TRANSGREEN. Integrated Transport and Green Infrastructure Planning in the Danube-Carpathian Region for the Benefit of People and Nature

January 2017 – June 2019

TRANSGREEN International Conference “Natural-Infrastructure Connectivity”

Hildegard Meyer, WWF DCP

Project co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

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Regional development

Interreg
Danube Transnational Programme
TRANS GREEN

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Series of bear accidents in Romania

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Why TRANSGREEN?

Increase of transport infrastructure due to development causes

- Landscape fragmentation
- Land use change
- Wildlife barriers
- Positive impact on rural business
Why TRANSGREEN?

Impact on **ecological corridors / Green Infrastructure** in the region which are important for

- Biodiversity
- Migration routes for wildlife
- Stability & resilience of ecosystems
- Ecosystem services
- Prosperity of the region

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Integrated transport planning prioritized by international policies and regulations...

- EU Strategy for the Danube Region
- EU 7th Environmental Action Plan
- EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy
- EU Communication on Green Infrastructure
- TEN-T – Trans-European Network of Transport
- Carpathian Convention Protocol

...call for balanced approach on infrastructure development taking nature conservation into account to elaborate most sustainable solutions.

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The project in numbers

• **Duration:** 1 January 2017 – 30 June 2019, 2.5 years
• **11 Project Partners** from 5 European Countries
• **9 Associated Strategic Partners** from 3 more countries
• **Lead Partner:** WWF International Danube-Carpathian Programme
• **Project value:** ~ 2.5 Mio EUR, 2.1 Mio EU ERDF Funds

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Project consortium

NGOs
- Friends of the Earth – CZ
- CEEweb – HU
- Milvus – RO
- WWF – AT, RO

Public authorities
- Nature Conservation Agency - CZ
- State Nature Conservancy - SK

Science
- SPECTRA – Centre of Excellence for EU, TU Bratislava – SK

Transport sector
- Czech Transport Research Centre
- Motorway Company - SK

9 Associated Strategic Partners from
AT, CZ, HU, PL, RO, SI, UA

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Specific objectives

1. **Cooperation** among relevant partners from transport, spatial planning and environmental sector is improved.

2. **Scientific knowledge** base for sound decision-making is created.

3. **Conflicts** between transport planning and Green Infrastructure objectives are minimised.
Expected outputs

- Planning toolkit
- Workshops on integrated transport infrastructure
- Catalogue of measures for each pilot area
- Actions focusing on conflict minimisation
- EIA training events
- Web-based database
- Draft text of Carpathian Convention Strategic Action Plan
- Multi-sectoral meetings and/or fora

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Across the Carpathians and beyond (ca. 460 institutions)
Mid-term event in Bratislava
4-5 September 2018

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“Wildlife and Transportation in the Carpathian Countries”

Guidelines on how to minimize impact of transport infrastructure development on nature in the Carpathian countries

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Guidelines - Principles

AVOIDANCE → MITIGATION → COMPENSATION

Each case is a unique case!

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Guidelines – Table of content

Introductory part:
• Basic terms
• Effects of transport infrastructure on nature
• Specifics of the Carpathians
• Legislation & planning procedures
• Animals and habitats

Specific chapters:
• How to integrate transport routes into surrounding landscape - design
• Fauna passages – technical solutions
• Compensation measures
• Monitoring

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Pilot areas

Beskydy (Czech Republic, Slovakia)

Miskolc – Košice – Uzhgorod (Hungary, Slovakia, Ukraine)

Tîrgu Mureș – Iași (Romania)

Arad (Radna) – Deva (Romania)
Catalogue of measures

Beskydy
CZ/SK

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One example – Beskydy pilot area

Focus on monitoring

Research undertaken

- Monitoring of traffic intensity patterns
- Monitoring of existing fauna passages along roads/rails
  - 415 objects were examined

Content

- Critical areas identified
- Recommendations for improvements towards permeability of roads/rails

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EIA training event – SUCCESS!
Strategic Action Plan

Based on the

Carpathian Convention Protocol on Sustainable Transportation

6 Objectives

TRANSGREEN and ConnectGREEN will support its implementation

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You are invited to participate!

Final conference in Bucharest, 25 Jun 19 under the EU and EUSDR Presidency

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About connectivity

The world is evolving,

http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/transgreen/gallery#group-1