

SaveGREEN – Safeguarding the functionality of transnationally important ecological corridors in the Danube region

SaveGREEN Final Conference

Mainstreaming Ecological Connectivity - Challenges, Ideas and Possible Solutions
Hildegard Meyer, WWF-Central and Eastern Europe

Project co-funded by European Union funds (ERDF)

www.interreg-danube.eu/savegreen

SaveGREEN aimed at



Fostering cross-sectoral and transnational and local cooperation & to build capacity for

Improving, restoring and preserving the functionality of key ecological corridors in the Danube basin with a focus on bottleneck areas



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13 Project Partners



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Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Ukraine
8 NGOs, 3 Research Institutions, 1 Environment authority, 1 Consultancy company

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Pilot areas



Danube Transnational Programme

SaveGREEN



- Austria
- 1 Kobernausser forest
- 2 Pötsching (Alpine-Carpathian Corridor)
- Czech Rep./Slovakia
- 3 Beskydy-Kysuce CZ-SK cross-border area
- Hungary/Slovakia
- 4 Novohrad-Nógrád SK-HU cross-border area
- Ukraine
- 5 Zakarpattia region
- Romania
- 6 Mureş valley (Arad-Deva)
- 7 Mureş Valley (Târgu Mureş – Târgu Neamţ)
- Bulgaria
- 8 Rila-Verila-Kraishte corridor

Objectives

- Knowledge/experience among relevant authorities and key stakeholders increased
- Cross-sectoral practices improved relevant to Green Infrastructure for integrated mitigation measures, implementation and monitoring
- International and national governance framework strengthened



Main Results



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- Standardised methodology for monitoring structural and functional connectivity incl. application toolbox for fieldwork & analysis
- Local cross-sectoral operational plans for each pilot area incl. preparatory actions for its implementation
- Capacity building program for authorities & training events for public authorities and key players on cost/benefit analysis, SEA, EIA, etc.
- Joint Declaration on ecological connectivity in the Danube-Carpathian region

Lessons learnt

- Personal meetings are more effective
- Never underestimate time needed for stakeholder engagement
- What is already settled at the national level does not necessarily reach local players
- Need for established cross-sectoral collaboration at all levels, unclear responsibilities
- Ecological corridors as public good



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Collaboration is key

Projects:

- Open Borders for Wildlife in the Carpathians
- BISON
- ReVerSE
- Centralparks
- Dare2Connect
- LIFE Safe-Crossing
- LIFE EuroLargeCarnivores etc.

Networks:

- Carpathian Convention
- EUSDR PA4, 5 & 6, PA1b
- IENE, GreenWeb
- ISO/TC 331 standardization
- IUCN Connectivity Cons. WG



20 Ass. Strategic Partners



Austria: Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology

Bulgaria: Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry; SW State Enterprise SE – Blagoevgrad

Czech Republic: Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation Agency

France: Infrastructure and Ecology Network Europe (IENE)

Germany: Bavarian State Ministry of the Environment and Consumer Protection

Greece: Egnatia Odos S. A.

Hungary: National Infrastructure Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Duna-Ipoly National Park Directorate

Romania: Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests; Ministry of Public Works, Development and Administration; Ministry Transport, Infrastructure and Communications

Slovakia: Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport and Construction, National Motorway Company, State Nature Conservancy

Ukraine: M. P. Shulgin State Road Research Institute State Enterprise – DerzhdorNDI SE, Zarkarpattia Oblast Administration

10 Ministries of

- Environment
- Agriculture
- Forestry, Waters
- Transport
- Public Works

3 Environmental and local authorities

1 National Park

4 Road & forest companies

1 Research institution

1 International Expert Network

THANK YOU!

Thanks for your interest



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