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Impossible Park Carpathians

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15th Carpathian Convention Implementation Committee (CCIC) meeting.

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Imagine...



The parties to the Carpathian Convention have agreed to take the initiative to establish the largest international park in Europe and are requesting financial and technical support from the EU.

This ambitious project will transform the Carpathian region, home to the most ecologically connected and biodiverse mixed forests in the European Union, into one of the largest transboundary parks in the world—seven times the size of Yellowstone.

International Park

Making a difference...
Carpathians

- Everyone notices that the EU is not a party to the Carpathian Convention, unlike the Alpine Convention, and expects the EU to demonstrate its commitment to the implementation of the Biodiversity Strategy 2030 and its protection targets.
- The Carpathians are poised to become a globally recognized brand, attracting millions of tourists each year, who spend hundreds of millions of euros in the communities surrounding the park.
- Smart forest protection zoning will significantly enhance the recreational value of the proposed Carpathian Park, quickly reaching an estimated value of 23 billion euros (approximately 453 euros per hectare).

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50 000
km²

forests and other vital areas to reestablish
natural connectivity and
enhance ecosystem services

19 364
km²

forests identified so far
as High Biodiversity Value Forests
or Potential

What, if not...

5

Will continue

The size of five football fields of Carpathian forests lost to wood extraction every hour

735
0

Deterioration of biodiversity values

km² canopy loss in last two decades to extraction, less roadless areas and further fragmentation of habitats to be expected

We will lose our greatest ally in fighting the climate crisis and nature loss worldwide as Carpathian forests are essential European part of the planetary safety net.

Preserving Carpathian forests will not prevent floods or droughts in the region, but it can slow down water flow and enhance adaptation to fast changing climate in European continent.

What if, yes...

The Park Carpathians

Regional consultations about future park borders centered around identified high-biodiversity forests with other areas in connectivity based on the least-cost path analysis.

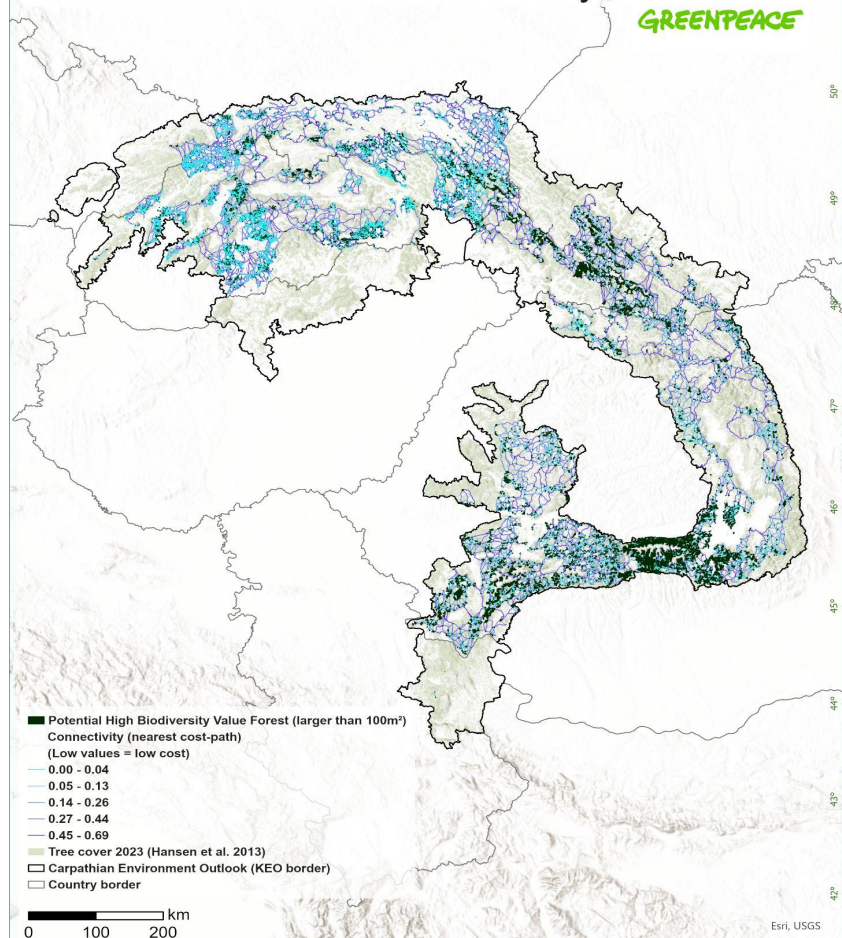
Building powerful brand and securing EU funds for developing management plans with shared principles and different protection zones to benefit rare nature and local communities.

Establishing International fund to help governments with purchasing land and compensating private forest owners.



Connectivity of potential High Biodiversity Value Forests in the Carpathians Least-Cost Path Analysis

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"(...) Establishing the Carpathian Park as Europe's largest transboundary sanctuary is not just about conservation—it's about survival. A park of this scale with some roadless areas would be our greatest lifeline for biodiversity and a powerful shield against the climate crisis."

Nuria Selva

*Associate Professor at the Institute of
Nature Conservation, Polish Academy of Science.*

**The invention of radio, space travel,
or declaring Antarctica a World Park
off-limits to mining for fifty years -
all of these once seemed impossible.**

**Yet, it is often the impossible that drives
the world forward.**