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Place	Mikulov, Czech Republic
Dates	23-25 September, 2014
Event	Fourth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (COP4)
Participants	Sabina Bokal , IDMP Programme Manager, GWP CEE Janos Tamas , Activity Leader IDMP CEE, University of Debrecen

The Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (Carpathian Convention) was adopted and signed by the seven Parties (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Ukraine) in May 2003 in Kyiv, Ukraine, and entered into force in January 2006. It is the only multi-level governance mechanism covering the whole of the Carpathian area and besides the Alpine Convention the second sub-regional treaty-based regime for the protection and sustainable development of a mountain region worldwide.

“The COP is, in particular, responsible for the adoption of Protocols and amendments to the Convention and for the establishment of subsidiary bodies to the Convention. It sets the political direction, decides on the Programme of Work as well as the budget of the Convention, and reviews and supports the implementation of the Convention as well as of its Protocols”.

The Convention has eight thematic Working Groups:

- WG on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity
- WG on Spatial Development
- WG on Agriculture and Rural Development
- WG on Sustainable Forest Management
- WG on Sustainable Industry, Energy, Transport and Infrastructure
- WG on Sustainable Tourism
- WG on Cultural Heritage and Traditional Knowledge
- WG on Adaptation to Climate Change

The Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention (ISCC) is administered by UNEP and hosted by Austria in the Vienna International Centre. The Interim Secretariat is also assisted by the European Academy (EURAC) through the EURAC Representing Office in Vienna.

There was an interesting side programme with various side events. These were mainly focused on different projects that were implemented in the Carpathian area.

On one of the side events we also presented IDMP CEE with focus on one of our demonstration projects - *study on remote sensing of agriculture drought*. Beside this, there were GWP material on the Carpathian Idea Fair shared with all the participants.

We established some connections with organizations involved into Carpathian projects – Aquawater, EURAC, UNEP, etc. All countries (except Serbia) are also in GWP CEE region; future cooperation with the Convention in one of the fields which we have in common would be envisaged so we will try to follow their future activities.

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