

DRAFT AGENDA

15th Meeting of the Carpathian Convention Working Group on Biodiversity 17-18 June 2024, Vienna, Austria

Flemings Hotel Wien-Stadthalle
Neubaugürtel 26-28, A-1070 Vienna, Austria

9:30 – 18:00	Day 1 – 17 June
9:30 – 10:00	Arrival and registration of participants
10:00 – 11:00	<p>Session I – Introduction</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Opening of the meeting – <i>Harald Egerer, Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention</i> 2) Welcome remarks by the meeting host - <i>Elfriede-Anna More, Ministry of Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, Austria</i> 3) Welcome remarks by the Serbian Presidency - <i>Aleksandra Došlić, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Serbia</i> 4) Welcome remarks by the WG Biodiversity Chair - <i>Eliška Rolfová, Ministry of the Environment, Czech Republic</i> 5) Adoption of the agenda 6) Inputs from Science for the Carpathians (S4C) - recommendations based on Forum Carpaticum 2023 relevant for the WG Biodiversity – <i>Agnieszka Wypych, Jagiellonian University/S4C</i> 7) Updates from the Carpathian Convention COP7 – mandate of the WG Biodiversity 8) Review of the progress in implementation of the WG Biodiversity Work Plan 2021 – 2023 and preparation of the WG Biodiversity Work Plan 2024 – 2026
11:00 – 13:15	Session II – Large carnivores conservation in the Carpathians – projects implementation and cooperation opportunities
11:00 – 11:30	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9) LECA project – Supporting the coexistence and conservation of Carpathian Large Carnivores – <i>Martin Duľa, Mendel University in Brno/Project Lead Partner</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Updates on the project implementation and discussion
11:30 – 11:45	Coffee break
11:45 – 12:30	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10) LECA project – Supporting the coexistence and conservation of Carpathian Large Carnivores – <i>Martin Duľa, Mendel University in Brno/Project Lead Partner</i> (continuation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Presentation of draft thematic guidance on monitoring, poaching investigation, conflict prevention, followed by consultations with the meeting participants
12:30 -13:15	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11) Conservation of the Carpathian lynx in West and Central Europe – IUCN SSC Cat Specialist Group - <i>Jochen Krebsühl, Lynx Institute - lynx connect Europe</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Presentation of listing the Eurasian Lynx in Appendix II to the Convention of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and related Concerted Action for the Eurasian Lynx followed by consultations with the meeting participants
13:15 – 14:15	Lunch break (provided at the hotel premises)

14:15 – 18:00	Session II – Implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework at the regional level, with a focus on the Carpathians and the adopted Carpathian Biodiversity Framework
14:15 – 15:45	<p>12) Presentation of the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework – <i>Klaudia Kuraś, Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention</i></p> <p>13) Streamlining the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework into the national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) of the Carpathian countries - <i>Klaudia Kuraś, Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention</i></p> <p>14) Global Biodiversity Framework – importance of the regional approaches for its implementation - <i>Jamal Annagylyjova, CBD Secretariat (online)</i></p> <p>15) Examples from the Alps, with a focus on Austria, on GBF implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updates on biodiversity activities from the Slovenian Presidency of the Alpine Convention and the Alpine Biodiversity Board – <i>Blanka Bartol, Slovenian Ministry for Natural Resources and Spatial Planning, and Claire de Kermadec, PSAC</i> - Implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework in Austria – <i>Gabriele Obermayr, Ministry of Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, Austria</i> - Implementation of the Alpine Biodiversity Protocol in Austria – <i>Gerald Gimpl, Ministry of Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, Austria</i> <p>16) LIFE Carpathian Strategic Nature Project – project idea as a unique opportunity for the Carpathians - <i>Klaudia Kuraś, Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and Dorothea Palenberg, Blue! advancing european projects</i></p> <p>17) General feedback and discussion</p>
15:45 – 16:15	Coffee break
16:15 – 17:45	<p>18) Moderated discussion on the implementation of the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensuring synergistic implementation of GBF and CBF at the national level ➤ Development of the LIFE Carpathian Strategic Nature Project ➤ Support to Ukraine ➤ Other suggestions/ideas for CBF implementation, e.g. project ideas, initiatives, to implement CBF at the local, national, cross-border or transnational level <p><i>(background note on the moderated discussion will be sent shortly)</i></p>
17:45 – 18:00	19) Conclusions and closing of Day 1
19:00 – 21:00	Common dinner (Restaurant Griechenbeisl, Fleischmarkt 11, 1010 Wien, Austria)
9:00 – 13:00	Day 2 – 18 June 2024
9:00 – 10:00	<p>Opening of the Day 2 Session III – Cooperation with other organizations and bodies</p> <p>20) Carpathian Network of Protected Areas: updates on activities and outlook - <i>Andrea Kurta, Piatra Craiului National Park</i></p> <p>21) Tourism Research for Biodiversity Conservation - Experiences from the Carpathian Protected Areas - <i>Karolina Taczanowska, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences in Vienna</i></p>

	<p>22) Carpathian Wetland Initiative: updates on activities and outlook - <i>Adriana Kušíková, Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic</i></p> <p>23) EUSDR PA6: updates on activities and outlook – <i>Florian Ballnus, EUSDR PA6 Coordinator (online)</i></p> <p>24) Scientific Network for the Caucasus Mountain Region (SNC-mt): information on activities and possible cooperation – <i>Nina Shatberashvili, SNC-mt, Georgia</i></p>
10:00 – 12:45	Session IV – Cooperation with other projects relevant for the WG Biodiversity
10:00 – 10:45	<p>25) ForestConnect project on climate-smart forest connectivity for large carnivores in the Balkan-Carpathian-Dinaric region - <i>Elisabeth Wiegele, Carinthia University of Applied Sciences, Austria</i></p> <p>➤ Presentation of the new project relevant for the Carpathian region and discussion on project activities involving the WG Biodiversity</p> <p>26) BioLine project on restoration of biodiversity and connectivity for ecological management of powerline corridors in Danube – Carpathian region – <i>Rasto Rybanic, SOS/BirdLife, Slovakia</i></p> <p>➤ Presentation of the project proposal relevant for the Carpathian region and discussion on project activities involving the WG Biodiversity</p> <p>27) TRANSNATURE project on unveiling the dynamics of transboundary biodiversity governance in Europe to enhance biodiversity protection – <i>Federica Cittadino, Eurac Research, Italy</i></p> <p>➤ Presentation of the project and discussion on possible relevance for the WG Biodiversity activities</p> <p>28) CentralMountains project on strengthening governance models for sustainable development of mountain areas in Central Europe – <i>Isidoro De Bortoli, Eurac Research, Italy</i></p> <p>➤ Presentation of the Joint Strategy Report for community-led sustainable development of mountain areas in Central Europe with a special focus on participatory governance</p>
10:45 – 11:15	Coffee break
11:15 – 12:45	<p>29) NaturaConnect project on Building a resilient ecological network of conserved areas across Europe for nature and people: WORKSHOP* – <i>Hildegard Mayer, WWF CEE, workshop coordinator</i></p> <p>➤ Presentation of the project updates and current outputs relevant for the WG Biodiversity activities, including a moderated discussion</p> <p>* Please refer to the Annex1 for the complete programme of the NatureConnect workshop</p>
12:45 – 13:00	<p>Session V – Closing of the meeting</p> <p>30) Preparation of the WG Biodiversity Work Plan 2024 – 2026 – considering inputs from the meeting</p> <p>31) AOB</p> <p>32) Conclusions, next steps and closing of the WG Biodiversity meeting</p>

NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS: The WG Biodiversity meeting will be followed by a reception celebrating the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Vienna Programme Office – Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention in Vienna. The reception will take place in the **afternoon on June 18th, 2024, at 3 pm and it be held at the same venue as the WG Biodiversity meeting** (Flemings Hotel Wien-Stadthalle, Neubaugürtel 26-28, A-1070 Vienna, Austria).

Agenda

Workshop at the 15th Carpathian Convention Biodiversity Working Group Meeting Vienna, 18 June, approx. 11.00-12.30

Abbreviations: NC – NaturaConnect, TEN-N – Trans-European Nature Network, WG – Working Group.

Time	What	Who
10 min	Update on NaturaConnect developments	Hildegard Meyer, WWF-CEE
40 min	Connectivity Guidelines	Ana Ceia Hasse, CIBIO
15 min	The Concept of Systematic Conservation Planning (SCP)	Jutta Beher, IIASA
15 min	Toward a map of integrated Blue and Green Infrastructure in the Danube-Carpathian region	Georg Gruber, BOKU
10 min	Moderated discussion & Mentimeter questions	Hildegard Meyer, WWF-CEE
5 min	Conclusions & findings & next steps	Hildegard Meyer, WWF-CEE

The NaturaConnect Team welcomes you to join the workshop and will be glad to engage with you on three different topics of the current project activities/deliverables:

- The **Connectivity Guidelines** providing spatial and land use planners with tools for planning ecological connectivity.

The document is very comprehensive. Based on the current Guidelines, the NaturaConnect Team will develop hands-on Guidelines for a practical use and at the same time, a module on ecological connectivity at the NaturaConnect Learning Platform. The NC Team is interested in the Carpathian Convention Stakeholders' opinions, which will be integrated in the practical Guidelines and the NaturaConnect Learning Platform Module on ecological connectivity for capacity building.

A [survey](#) for improvement of the [Guidelines](#) was sent to the Carpathian Convention community to prepare for this event. **We kindly ask you to get familiar with the document to answer the following questions:**

1. **What are the topics of the current Guidelines you find important to be included in practical Guidelines?**
2. **What would you like to see included in the NaturaConnect Learning Platform Module?**

Led by Ana Ceia Hasse, CIBIO – Research Centre in Biodiversity and Genetic Resources, Portugal

- The **concept of Systematic Conservation Planning (SCP)**, its advantages and applications. SCP is a scientific method to find areas of conservation needs that includes many different datasets, including spatial explicit information on biodiversity, climate, land use or socio-economic aspects into one planning process. The aim is to achieve multiple conservation objectives, explore uncertainties in the results and understand existing trade-offs. Together with the audience, IIASA will explore the SCP's applicability in the Carpathian ecoregion.

Led by Jutta Beher, IIASA – International Institute for Applied System Analysis, Austria

- **Map of integrated green and blue infrastructure for the Danube-Carpathian region**
BOKU is working on a map that will include green and blue infrastructure in the Danube-Carpathian region that is one of the NaturaConnect case studies. BOKU collected data available for the region as the basis for integrating blue and green infrastructure, made a first assessment and started developing the methodology for assessing stressors and identifying ecologically valuable freshwater and wetland habitats. BOKU will present the concept and first results.

Led by Georg Gruber, BOKU – University for Natural Resource and Life Sciences, Austria

Links to project-relevant websites:

- [NaturaConnect Learning Platform](#)
- [Stakeholder Community Platform](#)
- [Competence Assessment for BuildingTEN-N](#)
- [NaturaConnect homepage](#)