

**Combined annual reporting and forward planning format
for Ramsar Regional Initiatives (Annex I of DOC. SC41-13)**

Annual Summary Report for Year 2011 and Plan for Year 2012

(4 pages maximum)

1. Title of your Regional Initiative: *Carpathian Wetland Initiative*

2. Work and activities undertaken during Year 2011

objectives	activities	results/outputs	indicators
1. Platform of basic data on wetlands	1.1 Organizing the CWI conference at the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Ramsar Convention	“Wetlands for the Future” conference was held on 19 th -21 st May 2011 in Banská Bystrica, Slovakia; 100 representatives of 3 Carpathian countries attended (SK, PL, UA), together with representatives of UNEP ISCC, WWF-DCP as well as an Expert from MedWet and representatives of NGOs; Topics presented and discussed were wetland inventory and management in the Carpathian region.	Presentations of the conference available at http://www.cwi.sk/documents.php ;
	1.2 Testing of the guidelines for wetland inventory, data storing, collection of information on research of wetlands and projects; methodological recommendations	Methodology for Wetland Inventory and Online Form for data collection elaborated, training for users held in Banska Bystrica, and in the process of testing in Slovakia	Methodology for Wetland Inventory distributed to administrations of protected areas, a number of sites registered
	1.3 Development of the Carpathian wetland handbook / classification system, identification of endangered habitats and species; development of the book on potential Carpathian Ramsar sites and valuable wetlands	Draft methodology for Carpathian Red List of habitats and species and Carpathian Wetland Handbook being elaborated with the help of BIOREGIO Carpathians Project; the draft methodology was submitted and commented by the Carpathian countries, the Handbook will be elaborated by the end of 2012	Draft methodology consulted during meetings
	1.4 Coordination of research activities with the Science for Carpathians (S4C) initiative and with national institutions	Communication with the S4C initiative, meeting with representatives of S4C during COP3 of the Carpathian Convention (May 2011, Bratislava); invitation received for Forum Carpaticum 2012, registration	www.forumcarpaticum.org
2. Platform for cooperation	2.1 CWI Board members updating, electronic communication and consultations; Organizing of the meeting of the CWI Board during 7th European Regional Ramsar Meeting (Sept. 2011, SK) with celebration of the 40 th Ramsar anniversary; participation in meetings of the Carpathian Convention bodies (including COP3 in Bratislava, SK) and of other partners (WI)	Meeting with members of the CWI Board during various events; electronic communication on relevant issues; discussions in meetings of the Carpathian and Ramsar Convention bodies and other partners (WWF PoWPA workshop, 1-3 March 2011, Wolkersdorf, AT; CC COP3 25-27 May 2011, Bratislava, SK; BIOREGIO Kick-off meeting, 27-28 July 2011 Zarnesti, RO; European Ramsar Meeting 27-30 Sept 2011 Trnava, SK; WI General Meeting, 21-26 Feb 2011, Edinburgh, UK); CWI issues and interests are incorporated in BIOREGIO Carpathians project (integrated wetland management measures)	Reports/minutes of the meetings with results achieved, documents (www.carpathianconvention.org ; www.ramsar.org)

	2.2 Establishment of a working group(s) of active practitioners, specialists and NGO representatives, national networks of experts and cooperating institutions, exchange of experts	The CWI Board members asked for nominations of representatives to working groups and national networks	List of experts and contact persons
	2.3 Involvement of administrations of protected areas in the CWI work and cooperation with the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA), the DANUBEPARKS Network and the Trilateral Ramsar Platform (AT-CZ-SK), stakeholders involvement	Participation in meetings and workshops within CNPA, Trilateral Ramsar Platform, EUROPARC Federation - exchange of information and experience (Ramsar SK-AT project cooperation, 24 Feb. 2011, Hohenau, AT; WWF PA4LP Carpathian Eco-region project, 1-3 March 2011, Wolkersdorf, AT; 15-17 Feb. 2012, Vienna, AT; Transboundary projects AT-SK-CZ, 9 March 2011, Durnkrut, AT; Ecological Network in the Carpathian PAs, Sustainable financing of Carpathian PAs, EUROPARC sustainable tourism conference - 20 June-2 July 2011, RO and RS; Trilateral Ramsar Platform, 1 Dec. 2011, Mikulov, CZ).	Reports/minutes of the meetings and workshops (www.march-thaya-auen.at , www.europarc.org)
	2.4 Fund-raising and projects proposals for financing of the Initiative in consultation with national institutions	Participation in BIOREGIO Carpathians project (SEE Programme, all 7 Carpathian countries involved) and in the project Development of nature conservation and of protected areas in the Slovak Carpathians (Swiss Financial Mechanism).	Projects being implemented. Project Application on www.cwi.sk .
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	The issue was discussed during COP3 of the Carpathian Convention, CWI included in the Platform on Ecological Connectivity in the Carpathians, adopted by COP3, CWI included in other decisions of COP3.	www.carpathianconvention.org
	3.2 Facilitation of bilateral consultations in shared wetlands and catchments on common objectives and principles of their management, pilot project, support of the Network of Transboundary Ramsar Sites initiative, cooperation with ICPDR	Communication with partners in Ukraine, negotiations on transboundary projects (Management of transboundary Ramsar Sites in Latorica and Tisza basin, 16th June 2011, Uzhgorod, UA); consultations with Trilateral Ramsar Platform Morava-Dyje-Danube; Joint Declaration between the Danube River Protection Convention and the Carpathians Convention adopted in April 2011, which will enhance joint programming with ICPDR.	Draft partner agreements, list of proposed themes for projects; www.carpathianconvention.org
4. Platform for wetland restoration activities	4.1 Development of the wetland restoration strategies/policies, data on continuity and connectivity	Draft wetland restoration strategy/policy included in the project Wetlands management in Slovakia (2009-2012), data on continuity and connectivity to be gained through BIOREGIO project	Draft document will be developed by end 2012
	4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration in Europe	Consultations on wetland restoration guidelines and projects with the Czech Republic in June 2011	Information on the web
	4.3 Implementation of the project on inventory and control of invasive alien species in transborder catchments	The subject of inventory of invasive alien species in all Carpathian countries is included in the BIOREGIO project, SNC SR is a leader of the workpackage working on Red Lists of threatened species and habitats and List of Invasive Species	Project being implemented, methodology for the development of the list of invasive species elaborated and discussed

5. Platform for capacity building and public awareness	5.1 Development of the training programme on wetland management and restoration, establishment of a database of educational and training institutions and experts aimed at wetlands and communication with them	The training programme will be consulted in March 2012 with the Czech Ministry of Environment	
	5.2 Wetland management training for wetland managers in the Czech Republic (Sept. 2011), support of other trainings and study tours	Czech Ramsar Committee Study tour in Slovak Ramsar sites was organized on 13-18 June 2011, SK; CWI supported the participation of trainees from Carpathian countries in the International training course "Management of Protected Areas" in the University of Klagenfurt (AT) and the International training course "Wetlands as Waterfowl Habitats", 12-16 Sept 2011, Lednice, CZ.	Information on www.cwi.sk
	5.3 Maintenance of CWI web site and newsletter	Website updated with relevant information. Its own domain registered.	www.cwi.sk
	5.4 Printing of a brochure and leaflet on CWI and Carpathian wetlands, translation of relevant guidelines	Enviromagazine on wetlands and CWI printed in Slovak and English language, distributed at various occasions to the Carpathian and Ramsar partners.	Enviromagazin printed – electronic version on www.cwi.sk
	5.5 Development of the programme of Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) within the CWI	The draft CEPA programme will be consulted in March 2012	
	5.6 Art competition "Small Eco-poster" on the theme "wetlands" for children of the Carpathian countries on occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Ramsar Convention	CWI supported the 12 th triennial international exhibition and competition of issued posters EKOPLAGÁT 2011, organized in cooperation with the Slovak MoE, SNC SR, Mala Fatra NP Administration, dedicated to 40 th anniversary of the Ramsar Convention, where 73 authors from 21 countries submitted 180 posters. CWI awarded the poster "Peace for Environment, Dedicated to the 40 th Anniversary of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)" of Marcin Urbanczyk from Poland	Exhibition in Považská Gallery of Art in Žilina (vernissage on 3 Nov 2011), catalogue of posters printed; Information on www.cwi.sk and www.npmalafatra.sk/skola-ochrany-prirody/ekoplagat/a2011/
	5.7 Training of environmental education specialists on the educational programme World of the Carpathians.	Organization of the training and co-funding was discussed with potential partners, but it will be done in spring 2012 due to administrative and capacity reasons and suitable season.	
	5.8 Development of the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Carpathian Wetland Centre and establishment of the regional Wetland Centre, building of its	The Slovak State Nature Conservancy Directorate provided a building (room space) in Banská Bystrica for starting of the operation of the Carpathian Wetland Centre; due to frequent changes in management and funding of the organization the start of the operation has been postponed; The ToR will be	Building and some furniture and equipment available, Wetland Centre will be operating and working for coordination and promotion of CWI and training from April 2012.

	library, CWI coordination	consulted by the mid of 2012. Small restoration works in the facility. Establishment of the Wetland Centre and its furnishing is included in the project of the Swiss Financial Mechanism and Structural Funds. One staff member of the SNC SR was employed as assistant of the CWI coordinator to support the implementation of the CWI work plan with funding from the CWI budget.	
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3. Financial report for Year 2011

If you use another currency than Swiss Franc (CHF), please provide an average **exchange rate to the CHF**: 1.19

Activities	Planned expenditures	Actual expenditure (EUR)
1.1 Organizing the CWI conference	13,700 EUR	14,974.79
1.2 Wetland inventory and database	14,000 EUR	24,171.00
1.3 Development of the Carpathian Wetland Handbook and Carpathian Red lists of species and habitats, book on Carpathian wetlands	7,200 EUR	3,549.45
1.4 Coordination of research with the S4C and national institutions	1,000 EUR	150.00
2.1 CWI Board members meetings during various events, celebration of Ramsar 40, Carpathian Convention COP3	6,000 EUR	3,480.85
2.2 Working Groups, exchange of experts	3,500 EUR	0
2.3 Cooperation with CNPA, DANUBEPARKS and Trilateral Ramsar Platform	3,600 EUR	5,273.11
2.4 Fund raising	1,100 EUR	0
3.1 Cooperation on documents on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management	2,000 EUR	0
3.2 Facilitation of bilateral consultations in shared wetlands, support of the Network of Transboundary Ramsar Sites, cooperation with ICPDR	5,700 EUR	609.11
4.1 Development of wetland restoration strategies, data on continuity and connectivity	3,500 EUR	0
4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration	1,500 EUR	0
4.3 Implementation of the project proposal on invasive species	2,100 EUR	10,152.50
5.1 Training programme on wetland management, database of educational and training institutions and experts	1,500 EUR	1,992.30
5.2 Wetland management training, support of other trainings and study tours	9,900 EUR	8,443.12
5.3 Maintenance of CWI web site and newsletter	400 EUR	0
5.4 Printing of publications, translations	5,000 EUR	0
5.5 Development of CEPA programme	1,500 EUR	0
5.6 Children art competition Eco-poster and calendar	6,000 EUR	4,301.30
5.7 Training World of the Carpathians	7,000 EUR	0
5.8 Development of the ToR of the Carpathian Wetland Centre and its establishment, CWI coordination	28,000 EUR	11,464.76
total	124,200 EUR	88,562.29

sources of income (donors)	income received (EUR)
SNC SR	27,963.63
MoE Czech Republic	6,851.64
MoE Hungary	239.80
MoE Slovak Republic	1,250.00
WWF-DCP	280.00
BIOREGIO Carpathians project	13,477.50
ALPARC	200.00
WI	400.00
Self-government of region Banska Bystrica	200.00
UNDP/GEF project RO	200.00
Ramsar core budget	37,499.72
Total	88,562.29

Financial balance on 29 February 2012: amount left to be carried over to 2012.

Ramsar core budget 8,288.11 €

CWI budget from Hungary 5,716,78 €

CWI budget from Czech Republic 4,347,77 €

4. Work and activities planned for Year 2012

objectives	activities	results/outputs	indicators
1. Platform of basic data on wetlands	1.1 Testing of the guidelines for wetland inventory, data storing, collection of information on research of wetlands and projects; methodological recommendations	Database on Carpathian wetlands established and filled in with data from wetland inventory, database on wetland research and projects on wetlands conservation, management and restoration; prepared methodological toolkit on Ramsar Sites establishment for Carpathian region	Database on Carpathian wetlands available on the web site; prepared toolkit
	1.2 Development of the Carpathian wetland handbook / classification system, identification of endangered habitats and species; implementation of the project on inventory and control of invasive alien species in transborder catchments; development of the book on potential Carpathian Ramsars sites and valuable wetlands	Draft Carpathian wetland handbook / classification system developed; draft methodology for Carpathian Red List of habitats and species; coordination of the IAS inventory with BIOREGIO project; information on biota of valuable wetland sites	The drafts for consultation; database of invasive alien species; prepared book
	1.3 Coordination of research activities with the Science for Carpathians (S4C) initiative, regional projects and with national institutions	Information on research of wetlands, experts and on projects; active participation, presentation in Forum Carpaticum conference (May/June 2012, Stara Lesna, SK)	Information available on the web site
2. Platform for cooperation	2.1 CWI Board members and experts updating, electronic communication and consultations; Establishment of a working group(s) of active practitioners, specialists and NGO representatives, national networks of experts and cooperating institutions, exchange of experts; Organizing of the meeting of the CWI Board during Ramsar Convention COP11 (July 2012, Bucharest, Romania); participation in meetings of the Carpathian Convention bodies (including Biodiversity WG in Banska Bystrica, SK) and of other partners (WI)	List of CWI Focal Points; Presentations during important meetings; The working group and national networks established and communicated, national experts and Ramsar committees exchange One meeting of the CWI Board and electronic communication on relevant issues; presentations in meetings of the Carpathian Convention bodies and other partners	List of national CWI focal points; Report/minutes of the meetings with results achieved; the working group and national networks of experts and institutions on the web, report of the exchange of experts and members of the Ramsar committees of the Carpathian countries
	2.2 Involvement of administrations of protected areas in the CWI work and cooperation with the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA),	Carpathian protected areas administrations contacted, informed and involved in the CWI projects, regular cooperation and information sharing with CNPA Steering	A number of protected areas involved and informed; project results

	the DANUBEPARKS Network and the Trilateral Ramsar Platform (AT-CZ-SK), Convention on Biodiversity, stakeholders involvement	Committee, DANUBEPARKS, Trilateral Ramsar Platform, CBD bodies and programmes and other networks and projects	
	2.3 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, communication with the Carpathian Convention secretariat	Documents, meeting reports
	3.2 Organizing the CWI workshop on integrated river basin management; Facilitation of bilateral consultations in shared wetlands and catchments on common objectives and principles of their management, pilot project, support of the Network of Transboundary Ramsar Sites initiative, cooperation with ICPDR	Meetings of experts and relevant stakeholders on integrated river basin management and guidelines developed for Carpathian protected areas; relevant projects implementation	A number of experts and national focal points participating; report of the workshop, recommendations; guidelines; results of the project, information distributed to partners
4. Platform for wetland restoration activities	4.1 Development of the wetland restoration strategies/policies, data on continuity and connectivity, meetings	Draft wetland restoration strategy/policy in a country, data on barriers, meetings on the topic	Draft document
	4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration in Europe	Study tours to wetland restoration examples; overview of wetland restoration guidelines and projects	Report of the study tour; information on the web
5. Platform for capacity building and public awareness	5.1 Development of the training programme on wetland management and restoration, establishment of a database of educational and training institutions and experts aimed at wetlands and communication with them; Development of the programme of Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) within the CWI	Training programme developed, database with information established and communication; CWI CEPA draft programme consulted with partners and existing Ramsar CEPA programme	Training programme; database on the web site; draft CWI CEPA programme on the web
	5.2 Training of environmental education specialists on the educational programme World of the Carpathians in Slovakia	Environmental education specialists of the Carpathian protected areas trained and provided with the handbook	A number of environmental education specialists trained and information on the web
	5.3 Printing of a brochure and leaflet on CWI and Carpathian wetlands, translation of relevant guidelines; Maintenance of CWI web site and newsletter	A brochure and leaflet on CWI and the Carpathian wetlands and their functions and services, guidelines translated; web site updated with relevant information	Brochure and leaflet printed, guidelines in national languages and placed on the web; web site with updated information
	5.4 Development of the Terms of Reference (ToR)	ToR consulted with partners, the Wetland Centre	ToR of the Carpathian Wetland Centre, Wetland Centre operating

	of the Carpathian Wetland Centre and establishment of the regional Wetland Centre, building of its library, CWI coordination	reconstructed, furnished and established with staff, Carpathian wetland library supplemented	and working for coordination and promotion of CWI and training
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5. Financial plan for the year 2012

average exchange rate to the CHF: 1,21

activities	planned expenditures	expected income (EUR) and source
1.1 Wetland inventory and database	18,000 EUR	15,000 SNC SR 3,000 BIOREGIO project
1.2 Development of the Carpathian Wetland Handbook, Carpathian Red lists of species and habitats, list of invasive alien species, book on Carpathian wetlands	12,000 EUR	5,000 Ramsar budget 1,000 SNC SR 6,000 BIOREGIO project
1.3 Coordination of research with the S4C, projects and national institutions, Forum Carpaticum	1,000 EUR	500 Ramsar budget 500 BIOREGIO project
2.1 CWI Board members meetings during various events, Ramsar COP11, Carpathian Convention meetings; working groups, exchange of experts	4,700 EUR	1,500 Ramsar budget 1,000 SNC SR 500 MoE CZ 1,000 CWI budget HU 500 UNEP ISCC 200 WWF-DCP
2.2 Cooperation with CNPA, DANUBEPARKS and Trilateral Ramsar Platform	3,800 EUR	1,000 Ramsar budget 1,000 SNC SR 1,000 MoE CZ 500 BIOREGIO project 300 BfN DE
2.3 Fund raising	800 EUR	700 SNC SR 100 Ramsar budget
3.1 Cooperation on documents on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management	2,000 EUR	500 Ramsar budget 1,000 BIOREGIO project 500 UNEP ISCC
3.2 Organizing the CWI workshop, facilitation of bilateral consultations in shared wetlands, support of the Network of Transboundary Ramsar Sites, cooperation with ICPDR	8,800 EUR	1,500 Ramsar budget 1,000 SNC SR 5,000 BIOREGIO project 1,000 CWI budget HU 300 CWI budget CZ
4.1 Development of wetland restoration strategies, data on continuity and connectivity, meetings	3,500 EUR	500 Ramsar budget 1,000 SNC SR 2,000 BIOREGIO project
4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration	2,500 EUR	500 Ramsar budget 500 MoE CZ 1,000 CWI budget CZ 500 SNC SR
5.1 Training programme on wetland management, database of educational and training institutions and experts, development of CEPA programme	3,000 EUR	500 CWI budget HU 1,000 CWI budget CZ 1,000 MoE CZ 500 SNC SR
5.2 Training World of the Carpathians	7,000 EUR	6,000 Ramsar budget 500 Daphne 500 SNC SR
5.3 Printing of publications, translations, maintenance of CWI web site and newsletter	5,000 EUR	4,000 Ramsar budget 1,000 SNC SR
5.4 Development of the ToR of the Carpathian Wetland Centre and its establishment, CWI coordination	11,000 EUR	1,000 Ramsar budget 10,000 SNC SR
total	83,100 EUR	22,100 Ramsar budget 33,200 SNC SR 18,000 BIOREGIO project 3,000 MoE CZ 2,300 CWI budget CZ

		2,500	CWI budget HU
		200	WWF-DCP
		1,000	UNEP ISCC
		500	Daphne
		300	BfN DE
Requested from Ramsar core budget in 2012		13,800 EUR	
Total unspent from Ramsar core budget 2011		8,288,11 EUR	

It is proposed to use the amount left (8,288 EUR) in 2012 for the activities not completed in 2011 and for the additional activities planned for 2012.

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

29 February 2012

Acronyms:

AT	Austria
ALPARC	Alpine Network of Protected Areas
BfN	German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation
CEPA	Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness programme
CNPA	Carpathian Network of Protected Areas
COP3	3 rd Meeting of the Conference of Contracting Parties
CWI	Carpathian Wetland Initiative
CZ	Czech Republic
Daphne	Institute of Applied Ecology Bratislava
HU	Hungary
ICPDR	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
MoE	Ministry of Environment
PL	Poland
RO	Romania
RS	Serbia
SK	Slovakia
SNC SR	State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic
ToR	Terms of reference
UA	Ukraine
UNEP ISCC	UNEP Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention
WG	Working Group
WI	Wetlands International
WWF-DCP	WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme