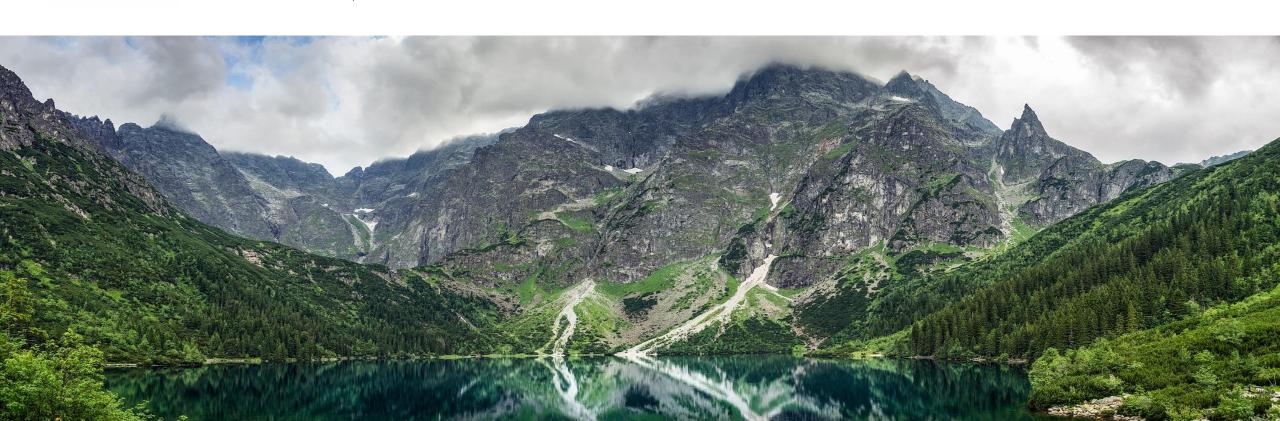


Supporting, promoting and protecting the traditional pastoral practices in the Carpathians - Towards UNESCO nomination of Carpathian Transhumance

Tamara Mitrofanenko, Klaudia Kuraś UNEP Vienna Programme Office - Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention



Outline:

- Carpathian Convention at glance
- Prioritisation of Carpathian Pastoralism at WG SARD
- Integration of Pastoralism and Transhumance into the Carpathian Convention Programme of Work
 - Relevance for the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework
 - COP7 Decisions
 - Partnership with IYRP





Carpathian Convention

Framework Convention for environmental protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians

- Unites 7 Carpathian countries (Czechia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Ukraine)
- Adopted in 2003 and in In force for all Parties since 2006
- Main role:
 - Framework for cooperation and multi-sectoral policy coordination
 - Platform for joint strategies for sustainable development
 - Forum for dialogue between all stakeholders involved
- UNEP Vienna Programme Office provides the Secretariat for the Carpathian Convention



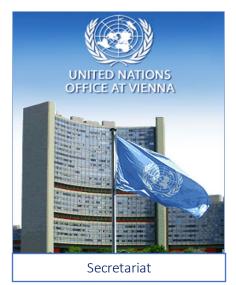


Institutional Structure



Conference of the Parties (COP)

Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee (CCIC)



Working Group Biodiversity

Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity Working Group Climate Change Working Group Sustainable Tourism



Protocol on Sustainable Tourism WG Cultural
Heritage
and
Traditional
Knowledge



Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management

Working

Group

Sustainable

Forest

Working Group on Transport



Protocol on Sustainable Transport Working Group SARD



Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development Working Group Spatial Development



6th meeting of the Working Group on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

26 - 27 April 2023, Vatra Dornei, Romania

- Carpathian Pastoralism included as a focus topic of WG SARD activities
- National Agency of Mountain Areas of Romania shared experience of submitting an application, along with several other European countries, to the UNESCO list of cultural heritage, highlighting transhumance in Romania











Carpathian Biodiversity Framework: 8 Strategic Objectives to support transformative actions across and within sectors

Coordinate efforts on conservation, maintenance and sustainable use of natural and semi-natural habitats.

Sustainably manage and protect Carpathian forests.

Cooperate on making tourism sustainable to maximize benefits and mitigate negative impacts.

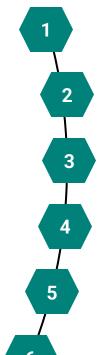
Develop **transport and related infrastructure** sustainably by implementing environmentally friendly transport models and systems.

Maintain **Traditional Knowledge** on traditionally cultivated land and **sustainable agriculture practices**.

Strengthen regional resilience through **climate change** mitigation and adaptation.

Strengthen **public awareness** about the Convention's objectives by integrating **lifelong learning**, **global education approaches** and **cross-sectoral cooperation** into the Convention's activities.

Cooperate with **Ukraine** on protecting and sustainably developing the Carpathian region to address the direct and indirect impacts of the war in Ukraine on the Carpathians



COP7 Decisions relevant for Pastoralism and Transhumance

DECISION COP7/12 Sustainable agriculture and rural development

- 2. Welcoming the United Nations General Assembly Resolution (RES/76/253) declaring 2026 as the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP), and recognizing the importance of the Carpathian Pastoralism, **invites** the Parties, WG SARD and relevant stakeholders, with support of the Secretariat, to use the building momentum of the IYRP to undertake relevant actions for supporting, promoting and protecting the traditional pastoral practices in the Carpathians and to highlight the relevance and contribution of the Carpathian region to this important practice at the international level.
- 3. ... welcomes the prioritization of the Carpathian pastoralism as a leading topic for the WG SARD activities, and further request the WG SARD and involved stakeholders to build on the results and recommendations of the 6th WG SARD meeting, and to continue process of identifying and implementing relevant activities for cooperation within the framework of the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists...

COP7 Decisions relevant for Pastoralism and Transhumance

DECISION COP7/12 Sustainable agriculture and rural development

- 4. Welcomes the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and the Global International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists 2026 Coalition, mandates the Secretariat to sign it at the earliest convenience.
- 5. Invites the Parties, relevant Working Groups and stakeholders to explore possibilities to inscribe the Carpathian pastoralism in the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List of Humanity and requests the Secretariat to support the process.
- 6. Furthermore, encourages WG SARD and WG Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge, with involvement of other WGs, if feasible, to organize a joint meeting addressing the issues of pastoralism in the Carpathians, and requests the Secretariat to support the process

Partnership with IYRP 2026 - MOC Signed at COP 7









- to promote exchange of data and information relevant for sustainable pastoralism with a particular focus on best practices from other global regions that can be adapted and applied in the Carpathian region.
- to promote networks of professional experts in fields related to sustainable
- to improve the dialogue with and between the pastoralists in the Carpathian Mountains and elsewhere in Europe such as via supporting/organising/hosting regional and international level experience- and knowledge-sharing events

Except the above points, the Signatories shall not use in any press release, memo, report, website or other published disclosure related to this MoC any of the other Signatories' name and logo without prior written consent by the Signatory concerned.

III - TERM AND TERMINATION

The term of this MoC will commence from the date of the signature and will remain in effect until 31 December 2026. This MoC can be revised at any point through mutual written agreement. Either party may terminate the MoC by providing a written notice six months in advance.

IV - Non-Binding Memorandum of Cooperation

Nothing in this MoC will legally bind any of the Signatories. Any dispute about the interpretation or application of this Memorandum will be resolved by consultations between the Signatories and will not be referred to any national or international tribunal or third party for settlement.

Signed in duplicate on ILA 23 in English.

For the Global International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists 2026

Igshaan Samuele

Date 12 October 2023

For the Secretariat of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

Head of the Secretariate Date 12 October 2023

