

LECA – Supporting the coexistence and conservation of Carpathian Large Carnivores

Interreg Central Europe Programme – project proposal



Martin Duľa & Miroslav Kutal

Department of Forest Ecology, Faculty of Forestry and Wood Technology,
Mendel University in Brno & Friends of The Earth Czech Republic



Introduction

- LCs - key components of forest ecosystems, one of the most abundant native populations in Europe
- population status unclear, not harmonised data collection, no shared regulations and share policies across borders, no shared understanding and communication between stakeholders
- conflicts between humans and LCs are on the rise, evidence-based & coordinated practises are needed in the Carpathian countries



LEAD PARTNER

Mendel
Univ.
CZ

PROJECT PARTNERS

WWF HU
BÜKK NP HU
WWF PL
Tatra NP PL
State Nature Conservancy SK
WWF SK
TU Zvolen SK
Friends of Earth CZ
Ministry of Env. CZ
AZ RO
Slo. Forest Service SLO

STRATEGIC ASSOCIATE PARTNERS

CiC
AGGTELEK NP HU
MoE PL
IOP PAN PL
Reg. Dir. Rzeszów PL
MoE SK
MoI SK
Czech Hunters Association
MoE RO
Univ. Ljubljana SLO

SUBCONTRACTORS

Carpathian Convention Secretariat
(SSC)

LECA consortium

Project partners by country

Hungary	WWF HU (<i>CIC as SAP</i>)
	Bükk NP (<i>Aggtelek National Park Directorate as SAP</i>)
Poland	WWF PL (<i>Regional Directorate of environmental protection in Rzeszów; Ministry of Environment PL as SAPs</i>)
	Tatra NP (<i>Institute of Nature Conservation - Polish Academy of Sciences (IOP PAN) as SAP</i>)
Slovakia	WWF SK (<i>Ministry of Environment SK; Ministry of Interior SK - Environmental Police headquarters as SAPs</i>)
	State Nature Conservancy
	Technical University Zvolen
Slovenia	Slovenian Forest Service (<i>Biotechnical Faculty of University of Ljubljana as SAP</i>)
Czech Republic	FoE CZ
	Mendel University in Brno (<i>Czech-Moravian hunting union (ČMMJ) as SAP</i>)
	Ministry of Environment
Romania	Asociata Zarand (<i>Ministry of Environment RO as SAP</i>)

WP

WORK PACKAGE 1

WORK PACKAGE 2

WORK PACKAGE 3

Prep

1.1 Setting the scene

3.1 Establishment of stakeholder platforms

Do

1.2 Exchange and pre-validation of knowledge (expert consultation) with and for the CC and AC

2.1 Joint preparation of Pilot Actions

2.2 Implementation of pilot actions

2.3 Assessments in reference areas

2.4 Synthesis of the results of the pilot actions and formulation of strategies

3.2 Elaboration of strategies including peer review

Result

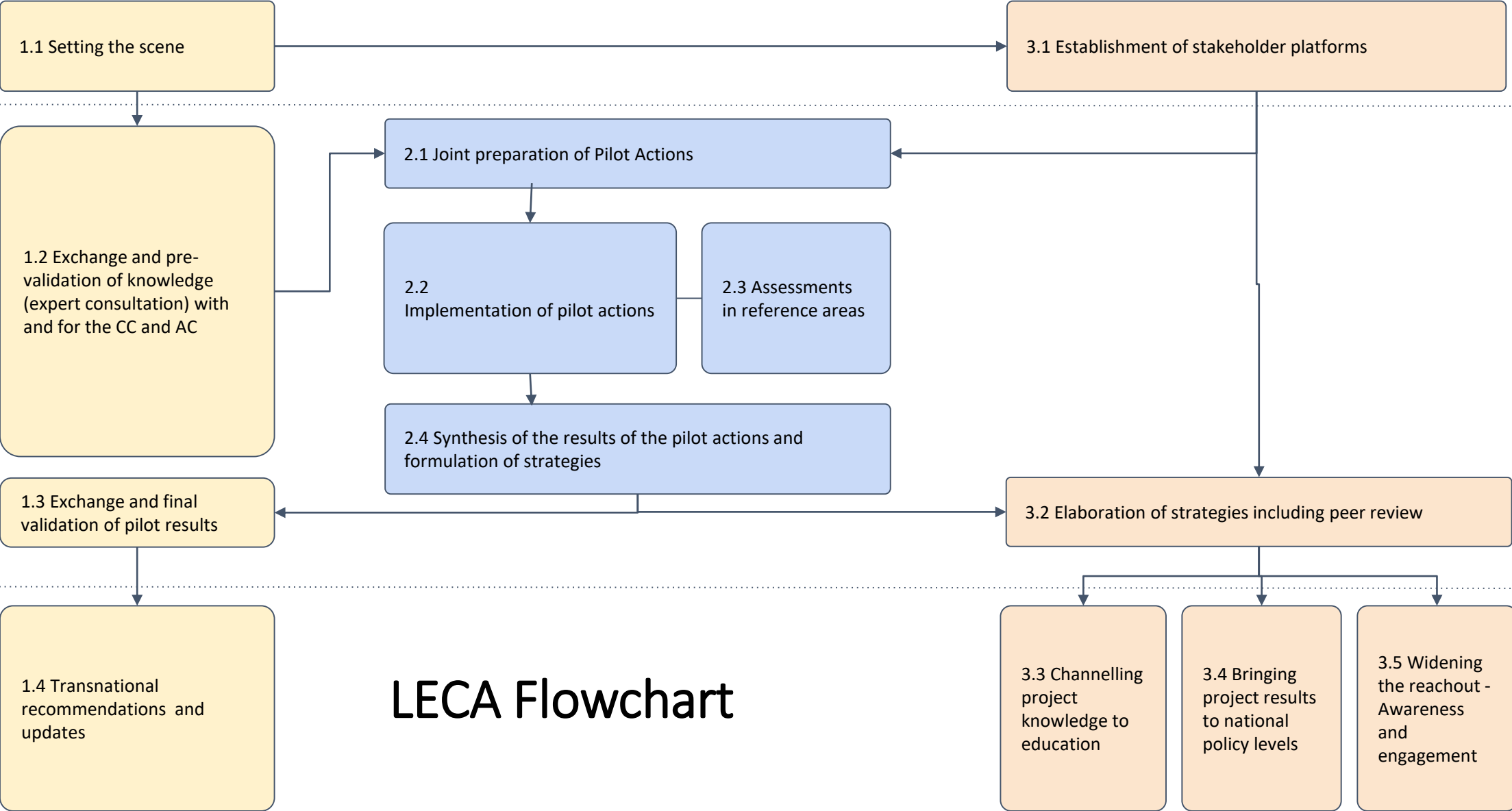
1.4 Transnational recommendations and updates

3.3 Channelling project knowledge to education

3.4 Bringing project results to national policy levels

3.5 Widening the reachout - Awareness and engagement

LECA Flowchart



PILOT AREAS

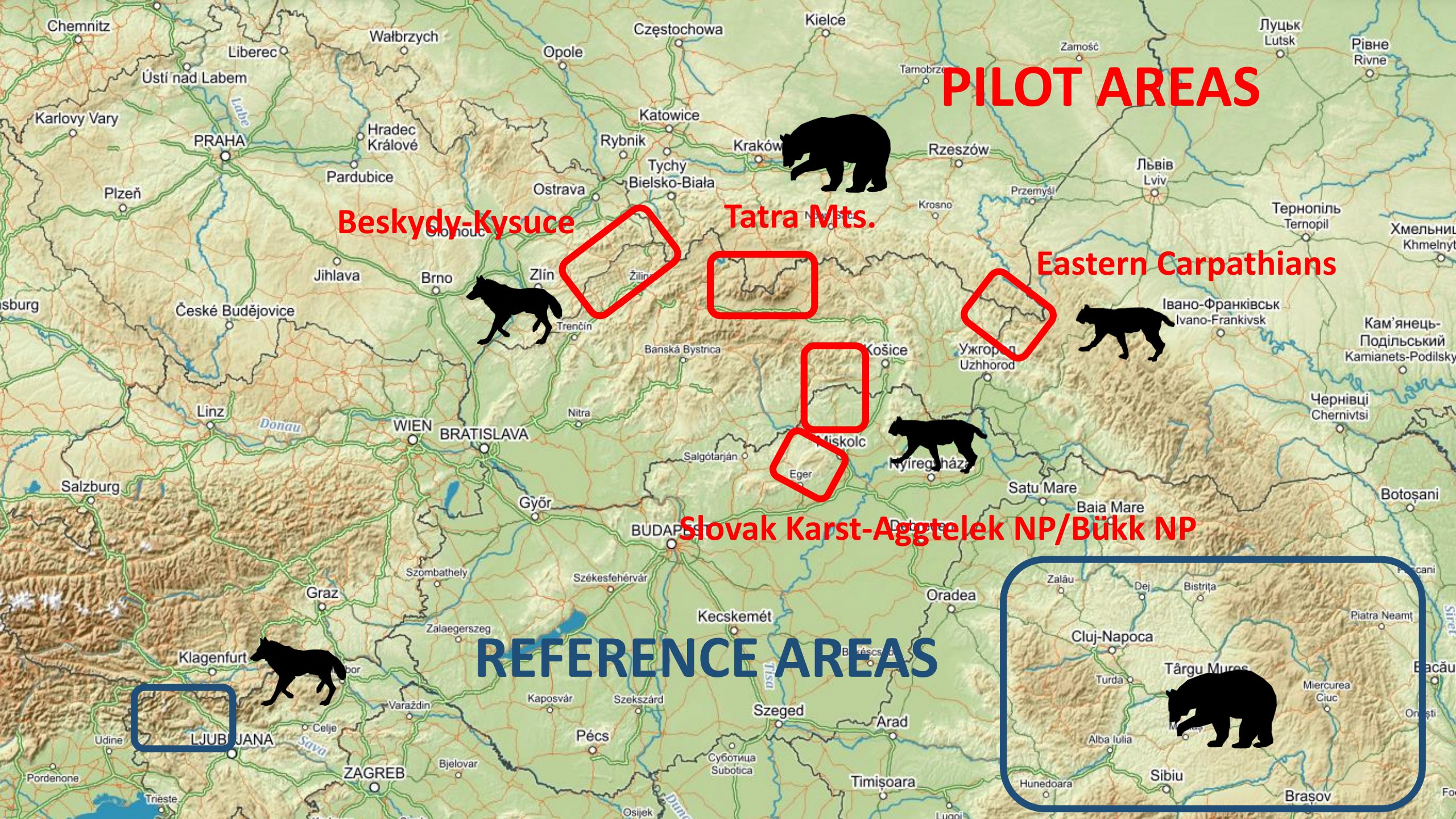
Beskydy-Kysuce

Tatra Mts.

Eastern Carpathians

Slovak Karst-Aggtelek NP/Bükk NP

REFERENCE AREAS



MONITORING



harmonised methodology and combination of non-invasive and invasive methods



CONFLICT PREVENTION



testing measures on model farms, beehevies, bear proof bins by using novel tools GPS collars, virtual fences, proximity sensors etc.



POACHING INVESTIGATION



workshops & questionnaires - transferring knowledge & experience among researchers and police investigators, setting standards for rigorous investigations of illegal killing and establishment a network of wildlife forensic experts



WORK PACKAGE 1

O1.1: **Monitoring guidance** on Large Carnivore conservation in the Carpathians
(Output indicator: Solution)

O1.2: **Poaching investigation guidance** on Large Carnivore conservation in the Carpathians
(Output indicator: Solution)

O1.3: **Conflict prevention guidance** on Large Carnivore conservation in the Carpathians
(Output indicator: Solution)

WORK PACKAGE 2

O2.1 **Pilot action in the Tatras** implemented to validate novel cross-border procedures for LC Management on monitoring, poaching investigation and conflict prevention i

O2.2 **Pilot action in the East Carpathians** implemented to validate novel cross-border procedures for LC Management on monitoring, poaching investigation and conflict prevention

O2.3 **Pilot action in the Slovak Karst** implemented to validate novel cross-border procedures for LC Management on monitoring, poaching investigation and conflict prevention

O2.4 **Pilot action in the Western Carpathians** implemented to validate novel cross-border procedures for LC Management on monitoring, poaching investigation and conflict prevention

WORK PACKAGE 3

O3.1: **Strategy in the Tatras** on Large Carnivore conservation (incl. monitoring, poaching, conflict prevention)

O3.2: **Strategy in the East Carpathians** on Large Carnivore conservation (incl. monitoring, poaching, conflict prevention)

O3.3: **Strategy in the Slovak Karst** on Large Carnivore conservation (incl. monitoring, poaching, conflict prevention)

O3.4: **Strategy in the Western Carpathians** on Large Carnivore conservation (incl. monitoring, poaching, conflict prevention)

O3.5: **National recommendation in the Tatras** on Large Carnivore conservation in participating countries of the cross-border pilot area
(monitoring, poaching, conflict prevention)

O3.6: **National recommendation in the East Carpathians** on Large Carnivore conservation in participating countries of the cross-border pilot area
(monitoring, poaching, conflict prevention)

O3.7: **National recommendation in the Slovak Karst Carpathians** on Large Carnivore conservation in participating countries of the cross-border pilot area
(monitoring, poaching, conflict prevention)

O3.8: **National recommendation in the Western Carpathians** on Large Carnivore conservation in participating countries of the cross-border pilot area
(monitoring, poaching, conflict prevention)

O3.9: **IT solution (application)** for stakeholder involvement

Project outputs

Result 1 : SOLUTIONS

3 Adopted Thematic Guidances

Result 2: ORGANISATIONS

**4 Participatory stakeholder platforms
established in the pilot areas**

Project results

Result 3: JOINT STRATEGY/ACTION PLAN

4 Endorsed cross-border strategies

Results 4: JOINT STRATEGY/ACTION PLAN

**1 Revised Carpathian Convention “Action
Plan on conservation of LCs**

Thank you for your attention and keep
fingers crossed !



martindulazoo@gmail.com & miroslav.kutal@hnutiduha.cz