

DRAFT AGENDA

16th Meeting of the Carpathian Convention Working Group on Biodiversity 13-14 May 2025, Veselí nad Moravou, Czech Republic

DAY 1 13 May | 9:00 – 19:00 (CET)

9:00 – 9:30 Arrival and registration of participants

SESSION I INTRODUCTION

- 9:30 – 10:15
- 1) Opening of the 16th WG Biodiversity meeting – *Harald Egerer, Carpathian Convention Secretariat*
 - 2) Welcome remarks by the Serbian Presidency – *TBC, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Serbia*
 - 3) Welcome remarks by the WG Biodiversity Chair – *Eliška Rolfová, Ministry of the Environment, Czech Republic*
 - 4) Adoption of the agenda – *Eliška Rolfová, Ministry of the Environment, Czech Republic*
 - 5) Review of the progress in implementing the WG Biodiversity Work Plan 2024-2026 – *Eliška Rolfová, Ministry of the Environment, Czech Republic*

SESSION II LARGE CARNIVORE CONSERVATION IN THE CARPATHIANS – PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND COOPERATION

- 10:15 – 10:45
- 6) LECA project: Supporting the coexistence and conservation of Carpathian Large Carnivores – *Martin Duřa, Mendel University in Brno / Project Lead Partner*
 - a. Updates on the project implementation and presentation of preliminary outcomes from pilot areas
 - b. Discussion
- 10:45 – 11:05
- 7) LIFE WILD WOLF project – *Miroslav Kutal, Mendel University in Brno*
 - a. Presentation of the project details and the first outputs related to bold wolf behaviour across Europe, and sharing potential synergies
 - b. Discussion
- 11:05 – 11:15 COFFEE BREAK
- 11:15 – 11:40
- 8) ForestConnect project: Towards a Climate-smart Forest Connectivity for Large Carnivores in the Balkan-Carpathian-Dinaric Region – *Polona Zakrajšek, Carinthia University of Applied Sciences*
 - a. Updates on the project implementation and presentation of the draft strategic action plan
 - b. Discussion

- 11:40 – 12:00 9) Conservation of the Carpathian lynx in West and Central Europe – *Jakub Kubala, Technical University Zvolen*
- a. Updates on developing the Carpathian Lynx Strategy
 - b. Discussion

12:00 – 13:00 **JOINT LUNCH**

SESSION III **COOPERATION WITH AND IMPLEMENTATION OF RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORKS**

- 13:00 – 13:15 10) Updates and Outlook from the EU Strategy for the Danube Region Priority Area 6 – *Florian Ballnus, EUSDR PA6 Coordinator (online)*
- 13:15 – 13:45 11) Presentation of the Alpine Convention Biodiversity Board: Engagement on the EU Nature Restoration Law – *Claire de Kermadec, Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention*
- a. Relevant updates and sharing potential synergies
 - b. Discussion
- 13:45 – 14:30 12) Session on the EU Nature Restoration Law – *Eliška Rolfová, Ministry of the Environment, Czech Republic*
- a. Updates from the Carpathian countries on their national restoration plans
 - b. Discussion
- 14:30 – 15:00 13) Presentation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Mountain Programme of Work – *Jamal Annagylyjova, CBD Secretariat (online)*
- a. Updates on the revitalization process of the mountain programme of work and relevant outcomes from the CBD COP16 and the resumed session
 - b. Discussion
- 15:00 – 15:15 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 15:15 – 17:15 14) Implementing the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework: Presentation and Workshop of the Carpathian LIFE Strategic Nature Project (SNaP) - *Carpathian Convention Secretariat, Dorothea Palenberg, Blue! Advancing european projects, and Zbigniew Niewiadomski*
- a. Presentation of the project development
 - b. Workshop

17:15 – 18:45 **TOUR OF THE HOUSE OF NATURE**

19:00 **JOINT DINNER**

DAY 2 14 May | 9:00 – 18:00 (CET)

Opening of Day 2

SESSION IV COOPERATION WITH OTHER RELEVANT NETWORKS AND PROJECTS

- 9:00 – 9:15 15) Updates and Outlook from the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA) – *Mircea Verghelet, Piatra Craiului National Park / CNPA*
- 9:15 – 9:30 16) Updates and Outlook from the Science for the Carpathians (S4C) – *Joanna Zawiejska, University of the National Education Commission, Kraków / S4C*
- 9:30 – 9:45 17) Updates and Outlook from the Carpathian ESD Expert Network – *Tamara Mitrofanenko, Carpathian Convention Secretariat*
- 9:45 – 10:00 18) Updates and Outlook from the Carpathian Wetland Initiative (CWI) – *Natália Kubicová, State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic / CWI*
- 10:00 – 10:30 19) Presentation of the NaturaConnect project: Building a resilient ecological network of conserved areas across Europe for nature and people – *Hildegard Meyer, World Wildlife Fund Central and Eastern Europe*
- a. Presentation of the project updates and upcoming webinar series
 - b. Discussion

10:30 – 10:45 COFFEE BREAK

SESSION V COOPERATION WITH UKRAINE

- 10:45 – 11:15 20) Presentation of the Secretariat's Initiatives for Supporting the Ukrainian Carpathians - *Carpathian Convention Secretariat*
- a. Presentation of the UNIDO and GEF projects and proposed Ukraine session at Forum Carpaticum 2025
 - b. Discussion
- 11:15 – 11:45 21) Presentation on the Peace Park initiative between Ukraine and Romania – *Gabriel Paun, Agent Green*
- a. Presentation
 - b. Discussion

SESSION VI CLOSING OF THE MEETING

- 11:45 – 12:15 22) AOB
- 23) Conclusions and considering inputs from the meeting, next steps in implementing the WG Biodiversity Work Plan 2024-2026, and closing of the WG Biodiversity meeting
- 12:15 – 13:30 JOINT LUNCH
- 13:30 – 18:00 FIELD EXCURSION