

DECISION COP7/9 Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity

Event: 16th WG Biodiversity Meeting (13-14 May 2025 in Veselí nad Moravou, Czech Republic) – key topics:

- Review of the progress in implementing the **WG Biodiversity Work Plan 2024-2026**
- Large carnivores' conservation in the Carpathians: implementation of the International Action Plan on **Conservation of Large Carnivores and Ensuring Ecological Connectivity** in the Carpathians
- **Carpathian Biodiversity Framework:** CARPATHIAN LIFE (Strategic Nature Project)
- **Cooperation** with other organizations and bodies: Carpathian Network of Protected Areas, Carpathian Wetland Initiative, CBD, Alpine Convention, EUSDR PA6

DECISION COP7/9 Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity

Activity: Implement the International Action Plan on Conservation of Large Carnivores and Ensuring Ecological Connectivity

- **Project LECA (Supporting the coexistence and conservation of Carpathian Large Carnivores)**
- **Proposal to develop joint strategy for the conservation of the autochthonous lynx population in the Carpathian Mountains**

Reestablishment of Large Carnivores Expert Group (LC Expert Group)

- Aims to support cooperation and expert consultations on large carnivore conservation in the Carpathians: first online meeting on **30 October**
- Tasked to review and provide inputs to the draft thematic guidances on monitoring harmonization, poaching investigation and conflict prevention, being developed within the LECA project
- To contribute to the development of the Carpathian Lynx Strategy

DECISION COP7/9 Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity

Activity: Implement the International Action Plan on Conservation of Large Carnivores and Ensuring Ecological Connectivity

Other projects related to large carnivores and ecological connectivity:

(presented at the meeting)

- **LIFE WILD WOLF** (long-term conservation of wolves in human-dominated landscapes; focus on understanding and managing bold and habituated wolf)
- **ForestConnect** (Towards a Climate-smart Forest Connectivity for Large Carnivores in the Balkan-Carpathian-Dinaric Region)
- **NaturaConnect** (building a resilient ecological network of conserved areas across Europe for nature and people)

DECISION COP7/9 Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity

Activity: Support the implementation of the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework

Implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework at the regional level, with a focus on the Carpathians and the adopted Carpathian Biodiversity Framework:

- Presentation and Workshop of the CARPATHIAN LIFE Strategic Nature Project (SNaP)
- Interactive session focused on:
 1. Thematic clusters and concrete activities to be included in the CBF Action Plan
 2. Dissemination and replication based on best practices
 3. Mainstreaming biodiversity into other sectors

DECISION COP7/9 Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity

Activity: Cooperate with partner initiatives

Alpine Convention

- Presentation of the Alpine Convention Biodiversity Board: engagement on the EU Nature Restoration Regulation
- Moderated session on the EU Nature Restoration Regulation: exchange of experience with the preparation of National Nature Restoration Plans

Convention on Biological Diversity

- Presentation of the CBD Mountain Programme of Work
- SBSTTA 27 side event "Mountains at the heart of the Climate–Biodiversity Nexus: Strategic Ecosystems for Advancing Global Frameworks"

EUSDR

- Updates and Outlook from the EU Strategy for the Danube Region Priority Area 6

DECISION COP7/9 Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity

Activity: Support work and better governance of the Carpathian Network of the Protected Area



Mircea Verghelet – CNPA SC

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Activity: Support work and better governance of the Carpathian Network of the Protected Area

Life SNaP project proposal

- Explore the creation of an Association for coordinating and fostering the CNPA activities
- Organizing experience exchange, thematic workgroups, common monitoring and management approaches
- Transboundary cooperation within the CNPA network
- Iron Gates Nature Park (RO) – Djerdap National Park (RS)
- Maramures Mts. Nature Park – Rodna Mts. National Park BR (RO) – Carpathian BR, Carpathian NP, Verkhovynsky NP, Cheremosky NP(UA)
- Babia Góra NP (PL) and Horna Orava Protected Landscape Area - BR

Carpathian Day

- Meeting at the Romanian Parliament – law initiative



Carpathian Day Piatra Craiului NP activities

2025 is the year with the most numerous thematic workshops and with the largest participation on the occasion of Carpathian Day. Invitation to participate in the workshop, sent to many teaching staff. In figures, the activity over the last years is presented as follows:

2023

81 pupils



2 workshops in 2 schools

2024

42 pupils



2 workshops in 1 school

2025

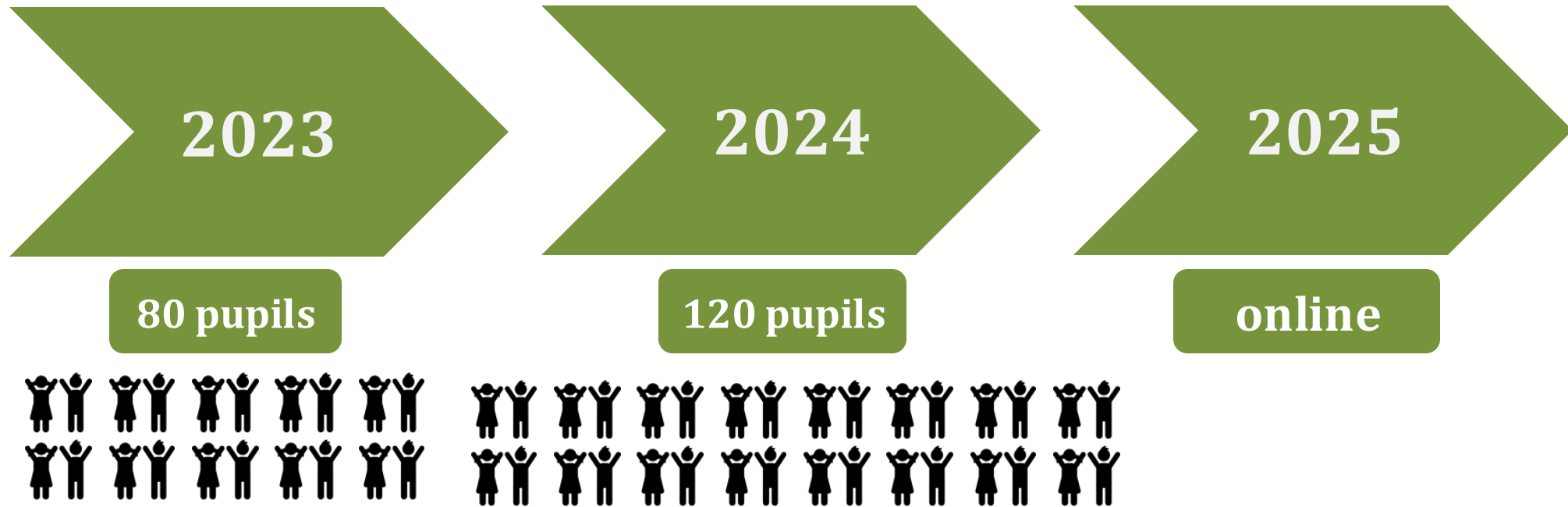
300 pupils



11 workshops in 6 schools



Carpathian Day Retezat NP activities



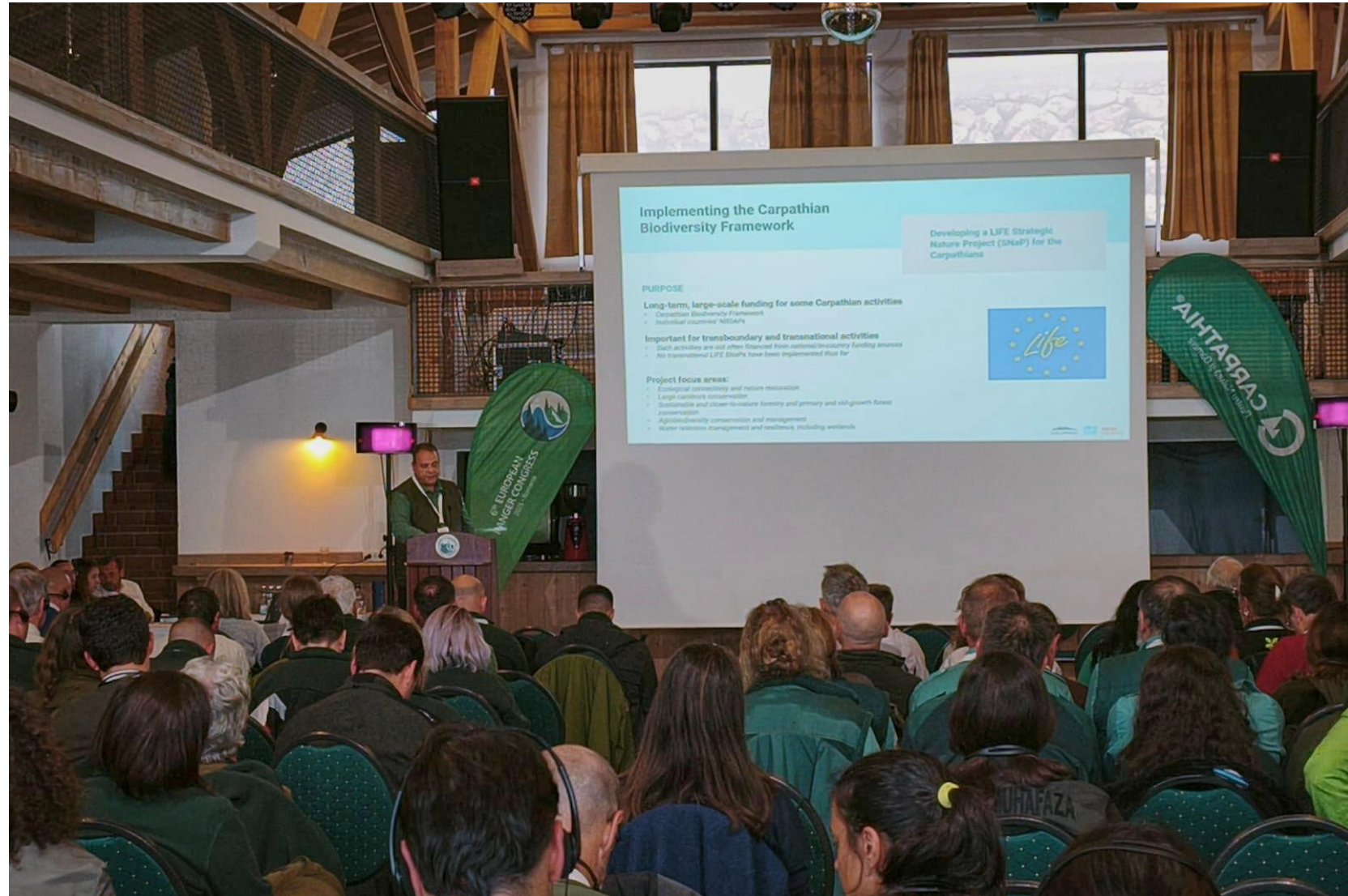
In 2023, approximately 80 participants took part in educational hikes and thematic presentations organized together with the Sălașu de Sus City Hall, the Grădiștea Muncelului–Cioclovina Natural Park Administration, the Retezat Tourism Association and the Via Retezat Association. In 2024, the edition brought together around 120 students and teachers, with the support of local partners – Sălașu de Sus Town Hall, Retezat Tourism Association, Rewilding Romania and UNESCO International Geopark Țara Hațegului

Carpathian Day activities



European Rangers Congress

- over 250 participants
- Europe and abroad
- various activities, presentations, workshops, field trips





Youth at the Top – 2025 edition

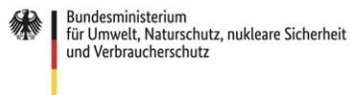
2025 edition – Our footprints in the Alps - Carpathians

19 events in the Alps, 7 events in the Carpathians – RO and SK

COORDINATION



With the financial support of



In partnership with



CARPATHIANS

Chránená krajinná oblasť - Biosférická rezervácia Poľana (SK)

Pieninský národný park (SK)

Protected Landscape Area Cerová vrchovina (SK)

Parcul Național Călimani (RO)

Rodna Mountains National Park (RO)

Piatra Craiului National Park (RO)

Parcul Național Retezat (RO)

MAP



