

1. Title of your regional initiative: *Carpathian Wetland Initiative (CWI)*

2. Work and activities undertaken 2009

objectives	activities	results/outputs	indicators
1. Platform of basic data on wetlands	1.1 Organizing the first Carpathian wetland conference	The conference “Conservation of Wetlands in the Carpathians” was held 16.-19.11.2009 in Tatranska Strba, Slovakia; Challenges and priorities for cooperation within CWI identified; Conclusions and suggestions for the CWI work plan 2010 formulated.	65 representatives of all 7 Carpathian countries, specialists, conventions secretariats, NGOs participated; report of the conference www.sopssr.sk
	1.2 Development of harmonized classification system of wetland habitats, compatible protocol for wetland inventory, guidelines for evaluation and interpretation of data and training on field mapping and data storing	Building of the Carpathian Biodiversity Information System within the project of the Carpathian Ecoregion Initiative CERI (supported by DBU) “Proposal for Western Carpathian Ecological Network as a precondition for effective cross-border nature protection“; Wetland inventory and study on potential Ramsar sites within the project “Establishment of Ramsar Sites in the Danube-Carpathian Region of Ukraine” (BBI-MATRA funded)	Carpathian Biodiversity Information System developed for Eastern and Western Carpathians www.carpat.es.org/dbu_index.html ;
2. Platform for cooperation	2.1 Organizing of meetings and electronic communication and consultations of members of the CWI Board, participation in meetings of the Carpathian Convention bodies	Regular electronic communication with CWI Board members, update of representation of the countries and partners in the Board, visit of the Czech representative in the Ramsar SC; presentation of CWI and its activities in the meetings of the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee (10.-11.12. 2009, Vienna, Austria), Biodiversity Working Group and the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (4.3.2009, 14.-15.1.2010,	Reports of the meetings www.carpathianconvention.org

		Vienna, Austria), standardization of cooperation; presentation at ALPARC international conference on ecological networks and climate change (14.-16.10.2009, Germany)	
	2.2 Establishment of national networks of experts and cooperating institutions	National networks established in projects, will be further developed in 2010	
	2.3 Fund-raising and projects proposals for financing the initiative in consultation with national institutions	CWI activities included in the developed projects for South-East Europe Programme Integrated management of biological and landscape diversity for sustainable regional development and ecological connectivity in the Carpathians (BIOREGIO Carpathians - for all 7 Carpathian countries) and developed by the Slovak State Nature Conservancy for the Swiss funding mechanism	Projects (Expression of Interest and Project intent) submitted to the South East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme and the Swiss-Slovak Cooperation Programme
3. Platform for integrated river basin management especially in shared catchments	3.1 Involvement in the preparation of relevant documents on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management of the Carpathian Convention	CWI involved in preparation of the project for the SEE Transnational Cooperation Programme (BIOREGIO Carpathians) in cooperation with the Carpathian Convention Secretariat	Expression of Interest submitted to the South East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme
	3.2 Facilitation of bilateral consultations in shared wetlands and catchments on common objectives and principles of their management	The activity for integrated and harmonized management plans and common integrated management measures in some transborder Ramsar Sites was included in the project BIOREGIO Carpathians in cooperation with the Carpathian Convention Secretariat; participation in the 1 st Transboundary Ramsar Sites workshop (28.-30.1.2010, Strasbourg, France)	Expression of Interest submitted to the South East Europe Transnational Cooperation Programme; Report of the Transboundary Ramsar Sites workshop www.ramsar.org
	3.3 Cooperation with	Participation in the 1 st	Report of the meeting

	ICPDR especially in the Tisa River Basin	stakeholder meeting within the UNDP/GEF project “Integrating multiple benefits of wetlands and floodplains into improved transboundary management for the Tisza River Basin” (13.11.2009, Kosice, Slovakia)	www.icpdr.org/undp-gef-tisza
4. Platform for wetland restoration activities	4.1 Development of the wetland restoration strategies / policies	The activity was included in the project “Wetland management in Slovakia, support of environmental awareness and capacity building” supported in 2009 from the Operational Programme Environment and will be further developed	Information on the approved project www.opzp.sk
	4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration in Europe	The International Course on Ecohydrological Approach to Revitalisation and Conservation of Wetlands was organized 15.-20.6.2009 in Trebon, Czech Republic, with participants also from Carpathian countries; Management and restoration of fens was a part of the conference Conservation of wetlands in the Carpathians (19.11.2009, Tat. Strba, Slovakia); Study tour of SNC staff members was organized to Ramsar sites of the Czech Republic (1.-3.6.2009)	The Report on the course www.ramsar.org
5. Platform for capacity building and public awareness	5.1 Preparation, distribution and evaluation of a questionnaire on training priorities and needs	Will be prepared and distributed by the Czech Republic in beginning of 2010	
	5.2 Development of draft training programme for wetland sites managers	Will be developed in the beginning of 2010	
	5.3 Establishing and maintenance of web site of CWI and publishing of information on wetlands and their role and functions	The CWI logo was developed in October 2009 and was discussed in November 2009; the web site will be launched in March 2010	The CWI logo www.sopssr.sk

	5.4 Establishment of a database of educational and training institutions and experts aimed at wetlands and communication with them	Will be established in the beginning of 2010	
	5.5 Development of a brochure and leaflet on CWI and Carpathian wetlands, translation of relevant guidelines	The resource handbook "World of Carpathians" was developed by CERI within DBU funded project and was presented in the workshop (17.11.2009, Tat. Strba, Slovakia); The brochure and leaflet will be produced in the beginning of 2010; the further funding for translation of guidelines was included in the project proposals	The resource handbook available in DAPHNE Bratislava
	5.6 Establishment of the regional Wetland Centre, based on lessons learned from the study tour focused on Wetland Centres in Europe	The Slovak State Nature Conservancy in 2009 made available a room space for regional Wetland Centre in Banska Bystrica (SK) and included its furnishing in the submitted projects; the study tour was held in cooperation with the Czech Ministry of Environment and the Ramsar Committee in Ramsar sites of Belarus, Lithuania and Poland	Report of the study tour

3. Financial report for the year 2009

activities	planned expenditures (EUR)	real expenditures (EUR)
1.1 Organizing the Carpathian Wetland Conference	16,000	14,601.63
1.2 Development of harmonized classification system, database maintenance	5,000	3,000.00
2.1, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 Organizing of trainings, workshops, consultations and meetings	3,000	4,517.52
4.1 Development of wetland restoration strategies	2,000	0
4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration	2,000	592,12
5.2 Development of draft training programme	1,500	0
5.3 Web site establishment and maintenance	500	595.26

5.5 Development and printing of publications, translations	6,000	1,000.00
5.6 Establishment of the regional Wetland Centre and study tour	13,000	4,969.65
total	49,000	29,276.18

sources of income (donors)	income received
State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic	10,732.55 EUR
Ministry of Environment Czech Republic	2,000.00 EUR
Ministry of Environment and Water Hungary	2,000.00 EUR
Daphne/UNDP/GEF	5,205.90 EUR
CERI/DBU	2,000.00 EUR
BBI-MATRA project/Ukraine	2,000.00 EUR
WWF-DCP/MAVA project	33.31 EUR
Ramsar core budget (where applicable)	14,535.82 EUR
total	38,507.58 EUR

Financial balance on 31 December 2009: amount left to be carried over to 2010

Ramsar core budget – left from the first transfer	+ 6,648.30 EUR
- expected from the second transfer	10,230.00 EUR
Other sources - left	2,343.10 EUR

4. Work and activities planned for 2010

objectives	activities	results/outputs	indicators
1. Platform of basic data on wetlands	1.1 Organizing the CWI workshop	Meeting of experts on specific subject (e.g. wetlands and tourism) with recommendations	A number of experts and national focal points participating; report of the workshop, recommendations; workshop proceedings
	1.2 Distribution of the guidelines for wetland inventory, wetland inventories in countries, data storing, collection of information on research of wetlands and projects	Database on Carpathian wetlands established and filled in with data from wetland inventory, wetland research and projects on wetlands conservation, management and restoration	Database on Carpathian wetlands available
	1.3 Development of the Carpathian wetland handbook / classification system in all Carpathian languages	Draft Carpathian wetland handbook / classification system developed	The draft for consultation
	1.4 Coordination of research activities with the Science for Carpathians (S4C) initiative and participation in the 1 st Forum Carpathicum (Sept.2010, Krakow, Poland)	Presentation on CWI at the 1 st Forum Carpathicum (15-17 September 2010, Krakow, Poland) and suggestions for research	Report of the 1 st Forum Carpathicum
2. Platform for cooperation	2.1 Organizing of meetings and electronic communication and consultations of members of	One meeting of the CWI Board and electronic communication on relevant issues;	Report/minutes of the meetings with results achieved

	the CWI Board, participation in meetings of the Carpathian Convention bodies and other partners	presentations in meetings of the Carpathian Convention bodies and other partners	
	2.2 Establishment of a working group(s) of active practitioners, specialists and NGO representatives, national networks of experts and cooperating institutions	The working group and national networks established and communicated	The working group and national networks of experts and institutions on the web
	2.3 Involvement of administrations of protected areas in the CWI work and cooperation with the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA) and the DANUBEPARKS Network	Carpathian protected areas administrations contacted, informed and involved in the CWI projects, regular cooperation and information sharing with CNPA Steering Committee and DANUBEPARKS	A number of protected areas involved and informed
	2.4 Fund-raising and projects proposals for financing of the Initiative in consultation with national institutions	Project proposals for funding and involvement in project drafts	Project drafts submitted, involvement in different project proposals
3. Platform for integrated river basin management especially in shared catchments	3.1 Involvement in the preparation of relevant documents on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management of the Carpathian Convention	Documents developed, involvement in relevant projects	Documents, meeting reports
	3.2 Facilitation of bilateral consultations in shared wetlands and catchments on common objectives and principles of their management, participation in the Network of Transboundary Ramsar Sites initiative	Meetings of experts and relevant stakeholders, proposals for activities and projects	A number of meetings and reports
	3.3 Cooperation with ICPDR especially in the Tisa/Tisza River Basin and other IRBM projects	Meetings and communication outputs	Information distributed to partners
4. Platform for wetland restoration activities	4.1 Development of the wetland restoration strategies/policies	Draft wetland restoration strategy/policy in a country	Draft document
	4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration in Europe	Overview of wetland restoration guidelines and projects	Information on the web
	4.3 Development of the project proposal on inventory and control of invasive alien species in transborder catchments	Project proposal on invasive species	A project draft consulted
5. Platform for capacity building and public awareness	5.1 Development of the training programme on wetland management and restoration and support of other trainings	Training programme developed and participants supported	Training programme and a number of participants
	5.2 Establishment of a	Database with	Database on the web

	database of educational and training institutions and experts aimed at wetlands and communication with them	information established and communication	
	5.3 Maintenance of CWI web site and newsletter	Web site updated with relevant information	Web site with updated information
	5.4 Development of a brochure and leaflet on CWI and Carpathian wetlands, translation of relevant guidelines	A brochure and leaflet on CWI and the Carpathian wetlands and their functions and services, guidelines translated	Brochure and leaflet printed, guidelines in national languages and placed on the web
	5.5 Development of the programme of Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) within the CWI	CWI CEPA draft programme consulted with partners	Draft CWI CEPA programme on the web
	5.6 Participation in the Field Symposium of IMCG members in Slovakia and Poland (July 2010) and study tours	Information and promotion materials of the IMCG Field Symposium and study tours	A number of participants of the Symposium and study tours, reports
	5.7 Development of the Terms of Reference of the Carpathian Wetland Centre and establishment of the regional Wetland Centre, CWI coordination	Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Carpathian Wetland Centre, the Wetland Centre furnished and established with staff	ToR consulted with partners, Wetland Centre operating and working for coordination and promotion of CWI and training

5. Financial plan for the year 2010

activities	planned expenditures	expected income and source
1.1 Organizing the CWI workshop	12,000 EUR	9,000 EUR Ramsar budget 2,000 EUR MoEW Hungary 1,000 EUR SNC SR
1.2 Wetland inventory and database	6,500 EUR	4,500 EUR Ramsar budget 1,000 EUR CERI 1,000 EUR BBI-MATRA/Ukraine
1.3 Development of the Carpathian Wetland Handbook	3,400 EUR	2,200 EUR MoE CZ 1,200 EUR Ramsar budget
1.4 Cooperation with the S4C and participation in the Forum Carpaticum	1,000 EUR	1,000 EUR Ramsar budget
2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.1 Meetings of the CWI Board, working groups, the Carpathian Convention bodies and the CNPA	1,800 EUR	1,000 EUR Ramsar budget, 500 EUR WWF-DCP/UNEP ISCC 300 EUR SNC SR
2.4 Fund raising	1,100 EUR	1,000 EUR SNC SR 100 EUR Ramsar budget
3.2 Facilitation of bilateral consultations, participation in the Network of Transboundary Ramsar Sites	2,300 EUR	2,000 EUR Ramsar budget 300 EUR MoE CZ
3.3 Cooperation with ICPDR and IRBM projects	200 EUR	200 EUR Ramsar budget
4.1 Development of wetland restoration strategies	2,000 EUR	1,000 EUR Ramsar budget 1,000 EUR SNC SR

4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration	2,000 EUR	1,500 EUR Ramsar budget 500 EUR MoE CZ
4.3 Development of the project proposal on invasive species	100 EUR	100 EUR Ramsar budget
5.1 Training programme on wetland management	2,000 EUR	1,000 EUR MoE CZ 1,000 EUR Ramsar budget
5.3 Maintenance of CWI web site and newsletter	500 EUR	300 EUR Ramsar budget 200 EUR SNC SR
5.4 Development and printing of publications, translations	5,000 EUR	4,000 EUR Ramsar budget 1,000 EUR SNC SR
5.5 Development of CEPA programme	200 EUR	200 EUR MoE CZ
5.6 Participation in the IMCG Field Symposium and study tours	1,000 EUR	1,000 EUR Ramsar budget
5.7 Development of the ToR of the Carpathian Wetland Centre and its establishment, CWI coordination	35,000 EUR	14,000 EUR Ramsar budget 21,000 EUR SNC SR
total	76,100 EUR	41,900 EUR Ramsar budget 25,500 EUR SNC SR 4,200 EUR MoE CZ 2,000 EUR MoEW Hungary 1,000 EUR CERI 1,000 EUR BBI-MATRA/ Ukraine 500 EUR WWF-DCP/UNEP ISCC
Requested from Ramsar core budget in 2010		25,000 EUR
Unspent from Ramsar core budget 2009		16,900 EUR

It is proposed to use the amount left (about 16,900 EUR) in 2010 for the activities not completed in 2009 and for the additional activities planned for 2010.

The funding from the Ramsar core budget helped to organize the first Carpathian Wetland Conference and to set up the organizational and planning basis of the Carpathian Wetland Initiative as well as the future Carpathian Wetland Centre, and in defining challenges and priorities for cooperation within CWI. It helped in development of international collaboration not only in the Carpathian region, but in wider context and it helped in providing co-financing from other sources and projects.

Jan Kadlecik
CWI co-ordinator
State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic

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Acronyms:

ALPARC	Alpine Network of Protected Areas
BBI-MATRA	International Policy Programme Biodiversity of the Dutch Government
CEPA	Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness programme
CERI	Carpathian EcoRegion Initiative
CNPA	Carpathian Network of Protected Areas
DBU	Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt foundation
MoE CZ	Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic
MoEW Hungary	Ministry of Environment and Water Hungary
SNC SR	State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic
UNEP ISCC	UNEP Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention
WWF-DCP	WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme