

Pictures: A. Czaderna, A.& D. Nowak, Pieniny National Park

The Carpathian Convention

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First Carpathian Convention Working Group on
Adaptation to Climate Change

6-7 February 2012, Brussels, Belgium



Overview

1. The Carpathian region
2. The Carpathian Convention
3. The Carpathian Space



Overview

1. The Carpathian region



1. The Carpathians



Over 1,500 km long and up to 500 km wide

> 17 million people

> 50 million incl. surrounding forelands

Cross 7 States

Mountains and forelands cover more than 200,000 km²
but influence 450,000 km²

51.5 km³/year surface water resources

36,000 km² of protected areas

Close to 100,000 km² of natural or semi/natural forests

> 3,000 km² of virgin forests

481 endemic plant species

Picture: Juliusz Stola – Tamica z Tamicy



1. The Alps vs. the Carpathians



They share many geographic and natural features
BUT

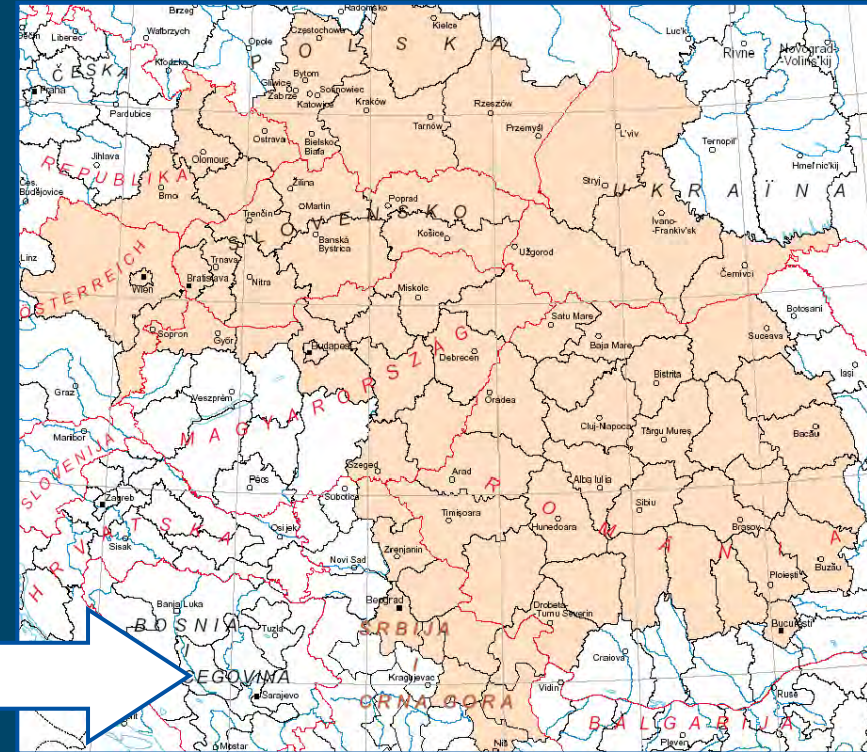
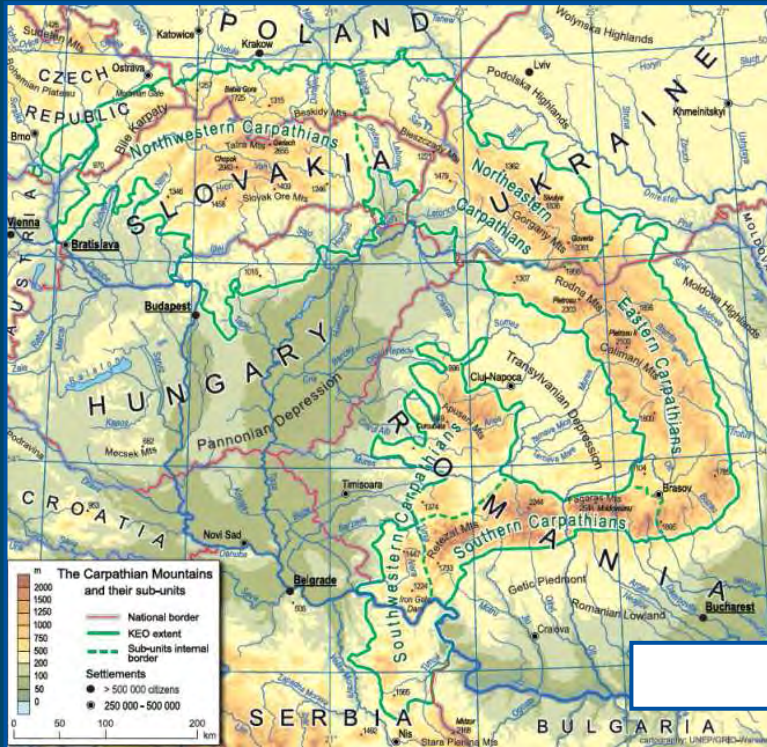
After the middle of the 19th century, development trends bifurcated radically:

The Alpine regions are the most advanced and richest regions within rich countries (with a few exceptions)

The Carpathian regions are mostly the poorest regions within poor countries (with a few exceptions)



1. The Carpathian region



Need for an integrated and sustainable (economic) development of the whole Carpathian region

Carpathian's natural assets as an important factor for development



Overview

2. The Carpathian Convention



2. The Carpathian Convention at a glance

7 State Parties

Adoption: 22 May 2003 in Kyiv, Ukraine

Entry into force: 4 January 2006

3 Meetings of the COP: 2006, 2008, 2011

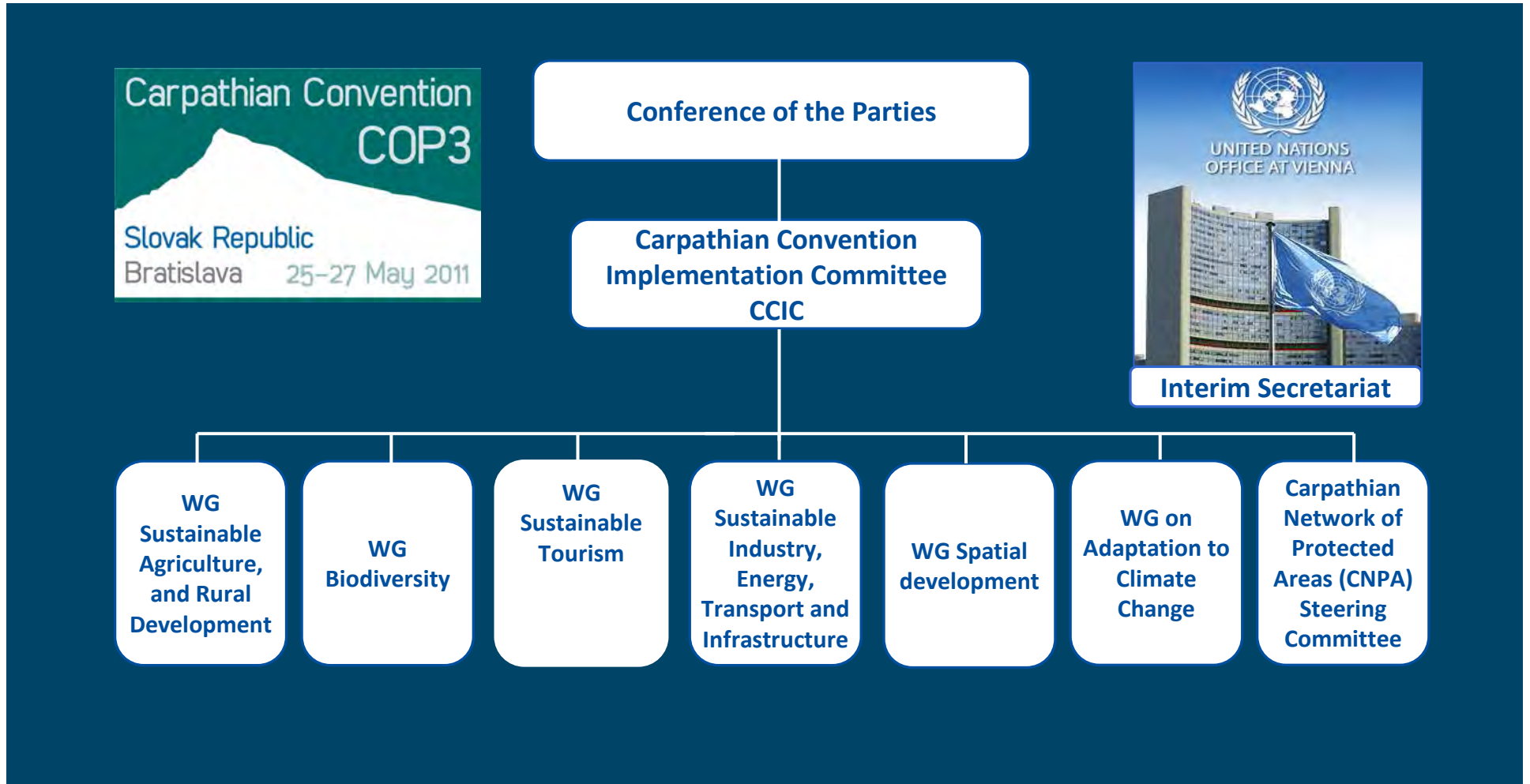
Current presidency: Slovak Republic



Main objective:
Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathian region



2. The Convention as an Institution



2. The Convention as a legal framework

The Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

Biodiversity Protocol
(Entered into force)

Forest and Tourism
Protocols
(Adopted)

Other Protocols to be
elaborated

New possible Protocols e.g. transport and infrastructure, agriculture, cultural heritage



2. The Programme of Work 2012 –2014

- Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA)
- Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity
- Spatial Development
- Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD)
- Sustainable Forest Management
- Sustainable Industry, Energy, Transport and Infrastructure
- Sustainable Tourism
- Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge
- **Climate Change**



2. Strategic Action Plan for the Carpathian Area

AKK - Alpine Carpathian Corridor

BIOREGIO Carpathians - Integrated management of biological and landscape diversity for sustainable regional development and ecological connectivity in the Carpathians

Access2Mountain - Sustainable Mobility and Tourism in Sensitive Areas of the Alps and the Carpathians



Development of projects on biomass / forest management / virgin forests / tourism / adaptation / remote sensing



2. Strategic Action Plan for the Carpathian Area

Political mandate:

- Renewed mandate – COP3 decision 3/2 on spatial development
- Strategic Action Plan for the Carpathian Area adopted

Picture: Gorce National Park

Recent developments:

Consultative Workshop 'Moving towards a Carpathian Strategy'

Carpathians integrated in the EU Strategy for the Danube Region and the accompanying Action Plan

BIOREGIO Carpathians as one flagship project within the EUSDR

EC Calls for Tenders: Preparatory action on climate in the Carpathian region

EU represented at COP3

Europe of the Carpathians Conference, Krynica, Poland, 7 – 8 September



EC Calls for Tenders: Preparatory action on climate in the Carpathian region

Kind offer of the EC – DG Environment to organise the Carpathian Convention Working Group on Adaptation to Climate Change meetings within the CARPIVIA project



Overview

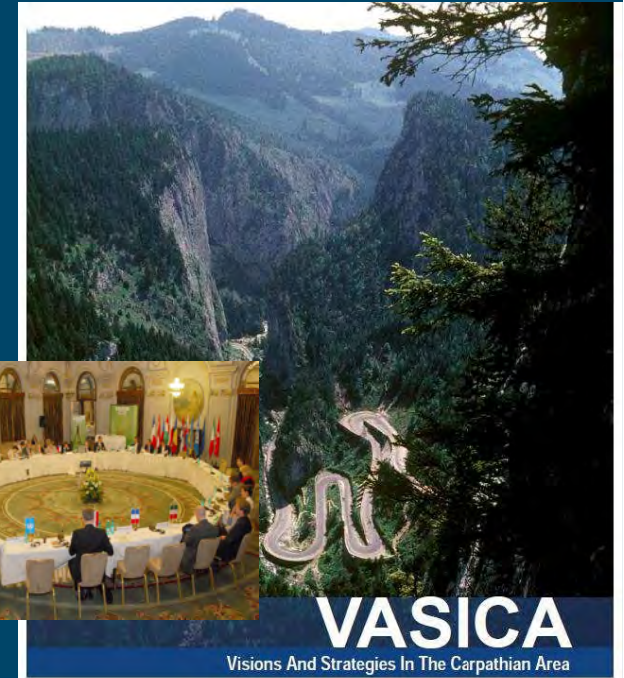
3. The Carpathian Space



3. The Carpathian Project

From the Carpathian Project towards the Carpathian Space

Lead Partner UNEP- Vienna ISCC
€ 4.260.000 (2,4 ERDF, PHARE, TACIS, Nat.)
18 partners, 10 countries
36 months (1 September 2005 – 31 August 2008)



Protection and Sustainable Spatial Development of the Carpathians in a Transnational Framework



3. Call for Carpathian Space



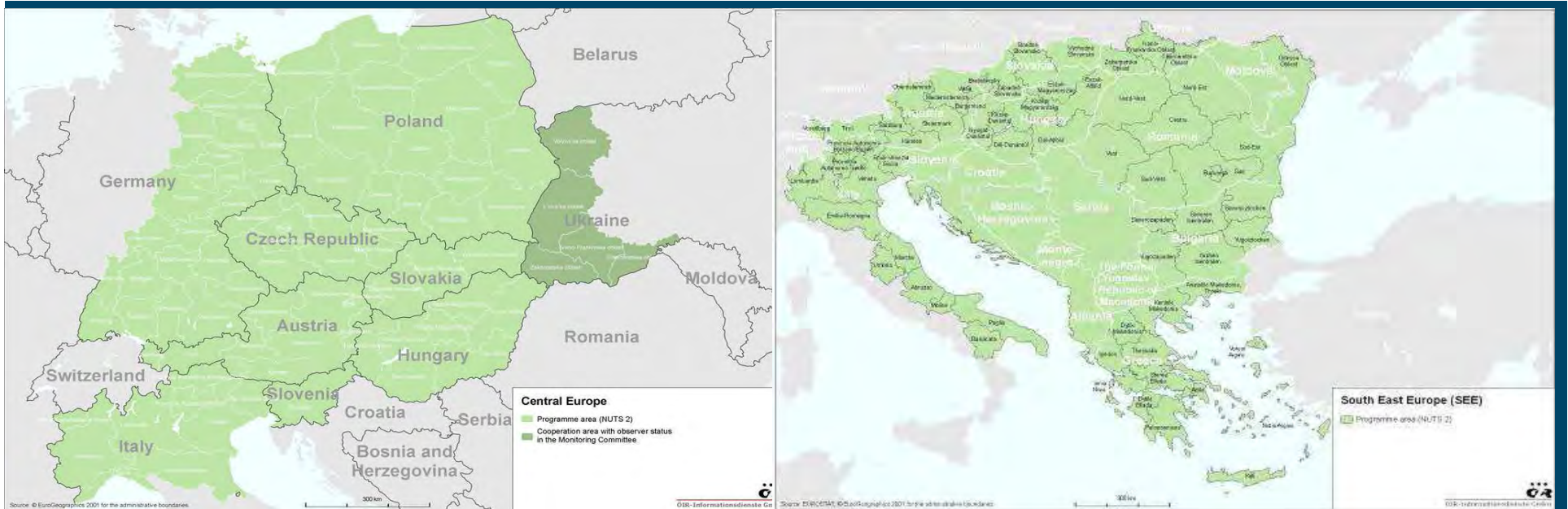
The Carpathian region as a region of sustainable development in the heart of Europe

“**Carpathian Space**” needed to develop the unique region in a **sustainable, innovative and integrated way** to continue:

- strengthening cohesion
- developing the region sustainably
- preserving the region’s heritage
- address typical mountain challenges in a coordinated manner



3. Call for Carpathian Space



Enhance effectiveness and coordination of EU and national financing for the sustainable regional development in the Carpathians

Example of Danube and Baltic Strategies

➔ CALL FOR CARPATHIAN SPACE



3. The Carpathian Space



5. The way ahead

The Polish Presidency of the EU invited the European Commission to consider the accession EU to the Carpathian Convention during the EU Council of Ministers – Environment in December



THANK YOU



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– Interim Secretariat of the
Carpathian Convention

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