



# Multi-Country Mountain Flagship under the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration – Serbia

UNEP Vienna Programme Office - Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention





## UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030

- Declared with the objective to halt, prevent and reverse the degradation of ecosystems
- Identified 10 first flagship initiatives that illustrate the breadth and promise of restoration work already underway. Together, the 10 flagships aim to restore more than 60 million hectares – an area roughly equal to the whole of Madagascar or Ukraine – and create more than 13 million jobs.



# Multi-Country Mountain Flagship

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- Among the first ten groundbreaking efforts from around the globe to be honored as a World Restoration Flagship for its pioneering work on large-scale and long-term ecosystem restoration, helping to revive nature.
- Showcases the efforts of national restoration programmes for different mountain ecosystems in Kyrgyzstan, Rwanda, Serbia and Uganda

## ECOSYSTEM TYPES

- Forests
- Grasslands, shrublands and savannahs
- Mountains

## HECTARES UNDER RESTORATION

370,500 ha

## RESTORATION GOAL FOR 2030

2,224,000 ha

## FUNDING GOAL FOR 2030

\$1,250,000.00

## ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- Mitigates Climate Change
- Safeguards Biodiversity
- Supports Livelihoods

## Targeted support - SERBIA

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- Catalytic targeted, rapid intervention, related to specific Flagships, to bring Flagships to scale.
- In Serbia, two mountain areas have been selected as Flagships – Kucaj-Beljanica and Stara Planina. These areas will be upgraded to national park status and have planned programmes that will restore forests and pastures, helping to protect the habitat of the endangered European ground squirrel, and the brown bear, among other.







## NP KUCAJ - BELJANICA

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Kučaj–Beljanica (**IBA**, **PBA**, and **EMERALD** area), Serbia's largest limestone massif, spans **45,371 ha** in eastern Serbia. The area hosts exceptional geological formations, extensive forests and highly diverse habitats.

Established protection zones include:

- **Zone I:** 6.72% – nine strictly protected sites
- **Zone II:** 51.16%
- **Zone III:** 42.12%



## What comes next?

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- Assessment of Flagships restoration potential.
- Key stakeholder consultations to discuss challenges and identify opportunities.
- Draft restoration plan with recommended actions in the short to long-term.
- Targeted communication and outreach towards greater visibility of Flagships, promoting restoration success stories that are suitable for upscaling.





Thank you!