

Conservation of Wetlands in the Carpathians

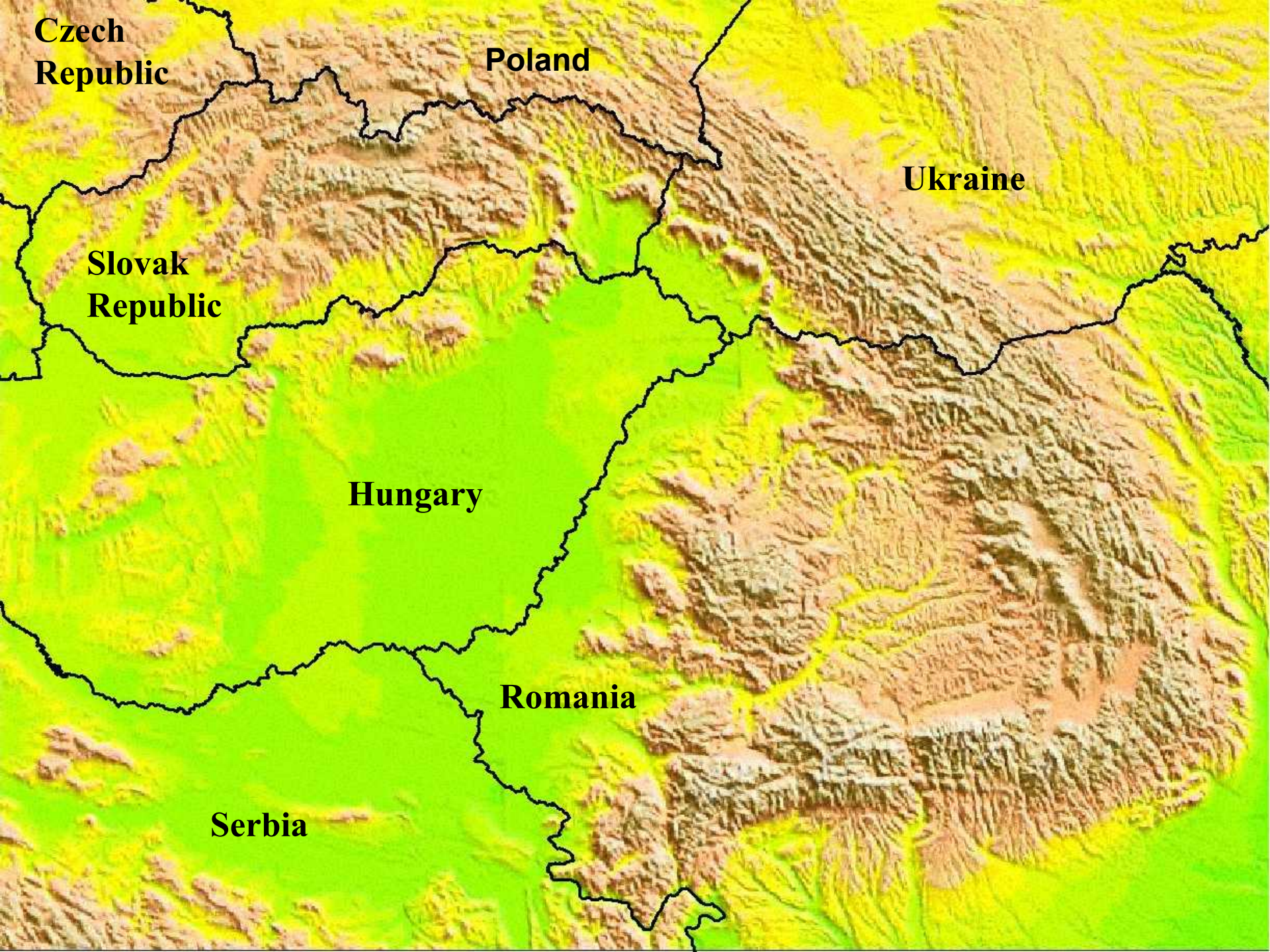
The Biodiversity Protocol and ecological connectivity in the Carpathians



Harald Egerer
UNEP - ISCC

16- 19 November 2009, Tatranska Strba, Slovakia





**Czech
Republic**

Poland

Ukraine

**Slovak
Republic**

Hungary

Romania

Serbia

The Carpathian Convention

Signed in May 2003

Ratified by all the Carpathian countries

Entered into force: 1 January 2006



Conferences of the Parties

COP 1: 11-13 December 2006, Kyiv, Ukraine



COP 2: 17-19 June 2008, Bucharest, Romania



Partnerships

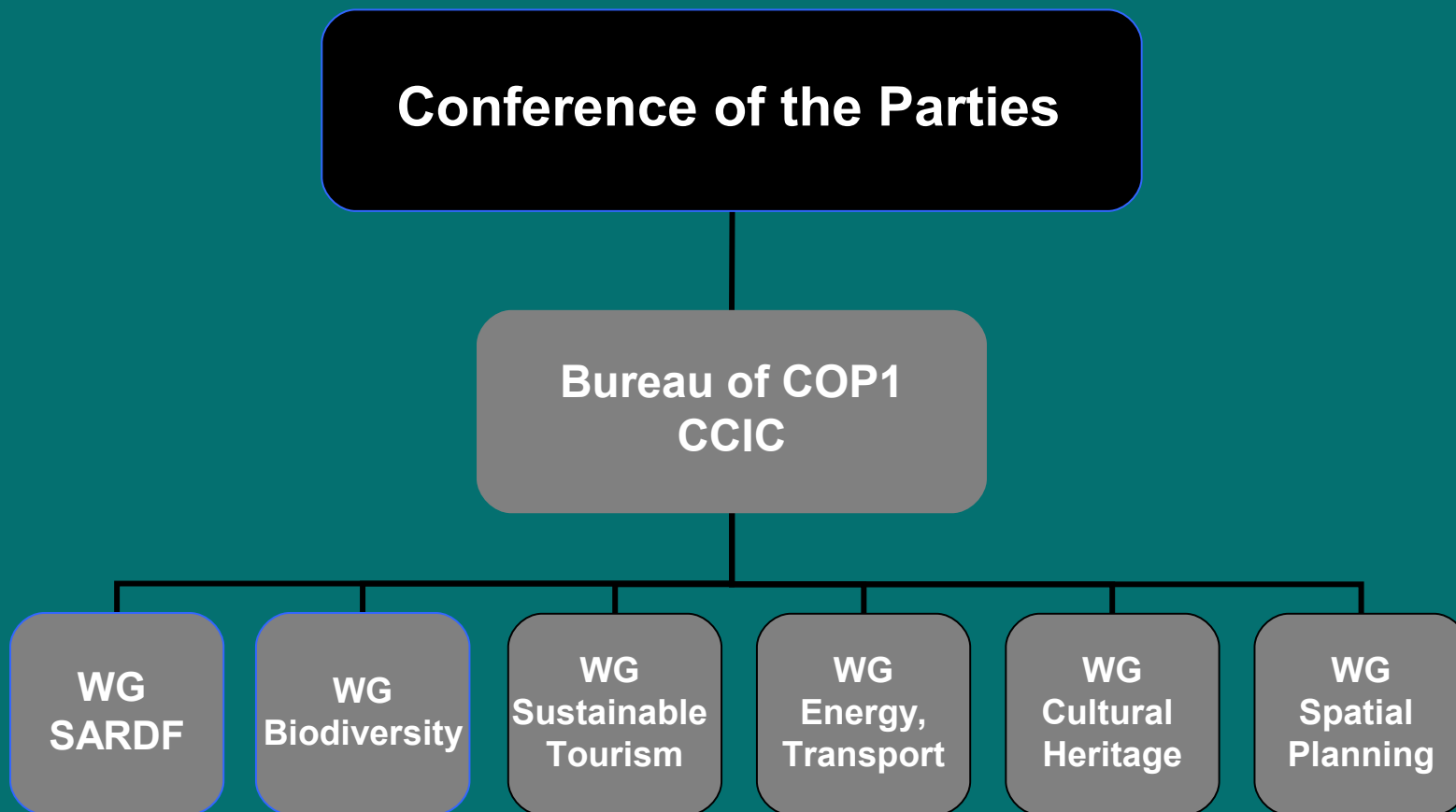
Political support of the EU, CC countries and V4

Partnerships:

- Alpine Convention
- Ramsar Convention
- Carpathian EcoRegion Initiative
- Central European Initiative (CEI)
- Convention on Biological Diversity
- EURAC



Current institutional structure



Contents

Carpathian Convention provides:

trans-national framework for cooperation and multi-sectoral policy coordination, including sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity

platform for joint strategies and policies for sustainable development

forum for dialogue and permanent communication between all stakeholders involved



Cooperation between Ramsar Convention and Interim Secretariat Carpathian Convention

MoU signed on 13 December 2006 in Kyiv, Ukraine



The Biodiversity Protocol

Adopted at **COP 2** held in Bucharest on 17-19 June 2009



Drafted by the Biodiversity WG within the **CADSES
INTERREG IIIB Carpathian Project**



Main objective

to enhance the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity of the Carpathians, bringing benefits to present and future generations.



Objectives

- cooperate on conservation, maintenance and sustainable use of natural and semi-natural habitats, and securing their continuity and connectivity;
- restoration of degraded habitats;
- conservation and sustainable use of species of flora and fauna characteristic to the Carpathians, in particular on conservation of endangered or endemic species and large carnivores.



Specific objectives

- Development, harmonization and implementation of relevant management plans aimed at achieving common standards
- Prevention of introduction, control or eradication of invasive alien species which might threaten
- Control of genetically modified organisms
- Compatible biodiversity indicators and monitoring systems
- Coordinated regional inventories of species and habitats



Specific objectives continued

- Coordinated scientific research
- Programs and projects
- Establishment of ecological networks in the Carpathians
- Conservation and sustainable management in the areas outside of protected areas
- Integration of into other sectoral policies



BIOREGIO project proposal

South - East Europe Program – 2nd Call

Main objective: enhancement of the management of biological and landscape diversity and regional development in the Carpathians



South East Europe Program



Main objective: improvement of transnational cooperation in South East Europe

EU co-financing:

- EU MS and IPA Countries part of the program area: 85%
- EU MS not included in the program area: 20%
- Non IPA Countries or not IPA funds (AP): 10%



BIOREGIO Main objectives

- Regional inventories of species and habitats
- Biodiversity indicators and monitoring systems
- Harmonization of integrated management plans
- Support cooperation in transboundary protected areas
- Foster ecological connectivity
- Promotion of sustainable regional development
- Awareness building
- Build on existing cooperation tools
- Knowledge transfer



Main activities

- **WP 01** Project management and coordination
- **WP 02** Communication and transnational awareness building
- **WP 03** Carpathian biological and landscape diversity information system
- **WP 04** Integrated management of Carpathian natural assets and protected areas
- **WP 05** Continuity and connectivity
- **WP 06** Pilot projects
- **WP 07** Intergovernmental platform and stakeholders involvement



Successful elements

- Implementation of the **Biodiversity Protocol to the Carpathian Convention**
- **Consistency** with the priorities of the SEE Program and with EU legislation/international agreements
- **Transnational** and integrated approach
- **Clear outputs** and **transferability** of project results



Actual situation

First step: Submission of the EoI

- **Project concept**
- **Partners:** national, regional and local authorities competent in environmental and tourism sector, natural areas (National Parks, Protected areas...)
- **Budget:** 2 million euros



THANK YOU!

Harald Egerer
UNEP Vienna - ISCC

harald.egerer@unvienna.org

