

1. Title of the Regional Initiative: *Carpathian Wetland Initiative*

2. Work and activities undertaken during Year 2018

Objectives	Activities	Results/Outputs	Indicators
1. Platform of basic data on wetlands	1.1 Development of guidelines for wetland inventory, collection of information on research of wetlands and projects	Collection of data on wetland research and projects on wetlands conservation, management and restoration	Database on Carpathian wetlands
	1.2 Cooperation in designation of new Ramsar Sites in the Carpathian region and updating of RISs	Consultations with local experts and WWF DCP on new Ramsar Site in Tatras region (SK)	Data collected
	1.3 Collection of data on threatened habitats and species and on invasive alien species in the Carpathians, meetings of experts	Consultations within the Implementation Committee of the Carpathian Convention on review and finalization of the draft Carpathian Red List of threatened habitats and species and the List of invasive alien species	Database of threatened habitats, species, endemic species and of invasive alien species in the Carpathians; report of the meetings
	1.4 Coordination of research activities with the Science for Carpathians (S4C), participation in Forum Carpaticum; coordination with regional projects and with national institutions; implementation of the project Ramsar Culture Network in the Carpathians	Consultations with S4C on future cooperation. Identification of the cultural diversity linked to wetlands in the Carpathian countries; list of wetlands with cultural heritage, map and illustrated brochure with results on the web of CWI, Ramsar and Carpathian Convention	Filled in questionnaires on Ramsar Cultural Heritage in the Carpathians; map of identified cultural values; publication on Carpathian cultural heritage in wetlands - http://www.cwi.sk/index.php?page=projects
2. Platform for cooperation	2.1 Update of the CWI strategy and work plan based on new Ramsar Strategic Plan and guidelines; CWI Board members and experts updating, electronic communication and consultations; Involvement of working group(s) of active practitioners, specialists and NGO representatives, national networks of experts and cooperating institutions, exchange of experts; Organizing of the CWI Board meetings; participation in meetings of the Carpathian Convention bodies and WGs and of other partners	New CWI strategy / priorities for 2019-2024 and work plan for 2019 were developed, discussed and agreed at CWI Board meetings during European Regional Ramsar Meeting (19 Mar. 2018, Olomouc, CZ) and Ramsar COP13 (21 Oct. 2018, Dubai, UAE); List of CWI Focal Points updated; future CWI governance consulted with Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention; participation at important meetings of the Carpathian Convention (Implementation Committee, 17-18 Dec. 2018, Vienna, AT; CC WG Cultural Heritage, Budapest, Szentendre, HU, 4-5 Apr. 2017 with presentation on cultural heritage in wetlands); consultations on COP13 decision on RRI; electronic communication on relevant issues.	Report and minutes of the meetings
	2.2 Involvement of administrations of protected areas in the CWI work and cooperation with the Carpathian Network of Pro-	Carpathian protected areas administrations were informed and involved in the joint project development; consultations on cooperation and possible	Minutes of the meetings

	<p>tected Areas (CNPA), the DANUBEPARKS Network, the Trilateral Ramsar Platform (AT-CZ-SK), WWF-DCP, IUCN, CBD; stakeholders involvement</p>	<p>joint projects with WWF, DANUBEPARKS, ALPARC; exchange of knowledge; Involvement in the projects on ecological connectivity in the Carpathians (TRANSGREEN, ConnectGREEN)</p>	
	<p>2.3 Fund-raising and projects proposals for financing the Initiative in consultation with national institutions</p>	<p>Involvement in preparation of the project CentralParks for funding from INTERREG Central Europe in cooperation with EURAC (IT), SNC SR (SK), Pronatur (SK), Duna-Ipoly NP Directorate (HU), Ekopsychology Association (PL), European Wilderness Society (AT), Piatra Craiului NP Administration (RO) – Application Form submitted to 3rd call of INTERREG Central Europe programme.</p>	<p>Application form for project submitted</p>
<p>3. Platform for integrated river basin management especially in shared catchments</p>	<p>3.1 Involvement in the preparation of relevant documents on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management of the Carpathian Convention</p>	<p>Cooperation between ICPDR and the Carpathian Convention; communication with ICPDR; involvement in project JOINTISZA, participation in workshop (10 Apr. 2018, Košice, SK)</p>	<p>JOINTISZA project, minutes from the meeting</p>
	<p>3.2 Facilitation of bilateral consultations in shared wetlands and catchments on common objectives and principles of their management, pilot project, participation in international conferences</p>	<p>Bilateral consultations with experts in transborder areas; cooperation with Duna-Ipoly NP Directorate (HU) on proposal for transboundary biodiversity management plan within the project planned - pilot action.</p>	<p>Meetings of experts and stakeholders</p>
<p>4. Platform for wetland restoration activities</p>	<p>4.1 Development of the wetland restoration strategies/policies; meetings, workshops; wetland restoration activities</p>	<p>Restoration strategy development included in the updated national Action Plan for wetlands in Slovakia; Participation in the seminar on wetland restoration and management in transborder area of Medzibodrožie (SK, 17-18 Apr. 2018)</p>	<p>National Action Plan</p>
	<p>4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration in Europe</p>		
<p>5. Platform for capacity building and public awareness</p>	<p>5.1 Development of the training programme on wetland management and restoration and CWI CEPA programme; establishment of a database of educational and training institutions and experts aimed at wetlands and communication with them; cooperation with IUCN WCPA WG on Capacity Development</p>	<p>Consultations with Ministry of Environment CZ on their leading role.</p>	<p>Electronic and face to face consultations</p>
	<p>5.2 Development of a project for training on identified priorities; support of other trainings</p>	<p>Identification of training and funding opportunities; co-organizing of the seminar with international participation in occasion of the World Fish Migration Day (20 Apr. 2018, Bratislava, SK).</p>	<p>Seminar</p>
	<p>5.3 Preparation and printing of a brochure and leaflet on CWI and Carpathian wetlands, translation of relevant guidelines; Maintenance</p>	<p>Awareness on cultural values in wetlands during various events (e.g. 11 Apr. 2018, Oščadnica, SK; 3 May 2018, 14 June 2018, Banská Bystrica,</p>	<p>CWI web site</p>

	nance of CWI web site	SK); CWI web site updated	
	5.4 Operation of the regional Wetland Centre, building of its library, human capacities, improvement of facilities, CWI coordination	Carpathian Wetland Centre in Banská Bystrica maintained, but with no specially dedicated human resources, Carpathian wetland library supplemented; participation in the preparation of the resolution of the Ramsar COP13 on the Ramsar Regional Initiatives, consultations on revised Operational Guidelines for RRI; CWI coordination.	Documents of the Ramsar Convention

3. Financial report for Year 2018

Summary of income and expenditures. Average exchange rate to CHF: 1.15

Activities	Planned expenditures	Real expenditures (EUR)
1.1 Wetland inventory guidelines, collection of information on research	1,000 EUR	90.00
1.2 Designation of RS, update of RISs	1,500 EUR	143.24
1.3 Collection of data on threatened habitats and species, IAS, endemic species, meetings of experts	3,000 EUR	90.00
1.4 Coordination of research with the S4C, projects and national institutions, Forum Carpaticum, Wetlands and Culture project	9,918 EUR	10,779.52
2.1 Update of the CWI strategy and work plan, Board members meetings, communication, Carpathian Convention meetings; working groups, exchange of experts	6,000 EUR	6,464.12
2.2 Cooperation with CNPA, DANUBEPARKS, WWF-DCP, Trilateral Ramsar Platform, CBD	2,200 EUR	1,000.00
2.3 Fund raising, project proposals	1,000 EUR	480.00
3.1 Cooperation on documents on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management	1,000 EUR	107.68
3.2 Facilitation of bilateral consultations in shared wetlands, participation in conferences	1,500 EUR	135.00
4.1 Development of wetland restoration strategies / policies, meetings, workshops, restoration activities	1,000 EUR	163.99
4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration	2,500 EUR	0.00
5.1 Training programme, database of educational and training institutions and experts, CEPA programme	1,000 EUR	150.00
5.2 Development of a project for training on priorities, support of trainings	1,500 EUR	193.79
5.3 Preparation and printing of publications, translations, maintenance of CWI web site	3,000 EUR	135.00
5.4 Operation of the Carpathian Wetland Centre, library, human capacities, facilities, CWI coordination	12,516 EUR	900.00
Total	49,134 EUR	20,832.34

Sources of income	Income received (EUR)
SNC SR SK	9,585.82
K. Nádaská (SK)	90.00
SMNCaS L. Mikuláš (SK)	450.00
A. Kušíková et al. (SK)	450.00
Czech Ornithological Society (CZ)	225.00

MoE CZ	1,427.00
MoE HU	1,040.00
MoE RO	1,200.00
MoE SK	890.00
MoE RS	100.00
MoE UA	190.00
Wetlands International	300.00
Djerdap NP	135.00
DINPI HU	90.00
Piatra Craiului NP RO	300.00
Total	16,472.82
Ramsar project agreement	1,343.63

Financial balance on 31 December 2018: amount left to be carried over to 2019

Ramsar core budget	6,428.40 €
CWI budget from Hungary	5,673.06 €
CWI budget from the Czech Republic	887.29 €

The Ramsar funding (amount left from previous funding – 6,428.40 €) was not spent in the reporting period and will be used for activities planned on 2019 according to the plan below, based on new CWI strategy.

4. Work and activities planned for Year 2019

Objectives	Activities	Results/outputs	Indicators
1. Mainstreaming	1.1 Promote integration of wetlands and their services and benefits into sectoral policies, development of proposals for CC Working Groups and for sectors	Wetlands and their services and benefits are integrated in relevant documents of the Carpathian Convention and in sectoral strategies and policies	Documents
2. River Basin Management	2.1 Development of Carpathian projects integrating wetlands in river basin management; consultations with ICPDR, Water Platform of the Alpine Convention	Project drafts consulted and developed; Funding opportunities identified; cooperation with the Water Platform of the Alpine Convention established	Project drafts prepared for submission
	2.2. Cooperation in implementation of the JOINTISZA project	Project Work Packages implemented; communication with ICPDR	According to the project WPs
	2.3 Facilitation of bilateral consultations in shared wetlands and catchments on common objectives and principles of their management; participation in international conferences	Meetings of experts and relevant stakeholders	A number of experts and national focal points participating; report of the conferences, recommendations; guidelines
3. Invasive Alien Species (IAS)	3.1 Identification and prioritization of invasive alien species and pathways of their introduction and expansion	Updated list of invasive alien species in the Carpathians	Information available on the web sites
	3.2 Cooperation in control and eradication of IAS and in preparation and implementation of management responses	Project drafts consulted and developed; workshops and meetings with CC Biodiversity WG	Project draft; reports of the meetings
4. Ecological Networks and Management of Sites	4.1 Cooperation in development of ecological network in the Carpathians, contribution to relevant projects on continuity and con-	Workshops and meetings with CC Biodiversity WG and other relevant WGs; projects Work Packages implemented; RISs and maps de-	Meeting reports; indicators of relevant project WPs; documents and maps for designation of

	nectivity of habitats in the region, cooperation in designation of new Ramsar Sites, expansion of existing sites; joint management planning	veloped	new Ramsar Sites
	4.2 Cooperation with CNPA, DANUBEPARKS, ALPARC within existing MoC in development of new projects on ecological connectivity of wetland habitats in the region	Meetings; project drafts consulted and developed	Meeting reports, project drafts prepared for submission
5. Prevention of environmental damages in wetlands	5.1 Facilitation of exchange of information on risk of change of ecological character of wetlands (including transborder rivers), cooperation within ICPDR	Workshops, meetings, involvement in/of the cross-border river basin commissions	Reports of meetings, documents with information
6. Wetland Inventories	6.1 Inventory of wetland habitats and species; inventory of cultural values of wetlands	Database of wetlands in the Carpathians and their habitats, species and cultural values	Database updated, maps
	6.2 Update of the Carpathian Red List of habitats and species	Meetings of experts, updated Red Lists and database on threatened Carpathian habitats and species	Documents; database updated
7. Wetlands conservation, restoration and maintenance	7.1 Identification of priorities for common actions and for wetlands restoration to be jointly undertaken in the Carpathians	Draft wetland restoration strategy/policy in a country, data on barriers, meetings on the topic; small restoration activities	Draft document; meeting minutes; report on activities; agreements on transborder cooperation
	7.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration in Europe	Workshops, conferences and study tours to wetland restoration examples; overview of wetland restoration guidelines and projects	Report of the meetings and study tour; information on the web
	7.3 Cooperation in development of a new project aimed at long-term conservation, maintenance, restoration and sustainable use of wetland habitats and species	Project drafts consulted and developed	Project draft prepared for submission
8. Climate change	8.1 Identify wetlands most at risk due to climate change based on an assessment of the vulnerability of Carpathian wetlands to climate change impacts, propose and implement measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change	Workshops and meetings with relevant CC Working Groups; measures proposed	Reports of meetings, documents with information
9. Research, Monitoring, Information System	9.1 Facilitation of cooperation in species and habitats monitoring, research in wetlands in collaboration with Science for Carpathians S4C, development of joint information system and joint guidelines and methodologies to make them available to decision makers and practitioners	Meetings, workshops, conferences, input to CCIBIS	CCIBIS developed
10. Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness	10.1 Preparation and printing of a brochure and leaflet on CWI and Carpathian wetlands, translation of relevant guidelines; Maintenance of CWI web site	A brochure and leaflet on CWI and the Carpathian wetlands and their functions and services, guidelines translated; web site updated with relevant information	Brochure and leaflet printed, guidelines in national languages and placed on the web; web site with updated info

	10.2 Development of the training programme on wetland management and restoration and CWI CEPA programme; establishment of a database of educational and training institutions and experts aimed at wetlands and communication with them; cooperation with IUCN WCPA Working Group on Capacity Development	Training programme developed; database with information established and communication; CWI CEPA and capacity development draft programme consulted with partners and existing Ramsar CEPA programme	Training programme; database on the web site; draft CWI CEPA and capacity development programme on the web
	10.3 Development of a project for training on identified priorities; support of other trainings	Project proposal discussed and submitted, participation in trainings	Project draft or application
	10.4 Operation of the regional Wetland Centre, building of its library, human capacities, improvement of facilities, CWI coordination	Wetland Centre maintained, functioning, Carpathian wetland library supplemented, staff supported; participation in the WG of the Ramsar Convention on the Ramsar Regional Initiatives	Wetland Centre operating and working for coordination and training; results and documents of the Working Group on the RRI
11. Capacities and Financing	11.1 Seeking for regular contributions to the CWI work from national and international sources and providing relevant capacities to activities and governance	Voluntary contributions, national allocations, projects with funding	Annual reports

5. Financial plan for the year 2019

Summary of expected income and budgeted/planned expenditures. Average exchange rate to the CHF: 1.15

Activities	Planned expenditures	Expected income and source (EUR)
1.1 Promotion of integration of wetlands and their services and benefits into sectoral policies, proposals for CC WGs	1,000 EUR	SNC SR 500.00 UNE CC 500.00
2.1 Development of projects integrating wetlands in river basin management; consultations with ICPDR, Alpine Convention etc.	700 EUR	Ramsar 200.00 SNC SR 500.00
2.2 Cooperation in implementation of the JOINTISZA project	700 EUR	Ramsar 200.00 SNC SR 500.00
2.3 Facilitation of bilateral consultations in shared wetlands and catchments; participation in international conferences	2,500 EUR	Ramsar 500.00 SNC SR 250.00 Moe CZ 250.00 MoE HU 250.00 MoE PL 250.00 MoE RO 250.00 MoE RS 250.00 MoE SK 250.00 MoE UA 250.00
3.1 Identification and prioritization of invasive alien species and pathways of their introduction and expansion	2,900 EUR	UNE SCC 500.00 SNC SR 500.00 MoE CZ 200.00 MoE HU 200.00 MoE PL 200.00 MoE RO 200.00 MoE RS 200.00 MoE SK 200.00 MoE UA 200.00 NAS UA 500.00
3.2 Cooperation in control and eradication of IAS and in	1,500 EUR	Ramsar 500.00

preparation and implementat. of management responses		UNE SCC 500.00 SNC SR 500.00
4.1 Cooperation in development of ecological network, contribution to relevant projects on continuity and connectivity of habitats, cooperation in designation of new Ramsar Sites; new PAs; joint management planning	4,250 EUR	Ramsar 250.00 SNC SR 500.00 UNE SCC 500.00 Whitley (UA) 3,000.00
4.2 Cooperation with CNPA, DANUBEPARKS, ALPARC in development of new projects on ecological connectivity	700 EUR	Ramsar 200.00 SNC SR 500.00
5.1 Facilitation of exchange of information on risk of change of ecological character of wetlands, cooperation within ICPDR	1,800 EUR	SNC SR 200.00 Ramsar 200.00 MoE CZ 200.00 MoE HU 200.00 MoE PL 200.00 MoE RO 200.00 MoE RS 200.00 MoE SK 200.00 MoE UA 200.00
6.1 Inventory of wetland habitats and species; inventory of cultural values of wetlands	4,700 EUR	Ramsar 700.00 MoE CZ 500.00 MoE HU 500.00 MoE PL 500.00 MoE RO 500.00 MoE RS 500.00 MoE SK 500.00 MoE UA 500.00 SNC SR 500.00
6.2 Update of the Carpathian Red List of habitats and species	1,000 EUR	UNE SCC 500.00 SNC SR 500.00
7.1 Identification of priorities for common actions and for wetlands restoration to be jointly undertaken	700 EUR	SNC SR 500.00 Ramsar 200.00
7.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration in Europe	1,500 EUR	SNC SR 500.00 Ramsar 500.00 CWI budget CZ 500.00
7.3 Cooperation in development of a new project aimed at long-term conservation, maintenance, restoration and wise use of wetland habitats and species; project implementation (Restoration of Narcissus Valley, UA)	10,700 EUR	Ramsar 200.00 SNC SR 500.00 Kfw project (UA) 10,000.00
8.1 Identification of wetlands most at risk due to climate change, propose and implement measures to adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change	2,200 EUR	Ramsar 200.00 UNE SCC 500.00 SNC SR 500.00 CWI budget HU 1,000.00
9.1 Facilitation of cooperation in species and habitats monitoring, research in wetlands in cooperation with S4C, development of joint information system and guidelines	1,700 EUR	Ramsar 200.00 CWI budget HU 1,000.00 SNC SR 500.00
10.1 Preparation and printing of a brochure and leaflet on CWI and Carpathian wetlands, translation of guidelines; maintenance of CWI web site	2,500 EUR	Ramsar 1,000.00 CWI budget HU 1,000.00 SNC SR 500.00
10.2 Development of the training program on wetland management and restoration and CWI CEPA program; establishment of database of education and training institutions and experts; cooperation with IUCN WCPA WG	1,700 EUR	Ramsar 200.00 MoE CZ 500.00 CWI budget CZ 500.00 SNC SR 500.00
10.3 Development of a project for training on identified priorities; support of other trainings	2,000 EUR	Ramsar 500.00 MoE CZ 500.00 CWI budget CZ 500.00 SNC SR 500.00

10.4 Operation of the regional Wetland Centre, building of its library, human capacities, facilities, CWI coordination	12,678 EUR	Ramsar 678.00 SNC SR 12,000.00
11.1 Seeking for regular contributions to the CWI work from national and international sources and providing relevant capacities to activities and governance	7,000 EUR	MoE CZ 1,000.00 MoE HU 1,000.00 MoE PL 1,000.00 MoE RO 1,000.00 MoE RS 1,000.00 MoE SK 1,000.00 MoE UA 1,000.00
Using the rest from Ramsar core budget		6,428.00 EUR
Total	64,428 EUR	

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Acronyms:

AT	Austria	PAs	Protected areas
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity	PL	Poland
CC	Carpathian Convention	RIS	Ramsar Information Sheet
CEPA	Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness programme	RO	Romania
CNPA	Carpathian Network of Protected Areas	RRI	Ramsar Regional Initiatives
COP	Conference of Parties	RS	Serbia
CWI	Carpathian Wetland Initiative	S4C	Science for Carpathians
CZ	Czech Republic	SK	Slovakia
DINPI	Duna-Ipoly National Park Directorate	SMNCaS	Slovak Museum of Nature Conservation and Speleology
HU	Hungary	SNC SR	State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic
IAS	Invasive alien species	UA	Ukraine
ICPDR	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River	UAE	United Arab Emirates
IUCN WCPA	IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas	UNE SCC	UN Environment Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention
MoC	Memorandum of Cooperation	WG	Working Group
MoE	Ministry of Environment	WI	Wetlands International
NAS UA	National Academy of Sciences Ukraine	WWF DCP	WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme