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Alterra
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Development of a Carpathian Ecological Network

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Objective

The overall objective of the project is:

To support the implementation of the Carpathian Convention through the development and implementation of a coherent transboundary ecological network as part of sustainable development of the Carpathians.

Ecological networks: the definition

- 1) A system of protected areas that are selected in order to ensure a good and fair representation of all natural values to be protected;
- 2) A system of protected areas between which ecological links but no physical links exist- best known are the initiatives to identify and protect areas for migrating birds;
- 3) A system of areas which ecologically and physically link. An ecological network consists of: core areas, corridors, buffer areas and in some cases nature development or restoration areas.

European Ecological Network

- 1992 - concept of ECONET discussed in Maastricht
- 1992 - concept of a European Ecological Network incorporated in the EU Habitats Directive (article 10)
- 1995 - PEEN is recognised as a political priority issue in PEBLDS
- 1996 - Committee of Experts starts to advise on PEEN development
- 1999 - Start of the Project on indicative map of PEEN for CEE
- 2002- Reconfirmation of the PEEN by Ministerial Conference Environment for Europe

Pan-European Ecological Network

Aims

- the full range of ecosystems, habitats, species and landscapes of European importance are conserved;
- habitats are large enough to place species in a favourable conservation status;
- there are sufficient opportunities for the dispersal and migration of species;
- damaged parts of the network are restored.
- key parts are buffered from potential threats.

Habitats Directive

Article 10

- Member States shall endeavour, where they consider it necessary, in their land-use planning and development policies and, in particular, **with a view to improving the ecological coherence of the Natura 2000 network**, to encourage the management of features of the landscape which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora.
- Such features are those which, by virtue of their linear and continuous structure (such as rivers with their banks or the traditional systems for marking field boundaries) or their function as stepping stones (such as ponds or small woods), **are essential for the migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of wild species.**

Carpathian Convention

To cooperate in developing an ecological network in the Carpathians, as a constituent part of the Pan-European Ecological Network, in establishing and supporting a Carpathian Network of Protected Areas, as well as enhance conservation and sustainable management in the areas outside of protected areas..

To develop and/or promote compatible monitoring systems, coordinated regional inventories of species and habitats, coordinated scientific research, and their networking.

To take appropriate measures to integrate the objective of conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity into sectoral policies, such as mountain agriculture, mountain forestry, river basin management, tourism, transport and energy, industry and mining activities

Project Objectives

- Establish a Carpathian Biodiversity Information System
- Develop a Carpathian Ecological Network
- Increase the capacities of the NGOs in Ukraine, Romania and Serbia to design and manage ecological networks and to implement relevant EU and international policies. (PEEN, N-2000, Agriculture, Forestry)
- Strengthen organisational structure and capacities of the CERl to support the implementation of the Carpathian Convention

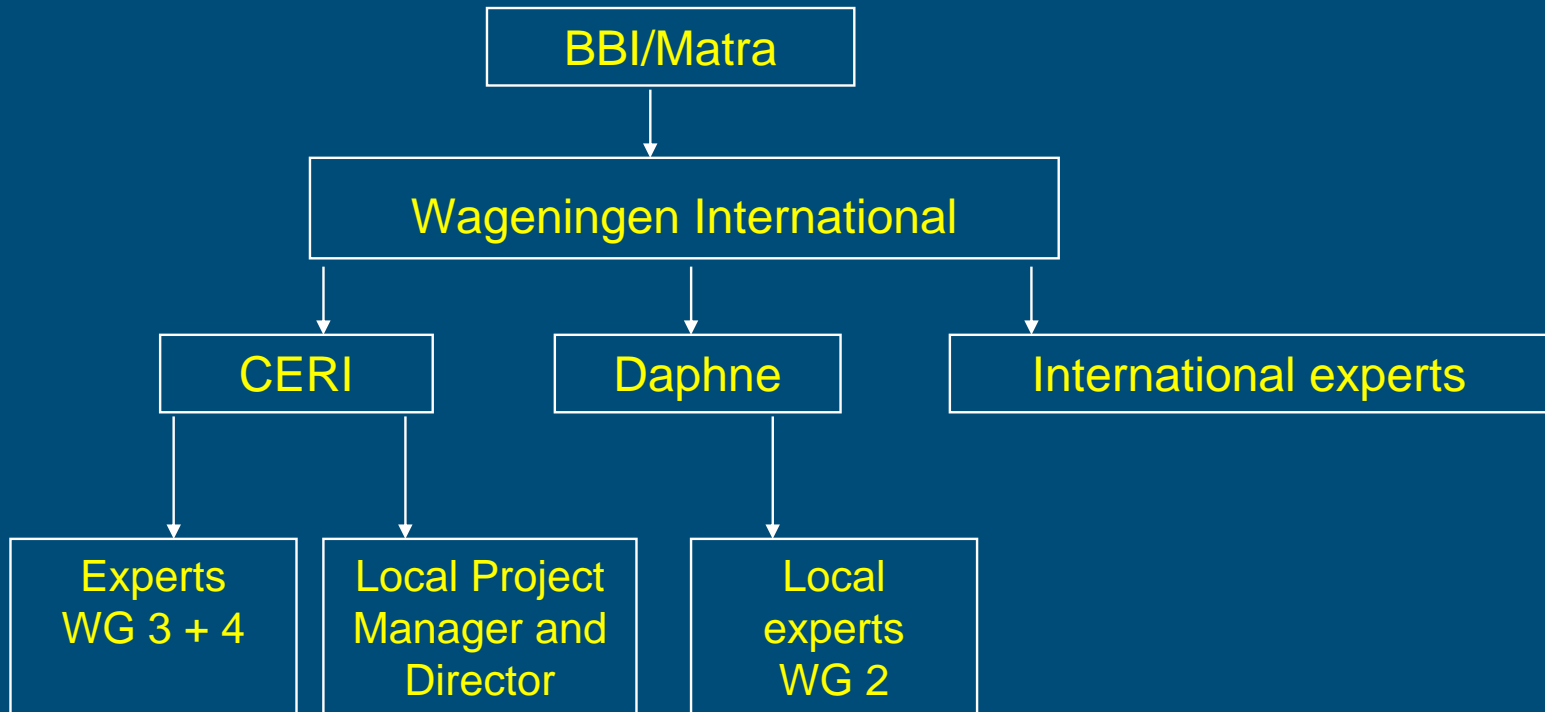
Workgroups

- WG 1: Training and capacity building (Karina Kitnaes)
- WG 2: Carpathian Biodiversity Information System (Jan Seffer)
- WG 3: Ecological Network Development (Mike Baltzer)
- WG 4: CERI; organisational strengthening (Monica Chrenkova)

Organisational aspects

- 1 April 2006 until 1 April 2009
- CERI : Local Project Management (Anna Guttova, Jan Seffer)
- Project Management Team; PM, LPM, LPD plus workgroup chairs.
- Steering Committee (3 focal countries, ECNC, WWF-DCP, Sec. Carpathian Convention)

Organisational Structure



Thank you

