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Polish Presidency
in the Carpathian Convention
2020 - 2023



Ministry of Climate
and Environment



**Carpathian Convention
Working Group on Sustainable
Tourism - updates**

15 April 2021
ONLINE MEETING

UN Environment Vienna Office –
Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention



The Carpathian Convention

- A framework Convention for cooperation and multi-sectoral policy coordination
- Adopted on 22 May 2003
- Entered in force on 4 January 2006
- Ratified by all the seven Carpathian countries
- A platform for joint strategies for sustainable development
- A forum for dialogue between all stakeholders involved
- UN Environment Programme Vienna Office provides the Secretariat for the Carpathian Convention
- **Goal: Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathian Region**

Carpathian Convention - regional instrument for achieving Sustainable Development Goals in the Carpathians



4.7



6.3, 6.5, 6.6, 6.A



7.2, 7.A



8.4



9.1



11.4, 11.A,



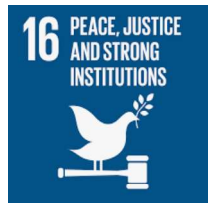
12.2, 12.4, 12.8,
12.A, 12.B



13.1, 13.2, 13.3



15.1, 15.2, 15.3,
15.4, 15.5, 15.7,
15.8, 15.9, 15.A



16.7



17.14, 17.16



Institutional Structure



Working Group Biodiversity

Protocol on Biodiversity

Working Group Climate Change

Working Group Sustainable Tourism

Protocol on Sustainable Tourism

Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge

Working Group Sustainable Forest

Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management

Working Group on Transport

Protocol on Sustainable Transport

WG SARD

Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

WG Spatial Development

Working Group on Sustainable Tourism – strategic objectives



WG Tourism shall support and guide activities of the Carpathian Convention towards the implementation of the Protocol on Sustainable Tourism and the Strategy for sustainable tourism development, relevant COP Decisions and related Carpathian Convention Programme of Work.

CSTP shall be considered as a cooperation framework of interested Parties representant by officially designated national entities (CSTP Centres) that are created to assist the WG Tourism to reach its strategic objectives.

Decision COP6/15
Sustainable tourism

COP6 Decisions - Encouraging further implementation of the Tourism Protocol and cooperation with the Carpathian Sustainable Tourism Platform

Main decisions:

- noting the limited progress in the implementation of the Protocol on Sustainable Tourism, invites the Parties, the WG Tourism, the Carpathian Sustainable Tourism Platform (CSTP) and the Secretariat to consider and propose next steps allowing for **revitalization of the WG Tourism activities**;
- inviting close cooperation between the **Carpathian Sustainable Tourism Platform (CSTP)** and the Secretariat
- inviting for signing of the **Memorandum of Cooperation** between the Secretariat and relevant CSTP Centres, if all formal requirements are met
- thanking the CSTP Center Romania for coordinating the activities of the CSTP in 2017 – 2020 and inviting the CSTP Centre Poland to take the coordinating role for the next implementation period 2021 – 2023
- note of relevant projects (Cooperation of V4+ rural tourism actors through social and digital innovation project” under the Visegrad Fund, the “Etno Carpathia” project under the cross-border Interreg Poland-Slovakia Programme and the project “Thematic Trail Trigger” under the Interreg Europe Programme
- taking notes of activities of the Centralparks project, especially the “Strategy for local sustainable tourism development based on natural and cultural heritage of the Carpathians”



Decision COP6/1
*on implementation of the
 Carpathian Convention*

Improving functioning of the Carpathian Convention Working Groups

Main decisions:

- establishing a role of the Chairperson of each existing Working Group (WGs) to enhance the implementation of the Convention and support cooperation and exchange of information among WGs and other relevant actors

Tasks of the WG's Chairpersons:

- In close cooperation with the Secretariat, providing substantial support in organization of the WG meeting, including suggesting topics for a meeting agenda and approving relevant documents for a meeting.
- Chairing of the WG meetings and proposing relevant conclusions.
- Guiding and overseeing, in the close cooperation with the Secretariat, the implementation of the WG's activities.
- Regularly communicating with the Secretariat, other WGs Chairpersons and Focal Points for information exchange (i.a. at the meeting of the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee, COPs).
- Reporting to the CCIC on the activities undertaken by the WG.

Table indicating the Carpathian Convention Working Groups and the Parties taking the leading role of them for the period of 2021 – 2023 (from COP6 to COP7)

Name of the Working Group	Leading role
WG on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity	
WG on Spatial Development	?
WG on Agriculture and Rural Development	
WG on Sustainable Forest Management	
WG on Sustainable Industry, Energy, Transport and Infrastructure	
WG on Sustainable Tourism	
WG on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge	
WG on Adaptation to Climate Change	



Decision COP6/2

on cooperation with regional and local authorities and all relevant stakeholders

Polish Presidency priority on cooperation with local and regional level

Main decisions:

- promoting and supporting implementation of the Carpathian Convention across the sectors at the regional and local level
- **encouraging regional and local authorities and relevant stakeholders to actively engage in and contribute to the process of implementation the Carpathian Convention in order to foster strong ownership of the convention and its activities undertaken in the Carpathian region**
- recommending development of projects supporting 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
- welcoming ongoing cooperation with the regional governments of the Carpathians and encouraging the other regional and local authorities to follow this good example of cooperation



2nd Carpathian Days of Good Neighbourhood - Meeting of the Carpathian Regions
8-10 August 2019 in Muczne, Poland

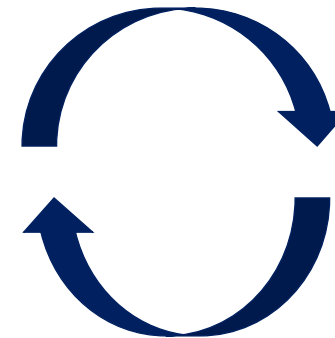
Decision COP6/3

on cooperation with the European Union

Polish Presidency Priority on closer cooperation with the EU –
towards the European Union accession to the Carpathian Convention

Main decisions:

- reiterating the previous COP Decisions inviting the **European Union to join the Carpathian Convention as a Party,**
- Implementing the the **Road Map for the EU accession to the Carpathian Convention**
- considering introducing a "Regional Economic Integration Organization Clause" into the Carpathian Convention, making it possible for the EU to become Party to the Convention
- Following the process of establishing the **Macroregional Strategy for the Carpathians**
- Welcoming the new **EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030** and the ongoing developments of the new **EU Forest Strategy post-2020** and inviting the Parties and relevant stakeholders to **contribute to achieving the EU Strategies through implementing the Carpathian Convention and its objectives**



Terms of Reference for the Carpathian Convention Working Group on Sustainable Tourism - OVERVIEW



Terms of Reference for the Carpathian Convention Working Group on Sustainable Tourism

Background and mandate

- ❖ overview of the Carpathian Convention COPs in respect to the WG Tourism and its work

Strategic objectives

- ❖ WG Tourism shall support and guide activities of the Carpathian Convention towards the implementation of the Protocol on Sustainable Tourism and the Strategy for sustainable tourism development, relevant COP Decisions and related Carpathian Convention Programme of Work



Terms of Reference for the Carpathian Convention Working Group on Sustainable Tourism

Composition and organization of work

- ❖ The WG Tourism is composed of the National Focal Points for the Carpathian Convention and national tourism representatives/experts nominated by them. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties, the meetings of the WG Tourism are open for observers.
- ❖ The Chair will be appointed the Party taking the leading role of the WG Tourism in line with the DECISION COP6/1 para 7 and will be responsible for calling and chairing all meetings.

Responsibilities and Activities

- ❖ Among others: supporting identification and involvement of key actors, supporting project development, promoting activities of the Carpathian Convention on sustainable tourism, sharing best practices and expertise supporting activities, enhancing transnational and cross-border cooperation

Carpathian Sustainable Tourism Platform

- ❖ Cooperation with CSTP



Terms of Reference for the Carpathian Convention Working Group on Sustainable Tourism

Coordination and cooperation with other WGs and stakeholders

- ❖ WG Tourism shall exchange information and foster communication with other relevant WGs of the Carpathian Convention and might seek cooperation with other interested institutions and stakeholders within or beyond the Carpathian Convention.

Term

- ❖ Effective upon approval of the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee and continues at least for the implementation period 2021-2023.

Amendment, Modification or Variation

- ❖ Upon consultation with CCIC





Thank you for your
attention!

UNEP Vienna Programme Office
Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention

www.carpathianconvention.org
<https://www.unenvironment.org/>