



# The Carpathian Convention

One Health Preparatory Meeting, 06.06.2024

UNEP Vienna Programme Office - Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention





# 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



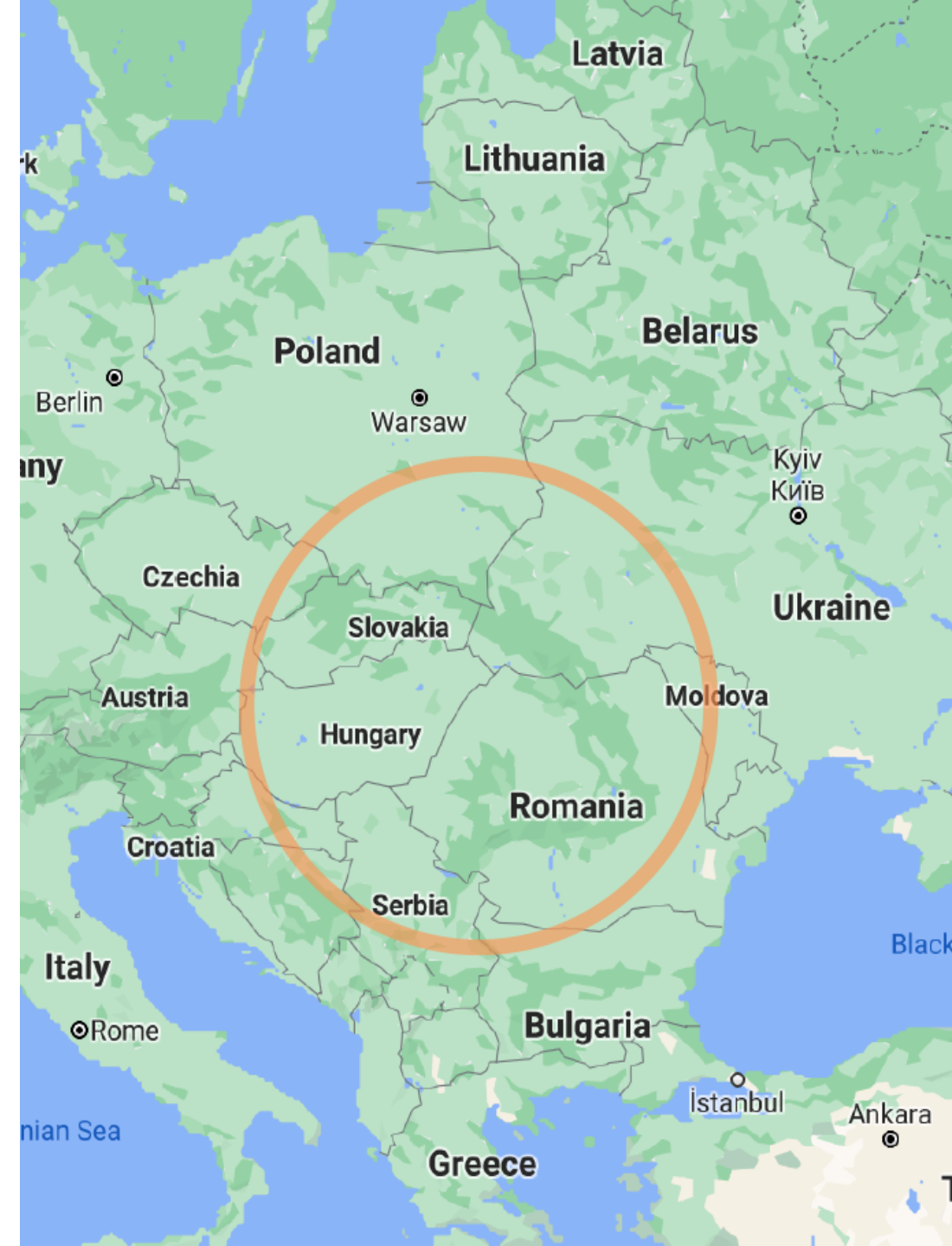
## PROVIDES ESSENTIAL ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Serves 17 million inhabitants, living mostly in rural areas



## CONTAINS VAST NUMBER OF PROTECTED AREAS

Vital for a coherent European ecological network





**GOAL: Environmental protection and sustainable development of the Carpathian region**

## The Carpathian Convention was established to coordinate efforts in the Carpathian region

2001

Initiated by Ukraine

2003

Adopted and signed in Kiev, Ukraine on 22 May 2003

Signed at the Fifth Ministerial Conference „Environment for Europe”

2006

Entered in force on 4 January

# The Convention's 23 Articles include thematic sectors:

- 3 Integrated approach to the land resources management
- 4 Conservation and sustainable use of biological and landscape diversity
- 5 Spatial planning
- 6 Sustainable and integrated water/river basin management
- 7 Sustainable agriculture and forestry
- 8 Sustainable transport and infrastructure
- 9 Sustainable tourism
- 10 Industry and energy
- 11 Cultural heritage and traditional knowledge
- 12 Environmental assessment/information system, monitoring and early warning
- 12bis Climate Change
- 13 Awareness raising, education and public participation

# The Carpathian Biodiversity Framework is a tool to implement the Convention by supporting transformative actions across and within sectors

## Carpathian Vision 2050:

By 2050, the Carpathians is a thriving and sustainable region where people live in harmony with nature.

The biodiversity and natural beauty of the Carpathians are conserved, restored, and wisely used providing a healthy environment and essential ecosystems services for all people of the region and beyond.

- 1 Coordinate efforts on conservation, maintenance and sustainable use of **natural and semi-natural habitats**.
- 2 Sustainably manage and protect Carpathian **forests**.
- 3 Cooperate on making **tourism** sustainable to maximize benefits and mitigate negative impacts.
- 4 Develop **transport** and related infrastructure sustainably by implementing environmentally-friendly transport models and systems.
- 5 Maintain Traditional Knowledge on traditionally cultivated land and sustainable **agriculture** practices.
- 6 Strengthen regional resilience through **climate change** mitigation and adaptation.
- 7 Strengthen **public awareness** about the Convention's objectives by integrating lifelong learning, global education approaches and cross-sectoral cooperation into the Convention's activities.
- 8 Cooperate with **Ukraine** on protecting and sustainably developing the Carpathian region to address the direct and indirect impacts of the war in Ukraine on the region.





**The Carpathian Convention supports  
several projects in the region, facilitating  
further exchange**

**TRANSGREEN:** green and grey infrastructure planning

**Wild for DC project:** Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime in the Danube-Carpathian Region

**ConnectGREEN:** mountainous ecological corridors as green infrastructure

**SaveGREEN:** transnational ecological corridors

**SWiPE project:** Successful Wildlife Crime Prosecution in Europe

**Centralparks:** Building management capacities of Carpathian protected areas

**ForestConnect:** forest connectivity for large carnivores

**NaturaConnect:** network of conserved areas

**LECA:** conflict prevention measures and monitoring approaches on large carnivores

**Central Mountains:** strengthening governance models for sustainably developing mountain areas in Central Europe





Eleonora Musco [Eleonora.musco@un.org](mailto:Eleonora.musco@un.org)  
Learn more: [carpathianconvention.org](http://carpathianconvention.org)

UNEP Vienna Programme Office Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention: [info.carpathianconvention@un.org](mailto:info.carpathianconvention@un.org)

[www.carpathianconvention.org](http://www.carpathianconvention.org)

[www.unenvironment.org](http://www.unenvironment.org)





# South-Eastern Europe (de)Pollution Platform (SEPP): To facilitate the creation of innovative partnerships on pollution in the region; To foster transboundary cooperation on pollution related policies; To support exchange of information, know-how and provide a strategic regional platform for discussion 2019 - 2022



12 MARCH 2019  
Nairobi, Kenya

Presentation at UNEA 4



Save the Date for the Environment and Human Health in the Western Balkans: Challenges and opportunities regional exchange webinar

Monday 21.06.2021 10:00-11:30 CEST

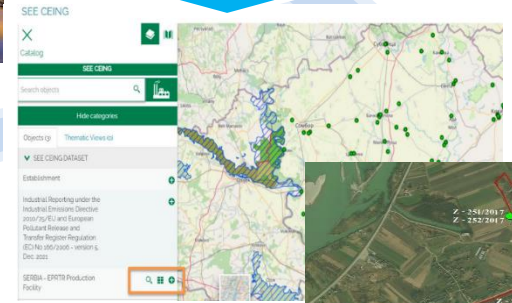
Innovative Solutions to Pollution in South East and Southern Europe organized in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme

This webinar aims at showing linkages between the environment and human health and to discuss potential solutions in the Western Balkans. A detailed programme will be provided closer to the event.



2021 – Webinars on Environment and Health and PPP

2019–2021 SEE-CEING Project exchange environmental info and good practices GEF LM in Serbia (2015 – 2021)

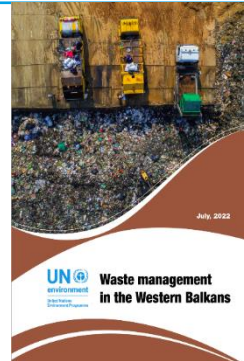
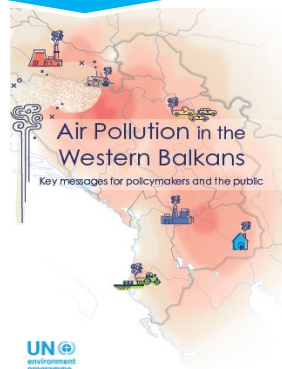


4-5 DECEMBER 2018, Belgrade, Serbia

Ministerial Conference on Innovative Solutions to Pollution in South-East Europe

24-25 JUNE 2019, Vienna, Austria

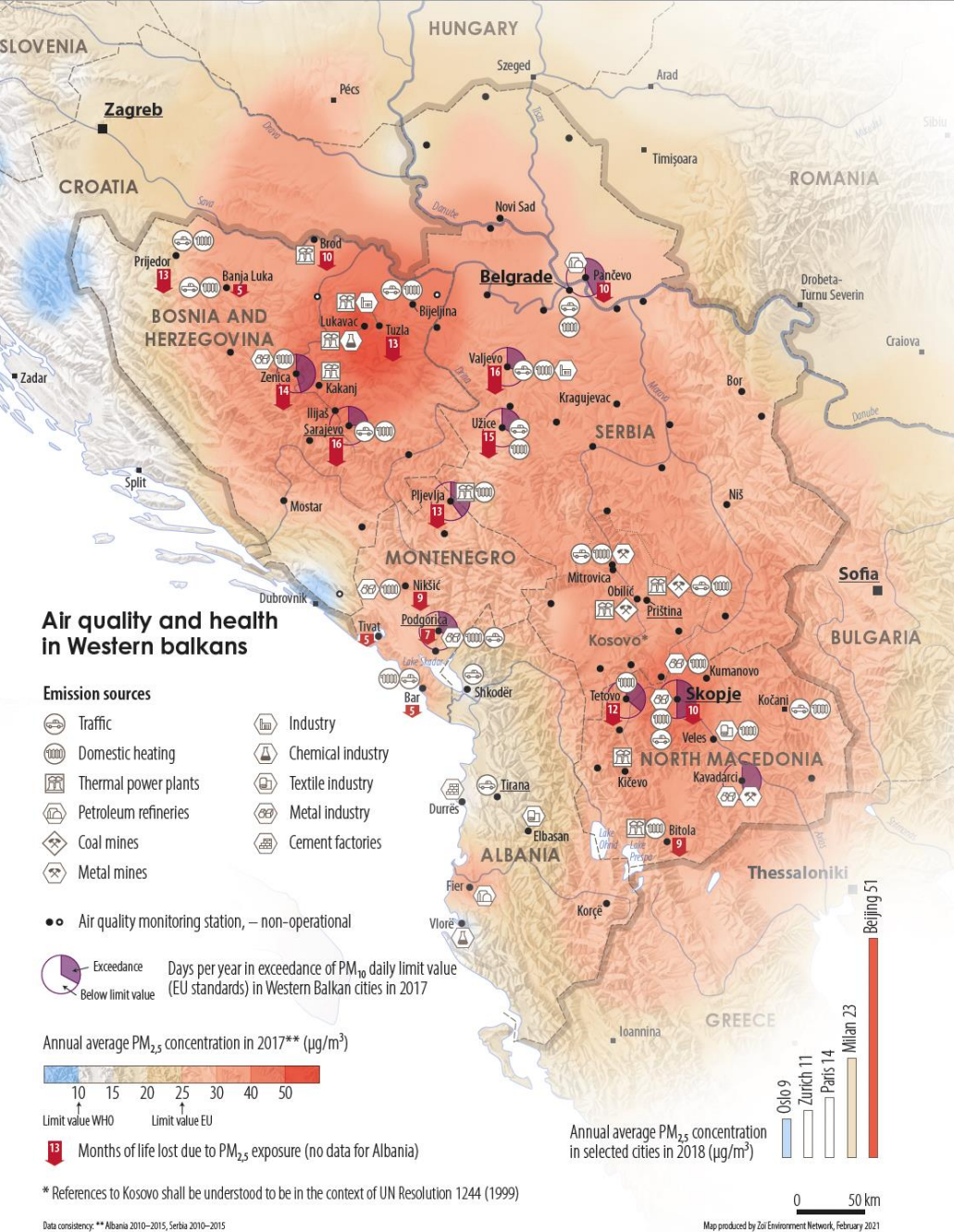
Platform Sub-Regional Consultation Meeting. Identification of SEPP priorities: Environment and Health; Rule of Law



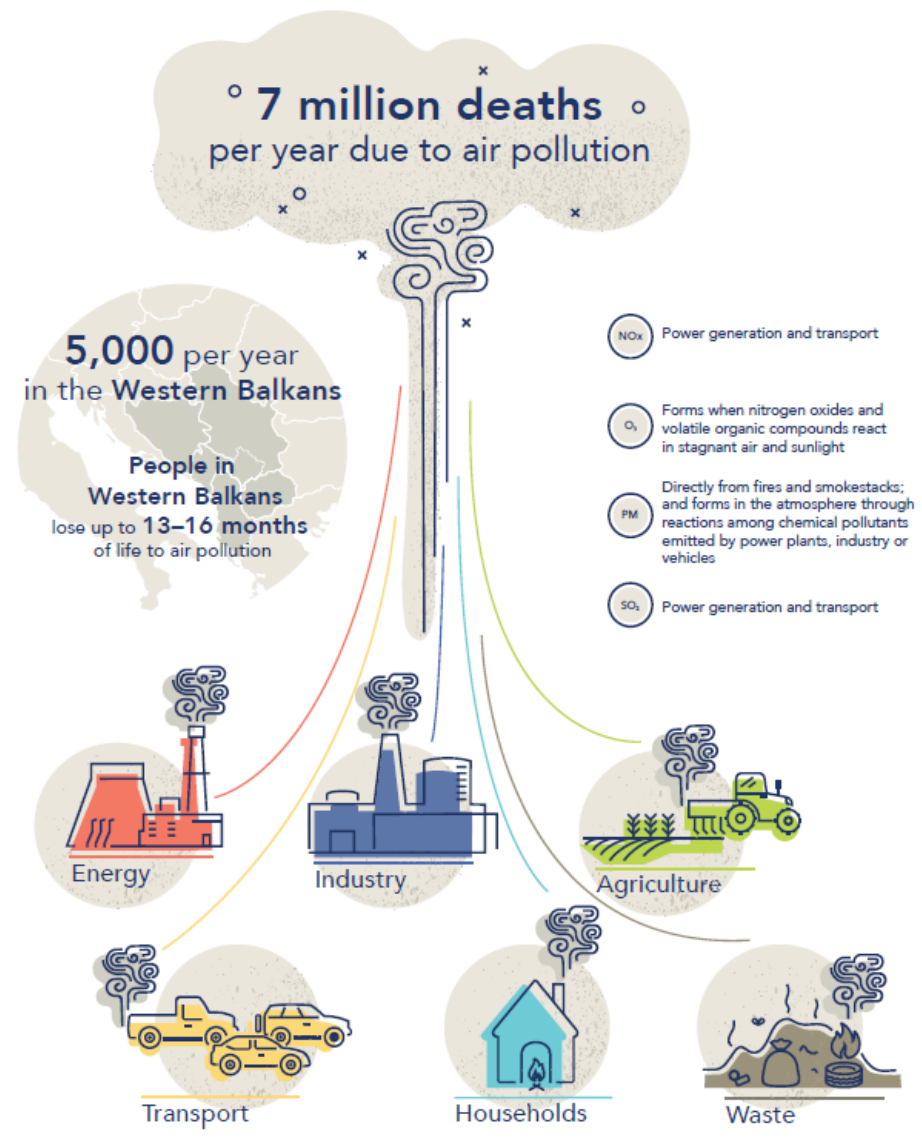
2022 - Waste assessment report







First regional study that quantifies the impact of air pollution on human health, considering 19 representative towns and cities across the region



# South-Eastern Europe (de)Pollution Platform (SEEPP) Activities 2024 - 2025

- Western Balkans Regional Waste Conference (26-27 March 2024)
- Regional E-waste Monitor for the Western Balkans

## Towards Zero Waste



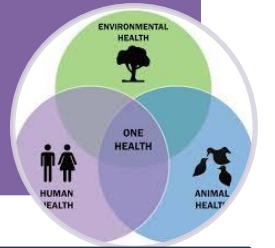
- Innovative circular economy approaches to agricultural and municipal waste management for better air quality in Asia Pacific and the Western Balkans

## Circularity in Sectors



- Contaminated Sites in BiH-SRB
- Nature-based solutions for enhanced resilience to COVID-19 and urban air pollution
- Sustainable and resilient transport and urban mobility
- Policy action for mitigating health impacts of air pollution from high-impact sectors

## Pollution and Health



## Agenda 2030 Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)





Elena Stefanoni  
[elena.stefanoni@un.org](mailto:elena.stefanoni@un.org)

[Unep.org](http://Unep.org)

<https://www.unep.org/beatpollution/>