



Seizing opportunities to support nature conservation in the Carpathian Mountains

Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and sustainable development in
Hungary

WWF Hungary
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.

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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).

All available at:

- <http://www.panda.org/dcpo>
- Direct link:
http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/where_we_work/europe/what_we_do/danube_carpathian/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 Hungary. 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 Hungary

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

Funding source	Funding source, programme or measure	Description/comments/restrictions	Further information
EU sources			
ERDF	Rural Development Programme for Hungary for 2007-13/Axis 2: Improvement of Environment and Landscape; Axis 3: Quality of Life in Rural Areas and Diversification of Rural Economy; and Axis 4: Implementation of LEADER approach.	Axis 2 includes: payments for Less Favoured Areas (LFAs), Natura 2000 sites, agri-environment and silvi-environment payments. Axis 3 includes: diversification of rural economy towards non-agriculture activities, development of micro enterprises, development of rural tourism, education and information, reconstruction and development of villages, gaining skills and creating and implementing the integrated local development strategies, elaboration of Natura 2000 management plans. Axis 4 includes: implementation of integrated local development strategies, implementation of cooperative projects and operation of Local Action Groups.	Further information: www.fvm.hu
ERDF	Regional Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Strengthening the cultural potential of the regions and tourism infrastructure.	Includes construction and reconstruction of trails and cycling paths; information panels, resting places, etc. in internationally and nationally important nature sites.	Further information: www.kvvm.hu , keop@mail.kvvm.hu
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape.	3.1.1. Activity: Conservation and rehabilitation of living and non-living nature values. Reduce the effect of transportation and electrical lines.	Available for public administration only, specially for national parks and authorities Further information: www.kvvm.hu , keop@mail.kvvm.hu
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape.	3.1.2. Activity: Preservation and rehabilitation of natural heritage. Reduce the effect of transportation and electric lines.	Available for public administration (e.g. local municipalities, minority municipalities, national parks and authorities are excluded), state forestries, NGOs, Churches, 100% state or municipality owned non profit institutions, railway

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				companies and state transportation (public utility). Further information: www.kvvm.hu , keop@mail.kvvm.hu
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape.	3.1.3 Activity: Preservation and rehabilitation of botanical gardens and protected historical gardens.		State and public bodies, non-governmental, non-profit organizations Further information: www.kvvm.hu , keop@mail.kvvm.hu
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape.	3.2.1. Activity: Development of infrastructural basis of conservation and rehabilitation of agricultural and forest sites.		Available for public administrations (e.g. local municipalities, national parks and authorities), state forestries. Further information: www.kvvm.hu , keop@mail.kvvm.hu
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape.	3.3.1. Activity: Development of infrastructure for outdoor educational centers' network.		Available only for registered outdoor educational centers. Further information: www.kvvm.hu , keop@mail.kvvm.hu
LIFE+	LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity; LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance; LIFE+ Information and Communication	Shall not finance measures eligible or in the main scope of, or receive assistance from other EU financial instruments.		Include surveys, studies, plans and programmes, land purchase and leasing, management measures, monitoring, communication activities, etc. Further information: http://fi.kvvm.hu/bm/life
Foreign governments				
Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of Norwegian Financial Mechanism	Priority areas for EEA Financial Mechanism (Art. 6 of MoU) include: • Protection of the environment and promotion of renewable energy; • Promotion of sustainable development through improved resource use and management; • Human resource development through, inter alia, promotion of education and training, strengthening of administrative or public service capacities of local government or its institutions as well as the democratic processes, which support it; • Academic research may be eligible	• Improvement and development of infrastructure for water protection and management • Reduce the loss of biodiversity and preserve natural habitats • Promotion of renewable energy sources • Environmental education and mainstreaming on all levels of public administration including support to environmental information activities • Research activities within all eligible areas of EEA Financial Mechanism	Further information: www.kvvm.hu

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		for funding in so far as it is targeted at one or more of the priority sectors. Priority areas for Norwegian Financial Mechanism (Art. 6 of MoU) include: • Environment, inter alia with emphasis on strengthening the administrative capacity to implement relevant acquis and investments in infrastructure and technology with priority given to municipal waste management, • Regional policy and cross-border activities, • Technical assistance relating to implementation of the EU Acquis Communautaire.		
State sources				
Environmental Fund	Annual updates State budget	Financial support for environmental and water management projects	Includes actions needed for reaching of goals of state environmental policy, environmental research and development, education and promotion, mitigation and re-habilitation measures in environmental accidents and risks. Further information: www.kvvm.hu Further information: www.nca.hu	
National Civil Fund	State budget, according to 2003 Act on National Civil Fund	Financial support for all private foundations and non-governmental organisations (excluding employers' and employees' interest groups, political parties and insurance associations) who are registered and have been operating in Hungary at least for a year. The grants are distributed by the Boards composed of the representatives of civil society organisations. The principles of the grant-support system are laid down by the governing body, the Council, which has a majority of delegates from civil society organisations.		

Table 3: Available funding sources in Hungary according to relevant cost categories**Activity category 1: Scientific studies/inventories for the identification of sites – surveys, inventories, mapping, condition assessment**

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary 2007-13 /Axis 3: Quality of Life in Rural Areas and Diversification of Rural Economy: Measure: gaining skills and creating and implementing the integrated local development strategies	Public-Private Partnerships involving NGOs, municipalities and private sector	All	Rural areas	Can fund 100% of eligible costs	Studies on respective area (elaboration of baseline information, main study, analyses, recommendations)
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary 2007-13 /Axis 4: Implementation of LEADER approach; Measure: implementation of integrated local development strategies	Local Action Groups (LAGs)	All	Rural areas	Establish Local Action Groups and develop integrated local development strategy. Municipalities outside the 'Convergence' regions can participate only if they are part of LAGs registered in 'Convergence' regions.	Inventories and surveys as part of local development strategies implementation
LIFE+	LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity, or LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions	All		Shall not finance measures eligible or in main scope of, or receive assistance from other Community financial instruments. Only innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects (Art. 3 of LIFE+ Regulation)	Include surveys, studies, plans and programmes also as part of monitoring.
Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority area: Academic research	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations)	All		Research activities within all eligible areas of EEA Financial Mechanism.	Research and studies needed to define best practice in habitat management
Environmental	State fund	Legal entities resident	All		Actions needed for	Research aimed at improving applied management

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Fund		in Hungary			reaching the goals of state environmental policy, environmental research and development oriented on environment improvement.	practices.
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Activity category 2: Pilot projects, initial 'trial' projects at sites

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary 2007-13 /Axis 3: Quality of Life in Rural Areas and Diversification of Rural Economy; Measure: elaboration of Natura 2000 management plans	Private Partnerships , NGOs and private sector	All	Rural areas	Can fund 100% of eligible costs	Management plans for priority regions and sites
LIFE+	LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity, or LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions	All		Shall not finance measures eligible or in main scope of, or receive assistance from other Community financial instruments. Only innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects (Art. 3 of LIFE+ Regulation)	Project testing new methods of habitat management
Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority area: Academic research	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations)	All		Research activities	Project testing new methods of habitat management.
Environmental Fund	State fund	Legal entities resident in Hungary	all		Actions needed for reaching the goals of state environmental policy, environmental research and development oriented on environment improvement (§4 of Act	Project testing new methods of habitat management

Activity category 3: Preparation of information and publicity material

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary 2007-13 /Axis 3: Quality of Life in Rural Areas and Diversification of Rural Economy; Measures: education and information and gaining skills and creating and implementing the integrated local development strategies	State, public or non-governmental non-profit organizations providing research and education activities if these are part of their subject of operation; Public – Private Partnerships involving NGOs, municipalities and private sector	all	Rural areas	Can fund 100% of eligible costs	Printed publications and web portals on measures for protection, creation and management of landscape
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary 2007-13 /Axis 4: Implementation of LEADER approach; Measure: implementation of integrated local development strategies	Local Action Groups (LAGs)	all	Rural areas		Preparation of information portals as part of local development strategy implementation
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape.	(Public administration)	all		Only as part of a project in all activities	Preparation of informational materials.
LIFE+	LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity, or LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance or LIFE+ Information and Communication	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions	all		Shall not finance measures eligible or in main scope of, or receive assistance from other Community financial instruments. Only innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects (Art. 3 of LIFE+ Regulation).	Promotion of best practices in habitats management
Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial)	all		Environmental information activities within all eligible areas of EEA Financial Mechanism.	

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	Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority area: Promotion of sustainable development	organizations)				
Environmental Fund	State fund	Legal entities resident in Hungary	all		actions needed for reaching the goals of state environmental policy, environmental education and promotion	Promotion of best practices in habitats management
National Civil Fund	State fund	Private foundations and non-governmental organisations	all			Promotion of best practices in habitats management

Activity category 4: Training and education for staff, including training courses, participation in workshops and seminars, etc.

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary 2007-13 /Axis 3: Quality of Life in Rural Areas and Diversification of Rural Economy; Measures: education and information and gaining skills and creating and implementing the integrated local development strategies	State, public or non-profit organizations providing research and education activities if these are part of their subject of operation; Public-Private Partnerships involving NGOs, municipalities and the private sector.	all	Rural areas	Can fund 100% of eligible costs	Internship programmes or training courses for LAG employees responsible for development and implementation of local development strategies
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary 2007-13 /Axis 4: Implementation of LEADER approach; Measure: implementation of integrated local development strategies	Local Action Groups (LAGs)	all	Rural areas	Established LAG and developed integrated local development strategy.	Twining projects on training for the LAG leaders
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape.	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions	all		Only indirectly as a part of a project.	Seminars and expert workshops on Natura 2000.
LIFE+	LIFE+ Information and Communication	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions	all		Shall not finance measures eligible or in main scope of, or receive assistance from other Community	Conferences and trainings for Natura 2000 site managers

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Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority area: Human resource development. State fund	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations)	all	financial instruments. Only innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects (Art. 3 of LIFE+ Regulation).	Trainings on best practices in habitats management
Environmental Fund		Legal entities resident in Hungary	all	Actions needed for reaching the goals of state environmental policy, environmental education and promotion	Trainings on best practices in habitats management.
National Civil Fund	State fund	Private foundations and non-governmental organizations	all		

Activity category 5: Preparation of management plans, strategies and schemes

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary for 2007-13/Axis 3: Quality of Life in Rural Areas and Diversification of Rural Economy.	Private Partnerships, NGOs and private sector	all	Rural areas	Can fund 100% of eligible costs	Development of Natura 2000 management plan
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary for 2007-13/Axis 4: Implementation of LEADER approach.	Local Action Groups (LAGs)	all	Rural areas		Development of local development strategies
LIFE+	LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity, or LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions	all		Shall not finance measures eligible or in main scope of, or receive assistance from, other Community financial instruments. Only innovative, best practice, pilot, etc.	Preparation of management plans for Natura 2000 sites or sites planned to involve to Natura 2000 network

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Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority areas: Promotion of sustainable development or Environment, inter alia with emphasis on strengthening the administrative capacity to implement relevant acquis	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations)	all		projects (Art. 3 of LIFE+ Regulation).	Preparation of management plans for Natura 2000 sites
Environmental Fund	State fund	Legal entities resident in Hungary	all		Actions needed for reaching the goals of state environmental policy.	Preparation of management plans for Natura 2000 sites and protected species management in Hungary.

Activity category 6: Establishment of management bodies Start-up funding, feasibility studies, management plans etc.

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary for 2007-13 / Axis 3: Quality of Life in Rural Areas and Diversification of Rural Economy.	Private Partnerships, NGOs and private sector	all	Rural areas	Can fund 100% of eligible costs	Development of Natura 2000 management plan
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary for 2007-13 / Axis 4: Implementation of LEADER approach.	Local Action Groups (LAGs)	all	Rural areas		Development of local development strategies
LIFE+	LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity, or LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance, or LIFE+ Information and Communication	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions	all		Shall not finance measures eligible or in main scope of, or receive assistance from other Community financial instruments. Only innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects (Art. 3 of LIFE+ Regulation)	Start-up funding for local management committees for Natura 2000 site
Norwegian and	Memorandum of	State and public	all			Start-up funding for local management committees

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EEA Funds	Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority areas: Promotion of sustainable development or Environment, i. a. with emphasis on strengthening the administrative capacity to implement relevant acquis	bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations)			for Natura 2000 sites
Environmental Fund	State fund	Legal entities resident in Hungary	all		actions needed for reaching the goals of state environmental policy (§4 of the Act 587/2004)
					Start-up funding for local management committees for Natura 2000 site

Activity category 7: Consultation – public meetings, liaison with landowners

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary for 2007-13 /Axis 3: Quality of Life in Rural Areas and Diversification of Rural Economy	Private Partnerships, NGOs and private sector	all	Rural areas	Can fund 100% of eligible costs	Development of Natura 2000 management plan
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary for 2007-13 / Axis 4: Implementation of LEADER approach	Local Action Groups (LAGs)	all	Rural areas		Development of local development strategies
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations	all		Only as part of finalisation of a project	Consultations and public meetings within implementation of the local development strategy and Natura 2000 plans.
LIFE+	LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity, or LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance or LIFE+ Information and Communication	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions	all		Shall not finance measures eligible or in main scope of, or receive assistance from other Community financial instruments. Only innovative, best	Consultations and public meetings within implementation of the local development strategy and Natura 2000 plans.

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Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority areas: Promotion of sustainable development; Environment, inter alia with emphasis on strengthening the administrative capacity to implement relevant acquis.	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations)	All		practice, pilot, etc. projects (Art. 3 of LIFE+ Regulation)	Consultations and public meetings within implementation of the local development strategy and Natura 2000 plans.
Environmental Fund	State fund	Legal entities resident in Hungary	all		Environmental information activities within all eligible areas of the EEA Financial Mechanism	Consultations and public meetings within implementation of the local development strategy and Natura 2000 plans.
National Civil Fund	State fund	Private foundations and non-governmental organisations	all		Actions needed for reaching the goals of state environmental policy, environmental education and promotion Now how transfer.	Consultations and public meetings within implementation of the local development strategy and Natura 2000 plans. Now how transfer.

Activity category 8: Review of management plans, strategies and schemes. Review and updating of management plans and strategies

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary for 2007-13 /Axis 3: Quality of Life in Rural Areas and Diversification of Rural Economy;	Private Partnerships, NGOs and private sector	all	Rural areas	Can fund 100% of eligible costs	Review of Natura 2000 management plan as part of development of local development strategies
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary for 2007-13 / Axis 4: Implementation of LEADER approach.	Local Action Groups (LAGs)	all	Rural areas		Review of Natura 2000 management plan as part of implementation of local development strategies
ERDF	Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and	(Public administration)	all	Rural areas	Only as part of a project	Review of management plans for Natura 2000 sites in Hungary.

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	management of natural environment and landscape.						
LIFE+	LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity, or LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions	all			Shall not finance measures eligible or in main scope of, or receive assistance from other Community financial instruments. Only innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects (Art. 3 of LIFE+ Regulation)	Review of management plans for Natura 2000 sites
Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority areas: Promotion of sustainable development or Environment, i. a. with emphasis on strengthening the administrative capacity to implement relevant acquis	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations)	all				Review of management plans for Natura 2000 sites
Environmental Fund	State fund	Legal entities resident in Hungary	all			Actions needed for reaching the goals of state environmental policy	Review of management plans for Natura 2000 sites.

Activity category 9: Running costs of management bodies (maintenance of buildings and equipment)

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary for 2007-13 / Axis 3: Quality of Life in Rural Areas and Diversification of Rural Economy.	Private Partnerships, NGOs and private sector	all	Rural areas	Can fund 100% of eligible costs	Running costs of LAG during development of local development strategy
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary for 2007-13 / Axis 4: Implementation of LEADER approach.	Local Action Groups (LAGs)	all	Rural areas		Maintenance of tourist information centre by LAG as part of implementation of local development strategy

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ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape.	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions	all	Protected areas and Natura 2000 sites	Conservation and rehabilitation of living and non-living nature values. Reduce of the effect of transportation and electric lines Generally can not fund continuous activities, can cover part of running costs directly related to any other eligible activities	Running cost of the project staff.
LIFE+	LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity, or LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions	all		Shall not finance measures eligible or in main scope of, or receive assistance from other Community financial instruments. Only innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects (Art. 3 of LIFE+ Regulation); Generally ineligible for continuous activities, can cover part of running costs directly related to any other eligible activities	Travel costs related to development of management plan for Natura 2000 site
Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority areas: Protection of the environment, incl. reduction of pollution and promotion of renewable energy; Promotion of sustainable development through improved resource use and management	State and public bodies, non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations)	all		Generally can not fund continuous activities, can cover part of running costs directly related to any other eligible activities	
Environmental Fund	State fund	Legal entities resident in Hungary	all		Actions needed for reaching the goals of state environmental policy. Generally ineligible for continuous activities, can cover part of	

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							running costs directly related to any other eligible activities.	
National Civil Fund	State fund	Private foundations and non-governmental organisations	all				Generally ineligible for continuous activities, can cover part of running costs directly related to any other eligible activities.	

Activity category 10: Investments in and maintenance of facilities for public access to and use of the sites, interpretation works, observatories and kiosks etc.

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary for 2007-13 / Axis 4: Implementation of LEADER approach.	Local Action Groups (LAGs)	all	Rural areas	Established LAG and developed integrated local development strategy.	Construction and maintenance of tourist information centre as part of implementation of local development strategies
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape.	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions	all	Protected areas and Natura 2000 sites	Only indirectly	Construction of nature trails, etc. in Natura 2000 sites
LIFE+	LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity, or LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions	all		Shall not finance measures eligible or in main scope of, or receive assistance from other Community financial instruments. Only innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects (Art. 3 of LIFE+ Regulation) Heavy infrastructure is not eligible, other infrastructure is eligible only in form of depreciation costs (from 25-50%) with exception of public and non-profit beneficiaries in LIFE+ Nature projects (100% of	Pilot or innovative projects which include building of nature education centres in Natura 2000 sites.

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Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority areas: Protection of the environment, incl. reduction of pollution and promotion of renewable energy; Promotion of sustainable development through improved resource use and management.	State and public bodies, non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations).	All		eligible costs).	Improvement and development of infrastructure for water protection and management in order to improve public access to protected sites.
Environmental Fund	State fund	Legal entities resident in Hungary	All		Actions needed for reaching the goals of state environmental policy	Construction of tourist information centres, nature trails, etc. in Natura 2000 sites.

Activity category 11: Staff (conservation/project officers, wardens/rangers, workers)

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary, 2007-13/Axis 4: Implementation of LEADER approach; Measure: operation of the Local Action Groups.	Local Action Groups (LAGs)	all	Rural areas	Established LAG and developed integrated local development strategy.	Staff costs of LAG employees as part of implementation of local development strategy
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape. Activity 3.1.1.	Public administration (e.g. national parks, authorities).	all	Protected areas and Natura 2000 sites.	Conservation and rehabilitation of living and non-living nature values. Reduce of the effect of transportation and electric lines Only for the period of the project.	Mainly infrastructural developments according to the existing management plans for protected areas or Natura 2000 sites.
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape. Activity 3.1.2.	Public administration, state forestry, NGOs, Churches, 100% state or municipality owned non profit institutions, railway companies and state transportation	all	Protected areas and Natura 2000 sites.	Preservation and rehabilitation of natural heritage. Reduce the effect of transportation and electrical lines. Only for the period of the project.	Management and infrastructural developments to improve preservation of rare or protected habitats or habitats annexed in the Habitats Directive.

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ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape. Activity 3.2.1.	(public utility). Public administration (e.g. local municipalities, minority municipalities, national parks and authorities), state forestries.	Agricultural lands and forests.	Protected areas and Natura 2000 sites.	Development of infrastructural basis of conservation and rehabilitation of agricultural and forestry sites. Only for the period of the project.	Development of infrastructure including buying domestic animals to promote natural land-use.
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape. Activity 3.1.3.	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations.	all	Botanical gardens and protected historical gardens.	Preservation and rehabilitation of botanical gardens and protected historical gardens Only for the period of the project.	Improve the ex situ preservation of collections of rare species.
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape. Activity 3.3.1.	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations			Development of infrastructure for network of outdoor educational centres. Only for the period of the project.	
LIFE+	LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity, or LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance or LIFE+ Information and Communication.	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions.	all		Shall not finance measures eligible or in main scope of, or receive assistance from other Community financial instruments. Only innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects (Art. 3 of LIFE+ Regulation); Generally ineligible for continuous activities, can cover part of staff costs directly related to any other eligible activities.	Staff costs related to development of management plan for Natura 2000 site.
Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority areas: Protection of the environment, incl. reduction of pollution and promotion of renewable	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations).	all		Generally can not fund continuous activities, can cover part of staff costs directly related to any other eligible activities.	Staff costs related to development of management plan for Natura 2000 site.

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	energy; Promotion of sustainable development through improved resource use and management.					
Environmental Fund	State fund	Individual persons or legal entities resident in Hungary	all		Actions needed for reaching the goals of state environmental policy : Generally can not fund continuous activities, can cover part of staff costs directly related to any other eligible activities. can cover part of staff costs directly related to the activities and genera running cost, too.	Staff costs related to development of management plan for Natura 2000 site and protected areas.
National Civil Fund	State fund	Private foundations and non-governmental organisations	all			

Activity category 12: Conservation management measures – maintenance and improvement of habitats' favourable conservation status

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary, 2007-13/Axis 2: Improvement of Environment and Landscape.	Individual and legal entities in agriculture	All (HNV) Grasslands (Natura 2000)	Designated areas (high nature value areas and Natura 2000 sites).		Compensation payments for management of grasslands within agri-environmental schemes to improve favourable conservation status.
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary, 2007-13/Axis 4: Implementation of LEADER approach; Measures: implementation of integrated local development strategies, implementation of cooperative projects and operation of Local Action Groups.	Local Action Groups (LAGs)	all	Rural areas	Established LAG and developed integrated local development strategy.	Management of Natura 2000 sites as part of implementation of local development strategies.
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape. Activity 3.1.1.	Public administration (spec national parks, authorities)	all	Protected areas and Natura 2000 sites	Conservation and rehabilitation of living and non-living nature values. Reduce the effect of transportation and electric lines.	Mainly infrastructural developments according to the existing management plans for protected areas or Natura 2000 sites.
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational	Public administration, state forestries, NGOs,	all	Protected areas and Natura 2000 sites	Preservation and rehabilitation of natural	Management and infrastructural developments to improve preservation of rare, protected or habitats

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	Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape. Activity 3.1.2.	Churches, 100% state or municipality owned non profit institutions, railway companies and state transportation (public utility).	Agricultural lands and forests	.	heritage. Reduce of the effect of transportation and electric lines.	annexed in Habitat Directive.
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape. Activity 3.2.1.	Public administration (eg. local municipalities, minority parks and authorities), state forestries.		Protected areas and Natura 2000 sites	Development of infrastructure for conservation and rehabilitation of agricultural and forestry sites.	Development of infrastructure including buying domestic animals to promote natural land-use
LIFE+	LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity, or LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance.	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions.	all		Shall not finance measures eligible or in main scope of, or receive assistance from other Community financial instruments. Only innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects (Art. 3 of LIFE+ Regulation) Can not fund on-going activities.	Pilot or innovative projects which include management of habitats in Natura 2000 sites.
Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority areas: Protection of the environment, incl. reduction of pollution and promotion of renewable energy; Promotion of sustainable development through improved resource use and management.	State and public bodies, non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations).	all		Can not fund on-going activities, can be used only for innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects.	Pilot or innovative projects which include management of habitats in Natura 2000 sites.
Environmental Fund	State fund	Legal entities resident in Hungary	all		Actions needed for reaching the goals of state environmental policy.	Implementation of Natura 2000 sites management plans.

Activity category 13: Conservation management measures – maintenance and improvement of species' favourable conservation status

Funding sources for supporting nature conservation and related development in Hungary

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
ERDF	Rural Development Program for Hungary, 2007-13/Axis 2: Improvement of Environment and Landscape	Individual and legal entities in agriculture	All (HNV) Grasslands (Natura 2000)	Designated areas (high nature value areas and Natura 2000 sites)		Compensation payments for management of grasslands within agri-environmental schemes to improve favourable conservation status.
ERDF	Rural Development Program for Hungary, 2007-13/Axis 4: Implementation of LEADER approach; Measures: implementation of integrated local development strategies, implementation of cooperative projects and operation of Local Action Groups.	Local Action Groups (LAGs)	all	Rural areas	Established LAG and developed integrated local development strategy.	Management of Natura 2000 sites as part of implementation of local development strategies.
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape. Activity 3.1.1.	Public administration (spec national parks, authorities)	all	Protected areas and Natura 2000 sites	Conservation and rehabilitation of living and non-living nature values. Reduce the effect of transportation and electric lines.	Mainly infrastructural developments according to the existing management plans for species, sites or Natura 2000 sites.
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape. Activity 3.1.2.	Public administration, state forests, NGOs, Churches, 100% state or municipality owned non profit institutions, railway companies and state transportation (public utility).	all	Protected areas and Natura 2000 sites.	Preservation and rehabilitation of natural heritage. Reduce the effect of transportation and electric lines.	Management and infrastructural developments to improve preservation of rare, protected or species annexed in the Birds and Habitat Directive.
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape. Activity 3.1.3.	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations).	all	Botanical gardens and protected historical gardens.	Preservation and rehabilitation of botanical gardens and protected historical gardens.	Improve the ex situ preservation of collections of rare species.
LIFE+	LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity, or LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions.	all		Shall not finance measures eligible or in main scope of, or receive assistance from other Community financial instruments. Only innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects (Art. 3 of LIFE+ Regulation)	Pilot or innovative projects which include species driven management of Natura 2000 sites.

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Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority areas: Protection of the environment, incl. reduction of pollution and promotion of renewable energy; Promotion of sustainable development through improved resource use and management.	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations).	all		Can not fund on-going activities. Can not fund on-going activities, can be used only for innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects.	Pilot or innovative projects which include species driven management of Natura 2000 sites.
Environmental Fund	State fund	Legal entities resident in Hungary	all		Actions needed for reaching the goals of state environmental policy.	Implementation of management plans.

Activity category 14: Conservation management measures in relation to invasive alien species (IAS)

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary, 2007-13/Axis 2: Improvement of Environment and Landscape	Individual and legal entities in agriculture	All (HNV) Grasslands (Natura 2000)	Designated areas (high nature value areas and Natura 2000 sites)	Only indirectly	Management of IAS as part of site management
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary, 2007-13/Axis 4: Implementation of LEADER approach; Measures: implementation of integrated local development strategies, implementation of cooperative projects and running of the LAG	Local Action Groups (LAGs)	all	Rural areas	Established LAG and developed integrated local development strategy.	Management of Natura 2000 sites as part of implementation of local development strategies
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural	Public administration (spec national parks, authorities)	all	Protected areas and Natura 2000 sites	Conservation and rehabilitation of living and non-living nature values. Reduce of the effect of transportation	Management of IAS as part of site management

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	environment and landscape. Activity 3.1.1.					and electric lines Only for the period of the project.	
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape. Activity 3.1.2.	Public administration, state forestries, NGOs, Churches, 100% state or municipality owned non profit institutions, railway companies and state transportation (public utility).	all	Protected areas and Natura 2000 sites	Preservation and rehabilitation of natural heritage. Reduce of the effect of transportation and electric lines. Only for the period of the project.	Management of IAS as part of site management	
ERDF	Environment and Energy Operational Programme/Priority Axis 3: Conservation and management of natural environment and landscape. Activity 3.2.1.	Public administration (eg. local municipalities, minority municipalities, national parks and authorities), state forestries.	Agricultural lands and forests	Protected areas and Natura 2000 sites	Development of infrastructural basis of conservation and rehabilitation of agricultural and forestry sites. Only for the period of the project.	Management of IAS as part of site management	
Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority areas: Protection of the environment, incl. reduction of pollution and promotion of renewable energy; Promotion of sustainable development through improved resource use and management.	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations).	All		Can not fund ongoing activities, can be used only for innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects.	Pilot or innovative projects which include IAS management within Natura 2000 sites	
Environmental Fund	State fund	Legal entities resident in Hungary.	All		Actions needed for reaching the goals of state environmental policy.	IAS management within protected areas.	

Activity category 15: Cross-border management of sites, including for activities mentioned above but across national borders

Fund	Description	Target groups	Land types	Area restrictions	Notes/other restrictions	Examples
EAFRD	Rural Development Program for Hungary, 2007-13/Axis 4: Implementation	Local Action Groups (LAGs).	All	Rural areas	Established LAG and developed integrated local development	Trans-boundary knowledge transfer in restoration of natural grasslands as part of implementation of local development strategy

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	of LEADER approach: Measure: implementation of cooperative projects.				strategy.	
LIFE+	LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity, or LIFE+ Environmental Policy and Governance or LIFE+ Information and Communication	Public and/or private bodies, actors and institutions	all		Shall not finance measures eligible or in main scope of, or receive assistance from other Community financial instruments. Only innovative, best practice, pilot, etc. projects (Art. 3 of LIFE+ Regulation) Can not fund on-going activities.	Pilot or innovative projects which include trans-boundary management of habitats in Natura 2000 sites.
Norwegian and EEA Funds	Memorandum of Understanding on Implementation of EEA Financial Mechanism & Memorandum of Understanding of Norwegian Financial Mechanism Priority areas: Protection of the environment, incl. reduction of pollution and promotion of renewable energy; Promotion of sustainable development through improved resource use and management.	State and public bodies, non-governmental non-profit organizations (excludes private commercial organizations).	All		Can not fund on-going activities, can be used only for innovative, best practice, pilot, etc projects.	Pilot or innovative projects which include trans-boundary management of habitats in Natura 2000 sites.
National Civil Fund	State fund	Private foundations and non-governmental organisations.	All		Can fund cross boarder project.	'Know how' transfer.

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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WWF Hungary

Németvölgyi 78B, 1124 Budapest, Hungary

Tel/fax: +36 1 214-5554, +36 1 212-9353

E-mail: panda@wwf.hu

<http://www.wwf.hu>

Editor: Andreas Beckmann, WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme

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WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme

Mariahilfer Strasse 88a/3/9

1070 Vienna, Austria

Email: office@wwfdcp.org

<http://www.panda.org/dcpo>



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