

ConnectGREEN Communication Materials

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ConnectGREEN Info Sheet:



Interreg
Danube Transnational Programme
ConnectGREEN

INFO SHEET

ConnectGREEN

Reducing the impact of infrastructure on ecological connectivity

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Bears 47%

Wolves 30%

Lynx 20%

THE CARPATHIANS ARE HOME TO SIGNIFICANT PARTS OF EUROPE'S WILDLIFE

The planned infrastructure developments in the Danube-Carpathian region threaten to cut through the movement corridors of large carnivores and increase the fragmentation of their habitats.

Very few spatial planners have the knowledge and experience to ensure that conflicts between development and nature conservation are minimized as they develop new plans. More importantly, legally binding mechanism that takes into consideration the requirements of functioning ecological corridors is poorly implemented — mainly due to the lack of reliable data.

Through the ConnectGREEN project, partners from different countries and various fields of activity (i.e. spatial data planning, research, government, conservation) have joined forces to increase capacity in ecological corridors identification. Valuable knowledge and experience will be made available to spatial planners for adjusting their new infrastructure plans to ecological connectivity requirements.

13 Partners

10 Strategic Partners

5 Countries

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A good start in the area



A 2-year long active engagement in the Maramures/Wano-Frankivsk/Zakarpatska transboundary region was set to identify and preserve the first ecological network in the area by having concrete data collected from the field by using sound techniques and involving key stakeholders.

The work continued in the South-Western Carpathians, where a methodology was developed for the identification of both wilderness and ecological corridors.



Project co-funded by European Union Funds (ERDF, IPA)
Overall Budget: 2,442,925.53 Euro
ERDF Contribution: 1,920,592.41 Euro
IPA Contribution: 172,392.53 Euro

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Long term solutions for wildlife movements

The main objective of the project is to maintain and improve ecological connectivity between natural habitats, especially between Natura 2000 sites and other protected areas of transnational relevance in the Carpathian ecoregion, namely, in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Serbia.

Specifically, the project aims to:

- Develop innovative solutions and guidance to identify ecological corridors in a harmonized way across the Carpathian eco-region.
- Engage key stakeholders in an integrated approach for strengthening the capacity to identify and manage ecological corridors.
- Reconcile nature conservation with spatial planning and development in ecological corridors and Natura 2000 sites.

Maintaining or restoring ecological corridors will preserve one of the largest biodiversity hotspots and functioning ecosystems of the continent. Moreover, this novel joint approach is meant to put into practice much-awaited infrastructure developments that face the risk of being delayed due to non-conformity with safety and environmental standards.

You can support this process by prioritising biodiversity in the list of environmental criteria, by participating in consultations and by sharing knowledge.



ConnectGREEN Flyer:

ConnectGREEN aims to contribute to maintaining and improving ecological connectivity between natural habitats, especially between Natura 2000 sites and other protected areas of transnational relevance in the Carpathian ecoregion – namely, in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Serbia.

ConnectGREEN focuses on improving ecological connectivity in relation to spatial planning based on scientific knowledge and data.

Stay up to date with the project news by following us on:
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ConnectGREEN
Restoring and managing ecological corridors in mountains as the green infrastructure in the Danube basin



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Project co-funded by European Union Funds (ERDF, IPA)
Overall Budget: 2,402,923,53 Euro
ERDF Contribution: 1,320,392,41 Euro
IPA Contribution: 1,082,531,12 Euro



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Ongoing economic growth in the Danube-Carpathian region and poorly planned infrastructure development create more and more barriers for large carnivores and lead to the increased fragmentation of their habitats.

Partners from various fields of activity (spatial planning, research, government, nature conservation) have joined forces to increase capacity in the identification and management of ecological corridors and to minimize conflicts between infrastructure development and wildlife conservation.

Key stakeholders, such as conservationists, spatial planners, protected area and Natura 2000 site managers, will be proactively engaged in this integrated approach.

Through the harmonisation of interests between nature conservation and different land uses, we will contribute to securing viable populations of large carnivores in the Carpathians and to maintaining one of the largest biodiversity hotspots and functioning ecosystems on the continent.

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The ecological corridors will be identified based on a new Carpathian-wide methodology, while measures for mitigating threats to these corridors will be developed in 4 transnationally relevant pilot sites:

1. Piața Craiului National Park (Romania), Bucegi Nature Park (Romania)
2. Apuseni mountains (Romania), Southwest Carpathians (Romania), National Park Djerdap (Serbia)
3. Western Carpathians (Czech Republic – Slovakia)
4. Bükk National Park (Hungary), Cerová vrchovina Protected Landscape Area (Slovakia)



Project Partners:
 Romania: WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme-Germania (Project Lead), National Institute for Research and Development in Construction, Urban Planning and Sustainable Spatial Development, Public Choice Habitat Park Administration
 Austria: WWF National Park Administration
 Czech Republic: National Park Administration
 Slovakia: Research Institute for Landscape and Ornamental Gardening
 Hungary: CEI-ecis for Biodiversity, Szent Istvan University
 Slovakia: Slovak Environment Agency, The State Nature Conservancy, Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava – SPECTRA, Centre of Excellence of EIT
 Serbia: Institute of Architecture and Urban & Spatial Planning, National Park Djerdap

Associated Strategic Partners:
 Czech Republic: Ministry of the Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Regional Development
 Hungary: Bükk National Park Directorate
 Romania: Ministry of Environment and Environmental Protection
 Slovakia: Ministry of Transport and Construction
 Ukraine: Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources
 Austria: Danubienpark - Danube River Network of Protected Areas
 France: Alpine Network of Protected Areas - ALPAC
 Montenegro: Park Dinarski - Network of Protected Areas of Dinaric Belt

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