



---

Report of the Workshop on

## **Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forests, Biological and Landscape Diversity in the Carpathian region**

FAO Sub-Regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe  
(FAO/SEUR)  
Budapest, Hungary

19-20 September 2007

### **1. Background**

Various recent reports, analyses and international workshops indicated that the forest management framework is scattered institutionally and instrumentally into various policy areas. Biodiversity and nature protection address the increasing needs in public services, whereas forestry, hunting also deal with the economic opportunities of forest management. The fragmentation of the policy framework has led to certain losses in efficiency in terms of the contribution of a common multifunctional forest management to overall sustainable development of the Carpathian Region.

The Carpathian Convention (<http://www.carpathianconvention.org/index.htm>) addresses forest management policy issues in various Articles, respectively Working Groups, mainly in Article 4 "Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity" as well as in Article 7 "Sustainable agriculture and forestry". The Working Groups took note about the interrelations and recognised the need for a coordinated approach towards a multifunctional use of forests, considering the increasing

importance of public forest services, such as biodiversity and nature conservation as well as the economic potentials from forest management for rural development in the Carpathian region.

Heads of Forestry from countries of the Carpathian region met in Budapest in May 2006 and discussed the subject of a protocol on forest management under the Carpathian convention.

The objective of the current workshop in Budapest in September 2007 was to discuss opportunities for a common: "Protocol on Forest Management under the Carpathian Convention" on the basis of a revised draft protocol named "Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forests, Biological and Landscape Diversity in the Carpathian region".

The workshop was attended by 28 participants from eleven different countries, representing the target member countries of the Carpathian Convention, international organisations, the secretariat and the University of Padova. A complete list of workshop participants is provided in Annex 1.

## **2. Meeting Proceedings**

A presentation on the "Management of Protective Forests in Austria" was given by Ms. Bukta, from the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, during a side event before starting the workshop. She emphasised the potential and the evaluation of protection effects fulfilled by forests, in particular in mountain regions.

On the opening of the workshop participants were welcomed by Mr. Volker Sasse, Forestry Officer at FAO/SEUR, who addressed the difficulties of combining forest issues with biodiversity concerns. Ms. Maria Kadlecikova, FAO Regional Representative for Europe and Central Asia affirmed the support of the FAO to the ongoing implementation of the Carpathian Convention. Furthermore she informed about the extension of the FAO office in Budapest. Mr. Pier Carlo Sandei, welcomed participants on behalf of the UNEP Regional Office for Europe, and appreciated the initiative and support provided by FAO to promote the strengthening of forest land use in the Carpathians. Mr. Anfodillo Tommaso from the Padua University, Treeline Ecology Research Project, welcomed the participants and thanked for the support of FAO/SEUR to the project conducted by the Padua University.

After a short introduction of participants, the chairmanship was assigned to Mr Volker Sasse, who introduced the meeting agenda (see Annex 2).

In his opening presentation he illustrated the split-up of the policy framework for forest land use in recent years resulting in the lack of coordination between the various policy areas concerning forestry, biodiversity and nature protection. On the basis of this analysis he stressed the necessity for a common approach of biodiversity issues and the multifunctional use of forests.

Thereafter, Mr. Pier Carlo Sandei gave an overview on goals achieved by the Carpathian Convention so far and its current institutional structure and emphasised the Carpathian Project INTERREG IIIB CADSES being the leading project towards the sustainable development of the Carpathian region.

In the afternoon the first plenary session on the combination of the protocols on "Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forests, Biological and Landscape Diversity in

the Carpathian region” (hereinafter referred to as the “Biodiversity Protocol”) and the “Key items for a draft protocol on Sustainable Forest Management” (hereinafter referred to as the “Forestry Protocol”) started. The secretariat informed on comments provided by MCPFE and UNECE with a focus on sustainable forest management.

Reactions towards such a common approach were heterogeneous, especially in the light of the advanced negotiation process of the Biodiversity Protocol and thus formal obstacles to incorporate forestry specifics. Arguments in favour of a common approach were primarily that commitments on biodiversity have been signed already on global and pan-European level and only a common protocol would pose an added value. On the other hand many participants acknowledged a common ground for biodiversity and forestry, although considered forestry specifics not being enough covered by the term “habitats” in the Biodiversity Protocol and stressed that the economic functions of forests might be underestimated. Therefore various options for progressing on forest management and biodiversity in the Carpathians were discussed during the meeting. Ultimately most participants favoured an integrated multifunctional approach including the elaboration of a separate comprehensive document on forest management.

Concerning concrete amendments of the Forestry Protocol, the meeting discussed actively the terminology for the subject to be addressed. Suggestions ranged from “forest land use”, “multifunctional forest management”, “biodiversity and forest land use” to “sustainable forest management”. Even though the last mentioned term is widely disregarded by the biodiversity community, it was favoured by most participants and considered to represent “good forestry practice” in a sufficient way.

Further suggestions on contents of the Forestry Protocol included the consideration of definitions and resolutions of the Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe (MCPFE), the payment for environmental services, the establishment of an environmental accounting system, the participatory approach and to address illegal activities in forests, including that on hunting and non-timber forest products.

During the second session on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> the meeting continued discussing the measures for a Strategic Action Plan and amended the “Key items for a draft Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management” resulting in an updated document on sustainable forest management presented in Annex 3.

Subsequently Mr. Dragan Matijasic from Slovenia Forest Service presented experiences and results of the Network Mountain Forest, giving an example on the development of a network between the transnational regions in the Central Alps.

In the following Mr. Davide Pettenella explained in his presentation the approach to a survey conducted by the University of Padova with the objective to collect specific data on the Carpathian region. Thereby encountered problems include the unclear border definition of the study area and data being available only in aggregated form and in the language of the specific country. Preliminary outcomes will be presented during the planned follow-up workshop on forest management to be held in Italy at the end of November.

At the end of the session, participants thanked the host and the secretariat of the meeting for their organization and facilitation of the workshop.

### **3. Meeting Outcomes**

The participants of the workshop discussed in detail the opportunities and obstacles for a common protocol on forest management under the Carpathian Convention and concluded:

The meeting noted formal requirements, set up by the general procedures for implementation of the Carpathian Convention, as well as the advanced negotiation process on the “Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forests, Biological and Landscape Diversity in the Carpathian region” which does not consider forest management specifics. In light of this and to underline the importance of forests to the Carpathians, national experts recommended to elaborate a specific Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management, taking into account the different forms of forest land use and existing international agreements, including the outcomes of MCPFE and PEBLDS.

The meeting discussed the outcomes of the meeting of Heads of Forest Management (Budapest, May 2006) and updated the key items to be considered in a potential sustainable forest management protocol (see Annex 3). The meeting requested the interim secretariat to facilitate the elaboration of a sustainable forest management protocol taking the current draft “Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians” into consideration. The fully fledged draft protocol will be further developed during the upcoming meeting of the Working Group on Sustainable Agriculture, Rural Development and Forestry (SARD/F) to be held in November 2007 in Italy and further submitted to the COP 2.

The meeting recommended that the future process of shaping the “Biodiversity Protocol” should take into consideration the requirements for sustainable forest management as laid out in Annex 3.

With regard to the implementation of various upcoming protocols related to sustainable forest management the meeting suggested to elaborate and adopt a common “Strategic Action Plan”, addressing in one comprehensive document, the measures for achievements of the Carpathian Convention.

The meeting suggested including in such the Strategic Action Plan the following measures:

- Encourage the establishment of Model Forest Network in the Carpathians;
- Set up and coordinate compensation measures for the implementation of public forest services;
- Implement common PR campaigns and capacity building measures to raise public awareness on biodiversity and sustainable forest management and their importance for rural development;
- Establish a common platform (web, CD, hardcopies) for the distribution of data and information related to biodiversity and sustainable forest management in the Carpathians, gathered through national monitoring systems aiming to avoid duplication;
- Organise a series of international workshops with the objective to harmonise definitions and information subjects and quality, indicating the source of data, related to sustainable forest management and biodiversity;
- Improve coordination and exchange of information on the instruments to control illegal activities in forests and to support good governance; promote establishment of schemes in order to mitigate illegal activities in forests in the Carpathians;
- Set up an advisory board, with the objective to advise member countries on a regularly base on the coordination of sustainable forest management and biodiversity related policies and institutions as well as on the comprehensive implementation of various protocols related to forest land use in the Carpathians;

- Establish common guidelines for the designation and management of different categories of protected areas;
- Collaborate and exchange on sustainable forest management and biodiversity between the Alpine, Carpathian and upcoming Conventions in Europe; share experiences and coordinate the implementation of Kyoto Protocol articles 3.3 and 3.4 and develop flexible mechanisms;
- Establish and coordinate sufficient gene banks and progeny archives ex situ and in situ for conservation purposes;

The Meeting recognised the need for better coordination of policies and institutions related to sustainable forest management<sup>1</sup> (biodiversity, nature protection, production of wood and NTFPs, hunting, water management, in particular in mountain areas) in order to ensure their efficient contribution to sustainable development in the Carpathian region. The meeting recommended to countries involved in the preparation of further Conventions for sustainable development to take this comprehensive approach toward forest land use adequately into account.

Furthermore in light of time constraints which appeared during the discussion the meeting recommended to provide sufficient time for discussion in any upcoming workshop on the current subject.

---

<sup>1</sup> According to MCPFE definition

List of Participants**Meeting on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forests, Biological and Landscape Diversity in the Carpathian region***in Budapest, Hungary, 19-20 September 2007***Participants from target countries****HUNGARY**

Mr. Gyorgy Czibula  
 Ministry for Environment and Water  
 Department for National Parks and  
 Landscape Protection  
 Consellor  
 Fő u. 44-50.  
 HU - 1011 Budapest, Hungary  
 E-mail: czibula@mail.kvvm.hu  
 Phone: +36(1)4573300/237  
 Fax: +36(1)2754704

Mr. Csaba Mozes  
 Ministry of Agriculture and Rural  
 Development  
 Department of Natural Resources  
 Forest Policy and Protection Officer  
 Kossuth Lajos tér 11.  
 HU - 1055 Budapest, Hungary  
 E-mail: mozesc@fvm.hu  
 Phone: +36(1)3014384  
 Fax: +36(1)3014678

**POLAND**

Mr. Czeslaw Koziol  
 State Forests  
 Forest Gene Banks Kostrzyca  
 Director  
 Milkow 300  
 PL - 58-535 Milkow, Poland  
 E-mail: c.koziol@lbg.jgora.pl  
 Phone: +48(757)131048  
 Fax: +48(757)131754

Mr. Zbigniew Niewiadomski  
 Poland  
 E-mail: zbig-niew@wp.pl  
 Phone:  
 Fax:

**ROMANIA**

Ms. Ramona Curelea  
 Ministry of Environment and Sustainable  
 Development  
 Counsellor  
 Bd. Libertatii No. 12, Sector 5  
 RO - Bucharest, Romania  
 E-mail: ramona.curelea@mmediu.ro  
 Phone: +40(21)3160287  
 Fax: +40(21)3160282

Mr. Dragos Mihai  
 National Forest Administration  
 Silvotourism Unit  
 Head of International Cooperation  
 Magheru 31  
 RO - 010325 Bucharest, Romania  
 E-mail: dragosm@rosilva.ro  
 Phone: +40(21)3171005 ext:231  
 Fax +40(21)3101290

Mr. Mircea Verghelet  
National Forest Administration  
Head of Protected Areas Unit  
Magheru 31 - Sector 1  
RO - 70164 Bucarest, Romania  
E-mail: vmircea@pcrai.ro  
Phone: +40(74)3022113  
Fax +40(21)3169848

#### **SERBIA**

Mr. Sasa Stamatovic  
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water  
Management  
Directorate of Forests,  
Senior Advisor  
Omladinskih Brigada 1  
YU - 11070 Belgrade, Serbia  
E-mail: stamata68@ptt.yu  
Phone: +381(63)324638  
Fax: +381(11)3117611

#### **SLOVAKIA**

Mr. Mikulas Cernota  
National Forest Centre - Zvolen  
Researcher  
T.G. Masarykova ul. 22  
SK - 96092 Zvolen, Slovakia  
E-mail: cernota@nlcsk.org  
Phone: +421(45)5314113  
Fax: +421(4)55321883

#### **UKRAINE**

Ms. Dr. Lyubov Polyakova  
State Forestry Committee of Ukraine  
Senior Officer, PhD Forestry  
9A Shota Rustaveli str  
UA - 01601 Kyiv, Ukraine  
E-mail: lpolyakova@dklg.gov.ua  
Phone: +380(44)2342635  
Fax: +380(44)4091208  
www.dklg.kmu.gov.ua

### **International Organisations**

Mr. Atilla Lengyel  
CEPF  
Contact Office Budapest  
Policy Adviser CEEC, Phd  
Benczúr utca 34  
HU - 1068 Budapest, Hungary  
E-mail: attila.lengyel@fao.org  
Phone: +36(1)4612019  
Fax: +36(1)3517029

Ms. Emese Bukta  
Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry,  
Environment and Water Management  
Dipl.-Geogr  
Marxergasse 2  
1030 Wien, Austria  
E-mail: emese.bukta@lebensministerium.at  
Phone: (+43 1) 71100 - 6936  
Fax: (+43 1) 71100- 16745

Ms. Diana Heilmann  
ICPDR Tisza Group  
Project management coordinator  
Wagramer Str. 5  
AT - 1220 Vienna, Austria  
E-mail: diana.heilmann@unvienna.org  
Phone: +43(1)260605207  
Fax:  
www.icpdr.org

Ms. Marta Bonifertne Szigeti  
Regional Environmental Center  
Executive Director  
Ady Endre út 9-11  
HU - 2000 Szentendre, Hungary  
E-mail: Mbonifert@rec.org  
Phone: +36(26)544000  
Fax: +36(26)311294

Ms. Miriam Markus-Johannson  
Regional Environmental Center for Central  
and Eastern Europe  
Project Manager  
Ady Endre út 9-11  
HU -2000 Szentendre, Hungary  
E-mail: mmjohansson@rec.org  
Phone: +36(26)504097  
Fax: +36(26)311294  
www.rec.org

Mr. Dragan Matijasic  
Slovenia Forest Service - Central Unit  
Department for Forest Management Planning  
Head of Department  
Večna pot 2  
1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia  
E-mail: dragan.matijasic@zgs.gov.si  
Phone: +386(1)4700068  
Fax: +386(41)4235361

Mr. Tamas Marghescu  
The World Conservation Union / IUCN  
Regional Director for Europe  
Boulevard Louis Schmidt 64  
BE - 1040 Brussels, Belgium  
E-mail: tamas.marghescu@iucn.org  
Phone: +32(2)7328299  
Fax: +32(2)7329499  
www.iucneurope.org, www.iucn.org

Mr. George Dinicu  
WWF Danube Carpathian Programme  
  
Forestry Coordinator  
Mircea Vulcanescu 109  
RO - Bucharest, Romania  
E-mail: gdinicu@wwfdcp.ro  
Phone: +40(21)3174996  
Fax: +40(21)3174997

## Secretariat

### **FAO**

Ms. Maria Kadlecikova  
FAO  
Regional Representative  
Benczúr utca 34  
HU - 1068 Budapest, Hungary  
E-mail: maria.kadlecikova@fao.org  
Phone: +36(1)4612010  
Fax: +36(1)3517029

Ms. Marta Majewska  
FAO/SEUR  
Forestry  
Consultant  
Benczur u 34.  
HU - 1068 Budapest, Hungary  
E-mail: marta.majewska@fao.org  
Phone: +36(1)4612014

Mr. Tom Mesterhazy  
FAO/SEUR  
Forestry  
Consultant  
Benczur u 34.  
HU - 1068 Budapest, Hungary  
E-mail: Mesterhazy@web.de  
Phone: +36(1)4612016

Mr. Volker Sasse  
FAO/SEUR  
Forestry Officer  
Benczúr utca 34.  
HU - 1068 Budapest, Hungary  
E-mail: volker.sasse@fao.org  
Phone: +36(1)4612028  
Fax: +36(1)3517029

## **UNEP**

Mr. Pier Carlo Sandei  
UNEP Regional Office for Europe  
Vienna Office Interim Secretariat of the  
Carpathian Convention  
PO Box 500  
A 1400 Vienna, Austria  
E-mail: piercarlo.sandei@unvienna.org  
Phone: + 43(1)26060- 5796  
Fax: +43(1) 2606075796

## **UNIVERSITY OF PADOVA**

Mr. Tommaso Anfodillo  
University of Padova  
Dip. TeSAF Treeline Ecology Research Unit  
Viale dell'Università 16  
IT - 35020 Legnaro, Italy  
E-mail: tommaso.anfodillo@unipd.it  
Phone: +390498272697  
Fax: +390498272686  
<http://www.tesaf.unipd.it/people/Anfodillo/home.html>

Ms. Elisa Giacomina  
University of Padova  
Viale dell'Università 16  
IT - 35020 Legnaro, Italy  
E-mail: elisa\_giacoma@yahoo.it  
Phone:  
Fax:

Ms. Silvia Lamedica  
University of Padova  
Viale dell'Università 16  
IT - 35020 Legnaro, Italy  
E-mail: la\_ilvia@yahoo.it  
Phone:  
Fax:

Mr. Davide Pettenella  
University of Padova  
Territorio e Sistemi Agro Forestali  
Professor  
Viale dell'Università 16  
IT - 35020 Legnaro, Padova, Italy  
E-mail: davide.pettenella@unipd.it  
Phone: +39(04)98272741  
Fax: +39(04)98272772

Preliminary Agenda

## Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forests, Biological and Landscape Diversity

FAO Sub-Regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe (SEUR)  
Benczur utca 34, H-1068 Budapest, HUNGARY  
19-20 September 2007

### Wednesday, 19 September 2007

- Arrival and registration of participants
- 13:00 Side-event: The management of protective forests in Austria
- 14:00 Opening and welcome
- 14:10 Brief introduction of participants
- 14:20 Seminar objectives, procedures and expected outcomes
- 14:45 Coffee break
- 15:00 General discussion on the approach/title
- 16:00 Discussion of a revised draft Protocol
- 18:00 Closing of session
- 18:30 Bus departure in front of FAO/SEUR office
- 19:00 Dinner on the Danube

### Thursday, 20 September 2007

- 9:00 Discussion of a revised draft Protocol
- 11:00 Coffee break
- 11:20 Proceedings and follow-up
- 12:00 Survey on Forest Land Use in the Carpathians
- 13:00 Lunch at Hotel Benczur in opposite of FAO/SEUR office
- 14:30 Departure of participants, respectively bilateral discussion with secretariat

## Key items for a draft Protocol on Sustainable Forest Management

Outcomes of a Meeting of Heads of Forest Management  
Budapest, 8-9 May 2006

Updated in the Workshop on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forests, Biological and Landscape Diversity in the Carpathian region  
Budapest, 19-20 September 2007

### Forest management issues:

1. Continue to maintain and enlarge forest cover
2. Improve health, quality and stability of forests notably by preserving the biodiversity of forests and through the application of close to nature forest management methods
3. Put high priority on forest management methods enhancing resistance to natural and anthropogenic disturbances such as flooding, landslides, avalanches, pollution and climate change etc
4. Ensure the social and environmental functions of forests with regard to ecotourism, biodiversity conservation, air, climate, water and soil protection etc, considering the economic requirements for the production of wood and non wood products and services
5. Foster sustainable production of wood, non-wood products and services, including infrastructure measures considering the essential social and environmental functions of forests
6. Promote wood as an environmentally friendly raw material and renewable energy source, particularly through innovations, efficient marketing and certification, as well as investments
7. Apply sustainable wildlife management methods, particularly controlling population size of hoofed animals that allows a natural regeneration of forests, especially by coordinated regulation measures in borderland regions
8. Ensure the contribution of forestry to water management requirements
9. Designate protected areas in natural, especially virgin forests in sufficient size and number, with the purpose to restrict or adapt their use according to the objectives of conservation to be achieved
10. Ensure the restoring of primary forest stands through gradually changing of secondary forest stands
11. Limit livestock grazing in forests to a sustainable level allowing natural regeneration of the forests, avoiding soil degradation and preserving the protective function of the forest

### Policy instruments and institutions:

1. Promote by sufficient means the coordination of national policies instruments and institutions related to the various objectives of Sustainable Forest Management and consider Sustainable Forest Management in rural development planning adequately

2. Explore means to compensate economic losses of forest owners for the sake of environmental conservation with regard to multiple benefits from forests and create if possible instruments needed to fund incentives and compensation schemes
3. Recognize the property rights on forests when putting new instruments and/or restrictions in place on forest management
4. Promote consolidation of forest land in terms of ownership
5. Build capacities for Sustainable Forest Management
6. Implement innovative financial tools for supporting social and environmental services provided by forests
7. Establish liability mechanisms for forest damages ensuring the applicability of 'polluter pays' principle
8. Apply public participation and stakeholder involvement in decision making on Sustainable Forest Management, mainly on policy and legislation, as well as in rural development planning
9. Undertake steps towards development and implementation of National Forest Programs or other relevant national forest strategies on Sustainable Forest Management particularly in the mountainous areas of the Carpathian Region
10. Promote the integration of Sustainable Forest Management objectives into other related sector policies
11. Support access to public, particularly international funding related to Sustainable Forest Management through required co-financing (in countries where applicable)
12. Strengthen law enforcement and develop further instruments to mitigate unsustainable forest management and illegal activities in forests and related trade of timber and non-wood products
13. Make amendments to relevant forest laws related to requirements of Carpathian Convention

Communication and monitoring processes:

1. Raise public awareness on Sustainable Forest Management
2. Build capacities on traditional knowledge related to sustainable forest management
3. Ensure public access to information relevant to Sustainable Forest Management
4. Ensure transboundary cooperation on Sustainable Forest Management
5. Support knowledge and information exchange between the Carpathian countries on "best practices" of Sustainable Forest Management
6. Promote harmonization of monitoring of forest resources particularly damages caused to forests
7. Build capacities on generation, application and dissemination of data/information on forest resources, products and services as well as forest policies