

# Stakeholders' Consultation

Establishing the Trans-European Nature Network

# Carpathian Convention COP7

Palace of Serbia

11 October 2023, 13.30-15.00



Funded by  
the European Union

NaturaConnect receives funding under the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement number 101060429.

# Stakeholders' Consultation

**Establishing the Trans-European Nature Network:  
Strengthening collaboration within the Carpathian  
Convention for building a transboundary functional  
ecological network and integrating ecological corridors  
across relevant sectors**



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## “Establishing the Trans-European Nature Network” Workshop Agenda

Our session will be from 13:30 - 15:00. Do not worry, we will keep you entertained :)

Timeline:

1. Introduction of Ecological Connectivity, and its role in Carpathian Convention (20 min)
2. Moderated Breakout Groups (20 min)
3. Feedback from Breakout Groups (15 min)
4. Panel Discussion & Questions from Participants (25 min)
5. Conclusions & Further Steps (10 min)

But first, we wanted to ask you a couple of questions:

Please join our Quiz on MentiMeter:



Image Source: <https://images.app.goo.gl/2SPxFTLrE3frKciQ7>

# 1. Introduction to Ecological Connectivity and its role in Carpathian Convention

Cristian Remus Papp, Wildlife and Landscape National Manager, WWF Romania.



# Stakeholders consultation Carpathian Convention COP7

Ecological connectivity in the Carpathians

Cristian-Remus Papp, PhD  
Wildlife & Landscapes National  
Manager  
WWF Romania

Carpathian Convention COP7  
11-13 October 2023, Belgrade

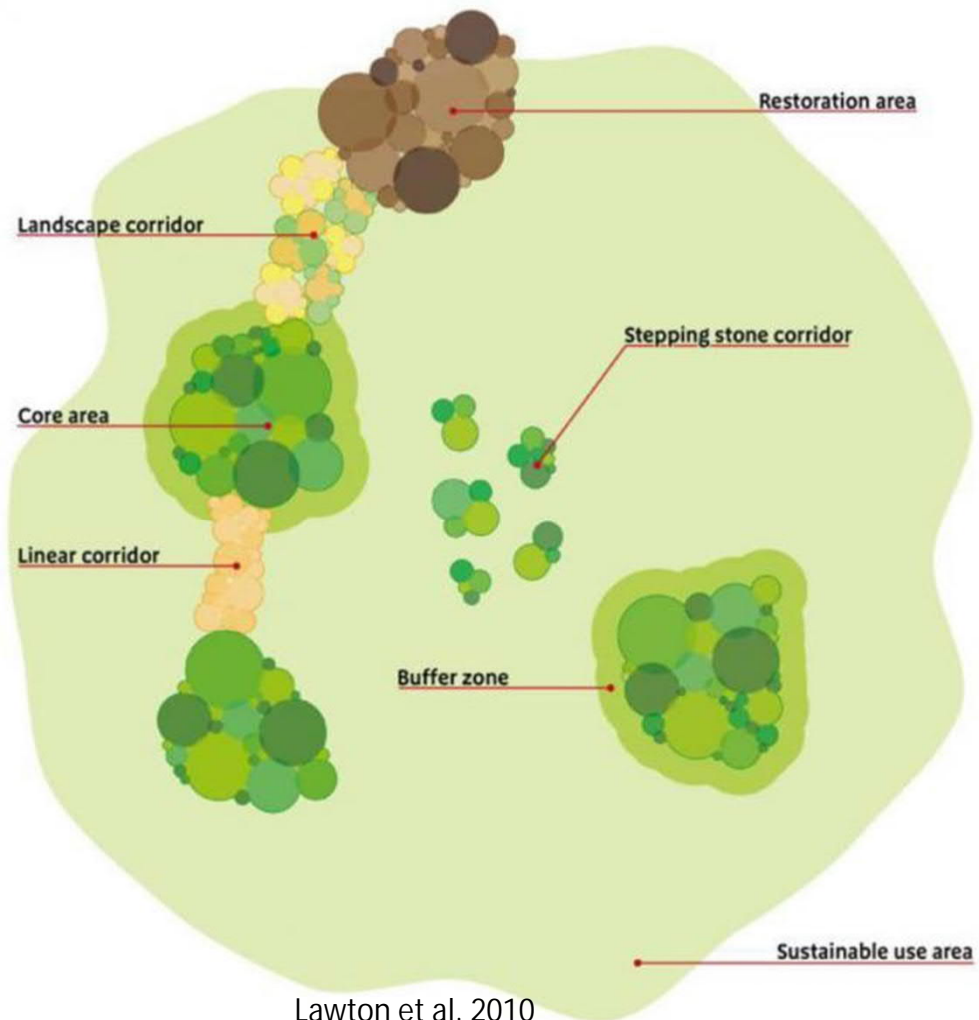


eurac  
research

# What is ecological connectivity?

Ecological connectivity is the unimpeded movement of species and the flow of natural processes that sustain life on Earth (Hilty et al. 2020).





The elements of an ecological network



# Threats to biodiversity in the Carpathians

## 4. Transportation and service corridors within the protected area

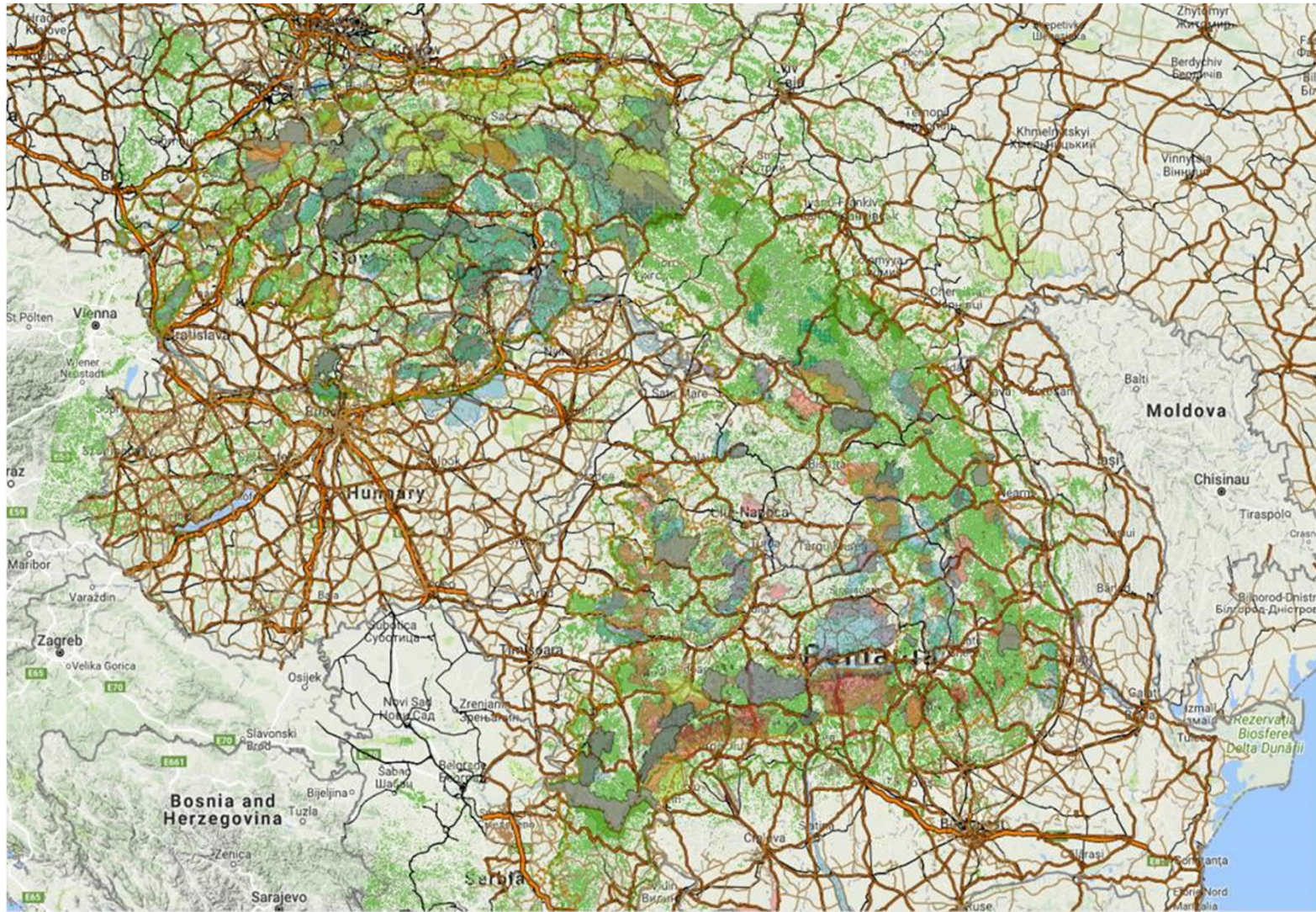
(Threats from long narrow transport corridors and the vehicles that use them, including associated wildlife mortality)

4.1 Roads and railroads (include road-killed animals)	38.39%
4.2 Utility and service lines (e.g. electricity cables, telephone lines, etc.)	32.74%
4.3 Shipping lanes and canals	13.39%
4.4 Flight paths	9.82%

## 7. Natural system modifications

(Threats from other actions that convert or degrade habitat or change the way the ecosystem functions)

7.1 Fire and fire suppression (including arson)	29.76%
7.2 Dams, hydrological modification and water management / use	30.06%
7.3 Increased fragmentation within protected areas	37.5%
7.4 Isolation from other natural habitat (e.g. deforestation, dams without effective aquatic wildlife passages)	30.06%
7.5 Other "edge effects" on park values	23.81%
7.6 Loss of keystone species (e.g. top predators, pollinators etc.)	27.68%



Road network vs. protected areas







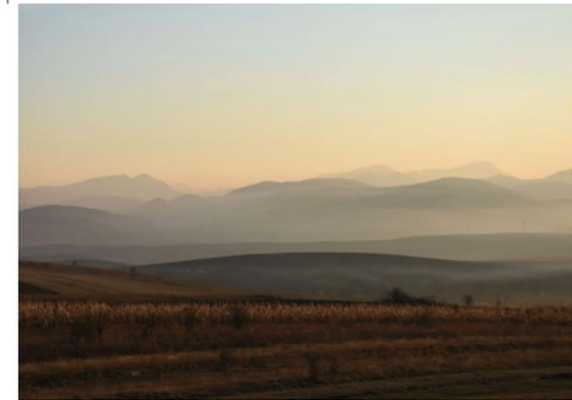






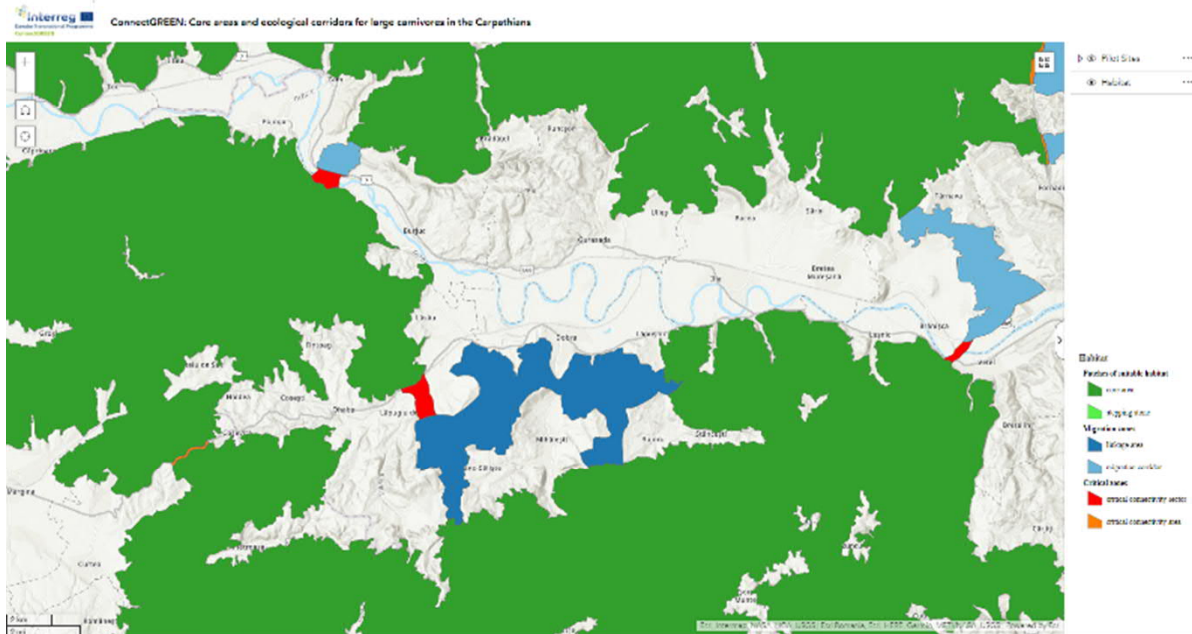


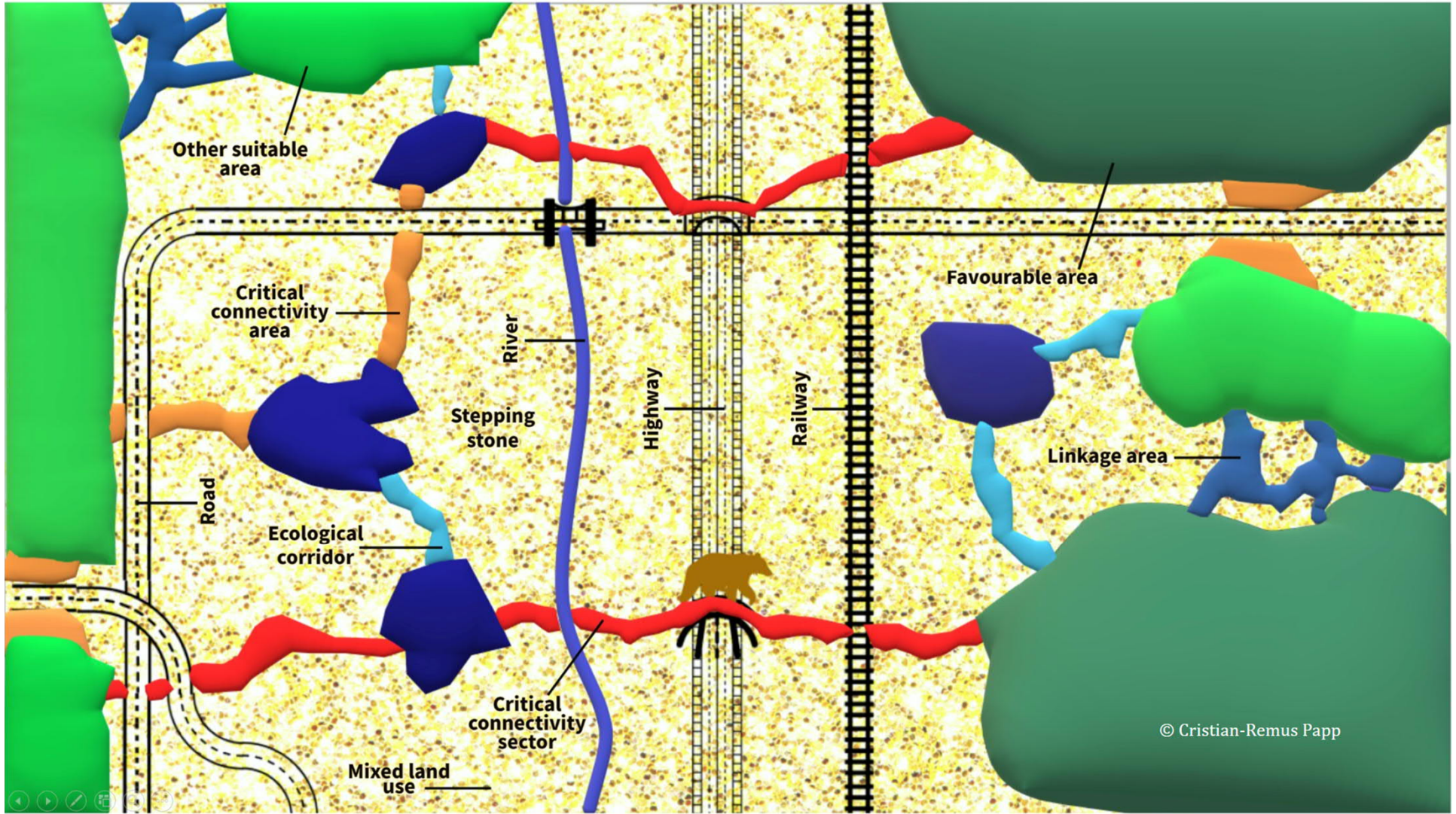
# Methodology for ID of corridors



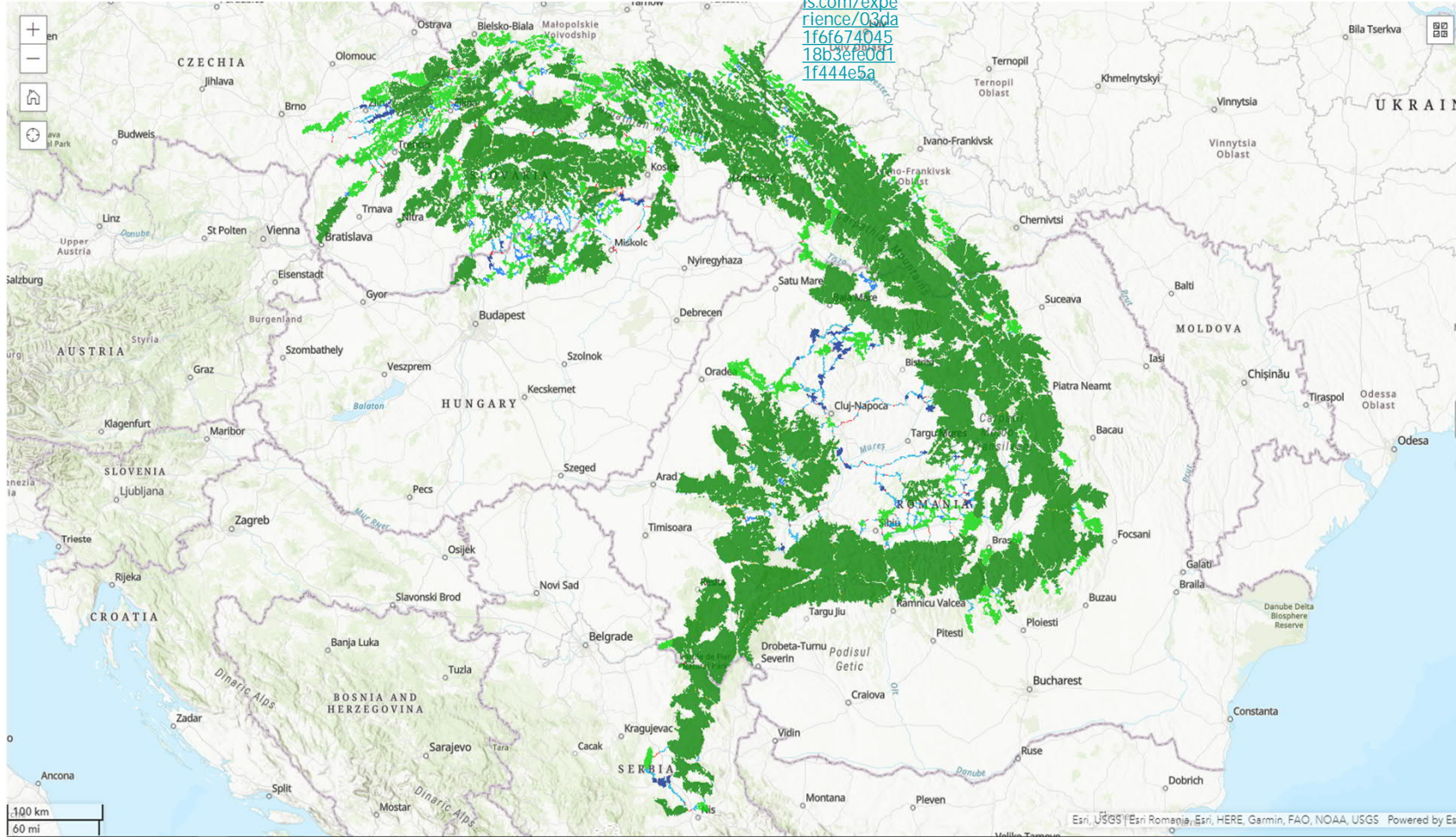
© Cristian-Remus Papp / WWF Romania

## METHODOLOGY FOR IDENTIFICATION OF ECOLOGICAL CORRIDORS IN THE CARPATHIAN COUNTRIES BY USING LARGE CARNIVORES AS UMBRELLA SPECIES





<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/03da1f6f67404518b3ef60d11f444e5a>



☞ Pilot sites ...

👁 Ecological network ...

🔍 Zoom to

⤴ Increase opacity

⤵ Decrease opacity

- Ecological network for large carnivores in the Carpathians**
- Favorable and suitable habitats**
- 🟩 continuous favorable area
  - 🟨 other suitable area
- Movement / migration zones**
- 🟦 linkage area
  - 🟦 corridor
  - 🟦 stepping stone
- Critical zones**
- 🔴 critical connectivity sector
  - 🟡 critical connectivity area



Thank  
You!



© Photos: Cristian-Remus Papp

## 2. Introduction to Ecological Connectivity and its role in Carpathian Convention

Harald Egerer, Head of UNEP Vienna Programme Office, Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention





### 3. Breakout Groups

Question 1:

What are the needs of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention to foster the development of a functional ecological network in the regional context?

You have a paper to put your conclusions on :)

**10:00**



### 3. Breakout Groups

Question 2:

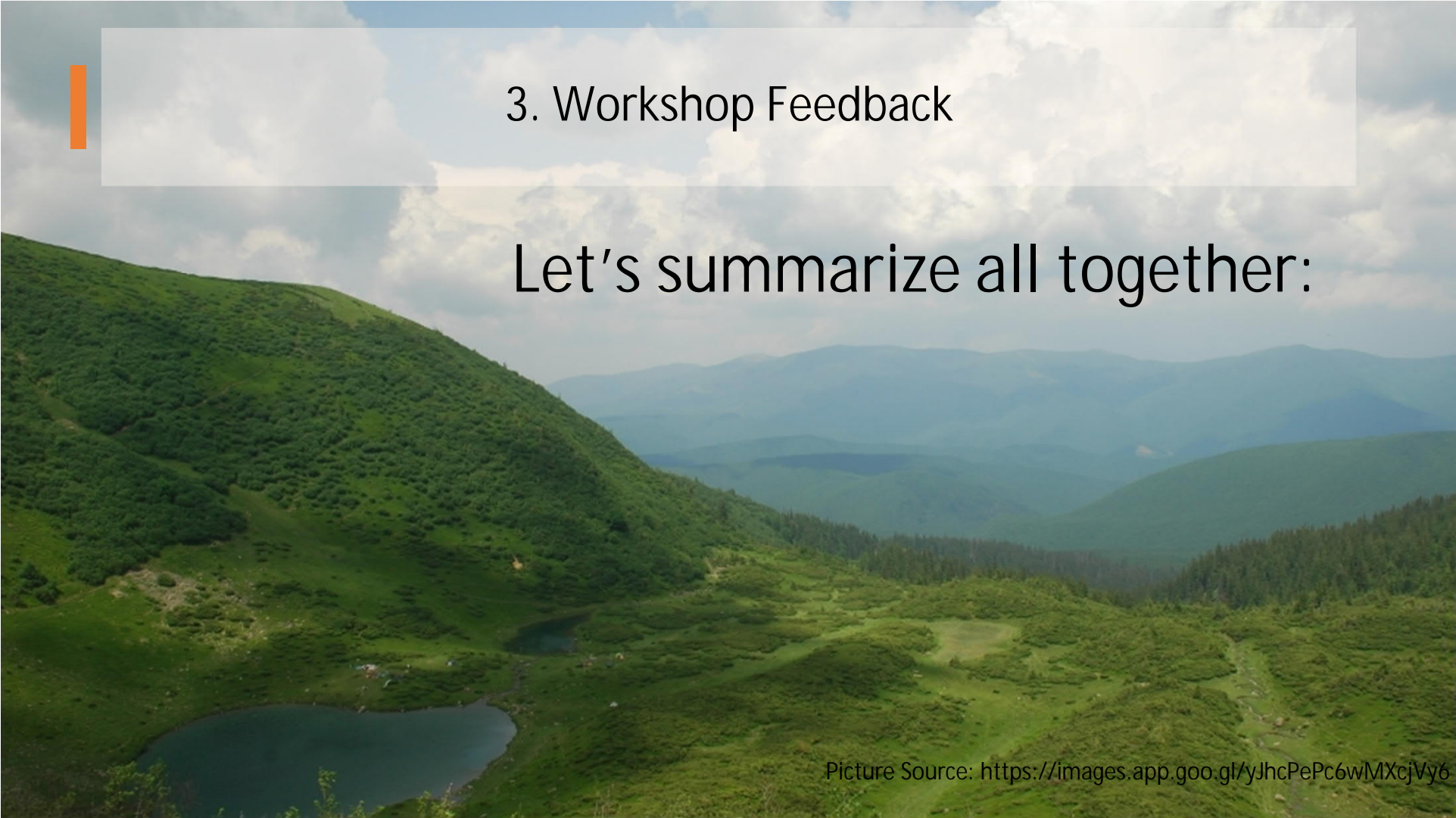
How can we use the Carpathian Convention cooperation mechanisms such as working groups to contribute to filling in the gaps?

You have a paper to put your conclusions on :)

**10:00**

Image Source - <https://images.app.goo.gl/FTk4rVaQK73vDQm5A>





### 3. Workshop Feedback

Let's summarize all together:

Picture Source: <https://images.app.goo.gl/yJhcPePc6wMXcjVy6>

## 4. Panel Discussion

Martin Jung, Researcher, IIASA,  
Lead Partner of NaturaConnect



Hildegard Meyer – WWF-Central and  
Eastern Europe, Project manager  
NaturaConnect



## 4. Panel Discussion

Andreas Beckmann, CEO of WWF  
Central and Eastern Europe



A scenic mountain landscape at sunset. The foreground is filled with vibrant pink flowers, likely azaleas, growing on a rocky, grassy slope. In the background, there are rolling mountains and a prominent peak under a sky with warm, golden light from the setting sun. A semi-transparent orange banner is overlaid on the top part of the image, containing the text "4. Discussion, Q&A to our speakers:".

## 4. Discussion, Q&A to our speakers:

## 5. Conclusions & Feedback

How did you like the workshop?

Please fill in our  
survey (3 min)



Image source: <https://images.app.goo.gl/QiuwxKcoxmh5teo59>

# Thank you for the participation!

We appreciate your dedication :)



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