



Carpathian Pastoralism within the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP2026)

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Inputs from Ioana Baskerville
Romanian Academy, Iasi Branch



BACKGROUND:

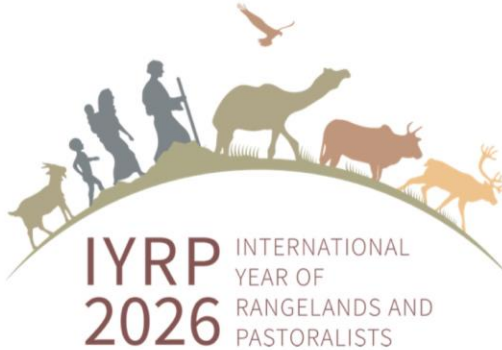
6th meeting of the Working Group on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

26 - 27 April 2023, Vatra Dornei, Romania

- Carpathian Pastoralism included as a focus topic of WG SARD activities



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 pastoralism,
- 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 12.10.23 in English.

For the Global International Year of
Rangelands and Pastoralists 2026
Coalition

Igshaan Samuel
Co-chair
Date 12 October 2023

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

Harald Egerer
Head of the Secretariat
Date 12 October 2023

Project “Linking biodiversity, pastoralism and cultural heritage through ESD in the Carpathian Region”

- **Funding:** German Federal Environment Ministry's Advisory Assistance Programme (AAP)

Objectives:

1. **Institutional alignment** within and between the **Carpathian Convention** and other international frameworks
2. Support the **inscription process** of **Carpathian pastoral-related practices** to the **UNESCO ICH List**
3. Strengthened **cooperation and knowledge exchange**
4. **Strengthened awareness, education and training resources** for linking biodiversity and pastoralism in the Carpathians



Photo: Summer mountain transhumance in Romania
Source: Iulian Vlad, 2020, research group of Dr. Ioana Baskerville

Relevant and ongoing outcomes

3. Strengthened cooperation and knowledge exchange for linking biodiversity and pastoralism

FORUM CARPATICUM 2025, Bratislava, Slovakia :

- Proposed chapter on Carpathian Pastoralism to the book "Barriers and opportunities to inclusion and participation of vulnerable groups in the EU Green Deal"

MULTIFUNCTIONAL FARMING CONFERENCE 2025, Rzeszów, Poland

- Output: "Traditional farming for better future: The Rzeszów Manifesto" petition by the organizers

LIFE ShepForBio ONLINE DISCUSSION FORUM, 4 December 2025

- Overview of selected available educational materials





**Jagiellonian University
Institute of Geography and Spatial
Management**

- Create permanent or rotating exhibits linking folk motifs with the plant species they represent.
- Develop certified “Culture–Nature Learning Routes” including guided tours, mobile self-guided maps, and storytelling trails.

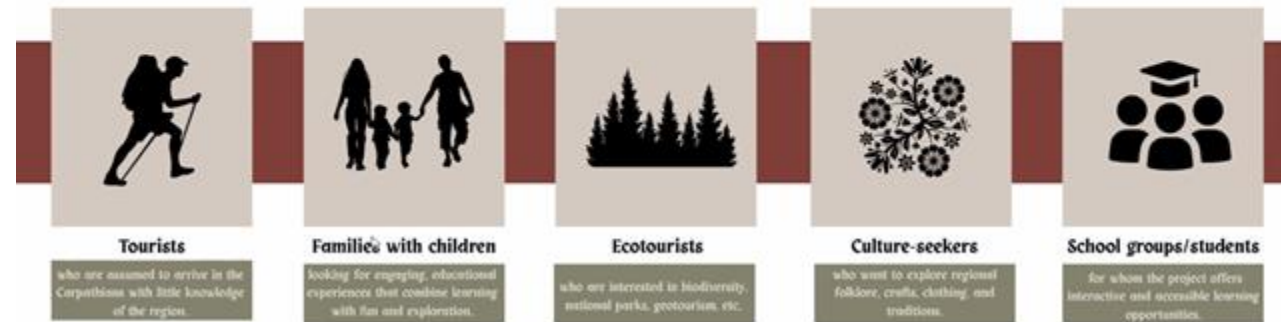
Names of contributors

1. *Łucja Budzan*
2. *Saltanat Nurumova*
3. *Tisha Siteo,*
4. *Egbert Solomon*

**“Inherited wisdom” -
how folklore of
Carpathians can shape
environmental ethics.**

Presented by Łucja Budzan, Saltanat Nurumova, Tisha Siteo, Egbert Solomon
Mentor: Małgorzata Luc

TARGET AUDIENCE:



Multinational Extension File "Transhumance - the seasonal droving of livestock" submitted to UNESCO - Update

2. Supporting the Inscription of Carpathian Pastoralism to the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Lists

UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Representative List of Humanity

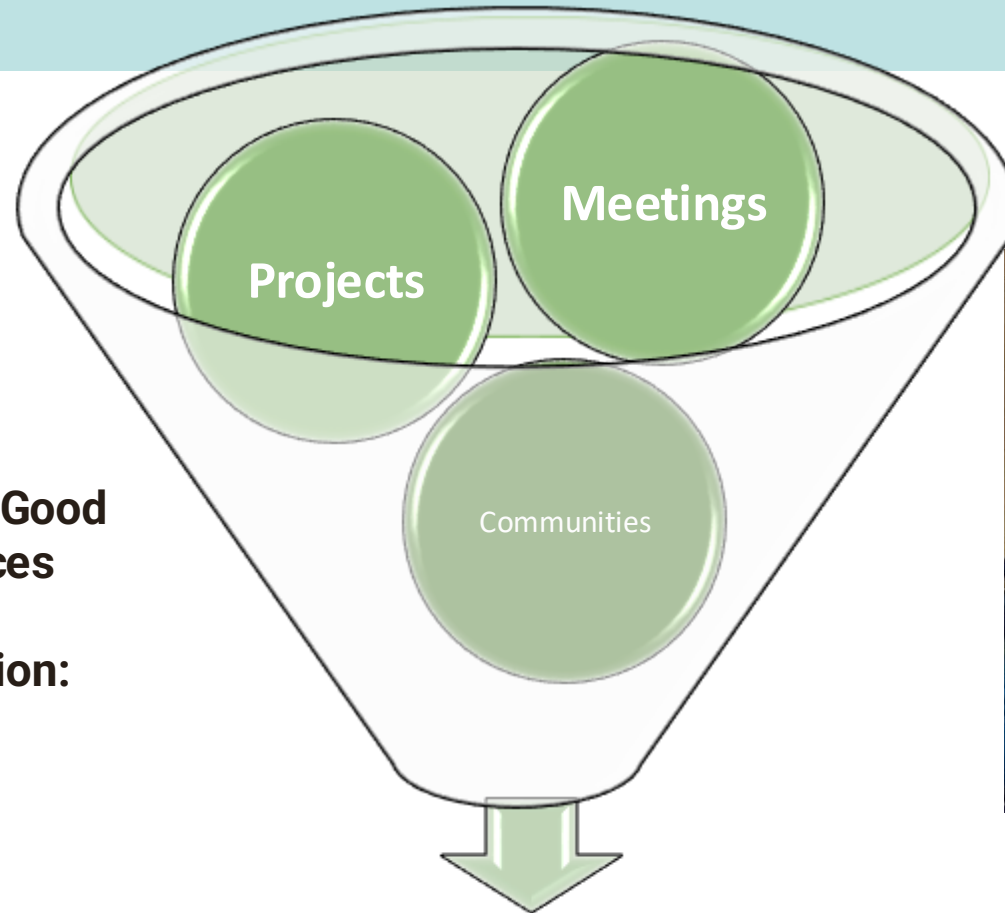
- **Submission date:** March 2025
- **Coordinating State Party:** Romania
- **Joining State Parties:** Poland, Serbia, Slovakia, Ukraine

- **Next Steps:**
- The proposal was declared technical complete in September 2025
- The decision of UNESCO: December 2026 (in China)
 - a special celebratory event of the 16 countries



Developing a regional file "Safeguarding Carpathian Pastoralism"

2. Supporting the Inscription of Carpathian Pastoralism to the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Lists



UNESCO Register of Good Safeguarding Practices

- Interim Coordination: Romania + SCC
- Overview
- Next Steps

SCP FOLDER



Outlook and Call for collaboration with Experts

- Considerations on how **EU Common Agricultural Policy** can be used to meet the needs of herders and practitioners using traditional agricultural practices
- **Creating a stock-take** of:
 - existing **informational resources** for Carpathian herders, conservation managers and educators linking pastoralism and biodiversity
 - existing **shepherd/herder schools** in the Carpathian countries
 - key materials to be translated into Carpathian national languages
 - **local TEK** that could be integrated into educational materials
- Create an initial overview of public school and university **curricula and how pastoralism and traditional ecological knowledge is portrayed** in the Carpathian region
 - Synergies with CESDEN

4. Strengthened awareness, education and training resources for linking biodiversity and pastoralism in the Carpathians



Upcoming Events - for Urgent Feedback

- **Global IYRP Gathering** 8-11 April 2026, Madrid, Spain
 - Young Pastoralists with inspiring personal stories
- **7th Global Meeting of the Mountain Partnership** “Mountains for the Future: Responsible Tourism, Thriving Communities” Andorra, 26-28 March 2026
 - Side-event on Bioeconomy
 - Role of women in sustainable development of the Carpathian region
- **International Symposium: “Transhumance as Part of Humanity’s Intangible Cultural Heritage: A Driving Force for the Future?”**, 21–23 April 2026, Marseille, France
 - **Encouraging participation of Carpathian Countries!**

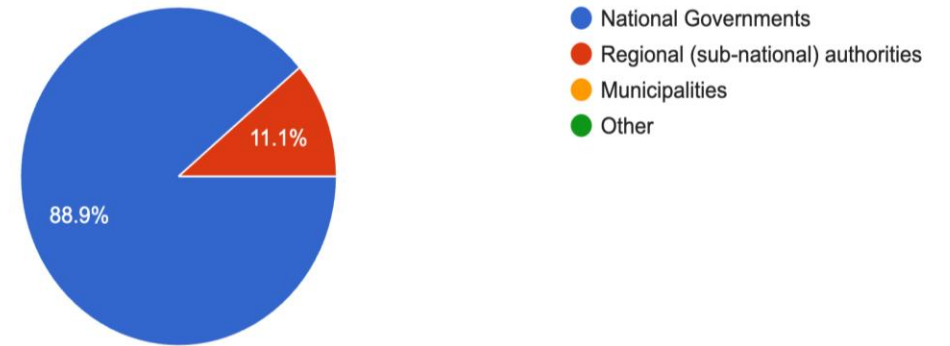


Upcoming Events and EU CAP - Pastoralism links

- **European Mountain Convention**, Sallanches, France, 10-11 June 2025
 - High-level panels: **how to better defend pastoralism in the next CAP and how to strengthen the territorial dimension of pastoralism in other relevant EU and pan-European policies**

Potential CAP-related guidelines:

- Optimal use of funds, policy coherence and convergence (i.e. tourism, livestock farming, environment/climate)
 - The most common problems and faced by pastoralists, and possible ways to mitigate them.
 - Legislation, good practices
- ✓ *for governments with different competencies (agriculture, culture, tourism...)*



- **Regional level** – adapting instruments to local conditions, and coordination of institutions.
- **Municipal level** – practical cooperation with shepherds, access to land, local initiatives, and promotion of products

Upcoming Events

- **Carpathian Day** Celebrations in 2026! - focused on IYRP2026!
- **Student Conference on Conservation Science (SCCS EUROPE)**, Balatonvilagos, Hungary, 1-5 September 2026,



Messages for the WG Tourism

Transhumance trails

- Transhumance trail - cultural route of the council of Europe




“Cultural Route of the Council of Europe” certified in **2023**



Cultural route
of the Council of Europe
Itinéraire culturel
du Conseil de l'Europe



 France

 Guatemala

 Italy

 Lebanon

 Mexico

 Portugal

 Spain

 Sweden

 Türkiye

Messages for the WG Tourism

- Need to consider threats from tourism for pastoralism!



Painter: Gabriela Baloiu