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Transnational CARPATHIAN LIFE SNaP Proposal

Enhancing biodiversity and its mainstreaming in the Carpathians

Elena Fischer | UNEP - Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention



Meeting Agenda

1. **Background:** Why develop CARPATHIAN LIFE?

- Carpathian Biodiversity Framework

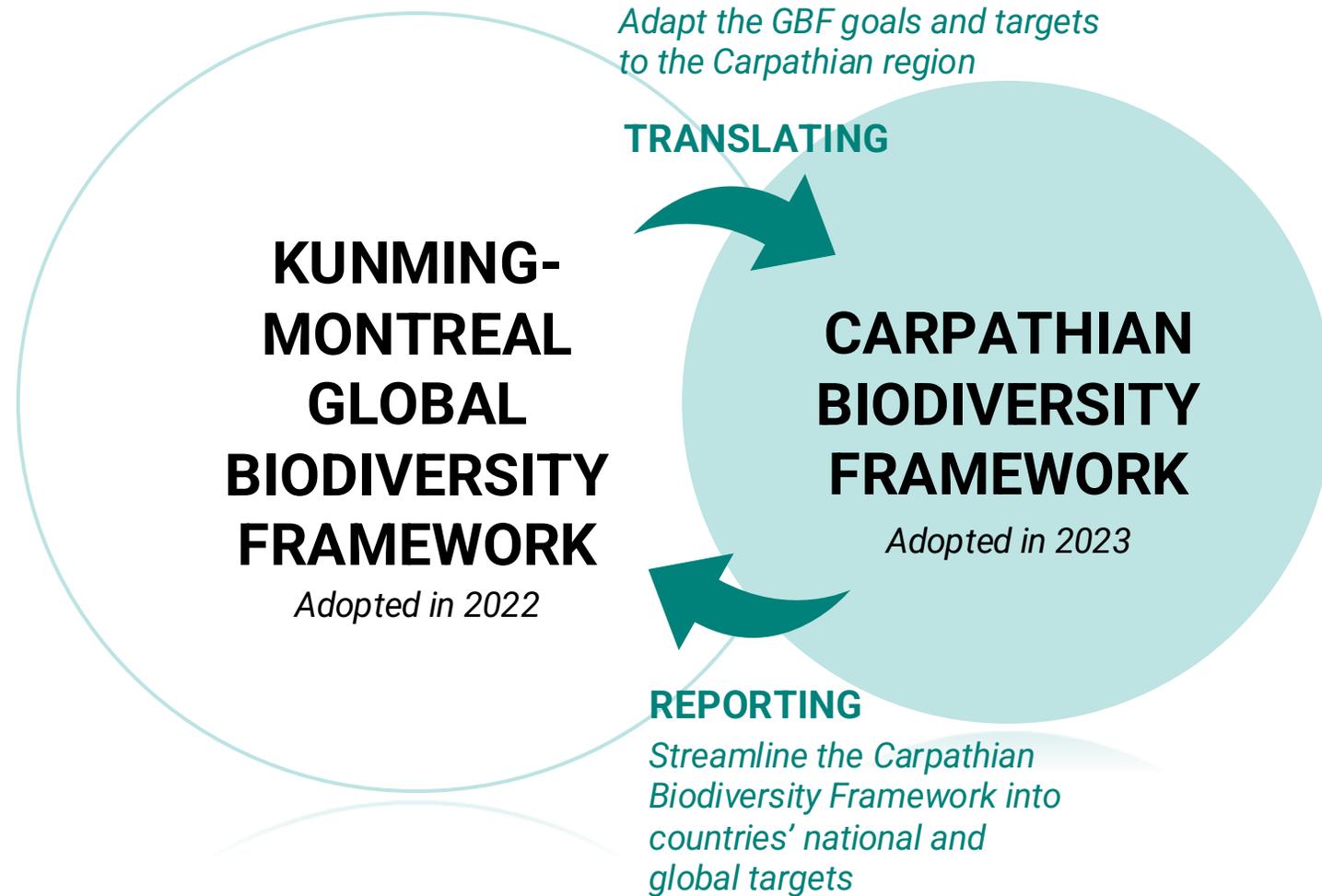
2. **Project Details and Overview** of CARPATHIAN LIFE

- Development of the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework Implementation Plan
- Structure (Logistics, Consortium)
- Activities

3. **Project Activities on Large Carnivores**

1. Background: Carpathian Biodiversity Framework

Implementing the Global Biodiversity Framework through the Carpathian Convention



1. Background: Carpathian Biodiversity Framework

The Carpathian Biodiversity Framework sets a vision statement and 8 Strategic Objectives for the region

Carpathian Vision 2050:

By 2050, the Carpathians is a thriving and sustainable region where people live in harmony with nature.

The biodiversity and natural beauty of the Carpathians are conserved, restored, and wisely used providing a healthy environment and essential ecosystems services for all people of the region and beyond.

1

Coordinate efforts on conservation, maintenance and sustainable use of **natural and semi-natural habitats**.

2

Sustainably manage and protect Carpathian **forests**.

3

Cooperate on making **tourism** sustainable to maximize benefits and mitigate negative impacts.

4

Develop **transport** and related infrastructure sustainably by implementing environmentally-friendly transport models and systems.

5

Maintain Traditional Knowledge on traditionally cultivated land and sustainable **agriculture** practices.

6

Strengthen regional resilience through **climate change** mitigation and adaptation.

7

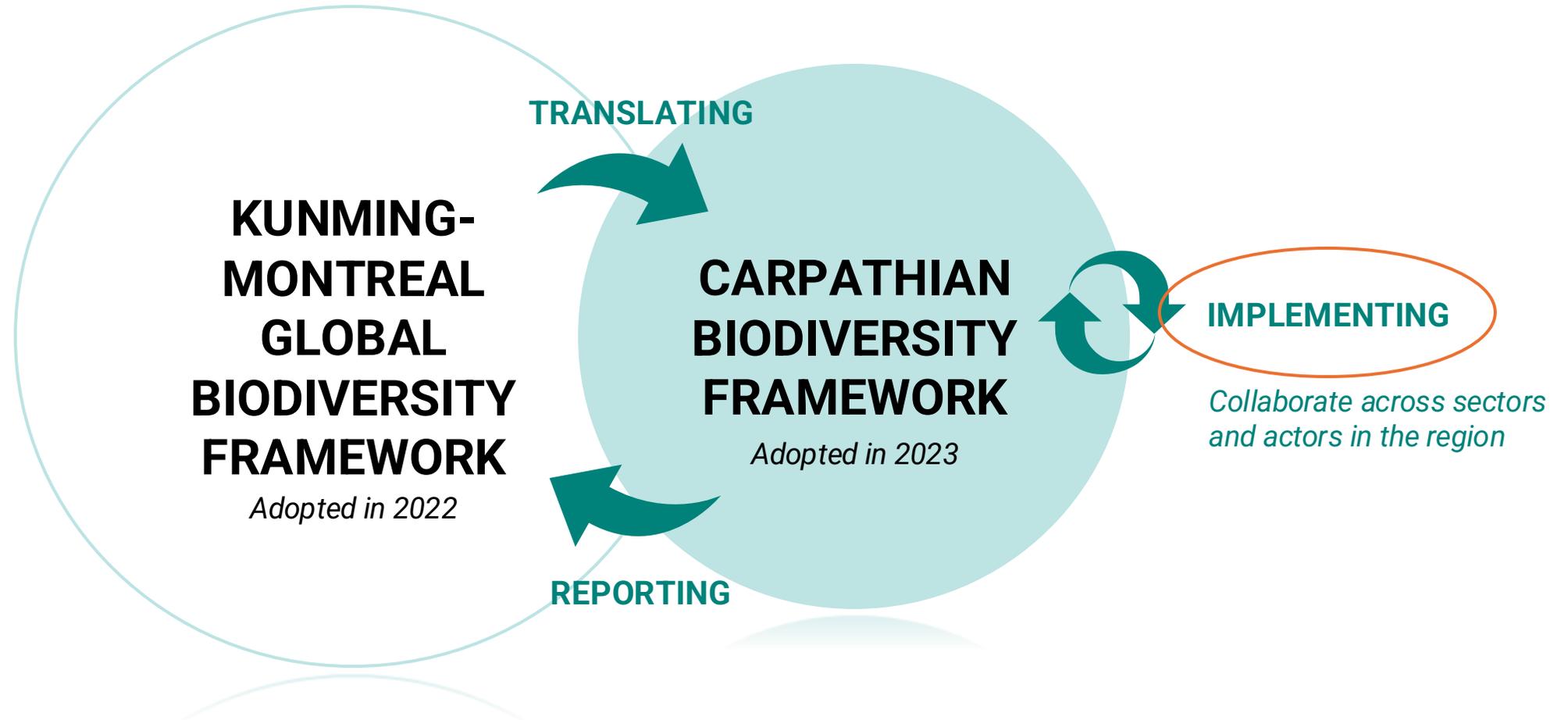
Strengthen **public awareness** about the Convention's objectives by integrating lifelong learning, global education approaches and **cross-sectoral cooperation** into the Convention's activities.

8

Cooperate with **Ukraine** on protecting and sustainably developing the Carpathian region to address the direct and indirect impacts of the war in Ukraine on the region.

1. Background: Carpathian Biodiversity Framework

Implementing the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework through the **EU LIFE Programme**



2. Project Details & Overview: CBF Implementation Plan

Strategic nature projects (SNAPs)

- SNAPs aimed at supporting full implementation of:
 - prioritised action frameworks (PAFs) for Natura 2000;
 - other plans or strategies (international, national, regional or multiregional) to implement EU nature/biodiversity policy with measurable actions/targets and clear timeline/budget
- SNAPs requirements:
 - mobilisation of funding from other EU and national funds;
 - capacity building;
 - may implement direct conservation measures;
 - nature authorities must be involved (applicant/asoc. beneficiary).

Carpathian Biodiversity Framework (CBF)

CBF Implementation Plan



2. Project Details & Overview: CBF Implementation Plan

CARPATHIAN BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

- 1 **Natural and semi-natural habitats**
- 2 **Forests**
- 3 **Tourism**
- 4 **Transport and related infrastructure**
- 5 **Agriculture**
- 6 **Climate change**
- 7 **Public awareness and cross-sectoral cooperation**
- 8 **Cooperation with Ukraine**

CBF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

- 1 Ecological connectivity maintenance and restoration
Conservation of native Carpathian species, including large carnivores
Control and eradication of Invasive Alien Species
Water retention maintenance and restoration, including peatlands and wetlands
- 2 Primary and old-growth forests conservation
Sustainable and closer-to-nature forestry
- 3 Mitigation of negative impacts from tourism
- 4 Mitigation of negative impacts from urbanisation
- 5 Agrobiodiversity conservation and management
- 6 Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- 7 Awareness raising and education
Strengthening regional partnerships
Cross-sectoral facilitation
- 8 Cooperation with Ukraine

2. Project Details & Overview: Objectives

CARPATHIAN LIFE CORE OBJECTIVES:

Enhancing biodiversity and its mainstreaming in the Carpathians

- Safeguard Carpathian biodiversity through implementation of the CBF Implementation Plan
- Harmonise national biodiversity conservation efforts via transnational and cross-border cooperation
- Contribute to the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, EU Forest Strategy for 2030, EU Nature Restoration Regulation and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

2. Project Details & Overview: Structure

CARPATHIAN LIFE PROJECT OVERVIEW:

- **Budget:** 50 million EUR
- **Duration:** 9 years
 - 2027 – 2035
- **Consortium:** 47 partners from all Carpathian countries
 - Coordination: Eurac Research



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2. Project Details & Overview: Structure

CURRENT PROJECT CONSORTIUM

Czech Republic

- Czech University of Life Sciences Prague
- Charles University in Prague
- Friends of the Earth Czech Republic
- Mendel University in Brno
- Ministry of the Environment
- World Wide Fund for Nature – Czechia

Hungary

- Ministry of Agriculture of Hungary
- Duna-Ipoly National Park Directorate
- Bükk National Park Directorate
- Ipoly Erdő State Forestry

Poland

- Babia Góra National Park
- Institute of Environmental Protection – National Research Institute
- Institute of Nature Conservation - Polish Academy of Sciences
- Jagiellonian University
- Ministry of Climate and Environment
- Pieniny National Park
- Tatra National Park

International

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- Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention
- UNEP - Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention
- World Wide Fund for Nature Central Eastern Europe

Romania

- Iron Gates Natural Park
- Maramureşului Mountains Nature Park
- Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests
- National Agency for Mountain Area
- National Forest Administration-ROMSILVA
- Piatra Craiului National Park
- Research and Development Institute for Wildlife and Mountain Resources
- Rodna Mountains National Park
- World Wide Fund for Nature – Romania

Serbia

- Djerdap National Park
- Institute for Nature Protection
- Ministry of Environmental Protection

Slovakia

- Ministry of the Environment
- National Forest Centre
- Technical University in Zvolen

Ukraine

- Carpathian National Nature Park
- Cheremosky National Nature Park
- Institute of Ecology of the Carpathians of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
- Ministry of Economy, Environment and Agriculture of Ukraine
- Skolivski Beskydy National Nature Park
- State Forest Resources Agency of Ukraine
- Synevyr National Nature Park
- Ukrainian National Forestry University
- Uzhansky National Nature Park
- Verkhovynsky National Nature Park

2. Project Details & Overview: Activities

CARPATHIAN LIFE WORK PACKAGES

Planned activities under CBF Implementation Plan will be embedded within the following proposed CARPATHIAN LIFE work packages (WP):

- WP1: Project Management and coordination
- WP2: Ecological connectivity and restoration
- WP3: Water retention and wetland management and resilience
- WP4: Large carnivore conservation
- WP5: Sustainable and closer-to-nature forestry and old-growth forest conservation
- WP6: Agrobiodiversity conservation and management
- WP7: Protected Area Management and Biodiversity Governance and Mainstreaming
- WP8: Sustainability, replication, dissemination, and exploitation of project results
- WP9: Complementary funds monitoring, coordination and mobilisation

2. Project Details & Overview: Activities

CARPATHIAN BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

- 1 Natural and semi-natural habitats**
- 2 Forests**
- 3 Tourism**
- 4 Transport and related infrastructure**
- 5 Agriculture**
- 6 Climate change**
- 7 Public awareness and cross-sectoral cooperation**
- 8 Cooperation with Ukraine**

CBF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

- 1**
 - Ecological connectivity maintenance and restoration
 - Conservation of native Carpathian species, including large carnivores
 - Control and eradication of Invasive Alien Species
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- 2**
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- 5**
 - Agrobiodiversity conservation and management
- 6**
 - Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- 7**
 - Awareness raising and education
 - Strengthening regional partnerships
 - Cross-sectoral facilitation
- 8**
 - Cooperation with Ukraine

2. Project Details & Overview: Activities

CBF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

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WORK PACKAGE LINKS

WPs 2-6: Connectivity; Water retention & wetlands; Large carnivores; Forests; Agrobiodiversity

WP5: Forests

WP7: Protected Areas & biodiversity mainstreaming

WP7: Protected Areas & biodiversity mainstreaming

WP6: Agrobiodiversity

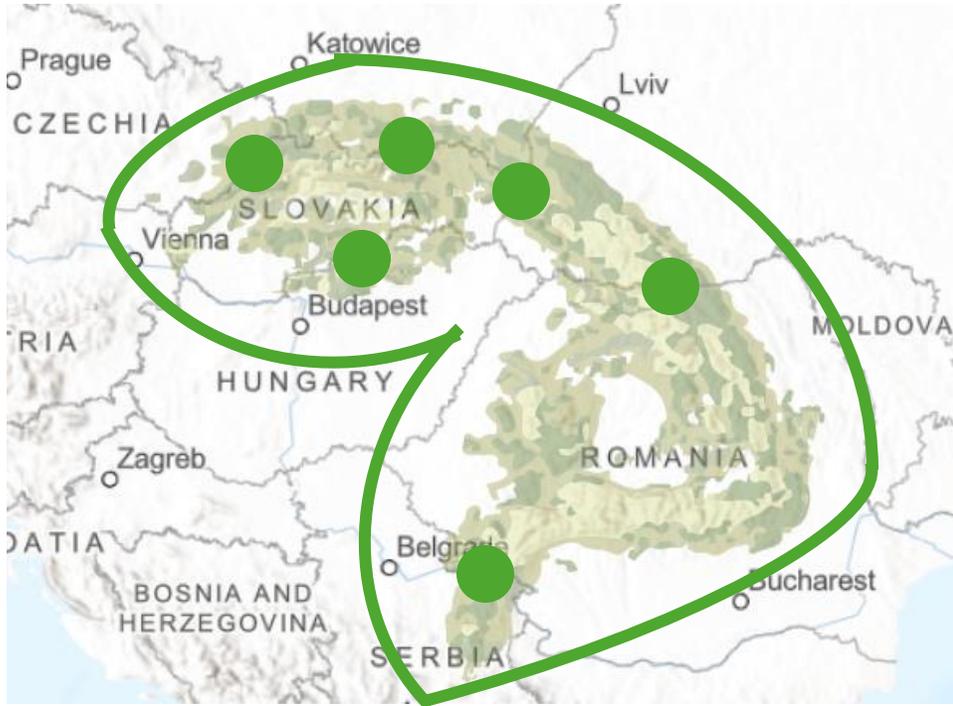
WPs 2-7: Connectivity; Water retention & wetlands; Large carnivores; Forests; Agrobiodiversity; Protected Areas & biodiversity mainstreaming

WPs 2-8: Connectivity; Water retention & wetlands; Large carnivores; Forests; Agrobiodiversity; Protected Areas & biodiversity mainstreaming; Dissemination & replication

WPs 2-9: Connectivity; Water retention & wetlands; Large carnivores; Forests; Agrobiodiversity; Protected Areas & biodiversity mainstreaming; Dissemination & replication; Complementary funds

2. Project Details & Overview: Activities

CARPATHIAN-LEVEL IMPLEMENTATION



1. Transnational level: activities apply to all or most Carpathian countries

- Utilise Carpathian Convention governing bodies, networks, and platforms
- Capacity building and dissemination
- Best practice examples/pilot actions justified as planned for replication or upscaling in other Carpathian areas

2. Cross-border level: activities apply to areas located across state boundaries or the wider border zones of neighbouring countries

- Utilise Carpathian Convention governing bodies, networks, and platforms
- Capacity building and dissemination
- Best practice examples/pilot actions justified as planned for replication or upscaling in other Carpathian areas

3. Project Activities on Large Carnivores

WP2: ECOLOGICAL CONNECTIVITY

Connectivity and Large Carnivores

- Reduce habitat fragmentation of large carnivores by developing a standardised methodological framework for:
 - large carnivore corridor mapping (harmonising monitoring and spatial datasets; run connectivity modelling for identifying priority corridors and barrier hotspots)
 - monitoring harmonisation
 - field data collection

3. Project Activities on Large Carnivores

WP4: LARGE CARNIVORES

Wolf-Livestock Coexistence Standard for Wolf Damage Prevention

- Establish and mainstream a Wolf-Livestock Coexistence Standard for livestock protection
 - Test preventive measures against wolves at 64 farm sites in Slovakia and the Czech Republic
 - Integrate pilot results, risk modelling, and socio-economic analyses

Integrated Bear-Attractant Management

- Develop and implement a “Bear-Attractant Management” system
 - Test a standardised management model in protected areas (install bear-proof waste containers or other protection means and regulatory signage)
 - Integrate pilot results with recommendations for wildlife-proof infrastructure, optimised waste collection schemes, spatial risk assessment, behavioural change measures

Carpathian Framework for Preventing Wildlife Crime of Large Carnivores

- Establish a transnational framework for preventing, investigating and prosecuting wildlife crime affecting large carnivores
- Develop a Carpathian Wildlife Crime Investigation Guide (CIG) aligned with national legal systems
 - Training programmes and simulation exercises for enforcement actors and public awareness campaign

Next Steps

- 1. Support Letters:** Collect as soon as possible
 - Template sent to Ministries
 - Other stakeholders welcome
- 2. Complementary Fund Declarations:** Collect as soon as possible
- 3. Submit 5 March:** Application deadline