

WBF 2024

18 June 2:30 – 4:00

Integrating mountains in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: monitoring, research, and engagement in regional and global policy processes

Harnessing Kunming-Montreal GBF Mechanisms

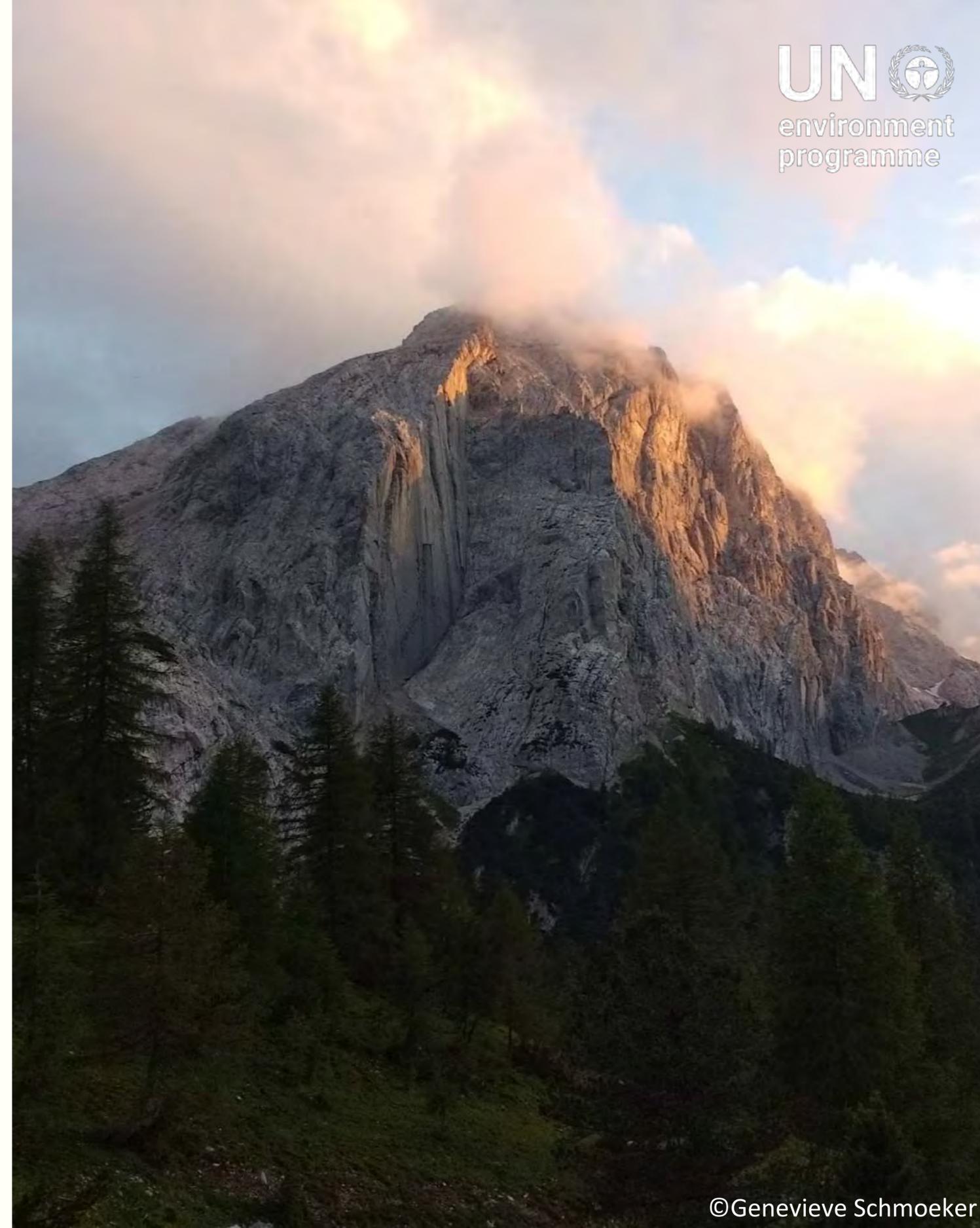
to Elevate Mountain Biodiversity

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UN 
environment
programme

Outline

1. **Disconnect between science and policy**
2. **UNEP and Science-Policy Interfaces**
3. **KM-GBF Mechanisms of Implementation for Mountains**
4. **Examples from the field: UNEP's work on science-policy in Mountains**



Disconnect between science and policy

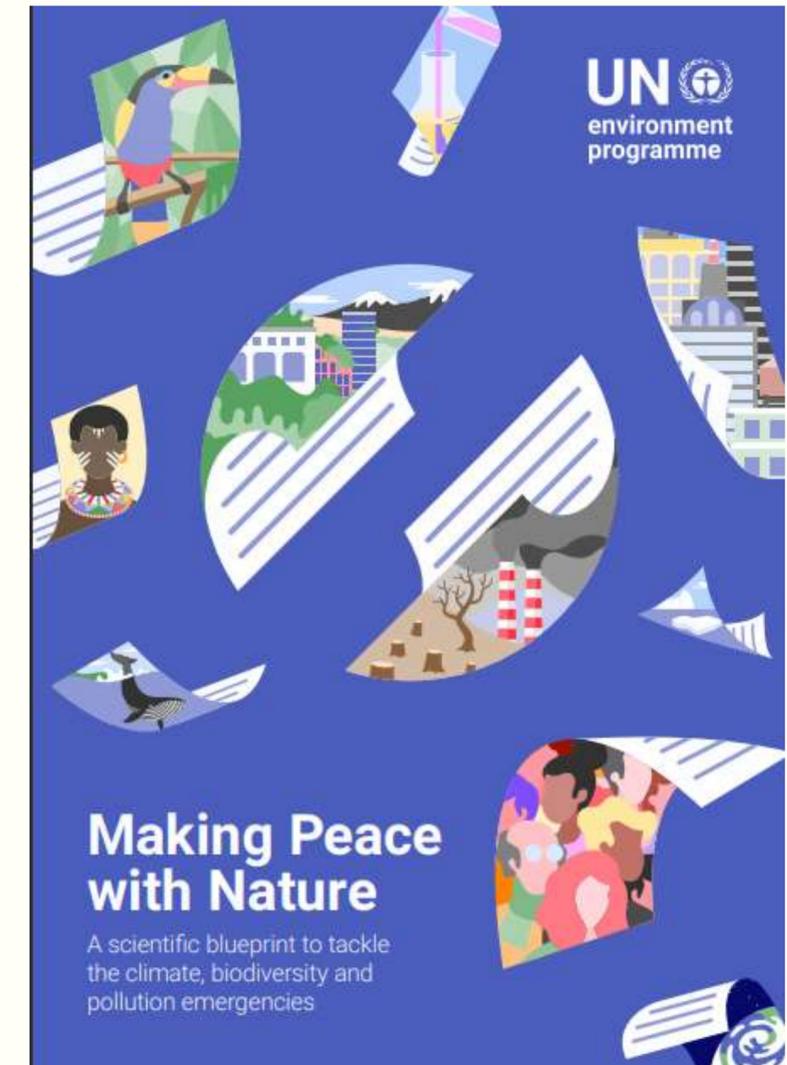
The science is clear. Policy uptake is not.

Availability of scientific knowledge and evidence for environmental problems on their own have not been sufficient to greatly influence individual and collective choices or environmentally sound public policy.

There is evidence of a gap between uptake of policy and its implementation.

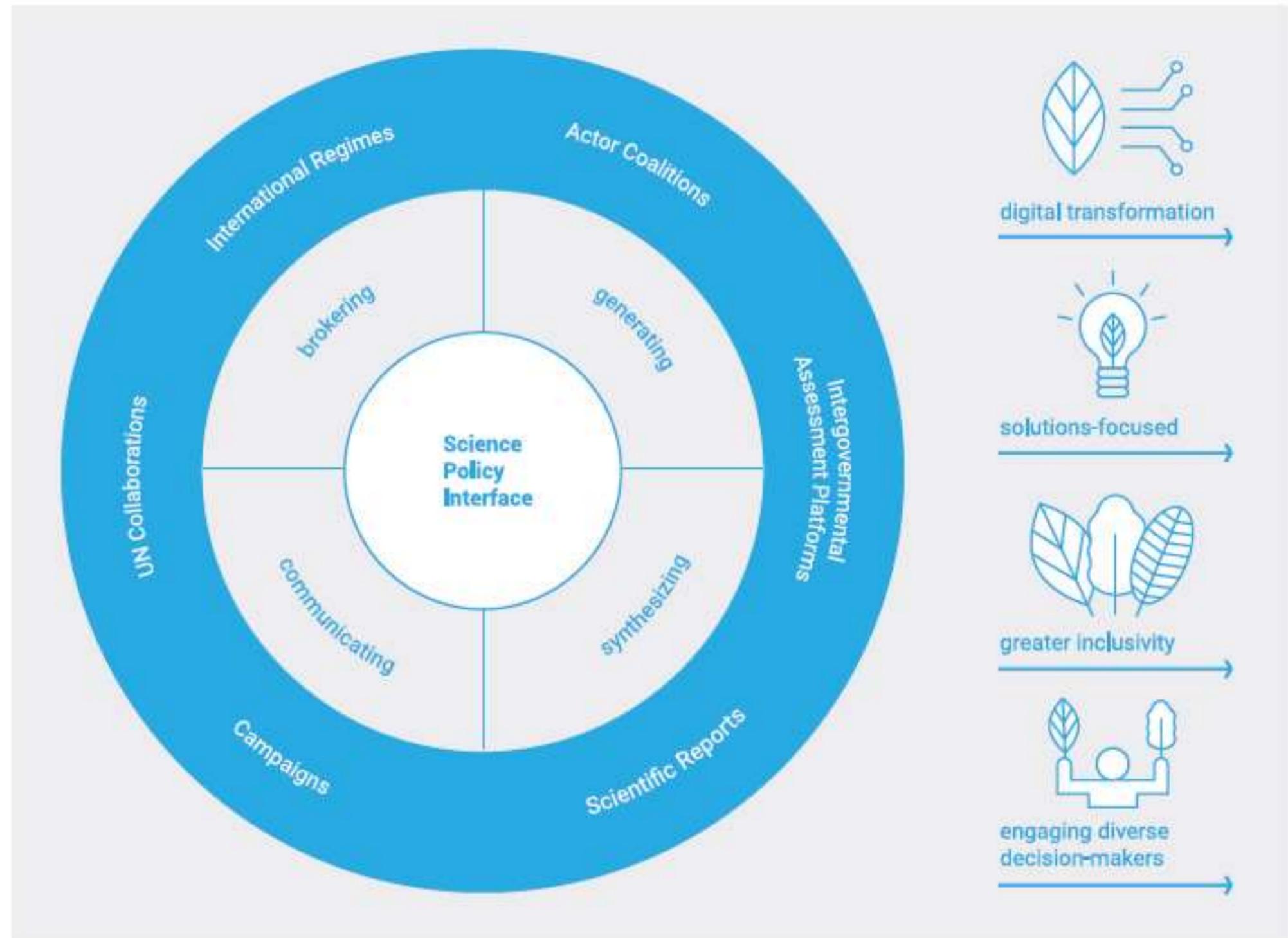
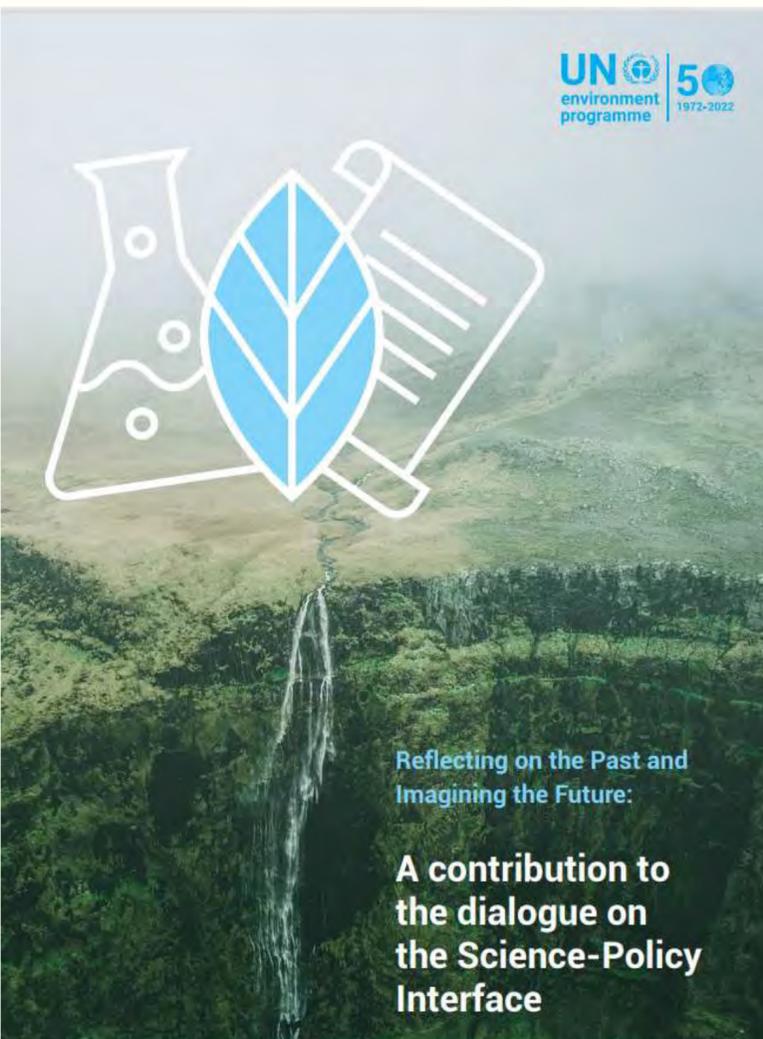
But there do exist science-to-policy successes...

- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)
- Montreal Protocol
- Etc.



Science-Policy Interface mechanisms at UNEP

Science-Policy Interface has formed the backbone of UNEP's work for the past 50+ years.



UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2025

The core mandate of UNEP is to keep the world environment situation under review and strengthen the interface between science and policymaking across the sustainable development agenda.

Science-policy is one of two foundational subprogrammes of UNEP's work, delivering:

- scientifically credible and unbiased data, information and knowledge
- policy-relevant analysis and recommendations

- Providing authoritative science
- Increasing uptake of science
- Proposing solutions
- And more...

Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

23 Targets with 4 Goals to be achieved by 2030

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) are the main vehicle for implementation

Programmes of Work (PoWs)

Seven thematic PoW:

- Agricultural Biodiversity
- Dry and Sub-humid Lands Biodiversity
- Forest Biodiversity
- Inland Waters Biodiversity
- Island Biodiversity
- Marine and Coastal Biodiversity
- **Mountain Biodiversity**



GBF Mechanisms of Implementation



THE BIODIVERSITY PLAN
For Life on Earth



Convention on
Biological Diversity

Thematic Programmes of Work – one means of implementation of the GBF

Decision CBD/COP/15/4:

9. Requests the Executive Secretary to conduct a **strategic review and analysis of the programmes of work** of the Convention in the context of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to facilitate its implementation, and, on the basis of this analysis, to **prepare draft updates of these programmes of work** for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as appropriate, at meetings during the period between the fifteenth and sixteenth meetings of the Conference of the Parties, and to report on this work to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting.

Rapid Gap Analysis on PoWs (CBD/SBSTTA/25/INF/1)

SBSTTA 26 Recommendation (CBD/SBSTTA/REC/26/2):

Review and analyse PoWs and prepare draft updates of the PoWs for consideration by the Subsidiary Body at a future meeting held before COP17

GBF Mechanisms of Implementation for Mountains

Mountain Biodiversity Programme of Work

To what extent does the MB PoW align with the Biodiversity Plan?

Rapid Gap Analysis on PoWs (CBD/SBSTTA/25/INF/1)

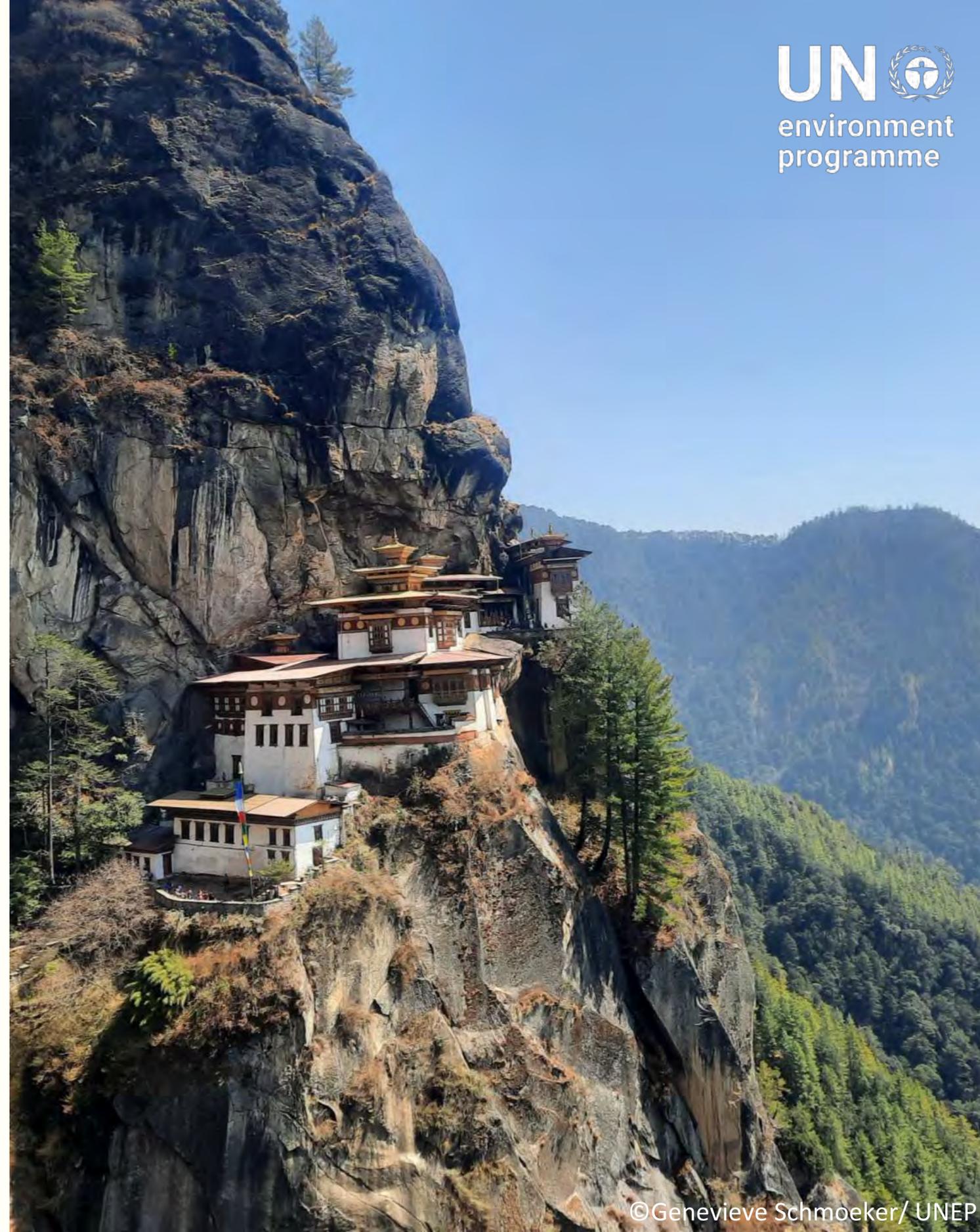
How can we use science to revise the Programmes of Work?



THE BIODIVERSITY PLAN
For Life on Earth



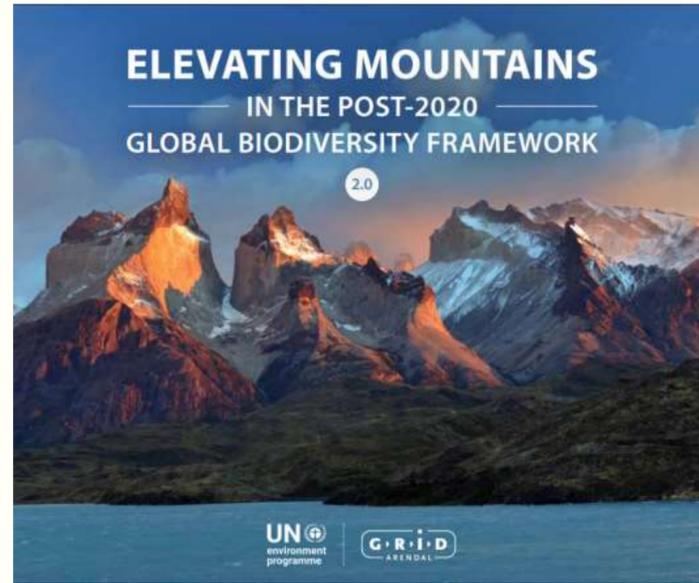
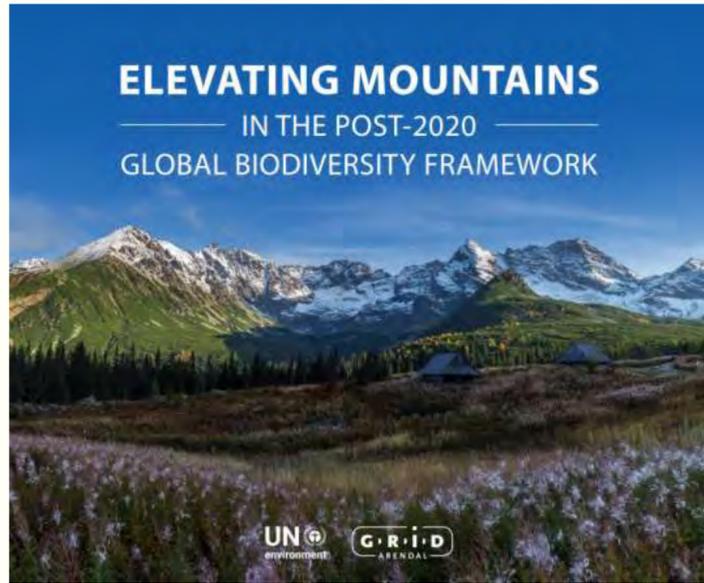
Convention on
Biological Diversity



UNEP, Science Policy, and Mountains



Highlighting Mountain Biodiversity in Global Processes



©Michael Booth/ UNEP

Indicators for Elevating Mountains in the Convention on Biological Diversity's Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

Effective indicators of mountain biodiversity and ecosystems status and trends are crucial for supporting the goals and targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). Given the uniqueness of biodiversity in mountains, and the relevance of the ecosystem services they deliver for the well-being of people worldwide, the need to elevate mountains in the GBF was addressed by previous policy briefs presented at the first¹ and second² meetings of the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG). This document complements earlier

contributions and supports decision-makers in ongoing Post-2020 GBF discussions by:

- identifying indicators in CBD/SBSTTA/24/3Add.1³ considered important for safeguarding mountain biodiversity and ecosystem integrity
- providing the rationale for the adoption of such indicators at multiple levels
- suggesting indicators for further consideration and development.

Adopting indicators that promote mountain biodiversity conservation will contribute to realizing

the CBD's vision of "Living in Harmony with Nature" by 2050 and strengthen the coherence among international frameworks and science- and evidence-based policy-making.

Indicators suggested in CBD/SBSTTA/24/3Add.1 fall into three groups: headline, component, and complementary. A minimum set of high-level headline indicators tracks national, regional, and global progress on GBF goals and targets. Component indicators measure progress toward the goals' and targets' components more specifically.

Linking policy brief recommendations with CBD/SBSTTA/24/3Add.1 indicators

	Code	Indicators	Policy brief recommendations								
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Headline	A.0.1	Extent of selected natural ecosystems*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
	A.0.4	Species Habitat Index	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
	2.0.1	Protected areas coverage of important biodiversity areas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
	2.0.2	Species Protection Index	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
	10.0.2	Ecosystems providing reduced coastal erosion, flood protection and other services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
Component	A.1.1	Extent of natural ecosystem (A.0.1) by type	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
	2.1.1	Protected area coverage by type**	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
	2.1.2	Protected area coverage of important biodiversity areas by type**	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓
	19.1.4	Growth in Species Occurrence Records Accessible Through GBIF	✓								

* forest, savannahs and grasslands, wetlands, mangroves, saltmarshes, coral reef, seagrass, macroalgae and intertidal habitats

Acknowledge the importance of mountain biodiversity & ecosystem services (SDG 15.4) 1
Collect sound data for science & policy 2
Acknowledge ecosystem-specific risks & needs in mountains 3
Reduce pressures & facilitate biodiversity conservation 4
Support protected area coverage & effective area-based conservation measures for important sites for mountain biodiversity 5



©Charlotte Daniels/ UNEP



Implementing the Global Biodiversity Framework through the Carpathian Convention

The Carpathian Convention is a regional instrument for enhancing implementation of global and European policies

Facilitating cross-border and transnational cooperation by providing:

- 1 Framework for policy coordination**
- 2 Platform for joint activities**
- 3 Forum for dialogue**

The Carpathian Mountains of central and eastern Europe are Europe's last great wilderness areas



ECO-REGION SHARED BY 7 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

5 EU Members: Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia

2 non-EU Members: Serbia, Ukraine



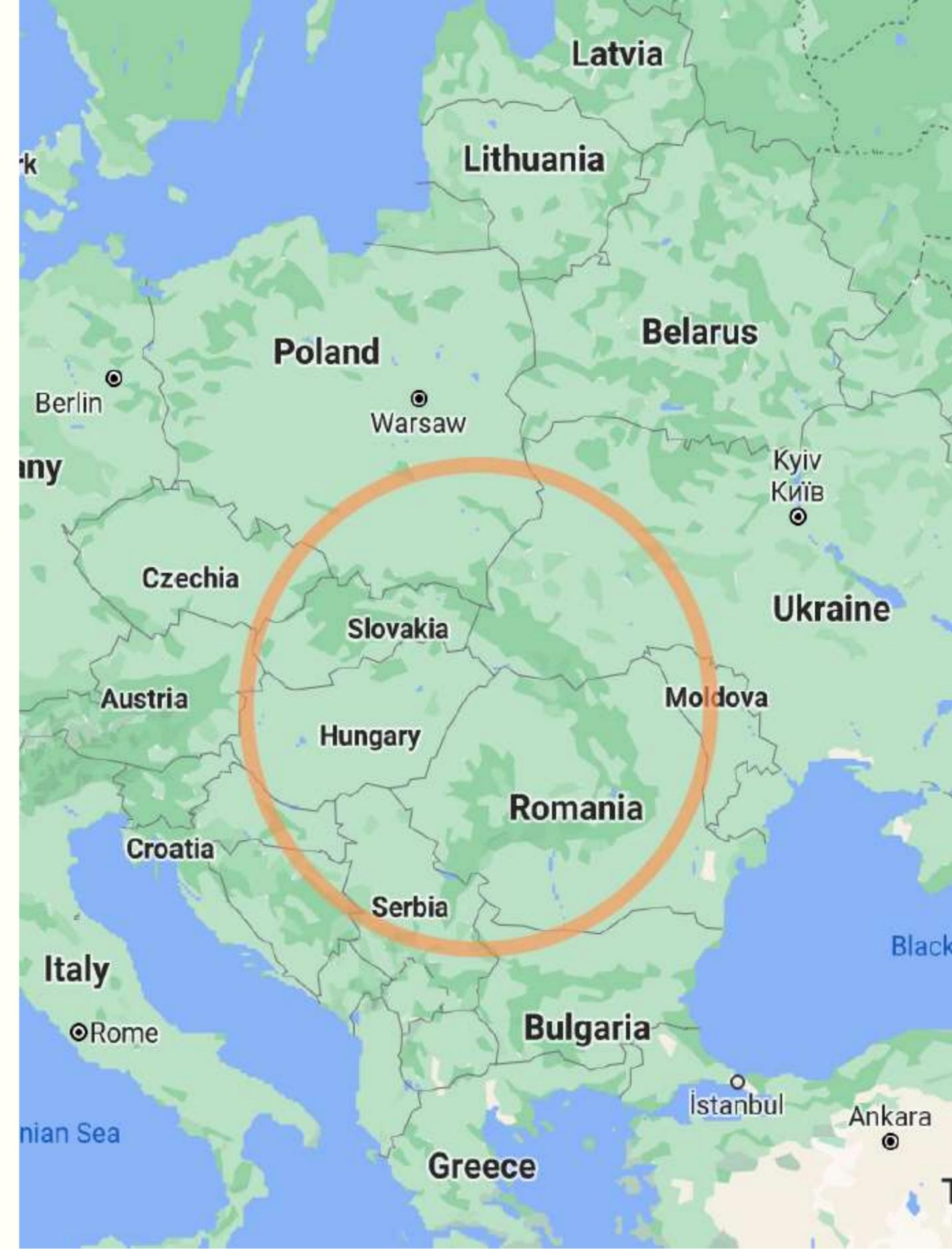
PROVIDES ESSENTIAL ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

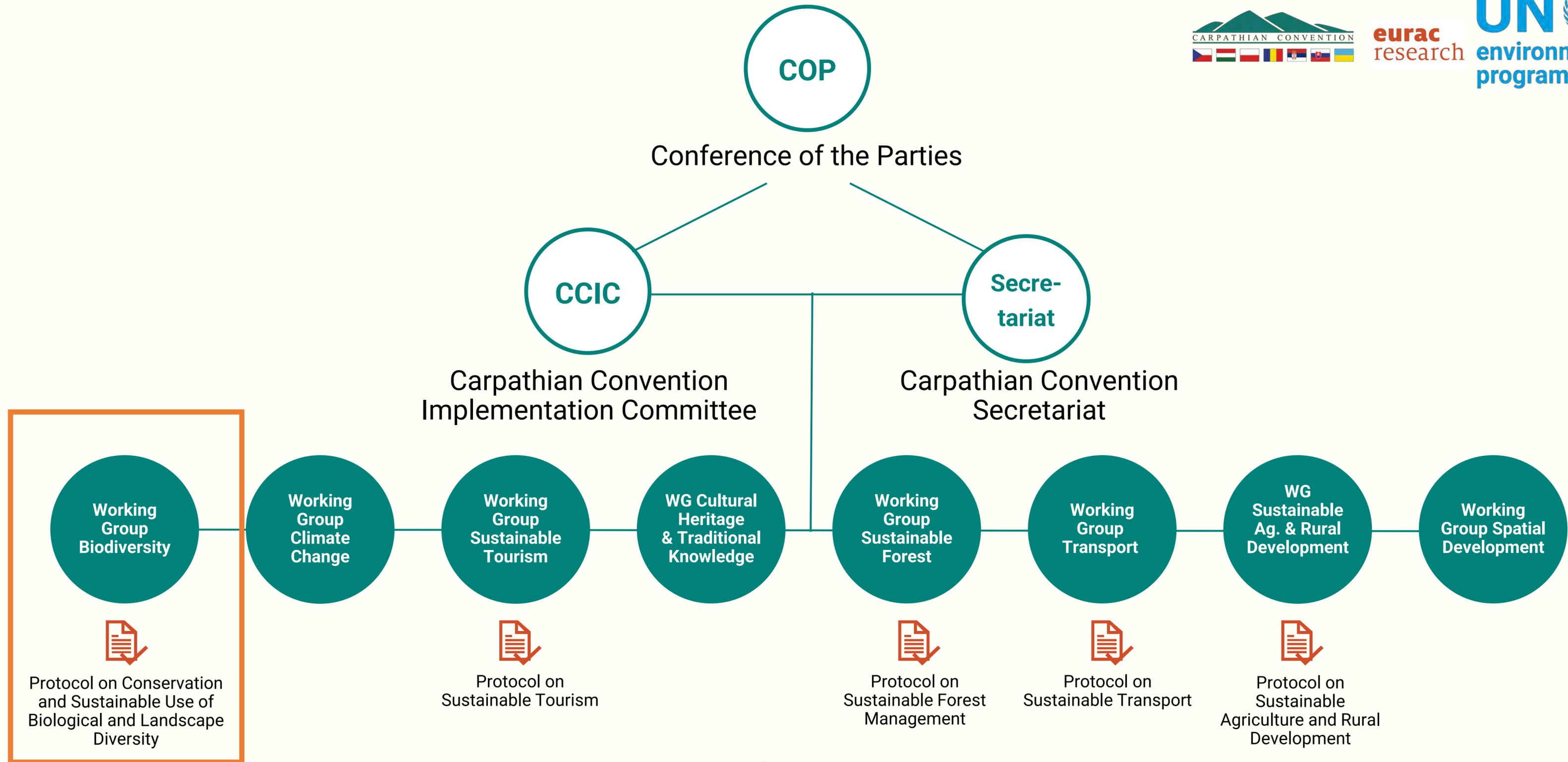
Serves 17 million inhabitants, living mostly in rural areas



CONTAINS VAST NUMBER OF PROTECTED AREAS

Vital for a coherent European ecological network





Implementing the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) through the Carpathian Convention



**GLOBAL
PROCESSES**

**CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

**Highlight mountain
biodiversity**

**REGIONAL
PROCESSES**

**CARPATHIAN
CONVENTION**

**Implement GBF
regionally**

**NATIONAL
PROCESSES**

**CARPATHIAN
COUNTRIES**

**Implement adopted
commitments**

TRANSLATING

Adapt the GBF goals and targets to the Carpathian region

Global Biodiversity Framework

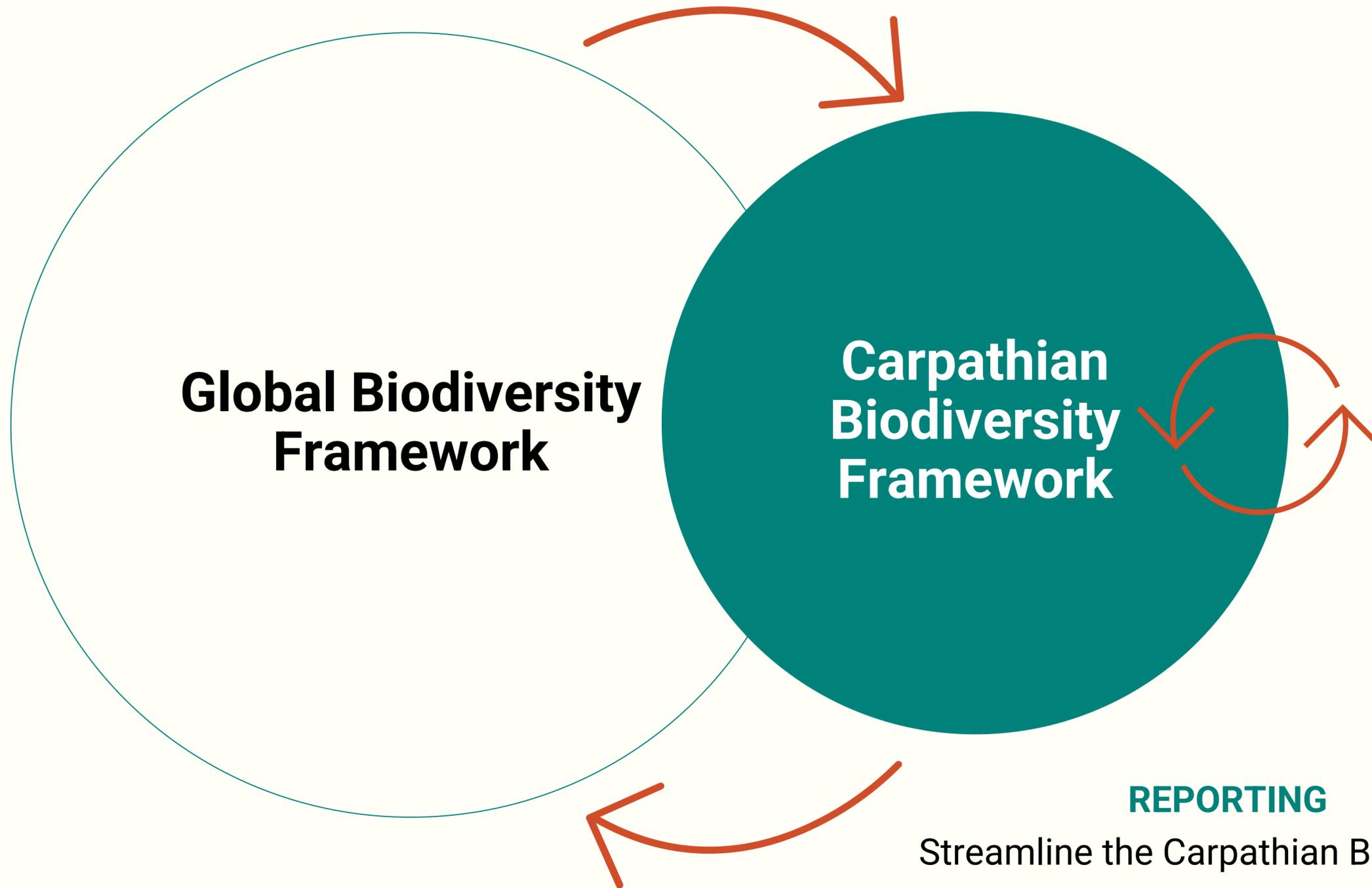
Carpathian Biodiversity Framework

IMPLEMENTING

Collaborate across sectors and actors in the region

REPORTING

Streamline the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework into country's national and global targets



The Science4Carpathians network



Science for the Carpathians



Implementing Recommendations from Science for the Carpathians (S4C)

The S4C network aims at **defining research priorities** for the Carpathian region and **linking research, policy, and practice.**

- Memorandum of Understanding between S4C and the Carpathian Convention signed in 2012
- MoU with the Caucasus Scientific Network (SNC-mt in 2021)
- Regularly providing recommendations to the Carpathian Convention



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Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation
and Nuclear Safety



Federal Agency
for Nature
Conservation

Umwelt
Bundesamt

www.carpathianscience.org

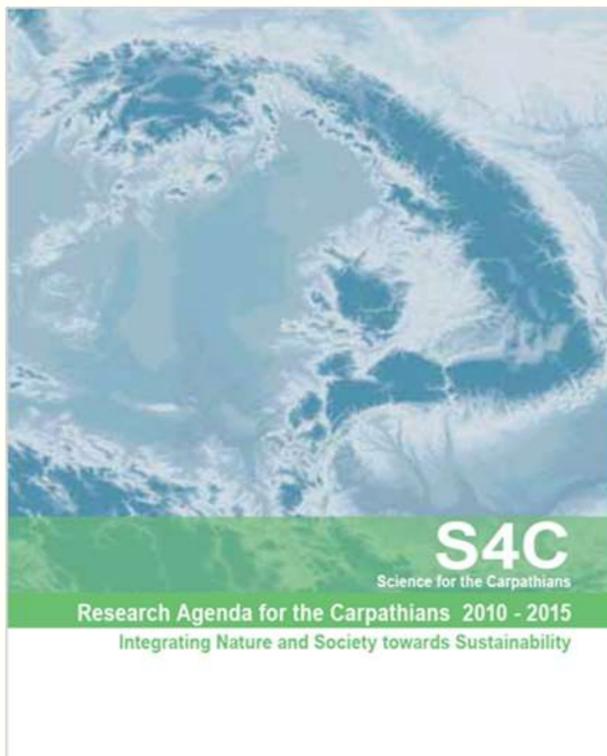
Science for the Carpathians - main aims



- Develop and implement the *Research Agenda for the Carpathians*
- Promote research collaborations across disciplines and national boundaries
- Advocate for pan-Carpathian research
- Facilitate the development of peer-reviewed papers and synthesis articles
- **Foster dialogue between research, policy and practice**



Chapter: Mitrofanenko, T. et al., 2024:
Science-policy-practice collaborations towards
sustainable development in the Carpathian Region

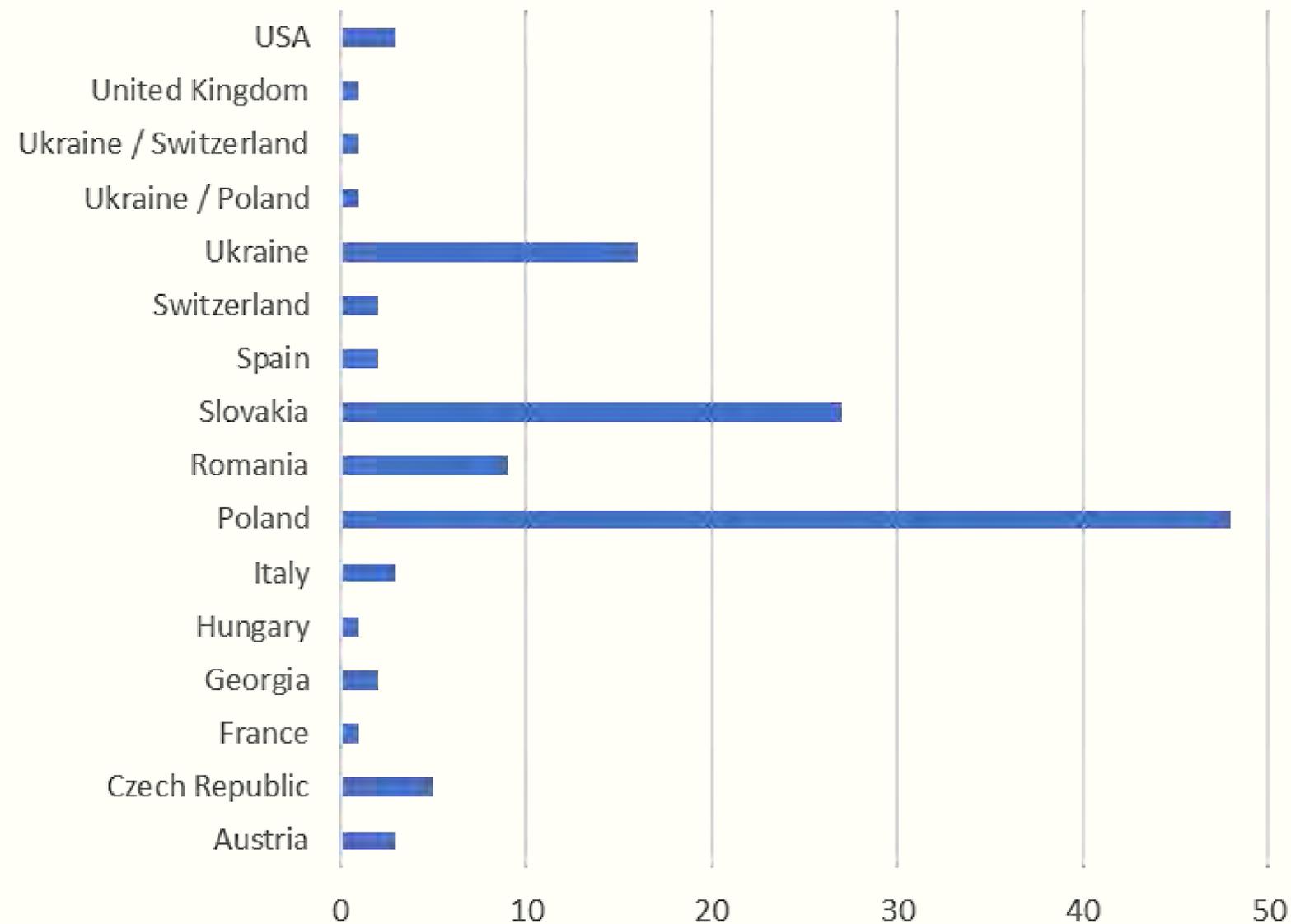


Forum Carpathicum



125 participants from 15 countries

participants of the 2023 Forum Carpathicum



Highlights from 2023 Forum Carpathicum

- 3 keynote talks
- 17 thematic sessions
- mini-symposium on Carpathian endemic species
- 4 side events and workshops



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation
and Nuclear Safety



Caucasus Mountain Forum as key regional science –policy practitioners platform

- The Caucasus ecoregion hosts a wide array of ecosystems, biodiversity and cultures
- Three Caucasus Mountain Forums (CMF) have been organized over past years to **exchange on latest science, policies and collaborations of sustainable mountain development**
 - Led by the Scientific Network for the Caucasus Mountain Regions (SNC-mt) with the support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), UNEP, MRI and others
 - Opportunity for ministry representatives to engage in policy dialogue, informed by science
- Works on implementation of [Caucasus Regional Research Agenda 2020-2030](#)





VANISHING TREASURES

PROTECTING ENDANGERED MOUNTAIN SPECIES

Flagship programme focused on understanding climate change impacts on iconic mountain species, habitats, prey species, and mountain communities in three regions:

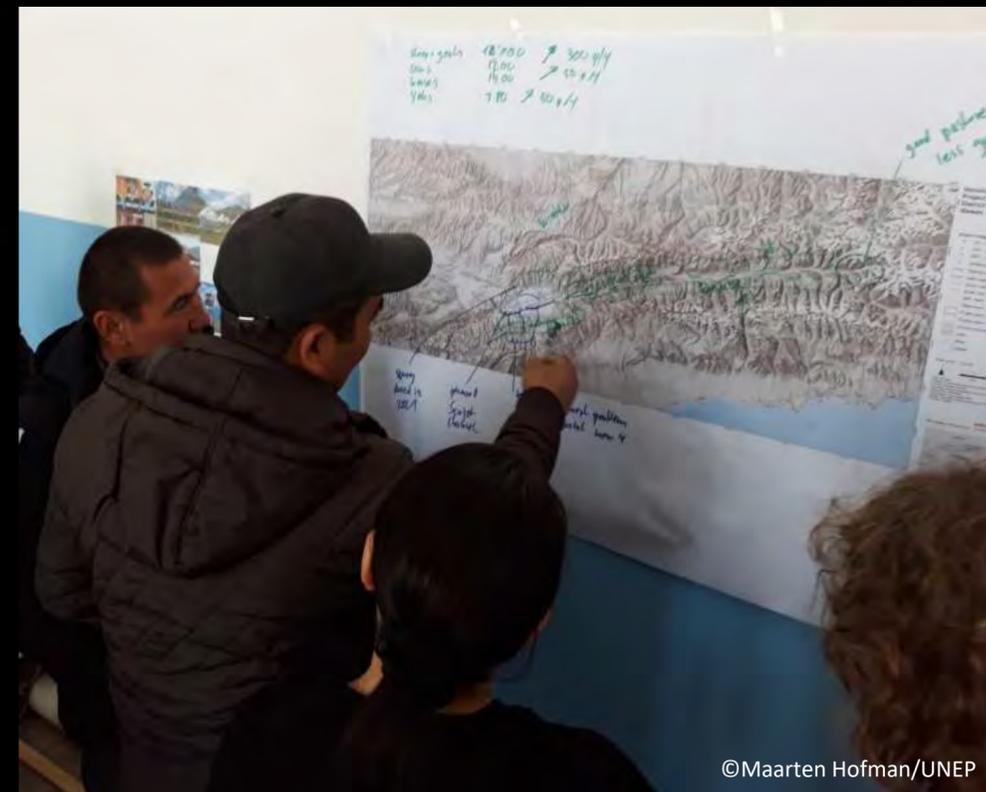
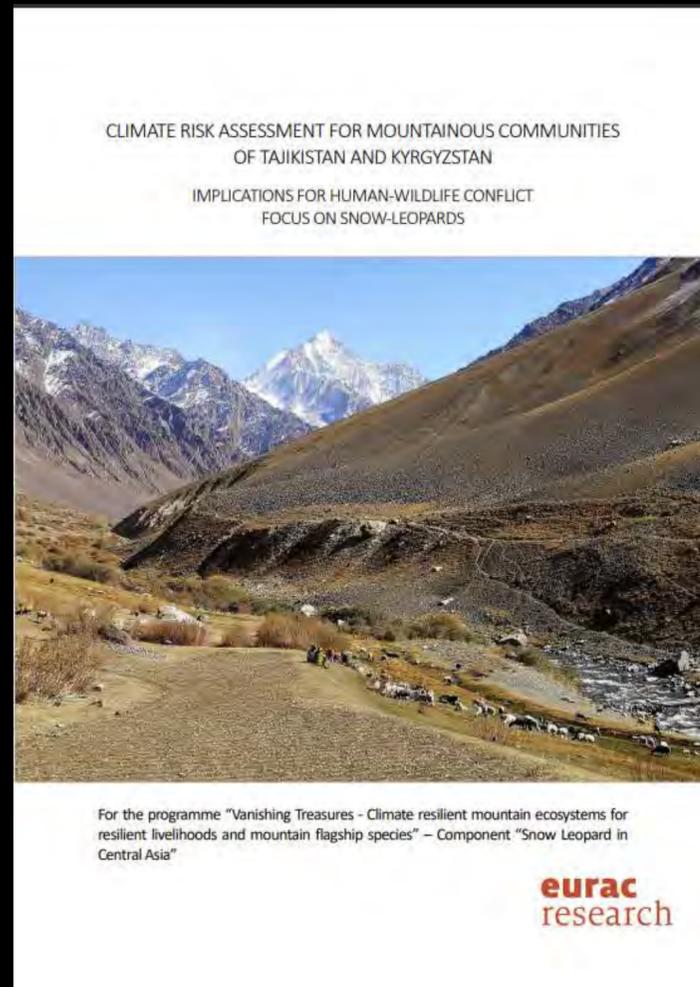
- Central Asia – Tajikistan & Kyrgystan
- Hindu-Kush Himalayas – Bhutan
- Virungas – Uganda & Rwanda



VANISHING TREASURES

PROTECTING ENDANGERED MOUNTAIN SPECIES

Working closely with experts to assess climate risks, vulnerability, economic case studies etc. which then inform decision-making at local, national and regional level.



Tajikistan is Developing a Climate-Smart National Action Plan for the Conservation of the Snow Leopard and its Ecosystems



Snow Leopard © Snow Leopard Conservancy

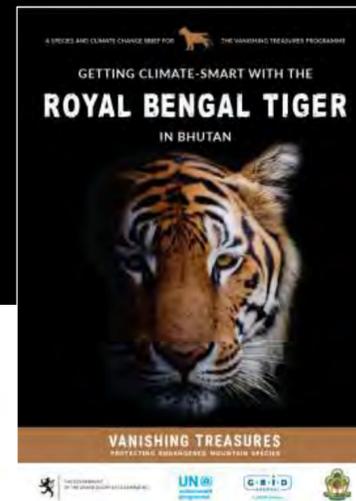
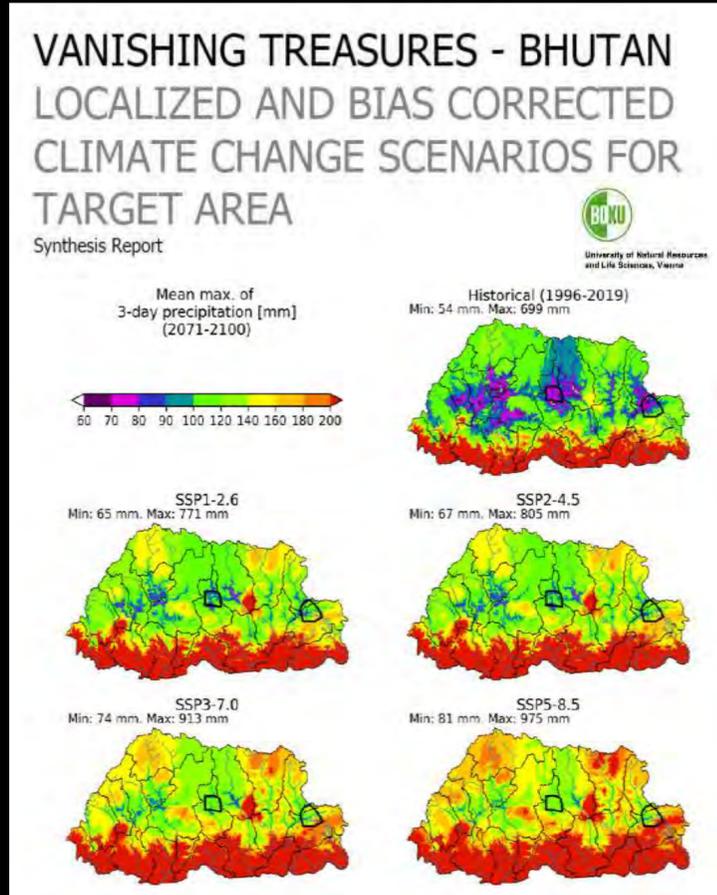


www.vanishingtreasures.org



THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG

A closer look at Bhutan...



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Thank you!

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