WATER AND CLIMATE PROJECT EXPERIENCES- NETWORKING IN THE DANUBE REGION



Eleonora Musco Carpathian Convention







The Carpathians

- Largest, longest, most twisted and fragmented mountain range in Europe
- Providing essential ecosystem goods to communities in seven countries
- High vulnerability to climate change









The Carpathian mountains

Close to 100,000 km² of natural or semi/natural forests

- 36,000 km² of protected areas
- 3,000 km² of virgin forests
- 481 endemic plant species
- Major source of freshwater. The majority of the Carpathian region is part of three river basins: the basins of Danube, Dniester and Vistula
- Stronghold of the largest carnivore population in Europe
- Most of Europe's remaining intact rivers and wetlands
- Central Europe's last wilderness area













The role of the Carpathian Convention

Adopted on 22nd May 2003 Entered in force on 4th January 2006 Ratified by all the seven Carpathian countries

- A framework Convention for cooperation and multisectoral policy coordination
- Only existing legally binding framework and <u>active</u> <u>stakeholder platform</u> in the region...<u>as well as PROJECT</u> <u>FACTORY</u>



Goal: Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathian Region





Carpathian Convention at glance









Working for sustainable development in the Carpathian region

The region is complex and split between different regions and programmes...

... in order to work successfully projects need to be:

- Trans-boundary
- Multi-stakeholder
- Multi-sectorial
- Multi-policy framework
- Strategic for the Area









The Carpathian Convention and Climate Change: Related Projects



CARPIVIA - Carpathian integrated assessment of vulnerability to climate change and ecosystem based adaptation measures





CarpathCC - Climate change framework project aiming to provide an in-depth of the vulnerability of the Carpathian region and establish a diversified portfolio of adaptation measures

CARPATCLIM - Project aiming to improve the basis of climate data in the Carpathian region for applied regional climatological studies







The Carpathian Convention and climate change The 3 projects supported the



The 3 projects supported the activities of the working group on Climate change and adaptation:

- **FUTURE IMPERFECT** Climate change and adaptation in the Carpathians, a publication bringing together the results of the three projects on climate change in the Carpathians, CARPATCLIM, CARPVIA and CarpathCC (you can find it at <u>www.carpathianconvention.org</u>)
- Joint Alpine-Carpathian Statement on Adaptation to Climate Change, jointly presented at UNFCCC COP 20 in Lima by the Czech and Italian Presidencies
- Strategic Agenda on Adaptation to Climate
 Change in the Carpathian Region finalized







Ecopotential Project - Horizon2020

The main objective: making Earth Observation and Monitoring Data usable for ecosystem modeling and services

This will be done in selected Protected Areas in Europe, with a strong focus on mountain ecosystems, including a specific pilot site in the Carpathians.

Project funded by Horizon2020 Research Programme UNEP is part of a 47 organizations-partnership Total budget: 15 million over four years









Cooperation with EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR)



Joint synergy paper and draft Memorandum of Cooperation for the EUSDR Implementation





The Carpathian Convention and EUSDR Priority Areas (PAs)



Cooperation with ICPDR



- Joint Declaration between ICPDR and Carpathian Convention on cooperation in the Tisza Basin
- Close cooperation with ICPDR on the EUSDR in the Danube area: promotion of the implementation of the "Guiding principles on sustainable hydropower development in the Danube Basin" (DECISION COP4/3 par 2)
- Participation in the JOINTISZA Project







Sharing water resources and climate change

Climate Change is posing more serious threat to water resources than ever and international cooperation in river basin management might not be enough

<u>NEW SOLUTION</u>: Integrating land use and its impacts on water resources in the face of climate change

Importance of the cooperation among ICPDR, the Carpathian Convention, EUSDR PA4, PA5







The Carpathian Convention is both geographically and thematically at the heartbeat of the Danube region







Thank you for your attention!

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