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Carpathian Project Outcomes

Carpathian Strategic Workshop on
Spatial Planning

26./27.5.2008

Vienna

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CARPATHIANS AND THEIR REGION:

- 8 countries
- 470 000 km² (190 000 km² – mountains)
- 53 millions inhabitants (13,3 mill – mountains)
- EU border region
- margin region of EU
- non-coherent region
- natural values
- cultural values
- less developed region of Europe
- spatial barrier for cohesion

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The Carpathian Convention

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

- signed by seven countries
- at the Fifth Ministerial Conference
"Environment for Europe" (Kyiv, May 2003)

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Country

Czech Republic

Hungary

Poland

Romania

Serbia

Slovak Republic

Ukraine

Entry into Force

4 January 2006

4 January 2006

19 June 2006

6 March 2007

10 March 2008

4 January 2006

4 January 2006

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Article 2 - General objectives and principles

1. The Parties shall pursue a comprehensive policy and cooperate for the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians with a view to inter alia improving quality of life, strengthening local economies and communities, and conservation of natural values and cultural heritage.
2. In order to achieve the objectives referred to in paragraph 1, the Parties shall take appropriate measures, in the areas covered by Articles 4 to 13 of this Convention by promoting:
 - (a) the precaution and prevention principles,
 - (b) the 'polluter pays' principle,
 - (c) public participation and stakeholder involvement,
 - (d) transboundary cooperation,
 - (e) integrated planning and management of land and water resources,
 - (f) a programmatic approach, and
 - (g) the ecosystem approach.
3. To achieve the objectives set forth in this Convention and to ensure its implementation, the Parties may, as appropriate, develop and adopt Protocols.

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INTERREG IIIB CADSES Carpathian Project (2005-2008)

Partners:

- Lead Partner: UNEP Vienna ISCC - (Austria)
- RTI Polska (Poland)
- Hungarian Academy of Sciences – Centre for Regional Studies (Hungary)
- REC Slovakia (Slovakia)
- Retecamere (Italy)
- Podkarpackie Voivodeship (Poland)
- Prefectural Authority of Drama-Kavala-Xanthi (Greece)
- Palacky University Olomouc (Czech Republic)
- UNEP/GRID-Warsaw (Poland)
- WWF DCP (Austria)
- Academia Istropolitana (Slovakia)
- Institute of Urban Development (Poland)
- Institute of Spatial and Cadastral Systems Ltd. (Poland)
- ISF Munchen (Germany)
- EURAC (Italy)
- CEEWEB/OETE (Hungary)
- INCD Urbanproiect Bucharest (Romania)
- International Charitable Foundation “Heifer Project International” (Ukraine)

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Carpathian Project:

- Work Packages and Actions are tightly linked
 - Project worked on coherent results
 - Work flow secures the project's integrity
- Carpathian Project provides the strategic basis for the transnational political platform
 - Clear political message needed
 - It is a Carpathian Convention tool - helps and supports
 - Political thinking should complement the expert thinking – proposed solutions adopted

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Basic rule: project's integrity

- WP1 Basic data platform
- WP2 General Strategic Process
- WP3 Integrative Policies, Guidelines and Instruments
- WP4 Education and Awareness for the Future
- WP5 Transfer of Experiences – SMEs in the Mountaineous Areas

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Carpathian Project - Process

Project Deliverables

USE of Project Outputs

RESULTS

IMPACT – giving input to

Transnational studies, assessments (KEO)

Comprehensive transnational study, strategy (VASICA)

Basic data platform
Geoportal

Meetings Carpathian
Inter-governmental
platform and working
groups

Teaching
tools/instruments

Information, training
awareness raising,
stakeholder process

Standing Follow-up-
platform

Authorities, governments, international
institutions, NGOs use studies and
strategies for policy and programme
preparation

Research institutes and experts use data
and study for work and new research fields

CIP + working groups use project outputs for
further reflection, feedback and formulation
of recommendations to COP

Local communities have a raised
awareness, use teaching tools and
instruments and best-practice examples for
further development

Authorities, NGOs, Research institutions use
follow-up platform for guidance, synergies
and strategic project development

Better transnational
information resources

New instruments, tools
for sust. development

Coordinated trans-
national platform

Strengthened
transnational
institution, sustain-
ability governance,
new networks

Strengthened public
participation

Follow-up projects,
stakeholder
cooperation

Strengthening
sustainable
development
of the
Carpathian

Promotion of
external
cohesion

Promotion of
internal
cohesion

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Outputs: Basic data platform

Comprehensive and harmonised pool of environmental, demographic, spatial and economic data for the Carpathian region for use in the implementation of the Carpathian Convention Process

<http://www.carpathianproject.eu/portal/map/index.php>



Carpathian project
e-learning

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Outputs: General Strategic Process

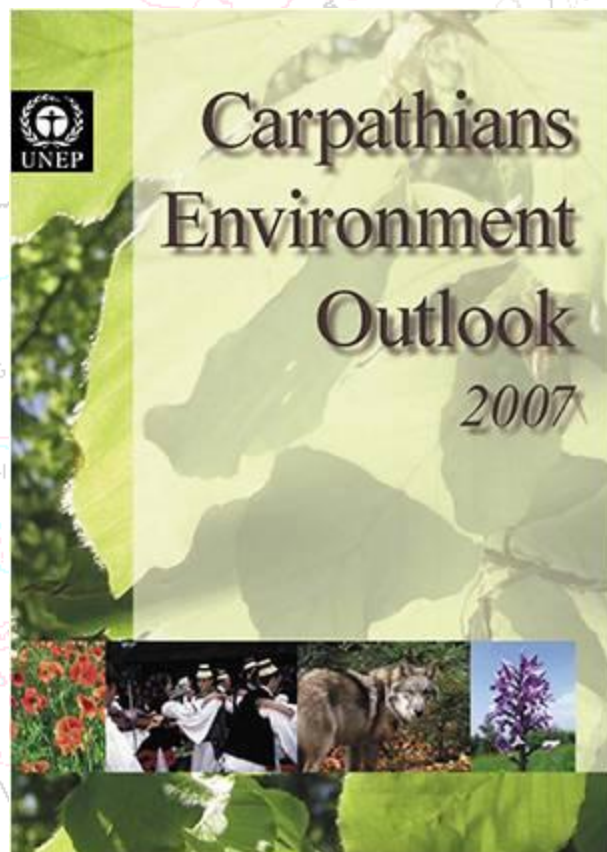
Elaborated strategic framework for the spatial development of the Carpathians with:

- Strategic Environmental Assessment “Carpathian Environmental Outlook (KEO)”
 - Analyses in the areas:
 - socio-economic situation,
 - transport networks,
 - water resources,
 - forestry and timber industry,
 - human settlements.
 - Review of the various national spatial development strategies and plans
- **results synthesised into one overall strategic document**

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- Integrated report on the state of, and trends related to, the environment retrospectively over the past 30 years and forward to 2020.
- Integrated environmental assessment approach was carried out.
- Based on analyses of socio-economic and environmental processes and focussed on sustainable development issues, especially the economic efficiency and environmental effectiveness of policy actions.
- 35 (thematic) maps and many tables with overviews on the area.

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KEO

- Presents the state of the area and a number of current issues threatening biological and landscape diversity, as climate change, pollution, infrastructure development, and mass tourism
- Most of these challenges are identified as being of global or transnational nature
- Emphasizes that the next 15 years will be as crucial as the past 30 years for shaping the future of the environment
- Underlines three scenarios to explore what the future could be, depending on different policy and societal approaches:
 - „Business as usual” scenario
 - „EU Policy First” scenario
 - „Carpathian Dream Scenario”

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KEO – „Business as usual” scenario

- Globalisation and liberalisation forces are strong and propagated throughout the Carpathians
- Government policies are driven by the promotion of economic growth
- Cultural, ethnic and language diversity and the integration of Roma population are not considered as important - with traditional values and cultural associations disappearing
- Regional disparities increase and the depopulation of rural areas accelerates
- Over-exploitation of natural resources, air and water pollution and no commitment to mitigate climate change results in major hazards in the regions and leads to weather extremes

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KEO - „EU Policy First” scenario

- Successful implementation of EU environmental regulations in the entire Carpathian region
- Need for stronger coordination of policy efforts and structural reforms recognised by Carpathian governments
- In the budget 2013-2020, EU policies aim at maintaining and strengthening regional and social cohesion
- Huge funds are available for sustainable, rural and agricultural development, helping to decrease the social divide and decreasing regional disparities.
- Focus is also put on renewable energies, biofuels and energy diversification
- Traditional air pollutant emission are further reduced with positive impacts on urban air quality
- Trans-regional cooperation at all levels intensifies in environmental protection and nature conservation

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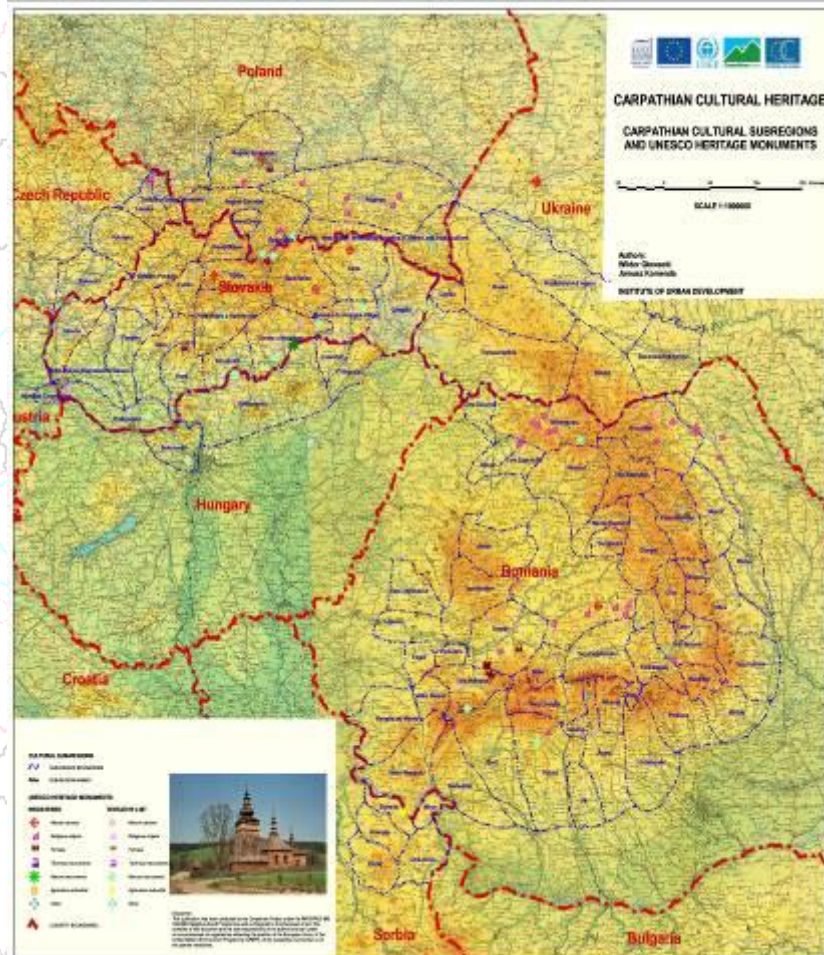
KEO - „Carpathian Dream“-Scenario

- Pro-environment and anti-poverty policies are given highest priority
- Policy-makers recognize that achieving environmental sustainability relies on a multitude of potential interventions undertaken by a broad variety of individuals, groups, organizations, institutions across different levels and sectors
- Implementation of technological innovations, changing the structure of government, laws and/or the education systems and changing consumer behaviour
- Economy of the area is characterised by qualitative growth accompanied by regional convergence
- Formerly indigenous but extinct species are resettled or reintroduced with support from NGOs and governments
- The total extent of protected areas increases, green/migration corridors are established and effective measures are taken to decrease habitat fragmentation

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Carpathian Cultural Heritage - Identity and Regions of traditional Culture

Research on basic common features for a unique profile of the Carpathian Area in Europe and the characteristic cultural factors for the endogenous social and economic development.

- UNESCO World Heritage Sites and other important objects and items on the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List, as monasteries and fortresses, historic city centres, (wooden) churches, cultural landscapes,
- Map with Cultural Subregions and World Heritage Monuments

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TRANSPORT SYSTEM IN THE CARPATHIAN SPACE

- Outlook on main features of transport system
- Considerations on the situation of transport in the Carpathian region and its impact on the environment
- Analysis of the transport network in the Carpathians with a focus on environmentally sensitive areas
- Actions needed for infrastructural functionality of the transport network and for improved accessibility of the Carpathian region for balanced socio-economic development
- Actions appropriate to limit the environmental impact of infrastructure and to develop advanced transport management systems

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Water Resources and Natural Disasters (climate change) and Flood Risk Mapping

- Three main areas of importance for water management:
 - Water use,
 - drought and flood problems
 - legal transposition of EU-policy.

- Comprehensive insight on the status of waters in the Carpathians, the situation of water resources and basic data on factors important to the water situation.



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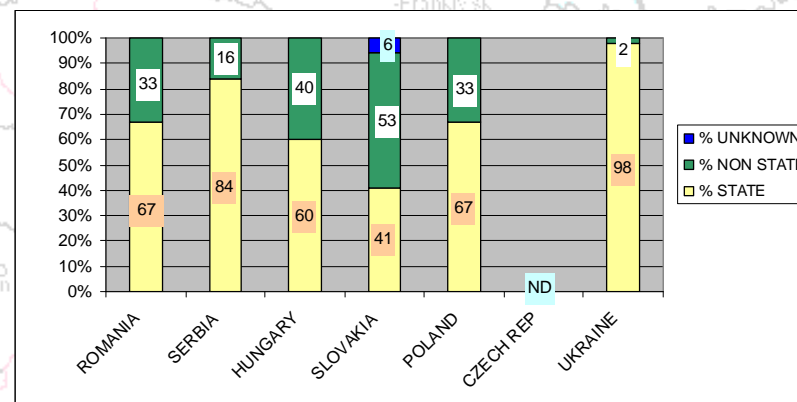
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„Current State of Forest Resources in the Carpathian“

- describing the natural resources of forests,
- analyzing forest management systems
- describing the state of nature protection and forest health and
- disturbances and damage to forest resources.



Ownership of Carpathian Forests

„Challenges and Priority for Adapting the Management of Carpathians forests to new Environmental and Socio-economic Conditions“ describes

- practices of forest management,
- policies and
- the economic use of forests.

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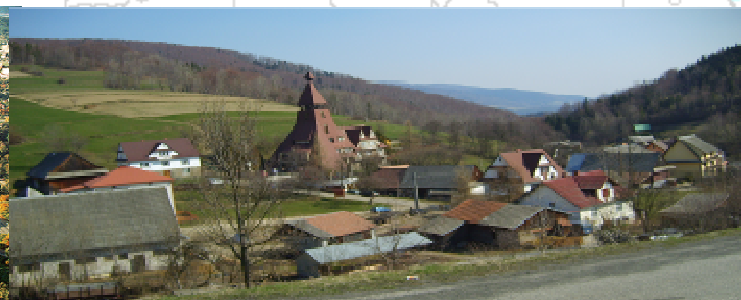
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T TYPOLOGY OF THE SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE IN THE CARPATHIAN AREA

- Typology of the Carpathian urban settlements
- Typology of the Carpathian rural settlements
- 3 case studies:
 - “Human Settlements in the Municipality of Poronin, villages: Poronin, Bustryk, Małe Ciche, Murzasichle, Nowe Bystre, Stasikówka, Suche, Zab” (Poland)
 - “Peculiarities of Settlements in Ukrainian Carpathians”
 - “Human Settlements in the Prahova Valley” (Romania)



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“Lessons learned”

- Information, experiences and conclusions on cross-border and transnational cooperation initiatives, programmes and projects.
- Case study from Romania
- Used as contribution for strategic documents for the Carpathians and as input for the Follow-up-Platform and project development

- Consideration:

Programme area CADSES (2000-2006) comprised the whole Carpathian Space – in the Programming Period 2007-2013 this area was split in two parts and with it, also the Carpathian Space was divided. Alpine Space is fully covered by a programme.



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NATIONAL SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES AND PLANS

- Analysis of important and available documents of policies and plans, relevant national regional policies and spatial plans
- EU accession increased the importance of programming and the use of the standards of EU regional policy and planning homogenised the practice of regional policy and planning
- Ukraine and Serbia – especially in the field of regional planning – number of documents is small
- The Carpathian region as a geographical unit is very rarely described explicitly in sectoral and regional level planning documents as an intervention area and it is even not marked as an area in extreme geographical-environmental position.
- Rare appearance in the majority of cases mostly in the context of environmental conservation and development actions
- Need for the Carpathian region (besides environmental development programmes) and also for working out a multilateral and common socio-economic development strategy

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Intergovernmental platform/six working groups covering different aspects of the sustainable development of the Carpathians

- Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity
 - Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge
 - Sustainable Agriculture, Rural development and Forestry
 - Sustainable Industry, Energy, Transport and Infrastructure
 - Sustainable Tourism
 - Spatial development
- + Carpathian Network of Protected Areas

The working groups elaborate background documents and policy proposals which are then presented to the intergovernmental platform for consultation.

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The intergovernmental process results in:

- Internationally legally agreed tools, e.g. Biodiversity Protocol, further protocol on transport, tourism, forestry, etc.
- Negotiation of the Carpathian Space Programme with relevant EC authorities
- Coordination of follow-up platform until establishment of the Carpathian Space.

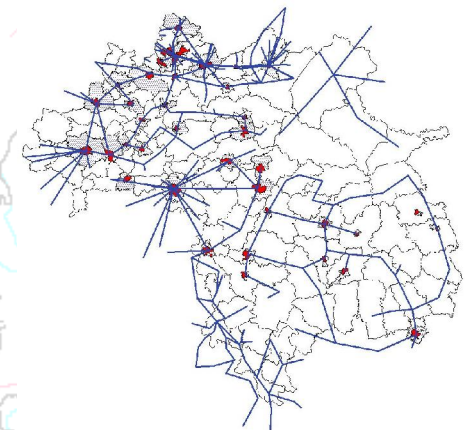
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Outputs: Education and awareness for the Future

Building a shared Carpathian identity and developing training instruments for awareness raising.

- Development of a Carpathian Cultural, Historic and Social Topography
- Methodology and implementation for Local “Agenda 21”
- Legal and administrative instruments and financial management tools for national and regional authorities, NGOs and other stakeholders in/for sustainable development
- Policy guidelines for Communication and Information Society Building



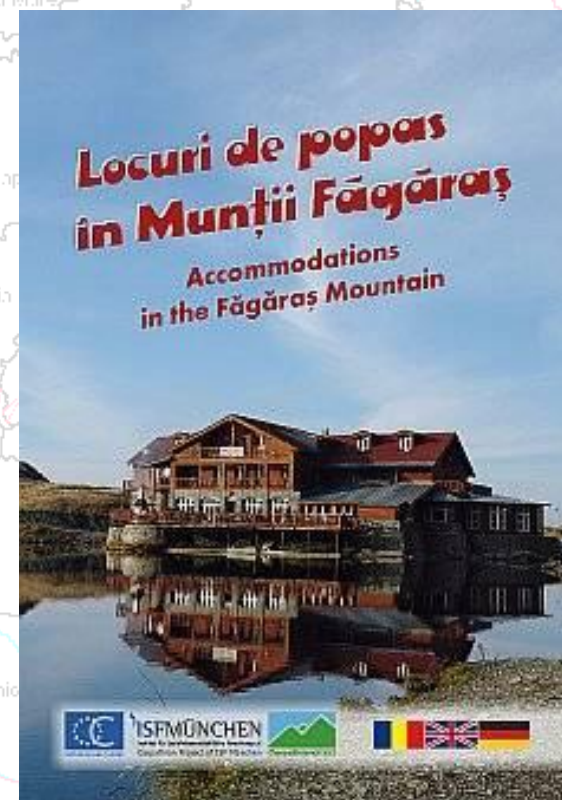
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Output: Transfer of experiences – SME in the mountainous areas

SME development in mountain regions with a strong focus on tourism development.

- Building a strategy for local brand development,
- Support for new and existing enterprises and local authorities in the field of SME development,
- Methodology and implementation for improving tourism infrastructure in remote areas
- Skill-building in tourism through training measures and pilot actions.



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Carpathian Project Follow-up platform

Purpose and Activities

To be a standing follow-up platform for regions, local authorities and NGOs for which the Carpathian Convention Interim-Secretariat provides the platform for:

- the coordinated identification and drafting of possible spin-off and follow-up projects
- assessing the future funding potential
- giving recommendations for further action and supports project development
- Focussed on project on the implementation of the Carpathian Convention

