Annex 1 (DECISION COP8/3)

Programme of Work of the Carpathian Convention by sectors, 1 January 2027 – 31 December 2029

Activities under the Programme of Work shall be implemented, as appropriate, subject to the availability of financial resources.

COP8 Decision	Activity	Actors
Implementation of the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework		
Decision COP8/1	• Implement the and its Implementation Plan 2027-2035 as the overarching framework for implementation of the Convention and Protocols. • Support development and implementation of the CARPATHIAN LIFE Strategic Nature Project and related initiatives. • Mainstream biodiversity considerations across all thematic areas of the Convention.	Parties, Relevant WGs, Secretariat, Stakeholders
Support for the Implementation of the Carpathian Convention in Ukraine		
Decision COP8/2	• Implement the Set of Measures supporting Ukraine. • Support Ukraine's environmental recovery, resilience and sustainable development. • Support development and implementation of relevant initiatives and projects, including CARPATHIAN LIFE, GEF-8 Protected Areas Project and cooperation with UNIDO. Facilitate participation of Ukrainian stakeholders in Convention activities.	Parties, Secretariat, Relevant WGs, relevant Partners, including GEF, UNIDO,
Programme of work and strategic priorities for the implementation period 2027–2029		
Decision COP8/3	• Implement the strategic priorities of the Ukrainian Presidency: – Strengthening the position of the Carpathians and the Carpathian Convention at the European level; – Balancing economic development with environmental protection; – Advancing biodiversity conservation and ecosystem integrity through implementation of the CBF; – Strengthening climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction through sustainable water and land management. • Promote coordination and synergies among thematic sectors and Working Groups.	Parties, WGs, Secretariat
Cooperation with the European Union		
Decision COP8/4	• Strengthen cooperation with EU institutions, bodies and programmes. • Promote recognition of the Carpathian Convention as a regional mechanism supporting implementation of EU environmental policies. • Support implementation of the Work Plan with the European Environment Agency (EEA) 2027-2029. • Facilitate development of coordinated project initiatives and access to EU funding opportunities.	Parties, Secretariat, EEA, relevant EU institutions, as applicable
Cooperation with UNEP, MEAs and international partners		

Decision COP8/5	• Strengthen cooperation with UNEP and relevant MEAs. • Support implementation of the renewed MoC between CBD, Alpine Convention and Carpathian Convention. • Support implementation of the Concerted Action for Eurasian Lynx and the Carpathian Lynx Strategy. • Advance cooperation under the Yerevan Platform on Mountains and Related Freshwater Ecosystems. • Strengthen cooperation with BRS Conventions, Ramsar Convention, CMS, Bern Convention, Mountain Partnership, UNIDO, OSCE and other partners. • Promote implementation of the CBF within CBD-related processes and NBSAPs.	Parties, Secretariat, Relevant WGs
Cooperation with Eurac Research		
Decision COP8/6	• Continue strategic cooperation with Eurac Research. • Support implementation and development of CARPATHIAN LIFE and other joint initiatives.	Secretariat, Eurac Research
Strengthening science-policy-practice interface		
Decision COP8/7	• Consider and implement relevant recommendations of Science for the Carpathians (S4C). • Strengthen involvement of scientific institutions and networks in Convention implementation. • Support preparation of Forum Carpaticum 2027. • Facilitate participation of young researchers and practitioners.	S4C, Parties, Secretariat, WGs, S4C
Stakeholder engagement, education, awareness-raising and public participation		
Decision COP8/8	• Implement the Carpathian ESD Roadmap. • Support activities of the Carpathian ESD Expert Network (CESDEN). • Promote youth engagement, civil society participation and inclusive stakeholder dialogue. • • Support Carpathian Day implementation and awareness campaigns. • Facilitate cooperation with the Carpathian Foundation and Špirála.	Parties, Secretariat, CESDEN, relevant WGs, Špirála,S4C, relevant stakeholders
Biodiversity		
Decision COP8/9	• Implement the WG Biodiversity Work Plan 2027-2029. • Implement the revised International Action Plan on Large Carnivores and Ecological Connectivity (2027-2035). • Implement the Carpathian Lynx Strategy. • Strengthen governance and activities of the CNPA. • Strengthen activities of the Carpathian Wetland Initiative. • Promote restoration of wetlands, peatlands and ecological connectivity. • Support implementation of LECA, NaturaConnect, ForestConnect and related initiatives.	Parties, WG Biodiversity, LC Expert Group, CNPA, CWI, S4C, Secretariat, relevant stakeholders
Spatial Planning		
Decision COP8/10	• Develop and promote activities addressing spatial planning in the Carpathians, including cross-border and functional areas. • Promote integration of biodiversity, ecological connectivity, infrastructure, climate adaptation and sustainable development considerations into planning processes.	Parties, WG Spatial Planning, Secretariat, S4C, relevant stakeholders
Sustainable and Integrated Water and River Basin Management		

Decision COP8/11	• Promote integrated river basin management and freshwater ecosystem restoration. • Support activities enhancing natural water retention through wetland and peatland restoration. • Strengthen cooperation with ICPDR, Ramsar Convention and other relevant partners. • • Explore establishment of a Water Advisory Group and support relevant scientific exchanges.	Parties, Relevant WGs, Secretariat, S4C, relevant stakeholders
Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development		
Decision COP8/12	• Support the implementation of the joint WG SARD and WG Cultural Heritage Work Plan 2027-2029 • Promote Carpathian pastoralism and extensive livestock farming. • Support implementation of recommendations from the Rzeszów Manifesto, S4C and the Declaration of Carpathian Herders/Pastoralists. • Support the UNESCO Good Safeguarding Practices nomination on Carpathian Pastoralism. • Promote mountain products, short supply chains and sustainable rural livelihoods.	Parties, WG SARD, WG Cultural Heritage, Secretariat, S4C, relevant stakeholders
Sustainable Forest Management		
Decision COP8/13	• Implement the WG Forest Work Plan 2027-2029. • Further develop and expand the Inventory of Virgin and Quasi-Virgin Forests. • Promote climate-resilient and close-to-nature forest management. • Support implementation of recommendations from the Assessment of Climate Change Risks and Adaptation Options for Carpathian Forests. • Strengthen cooperation with FAO, Forest Europe and EEA.	Parties, WG Forest, Secretariat, S4C, relevant stakeholders
Sustainable Transport, Infrastructure, Industry and Energy		
Decision COP8/14	• Promote environmentally sound transport and infrastructure development. • Strengthen ecological connectivity considerations in transport planning. • Promote renewable energy solutions compatible with biodiversity conservation. • Strengthen cooperation with IENE and UNIDO.	Parties, Relevant WGs, Secretariat, UNIDO, IENE, S4C, relevant stakeholders
Sustainable Tourism		
Decision COP8/15	• Implement the WG Tourism Work Plan 2027-2029. • Strengthen implementation of the Tourism Protocol and Strategy for Sustainable Tourism Development of the Carpathians. • Support development and operationalization of the Carpathian Sustainable Tourism Platform (CSTP). • Develop eco-tourism destinations and thematic tourism routes. • Further establish and support CSTP Centres and Cross-Border Working Teams, if applicable. • • Support implementation and dissemination of results of the ENTURE-CE project.	Parties, WG Tourism, CSTP, Secretariat, S4C
Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge		
Decision COP8/16	• Support the implementation of the joint WG SARD and WG Cultural Heritage Work Plan 2027-2029. • Support safeguarding and promotion of cultural heritage and traditional knowledge. • Promote cooperation on transhumance and pastoral cultural landscapes. • Support implementation of UNESCO safeguarding measures related to Transhumance in the Carpathians. • Support development of the Carpathian Pastoralism UNESCO file.	Parties, WG Cultural Heritage, WG SARD, Secretariat, S4C, relevant stakeholders
Environmental Assessment, Information System, Monitoring and Early Warning		

Decision COP8/17	• Further develop and utilize CCIBIS as the Carpathian Convention information platform. • Promote harmonization of monitoring systems and indicators in the Carpathians at the national and regional level. • Strengthen early warning systems related to floods, droughts, wildfires and extreme weather events. • Strengthen cooperation with the EEA and relevant data platforms.	Parties, Relevant WGs, EEA, S4C, Secretariat, relevant stakeholders
Climate Change		
Decision COP8/18	• Implement the Long-Term Vision 2030 towards Building Climate Resilience in the Carpathians and its Action Plan. • Strengthen integration of climate adaptation and mitigation in all Convention activities. • Promote ecosystem-based adaptation and nature-based solutions. • Support regional cooperation on drought, floods, wildfires and climate risk management. • Promote climate-related project development and financing opportunities.	Parties, WG Climate Change, other relevant WGs, S4C, Secretariat, relevant stakeholders
Implementation, Reporting under the Carpathian Convention		
Decision COP8/19	• Strengthen implementation and reporting under the Convention and Protocols. • Strengthen coordination among Working Groups. • Promote exchanges of good practices and stakeholder engagement. • Encourage dissemination and translation of Convention knowledge products and assessments.	Parties, CCIC, WGs, Secretariat
Resource Mobilization and Secretariat Support		
Decisions COP8/20-21	• Mobilize resources for implementation of the Programme of Work. • Support development of coordinated regional projects. • Strengthen Secretariat participation in externally funded initiatives. • Ensure functioning of Convention bodies and implementation of COP decisions.	Parties, Secretariat, Partners