

**STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROTOCOL ON
SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT (BRATISLAVA, 2011)
TO THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION
ON THE PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE
CARPATHIANS
(KYIV, 2003)**

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Pursuant to Article 20 paragraphs 1¹ and 4² of the Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management (hereinafter referred to as “the Protocol”) to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”), adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention in Bratislava on 27 May 2011;

Welcoming the aim of the Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management to support the Parties to the Carpathian Convention towards their cooperation for the implementation of the Protocol and to give inputs based on their field of expertise and experience to formulate guidelines on the following;

Recalling the Ministerial Declaration of the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention³ and pursuant to Decision COP3/4 on Sustainable agriculture, rural development and forestry, in particular its paragraphs 2⁴, 3⁵ and 6⁶;

Following the Terms of Reference for the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee approved by the Bureau and endorsed by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention by its Decision COP2/13 on Programme of work and budget of the Carpathian Convention paragraph 5⁷;

Mandated by the above Terms of Reference, letter e)⁸ to carry out the function to consider, develop and recommend strategies for the achievement of the objectives of the Convention;

In order to ensure implementation of the provisions of the Protocol

The Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee recommends the following Strategic Action Plan for approval of the Bureau and adoption by the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as follows:

Within the next 12 years the Parties shall undertake the following actions:

¹ “Each Party shall undertake necessary legal and administrative measures for ensuring implementation of the provisions of this Protocol.”

² “The Parties shall develop and adopt the Strategic Action Plan targeted on implementation of this Protocol.”

³ “*Welcome* the adoption and signing of the Protocols on Sustainable Forest Management and on Sustainable Tourism, and call for their timely ratification in accordance with national procedures, and implementation, in collaboration, inter alia with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the Forest Europe Process and other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, entities and processes.”

⁴ Decision COP3/4 paragraph 2: “*Adopts* the Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians”

⁵ Decision COP3/4 paragraph 3: “*Adopts* the revised Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management”

⁶ Decision COP3/4 paragraph 6: “*Requests* the interim Secretariat to coordinate the preparation of a Strategic Action Plan for the implementation of the Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management, taking into account the work done under the auspices of the Working Group”

⁷ Decision COP2/13, paragraph 5: “The Conference of the Parties endorses the terms of reference of the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee, as approved by the Bureau and annexed to the present decision (Annex I)”

⁸ Terms of Reference for the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee: “Served by the Secretariat, the Committee shall carry out the following functions: e) To consider, develop and recommend new and additional Protocols, strategies, or other measures and recommendations for the achievement of the objectives of the Convention”

Objective 1 - Implementation of policies and strategies aiming at sustainable forest management and integration of its objectives into other sectoral policies

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Pursuant to Articles 1, 2, 3 and 6 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 1. 1. Assess, develop, adopt and implement their national policies and strategies aiming at promoting the sustainable management and protection of the Carpathians forests in their national territory, to bring benefits to present and future generation. Potential extension of the Protocol to additional parts of the national territory.

Deleted: harmonise,

Result expected

a) Above mentioned policies and strategies developed and implemented

Action 1. 2. Communicate the objectives and provisions of the Protocol to relevant international bodies responsible for, or involved in development or revision of other regional or global sectoral policies and strategies, such as the EU macroregional Strategies for Danube (EUSDR) and Black Sea Regions (EUSBSR), which could have influence on the sustainable management and protection of the forests in the Carpathians and facilitate in-country consultations, to ensure that the objectives of the Protocol are duly taken into account in their national, regional and global policies. In particular, that they are integrated in those policies on biodiversity conservation, soil protection, rural development, water and river basin management, climate change, tourism, industry and energy, cultural heritage and traditional knowledge conservation, spatial planning, transport and infrastructure.

Results expected

a) Relevant objectives of the Protocol integrated in relevant national policies

b) Issues relevant for the Protocol adequately included in the agenda of the national inter sectoral dialogue

c) Regular contacts with the relevant international bodies and update on their activities ensured

d) Participation of at least one Carpathian representative in relevant international conference/meetings and involvement of the relevant international bodies in the conference/meetings organized within the Convention ensured

e) Contacts with EU institutions and bodies further developed

f) Objectives of the Protocol added and adequately integrated In the EU and other relevant funds available for rural development, biodiversity, regional development, climate change

g) Consideration of the provisions of the Protocol during the development of a Legally Binding Agreement on Forests in Europe

Action 1. 3. Encourage consultations, coordination and cooperation between global and regional institutions, local authorities and other stakeholders concerned of each Party, to involve them in the development and implementation of national policies and strategies and the resulting measures which could have influence on the sustainable forest management and protection in the Carpathians.

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Results expected

a) *Inclusion of the issues relevant for the Forest Protocol in the agenda of the consultative meetings*

b) *Strengthen cooperation between all stakeholders on sustainable management and protection of forests in the Carpathians*

Objective 2 – Maintaining and enlarging forest cover

Pursuant to Articles 8 and 1 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 2. 1. Take measures to maintain existing forest cover through sustainable forest management and spatial planning.

Results expected

- a) Existing level of forest cover is preserved on a level of 2010 year (last FRA) or increased
- b) Above mentioned measures taken
- c) Exchange information and best practices on the measures taken

Action 2. 2. Take measures, ~~if appropriate,~~ to enlarge forest cover, while taking into account the high ecological importance of natural and semi natural grasslands and the other goals of the Carpathian Convention and its Protocols.

Comment [p1]: Slovakia To be in line with the text of the Protocol.

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Results expected

- a) Areas in need of afforestation in the national territory to be identified
- b) Measures taken to enlarge forests using mainly native species
- c) Consultation and information exchange among the stakeholders on the measures
- d) Silvicultural measures
- e) Exchange information and best practices for the measures taken

Objective 3 – Ensuring the productive functions of the forests and their role in rural development

Pursuant to Articles 1 and 9 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 3. 1. Develop and implement measures aiming at ensuring the productive functions of the forests, and enhance their role in rural development through appropriate policies adapted to the ownership structure and the sound use of wood.

Results expected

- a) *Forest land property and management rights in the national territories to be defined and respected*
- b) *Rural areas and owners concerned to be identified*
- c) *Source of livelihood of the rural populations clearly to be identified*
- d) *Forest land owners and users expectations on ensuring productive function of forest to be defined*
- e) *Uses of wood in different local industries to be outlined*
- f) *Foster the contribution of forest management and sound use of wood to green economy*
- g) *Consultation with shareholders and local communities on challenges in the productive functions of forests*
- h) *Sound use of wood and non-wood products according to relevant normative documents on sustainable forest management in Carpathians practiced*
- i) *Promote and ensure sources of income by raising the added value on forest resources*
- j) *Provide support to the forest owner and managers and their associations*

Comment [p2]: Slovakia What owners? Forest owners?

Action 3. 2. Reduce problems due to the land ownership fragmentation.

Results expected

- a) *Support provided to the forest owners, managers and their associations*
- b) *Property consolidation*

Action 3. 3. Combat illegal logging and associated trade through enforcing forest law.

Results expected

- a) *Coordinated and harmonised approaches to combat illegal logging and associated trade, inter alia, through implementing the EU timber regulation and the EU FLEGT Action Plan*
- b) *Coordinated due diligence systems including timber tracking tool*

Comment [p3]: Slovakia The EU law and the FLEGT action plan should be used only as examples as not all Parties are the EU member states.

Action 3. 4. Promote sustainable harvesting and marketing of non-wood forest products.

Results expected

- a) *Non-wood forest products to be explicitly defined and recognizable*

b) Measures on the promotion of the abovementioned products to be developed and implemented

c) Status of sustainable harvesting and marketing of non-wood forest products to be assessed and protected through adapted strategies

Comment [p4]: Slovakia Clarification needed

Action 3. 5. Develop and spread the use of systems of payment for ecosystem services.

Result expected

a) Measures on promoting spread use of compensation for ecosystems services developed and implemented

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Objective 4 – Cooperation at regional level

Pursuant to Articles 1, 4 and 26 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 4. 1. Define the best level of coordination and cooperation between national institutions and regional and local authorities and communities to encourage shared responsibilities in the process of implementation of the Protocol ~~this Protocol~~, for example using the available EU sectoral, regional and neighbourhood instruments and programs.

Action 4. 2. Measures to facilitate the involvement and to promote the participation of regional and local authorities and communities and other stakeholders in forest management.

Action 4. 3. Activities to integrate communities and forest owners and managers concerned in the various stages of preparing and implementing national policies and measures.

Results expected

a) Above mentioned measures and activities developed

b) Initiatives aimed at raising stakeholders awareness on the importance of sustainable forest management developed

Objective 5 – International cooperation

Pursuant to Articles 2, 5, 11 and 16 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 5. 1. Active cooperation among competent institutions to better and farther implement the objectives of the Protocol, e.g. enforce the sustainable management and the protection of the forests beyond national borders, while taking into account the added value of transboundary cooperation in achieving the ecological coherence.

Results expected

a) *Active exchange of relevant information with other Parties*

b) *Cooperation in creating guidelines for the management of forests including close to nature forestry in Protected Areas, and where applicable, Natura 2000 sites*

c) *Measures aimed at granting legal protective status to transboundary Protected Areas and to priority connecting corridors in border areas adopted*

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Action 5. 2. Facilitate the cooperation between regional and local authorities at the international level through appropriate policies and strategies to involve them and permitting their easy participation. Implement measures seeking to solve shared problems at the most suitable level.

Results expected

a) *New cooperative arrangements and agreements between regional and local authorities established and common implementation of the existing ones enhanced*

b) *External funding identified and proposal for common projects prepared*

Action 5. 3. Develop and implement policies and/or strategies in their national territory aiming at improving the sustainable management of the Carpathian forests while taking into consideration policies and/or strategies developed and implemented by other Parties.

Results expected

a) *Cooperation and exchange of information on their policies related to ecological networks and the forest management objectives and measures*

b) *Budgetary and other domestic resources identified and allocated*

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Objective 6 – Development of compatible monitoring systems and a joint information system

Pursuant to Article 17 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 6. 1. Cooperate, within the framework of existing international initiatives, on harmonising the forest monitoring in the Carpathians by establishing a joint information system on the ecological state of forests in the Carpathians (according to Art. 12, CC).

Results expected

a) Information on state of forest and results of national forest monitoring integrated in the Carpathian Convention joint information system efficient, regularly updated and accessible

b) Identification of necessary resources

c) Databases harmonised

Objective 7 – Coordinated scientific research and exchange of information

Pursuant to Articles 1 and 18 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 7. 1. Promoting and coordinating scientific research and information exchange on Carpathian forests.

Results expected

a) *Encouraged organization of symposia, conferences and meetings to facilitate and ensure scientific information and exchange of practical experience*

b) *Use of these information as basis for better and farther implement policies and strategies*

c) *Effective information and experience exchange with other Parties on methods listed under Art. 1 paragraph 2 of the Protocol*

d) Scientific research Carpathian Convention joint information system ~~common database and directory linked to established and updated on the Convention website~~

Comment [MG5]: FAO

Comment [MG6]: FAO

e) *Research, scientific and technical cooperation at national, regional and international levels encouraged and improved, interdisciplinary research promoted*

Action 7. 2. Coordinate and cooperate on scientific research undertaken in its territory, or by its scientific institutions.

Results expected

a) *International cooperation among scientific institutions launched*

b) *Common research programs and projects undertaken to improve sustainable forest management in the Carpathians*

c) *Participation of scientists and experts in the common expert networks, such as the Forest Working Group meetings ensured*

d) *Funds to submit common scientific projects identified and projects prepared and developed*

Objective 8 – Common programs and projects

Pursuant to Article 19 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 8. 1. Active participation according to the needs and possibilities of each Party, in common programs and projects on activities jointly undertaken in the Carpathians by the Parties.

Results expected

- a) *Joint actions, projects and programmes undertaken and implemented*
- b) *Common aims and policies implemented, development of integrated and harmonised management plans supported*
- c) *Cooperation, coordination, consultation, discussion, negotiation engaged with the Parties*

Comment [p7]: Slovakia Management plans for what? Forest or other?

Objective 9 – Financial measures

Pursuant to Article 20 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 9. 1. Explore the possibilities of supporting, through fiscal and/or financial measures, the implementation of the provisions of the Protocol, its objectives and all the linked actions and activities undertaken.

Result expected

a) *Implementation of the provisions of the Protocol supported through fiscal and financial measures*

Action 9. 2. Identify, develop and apply appropriate schemes for payment for environmental goods and services provided by forests.

Results expected

a) *Stimulated market-based initiatives including forest certification schemes*

b) *Details and description of the various forest goods and services and their uses as sources of income*

c) *Measures on the promotion of the above mentioned goods and services resources of income developed, shared, and implemented*

d) *Ecosystem services and their schemes of payment assessed*

Comment [MG8]: FAO: Looking at Article 20 of the Protocol it is not clear how the new Action 9.2 fits here under objective 9

Comment [MG9]: FAO: the Parties are not the right addressees! "market-based initiatives" are by definition "market-driven processes" – why and in which way should the Parties interfere?

Comment [MG10]: FAO: It is not clear what Parties are expected to do under this action since the results a) and b) are not formulated as "results" (they are missing a "verb" describing the action to be performed);

Comment [MG11]: FAO: Results b), c) and d) under Action 9.2 are already covered by Action 3.1, 3.4 and 3.5 and their results

Objective 10 – Education, information and public awareness

Pursuant to Article 21 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 10. 1. Promote the education, information and public awareness on forests in the Carpathians, including cultural heritage and traditional knowledge practices related to forest management.

Results expected

- a) Education on forests integrated into national curricula*
- b) Public information campaigns implemented*

Action 10. 2. Ensure the public access to the information on the implementation of the Protocol and all data published, taking into account also Aarhus Convention principles and tools.

Result expected

- a) Information related to the Protocol in the national websites and the Carpathian Convention website ensured*

Objective 11 – Social functions of the forests

Pursuant to Articles 1 and 15 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 11. 1. Within the existing institutional framework, establish effective schemes to increase coordination and cooperation between the institutions and regional and local authorities concerned with forest resources management, with the involvement of other local stakeholders, to enhance social function of forests, in particular concerning job creation and increase of employment in the region.

Results expected

- a) *Effective schemes established*
- b) *Job creation and employment measures taken into account in the sustainable forest resources management schemes*

Action 11. 2. Considering the high value of forests for tourism development, take into account sustainable tourism policies in forest management planning.

Results expected

- a) *Forest zonation considering to the tourism value to be implemented*
- b) *Tourism forest areas to be defined*
- c) *Tourism policies to be taken into account within forest management policies*
- d) *Tourism, cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and forest management to be linked to promote their common high value while increasing local populations livelihoods*

Objective 12 – Management of forests in Protected Areas and identification and protection of natural and especially virgin forests

Pursuant to Articles 1, 10 and 11 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 12. 1. Take measures to identify and protect natural forests and especially virgin forests through establishing Protected Areas in sufficient size and number and/or other specific measures of protection.

Comment [p12]: Slovakia To be in line with the Protocol.

Results expected

a) *Definition & criteria of virgin forests harmonised in all the countries in the region*

b) *Scientific data, national inventories and maps of natural and especially virgin forests compiled, analysed and updated, inventory of virgin forests included in Carpathian Convention joint information system ~~information systems~~*

Comment [MG13]: Comment FAO

c) *Virgin forests to be protected through establishing Protected Areas in sufficient number and size and/or other specific measures of protection*

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Comment [p14]: Slovakia To be in line with the Protocol

d) *Sufficient areas of all types of identified natural forests included in Protected Areas*

e) *Joint actions among administrations responsible for Protected Areas in the Carpathians facilitated*

Action 12. 2. Undertake measures aiming at preserving genetic resources of natural forests.

Results expected

a) *Valuable genetic resources to be detailed, listed and made recognizable in each territory*

b) *Above mentioned policies to be implemented and inherent activities to be facilitated*

c) *Measures on the sustainable use and preservation of these resources to be developed and implemented*

d) *Catalogue of measures including all the already existing measures of national and regional legislations developed, taking into account the results and experiences of ongoing projects*

Action 12. 3. Adopt measures to compensate costs or economic losses resulting from above mentioned measures.

Results expected

a) *Said economic implications to be addressed by the development of compensation schemes*

b) *Costs or economic losses to be clearly calculated and defined, and specific measures to compensate them to be implemented*

Action 12. 4. Ensure the coherence between the Protected Areas management plans and the forest management plans.

Results expected

a) *Methodology for creation of forest management plans in Protected Areas developed*

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b) *Coherent management plans achieved and implemented for all these Protected Areas*

c) *Increase cooperation on forest management among Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA) members*

d) *Joint actions among administrations responsible for Protected Areas in the Carpathians facilitated*

e) *Financial programmes to submit project proposals identified and project proposals prepared*

Action 12. 5. Implement measures in their national territory with the objective to ensure the long-term conservation or maintenance, protection, restoration and sustainable use of natural forests.

Results expected

a) *Identify and assess current and potential future threats to the conservation status of these types of forests, within the national territory of each Party*

b) *Elaborate guidelines for special conservation measures to be undertaken if need be, with the objective to ensure the long-term conservation, protection, maintenance, restoration and sustainable use of all types of endangered forests*

c) *Priority actions to be identified*

d) *Inclusion of the foreseen activities in the agenda of the meetings of the common expert networks, such as the Forest Working Group.*

Objective 13 – Improvement of the protective forest functions

Pursuant to Articles 1, 11, 12 and 16 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 13. 1. Adopt measures to improve the protective functions of forests in general, such as better preventing floods, soil erosion, landslides, avalanches and rock falls by promoting appropriate forest management methods, to enhance stability and resistance to natural and anthropogenic disturbances.

Result expected

a) Experience shared on measures aimed at enhancing forests protective functions

Objective 14 – Promotion of restoration of close to nature forests

Pursuant to Articles 1, 11 and 13 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 14. 1. Promotion of restoration of secondary forest stands to close to nature forests through identification, development and implementation of best forest management practices.

Results expected

- a) Common catalog of best forest management practices elaborated*
- b) Secondary forest stands to be restored identified*
- c) Programmes for protection and reintroduction of rare native forest species in their natural ecosystems established*

Objective 15 – Forestry and climate change

Pursuant to Articles 1 and 14 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 15. 1. Adopt measures, policies and strategies to enhance the role of forest-based sector and forestry in mitigating climate change. Give a particular attention to find the right balance between increasing carbon stocks in forest ecosystems, promote the use of renewable wood energy, and the sound use of wood products as substitutes of rough materials derived from non renewable resources.

Deleted: general

Deleted: sector

Results expected

a) Increased sound use of wood following defined guidelines and best practices

b) Guidelines on sustainable production and use of biomass for energy purposes, in the Carpathians elaborated

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Comment [p15]: Slovakia If we talk about forests and forest based sector, biomass is the only renewable source that can be used for energy production.

c) Experiences shared and projects for promoting carbon sequestration developed

Deleted: (for example biomass)

Action 15. 2. Take into consideration the effects of climate change and the increasing vulnerability of forests towards fires and other extreme events due to it, pursuing adaptation policies and measures aiming at increasing the stability and the resilience of the Carpathian forests.

Result expected

a) Above mentioned strategies and policies to be effectively implemented

Objective 16 – Forestry, wildlife and ecological networks

Pursuant to Article 16 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 16. 1. Develop and adapt methods to apply sustainable wildlife management.

Results expected

a) Coordinated regulation measures in borderland regions developed and adopted

b) Population size of hoofed game controlled

c) Above mentioned methods developed and adopted

d) Existing tools for sustainable forest management wildlife management and ecological connectivity promoted

Comment [p16]: Slovakia What is a meaning of the term “responsible forestry”? We would recommend to use rather the term “sustainable forest management” in the text.

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Objective 17 – Effectiveness, ensuring implementation of the Strategic Action Plan

Pursuant to Articles 20, 25 and 26 of the Protocol the Parties shall undertake:

Action 17. 1. The Parties shall take all the needed actions to ensure the implementation of the Protocol in cooperation with other relevant expert networks for the activities within the scope of their competences.

Results expected

- a) *Above mentioned actions to be realized*
- b) *Tools to give an account of the implemented measures to be developed and applied*
- c) *Ensure that all the needed actions are taken to implement the Protocol in cooperation with the relevant expert networks for the activities within the scope of their competences*

Action 17. 2. Designate a relevant national authority responsible for the implementation of the Protocol and make this information available to other Parties.

Result expected

- a) *Authorities designated and published on the Carpathian Convention website*

Action 17. 3. Appoint and delegate relevant experts to common expert networks conducive to achieving the objectives of this Strategic Action Plan, support and coordinate the work of these networks in order to ensure implementation of the provisions of this Strategic Action Plan.

Result expected

- a) *Relevant experts appointed to the Forest Working Group and other expert networks*

Action 17. 4. The Parties shall submit to the Secretariat three months prior to each ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties a three years report on activities aimed at implementing the Protocol and their effectiveness, on the basis of the format elaborated by the Forest Working Group.

Results expected

- a) *Three years report on activities aimed at implementing the Protocol and their effectiveness drafted and updated*
- b) *Submission of the Report to the Secretariat*
- c) *Report submitted and considered by the Conference of the Parties*

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

COP	Conference of the Parties
CNPA	Carpathian Network of Protected Areas
EU	European Union
EUSDR	European Union Strategy for Danube Region
EUSBSR	European Union Strategy for Black Sea Region
FRA	Forest Resources Assessment
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement, Government and Trade

Relevant documents and web links

Carpathian Convention

UNEP, (2003): Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (**Carpathian Convention**)
www.carpathianconvention.org

| UNEP, Carpathian Convention (2011): Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management (**Forest Protocol**) Deleted: 2008

http://kcpd0.w4yserver.at/tl_files/carpathiancon/Downloads/01%20The%20Convention/1.1.2.2%20ProtocolonSustainableForestManagementsigned27may2011.pdf

| UNEP, Carpathian Convention (2008): Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity (**Biodiversity Protocol**) Deleted: 2011

http://kcpd0.w4yserver.at/tl_files/carpathiancon/Downloads/01%20The%20Convention/1.1.2.1%20BiodiversityProtocolFinalsigned.pdf

UNEP, Carpathian Convention (2011): Protocol on Sustainable Tourism (**Tourism Protocol**)

http://kcpd0.w4yserver.at/tl_files/carpathiancon/Downloads/01%20The%20Convention/1.1.2.3%20ProtocolonSustainableTourismsigned27may2011.pdf

UNEP, Carpathian Convention: Terms of Reference (**ToRs**) for the Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management

http://kcpd0.w4yserver.at/tl_files/carpathiancon/Downloads/02%20Activities/2.1.4%20ToR%20WG%20Sustainable%20Forest%20Management.pdf

EU

Regulation (EU) No 995/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market (**Timber Regulation**) Deleted: [Illegal]

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/forests/timber_regulation.htm

Council Directive 2009/147/EEC of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds (**Birds Directive**)

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/birdsdirective/index_en.htm

Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (**Habitats Directive**)

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index_en.htm

Council Directive 85/337/EEC of 27 June 1985 on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (**Environmental Impact Assessment**)

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/eia-legalcontext.htm>

Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (**Strategic Environmental Assessment**)

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/sea-legalcontext.htm>

Directive 2004/35/CE of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage (**Environmental Liability Directive**)

<http://eurex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2004:143:0056:0075:EN:PDF>

European Commission, (2006): Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on an EU Forest Action Plan, Brussels COM(2006) 302 final

http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/fore/action_plan/com_en.pdf

Council of the European Union, (2006): Renewed EU Sustainable Development; DOC 10917/06

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eussd/>

European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL)

<http://impel.eu/>

Conventions

UNECE, (1998): Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (**Aarhus Convention**)

<http://www.unece.org/env/pp/treatytext.html>

Council of Europe (1979): Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural habitats (**Bern Convention**)

<http://conventions.coe.int/treaty/en/Treaties/Html/104.htm>

UNECE, (1991): Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (**Espoo (EIA) Convention**)

<http://www.unece.org/env/eia/eia.htm>

UNESCO, (1972): Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (**World Heritage Convention**)

<http://whc.unesco.org/archive/convention-en.pdf>

Projects

UNEP, (2000) : Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians in a Transnational Framework (**INTERREG IIIB CADSES Carpathian project**)

<http://www.carpathianproject.eu/portal/>

Others

Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (**Forest Europe**)

<http://www.foresteuropa.org/>

EU, (2003): Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Action Plan (**FLEGT Action Plan**)

<http://www.euflegt.efi.int/portal/>

FAO, (2010): Global Forest Resources Assessment 2010 (**FRA 2010**)

<http://www.fao.org/forestry/fra/fra2010/en/>