

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

2. Work and activities undertaken during Year 2017

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; cooperation in designation of new Ramsar Sites in the Carpathian region and updating of RISs	Collection of data on wetland research and projects on wetlands conservation, management and restoration; consultations on proposals on new (trans-boundary) Ramsar Sites in the region	Database on Carpathian wetlands; interactive map of wetlands of Slovakia tested
	1.2 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; work on the list of endemic plant species of the Carpathians, inventory.	Database of threatened habitats, species, endemic species and of invasive alien species in the Carpathians; report of the meetings
	1.3 Coordination of research activities with the Science for Carpathians (S4C) initiative, coordination with regional projects and with national institutions	Information exchange.	S4C Research Agenda 2015-2020
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 meeting; participation in meetings of the Carpathian Convention bodies and WGs	List of CWI Focal Points updated; participation at important meetings of the Carpathian Convention (Implementation Committee, 15-16 June 2017, Modrá, CZ; COP5, Lillafüred, HU, 10-12 Oct. 2017), consultations on COP5 decision on CWI (COP5/4) and CC work plan; meeting with CWI Board members, potential partners for projects from Carpathian countries, discussion on work programme; visit of the representative of the Czech Ramsar Committee (SK, 8-10 Aug. 2017), consultations; electronic communication on relevant issues.	Report and minutes of the meetings, CC COP5 decisions
	2.2 Involvement of administrations of protected areas in the CWI work and cooperation with the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA), the DANUBEPARKS Network, the Trilateral Ramsar Platform (AT-CZ-SK), WWF-DCP, IUCN, CBD; stakeholders involvement	Carpathian protected areas administrations were informed and involved in the joint project development; consultations on cooperation and possible joint projects with WWF, DANUBEPARKS, ALPARC; participation at 15 th meeting of the trilateral Ramsar Platform (5-6 Sep. 2017, Židlochovice, CZ), exchange of knowledge.	Minutes of the meetings
	2.3 Fund-raising and projects proposals for financing the Initiative in consultation with national	Project proposal on peatland restoration in transborder regions of Carpathians for funding from Endangered	Application forms for projects; Consultancy Agreement signed

	institutions	Landscapes Programme developed and submitted in cooperation with CEEweb (HU), Daphne (SK), SNC SR (SK), Danube-Carpathian Programme (UA), CZ Nature Conservation Agency, nature conservation organizations in PL, the project was not approved; 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); In cooperation with Ministry of Environment (CZ), SNC SR (SK), Danube-Carpathian Programme (UA) and other CWI Board members developed project on Ramsar Culture network development in the Carpathian region, consultancy agreement signed with the Ramsar Secretariat in October 2017.	
3. Platform for integrated river basin management especially in shared catchments	3.1 Involvement in the preparation of relevant documents on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management of the Carpathian Convention	Cooperation between ICPDR and the Carpathian Convention; communication with ICPDR on project JOINTISZA, questionnaire filled in.	JOINTISZA project
	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	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.	Meetings of experts and stakeholders
4. Platform for wetland restoration activities	4.1 Development of the wetland restoration strategies/policies, meetings; wetland restoration activities	Wetland restoration (Martina Eiseltová, Ivana Buřková), description of history of wetland degradation and summary of wetland restoration principles (focus on lakes, rivers, floodplains and peatland restoration)	Chapter of the book Wetlands - Ecology, conservation and sustainable use (H. Čížková, L. Vlasáková, J. Květ, eds, 2017)
	4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration in Europe	Participation in guided excursion on restoration activities in the Donau-Auen NP (Austria, 18-19 May 2017) within a LIFE project of BROZ (SK); participation in seminar on river restoration - sharing experience with Czech Nature Conservation Agency (Bratislava, SK, 5 Oct. 2017)	
5. Platform for capacity building and public awareness	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	Work on CWI CEPA programme; consultations with Ministry of Environment CZ on their leading role.	

	aimed at wetlands and communication with them; cooperation with IUCN WCPA WG on Capacity Development		
	5.2 Development of a project for training on identified priorities; support of other trainings	Identification of training and funding opportunities.	
	5.3 Preparation and printing of a brochure and leaflet on CWI and Carpathian wetlands, translation of relevant guidelines; participation in Ekoplagat exhibition; Maintenance of CWI web site	Activities on production of leaflets and translation of guidelines included in projects drafts; participation in organization, co-funding and awarding the CWI prize for the best poster on topic of wetlands in 14 th Triennial EKOPLAGÁT'17 (June-Aug 2017, Žilina, SK); CWI web site updated	Ekoplagat website: http://www.npmalafatr.a.sk/ekoplagat/vysledky-2017/ CWI web site
	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 dedicated human resources, Carpathian wetland library supplemented; participation in the Working Group on the Ramsar Regional Initiatives, consultations on revised Operational Guidelines for RRI.	Carpathian Wetland Centre, documents of the Ramsar Convention

3. Financial report for Year 2017

Summary of income and expenditure. Average exchange rate to CHF: 1.1

Activities	Planned expenditures	Real expenditures (EUR)
1.1 Wetland inventory guidelines, designation of RS	1,000 EUR	180.00
1.2 Collection of data on threatened habitats and species, IAS, endemic species, meetings of experts	3,000 EUR	1,350.00
1.3 Coordination of research with the S4C, projects and national institutions	1,000 EUR	1,620.00
2.1 CWI strategy and work plan, Board members meetings, communication, Carpathian Convention meetings; working groups, exchange of experts	7,000 EUR	1,168.70
2.2 Cooperation with CNPA, DANUBEPARKS, WWF-DCP and Trilateral Ramsar Platform	2,200 EUR	1,110.00
2.3 Fund raising, project proposals	1,000 EUR	6,265.00
3.1 Cooperation on documents on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management	1,000 EUR	445.00
3.2 Facilitation of bilateral consultations in shared wetlands, participation in conferences	2,000 EUR	225.00
4.1 Development of wetland restoration strategies / policies, meetings, workshops, restoration activities	1,000 EUR	0.00
4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration	2,500 EUR	225.00
5.1 Training programme, database of educational and training institutions and experts, CEPA programme	1,000 EUR	105.00
5.2 Development of a project for training on priorities, support of trainings	1,500 EUR	0.00
5.3 Preparation and printing of publications, translations, Ekoplagat exhibition, maintenance of CWI web site	3,000 EUR	1,420.00
5.4 Operation of the Carpathian Wetland Centre, library, human capacities, facilities, CWI coordination	16,098 EUR	3,175.00
Total	43,298 EUR	17,288.70

Sources of income	Income received (EUR)
SNC SR SK	9,543.70
UNE CC	1,520.00
MoE CZ	470.00
MoE PL	270.00
MoE RO	450.00
WWF DCP	420.00
CZOS CZ	135.00
Danube Carpathian Program UA	180.00
Daphne SK	420.00
CEEweb HU	600.00
Eurac Research IT	2,240.00
UNEP GRID Warsaw PL	500.00
DINPI HU	180.00
Piatra Craiului NP RO	210.00
BROZ SK	150.00
Total	17,288.70
Ramsar project agreement	2,

Financial balance on 31 December 2017: amount left to be carried over to 2018

Ramsar core budget	7,098.46 €
Ramsar-SNC project agreement (1st installment)	2,022.59 €
CWI budget from Hungary	5,673.06 €
CWI budget from the Czech Republic	887.29 €

The Ramsar funding (amount left from previous funding – 7,098.46) was not spent in the reporting period and will be used for activities planned in 2018 according to the plan below.

4. Work and activities planned for 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	Guidelines on wetland inventory in the Carpathian countries, database on wetland research and projects on wetlands conservation, management and restoration	Guidelines on Carpathian wetland inventory available on the web site; database
	1.2 Cooperation in designation of new Ramsar Sites in the Carpathian region and updating of RISs	Ramsar Information Sheets for designation/extension of Ramsar Sites, maps; updated RISs	RISs filled in, maps
	1.3 Collection of data on threatened habitats and species and on invasive alien species in the Carpathians, meetings of experts	Database on threatened Carpathian wetland habitats and species and on the invasive alien species (IAS) for finalization of the Carpathian Red Lists, List of IAS and endemic species; results of meetings	Database of threatened habitats, species, endemic species and invasive alien species; meeting reports
	1.4 Coordination of research activities with the Science for Carpathians (S4C), participation in Forum Carpathicum (15-18 Oct. 2018, Eger, HU); coordination with regional projects and with national institutions, implementation of the	Information on research of wetlands, experts and on projects, involvement in projects, result of the Ramsar Culture Network in the Carpathians project; proceedings of the Forum Carpathicum 2018	Information available on the web sites

	project Ramsar Culture Network in the Carpathians		
2. Platform for cooperation	2.1 Update of the CWI strategy and work plan based on the 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 the CWI Board meetings – European Ramsar Regional Meeting (Olomouc, CZ, March 2018); Ramsar COP13 (Dubai, UAE, 21-29 Oct. 2018); participation in meetings of the Carpathian Convention bodies and WGs and of other partners	Updated CWI strategy and work plan; updated list of CWI Focal Points; Presentations during important meetings; The working group and national networks communicated, national experts and Ramsar committees exchanges. Meeting of the CWI Board and electronic communication on relevant issues	Updated documents, list of national CWI focal points; Report/minutes of the meetings with results achieved; the working group and national networks of experts and institutions on the web, report of the exchange of experts and members of the Ramsar committees of the Carpathian countries
	2.2 Involvement of administrations of protected areas in the CWI work and cooperation with the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA), the DANUBEPARKS Network, the Trilateral Ramsar Platform (AT-CZ-SK), WWF-DCP, IUCN, Wetlands International, CBD; stakeholders involvement	Carpathian protected areas administrations informed and involved in the CWI projects, regular cooperation and information sharing with CNPA Steering Committee, DANUBEPARKS, Trilateral Ramsar Platform, WWF-DCP, IUCN, WI, CBD bodies and programmes and other networks and projects	A number of protected areas involved and informed; conferences results
	2.3 Fund-raising and projects proposals for financing of the Initiative in consultation with national institutions	Project proposals for funding and involvement in project drafts; analysis of funding opportunities for small grants	Project drafts submitted, involvement in different project proposals
3. Platform for integrated river basin management especially in shared catchments	3.1 Involvement in the preparation of relevant documents on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management of the Carpathian Convention	Documents developed, involvement in relevant projects (JOINTISZA), communication with the Carpathian Convention Secretariat and ICPDR	Documents, meeting reports
	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	Meetings of experts and relevant stakeholders; relevant projects implementation	A number of experts and national focal points participating; report of the conferences, recommendations; guidelines; project draft, information distributed to partners
4. Platform for wetland restoration activities	4.1 Development of the wetland restoration strategies/policies; meetings, workshops; wetland restoration activities	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
	4.2 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
5. Platform for	5.1 Development of the training programme on wetland manage-	Training programme developed; database with information estab-	Training programme; database on the web site;

capacity building and public awareness	ment 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	lished and communication; CWI CEPA and capacity development draft programme consulted with partners and existing Ramsar CEPA programme;	draft CWI CEPA and capacity development programme on the web
	5.2 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
	5.3 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
	5.4 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 W 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

5. Financial plan for the year 2018

Summary of income expected and budgeted/planned expenditure. Average **exchange rate to the CHF**: 1.17

Activities	Planned expenditures	Expected income and source (EUR)
1.1 Wetland inventory guidelines, collection of information on research	1,000 EUR	SNC SR 500.00 Ramsar 500.00
1.2 Designation of RS, update of RISs	1,500 EUR	SNC SR 500.00 MoE UA 500.00 WWF DCP 500.00
1.2 Collection of data on threatened habitats and species, IAS, endemic species in the Carpathians, meetings of experts	3,000 EUR	Ramsar 500.00 UNE SCC 2,000.00 SNC SR 500.00
1.3 Coordination of research with the S4C, projects and national institutions, Forum Carpaticum, Wetlands and Culture project	9,918 EUR	Ramsar 500.00 Ramsar – project 3,418.00 SNC SR 500.00 CWI budget 5,500.00
2.1 Update of the CWI Strategy and work plan, CWI Board members meetings during various events, Carpathian Convention meetings; working groups, exchange of experts	6,000 EUR	Ramsar 500.00 UNE SCC 1,000.00 SNC SR 1,000.00 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
2.2 Cooperation with CNPA, DANUBEPARKS, WWF-DCP, WI, Trilateral Ramsar Platform, CBD	2,200 EUR	Ramsar 500.00 SNC SR 500.00 MoE CZ 200.00 UNE SCC 1,000.00
2.3 Fund raising	1,000 EUR	Ramsar 500.00 SNC SR 500.00

3.1 Cooperation on documents on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management	1,000 EUR	SNC SR 500.00 UNE SCC 500.00
3.2 Facilitation of bilateral consultations in shared wetlands, participation in conferences	1,500 EUR	Ramsar 500.00 MoE CZ 500.00 SNC SR 500.00
4.1 Development of wetland restoration strategies/ policies, meetings, workshops, restoration activities	1,000 EUR	SNC SR 500.00 Ramsar 500.00
4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration	2,500 EUR	Ramsar 1,000.00 MoE CZ 500.00 CWI budget CZ 500.00 SNC SR 500.00
5.1 Training programme, database of educational and training institutions and experts, CEPA programme	1,000 EUR	MoE CZ 500.00 SNC SR 500.00
5.2 Development of a project for training on priorities, support of trainings	1,500 EUR	SNC SR 500.00 Ramsar 500.00 MoE CZ 500.00
5.3 Preparation and printing of publications, translations, maintenance of CWI web site and newsletter	3,000 EUR	SNC SR 1,000.00 Ramsar 1,000.00 UNE SCC 1,000.00
5.4 Operation of the Carpathian Wetland Centre, library, improvement of human capacities, facilities, CWI coordin.	12,516 EUR	Ramsar 516.00 SNC SR 12,000.00
Using the rest from Ramsar core budget		7,098.00 EUR
Project Ramsar Culture Network		3,418.00 EUR
Total	49,134 EUR	

Jan Kadlecik
CWI coordinator
State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic

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Acronyms:

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