



Brussels, 25th November 2015

EXPERT WORKSHOP

Mountain dimension in the Danube region, the case of the Carpathians. Challenges and opportunities for regional cooperation in mountain areas.

Albert Borschette Congress Center (CCAB) Rue Froissart 36, Brussels

9:30 Registration

10:00

- Welcome by European Commission (DG REGIO), UNEP and the Czech Presidency of the Carpathian Convention (10 min)
- Presentation of the Agenda (M. Wemaere, Attorney, expert in EU and International Affairs) (5 min)

SESSION 1 Mountain dimension in the Danube region, the case of the Carpathians

10:15: Basis for Danube-Carpathian cooperation

- The EU Strategy for the Danube Region – on overview (M. Onida, DG REGIO) (10 min)
- The Carpathians – Heartbeat of the Danube Region (Z. Tollrianová, Presidency of the Carpathian Convention, Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic, H. Egerer, Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention) (10 min)

10:35: Synergies between priority areas of the EUSDR and the Carpathian Convention: a mutually supportive Danube-Carpathian approach (Joint Paper).

- Inputs by relevant Priority Areas of EUSDR (5 min, PA 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10) (30 min)
- Inputs by the Carpathian Convention Secretariat (10 min)
- Discussion (15 min)

Coffee break 11:30-11:45

11:45: Danube-Carpathian Collaboration made operational: sharing information and implementing projects (Memorandum of Cooperation)

- Presentation by Danube Strategic Point (Matija Vilfan) and Carpathian Convention Secretariat (15 min in total)
- Discussion

13:00-14:00 Networking lunch break

14:00 Conclusions from morning session and discussion (moderator)



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SESSION 2: Challenges and opportunities for regional cooperation in mountain areas.

14:30: Mountain dimension, cooperation and regional policy (macro regional strategies)

- Short introduction (DG REGIO, 5 min)
- Presentation on EU relevant policies and instruments for mountain regions (Dina Silina, DG CLIMA; Robert Henkel, DG CONNECT; Branka Tome, DG AGRI; Giacomo Luciani, DG ENV) (7 minutes each)
- Transnational programmes and cross border programmes (Alessandra Pala, DTP 10 min; Interreg Europe, Jean Marc Venineaux, 10 min)
- Examples of possible projects of common interest for mountain areas
- Discussion on cooperation on mountain-related issues in relation to EU policies

17:00 Conclusions and next steps

- **Wrap-up by the moderator**

Working language: English



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