

Projects in numbers

ConnectGREEN:

- Duration: June 2018 31October 2021
- 11 Partners from 6 EU countries (ERDF)
- 2 Partners from Serbia (IPA)
- 10 Associated Strategic Partners (ASP)
- Coordinated by: WWF Romania
- Value: ~ 2.6 million euros

BioGOV

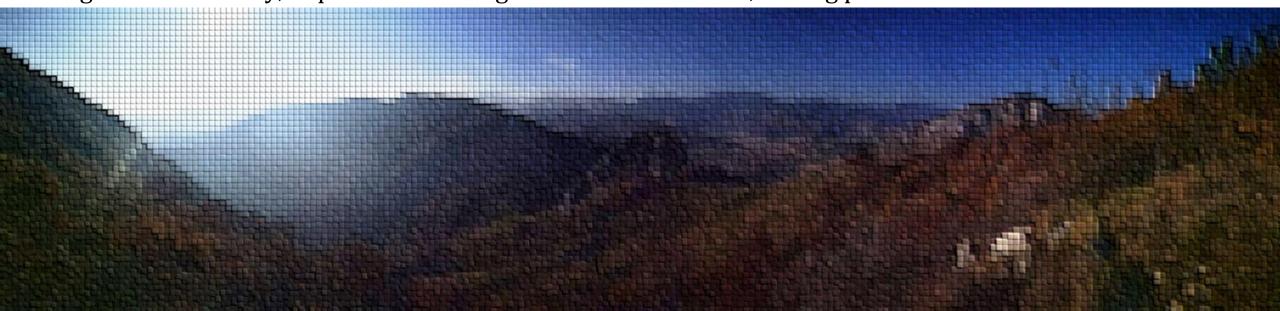
- Duration: June 2018 May 2022
- 9 Partners from 8 EU countries (ERDF)
- 2 Partners from Romania (EPA Mures and ADEPT Foundation)
- Coordinated by: Fryslan NL
- Value: ~ 1.3 million euros



Aim and Specific Objectives

Aim: ConnectGREEN, aimed at maintaining and improving the ecological connectivity between natural habitats in the Carpathian ecoregion.

- O1. Eco-corridors and connectivity gaps identified in the Carpathians
- O2. Capacity for identifying and managing eco-corridors improved
- O3. Identify and implement strategic directions and instruments/practices in order to promote the value of ecological connectivity, in particular of large carnivore corridors, among planners and decision makers







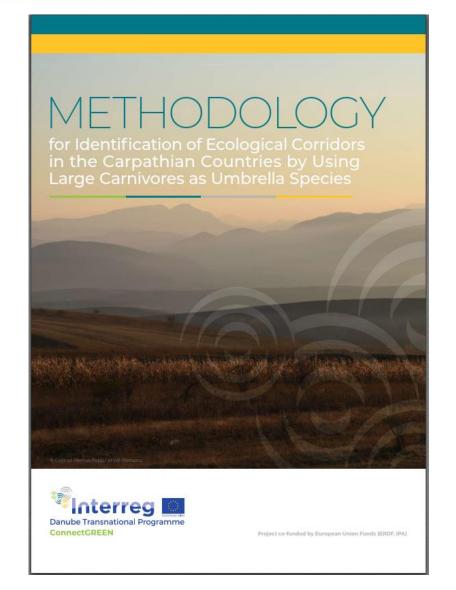


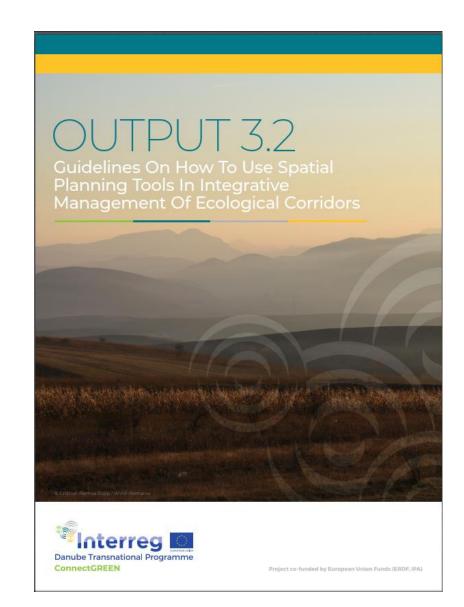
Pilot areas

Czech Republic Slovakia Hungary Romania **Pilot areas:** Piatra Craiului National Park / Bucegi Nature Park (Romania) 2. Apuseni mountains / Southwest Carpathians (Romania) / National Park Djerdap (Serbia) Serbia 3. Western Carpathians (Czech Republic - Slovakia) 4. Bükk National Park (Hungary) / Cerová vrchovina Protected Landscape Area (Slovakia)



Some Project Results



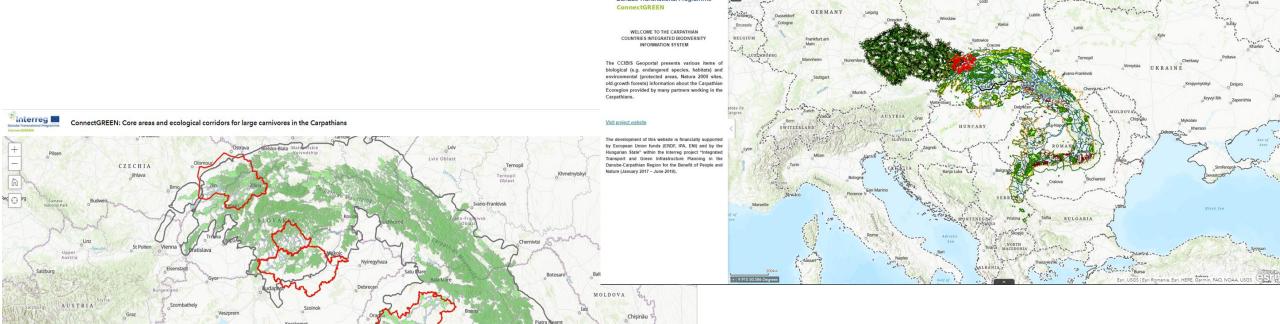








Ecological corridors database within CCIBIS



Shumen
USGS | Esri Romania, Esri, HERE, Sarmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS Powered by Esri | Dnnectoreen

https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/03da1f6f674 04518b3efe0d11f444e5a

1. Piatra Craiului National Park / Bucegi Nature Park (Romania)

- Apuseni mountains / Southwest Carpathians (Romania) / National Park Djerdap (Serbia)
- 3. Western Carpathians (Czech Republic Slovakia)

SLOVENIA

Pilot areas:

 Bükk National Park (Hungary) / Cerová vrchovina Protected Landscape Area (Slovakia) on Funds (ERDF, IPA)

Search tool Veporske Veporske Vechy Zooming tool

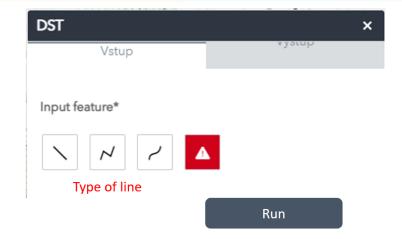
User interface

Attribute table Legend Layers Measurement Decision Support System

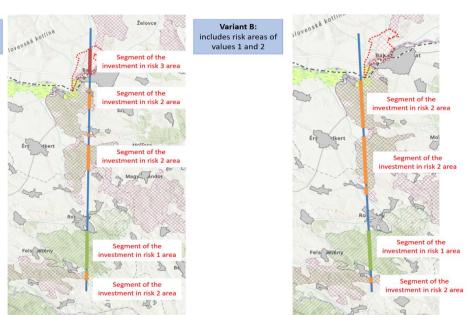
Variant A: includes risk areas of

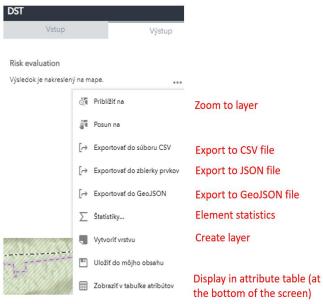
values 1, 2 and 3

Decision support tool (DST)



User interface - using DST - input





User interface - using DST – output



Danube Transnational Programme ConnectGREEN

ConnectGRE





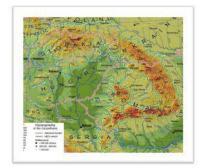




Sixth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians

CC/COP6/DOC9/FINAL DRAFT

INTERNATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON
CONSERVATION OF LARGE CARNIVORES
AND ENSURING ECOLOGICAL
CONNECTIVITY IN THE CARPATHIANS



INTRODUCTION, LEGAL BACKGROUND AND IMPLEMENTATION

The Carpathians are a range of mountains in Central and Eastern Europe, stretching across seven countries in the form of an arch, starting in the north-east of the Czech Republic, continuing through the whole Slovak Republic, southern Poland, eastern Hungary as well as the west of Ukraine and Romania, and then going south to the eastern part of Serbia.

The Carpathian region is one of Europe's last great wilderness areas, with exceptional levels of biodiversity, extensive tracts of old-growth forest and one of the most important and biggest large carnivore populations in Europe. It is estimated that over 7,200 brown bears, 3,000 grey wolves, and 2,350 Eurasian lynxes currently existing in the Carpathian region (Chapron et al., 2014).

The above-mentioned species require extensive, non-fragmented habitats to establish their large home ranges and to allow long-distance movements to satisfy their biological and ecological needs. However, the sizes of habitats and their connectivity are being challenged by increasing pressures of current and future development of transport and other types of infrastructure in the Carpathian region.

Furthermore, despite their functional role as ecosystem keystone species and their long-term protection in some countries, human-carnivore conflicts can occur.

The large carnivore species existing in human-dominated landscapes often face a multidimensional problem, ranging from human-caused mortality to habitat loss and fragmentation. Compared to other



International Action Plan on LCs and connectivity



DECISION COP6/9

Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity Article 4 of the Carpathian Convention

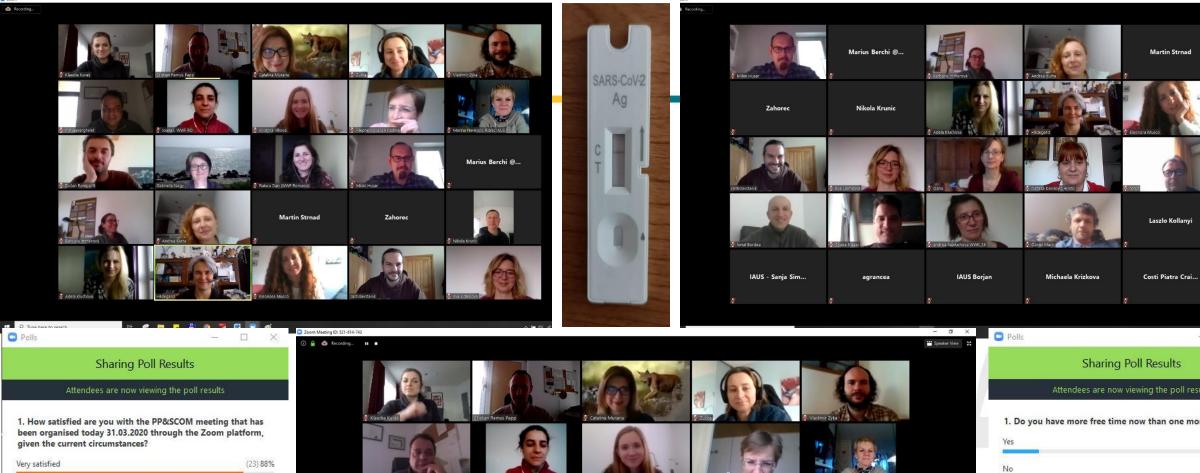
The Conference of the Parties

- Adopts the International Action Plan on Conservation of Large Carnivores and Ensurin Ecological Connectivity and encourages the Parties, the WG Biodiversity and other stakeholders with support of the Secretariat, to ensure smooth implementation of the Plan;
- 6. Welcomes the implementation of the project ConnectGREEN Restoring and managing ecological corridors in mountains as the green infrastructure in the Danube basin, funded by the Interreg Danube Transnational Programme; encourages the Parties to promote and use the results of the project, as appropriate, thanks the WWF Romania and other partners, especially CEEweb for continued support in implementing the project;



Multi-sectoral meetings and fora





been organised today 31.03.2020 through the Zoom platform, given the current circumstances?

Partly satisfied (0)0%

Stop Share Results

Satisfied

Not satisfied

(0)0%

Re-launch Polling

(3) 12%



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Attendees are now viewing the poll results

- 🗆 X

1. Do you have more free time now than one month ago?

Yes	(3) 14%
No	(16) 76%

I don't know (2) 10%

Stop Share Results

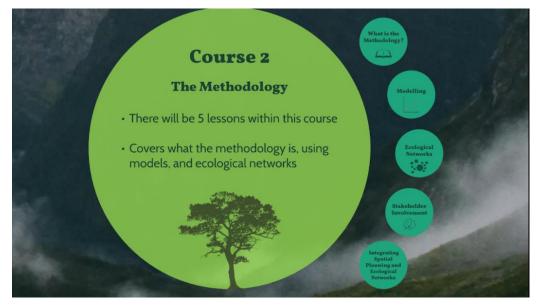
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Re-launch Polling



E-learning training course on eco-corridors









Knowledge transfer conference for PA professionals





Some conclusions and recommendations

- Cooperation with multi level stakeholders (from local to international) is key
- Relevant stakeholders have to be identified and involved (from local organizations and experts to universities and ministries)
- Borders should not represent a barrier, despite e.g. cultural differences, but rather an advantage (for improving/adapting/co-creating solutions to common projects)
- Stakeholder consultations should happen in every stage, from early planning to implementation
- Transdisciplinary approach is crucial to address complex issues (multiple use of land, management of conflicts)
- Connection with higher level policy makers (e.g. Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, EUSDR) is important
- Good personal contacts, including with representatives of international professional networks can facilitate synergies and smooth implementation
- Synergies are crucial, either planned or organized on demand



Thank you for the attention!!!

