

PROTECTING RIVERS ACROSS BORDERS

coop MDD
Final Publication



EDITORS:

WWF Adria, Zelinska 2, 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia
info@wwfадria.org

WWF Austria, Ottakringerstr. 114-116, A-1160 Vienna, Austria

PROJECT MANAGER:

Magdalena Wagner, WWF Austria

PROJECT PARTNERS:

WWF Austria (Lead Partner, AT) / Office of the State Government of Styria, Department 13 – Environment and Spatial Planning, Section Nature Conservation (AT) / Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation (SLO) / Municipality Velika Polana (SLO) / Public Institution for Nature Protection of Virovitica-Podravina County (CRO) / Balaton-felvidéki National Park Directorate (HU) / Public Institution for Nature Protection of Osijek-Baranja County (CRO) / Public Institution for Management of Protected Natural Areas in the Koprivnica-Križevci County (CRO) / WWF Adria (CRO) / Vojvodinašume Public Enterprise (SRB) / Institute for Nature Conservation of Vojvodina Province (SRB)

ASSOCIATE PARTNERS:

Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Division I/8, National Parks, Nature Conservation and Species Protection (AT) / DANUBEPARKS – Danube River Network of Protected Areas (AT) / Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Environment Directorate (SLO) / Medimurska Priroda – Public Institution for Nature Protection (CRO) / Public Institution for Management of Protected Natural Areas of Varaždin County (CRO) / Public Institution Nature Park Kopački Rit (CRO) / City of Sombor (SRB) / UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe (IT) / International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (AT) / EuroNatur Foundation (GER) / Austrian National Committee for UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Programme (AT) / Duna-Drava National Park Directorate (HU)

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OUR SHARED HERITAGE

“The journey that you will experience has no beginning, no end. It is the journey through an enchanted circle of imagination, emotion and a long-forgotten feeling of timelessness and unity with the earth, water and the sun.”

– Branko Korac

Defined by the Mura, Drava and the Danube rivers flowing through Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary and Serbia, the *Amazon of Europe* consists of some of the most beautiful riparian landscapes in Europe. Despite numerous human-made changes, the free-flowing sections of the rivers boast a wide range of plant and animal life in an ever-changing environment. Throughout history, the rivers have provided for local populations – intact floodplains offered natural protection from floods, rivers created a large network of underground water sources, ensuring drinking water for numerous generations, and the water from the rivers still irrigates the fields. It is a beautiful, if fragile, balance between nature and people, and it has to be preserved.

The uniqueness and importance of the Mura-Drava-Danube area is recognized by national governments of all five countries, and it has been recognized by UNESCO. When the coop MDD project started, there was only one Transboundary Biosphere Reserve “Mura-Drava-Danube”, proclaimed in 2012 between Croatia and Hungary. During the course of the project, biosphere reserves were founded in Serbia, BR “Bačko Podunavlje” (2017), and Slovenia, BR “Mura” (2018), and a nomination was sent in 2018 by Austria for the Biosphere Reserve “Lower Mura Valley”. The confirmation of the fourth biosphere reserve in the area is expected in 2019, opening the way for a five-country nomination. This dedication by individual countries and ministries, as well as the efforts by numerous public institution and protected areas managerial bodies, will ensure that the *Amazon of Europe* will become the first five-country biosphere reserve in the world.

The establishment of the future five-country UNESCO Biosphere Reserve “Mura-Drava-Danube” was the driving force behind the coop MDD project. Based on this complex idea, the project’s aim was to prepare a base for the future joint management of this extensive transboundary biosphere reserve. Guided by that idea, the coop MDD project brought together for the first time the management authorities of protected areas in the planned transboundary biosphere reserve to jointly develop a common approach for realizing the five-country biosphere reserve.

Throughout the project, partners worked on the definition of joint aims and activities for the protected area management to ensure coordinated protection, restoration, and education across the entire area. The project encompassed 8 local action plans, 8 RIVER’SCHOOLS, and 42 stakeholder workshops, public presentations and joint events, collecting and including valuable inputs from different sources. This culminated in the production of the Transboundary Cooperation Programme consisting of the Guidelines for a Dynamic River Corridor, Concept of Transboundary Learning Network of River’schools, and the Transboundary Mura-Drava-Danube Action Plan. These documents steer the river management in the future five-country biosphere reserve, but also cover topics like agriculture, hunting, fishing, and tourism. They are a basis for future cooperation in the Mura-Drava-Danube area.

GUIDELINES FOR A DYNAMIC RIVER CORRIDOR

@ S. Veberič



In order to harmonize the management within the area of the future five-country UNESCO Biosphere Reserve “Mura-Drava-Danube”, the *Guidelines for a Dynamic River Corridor* were formulated and agreed upon by all project partners.

To ensure the best possible result and transparency, the *Guidelines* were preceded by a lengthy and comprehensive development process consisting of workshops, several draft versions, peer review and partner feedback.

The document is divided into two sections: *Introduction and Guidelines for a dynamic river corridor*. In the introductory section, an overview of the UNESCO's biosphere reserve concept is provided, showing the zonation of the future five-country biosphere reserve and giving an overview of the motivation and the development process of the *Guidelines*.

The second section is based on the proposed zonation and principles of the UNESCO Man and Biosphere Program. It covers the following topics:

- * Cross-border and cross-sectoral cooperation
- * Species and habitat protection
- * River management and engineering
- * Fish ecology and fishing
- * Forest management and forestry
- * Meadow management and agriculture
- * Game management and hunting
- * Visitor management, education and tourism
- * Spatial planning and regional development





@ G. Šafarek



@ M. Romulić

Each topic is divided into three segments – obstacles, vision and objectives – providing identification of existing problems, offering a shared vision in the context of the future five-country biosphere reserve, and outlining clear objectives to ensure the proper joint management and protection of the area. Where possible, examples of good practice were presented to suggest possible future developments and projects.

In order to monitor the successful implementation of the *Guidelines*, protected areas managerial bodies agreed to jointly discuss the implementation status on a regular basis, continually exchange experience on challenges and positive results, and mutually support each other in implementing these guidelines.

Apart from providing a basis for the joint and harmonized management of the future five-country biosphere reserve, the *Guidelines for a Dynamic River Corridor* also help to achieve many sustainable development goals. To accomplish those goals, a healthy natural environment plays a key role, confirming that the protection of nature ensures long-lasting benefits for the well-being of communities living within or near the biosphere reserve.

Some of the topics suggested in this document are already a theme of several DTP-funded projects, such as the REFOCuS project focused on fostering the restoration and management of riparian forests in the Mura-Drava-Danube region, or the Amazon of Europe Bike Trail project looking into providing options for sustainable development of tourism potentials in the area.

ACTION PLAN



@ S. Kovacs

The Transboundary Mura-Drava-Danube Action Plan is the key operational framework for planning and implementing concrete actions in the scope of the future five-country Biosphere Reserve “Mura-Drava-Danube”. Its aim is to ensure the restoration, conservation and improvement of the Mura-Drava-Danube ecological corridor.

It provides means of implementing the *Guidelines for a Dynamic River Corridor* and serves as an operational document to improve the cooperation between the protected area management institutions within the future five-country biosphere reserve.

The Action Plan is divided into several groups of activities according to specific topics: coordination and communication, species and habitat protection, research and education, sustainable use, and strategic planning. Each section is organized by priority of the action, ranging from highest to lowest priority. As with all the *Transboundary Cooperation Program* documents, the Action Plan and its priorities have been discussed with all project partners and final conclusions were based on their feedback.

@ A. Koren



In total, there are 27 suggested actions, covering a wide range of activities aimed at harmonizing the work on the protection of the future five-country biosphere reserve.

SOME OF THE ACTIONS ARE:

Establishment of a long-term development partnership TBR MDD – partnership for the future, aimed at development of a long-term formal interest-based network bringing together many stakeholders, from municipalities and regional authorities, to local producers, tourism service providers and NGOs, sharing a common interest and influence on the socio-economic development of the TBR MDD while safeguarding natural and cultural values,

Implementation of a joint basic monitoring program, creating a simple and effective monitoring system of certain species and habitats to have an overview of the long-term ecological development of the biosphere reserve,

Action 100 – joint efforts for 100 breeding sites of river birds, focused on identifying, restoring, and protecting 100 breeding sites important for birds such as the little-ringed plover (*Charadrius dubius*), common sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*), little tern (*Sternula albifrons*), common tern (*Sternula hirundo*), sand martin (*Riparia riparia*), common kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*), and European bee-eater (*Merops apiaster*) – important indicators of natural dynamic rivers,

Strengthen and expand the network of RIVER'SCOOLs, to strengthen the cooperation between the existing RIVER'SCOOLs and support the network through capacity building and promotion,

Establish a joint guides training program, in an effort to create a high-quality guiding product within the future biosphere reserve through training skilled rangers, tourist guides, educational staff within the protected areas, NGOs and educational institutions, as well as hunters and fishermen that cooperate with protected areas,

Ecological improvements in the operation of existing hydropower plants, striving to find solutions for the most pressing ecological issues caused by hydropower plants in cooperation with hydropower plant operators. Together, it is possible to find effective solutions for problems such as the hydropeaking, low residual flow, sediment flushing or sediment deficit, negatively affecting species and habitats within the future biosphere reserve,

Development of a joint river restoration plan for the TBR MDD, to define river sections that have a high potential for river restoration activities, such as removing embankments and re-connecting side branches, and lay down basic principles for all restoration measures. The activities should be focused on solving pressing threats, synergizing with nature-based flood protection, and include good practices and possible joint implementation projects.



@ T. Majerič

Actions described within the Action Plan suggest the benefits of a transboundary and cross-sectoral approach to the development of the five-country biosphere reserve and to nature protection and sustainable development in the area. They clearly outline the necessary activities, priorities, and necessary steps for their implementation.

LOCAL ACTION PLANS



@WWF

Local action plans were developed by eight project partners as means of implementing the Guidelines focused on one or more selected topics. These topics were chosen based on the interest and responsibility of their respective institutions. The local action plans were developed in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders, with more than 40 stakeholder workshops, meetings, and study visits organized in 2018 and 2019. By including stakeholders as partners in the development process, we have ensured their support and receptivity of these action plans and reaffirmed their role in their future implementation.

Specific topics covered through these action plans include river restoration, education, implementation of the Guidelines with respect to forestry, hunting and fishing sectors, habitat restoration, bird monitoring, species protection, and oxbow rehabilitation. By focusing on such diverse topics, partners have ensured the widest possible implementation of actions set out in the transboundary documents.



@STYRIA

@ A. Kis



@ STYRIA

Be sure to visit our project website to find out more about each local action plan and the partners responsible for their development.



@ PIENPVPC

TRANSBOUNDARY LEARNING NETWORK



@ M. Romulić

Rivers Mura, Drava, and the Danube create a unique river landscape. Recognizing its European importance, the future economic and ecological development of this incredible landscape requires cross-border solidarity and community. The rivers have been connecting people and cultures in this area throughout history, and it is necessary to strengthen these connections.

With the mission to demonstrate the trans-boundary connectivity of the Mura–Drava–Danube corridor, the *Concept of the Trans-boundary Learning Network of RIVER'SCOOLS* document (TLN Concept) elaborates the idea of this educational network inviting children, students and adults to discover the future five-country Biosphere Reserve “Mura–Drava–Danube” while exploring the living laboratory that is Nature.

In the scope of the project, eight RIVER'SCOOLS have been opened in Austria, Slovenia, Hungary, Croatia, and Serbia. They are outdoor learning areas that provide plenty

of opportunities to learn about the future biosphere reserve, dynamic riverine landscapes and services it provides. Each RIVER'SCOOL is focused on a specific topic, from endangered fish and bird species to flood prevention and river restoration, and is a part of the larger transboundary learning network.

In an attempt to connect individual RIVER'SCOOLS and clearly communicate the idea and the theme to the visitors, the TLN Concept provides a unified visual identity and common elements. It is a template for orientation and implementation of RIVER'SCOOLS' furnishing elements – from basic elements that all share, which includes an info board, flag, signpost and outdoor classroom, to additional elements, such as benches or brochure stands.

Apart from the visual programme, the TLN Concept proposes the didactical



@ A. Koren



@ G. Safarek

“

Education is a natural process carried out by the child and is not acquired by listening to words but by experiences in the environment.

”

— **Maria Montessori**

framework for all RIVER'SCOOLs within the future five-country biosphere reserve, with examples of visitor programs and stories. It is based on learning through doing instead of teaching or instructing, meaning that the visitors will experience, discover and feel the natural world surrounding them.

The motivation for this approach to education is based on the philosophy of learning where learning is a never-ending process that continues even after a learning objective is achieved. RIVER'SCOOLs inspire visitors to continue their journey of discovery and return to the area with new knowledge and fresh ideas, thus encouraging RIVER'SCOOL managers to build upon that knowledge and their experience.

These outdoor classrooms close to the rivers enable teachers to turn learning about the biosphere reserve into adventure and fun, reconnecting people with nature. Furthermore, RIVER'SCOOLs are public information points informing visitors about the importance of the future biosphere reserve as a transnational interconnecting corridor. Unified visual identity, based on the idea of riverine mobility by paddling, and other functional elements turn them into attractions for cross-border excursions and events, increasing the understanding and appreciation of this unique landscape.



@BfNP

MAP OF RIVER'SCOOLS

1 RIVER'SCOOL KOPRIVNICA-KRIŽEVCI COUNTY

Location: N 46.297212, E 16.879008

This is the only RIVER'SCOOL located on two rivers, at the Mura-Drava confluence. In this amazing place, you can reconnect with nature. By exploring the area, you will discover the insects and the birds that make their home in and around the Mura and the Drava and find ways to engage all your senses, sparking your curiosity and instilling an appreciation of nature and love of rivers. Come and visit us in Legrad!

3 RIVER'SCOOL STEIRISCHE MURAUEN

Location: N 46.7147635, E 15.8919976

Have you ever thought about how a river is supposed to flow? In the course of human history, we have straightened many a river, affecting its entire ecosystem. The only RIVER'SCOOL in Austria is dedicated to river restoration and the ways in which we can improve the health of our rivers. Here, you will find out how we can help nature in reclaiming its lost areas, supporting the return of wildlife and benefits for us all. Visit us and enjoy new discoveries!

2 RIVER'SCOOL VELIKA POLANA

Location: N 46.575135, E 16.378088

Located in a special complex, next to an old mill, the RIVER'SCOOL Velika Polana offers you plenty of activity to satisfy even the most demanding visitors. Apart from learning about different riparian habitats and species, you can discover how people used to live with the river, what crafts they practiced, and connections they had with surrounding nature. In this RIVER'SCOOL, you will experience Prekmurje as it once was!

4 RIVER'SCOOL MURA-MENTI

Location: N 46.465704, E 16.640343

This RIVER'SCOOL is the only one to be located in two places – at the water trip roadstead in Alsószemenye and in Letenye. It presents the dynamics of floods and its importance for many habitats and numerous animal and plant species you can find along the Mura-Drava-Danube area. Also, here you can learn about nature through games and fun tasks in the field, observing animals, and enjoy a walk along the special educational path. Amazing nature awaits you, come and visit us!



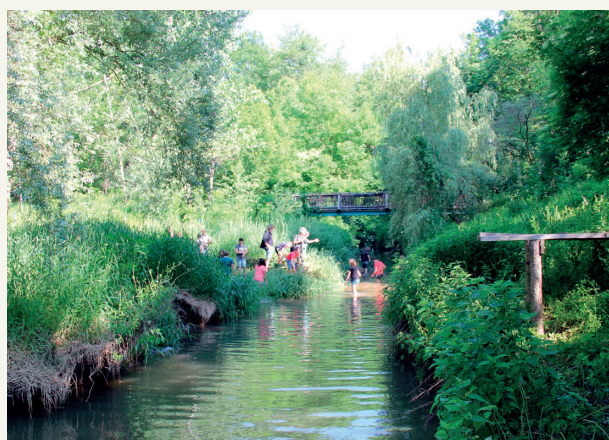
5 RIVER'SCOOL DRAVA STORY

Location: N 45.780482, E 17.830798

RIVER'SCOOL Drava Story enables you to explore endangered fish species in the Mura-Drava-Danube area with special emphasis on the endemic European mudminnow, a small fish that survived the last Ice Age. By protecting dynamic, free-flowing stretches of the Mura, Drava, and the Danube, and by maintaining river connectivity, we are preserving this unusual fish. Visit us to find out more!



@PIFNPVC



@ Landentwicklung Steiermark

6 RIVER'SCOOL KARAPANDŽA

Location: N 45.895000, E 18.871111

Found at the entrance to the Gornje Podunavlje Biosphere Reserve, the RIVER'SCOOL Karapanda is a gateway to exciting and innovative learning and nature experiences. If you want to discover the magnificent world of riparian forests, learn more about nature conservation and understand what does an integrated river dynamic corridor means, you must visit this RIVER'SCOOL. Through games and other activities, we promise you'll enjoy your time here!

7 RIVER'SCOOL OSIJEK-BARANJA COUNTY

Location: N 45.531567, E 18.851874

While you can find out more about numerous birds along the Mura, Drava and the Danube in every RIVER'SCOOL, nowhere will you find such information as in Osijek-Baranja County. There, you can find out more about specific bird species that live on the Drava and the Danube, such as the various heron species. Also, you will learn correct ways of observing birds while being able to apply it in the field. Join the ever-growing forces of young birdwatchers and visit us in Osijek-Baranja County!

8 RIVER'SCOOL NOVI SAD

Location: N 45.249700, E 19.851000

Located in a museum, the RIVER'SCOOL Novi Sad is a place where you can learn all about the importance of floods. You will find out that floods are not only negative events posing danger to our settlements and property – they have a very positive impact on nature and, in the long term, to people. Through interactive exhibits and fun simulations, you will experience this natural phenomenon in a new and unique way!

QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE PROJECT

*More than **91** sectoral agencies have been reached*

*Over **133** NGOs and interest groups became involved with the project*

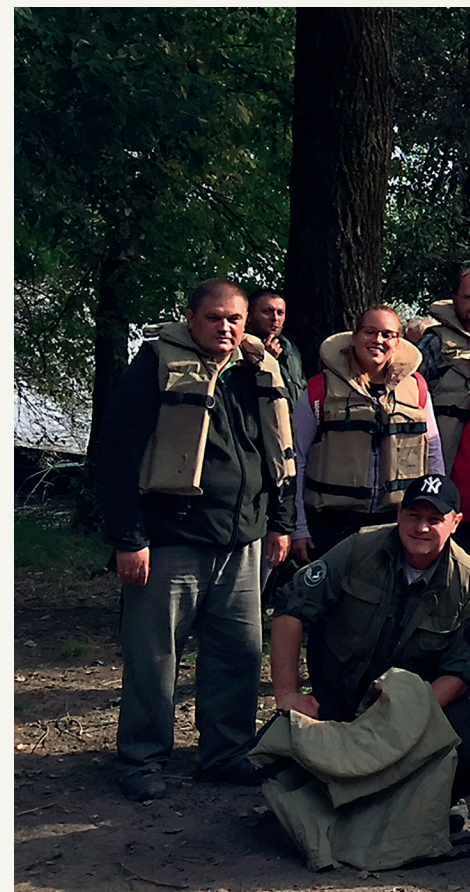
*Children from more than **50** schools participated in various events organized by partners*

*Around **785,000** people were reached and aware of the project*

***44** protected areas were engaged through project activities*

*In total, more than **150** media appearances and articles were published in **6** languages*

***10** national awareness-raising events were organized by partners*





@ WWF



@ WWF

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The vision of the world's first five-country Biosphere Reserve "Mura-Drava-Danube" was a driving force behind the coop MDD project. With its goal of coordinating and harmonizing the protection and management of this transboundary area spanning through Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary and Serbia, the project succeeded in connecting partners across all five countries and establishing for the first time a living cooperation of those people and institutions managing the future transboundary biosphere reserve. The idea of the biosphere reserve was strongly promoted to different sectoral stakeholders on local level.

As a sign of good faith, partners collaborating on the coop MDD project signed the cooperation agreement. In the agreement, and depending on their resources, partners declared that they will support each other through knowledge exchange and cooperation, while continuing to work towards the establishment of a functional five-country biosphere reserve. By signing the cooperation agreement, partners once again emphasized the importance of transboundary participation in achieving the ambitious goal of establishing the first in the world five-country biosphere reserve.



@ G. Šafarek



However, this project is only one in a series of present and future projects based in this area and focused on promoting, valuing, protecting and developing the future biosphere reserve in a sustainable way and in line with objectives from UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Programme. It is also an invitation for other interested organizations and individuals to understand, promote and strengthen the bonds of cooperation developed through this project.

Documents developed in the scope of coop MDD project outline possible lines of action to enhance the status of protected areas along the Mura, Drava and the Danube rivers, so-called Amazon of Europe. Based on those developments, the ideas established within the project were an inspiration and base for a follow-up project – lifelineMDD.



@ M. Romulić

The follow-up project was submitted to the 3rd Call of the Danube Programme, and is grounded in strong partnerships that grew out of the coop MDD project and is strengthened by new partners willing to become a part of the MDD story. The project builds upon the living cooperation between the protected area managers and the transboundary management programme for the future biosphere reserve established through the coop MDD project. However, it identified insufficiently developed knowledge base and a need for improved cross-sectoral cooperation.

If approved, lifelineMDD project will improve the connectivity and biodiversity within the Mura-Drava-Danube river system by restoring natural river dynamics through enhanced cross-sectoral partnership. It will provide an integrated

transboundary strategic framework for river restoration based on research, pilot restorations and joint educational programme, contributing to protection and restoration of important ecological corridors.

Current and planned projects prove there is a strong interest in the establishment of the five-country Biosphere Reserve “Mura-Drava-Danube”. They are a validation of a vision that first started developing over 20 years ago – protection of incredible riverine landscapes created by the great rivers Mura, Drava and the Danube across national borders. All projects ensure that the story of the *Amazon of Europe* continues, confirming its importance and benefits for nature and people. In this way, they will help preserve one of Europe’s magnificent landscapes for current and future generations, building a new way of thinking about rivers, landscapes, and nature conservation in general.



@ M. Romulić



@V. Ajtler

SUCCESS THROUGH COOPERATION

It would be impossible to achieve success on a complex transnational project like coop MDD without a strong partnership. Even though collaborations on such an extensive and time-consuming project can be at times stressful, cooperation within the partnership was a wonderful opportunity to exchange experiences and knowledge, be immersed in the local context and enjoy the company of highly motivated and engaged professionals.

On the following pages you can find short information about our partners should you want to contact them.

AUSTRIA

WWF Austria

For over 50 years, WWF Austria is focused on conserving critical landscapes and species, thus ensuring the conservation of biodiversity on Earth. Since 2000, WWF Austria invests considerable effort in the international promotion of the planned 5-country UNESCO Biosphere Reserve "Mura-Drava-Danube", the so-called Amazon of Europe. Building on long-term conservation commitments and networking experiences in the region, WWF Austria led the coop MDD project implementation and partner coordination.

Contact: Ottakringer Strasse 114-116, 1160 Vienna, Austria

Tel. +43 1 488 170

E-mail: wwf@wwf.at

Website: <http://www.wwf.at>

Office of the State Government of Styria, Department 13 – Environment and Spatial Planning, Section Nature Conservation Styria

Office of the State Government of Styria, Department 13 – Environment and Spatial Planning, Section Nature Conservation Styria (STYRIA) is a regional public authority responsible for nature conservation. It implements national and international nature conservation legislation and elaborates and implements management plans.

STYRIA is also active in the field of awareness-raising of stakeholders, including the public, through educational and promotional activities. Due to the nature of its work, STYRIA is an important partner in many international projects in the field of nature conservation.

Contact: Stempfergasse 7, 8010 Graz, Austria

Tel. +43 316 877 38 57

E-mail: abteilung13@stmk.gv.at

Website: <http://www.verwaltung.steiermark.at/cms/ziel/74834965/DE/>

Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation

Since its founding in 1999, the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation (IRSNC) cares for the conservation of nature throughout Slovenia. It serves as the professional body of the Republic of Slovenia, implementing national and international laws, conventions and obligations regarding the protection of nature. Aspiring to achieve the best possible cohabitation of people and nature, the Institute is also dedicated to educating a wide professional and general public, ensuring a fruitful dialogue between nature and people.

Contact: Pobreška cesta 20, 2000 Maribor, Slovenia

Tel. +386 1 2443 500

E-mail: zrsvn.oe@zrsvn.si

Website: <http://www.zrsvn.si>

Velika Polana Municipality

Located in a valley surrounded by rolling hills and the mysterious Mura River, the Municipality of Velika Polana is widely known as the official European stork village. It is no surprise that a municipality surrounded in such a rich natural and cultural heritage is also home to UNESCO's Mura Biosphere Reserve, declared in 2018. The municipality takes special care and provides shelter for many endangered plant and animal species, while at the same time explores and implements different strategies for sustainable development of the region.

Contact: Velika Polana 111, 9225 Velika Polana, Slovenia
Tel. +386 2 577 67 50
E-mail: obcina@velika-polana.si
Website: <http://www.velika-polana.si>

Balaton-felvidéki National Park

In 1997, Hungarian nature conservation achieved a big win when protected areas of Kis-Balaton, Keszthely Hills, Tapolca Basin, Káli Basin, Pécsely Basin, and Tihany Peninsula became the Balaton-felvidéki National Park. The primary goal of the national park is to protect and conserve natural assets and landscapes, but also to interpret nature, its living and non-living elements, and to provide possibilities for present and future generations to increase their knowledge and enjoy nature. The National Park Directorate is also responsible for the management of the Mura-menti Landscape Protected Area, protecting the Hungarian Mura section.

Contact: Kossuth u. 16, 8299 Csopak, Hungary
Tel. +36 87 555 260
E-mail: bfnp@bfnp.hu
Website: <http://www.bfnp.hu>

Public Institution for Nature Protection of Koprivnica-Križevci County

The Public Institution for Nature Protection of Koprivnica-Križevci County was founded in 1997. Its main area of work is the management of protected areas in Koprivnica-Križevci County. In addition to the management of protected areas, the public institution has a strong emphasis on educational activities and monitoring in protected areas. For example, they are constantly monitoring white storks in their area, familiarizing local communities with the species and its benefits for nature.

Contact: Florijanski trg 4/II, 48 000 Koprivnica, Croatia
Tel. +385 48 621 790
E-mail: zastita.prirode.kk-zupanije@kc.t-com.hr
Website: <http://www.zastita-prirode-kckzz.hr>

WWF Adria

Even though WWF Adria was officially founded in 2015, WWF has been working in the Dinaric Arc region for almost 20 years. Activities of WWF Adria cover eight countries in the region: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, and Slovenia. Its goal is to make a significant contribution to the preservation of biodiversity in the region, closely cooperating with numerous organizations to achieve its goals.

Contact: Zelinska 2, 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia
Tel. +385 1 550 96 23
E-mail: info@wwfadria.org
Website: <http://www.wwfadria.org>

Public Institution for Nature Protection of Virovitica-Podravina County

The Public Institution for Nature Protection of Virovitica-Podravina County was founded in 2002 with the main goal of protecting natural values within their county. Apart from its work on nature protection, the public institution provides education and interpretation of nature and collaborates and communicates with local communities and stakeholders. It is also very active in national and international projects on nature conservation and sustainable development, providing invaluable knowledge and experience.

Contact: Noskovci 2/a, 33 523 Čađavica, Croatia
Tel. +385 33 722 033
E-mail: info@virovitica-nature.hr
Website: <http://www.virovitica-nature.hr>

Public Institution for Nature Protection of Osijek-Baranja County

Since its founding, the Public Institution for Nature Protection of Osijek-Baranja County is focused on the protection, monitoring and promotion of protected natural values in Osijek-Baranja County. They closely collaborate with important stakeholders in the county, such as hunters and fishing associations, to further the nature conservation activities in the area. The public institution is taking considerable efforts to include a wider audience in their work, promoting the protection of nature in line with sustainable development.

Contact: Županijska 4/III, 31 000 Osijek, Croatia
Tel. +385 31 200 425
E-mail: info@obz-zastita-prirode.hr
Website: <http://www.obz-zastita-prirode.hr>

Institute for Nature Conservation of Vojvodina Province

Officially founded in 1966, the work of the Institute for Nature Conservation of Vojvodina Province started already in 1947, at the Natural History Department of the Vojvodina Museum. From its inception, the main focus of the institute was on scientific research and nature protection. The institute has a strong international presence and is a partner on numerous international research and nature protection projects.

Contact: Radnička 20a, 21 101 Novi Sad, Serbia
Tel. +381 21 489 63 01
E-mail: novi.sad@pzzp.rs
Website: <http://www.pzzp.rs>

Vojvodinašume Public Enterprise

Vojvodinašume is a state enterprise based in Vojvodina Province, Serbia. Its main activities include the management of protected areas, hunting, forest management, and fishing and fish nurseries. Vojvodinašume is active in national and international projects, ranging from scientific research on specific plant and animal species to monitoring of underground waters and sustainable development of the region.

Contact: Preradovićeve 2, 21 131 Petrovaradin, Serbia
Tel. +381 21 431 14 4
E-mail: marketing@vojvodinasume.rs
Website: <http://www.vojvodinasume.rs>

