

Consideration of national reports on implementation of the Biodiversity Protocol – conclusions

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National Reports on the implementation of the Biodiversity Protocol

- Pursuant to Article 28 of the Protocol, the Parties shall regularly report on measures related to the Protocol and the results of the measures taken
- 'simplified' reporting format



Findings

- impressive multitude of measures aimed e.g. at the conservation, maintenance, restoration and sustainable use of natural and semi-natural habitats, and the conservation and sustainable use of species of flora and fauna
- impressive number of best practice examples, e.g. :
 - establishment of a special **internet portal on the Carpathian Convention** (tailored for, and targeted at three different audiences: experts and scientists, local governments and communities, tourists and general public) in **local language**
 - organization of regular annual '**round tables**' for **local stakeholders** from the Carpathian region
 - establishment of special collective bodies (e.g. the **Inter-ministerial Coordination Group, National Steering Committee**), involving representatives of ministries responsible for different sectoral policies, regional authorities, scientific and research institutions, and other stakeholders (e.g. local authorities, NGOs), in order to ensure and monitor the implementation of the Convention and

However ...



Findings

- vast majority of measures reported by the Parties have been implemented under other legal and policy instruments (e.g. the CBD, EU and national policies and strategies) at the scale of the whole country.

Thus, no particular focus on the Carpathians

- need for better involvement of Carpathian local self-government units in the implementation of the Protocol on similar terms as bodies, organisational units and institutions belonging to government administration
- need for awareness raising about the Protocol among stakeholders



Obstacles

- Lack of financial, human, technical resources
(reported by 5 Parties)
- Inadequate capacity to act, caused by institutional weakness
(reported by 4 Parties)



Conclusions of the summary commissioned by the SCC are that:

- National Reports should first and foremost focus on activities and achievements resulting from the implementation of the Carpathian Convention and its Protocol, in particular those implemented and achieved in cooperation with other Parties, which would then prove the real added value of implementing the Convention and its Protocol
- National Reports should provide an opportunity to monitor the implementation of the Protocol with the use of Protocol - specific progress indicators (quantitative and/or qualitative) instead of extensive descriptions, in particular if such could overlap with publicly available national reports to other relevant Conventions (e.g. the CBD)



Most important recommendations of the summary commissioned by the SCC are that:

- Need for establishing outreach programmes establishing outreach programmes targeting local and regional authorities, universities and other relevant stakeholders to increase their awareness of the importance of the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathian region, and of the Convention's activities
- Development of a comprehensive National Report on Implementation of the Carpathian Convention covering all the Protocols and other relevant sector, which will consider the shortcomings of the current report format of the Biodiversity Protocol

