

Summary

2010 was a year full of challenges for the protected areas all over the world. With all the global warming processes ongoing, all the efforts for lowering the carbon emissions and all the public campaigns for raising awareness regarding the urge of changing life styles and more focusing on protecting nature, the protected areas are in a very delicate moment. There are states, especially in Europe, that still ignore these facts and they don't put on the priority list the protected areas or implement legislation and management measures that are not suitable for the real needs of nature and biodiversity protection. Above that, the effects of the global crisis influence negatively the protected areas management, even more in the emerging countries, in Europe case, the countries that joined recently the Union, like Romania and Bulgaria.

Considering all that, Carpathian Parks Day aims to recreate a bond between the general public and the protected areas, that strong bond that was suppose to exist naturally, but more and more people seems to forget. The celebration of nature, of the most precious items of wild nature that still exist in our backyard, that we all take it for granted, has to be a celebration of human being, of life and joy, of future and hope. It is also a perfect opportunity to promote the work of the protected areas administrations and to transform the abstract definitions of biodiversity conservation or management measures into real facts, like fresh drinkable water or clean air or healthy environment for the people.

Started as a plan of one week of events, all over the Carpathians countries, the Carpathian Parks Day 2010 was celebrated in **23rd of May** in 5 countries: Romania, Ukraine, Slovakia, Serbia and Czech Republic. More than 30 one-day events took place and more than **800,000** people participated or were informed about it. A logo of the event was created and promotional materials were disseminated (stickers in all 5 languages were printed). The regional press release can be found here: http://wwf.panda.org/wwf_news/?193404/Five-countries-to-mark-first-time-Carpathian-Parks-Day

Another important result was a guide of organizing one day event, an event tool kit, a real support for the future, offering support to all the protected areas teams organizing events. The guide is in PDF format and it will be up dated regularly.

In 2011 we hope to have involved all 7 of the Carpathian countries and join forces for a bigger event all over Europe and more people participating and informed.

ROMANIA



In Romania for the Carpathian Parks Celebration was organized an open air photo exhibitions. This included 28 large images from all the National and Natural Parks, also from the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve. The event was organized by WWF in one of the city park of Bucharest, the capital city of the country and was open to general public for 2 days. The event was organized in the same time with the Biodiversity Caravan, celebrating the Year of Biodiversity, and this gave to the event more substance. Media was present and news about the event was broadcasted on national

radio and TV stations. In the same period some of the protected areas administrations organized local events (schools events, exhibitions, field trips, etc.) for the European Parks Day, mentioning about this campaign. The media campaign developed before the event took place was focused on the benefits that nature and protected areas can give to the people: a longer and healthier life! The campaign was promoted on newspapers and magazines and on radio stations, for two weeks. The exhibition was promoted also on-line on www.wwf.ro website, on Facebook and Twitter, reaching more than half of million persons (press releases:

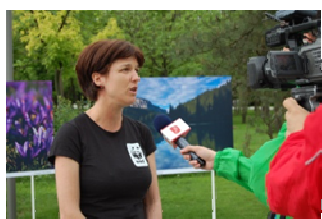
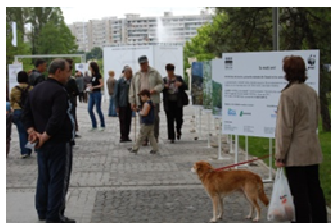
http://www.romania.panda.org/ce_facem/campanii/ziua_parcurilor_din_carpati/,

http://www.romania.panda.org/resurse/comunicate_de_presa/?193373/WWF-srbtorete-Ziua-parcurilor-din-Carpai,

http://www.romania.panda.org/ce_facem/campanii/ziua_parcurilor_din_carpati/evenimente/).

Contacts between parks administrations and private companies were established with the aim of further collaboration, adopt a park action type, but only one event was organized in June 2010 in Buila Vanturarita National Park, with Lafarge Company. These kinds of actions will be carried on with joint effort of WWF and Propark – Foundation for Protected Areas.

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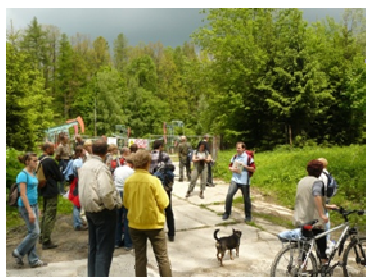


CZECH REPUBLIC



In the Czech Republic local NGO Bile Karpaty Education and Information Centre organized events in two of the national protected areas of the country. In Bile Karpaty Protected Landscape Area (PLA) and Palava PLA was organized a field trip, a joint activity for more than 30 amateur nature conservationists from Bile Karpaty and Palava to a Carpathian nature park Zdanický Forest outside of the PLAs borders; 8km hike focusing on forest management and other local natural resources (oil). The event was promoted as part of the Carpathian Parks Day in the local news papers “Veselske listy”, “Dobry den s Kuryrem”. In June 2010, in Beskydy PLA the traditional annual meeting of the PLA Administration staff (including forestry experts) with foresters from the Beskydy region, was organized, promoting also the Carpathian Parks Day. More than 50 participants took part to this event.

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SLOVAKIA



The Slovak Union of Nature and Landscape Conservationist in Mala Fatra was coordinated and implemented the Events organized in Protected Areas in Slovakia for the Carpathian Parks Day 2010. 18 Events with 1559 participants had globally realized the CPD in Slovakia, these Events were organized by 8 National Parks and 7 Protected Landscape Areas - together 104 organizers.

Events and Actions for Schools: In different PA took place the presentations, screening films, exhibitions, art or knowledge competition (in NAPANT), evaluation of literary and art competition named “With backpacking through Poloniny” (Poloniny NP), evaluation of youth competition in documentary photography named “Slovak Carst – Man and biosphere, knowledge

contest for students of the Pieniny. Students and teachers visited the Information Centers in the Slovak village Lesnica and Poland Szczawnica – so cooperation between the Slovak and Poland PA.

On CPD went on the environmental, educational activities e.g. tree and shrub identification, calculation of the tree community value (in NAPANT), Find your own minipark (in Malá Fatra NP), Squirrel Ervín, member of Muránska planina (Avaricing squirrel area of Biele vody observation of squirrels in Muránska planina NP), presentation of student works on theme: Create your own protected area (in Pieniny NP), “Mysterious old forest” - walking with interpretation (in Poloniny NP).

Exhibitions for schools and general public (5 exhibitions):

- Ecoposter 2010 - 13. Year of competed review art works of pupils and students from Nitra’s region on the topic: The nature protection (in Ponitrie PLA)
- Exhibition about Low Tatras National Park and it also contained information posters about Carpathian Parks Day and The World’s Biodiversity Day
- Panel show - exhibits of fauna, exploring plants, protection in High Tatras
- Exhibition named “Carpathian Beauty” - information posters about localization of the Carpathian Mountains, Carpathian biodiversity, Carpathian flora and fauna, protection and PA in Carpathian Mountains
- the Opening of the photo youth exhibition on the theme “Slovak Carst – Man and biosphere”

Events and action for general public (3 events and 765 participants):

- the Information campaign - stand in the centre of the Žilina city with posters exhibition named “Carpathian Beauty”, protected animals, information materials and environmental activities (300 participants)
- the Information campaign - stand in Rimavská Sobota town - Day of Biodiversity (International Day of Biodiversity and Carpathian Parks Day) with the presentation of protected areas (of volcanic origin) and environmental games for children and youth (students – 300, general public – 100, Journalist 2)
- Excursion for people from different offices and voluntary guard (PLA Ponitrie, 65 participants)

Cleaning the trails: 68 participants

- Volunteers cleaning the Interpretative Trail Štefanova - Diery (3 km) from garbage, repairing the panels

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- Volunteers cleaning a nature trail on the Babia Hora

Detailed information find in enclosed table of involved PAs in Slovakia (**Annex 1**).



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UKRAINE



Besides awareness raising activities, like disseminating information on Carpathian Parks Day around Carpathians and Ukraine through web-pages and media WWF organized in Ukraine few very clear and well prepared activities, like a "Carpathian Parks Week". This day has been linked with religious celebrations in the Carpathians. Three protected areas have participated- two parks - Carpathian and Uzhanskyi NNPs and Gorgany Nature Reserve. The following activities were organized: in Carpathian NNP was Carpathian Village festival (Tatariv village) and opening of Dovbush Nature trail (Yaremche city). Uzhanskyi NNP - Milk Rivers Festival (on importance of cheese/milk producing in Carpathians) and Gorgany NR - opening of Christian Ecological School and presentation of Historic-ethnography Museum (Chernyk village). The stickers (UA Carpathian Parks logo) and WWF logo have been distributed and posted during the presentations. The Ministry of Environment has been informed on current activities.



SERBIA



Iron Gate National Park marked the Carpathian Park Day organizing activities with the pupils and students, focused on art work to experience the natural and cultural values of national parks in which they live. The works were carried out in a group of several students combined technique of pasting of old newspapers. Three of the most beautiful were displayed at the Head Office of the National Park Iron Gate. The works were rewarded with educational books on how to treat nature and use the resources to meet the daily needs of life. The participants and the members of the park administrations discussed also about presence of fish in the Danube. The kids draw fish in the Danube River and took pictures in front of the exhibition. In the same day, a white ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) was planted in front of the Head Office of the National Park, to will remind to all of us to care about nature.

