



Seizing opportunities to support nature conservation in the Carpathian Mountains

Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and sustainable development in the
Czech Republic

White Carpathians Educational and Information Centre
WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme



Protected Areas for a Living Planet — delivering on CBD commitments

Carpathian Treasures

The Carpathian Mountains are Europe's greatest remaining wilderness area. They are a bastion of large carnivores, with over half the European populations of brown bear, wolves and lynx as well as the greatest remaining stands of natural forest. At the same time, the Carpathians have some of Europe's richest cultural landscapes, shaped and enriched by centuries of human cultivation.

Contents:

	Page
I. Introduction: What and whom this handbook is for	3
II. Funding needs for nature and development in the Carpathians (Table 1)	4
III. Funding for nature conservation and local development in the Czech Republic	
• Most relevant sources of funding available for nature conservation and related development (Table 2)	5
• Available funding sources in the Czech Republic according to relevant cost categories and funding needs (Table 3)	9
IV. Further use and acknowledgements	18

Available in digital form and on the Internet:

- **Handbook** of selected funding sources to support nature conservation and local development in the Carpathian Mountains. The handbook provides a general description and overview as well as links to further information on major funding sources available across the Carpathian Mountains, including in both EU and non-EU member states. Sources include relevant EU funds as well as EEA, Norwegian and Swiss funding mechanisms.
- **Powerpoint presentation** on funding sources across the Carpathian Mountains – essentially a powerpoint version of the handbook and free for use and adaptation.
- **Country reports:** Funding sources available in individual Carpathian countries (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia). This Czech country report is also available in Czech and with further details and contact information.

All available at:

- <http://www.panda.org/dcpo>
- Direct link:
http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/where_we_work/europe/what_we_do/danube_carpathia_n/our_work/forests_and_protected_areas/carpathian_ecoregion/carpathians_funding/index.cfm

I. **Introduction:** What and whom this handbook is for

What it is for

The Carpathian Convention – which has been signed and ratified by all Carpathian countries including the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Ukraine – has set itself the aim of ensuring no less than the protection and maintenance of the region's prodigious natural wealth and of promoting the long-term sustainable development of the region. This dovetails with a number of international commitments that Carpathian governments have made, including implementation of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas under the Convention on Biological Diversity as well as – for the EU member states – implementation of the EU's Natura 2000 network of specially protected sites.

Fulfilling these ambitious aims will require significant financial support for everything from protected area management and conservation measures to awareness raising and nature-friendly development for local communities. Fortunately, there are a number of not insignificant funding sources available to cover at least some of these needs. Gradual reforms have served to increasingly integrate environmental needs into a range of substantial EU funding sources, including e.g. into rural and regional development funds, which are available only to the EU Member States, but also into new funds that can be tapped by prospective EU member states and neighboring countries. There is also parallel support available to a number of the Carpathian countries from the governments of Norway, Switzerland, Liechtenstein and Iceland. At national level, there are also a range of different funding instruments, including national programmes of support.

This country report provides an overview to the most relevant funding sources that are available to support nature conservation and related local development in the Carpathian areas of Slovakia. It consists of three main tables:

Table 1: Funding needs for nature conservation and related development, organized into general categories of funding needs, from management planning to compensation.

Table 2: Overview of funding sources available for nature conservation and related development, providing a short description of these sources.

Table 3: Funding sources available for specific funding needs, which presents the funding sources outlined in Table 2 according to categories of funding needs (Table 1) that they can address. This last table should enable you to quickly identify the funding sources that may be available for your particular need.

A handbook and complementary powerpoint presentation are also available that provide an overview of selected funding sources for nature conservation and related development that are available across the Carpathians both to EU and non-EU member states. They cover relevant EU sources as well as EEA, Norwegian and Swiss Financial Mechanisms.

Our ultimate aim is to ensure the full and effective use of any and all funding available for nature conservation and sustainable development in the Carpathians.

Who it is for

The handbook is ultimately intended for all stewards of high nature value areas, including Protected Area managers, NGOs, local communities and interested stakeholders. While the primary focus is on biodiversity and landscape conservation, much if not most of the contents of the handbook address inevitably related issues of sustainable local development. While these materials are intended expressly for audiences in the Carpathian Mountains, many of the sources described are relevant in other areas as well.

II. **Funding needs** for nature and development in the Carpathians

Table 1: Categorisation of types of nature conservation activities requiring financial support¹

Category	Activity	Further description
Scientific research and monitoring	1 Scientific studies/inventories for the identification of sites – surveys,	Scientific studies, research personnel, workshops and meetings, assembly of
	2 Pilot projects Initial 'trial' projects at sites	
Outreach – communication, education and awareness raising	3 Preparation of information and publicity material	Including handbooks, seminars, workshops, communication materials for training and capacity building.
Capacity building and training	4 Training and education for staff, including training courses, participation in workshops and seminars, etc.	
Management planning	5 Preparation of management plans, strategies and schemes	Elaboration and/or update of management and action plans, land use plans etc.
	6 Establishment of management bodies Start-up funding, feasibility studies,	
	7 Consultation – public meetings, liaison with landowners	Including costs incurred for the organisation of meetings and workshops, the publication of consultation outcomes, financial support of stakeholders, etc. Can include networking
	8 Review of management plans, strategies and schemes	
	9 Running costs of management bodies (maintenance of buildings and equipment)	Including: running costs incurred to meet depreciation of infrastructure; consumables;
	10 Investments in and maintenance of facilities for public access to and use of the sites, interpretation works,	Including costs related to guides, maps, related personnel.
	11 Staff (conservation/project officers, wardens/rangers, workers)	Ongoing staff costs.
Ongoing habitat management and monitoring	12 Conservation management measures – maintenance and improvement of	Including restoration work, provision of wildlife passages, management of specific
	13 Conservation management measures – maintenance and improvement of species' favourable conservation status	Including restoration work, provision of wildlife passages, management of specific species (flora and fauna), plans.
	14 Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)	Including restoration work, infrastructure, management of specific species, preparation of management plans.
Cross-border management of sites	15 Cross-border management of sites, including for activities mentioned above but across national borders	

¹⁾ European Commission (2007), Financing Natura 2000. Guidance handbook (produced for the European Commission by WWF and IEEP)

III. Funding sources for nature conservation in the Carpathian Mountains in the Czech Republic

Table 2: Most relevant sources of funding available for nature conservation

Funding source	Funding source/Programme or measure	Description/comments/restrictions	Further information
EU Funding sources			
ERDF European Regional Development Fund	Operational Programme for Environment for the Czech Republic, 2007-13. Axis 6: Improvements in natural surroundings and landscape.	Managing body for the programme is the Czech Ministry of Environment	State Environmental Fund (SFZP): http://sfzp.cz ; Help line: 00420 800 260 500 Information and advice is also available from the regional centres of the State Environmental Fund.
	Regional Operational Programme for Moravia Silesia Region. Axis 2: Support for regional prosperity	Only for the Moravia Silesia Region	http://www.r-r-moravskoslezsko.cz
	Regional Operational Programme for Southeast Region, 2007-13. Axis 2: Sustainable tourism development	Only for Southeast Region	http://www.jihovychod.cz
	Regional Operational Programme for Central Moravia Region, 2007-13. Axis 3: Tourism	Only for Central Moravia Region	http://www.nuts2strednimorava.cz
	Operational Programme for Cross-Border Cooperation between Czech and Slovak Republics	Managed by the Ministry for Local Development (Department for regional cross-border cooperation), with involvement of relevant regional governments, i.e. for Moravia-Silesia, Zlin and South Moravia regions.	Ministry for Local Development, Dept of regional cross-border cooperation http://www.sk-cz.eu

Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and related development in the **Czech Carpathians**

EAFRD European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development	Rural Development Programme for the Czech Republic, 2007-13: • Axis 2: Improving the environment and the countryside; • Axis 3: The quality of life in rural areas and diversification of the rural economy; • Axis 4: LEADER.	The Czech Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for the programme; payment agency is the State Agricultural Intervention Fund (SZIF) (for axes 2, 3, 4). General information is also available from the relevant Agriculture Agencies (extension services).	SZIF Opava: Tel +420 553 696 333; SZIF Olomouc: Tel: +420 585 526 511 SZIF Brno: Tel: +420 541 614 112.
LIFE+ Financial Instrument for Environment	Pillar 1: LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity Pillar 2: LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance Pillar 3: LIFE+ Information and Communication		For the Czech Republic: http://www.env.cz Czech Ministry of Environment Mgr. Michal Petrus, manager of EU programmes dept. Tel: +420 267 122 898 Email: Michal.petrus@env.cz
Foreign governments			
EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms	Protection of the Environment	• Monitoring systems in regions and systems to follow up results of monitoring • Environmental education on all levels of state administration • Reduction of greenhouse gases in the Czech Republic • Reduce the loss of biodiversity and preserve untouched natural habitats	http://www.eeagrants.org/financialmechanisms
	Promotion of Sustainable Development	Assistance with enforcing and implementation of Strategy on Sustainable Development on local and regional level	
	Academic Research and Development	Academic research and development within the above-mentioned areas, in particular environment, health and children's living	

Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and related development in the **Czech Carpathians**

Swiss Enlargement Contribution	1. Security, Stability and Support for Reforms	conditions - Revision of regional or micro-regional development plans. - Tourism planning at regional and county level; mobilization of tourism potentials, primarily in health, ecotourism, cultural heritage, etc.	http://www.erweiterungsbeitrag.admin.ch/org/index.html?lang=en
	2. Environment and Infrastructure	- Sustainable wastewater management - Introduction of renewable energy systems, improvement of energy efficiency - Environment Expertise Fund to support the planning capacities of the public administration and to facilitate knowledge transfer, through e.g. policy studies, strategic planning and knowledge transfer in the field of environment (e.g. nature protection, etc.).	
	5. Special Allocations	Block Grant: for re-granting to civil society/NGOs contributing to social service provision as well as environmental concerns, allowing to strengthen organizational capacities.	
State funds			
Landscape Management Programme	B. Maintenance of the cultural status of landscape. C. Support for biodiversity. D. Management of Protected Areas, SPAs and protected plant and animal species.	D: only for already designated protected areas and SPAs (areas designated according to the EU Birds Directive). Applications for the programme should be submitted to the local office of the Czech Agency for Nature and Landscape Protection (AOPK CR).	AOPK Central Moravia – Zlín Office: http://www.zlin.ochranaprirody.cz AOPK Moravia-Silesia, Olomouc and Ostrava offices: http://www.olomouc.ochranaprirody.cz http://www.ostrava.ochranaprirody.cz AOPK Southeast, Brno office: http://www.brno.ochranaprirody.cz

Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and related development in the **Czech Carpathians**

Private sources			
Czech Environmental Partnership Foundation (Nadace Partnerství)	A variety of possibly relevant small grants funds, including for tree planting, greenways, community involvement, heritage interpretation, and nature conservation.	Grant schemes – small grants usually ranging between €1,500 and €8,000, for a variety of purposes. Grants are small in size and availability limited, but generally flexible and non-bureaucratic.	http://www.nadacepartnerstvi.cz Tel: +420 274 816 727 Udolní 33, 602 00 Brno

Additional contacts:

Czech Ministry of Environment - Financial support for Non-governmental organizations (not included in tables)

Division of external relations, Dept for cooperation with NGOs
RNDr Helena Knappova, Tel: +420 267 122 226, Helena_Knappova@env.cz

Table 3: Available funding sources in the Czech Republic

Activity 1: Scientific studies/inventories for site identification

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
Landscapes Management Programme, Measure D	Surveys, inventories, mapping	Experts	Measure not specific to land type	Already designated Protected Areas and SPAs	As a basis for preparation of management plans	
LIFE+ - Pillar 1: Nature	Preparation of surveys, proposals, monitoring and evaluation	Without limitation	Measure not specific to landscape type	Only for Natura 2000 areas	Only as part of preparation for management plan, must be part of a larger project with concrete conservation measures	
LIFE+ - Pillar 2: Nature	Preparation of surveys, proposals, monitoring and evaluation of action plans for biodiversity	Without limitation	Measure not specific to landscape type		Must be part of a larger project with concrete conservation measures	

Activity 2: Pilot projects Initial “trial” projects at sites

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
LIFE+ Pillar 1: Nature	Best practice or demonstration projects for implementation of EU Birds and Habitats Directives	Without limitation	Measure not specific to landscape type	Only for Natura 2000 areas	Long-term sustainability of conservation measures	
LIFE+ Pillar 2: Biodiversity	Innovative and/or demonstration projects for halting loss of biodiversity	Without limitation	Measure not specific to landscape type		Demonstration of new or innovative conservation measure in short-term	

Activity 3: Preparation of information and publicity material

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
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Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and related development in the **Czech Carpathians**

LIFE+ Pillar 1: Nature and Biodiversity	Information sharing, awareness raising	Without limitation	Measure not specific to landscape type	Pillar 1: Nature – only for Natura 2000 areas.	Must be part of a larger project with concrete conservation measures.	
LIFE+ Pillar 3: Communication and Information	Information sharing, public awareness raising, and development of specific know how regarding the environment	Without limitation	Measure not specific to landscape type		Must be part of a larger project	

Activity 4: Training and education for staff

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
LIFE+ Pillar 1: Nature & Biodiversity	Development of specific know how	Without limitation	Measure not specific to landscape type	Pillar 1: Nature – only for Natura 2000 areas	Must be part of a larger project with concrete conservation measures	
LIFE+ Pillar 3: Communication and Information	Development of specific know how regarding the environment		Measure not specific to landscape type	Without limitation	Must be part of a larger project	

Activity 5: Preparation of management plans

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
Landscape Management Programme Measure D	Elaboration and/or update of management plans for protected areas	Experts	All types within Protected Areas	Already designated small scale Protected Areas, selected SCIs		
ERDF (Operational Programme for Environment): Axis 6.1 Implementation and management of NATURA 2000 sites	Preparation of management plans including monitoring of sites and species populations	Experts	All types within Protected Areas and NATURA 2000 sites	Already designated Protected Areas and Natura 2000 sites		

Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and related development in the **Czech Carpathians**

LIFE+ Pillar 1: Nature	Development of management plans for Natura 2000 areas, development of action plans for species listed in the Habitats and Birds Directives	Without limitation	Measure not specific to landscape type	Only for Natura 2000 sites	Must be part of a larger project with concrete conservation measures; long-term sustainability of measures	
LIFE+ Pillar 1: Biodiversity	Proposals for action plans for biodiversity at the supra-national, national, regional or local level.	Without limitation	Measure not specific to landscape type		Must be part of a larger project with concrete conservation measures; new or innovative measures in the short-term	

Activity 6: Establishment of management bodies

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
None						

Activity 7: Consultation – public meetings, liaison with landowners

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
LIFE+ Pillar 1: Nature & Biodiversity	Information sharing, public awareness raising	Without limitation	Measure not specific to landscape type	Pillar 1: Nature – only for Natura 2000 sites	Must be part of a larger project with concrete conservation measures	
Environmental Partnership Foundation: relevant grant schemes	Support for active involvement of citizens and their associations	NGOs, municipalities, interest groups	Measure not specific to landscape type	Without limitation	Only as a component of a larger, more comprehensive project	

Activity 8: Review of management plans, strategies and schemes

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
Landscape Management	Revision of management plans	Experts	All types within Protected Areas	Already designated small scale Protected Areas, selected SCIs		

Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and related development in the **Czech Carpathians**

Programme Measure D						
LIFE+ Pillar 1: Nature	Revision of management plans for Natura 2000 sites and action plans for species listed in the Birds and Habitats Directives	Without limitation	Measure not specific to landscape type	Only for Natura 2000 sites	Must use examples of "best practice" or have a demonstration character; must be part of a larger project with concrete conservation measures; conservation measures must have long-term sustainability	
LIFE+ Pillar 1: Biodiversity	Monitoring and evaluation of action plans for biodiversity at the supra-national, national, regional or local levels.	Without limitation	Measure not specific to landscape type		Must be part of a larger project with concrete conservation measures; new or innovative measures in the short-term	

Activity 9: Running costs of management bodies

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
None						

Activity 10: Investments in and maintenance of facilities for public access

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
Landscape Management Programme Measure D	Elimination of negative impact of public access	Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection (landowners and others through the Agency)	Measure not specific to land type	Protected Areas and SPAs		Marking and signposting, information system, nature trails
ERDF – Operational Programme for Environment, Axis 6.2: Support of biodiversity	Development and reconstruction of visitor infrastructure	Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection (landowners and others through the Agency)	Measure not specific to land type	Specially protected areas, Natura 2000 sites, nature parks, geoparks		Nature trails, information systems including marking of trails and signposting
ERDF – Regional	Development and	Communities and	Measure not specific to	Must be undertaken in the		Hiking trail and cycle path, nature

Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and related development in the **Czech Carpathians**

Operational Programme Moravia Silesia	reconstruction of visitor infrastructure	associations of communities, NGOs, schools, professional and interest associations, small and medium-sized enterprises	land type	Moravia-Silesia Region (NUTS 2)		trails, information systems including marking of trails, and signposting
ERDF – Regional Operational Programme Southeast	Development and reconstruction of visitor infrastructure	Communities and associations of communities, NGOs, schools, professional associations, small and medium-sized enterprises	Measure not specific to land type	Must be undertaken in the Southeast Region (NUTS 2)		Hiking trail and cycle path, nature trails, information systems including marking of trails, and signposting
ERDF – Regional Operational Programme Central Moravia	Development and reconstruction of visitor infrastructure	Voluntary organizations of communities, interest groups of legal persons	Measure not specific to land type	Must be undertaken in the Central Moravia (NUTS 2)	Must comply with Integrated Development Plan for NUTS2 Central Moravia	Hiking trail and cycle path, nature trails, information systems including marking of trails, and signposting
EAFRD – Rural Development Programme: Axis 2, Measure 2.4.2 Non-productive investment in forests	Elimination of negative impact of public access	Landowners or forest land users, associations of landowners or land users	Forest areas	Outside of capital city Prague	Must comply with existing legislation, commitment for minimum of 5 years	Reconstruction and development of tourist trails, cycle paths, rest places, information system, forest springs
EAFRD – Rural Development Programme: Axis 3, Measure 3.1.3. Support for tourism	Development of visitor infrastructure	Farmers, non profit organization, non-farmer entrepreneurs only if beginning agriculture activity	Trails may be built only outside of forests	In communities of up to 2,000 inhabitants and their surroundings		Development and marking of hiking trails, wine trails, rest places along the trails, horse trails, purchase and planting of greenery along the trails
EAFRD – Rural Development Programme:: Axis 4 LEADER	Support for visitor infrastructure	Without limitation	Measure not specific to land type	Must be undertaken in area of Local Action Group (LAG)	Project must comply with strategy of Local Action Group (LAG)	Hiking and cycling trails, nature trails, information systems including marking of trails and signposting
LIFE+ Pillar 1: Nature	Elimination of negative impact of visitors on Natura 2000 areas	Without limitation	Measure not specific to land type	Only for Natura 2000 sites	Must be part of a larger project with concrete conservation measures	
LIFE+ Pillar 1:	Elimination of negative	Without limitation	Measure not specific to		Must be part of a larger project with concrete conservation	

Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and related development in the **Czech Carpathians**

Biodiversity	impacts of visitors		land type	measures	
Environmental Partnership Foundation – Greenways and Tree of Life programmes	Development of visitor infrastructure, related tree planting, especially projects involving public and cross-sectoral involvement	NGOs, municipalities, interest groups	Measure not specific to land type		Hiking trails, wine trails, rest places along the trails, purchase and planting of greenery along the trails

Activity 11: Staff

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
None						

Activity 12: Conservation management measures – maintenance and improvement of habitats

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
Landscape Management Programme – Measure B	Creation of conditions for the maintenance or restoration of important biotopes (meadow mowing, extensive grazing, etc.).	Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection (landowners and others through the Agency)	Measure not specific to land type	None	Species on the black and red list (plants Sites with at least one habitat for) or red list (animals)	May be used for evaluating historic trees and tree alleys
Landscape Management Programme – Measure D	Creation of conditions for the maintenance or restoration of important biotopes (meadow mowing, extensive grazing, etc.).	Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection (landowners and others through the Agency)	Measure not specific to land type	Designation specially protected sites and bird areas.		May be used for evaluating historic trees and tree alleys and for restoring and maintaining orchards with traditional and regional fruit varieties
ERDF – Operational Programme for Environment, Axis 6.2: Biodiversity support	Maintenance and improvement of conditions of habitats, conservation of species and ecosystems.	Landowners and land users.	Measure not specific to land type.	Protected areas and Natura 2000 sites.		Can be also used for land purchase (except by individuals).
ERDF – Operational Programme for	Improvement of forest habitats, establishment and maintenance of landscape	Landowners and land users	Measure not specific to land type	Forest habitats must be within protected areas or Natura 2000 sites, or biocenters within the		Can be used for restoration work on trees of the National Heritage List and also for land acquisition

Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and related development in the **Czech Carpathians**

Environment, Axis 6.3: Biodiversity support	structures (Czech ecological network USES).			Czech ecological network.		(except by individuals).
EAFRD – Rural Development Programme, Axis 2, Priority 1.1: Payments for Less Favoured Areas (LFA)	Measures for maintaining the rural landscape	Farmers and other agricultural actors	Grasslands	LFAs – Less Favoured Areas	Farming on a minimum of 1 ha of permanent grasslands, restrictions for intensity of grazing (0.2 DJ/ha, contract signed for 5 years without possibility of change	Mowing and grazing in areas with specific conservation needs
EAFRD – Rural Development Programme, Axis 2, Priority 1.2.1: Payments for agricultural land in Natura 2000 sites	Conservation of high nature value farmland	Farmers and other agricultural actors	Grasslands	Natura 2000 sites within first zones of national parks or protected landscape areas	Farming on a minimum of 1 ha of permanent grasslands, restrictions for intensity of grazing (0.2 DJ/ha, contract signed for 5 years without possibility of change	mowing and grazing of specific sites
EAFRD – Rural Development Programme, Axis 2, Priority 1.3.1: Environmentally friendly measures	Support for environmentally friendly management practices	Farmers and other agricultural actors	Agricultural land	None	Restrictions concerning size of managed land in relation to area and type of farming, contract signed for 5 years, no changes possible	Sustainable methods of farming (organic farming, integrated production) in protected areas
EAFRD – Rural Development Programme, Axis 2, Priority 1.3.2: Grassland management	Maintenance and improvement of favourable status of grassland through extensive farming methods, maintenance of cultural landscape	Farmers and other agricultural actors	Grasslands	Restrictions according to conservation status of the area	Restrictions concerning size of managed land and intensity of animal husbandry (0.2 DJ/ha), contract signed for 5 years for all managed grassland, no changes possible	Mowing and grazing in areas with specific needs from the perspective of nature conservation.
EAFRD – Rural Development Programme, Axis 2, Priority 1.3.3: Landscape management	Anti-erosion measures through cultivation of grasses on arable land	Farmers and other agricultural actors	Arable land	None	Restrictions concerning quality of soil, minimal grassed area 0,1 ha, specific follow up management, contract signed for 5 years, no changes possible	In protected areas, cultivation of grass can involve a mixture of regional varieties of grasses and can be undertaken along water courses and other bodies of surface water.
EAFRD – Rural Development Programme, Axis 2, Priority 2.1: Afforestation of arable land	Sustainable use of forest and farmland	Land owners and land users of agricultural land, associations of land owners or land users	Agricultural land	None	Detailed conditions will be set in an implementation regulation, long term commitment	

Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and related development in the Czech Carpathians

EAFRD – Rural Development Programme, Axis 2, Priority 2.2: Payments in Natura 2000 forest areas	Sustainable use of forests, maintenance of favourable status of natural forest habitats	Private forest owners, associations of private forest owners	Forests	Natura 2000 sites	Project application must comply with the Forest Law and other legislation, commitment for minimum of 20 years	
EAFRD – Rural Development Programme, Axis 2, Priority 2.3.1: Improvement of species composition in forests	Maintenance and improvement of biodiversity in forest habitats	Forest managers managing private or municipal forests, or their associations	Forests	Outside of the capital Prague	Project application must comply with the Forest Law and other legislation, commitment for minimum of 20 years	
LIFE+ Pillar 1: Nature	Aimed at sites and measures that improve the ecological stability and connectivity of Natura 2000 network	Without limitation	Measure not specific to land type	Only for Natura 2000 sites	Must be part of a larger project with concrete conservation measures, long-term sustainability of conservation measures	
LIFE+ Pillar 1: Biodiversity	Conservation actions for habitats and ecosystems and implementation of biodiversity action plans.	Without limitation	Measure not specific to land type		Only for innovative or demonstration measures	

Activity 13: Conservation management measures – maintenance and improvement of species

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
Landscape Management Programme, Measure C	Restoration works, management of specially protected species	Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection (landowners and others through the Agency)	Measure not specific to land type	None		
Landscape Management Programme, Measure D	Restoration works, management of specially protected species	Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection (landowners and others through the Agency)	Measure not specific to land type	Already designated Natura 2000 protection areas and bird areas (SPAs)		

Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and related development in the Czech Carpathians

ERDF – Operational Programme for Environment, Axis 6.2: Support of biodiversity	Maintenance and improvement of species conservation	Landowners and land users	Measure not specific to land type	Protected areas and NATURA 2000 sites		
EAFRD – Rural Development Programme, Axis 2, Priority 1.3.2.1: Meadows B5 Bird habitats in grassland – nesting places for waders	Maintenance and improvement of favourable status of wader populations	Farmers and other agricultural actors	Grasslands	Sites selected by Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection	Restrictions concerning size of managed land together with form of management; no use of fertilizers; contract signed for 5 years without possibility of change.	Mowing in areas with specific conservation requirements
EAFRD – Rural Development Programme, Axis 2, Priority 1.3.2.1: Meadows 6 Bird habitats in grassland – nesting places for corncrakes	Maintenance and improvement of favourable status of corncrake (<i>Crex crex</i>) populations	Farmers and other agricultural actors	Grasslands	Sites selected by Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection	Restrictions concerning size of managed land together with form of management; no use of fertilizers; contract signed for 5 years without possibility of change.	Mowing in areas with specific conservation requirements
LIFE+ Pillar 1: Nature	Measures aimed at conservation of species and measures improving the ecological stability and connectivity of the Natura 2000 network	Without limitation	Measure not specific to land type	Only for Natura 2000 sites	Must be part of a larger project with concrete conservation measures, long-term sustainability of conservation measures	
LIFE+ Pillar 1: Biodiversity	Conservation actions for species and implementation of biodiversity action plans	Without limitation	Measure not specific to land type		Only for innovative or demonstration measures	

Activity 14: Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
Landscape Management	Elimination or reduction of invasive plant and animal	Without limitation	Measure not specific to land type	Already designated Protected Areas, SPAs		

Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and related development in the **Czech Carpathians**

Programme, Measure D	species					
ERDF – Operational Programme for Environment, Axis 6.2: Support for biodiversity	Management of invasive species (prevention, reduction and elimination)	Land owners and land users	Measure not specific to land type	No restrictions		
LIFE+ Pillar 1: Nature	Conservation measures and sustainable long-term investments in Natura 2000 areas	Without limitation	Measure not specific to land type	Only for Natura 2000 sites	Must be part of a larger project with concrete conservation measures; long-term sustainability of conservation measures	Example: 4-year project "Conservation of Meadow Habitats in the Morava River Basin"
LIFE+ Pillar 1: Biodiversity	Conservation actions and implementation of biodiversity action plans	Without limitation	Measure not specific to land type		Only innovative or demonstration measures that can be realized in the short-term	

Activity 15: Cross-border managements of sites

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
ERDF – Operational Programme Czech-Slovak Republics, Axis 2: Development of accessibility of cross-border areas and environment	Building of cross-border infrastructure for the environment	Public administration, non-profit organisations, economic chambers and farmer association, etc.	Measure not specific to land type	Czech-Slovak cross-border areas, with demonstrable benefits for both sides of the border	Projects must include a partner from both sides of the border that work in at least 2 of the following ways: common preparation, common implementation, common use of employees and common financing.	

IV. Further use and acknowledgements

Further use and translation of these materials:

Our aim with this publication is to spread practical information regarding funding opportunities for nature conservation and related local development in the Carpathians. Therefore we welcome and support any efforts to do so, including photocopying and printing as well as translation into other languages. We would appreciate it if in doing so you note the source and would be interested to know how this handbook is being used and distributed. Get in touch with us – we can probably provide you with assistance, e.g. use of digital files, graphic templates, photos, etc. Please send your email titled “Carpathian handbook” to: office@wwfdcp.org.

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