



INTRODUCING THE

# Carpathian ESD Expert Network

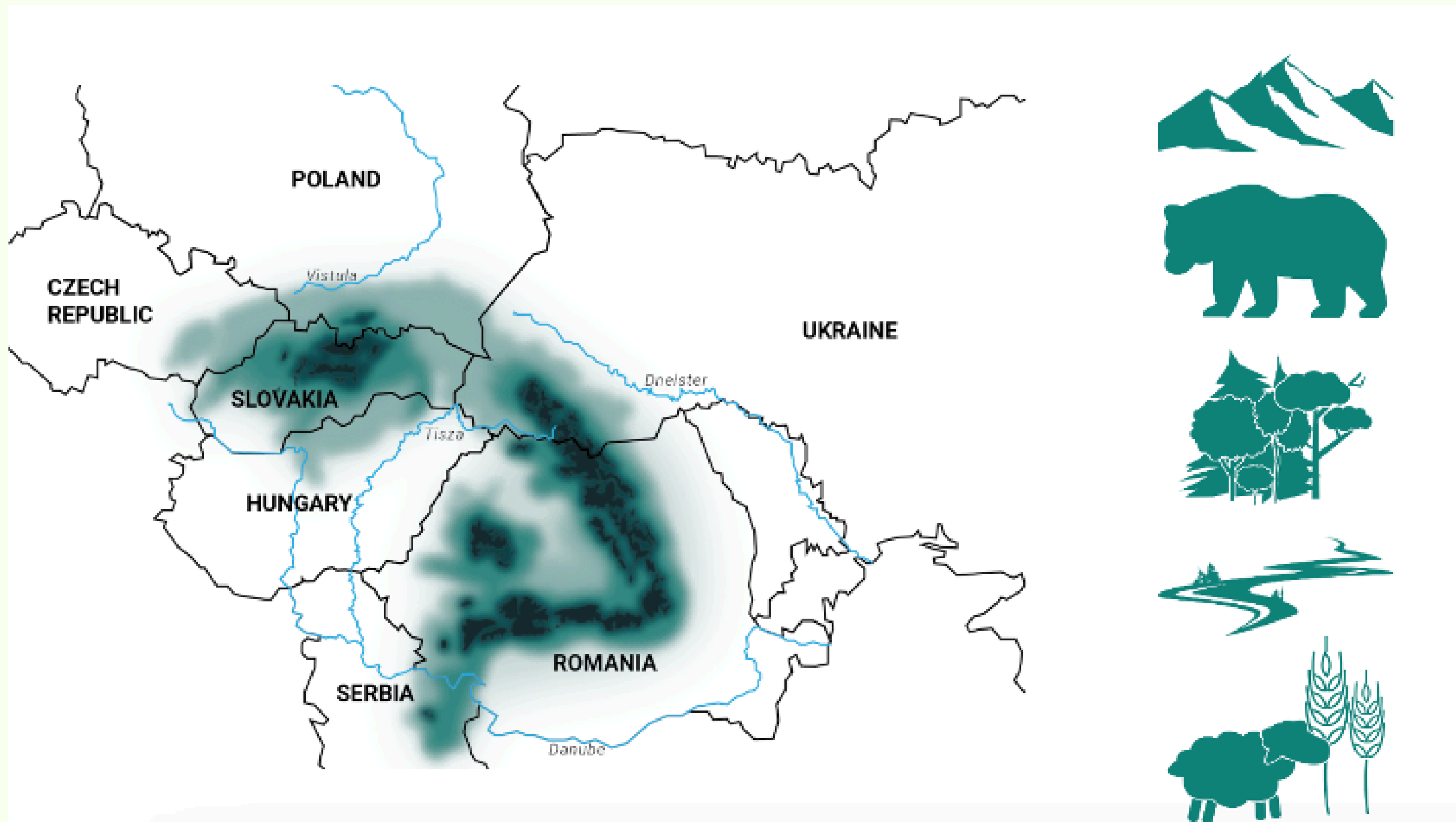
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# The Carpathian Region

*A Hotspot for Biological and Cultural Diversity*



The second largest mountain range in Europe.

Europe's largest population of large carnivores.

Last remaining virgin forests in Europe.

Major rivers start in the Carpathians.

Cultural heritage and traditional knowledge.

*Importance of education and awareness raising.*

# The Carpathian Convention

## *The Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians*

- Established in 2003; Ratified in 2006 by all 7 Carpathian countries
- A framework & forum for:
  - regional cooperation
  - multi-sectoral policy coordination
  - partnership and stakeholder engagement
- A regional instrument for enhancing the implementation of global and European policies.




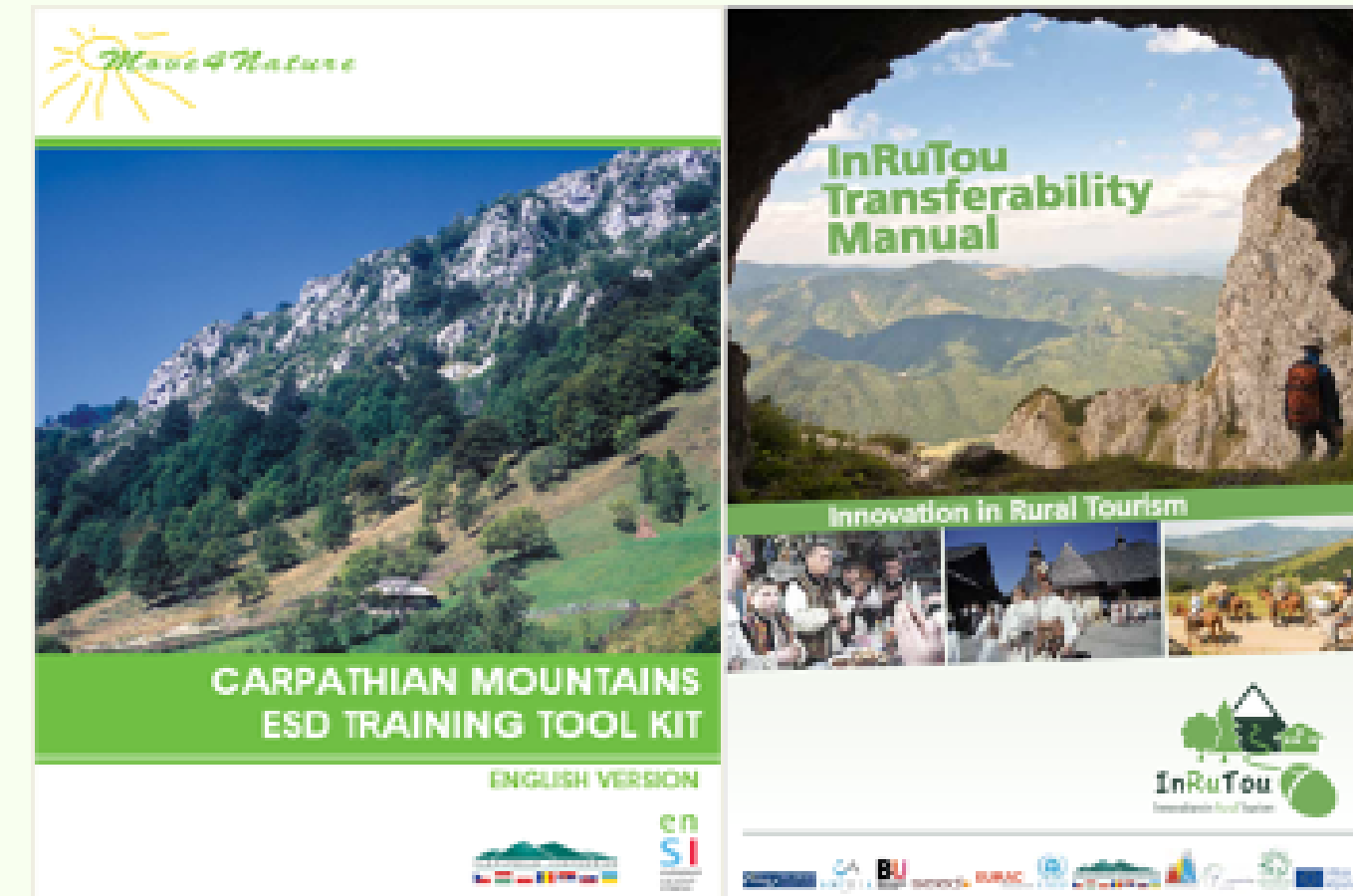
THE GLOBAL GOALS



Convention on  
Biological Diversity

# The Carpathian Convention & ESD

- **Article 13 - Awareness raising, education and public participation**
  - ESD-related projects and materials of the Secretariat
- **ESD was identified as priority under the 2017-2020 Hungarian Presidency of the Convention**
  - Regional Carpathian ESD Seminars initiated in 2019
- **ESD Chapter added to the regional Research Agenda 2030**
  - Science4Carpathians network 
- **Carpathian ESD Expert Network established**
  - formal recognition by COP7 in 2023
- **Education integrated into the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework**
  - CBF Strategic Objective 7







# Vision of the Carpathian ESD expert network

A thriving and interconnected Carpathian region, where ESD advances respect for its diverse natural and cultural heritage, fosters a Carpathian identity and builds sustainable relationships between people and nature.





# Mission of the Carpathian ESD expert network

We promote ESD-focused networking and collaborations that aim to improve the quality of life, strengthen local economies and communities, and protect natural and cultural heritage in the Carpathians.





# Objectives

- **Support implementation of the Carpathian Convention Article 13**
- **Facilitate collaboration and learning between all sectors and stakeholder levels in the Carpathian countries**
- **Shape ESD for the Carpathian environmental, social and economic context, fostering effective SDG implementation for the region**
- **Promote sustainability and a Carpathian identity through ESD**





# Pathways for achieving objectives

- **Knowledge and Resource Sharing**
  - Support Carpathian ESD networking by creating platforms for communication and collaboration among ESD experts
  - Seek out partnerships with other organizations, networks and stakeholders (Carpathian and beyond) who share similar goals
- **Policy Advocacy**
  - Understand how ESD policy manifests on the ground in the Carpathian countries and engage in policy advocacy to integrate ESD principles
- **Activity and Research Collaboration**
  - Seek out and promote existing ESD initiatives and best practices in the Carpathians; develop pilot projects jointly
- **Network Infrastructure Development**
  - Secure resources for network administration and management





# Tangible Activities

- **Engage youth in the Carpathian Convention**
  - Youth delegates
  - ProBioTIC project
- **Develop joint projects & initiatives**
  - Carpathian Pastoralism & ESD
  - Carpathian Day
- **Networking and best-practice sharing**
  - Identify synergies with the implementation of the UNECE ESD Strategy
  - UNESCO ESD-net
- **Research collaborations**
- **Upcoming events:**
  - Online meetings
  - Carpathian ESD Seminar in Serbia (spring 2025)



# Tangible Activities:

## ESD Webpage

*carpathianconvention.org*

- 1 Carpathian ESD examples
- 2 Sign up to join the Carpathian ESD Expert Network email list
- 3 Carpathian ESD activities
  - Seminars
  - Online database of resources
  - Carpathian Day

Interested in learning more about the intersection between learning, education and sustainable development? Join our email list for exchanging ideas, resources, expertise and experiments, facilitated by the Secretariat.

[Join the Network](#)

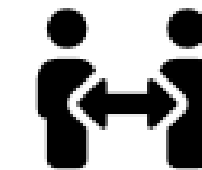
Have questions about ESD efforts in the Carpathians or the Carpathian ESD Expert Network? Email the coordinator of the Carpathian ESD Expert Network in the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention.

### Carpathian ESD Expert Network Activities



#### Carpathian ESD Seminars

The Carpathian ESD Network has held 2 ESD seminars since 2019. These conferences bring together international experts and practitioners for sharing recent projects, presenting research and developing joint activities relevant to the Carpathians.



#### Resource Sharing

The Carpathian ESD Expert Network is a forum for sharing knowledge, best practices, curriculum and other resources. Click here to see upcoming events, educational materials, news and other resources that members of the network have shared.

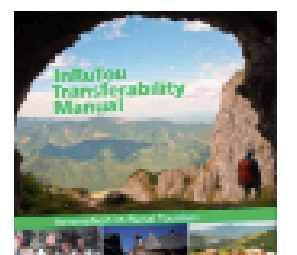
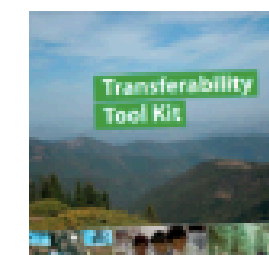
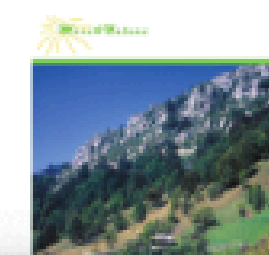


#### Carpathian Day

Celebrate the Carpathians through Carpathian Day: a yearly celebration of our diverse and common identities, landscapes, heritage and love for the Carpathian region.



### Carpathian Educational Materials





# Tangible Activities:

## Carpathian Day

*Celebrating our natural and cultural heritage*

Carpathian Day is a yearly celebration that takes place on or around 26 September

### Objectives:

- 1 Help cultivate a Carpathian identity
- 2 Raise environmental and cultural awareness of mountain landscapes
- 3 Inspire further protection and sustainable development of local communities





# Stay in touch!

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