



Supporting, promoting and protecting the traditional pastoral practices in the Carpathians - Towards UNESCO nomination of Carpathian Transhumance

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Outline:

- Carpathian Convention at glance
- Prioritisation of Carpathian Pastoralism at WG SARD
- Integration of Pastoralism and Transhumance into the Carpathian Convention Programme of Work
 - Relevance for the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework
 - COP7 Decisions
 - Partnership with IYRP



Carpathian Convention

Framework Convention for environmental protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians

- Unites 7 Carpathian countries (Czechia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Ukraine)
- Adopted in 2003 and in force for all Parties since 2006
- Main role:
 - Framework for cooperation and multi-sectoral policy coordination
 - Platform for joint strategies for sustainable development
 - Forum for dialogue between all stakeholders involved
- UNEP Vienna Programme Office provides the Secretariat for the Carpathian Convention



Institutional Structure



Conference of the Parties (COP)

Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee (CCIC)



Secretariat

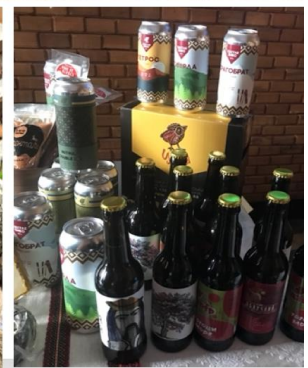


Protocol in place

6th meeting of the Working Group on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development

26 - 27 April 2023, Vatra Dornei, Romania

- Carpathian Pastoralism included as a focus topic of WG SARD activities
- National Agency of Mountain Areas of Romania shared experience of submitting an application, along with several other European countries, to the UNESCO list of cultural heritage, highlighting transhumance in Romania



Carpathian Biodiversity Framework: 8 Strategic Objectives

to support transformative actions across and within sectors

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 Carpathians

COP7 Decisions relevant for Pastoralism and Transhumance

DECISION COP7/12 Sustainable agriculture and rural development

2. Welcoming the United Nations General Assembly Resolution (RES/76/253) declaring 2026 as the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP), and recognizing the importance of the Carpathian Pastoralism, **invites the Parties, WG SARD and relevant stakeholders, with support of the Secretariat, to use the building momentum of the IYRP to undertake relevant actions for supporting, promoting and protecting the traditional pastoral practices in the Carpathians and to highlight the relevance and contribution of the Carpathian region to this important practice at the international level.**

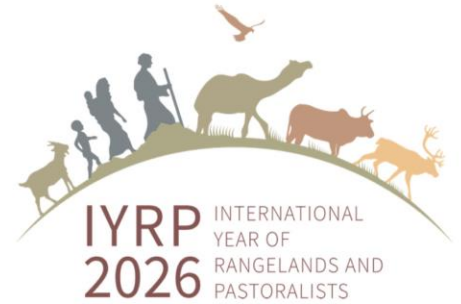
3. ... **welcomes the prioritization of the Carpathian pastoralism as a leading topic for the WG SARD activities**, and further request the WG SARD and involved stakeholders to build on the results and recommendations of the 6th WG SARD meeting, and to continue process of identifying and implementing relevant activities for cooperation within the framework of the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists...

COP7 Decisions relevant for Pastoralism and Transhumance

DECISION COP7/12 Sustainable agriculture and rural development

4. Welcomes the **Memorandum of Cooperation between the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and the Global International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists 2026 Coalition**, mandates the Secretariat to sign it at the earliest convenience.
5. **Invites the Parties, relevant Working Groups and stakeholders to explore possibilities to inscribe the Carpathian pastoralism in the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List of Humanity and requests the Secretariat to support the process.**
6. Furthermore, **encourages WG SARD and WG Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge, with involvement of other WGs, if feasible, to organize a joint meeting addressing the issues of pastoralism in the Carpathians**, and requests the Secretariat to support the process

Partnership with IYRP 2026 - MOC Signed at COP 7





Thank you for your
attention!

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