

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

2. Work and activities undertaken during 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 in preparation	Database on Carpathian wetlands being developed; staff members of protected areas administrations continue in wetlands inventory in the field
	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 Ramsar sites and valuable wetlands	Public procurement for development of the Carpathian wetland handbook and for methodology for Carpathian Red List of habitats in process; methodology for identification of threatened species developed, work on red lists of plants and animals in all countries; coordination of the IAS inventory with BIOREGIO project; information on biota of valuable wetland sites collected	Database of threatened species and invasive alien species being developed; minutes of meetings on red lists and IAS; on-line forms available
	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 collected; active participation, presentation in Forum Carpaticum conference (May/June 2012, Stara Lesna, SK)	Participation at the Forum Carpaticum, Stará Lesná, Slovakia; report of the conference
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 COP11 (July 2012, Bucharest, Romania); participation in meetings of the Carpathian Convention bodies (including Biodiversity WG) and of other partners (WI)	List of CWI Focal Points; working group on wetlands established within BioREGIO project and national networks established and communicated, national experts and Ramsar committees exchange (especially CZ). One meeting of the CWI Board (6.7.2012, Bucharest, RO) and electronic communication on relevant issues; presentations in meetings of the Carpathian Convention bodies and other partners	Participation at the COP11, Bucharest, Romania, 4-14.7.2012, report of the CWI meeting; minutes of other meetings
	2.2 Involvement of administrations of protected areas in the CWI work and cooperation with the Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA), the DANUBEPARKS	Carpathian protected areas administrations contacted, informed and involved in the CWI projects, involvement in preparation of the 2 nd CNPA conference in April 2013 with CWI	Bilateral protected areas and Ramsar sites involved in activities within BioREGIO project; involvement in the CNPA conference; involvement in project on

	Network and the Trilateral Ramsar Platform (AT-CZ-SK), Convention on Biodiversity, stakeholders involvement	side event; regular cooperation and information sharing with CNPA Steering Committee, DANUBEPARKS, Trilateral Ramsar Platform, CBD bodies and programmes and other networks and projects (EUROPARC, MaB)	governance of protected areas in Eastern Europe
	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 (Governance of protected areas in Eastern Europe; Capacity building in protected areas); involvement in BioREGIO project	Project drafts submitted, information on BioREGIO project; participation in project meetings
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	Presentation and questionnaire developed on integrated wetland management, needs and priorities within BioREGIO project; Study under development; participation in meetings, communication with the Carpathian Convention secretariat	Questionnaire distributed and results elaborated, draft study, 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	Preparation of the CWI workshop (it will be organized on 24.4.2013 in Tatranska Javorina, SK); bilateral consultations with Polish and Hungarian experts in transborder areas; meetings of stakeholders on integrated river basin management in HU, RO and SK within BioREGIO project; guidelines being developed for Carpathian protected areas	Meetings of experts and stakeholders; reports of the meetings
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 being developed within a project in SK;	
	4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration in Europe	Participation in conferences in CZ (Oct., Nov. 2012)	Conference documents
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 CEPA programme within the CWI	Involvement in a project on capacity building plans for efficient protected area management in Eastern Europe, participation in a meeting and in training and capacity needs assessment	Meeting and project documents
	5.2 Training of environmental education specialists on the educational programme World of the Carpathians in Slovakia	Public procurement for training of environmental education specialists of the Carpathian protected areas made, contract prepared, the training will be organized in spring 2013	Documentation of the public procurement on training, contract
	5.3 Printing of a brochure and leaflet on CWI and Carpathian	A brochure and leaflet on CWI and the Carpathian wetlands and their	web site with updated information

	wetlands, translation of relevant guidelines; Maintenance of CWI web site and newsletter	functions and services will be printed depending on funds available	
	5.4 Development of the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Carpathian Wetland Centre and establishment of the regional Wetland Centre, building of its library, CWI coordination	The Wetland Centre reconstructed, partly furnished and established with (voluntary) staff, Carpathian wetland library supplemented	Wetland Centre operating and working for coordination and promotion of CWI and training

3. Financial report for Year 2012

Summary of income and expenditures. Average exchange rate to CHF: 1,2

Activities	Planned expenditures	Actual expenditure (EUR)
1.1 Wetland inventory and database	18,000 EUR	40,000.00
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	8,991.00
1.3 Coordination of research with the S4C, projects and national institutions, Forum Carpaticum	1,000 EUR	201.13
2.1 CWI Board members meetings, Ramsar COP11, Carpathian Convention meetings; working groups, exchange of experts	4,700 EUR	3,141.17
2.2 Cooperation with CNPA, DANUBEPARKS and Trilateral Ramsar Platform	3,800 EUR	1,702.92
2.3 Fund raising and project proposals	800 EUR	0,00
3.1 Cooperation on documents on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management	2,000 EUR	1,812.50
3.2 Organizing the CWI workshop, facilitation of bilateral consultations, support of the Network of Transboundary Ramsar Sites, cooperation with ICPDR	8,800 EUR	1,262.21
4.1 Development of wetland restoration strategies, data on continuity and connectivity, meetings	3,500 EUR	1,197.73
4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration	2,500 EUR	788.27
5.1 Training programme on wetland management, database of educational and training institutions and experts, development of CEPA programme	3,000 EUR	595.00
5.2 Training World of the Carpathians	7,000 EUR	268.79
5.3 Printing of publications, translations, maintenance of CWI web site and newsletter	5,000 EUR	0,00
5.4 Development of the ToR of the Carpathian Wetland Centre and its establishment, CWI coordination	11,000 EUR	2,337.23
Total	83,100 EUR	62,297.95

Sources of income	Income received (EUR)
SNC SR	45,687.86
MoE Czech Republic	1,356.29
MoE Hungary	153.80
MoE Romania	150.00
WWF DCP	190.00
BioREGIO Carpathians project	11,250.21
BfN DE	500,00
Ramsar core budget (where applicable)	3,009.79
Total	62,297.95

Financial balance at 31 January 2013: amount left to be carried over to 2013
Ramsar core budget 13,388.02 € (8,109.70 received in 2012)
(+5,363 expected for second installment of 2012 not received yet)
CWI budget from Hungary 5,712.98 €
CWI budget from the Czech Republic 3,341.48 €

The Ramsar funding was spent mostly for travel expenses for meetings (1,978.77 EUR), Carpathian Wetland Centre establishment and maintenance (762,23 EUR) and training activities (268,79 EUR). Because of late transfer of funds from the Ramsar budget (October 2012) and complicated and long time requiring public procurement procedures in the coordinating agency (some of public procurement procedures were completed only in December 2012, some are still not finished yet, e.g. printing, methodologies development) we were not able to organize some important activities planned for 2012, especially the training “World of the Carpathians” (Act. 5.2) depending on suitable conditions for the training activities in the field; now there is signed contract for this activity, which is planned for May 2013. The Carpathian Wetland Handbook (Act. 1.2) will be prepared in spring 2013. The CWI workshop (Act. 3.2) is planned for 24 April 2013 in Slovakia with co-financing from other sources. It is proposed to use the amount left (about 18,751 EUR) in 2013 for the activities not completed in 2012 and for the additional activities planned for 2013 according to the plan below.

4. Work and activities planned for Year 2013

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 and of invasive alien species	Draft Carpathian wetland handbook / classification system developed; Carpathian Red List of habitats and species and the List of the IAS (coordination with BIOREGIO project); information on biota of valuable wetland sites	The drafts for consultation; database of invasive alien species
	1.3 Coordination of research activities with the Science for Carpathians (S4C) initiative, regional projects (e.g. on climate change) and with national institutions	Information on research of wetlands, experts and on projects, involvement in projects	Information available on the web site
2. Platform for cooperation	2.1 CWI Board members and experts updating, electronic communication and consultations; Involvement of working group(s) of active practitioners, specialists and NGO representatives, national networks of experts and cooperating institutions, exchange of experts; Organizing	List of CWI Focal Points; Presentations during important meetings; The working group and national networks 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	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

	of the meeting of the CWI Board during the CNPA conference (April 2013, Tatranska Javorina, SK); participation in meetings of the Carpathian Convention bodies (including Biodiversity WG) and of other partners (WI, ICPDR)	Convention bodies and other partners	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), the DANUBEPARKS Network, the Trilateral Ramsar Platform (A-CZ-SK), WWF-DCP, Convention on Biodiversity; stakeholders involvement	Carpathian protected areas administrations informed and involved in the CWI projects, regular cooperation and information sharing with CNPA Steering Committee, DANUBEPARKS, Trilateral Ramsar Platform, WWF-DCP, CBD bodies and programmes and other networks and projects	A number of protected areas involved and informed; project results
	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; analysis of funding opportunities for small grants	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 wetland management (High Tatras, SK, April 2013) and workshop on hydropower; Facilitation of bilateral consultations in shared wetlands and catchments on common objectives and principles of their management, pilot project, cooperation with ICPDR	Meetings of experts and relevant stakeholders on integrated wetland management and on hydropower generation and barriers on streams; guidelines developed for Carpathian protected areas; relevant projects implementation	A number of experts and national focal points participating; report of the workshops, 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; wetland restoration activities	Draft wetland restoration strategy/policy in a country, data on barriers, meetings on the topic; small restoration activities	Draft document; meeting minutes; report on activities
	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 Participation in a project on capacity building in protected areas; 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	Results of a study on capacity building in Eastern Europe; Training programme developed, database with information established and communication; CWI CEPA draft programme consulted with partners and existing Ramsar CEPA programme	Questionnaire, study; Training programme; database on the web site; draft CWI CEPA programme on the web

	with them; Development of the programme of Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) within the CWI		
	5.2 Training of environmental education specialists on the educational programme World of the Carpathians in Slovakia (May 2013); support of other trainings	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) of the Carpathian Wetland Centre and operation of the regional Wetland Centre, building of its library, human capacities, CWI coordination	ToR consulted with partners, the Wetland Centre improved, Carpathian wetland library supplemented, staff supported	ToR of the Carpathian Wetland Centre, Wetland Centre operating and working for coordination and promotion of CWI and training

The initiative is requesting funding from the Convention for 2013, financial summary of 2013 plan. An average exchange rate to allow conversion into CHF: 1,23

Activities	Forecast/budgeted expenditures real expenditures
1.1 Wetland inventory and database	20,000 EUR
1.2 Development of the Carpathian Wetland Handbook, Carpathian Red lists of species and habitats, list of invasive alien species	9,000 EUR
1.3 Coordination of research with the S4C, projects and national institutions	1,000 EUR
2.1 CWI Board members meetings during various events, Carpathian Convention meetings; working groups, exchange of experts	4,700 EUR
2.2 Cooperation with CNPA, DANUBEPARKS, WWF-DCP and Trilateral Ramsar Platform	3,700 EUR
2.3 Fund raising	500 EUR
3.1 Cooperation on documents on sustainable and integrated water/river basin management	2,000 EUR
3.2 Organizing the CWI workshops, facilitation of bilateral consultations in shared wetlands, support of the Network of Transboundary Ramsar Sites, cooperation with ICPDR	16,000 EUR
4.1 Development of wetland restoration strategies, data on continuity and connectivity, meetings, restoration activities	4,000 EUR
4.2 Sharing experience on wetland restoration	2,000 EUR
5.1 Training programme on wetland management, database of educational and training institutions and experts, development of CEPA programme	3,500 EUR
5.2 Training World of the Carpathians and other trainings	12,000 EUR
5.3 Printing of publications, translations, maintenance of CWI web site and newsletter	5,000 EUR
5.4 Development of the ToR of the Carpathian Wetland Centre and its establishment, CWI coordination	15,000 EUR
Total	98,400 EUR

Sources of income	Forecast/budgeted amount of income
SNC SR	32,900 EUR
BioREGIO project	20,000 EUR
MoE CZ	3,000 EUR
MoE SK	1,000 EUR
CWI budget CZ	1,800 EUR
CWI budget HU	2,500 EUR
WWF-DCP	1,600 EUR
UNEP-ISCC	3,000 EUR
Daphne	500 EUR
Visegrád Fund	2,000 EUR
BfN DE	500 EUR
Unspent Ramsar budget	18,751 EUR
Request from Ramsar core budget	10,849 EUR
Total	98,400 EUR

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

31 January 2013

Acronyms:

AT	Austria
BfN DE	German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation
CEPA	Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness programme
CNPA	Carpathian Network of Protected Areas
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
RO	Romania
SK	Slovakia
SNC SR	State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic
ToR	Terms of reference
UNEP ISCC	UNEP Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention
WG	Working Group
WI	Wetlands International
WWF-DCP	WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme

**Questionnaire for Regional Initiatives
which apply for endorsement by Standing Committee to be recognized as
“operating in the framework of the Ramsar Convention 2013-2015”**

QUESTIONNAIRE

The aim of your Regional Initiative (current points 1-4 of the Operational Guidelines)

1. Did your initiative receive written support from all of the Contracting Parties concerned by the regional scope of your initiative?

Yes No

2. Please list all countries (Contracting Parties and Non-CPs) to be covered by the geographical scope of your initiative, and specify those countries who have not yet provided written support:

Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Ukraine

Please specify those countries who have not provided written support yet, but are nevertheless participating in the activities of your initiative:

NA; we have written support also from cooperating partners.

3. Has your initiative made optimal use of the Ramsar tools (e.g. Handbooks and Technical Reports), please list the tools used:

The tools were used during preparation of the initiative for endorsement (on international cooperation), many of them (e.g. on wise use of wetlands, river basin management, wetland inventory, on managing wetlands, designating Ramsar Sites, wetland CEPA) are used during implementation of annual work plans, projects (e.g. BioREGIO project), trainings; in the work plans we would like to translate some relevant Ramsar tools into national languages.

4. Are the strategic and operational targets of your initiatives fully aligned with the Convention’s Strategic Plan, please explain how this is done:

The strategic and operational targets were developed from the Ramsar Strategic Plan in 2009 and aligning can be found at http://www.carpathianconvention.org/tl_files/carpathiancon/Downloads/03%20Meetings%20and%20Events/COP/2008_COP2_Bucharest/COP2_Annex/5WorkPlanoftheCarpathianWetlandInitiativeforperiod2009.pdf

Coordination between Regional Initiatives and the Secretariat (current points 5-10 of the Op. Guid.)

5. Do you consider the frequency and nature of your contacts with the Convention Secretariat to be optimal? If not, please indicate if Secretariat assistance should be increased (in which way) or decreased (by lowering which support?):

The cooperation is based on Memorandum of Cooperation between the Convention on Wetlands and UNEP Vienna - Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention of 2006

http://www.cwi.sk/files/Annex1_MoU_RAMSAR_UNEP_ISCC.pdf). The contacts with the Ramsar Secretariat are according to mutual needs.

Governance of the initiatives (current points 11-13 of the OG)

6. Does your initiative have a written set of operational procedures established in an equitable and transparent way (terms of reference, rules of procedure, etc.), please list them:

The Terms of Reference are officially approved by the CWI and the Carpathian Convention bodies since 2007 and can be found at http://www.cwi.sk/files/Annex4_CWIToRs.pdf, or http://www.carpathianconvention.org/tl_files/carpathiancon/Downloads/01%20The%20Convention/1.3.4.2.2%20CWIToRs.pdf

7. Has a governance body been established, when, and how often has it met, please its name, membership and meeting dates:

Established was the CNPA Board, meeting regularly at least once a year, usually during regional meetings and COPs, different workshops and conferences, since 2004 (Brezovica 2004, Yerevan 2004, Evian 2006, Stockholm 2008, Changwon 2008, Tatranska Strba 2009, Rytro 2010, Trnava 2011, Bucharest 2012, etc.) (<http://www.cwi.sk/documents.php>). Members (Focal Points) are representatives of relevant ministries and/or agencies of all Carpathian countries and partners (secretariats of the Ramsar and Carpathian conventions, WWF, IUCN, Daphne, ICPDR, Wetlands International, CNPA) (the structure and names see at <http://www.cwi.sk/history.php>).

8. Are minutes of each meeting recorded, how are they available (publicly, restricted), please provide details:

Minutes of each meeting are recorded and are distributed to all members of the Board and often available on the CWI web site. The CWI reports also to the Carpathian Convention bodies.

Substantive elements of the initiatives (current points 14-20 of the Operational Guidelines)

9. Does the work of your initiative raise the visibility of the Ramsar Convention and the general awareness of Ramsar objectives in your region, please provide further information:

The CWI organizes regularly international thematic conferences and workshops, often in cooperation with other organisations, institutions, ministries and with participation of different stakeholders and with relevant publicity. The CWI participates in meetings of other partners of the initiative (including Carpathian Convention bodies), project partners and various organisations with presentations raising visibility and objectives of the Ramsar Convention; publishes articles.

10. Has your initiative established its own independence and identity? How are you describing your initiative as an operational means to support the implementation of the Ramsar Convention in your region? How do you avoid confusion between the roles of your initiative and the roles of the national Ramsar authorities and the Ramsar Secretariat at international level? Please provide details:

The own independence of the initiative is under discussion. The role and tasks of the CWI in the support of the implementation of the Ramsar Convention are defined in the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Convention on Wetlands and UNEP Vienna - Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, its strategic and operational targets, Terms of Reference, annual work plans

and documents provided to the Ramsar Convention Standing Committee (http://www.soprs.sk/cinnost/medzin_spol/key_sc37_doc08_carpathian.pdf) and the Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee. The role and tasks of the CWI are explained during meetings, conferences and workshops.

11. What did you undertake to prevent that your initiative is perceived as a regional office for the Convention:

The role and tasks of the CWI are defined from the beginning in the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Convention on Wetlands and UNEP Vienna - Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, its strategic and operational targets, ToR, annual work plans and documents provided to the Ramsar Convention Standing Committee (http://www.soprs.sk/cinnost/medzin_spol/key_sc37_doc08_carpathian.pdf).

12. Does your initiative have its own logo, do you use it together with the Ramsar Convention logo, thanks for attaching your logo, if you have one:

Yes; the logo is usually used with logos of the Ramsar Convention and the Carpathian Convention as the CWI serves also as operational means for implementation of the Memorandum of Cooperation between these conventions.



13. Does your initiative have a specific website, please give its URL:

Yes, www.cwi.sk

Financial and other support, reporting and evaluation (current points 21-29 of the Op. Guidel.)

14. Does your initiative have a host country that provides in-kind and/or financial support to a coordinating unit, secretariat, training centre, etc.? What is the host country amount of financial annual support, and the percentage of this of the overall budget:

The host country is the Slovak Republic providing in-kind and financial support to a coordinating unit (office space, human capacities, salaries, travel expenses) and the activities. Since endorsement of the CWI it was: 2009 – 10,733 EUR = 27.9 % of the overall budget; 2010 – 7,979 EUR = 26.1 %; 2011 – 29,214 EUR = 33 %; 2012 – 45,688 EUR = 73.3 %.

15. What is the in-kind and financial support provided by the other countries concerned, please list countries and amounts of annual support:

2009 – Czech Republic – 2,000 EUR, Hungary – 2,000 EUR, Ukraine – 2,000 EUR;
2010 – Czech Republic – 2,120 EUR, Hungary – 2,000 EUR, Ukraine – 2,000 EUR;
2011 – Czech Republic – 6,851.64 EUR, Hungary – 1,239.80 EUR, Romania – 200 EUR;
2012 – Czech Republic – 1,356.29 EUR, Hungary – 153.80 EUR; Romania – 150 EUR.

16. Does your initiative have its own bank account and separate accounting procedures, please provide details:

The CWI uses the bank account of the host State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic with specific codes for funds from the Ramsar core budget, from the Czech Ministry of Environment and from Hungarian (former) Ministry of Environment with separate accounting.

17. Are you conducting your own fundraising efforts, please list your activities:

The CWI received voluntary contributions from relevant ministries of the Czech Republic and Hungary and makes efforts to be involved in various projects, it has used funds of the Carpathian Convention/UNEP and partner organisations (WWF-DCP, Wetlands International, Daphne/CERI) and other cooperating organisations (ALPARC, German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, etc.). The CWI priorities are reflected in projects of the Slovak State Nature Conservancy and EU Transnational Program South East Europe and are further planned to be included in other funding mechanisms.

18. What attempts have you made to generate your own income, with what result? Are you financially self-sufficient, or by when are you planning to be so, please provide keywords and dates:

The CWI plans to use existing unspent voluntary contributions from some member states and further involve NGOs and private sector for funds generating. It is planned to increase synergy with UNEP/Carpathian Convention and its Protocols, strategies and action plans, with Carpathian Network of Protected Areas, WWF-DCP, Wetlands International and other partners; Ramsar budget is used for specific activities because in the region there are EU (but not the most developed) and non-EU countries (countries in transition) and external funding is substantial part of the budget in the economic crisis. Financial self-sufficiency can be expected from 2015.

Administrative matters

19. Who is the coordinator/coordinating body (unit, secretariat) that operates on a daily level to coordinate and lead the activities of the initiative, name and address:

The coordination is provided by the governmental agency in Slovakia (State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, Tajovského 28B, 974 01 Banská Bystrica) and its staff members (coordinator Dr. Jan Kadlecik, head of Department of International Treaties, assistant Tereza Thompson, accountants, specialists, etc.).

20. Do you have a hosting agreement with a private/public institution, with a governmental agency or Ministry, please provide name and address and a copy of any written agreement:

Hosting is on voluntary basis agreed with all Board members and Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee.