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Brief CentralParks project presentation

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MAIN PROJECT OBJECTIVE

Building management capacities of Carpathian protected areas for the integration and harmonization of biodiversity protection and local socio-economic development.
WORKPACKAGES

Project Management - Lead partner

European Academy of Bozen-Bolzano (Eurac Research)
IT EURAC LP
WPT1- Integration of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the Carpathian region

WPT1 concept in brief:
Reconciling and linking the conservation of biological/landscape diversity to sustainable local socio-economic development, and raising the support of local communities for protected area operations is possible

- if well protected natural and landscape values (Biodiversity)
- are properly used as the driver and asset for the local sustainable tourism development (Local Sustainable Tourism Development)
- while the conservation objectives, and benefits arising from the above synergy are effectively communicated to the local stakeholders (Communication)
WPT1 bases on the synergy of the above three thematic transnational task forces (TTTFs) established with the objective to:

- pool the expertise of protected area managers and experts (nominated by PPs) from the Carpathian countries
- capitalize on the exchange of information, experience, and best practices available in particular countries
- involve several project target groups (protected area administrations, higher education and research institutions, NGOs) in project activities and development of project outputs.
TTTF on biodiversity and landscape conservation

Output O.T1.1: Carpathian strategy for enhancing biodiversity and landscape conservation outside and inside protected areas

▪ supporting implementation of the CC "Biodiversity" Protocol e.g. by enhancing ecological continuity and connectivity (Art. 9) and conservation and sustainable management outside PAs (Art. 15)

▪ CC added value: translating Protocol into the language of practice at the local scale (e.g. biodiversity conservation in areas surrounding PAs), and filling the gap (landscape conservation not yet adequately covered)

▪ Delivery month: 01.2021
Pursuant to the AF, the TTTF on biodiversity and landscape conservation was established under WPT1 in Period No 1 involving 15 experts from 6 Carpathian countries (CZ:3, HU:2, PL:3, RO:1, SK:5, UA:1) no experts nominated by RS (so far)
TTTF on biodiversity and landscape conservation
First TTTF meeting in Banská Bystrica (the Slovak Republic), 17-18 June 2019 organized by the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic (PP2) in cooperation with the Ekopsychology Society (PP4) 18 participants from 6 countries (experts, representatives of Centralparks PPs, and SK Associated Partner)
Output O.T1.2: Strategy for local sustainable tourism development based on natural and cultural heritage of the Carpathians

- supporting implementation of CC Protocol on sustainable tourism e.g. by managing tourist traffic for the benefit of the environment and sustainable local economic dev. (Art.12), and involvement of local authorities (Art.6)
- CC added value: translating the Protocol into the language of practice at the local scale (local sustainable tourism development)
- Delivery month: 01.2021
TTTF on local sustainable tourism development was established under WPT1 in Period No 1 involving 14 experts from 7 countries (CZ:2, HU:1, IT:1, PL:3, RO:1, SK:5, UA:1) no experts nominated by RS (so far)
TTTF on local sustainable tourism development

First TTTF meeting
in Czerwienne (Poland), 26-28 June 2019
organized by the Ekopsychology Society (PP4)
13 participants from 7 countries
(experts, representatives of Centralparks PPs)
TTTF on local sustainable tourism development
TTTF on local sustainable tourism development
Output O.T1.3: Guidelines on communication between protected areas and local communities in the Carpathians

- implementation of CC Art.2.2 (public participation and stakeholder involvement), CC Art.13 (awareness raising, public participation), and CC Biodiversity Protocol Art. 6 (involvement of local authorities)
- CC added value: communication with local stakeholders has not yet been dealt with under the Carpathian Convention
- Delivery month: 01.2021
TTTF on communication between protected areas and local communities was established under WPT1 in Period No 1 involving 10 experts from 5 countries (CZ:1, HU:1, PL:3, RO:2, SK:3) no experts nominated by UA and RS (so far)
TTF on communication between protected areas and local communities

First TTF meeting
in Czerwienne (Poland), 24-26 June 2019
organized by the Ekopsychology Society (PP4)
10 participants from 5 countries
(experts, representatives of Centralparks PPs)
TTF on communication between protected areas and local communities
WPT1 TTTF meetings follow-up

3 TTTF meeting reports were sent on 31 July 2019 to all PPs, TTTF experts, other meeting participants, and to the PL Associated Partner (Ministry of Environment)
WPT1 Deliverables fully achieved in Period No 1:

**Deliverable D.T1.1.1** Thematic transnational task force (TTTF) formation and creation of common understanding for developing D.T1.1.3
*(Carpathian strategy for enhancing biodiversity and landscape conservation outside and inside protected areas)*

**Deliverable D.T1.2.1** Thematic transnational task force (TTTF) formation and creation of common understanding for developing DT1.2.3
*(Strategy for local sustainable tourism development based on natural and cultural heritage of the Carpathians)*

**Deliverable D.T1.3.1** Thematic transnational task force (TTTF) formation and creation of common understanding for developing DT1.3.3
*(Guidelines on communication between protected areas and local communities in the Carpathians)*
WPT1 - next steps

Next steps - TTTF on biodiversity and landscape conservation:

▪ providing national inputs (information/analyses concerning protected areas in the Carpathians, relevant national legislation, policy framework and strategies, institutional framework, databases on biological and landscape diversity, best/worst practice examples) providing suggestions on the contents and structure of the strategy consultations and common work on the structure and contents of the strategy
WPT2 - BUILDING CAPACITIES OF CARPATHIAN PAS MANAGERS - DINPD HUNGARY

17-19 September, Királyrét, Szokolya; 28 Participants

4 professional presentations on 3 innovative methods:
Get to know with the Hungarian pilot sites...
I. LIDAR WORKSHOP RESULTS

Introducing innovative methods:
- LiDAR
- Case study on usage of LiDAR
- Forest state evaluation
- Grassland state evaluation

Discussion on burning issues in Hungaria nature conservation:
- nature conservation management planning system and availability of management plans in the Carpathians
- zonation system within national parks in the Carpathians
TAKING COOPERATION FORWARD
II. OUTPUT O.T2.1

Joint strategic document on raising good Pas management capacities:

- Summary document (toolkit) based on experience exchange about innovative nature conservation management planning tools
- Description of the methods identified during the workshop (D.T2.1.1)
II. OUTPUT O.T2.1

LiDAR:

- active-sensor 3D remote-sensing technique
- airborne laser scanning of the surface and depths of the structure of the surveyed object (mainly forest)
- gathers full reflection of each emitted laser pulse, thus makes possible to collect detailed 3D model of the inside structure (e.g. density and height of second storey or shrub layer) of a forest stand between the top of the canopy (first reflection) and the ground surface (last reflection)
- Biotic and abiotic variables can be measured

Case study: prediction of timber cut from shrub
WP T3 - SNC SR / PRONATUR SK

Carpathian Ecosystem Services Toolkit

- Gap analysis and main gaps to be addressed
- Roadmap for engagement and guidelines for PPs
- Schedule of Carpathian Ecosystem Services Toolkit preparation
D.T3.1.1 + D.T3.1.3 EXPERT MEETINGS

- 1 bilateral HU - SK: 4 July, Budapest
- 1 WG meeting: 23 July, Bratislava
  - 11 experts/4 countries
STATE OF THE ART

- identified current status in ES implementation and briefly described gaps in the implementation of the ES policies in Central European (CE) target Countries on national, regional and local levels
- questionnaire survey showed the state of the art and main gaps of the planning processes and tools related to the ESS in the involved 5 countries (CZ, HU, PL, RO and SK)
- other topics like “Mainstreaming ES”, “Accounts of natural capital” and “Schemes on payments for ESS (PES)” are not yet sufficiently implemented in all Carpathian countries
CEST - STRUCTURE (FIRST DRAFT)

Executive Summary
Chapter 1: Foundations
Chapter 2: Completing an Ecosystem Services Assessment
Chapter 3: Addressing Ecosystem Services in Different Policy and Decision Contexts
Chapter 4: Best Practices Examples
Glossary
References
Attachments
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CHAPTER 1: FOUNDATIONS
The Value of Ecosystem Service Assessment for Resource Management, Policy, and Decision-Making
1.1.a Ecosystem Services Descriptions
Types of Ecosystem Services
Conceptual and Analytical Framework for ES Assessment
How to Determine If ES Assessment Is Right for the Situation
MAES progress in Carpathian countries

CHAPTER 2: COMPLETING AN ECOSYSTEM SERVICES ASSESSMENT
Introduction
Ecosystem Services Assessment in Six Steps
Step 1. Defining the Issue and Context
Cross-Cutting Issues and Key Considerations
Indicators of Natural Capital, Ecosystem Services, and Benefits from Ecosystem Services
Step 2. Identifying Priority ES and Beneficiaries for Assessment
Step 3. Identifying What Needs to Be Evaluated to Answer Assessment Questions
Step 4. Going into Detail: Identifying and Using Indicators, Data Sources, and Analysis Methods
Values and Valuation: Economic and Socio-Cultural Methods and Tools
Step 5. Synthesizing Results to Answer Assessment Questions
Step 6. Communicating Assessment Outcomes
CHAPTER 3: ADDRESSING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN DIFFERENT POLICY AND DECISION CONTEXTS

Introduction
Area-based Planning
Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment and Land-use/Spatial Planning
Environmental (Impact) Assessment
Strategic Environmental Assessment
Regulatory and Policy Development
Regulatory Decision Analysis
Environmental Damages Assessment
Establishing and Managing Protected Areas
Ecosystem Services Assessment Involving Local Communities
Managing Species (Wildlife) and Ecosystems
Managing Invasive Alien Species
Environmental Management
Conservation Incentive Programs
Conservation Offsets

CHAPTER 4: Best Practices Examples

GLOSSARY

REFERENCES

ATTACHMENTS
COORDINATION OF COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

European Wilderness Society Achievements in RP 1

D.C.1.1 - Communication strategy
D.C.1.2 - Corporate Identity Design Manual
D.C.1.3 - Centralparks poster
D.C.3.1 - Project dissemination through promotional material
D.C.1.4 - Interreg CE project website
D.C.5.1 - Social Media Platform
D.C.5.2 - E-Newsletter
D.C.2.1 - Centralparks Leaflets
SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM

- 143 visitors on average/month, all time views: 968, project target: 500 per month
- Top visitor countries: Austria (217), Italy (200), Poland (95), Hungary (76)
CENTRALPARKS SOCIAL MEDIA

1. Facebook

117 followers
Daily visits: 2-15
Average monthly outreach: 7807
1st E-newsletter sent out to 291 people
CNPA Round Table

- The round table will be organized in November 2020, in Bile Karpaty
- All the PPs will be involved
- The Carpathian Convention will provide support for the organization issues
- Spring 2021 - Parks Conference together with ConnectGreen
Draft Proposal - Recommendations and Action Plan ALPS-DANUBE-CARPATHIANS cooperation for ecological connectivity

Document developed in ALPBIONET2030 Project

The case of the pilot area “Alpine-Carpathian ecological corridor"
Why working on ecological connectivity especially in this area?
- The link between the three regions are a hotspot of Biodiversity for Europe
- There are important migration movements linking more biogeographical regions than in any other part of Europe
- Ecological connectivity is a part of a climate change adaptation strategy
- Hydrological and geological phenomena are linked between the regions (e.g. the water from mountains flowing to the Danube, gravel and sediments from the Alps and Carpathians are transported to the Danube)
- Seasonal migrations concern this region
- The large carnivores migrate from the Carpathians towards the Alps
- Diverse species exist in this region whose population maintenance require joint efforts
RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Define and harmonize common procedures
2. Establish an experience and knowledge pool
3. Form a common team of competent experts for ecological connectivity
4. Promote a stakeholder and cooperation platform
5. Integrate Europe wide strategies and policies (EUSALP, EUSDR)
6. Define priorities in interest of common activities
7. Focus on the Connectivity area between the Alps (EUSALP) and the Danube/Carpathian region (EUSDR)
8. Analyze different funding possibilities