



**Introductory presentation on progress of work since COP5  
and preparations for COP6**

**11<sup>th</sup> Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee Meeting**  
8 October 2020 | ONLINE MEETING

| UN Environment Vienna Office – Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention

# The Carpathian Convention

- A framework Convention for cooperation and multi-sectoral policy coordination
- Adopted on 22nd May 2003
- Entered in force on 4th January 2006
- Ratified by all the seven Carpathian countries
- A platform for joint strategies for sustainable development
- A forum for dialogue between all stakeholders involved
- UN Environment Vienna Office provides the Secretariat for the Carpathian Convention
- Goal: Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathian Region



# Carpathian Convention - regional instrument for achieving Sustainable Development Goals in the Carpathians



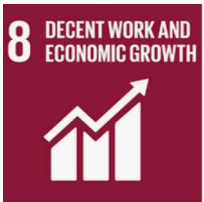
4.7



6.3, 6.5, 6.6, 6.A



7.2, 7.A



8.4



9.1



11.4, 11.A,



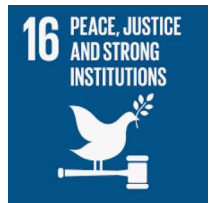
12.2, 12.4, 12.8,  
12.A, 12.B



13.1, 13.2, 13.3



15.1, 15.2, 15.3,  
**15.4,** 15.5, 15.7,  
15.8, 15.9, 15.A



16.7



17.14, 17.16



eurac  
research

# Institutional Structure and Protocols



Conference of the Parties (COP)

Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee (CCIC)



Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity



Protocol on Sustainable Tourism



Protocol on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge



Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management



Protocol on Sustainable Transport



Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development



Protocol in progress



Protocol in place

# 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties COP5 Hungary, 2017

---

Adoption and signature of the Protocol on  
Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

---

Adoption of the new Article on Climate Change  
to the Carpathian Convention

---

Adoption of the COP5 Decisions



# Towards the 6<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the Carpathian Convention

Detailed reporting on the activities implemented/undertaken under the Carpathian Convention Programme of Work 2018 -2020 is available in the [Progress Report for COP6](#) compiled by the Secretariat

All documents relevant for the CCIC meeting are made available at the Carpathian Convention website/11<sup>th</sup> CCIC meeting page [LINK](#)



# Improving functioning of the Carpathian Convention Working Groups

## Objective:

Establishing a role of the Chairperson of each existing Working Group (WGs) to enhance the implementation of the Convention and support cooperation and exchange of information among WGs and other relevant actors.

## Proposed activities by the WG's Chairpersons:

- Regular communication with other WGs Chairpersons and Focal Points for information exchange (at the meeting of the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee, COPs)
- Substantial support in organization of the WG meeting, including suggesting topics for a meeting agenda, charging of the WG meeting
- Reporting to the CCIC on the activities undertaken by the WGs
- Guiding the implementation of the WG's activities.

All, the above activities will be realized in regular contact with and with strong support of the Secretariat.

Table indicating the Parties' preferences regarding taking the leading role of the Carpathian Convention Working Groups (WG) for the period of 2021 – 2023 (from COP6 to COP7)

Name of the Working Group	1 <sup>st</sup> choice	2 <sup>nd</sup> choice
<b>WG on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity</b>	Czech Republic	
<b>WG on Spatial Development</b>		
<b>WG on Agriculture and Rural Development</b>		Hungary conditionally
<b>WG on Sustainable Forest Management</b>	Slovakia/Poland	
<b>WG on Sustainable Industry, Energy, Transport and Infrastructure</b>		
<b>WG on Sustainable Tourism</b>		
<b>WG on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge</b>	Slovakia	
<b>WG on Adaptation to Climate Change</b>	Hungary	



## BIODIVERSITY WG MEETINGS:

- 9th meeting of the Working Group on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity (WG Biodiversity) organized back to back with the EUSDR PA2 Workshop on minimising the negative impacts of power lines on birds, held on 29 – 31 May 2019 in Ostrava, Czech Republic
- 10th meeting of the WG Biodiversity organized back to back with workshop on large carnivores monitoring and conservation in the Carpathians, held on 25 – 28 November 2019 in Coltesti, Romania
- 11th meeting of the WG Biodiversity organized online on 10 March 2020



9TH MEETING OF THE WORKING  
GROUP ON BIODIVERSITY  
(OSTRAVA, 30. - 31. 5. 2019)





# Implementing the Protocol on Biodiversity



Art. 4 of the Carpathian Convention

Strategic Action Plan

International Action Plan for the Conservation and Sustainable Management of the Carpathian Large Carnivores Populations

2008

2017

2003

2011

2020

Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity (Biodiversity Protocol)

COP5 DECISIONS



## Large Carnivores Action Plan aims to :

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

Standardize monitoring procedures of large carnivores in the Carpathians

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2

Prevent habitat fragmentation and ensure ecological connectivity in the Carpathians

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

Improve coexistence of humans with large carnivores

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4

Improve law enforcement with respect to illegal killing of large carnivores

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 5

Improve communication and cooperation between all relevant stakeholders

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 6

Strengthen institutional capacity-building

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 7

Decrease impacts of climate change on large carnivores and their habitats



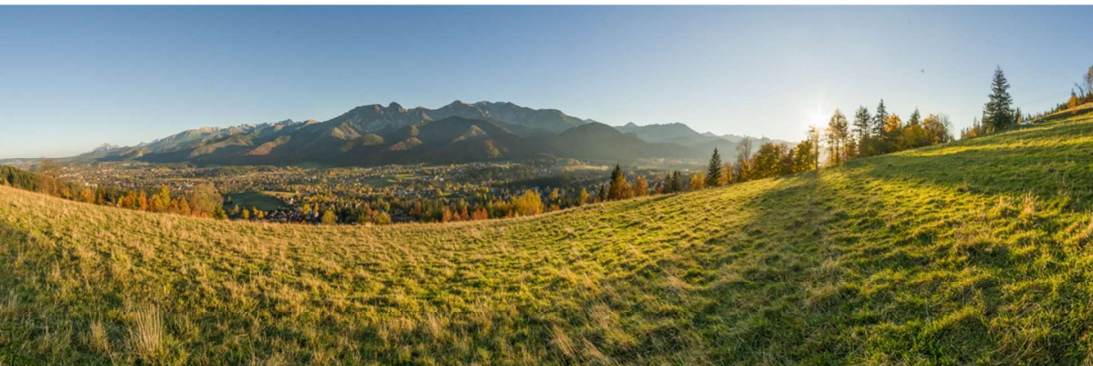


## Objectives

- **Eco-corridors and connectivity gaps identified in the Carpathians**
- **Capacity for identifying and managing eco-corridors improved**
- **Nature conservation and spatial planning practises reconciled**

## Expected Outputs especially relevant for COP6

- **Action Plan for the Identification, Preservation and Management of Ecological Corridors**
- **Methodology for identifying eco-corridors** incl. habitat suitability model, critical zones, eco-corridor database, CCIBIS
- **Guidelines on reducing conflicts** of nature conservation and spatial planning practices
- **Capacity building** of protected areas' staff, **e-learning tool for ecological corridors**, CNPA conference, Decision Support Tool
- **Development of management measures for mitigating threats** to eco-corridors in the pilot areas by using active stakeholder engagement processes
- **Transferability strategy** for best practices in mountainous areas



© Rastislav Staník

## 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

## CHALLENGES

- Promoting joint actions for integrated management of biodiversity, including joint transnational thematic task forces, involving experts from Carpathian countries
- Developing and testing innovative environmental management tools
- Strengthening the role of the Carpathian Convention in implementing the cohesion among the member states





## CNPA AND YOUTH AT THE TOP 2020

Throughout several Alpine and Carpathian protected areas and natural sites, young people were involved in an engaging nature exploration experience (16 July-30 September 2020)

## CNPA UPCOMING EVENTS IN COOPERATION WITH CENTRALPARKS AND CONNECTGREEN

- 1<sup>st</sup> CNPA Steering Committee Round Table online: 1<sup>st</sup> week of December 2020/January 2021
- 2<sup>nd</sup> CNPA round table: side event together with other Protected Areas' networks on 21-25 June 2021, Forum Carpathicum, Brno, Czech Republic and/or back to back to ConnectGREEN PPs meeting in April 2021
- CNPA Conference: 28-30 September 2021 (tbc), Visegrad, Hungary (physical/on-line/mixed/each country organize an event at the same time)
- CNPA on-line webinar series October-November 2021

## CNPA & SOCIAL NETWORKS

Facebook community page to share members' news

TOGETHER TO  
THE TOP!

JULY 16TH- SEPTEMBER  
30TH, 2020



# Implementing the Protocol on Sustainable Transport

## TRANSPORT WG MEETINGS:

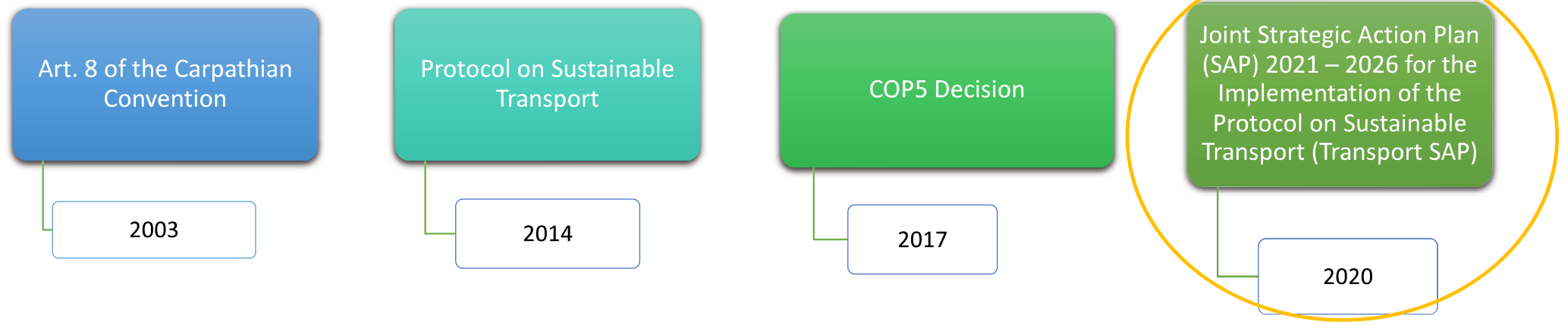
- 8th meeting of the Working Group on Sustainable Transport + IENE Workshop, held on 16 -17 May 2018 in Budapest, Hungary
- 9th meeting of the Working Group on Sustainable Transport, held on 1 – 2 April 2019 in Budapest, Hungary
- 10th meeting of the WG Transport organized online on 11 March 2020

## → In cooperation with TRANSGREEN:

- Conference on “Sustainable transportation planning in the Carpathians. Latest developments and steps forward” , 5-6 September 2018, Bratislava, Slovakia
- EU-LEVEL CONFERENCE “Pathways to Greener Transport Infrastructure. Solutions and Policy Options for Sustainable Road & Rail Networks in Europe”, 25 June 2019, Bucharest, Romania



# Implementing the Protocol on Sustainable Transport



## Joint Strategic Action Plan (SAP) 2021 – 2026 for the Implementation of the Protocol on Sustainable Transport aims to:

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

Reducing negative impact of existing transport infrastructure on ecological connectivity

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2

Ecological connectivity and wildlife-vehicle collisions are taken into account in the development of transport infrastructure

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

Fostered cooperation of all relevant stakeholders of Carpathian Convention and enhancement of stakeholder participation in spatial planning, and development of transport infrastructure



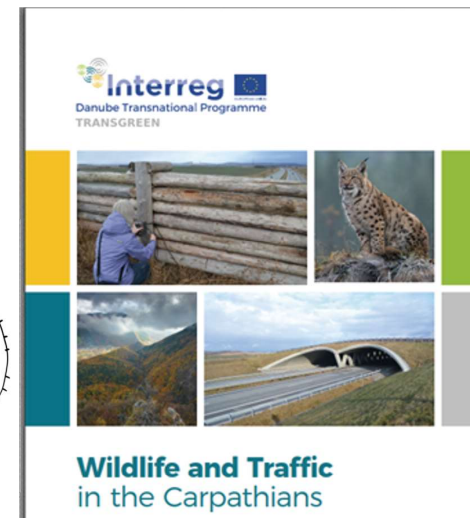
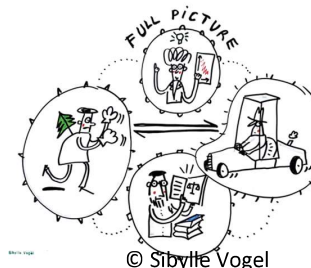


**TRANSGREEN-Integrated Transport and Green Infrastructure Planning in the Danube-Carpathian Region for the Benefit of People and Nature**

Duration: 2017– 2019  
Lead Partner: WWF-CEE, 12 Partners, 9 Associated Strategic Partners  
Funding: INTERREG Danube Transnational Programme

**TRANSGREEN Achievements**

- **Improved collaboration** between the sectors and across the target countries, awareness raised among relevant stakeholders - over 460 organisations!
- **Guidelines on Wildlife and Traffic** endorsed by 7 Parties to the Carpathian Convention and apted to national needs in Romania
- **EIA Training Package** successfully increases capacity in Ukraine & Romania
- **Catalogues of measures** provide good solutions for existing and planned motorways in the pilot areas, uptake into Defragmentation Programme in the Czech Republic, good basis for future planning of A8 highway in Romania
- Final Conference Declaration “Pathways to Greener Transport Infrastructure” addressing EU and national decision-makers
- **Draft Joint Strategic Action Plan 2021 – 2026** for the Implementation of the Protocol on Sustainable Transport - Carpathian Convention





## Objectives

- Knowledge/experience among relevant authorities and key stakeholders increased
- **Cross-sectoral practices improved** relevant to Green Infrastructure for integrated mitigation measures, implementation and monitoring
  - Agriculture, forestry, water & protected area management, transport infrastructure, spatial planning
- International and national **governance framework** strengthened at all levels, national, EU, EUSDR, Carpathian Convention

## Expected Outputs

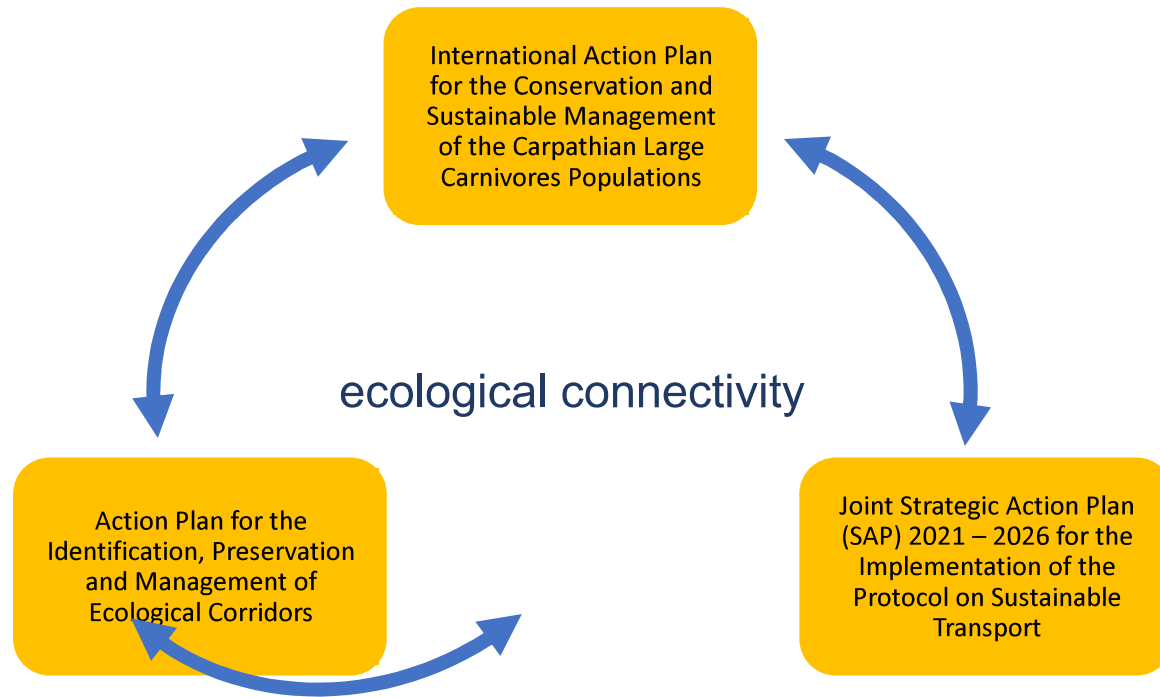
- Standardized **methodology for monitoring** structural and functional connectivity incl. application toolbox for fieldwork & analysis, CCIBIS
- **Local cross-sectoral operational plans** for each pilot area including preparatory actions for its implementation
- **International on-site workshops** to develop solutions & exchange experience held in the pilot areas
- **Capacity building program** for authorities & training events for public authorities and key players on cost/benefit analysis, SEA, EIA, etc.
- **Joint political declaration on maintaining and restoring Green Infrastructure with a focus on spatial planning**
- **Recommendations** towards the integration of mitigation measures into the national and EU level policy processes (GI funding measure)
- **International conference** in coordination with IENE 2022 Conference



Working Group on  
Biodiversity

Working Group on  
Sustainable Transport

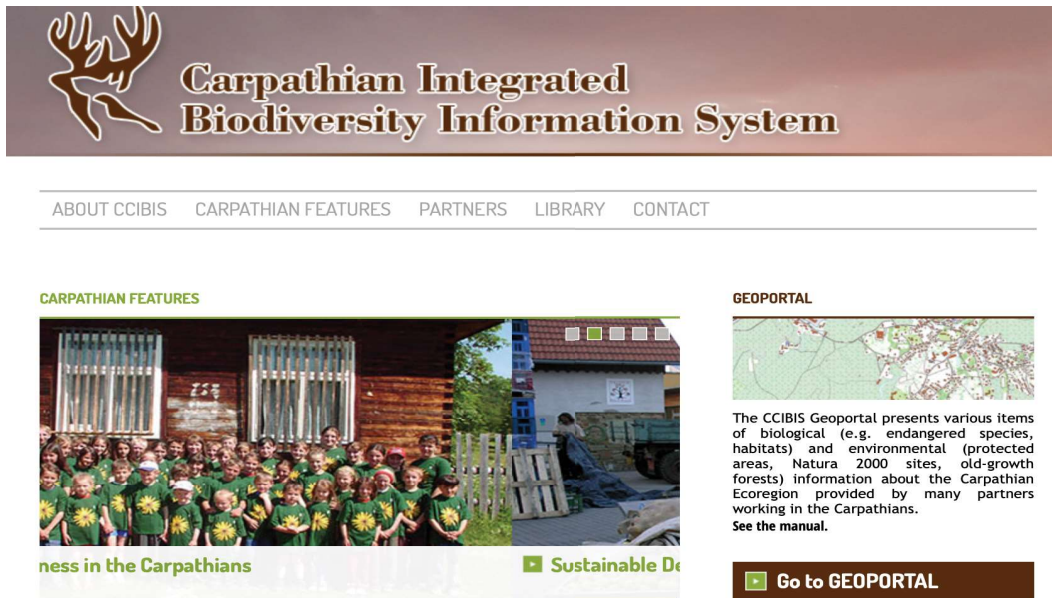
# Supporting ecological connectivity in the Carpathians



Working Group on  
Biodiversity

Working Group on  
Sustainable Transport

# Carpathian Integrated Biodiversity Information System – tool supporting implementation of the Carpathian Convention



The screenshot shows the CCIBIS website header with a logo of a stag and the text "Carpathian Integrated Biodiversity Information System". Below the header is a navigation menu with links: ABOUT CCIBIS, CARPATHIAN FEATURES, PARTNERS, LIBRARY, CONTACT. The main content area is divided into two sections: "CARPATHIAN FEATURES" and "GEOPORTAL". The "CARPATHIAN FEATURES" section includes a photo of a group of children in green shirts and a button labeled "Sustainable Development". The "GEOPORTAL" section includes a map and a button labeled "Go to GEOPORTAL".

CCIBIS provides a scientific network for professionals and a platform for increasing awareness, not only for relevant stakeholders, but also for members of civil society as well as anyone interested in the Carpathian region. The CCIBIS is an open source tool and living platform, thus any organization, institution or private person is welcome to share its data. The platform contributes to overcome the generally observed lack of data availability. It has been built and extended under the Interreg projects BioREGIO, TRANSGREEN, ConnectGREEN and SaveGREEN.  
Link: <http://www.ccibis.org/>



Being installed into the Carpathian Convention



Relevant information to be integrated into the EEA  
Information Systems

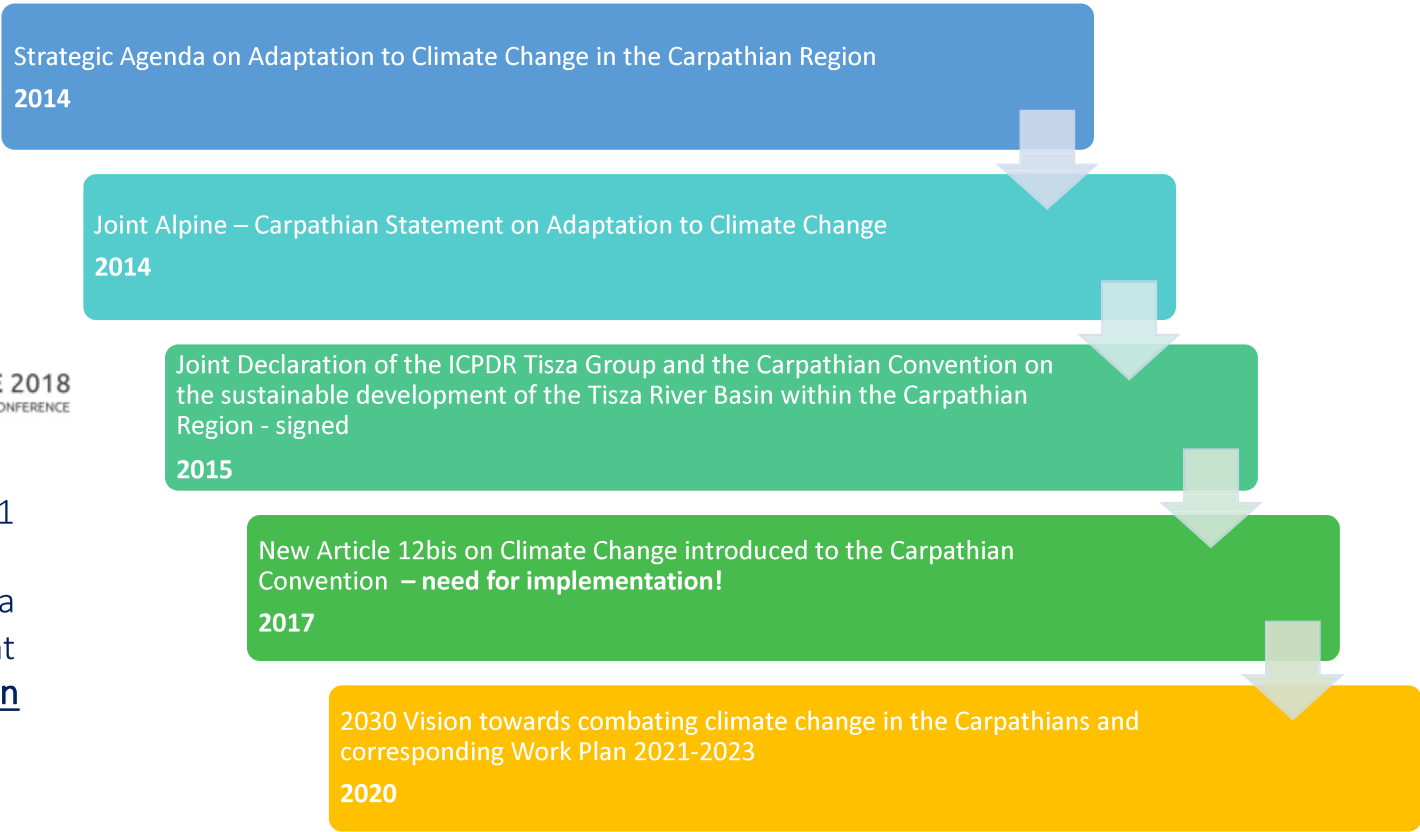
## Working Group on Climate Change

### CLIMATE CHANGE WG MEETINGS:

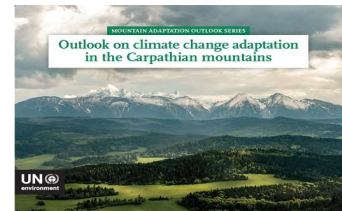
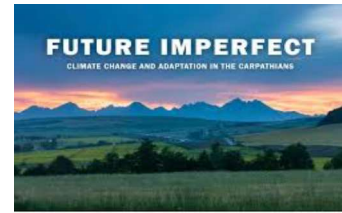
- the 6th meeting of the Working Group on Adaptation to Climate Change (WG Climate Change) organized back to back with the Climate Data Store (CDS) training, held on 8 – 9 October 2019 in Budapest, Hungary
- the 7th meeting of WG Climate Change organized online on 15 May 2020



## Implementing the Article 12bis of the Carpathian Convnetion



UNFCCC COP24 - 11  
December 2018,  
Katowice, Poland - a  
high-level side-event  
Mountain adaptation  
- vulnerable peaks  
and people



# Long-term Vision 2030 towards combating climate change in the Carpathians



*The Carpathian Convention's vision for combating climate change is to strengthen collaborative efforts towards a zero-carbon path that delivers climate-resilient and sustainable development in the Carpathians climate-resilient, sustainable development.*

## Strategic objectives

Collaborative efforts shall be strengthened and closely aligned with the implementation of the Article 12bis on Climate Change of the Carpathian Convention in order to achieve **the following strategic objectives:**

- (1) Climate Action is given **higher awareness and attention in mountain areas at Carpathian level** in response to the EU and international commitments (The European Green Deal; UNFCCC, 2015 Paris Agreement; Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework) and obligations;
- (2) Regional cooperation and interaction are strengthened through **identifying common priority actions and harmonizing with national efforts** on climate change in the Carpathians, and beyond;
- (3) Possible **areas of synergy between national and sub-national approaches** are identified towards delivering successful outcomes coping with climate change, considering interlinked environmental and socio-economic opportunities and constraints;
- (4) **Synergies and co-benefits of climate action** are examined with concrete mitigation and adaptation measures and actions identified **for transboundary cooperation**;
- (5) **Interlinkages between climate issues and other relevant areas of work** of the Carpathian Convention, such as, biodiversity, forestry, tourism, agriculture, water/river basin management are established;
- (6) **Climate research** on both qualitative and quantitative levels is **promoted**, including fostering the application of its results;
- (7) **Science-policy - practice interfaces and innovative approaches** are further explored and promoted;
- (8) Joint efforts are taken on **identifying funding opportunities** and drawing the attention of donors towards the benefits of greater regional cooperation.



✓ Corresponding Work Plan 2021 – 2023

✓ Update of the Terms of the Reference of the Working Group on Climate Change

## FORESTS WG MEETING:

- 7th meeting of the Working Group on Sustainable Forest Management (WG Forest), held on 27 – 28 June 2019 in Zvolen, Slovakia;



*Prioritizing the Objectives of the Strategic Action Plan for the implementation of the Forest Protocol :*

- **Objective 6, especially on identification and protection of natural and especially virgin forests**
- **Objective 8 on promotion of close to nature forestry**
- **Objective 11 on forestry and climate change**





# Implementing the Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management

Art. 7 of the Carpathian Convention  
2003



Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management  
2011



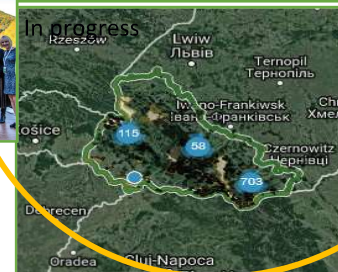
Strategic Action Plan  
2014



COP 5 Decisions  
2017



Inventory of Virgin Forest  
In progress / 2020

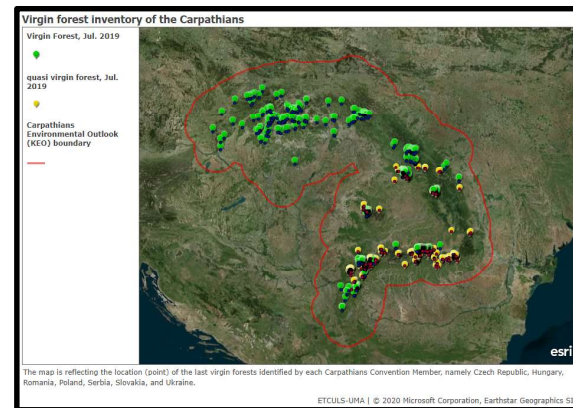
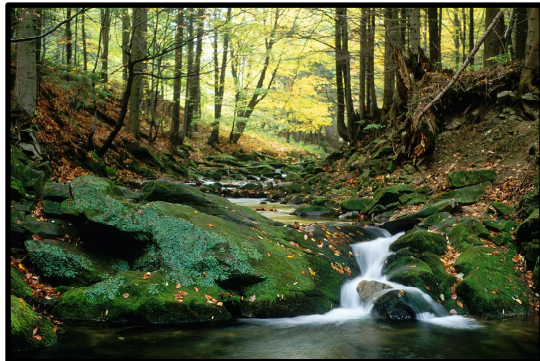


## Inventory of Virgin Forests of the Carpathians in Focus

### Partnered with European Environment Agency to deliver publicly available inventory of old-growth and natural forests

- Compilation of virgin forest national data: Follow-up with Poland and Ukraine with complementary data that is still missing and consolidation of the regional virgin forest database and map
- Development of the regional inventory of quasi-virgin forests for the Carpathian and a sub-indicator on naturalness (implementing the Strategic Action Plan for the Implementation of the Forest Protocol)
- Cooperation under CCIBIS and FISE (tbc)

Increase international attention, promote monitoring and innovative approaches such as remote sensing, protection in sufficient size and number, exchange of good practice for forest management in protected areas



## Working Group on Sustainable Tourism

## Implementing the Protocol on Sustainable Tourism

2003

- Art. 9 of the Carpathian Convention

2011

- Protocol on Sustainable Tourism

2014

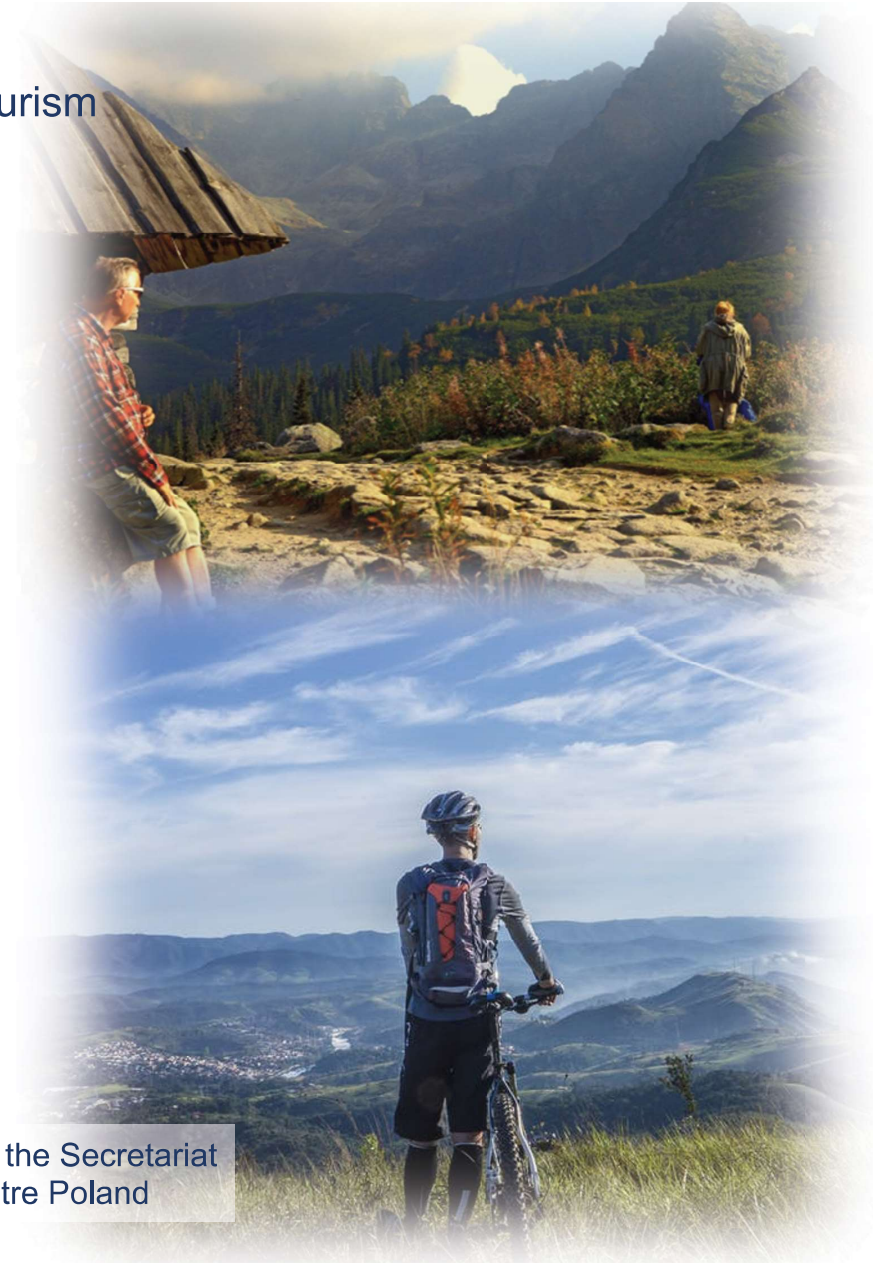
- Strategy for the Sustainable Tourism Development of the Carpathians

2017

- Carpathian Sustainable Tourism Platform

In progress/ 2020

- CSTP Centre Poland
- CSTP Centre Romania
- CSTP Centre Ukraine



Signing Memorandum of Cooperation between the Secretariat and the CSTP Centre Romania and CSTP Centre Poland

**CULTURAL HERITAGE WG MEETING:**

5th meeting of the Working Group on Cultural Heritage Traditional Knowledge (WG Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge), held on 4 – 5 April 2018 in Szentendre Skanzen and Budapest, Hungary



*Discussing realization of the Road Map to achieve objectives of the Art. 11 of the Carpathian Convention*



# The Carpathians – harbor of extraordinary natural and cultural heritage

New project !

*Carpathian Route - exploring, promoting and  
protecting the richness of the cultural and natural  
heritage of the Carpathian Region*

funded by the EEA and Norway Grants Fund  
for Regional Cooperation (2021- 2023)



## Working Group on Cultural Heritage

# Carpathian Route project activities supporting implementation of the Carpathian Convention



### Project Partners:

**POLAND** - Marshal's Office of the Podkarpackie Region (Lead Partner)

**CZECH REPUBLIC** - Wallachian Open Air Museum

**HUNGARY** - Humtour LLC

**ROMANIA** - Brasov County Council

**SERBIA** - Homeland Museum of Knjaževac,

**SLOVAKIA** – The Monuments Board of the Slovak Republic,

**UKRAINE** – International Charitable Organization Information Center "Green Dossier" / Institute of Ecology of the Carpathians NAS of Ukraine

**UNEP Vienna** - Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, (expertise partner)

**NORWAY** - GRID-Arendal , Norway (expertise partner)

**LICHTENSTEIN** - CIPRA International, (expertise partner)

**Objective:** promoting and protecting natural and cultural heritage of the Carpathians through better regional cooperation, capacity building and knowledge exchange, while ensuring the economic development of local communities



- ❖ elaboration of the common criteria for the Carpathian Cultural Heritage Inventories
- ❖ Development of 4 Carpathian Inventories of :
  - 1) tangible and intangible cultural heritage.
  - 2) traditional local products,
  - 3) cultural trails
  - 4) museums
- ❖ elaboration of a draft Protocol on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge to the Carpathian Convention,
- ❖ expertise/ knowledge exchange and capacity building activities (inc.13 workshops, 3 study visits aimed at developing skills and competencies for cultural heritage management and its sustainable use for local economic development
- ❖ publication " Guide to the Carpathian Cultural Heritage"



Working Group on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

**SARD WG MEETING:**

4th meeting of the Working Group on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (WG SARD), held on 27 September 2018 in Vatra Dornei, Romania



*Discussing priorities for the implementation of the Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development*



MINISTERUL AGRICULTURII ȘI DEZVOLTĂRII RURALE



Working Group on  
Sustainable  
Agriculture and  
Rural Development

Working Group on  
Cultural Heritage

## Concluding the Memorandum of Cooperation with Euromontana

**Objective of the MoC?** To promote sustainable agriculture and rural development in the Carpathians, providing benefits to the local people, based on the exceptional nature, landscapes and cultural heritage of the Carpathians.



European multisectoral association for  
cooperation and development of mountain areas





# Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

## - role and contribution of the Carpathian Convention

Contribution of the Carpathian Convention to the process by promoting protection and sustainable development of mountain regions

Translating the biodiversity global goals and targets at the regional level – **Carpathian Declaration for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework**

Need for reflecting **mountain biodiversity** in Post-2020 process outcome document into Post-2020 discussions



synergies and reinforcement of biodiversity-related conventions

Updating trilateral MoC in the context of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

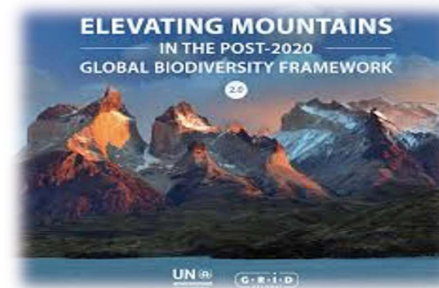


Carpathian Convention as the regional mechanism for implementation for  
**the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework -  
Vision for the Carpathians 2050**


# Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

- active promotion of the Carpathian Convention at the global level and raising the importance of mountains and mountain biodiversity

- 1<sup>st</sup> Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 GBF (OEWG-1), 27 - 30 August 2019, Nairobi, Kenya
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 GBF (OEWG-2) 24 – 29 February 2029, Rome, Italy
- meeting with the CBD Focal Points from the Carpathian Countries
- participation the EU Coordination meeting, consultation with EU Commission
- Organization of thematic consultation on mountain biodiversity at the margins of the OEWG-1 and OEWG-2
- Regular participation at the UNEP Post-2020 Working Group
- Regular contact with the CBD Secretariat



# Promoting the Carpathian Convention at the EU level



## INVITATION

### Green Carpathians

Webinar on transnational cooperations to address the biggest threats to the biodiversity of the Carpathian Mountains

Friday 25 September  
11:00 – 12:30 CEST  
Via Zoom  
In course of the EU Green Week

Please register [HERE](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

In case of questions, please contact: [hanna.ollos@wilderness-society.org](mailto:hanna.ollos@wilderness-society.org)

# EU GREEN WEEK

An initiative of the  European Commission

## 18<sup>th</sup> EUROPEAN WEEK of REGIONS and CITIES

05>09 OCTOBER 2020

12>16 OCTOBER 2020

19>22 OCTOBER 2020

### EU eco-corridors: a mountain to climb

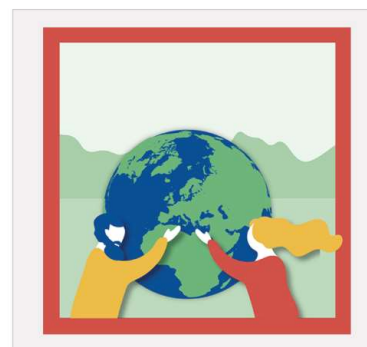
1

Like

Tue 13, October 2020

14:30 - 16:00 CET

Please [sign in with EU Login](#) to vote.



#### EU eco-corridors: a mountain to climb

Main aim of the workshop:

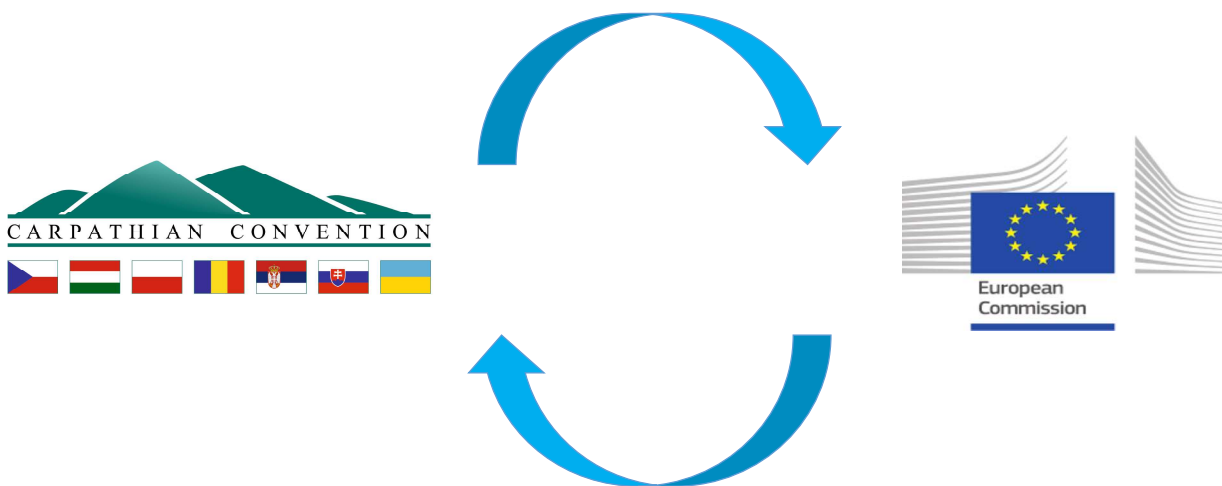
As part of Interreg's 30th anniversary, the workshop showcases examples of projects under different Interreg programmes with an impact on Europe's natural environment, with a focus on transnational ecological corridors in the Alpine, Carpathian and Adriatic-Ionian regions. The workshop highlights common objectives across mountain areas in Europe, gives answers to needs and challenges that cannot be tackled within national borders, and explains the benefits for EU programmes and policy implementation.



[Link to the event website](#)

# Road Map towards the EU accession to the Carpathian Convention

- 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention (**COP6**) - 25 November 2020 – ONLINE MEETING
- Ministerial Conference of the Carpathian Convention in Poland 2021/2022





Thank you for your  
attention!

UNEP Vienna Programme Office  
Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention

[www.carpathianconvention.org](http://www.carpathianconvention.org)  
<https://www.unenvironment.org/>