explore how these themes are interconnected, and Share your story

**Member Login**  
Username  
Password  
Login  
Forgot your password?  
Not a member? Register now!

**Latest comments**  
Dear Eva and Tamara you could have a look at the I ...  
Barbara Di Pietro  
2013-10-07, 16:53  
Trivale, Greece - Cultural and Natural Heritage, Tourism development and intergenerational learning  
Read more ...

Wish there were some streetview pictures on Google ...  
2013-06-13, 14:12 Eva Broemmann  
Trivale, Greece - Cultural and Natural Heritage, Tourism development and intergenerational learning  
Read more ...

Is there a tourist route based on this initiative? ...  
Tamara Mikrofianenko  
2013-07-14, 07:00

**Transferability Tool Kit**

Crossing Generations, Crossing Mountains

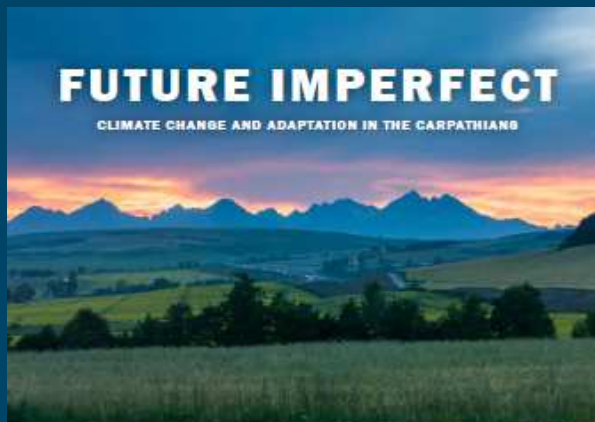
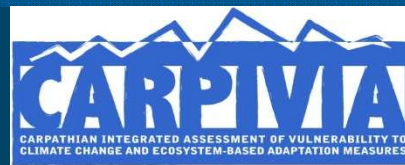
**BIG foot**





# 1. Success – Climate Change

- Strategic Agenda on Adaptation to Climate Change in the Carpathian Region **finalized**



- Publication on Climate Change and Adaptation in the Carpathians



# 1. Success – Climate Change

## What has been done:

### -CARPIVIA

Carpathian integrated assessment of vulnerability to climate change and ecosystem-based adaptation measures

Duration: 2011-2013



### -CarpathCC

**Objective:** Climate Change Framework Project to provide an in-depth assessment of the vulnerability of the Carpathian region to climate change and establish a diversified portfolio of sustainable adaptation measures with the active and valuable cooperation of international environmental experts.



### -CARPATCLIM

**Objective:** to improve the basis of climate data in the Carpathian Region for applied regional climatological studies such as a Climate Atlas and/or drought monitoring, investigate the fine temporal and spatial structure of the climate in the Carpathian Mountains and the Carpathian basin with unified methods.



Picture: J. Kozak



# 1. Success – Climate Change

## What has been done:

- Strategic Agenda on Adaptation to Climate Change in the Carpathian Region
- Joint Statement between the Alpine and Carpathian Convention on Adaptation to Climate Change to be presented and adopted in Lima, Peru in December 2014 during the UNFCCC COP20 at the Mountain Pavilion.



# 1. Success – Cooperation with the European Union

- Regular contacts with the **European Commission, the European Parliament and the Committee of the Regions**
- Continue concrete fruitful cooperation with EC at the project level
- Involvement in the implementation of the existing EU macro-regional strategies and new Operational Programmes



# 1. Success – Cooperation with the Alpine Convention

- **Joint Alpine – Carpathian Statement on Adaptation to Climate Change** to be presented within the Mountain Pavilion of the UNFCCC COP20 Lima, Peru, December 2014,
- Regular contacts with the Alpine Convention in the framework of the concluded Memorandum of Understanding



A Collection on  
the Carpathian  
Convention  
VOL.3



# 1. Success - Cooperation with other International Conventions / bodies / NGOs



# 1. Success - Cooperation with other International Conventions / bodies / NGOs

Rio +20 Summit -  
United Nations on  
Sustainable Development,  
June 2012, Brazil



Rio+20 Conference outcome  
“The Future We Want “

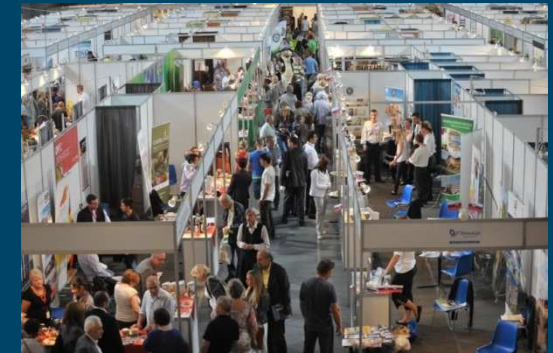


# 1. Success - Cooperation with regions

➤ Alpine - Carpathian Cooperation Forum, Rzeszów



➤ Conference Europe of the Carpathians, Krynica



➤ Involvement in the implementation of EUSDR



➤ Several subnational partners involved in our projects





# 1. Success – 10 years of the Carpathian Convention



# 1. Success - Celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Adoption of the Carpathian Convention



## 2. Challenges - S4C

### Climate Change (CC)

- To use results of recent projects (CARPIVIA, CarpatClim, FORESEE) for planning of adaptation and mitigation actions on all levels
- **Improve involvement of local and regional stakeholders to CC adaptation and resilience building**
- To continue in building of early-warning systems for extreme climatic events



## 2. Challenges

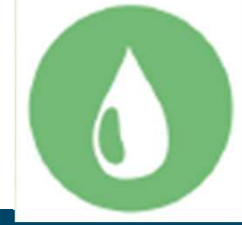


### Air and Water pollution

- To develop **common monitoring system of air pollution and deposition** (esp. N, S, heavy metals) – ICP Forest lev. I and II plots to be included
- To establish a **centralized depository for the environmental chemistry monitoring data** from Carpathians and recommendations for field and laboratory procedures.
- Expand evaluation of **critical loads for nitrogen and sulfur deposition** and acidity as well as **critical levels for ozone exposures**
- Ecosystem-level research and large-scale studies to **understand spatial distribution of nitrogen and sulfur pollution** and mechanisms of its **impact on ecosystems**, especially related to the **Norway spruce dieback**.
- Spring- and stream **water chemistry monitoring** should be conducted as long-term studies at a catchment scale



## 2. Challenges



# Water resources and management

- Recognition of the impact of past and recent human modifications to rivers on their morphological complexity and river biota
- Investigating the impact of climate changes and human activities to hydrological extremes (flood risk, droughts and water scarcity)
- Basin-scale research of river processes and **integrated river basin management** aimed to improve water quality and ecological state of rivers
- Development and implementation of cost-effective river restoration methods focused on improvement of both ecological status of rivers and flood risk management
- Disseminating knowledge about environment-friendly approach to river/water resources management among local and national societies



## 2. Challenges



# Natural hazards and risks

- Activate the research, design teams and projects aimed at individual natural hazards: floods, landslides, avalanches, water erosion, wind storms
- Spatial identification and modelling of natural hazards in new contexts of changing climatic conditions and processes of land use changes
- Modelling of emergence and assess the effects of natural hazards using remote sensing and GIS tools
- **Explore relationship between historical landscape changes and the emergence of natural hazards**
- Develop regulations for land use in areas sensitive to natural hazards and measures for prevention the extreme events



## 2. Challenges



# Land use and land cover change (LULCC)

- Improving the understanding of current drivers of LULCC in the region, in particular those related to the accession to EU and impact of EU policies
- Better understanding the expansion/sprawl of housing (vacation homes) and infrastructure (roads, skiing facilities)
- Assessing changes within broad land cover categories (e.g., changes among forest types, different types of grasslands)
- Mapping agricultural intensity: both inputs (fertilizer, pesticide, field size) and outputs (yields) - combination of satellite and census data
- Better understanding ownership maps (and changes therein)



## 2. Challenges

# Forests, their management and resources

- Develop the action plan for sustainable forest management based on approved Protocol; **prepare inventory of Carpathian virgin and close-to-natural forests**
- To mobilise research and management to stop spruce forest dieback
- To promote multi-functional forestry using participatory and multilevel governance, improve stakeholder engagement
- To conserve and broaden the network of unmanaged forest stands for the conservation of forest biodiversity and the maintenance of natural processes.
- In managed forest to support use of continuous forest cover management systems (tree selection, group selection) and prepare measures supporting conversion of forest monocultures to more natural mixed stands.
- **Develop further remote sensing methods for monitoring forest structure, management measures, disturbances and damages.**
- To study synergic effects of climate change, air pollution, pests and natural hazards to forest health and fragility





## 2. Challenges

# Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity

- To continue in work done in BioregioCarpathians to produce complete set of red lists of Carpathians, list of endemic species and list of invasive species
- To develop strategy for the invasive species elimination
- To study and model expected effects of climate change to sensitive species, especially endemic ones
- Improve habitat connectivity for the umbrella species by removal of barriers and decrease of habitat fragmentation
- To adopt necessary management measures to improve conservation status of wetland, grassland and freshwater habitats, esp. those of European importance
- To use new bioinformatics modelling tool sets and ecosystem service (ES) indicators for ecosystem-scale simulations and ES studies for the Carpathians.



## 2. Challenges

### Sustainable agriculture

- To develop Protocol on sustainable agriculture
- To harmonize the European agrarian subsidy system with the local traditional land-use systems in the mountain regions.
- To develop specific agri-environmental schemes for high diversity Carpathian mountain meadows and pastures with aim to protect traditional land use, traditional ecological knowledge and biodiversity while providing income for the local communities
- To use the extremely rich knowledge of local people on grasslands and their management for definition of individual measures
- To promote multi-functional use of rural landscapes



## 2. Challenges

# Urban and rural development

- Specific paths of urbanization in mountain areas including specific specialisations on a residential economy
- The influence of external metropolitan areas - **demands of peri-Carpathian metropolises on mountain resources (e.g. residences, leisure, water)**
- Influence of changes in society and transport technologies - high mobile, multilocal living population which changes the demands on mountain areas, alters existing value chains in mountains and influence autochthone population.
- Commodification of mountain resources as “landscapes” or via water/raw material extraction on restricting free access on space and on expense on sustainable regional development.



## 2. Challenges

# Tourism and sustainability

- To produce Action plan for sustainable tourism
- Development of a certification scheme for the tourism sustainable structures in three levels, where all sets of indicators are noted and classified.
- Introduce a certified system for sustainable destinations
- Develop common principles for tourists' security in mountain areas.



## 2. Challenges

### Education

- To implement **Education for Sustainable Development strategy in the Carpathian countries**
- **Creation of the special Carpathian Curriculum for universities** - virtual network of universities, research institutions, and NGOs joined by common training courses as well as Bachelor and Master syllabuses
- Exchange of knowledge from other mountain areas; e.g. between researchers and managers from Carpathian and Alpine countries: joint summer courses for PhD and MSc students



### 3. Carpathian Convention in action – COP4

- Protocol on Sustainable Transport
- Strategic Action Plan for the Implementation on the CC Forest Protocol
- Strategy for the Sustainable Tourism
- Strategic Agenda for Adaptation to Climate Change
- Ministerial Declaration on Cultural Heritage
- Joint Alpine – Carpathian Statement on Adoption to Climate Change



# 3. Carpathian Convention in action – COP4

- The Programme of Work 2014 – 2017 approved
- Developing future projects on e.g. Green Infrastructure, Biomass, Forest, Tourism
- Networking and enhancing cooperation
- Strengthening institutional arrangements



# 4. Future priorities



## Priorities of the Czech Republic Presidency of the Carpathian Convention:

- Strengthening of CC involvement in EU funding programs and Macro-regional Strategies.
- Strengthening of the cooperation with the Alpine Convention (focus on adaptation to climate change in mountain areas);
- Greater involvement of the regional and local level in the implementation of the CC in practice;
- Strengthening of the cooperation on the local, regional and international level on landscape, green infrastructure and ecological connectivity related issues
- Enhancing the participation on/ and effectiveness of processes under of the Carpathian Convention.







**EU Strategy for the Danube Region**



- EU national boundaries
- Danube region strategy
- Karpatian area

Source: European Commission, as proposed on 18 December 2012  
Geometrical basis: GFK MACON

# Regions, cities and people - the future of the Carpathian cooperation !



# Carpathian Convention website

**CARPATHIAN CONVENTION**

**DID YOU KNOW THAT ...**  
 ... one-third of all European vascular plant species can be found in the Carpathians? That means almost 4,000 plant species, and 481 of them are found only in the Carpathians!

**THE CONVENTION** | **ACTIVITIES** | **MEETINGS / EVENTS** | **RESOURCES / GALLERY** | **CONTACT THE CONVENTION**

**WELCOME**

The Carpathians are one of Europe's largest mountain ranges, a unique natural treasure of great beauty and ecological value, and home of the headwaters of major rivers. They also constitute a major ecological, economic, cultural, recreational and living environment in the heart of Europe, shared by numerous people and countries.

The Carpathian Convention is a subregional treaty to foster the sustainable development and the protection of the Carpathian region. It has been signed in May 2003 by seven Carpathian States (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Ukraine). [Read more](#)

**QUICK LINKS**

- [Bodies](#)
- [Partners](#)
- [Documents](#)
- [Projects](#)
- [Carpathian Heritage](#)

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**NEWS**

**COP4**  
 CARPATHIAN CONVENTION  
 CZECH REPUBLIC

Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention [Read more...](#)

**EVENTS 2014**

18.11.2014 - 19.11.2014  
 International Conference - Analysis And Management Of Changing Risks For Natural Hazards [Details](#)

23.09.2014 - 26.09.2014  
 COP4 - Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention

16.09.2014 - 19.09.2014  
 Forum Carpathicum 2014: Local

**Get in virtual touch with the Convention!**

[www.carpathianconvention.org](http://www.carpathianconvention.org)

