

Financial support:



Ministry of the Environment  
of the Czech Republic



# *Conservation of Wetlands in the Carpathians*



*16–19 November 2009  
Tatranska Strba,  
The High Tatra Mts.,  
Slovakia*



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## FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

The seminar is organized in the frame of the Carpathian Wetland Initiative and UNDP/GEF Project “*Conservation, Restoration and Wise Use of Rich Fens in the Slovak Republic*”. The project is aimed at the conservation of Carpathian peatland biodiversity, with a focus on alkaline fens, a unique mire habitat. It is implemented by DAPHNE – Institute of Applied Ecology in cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic. Partner of the project is the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic, which is coordinating the *Carpathian Wetland Initiative* (CWI) in the framework of the Ramsar Convention.

The purpose of the seminar is to support exchange of information and best practices between Carpathian countries to improve conservation of wetlands, which belong to the most sensitive and threatened ecosystems worldwide. Main topics to be covered by the seminar are the following:

- Policy issues and regional scope – status of wetlands, their conservation and wise use in the Carpathian Ecoregion. Situation in individual countries will be presented.
- Identification of missing information and proposal of priorities to fulfil gaps for wetland protection in the Carpathians.
- Mire ecology – description of main mire types in the Carpathians, their ecology, threats and processes, inventory of mires.
- Active and restoration management – description of management techniques and their impact on fens, management planning.
- Restoration of hydrological regime – studies and proposal for hydrological restoration, demonstration of case studies as practical experience with restoration and monitoring of fens.

## Workshop focused on environmental education

The purpose of the workshop is to add a new component – environmental education – to the policy, ecology, and restoration issues covered by the seminar. Main topics are the following:

- Presentation of the DBU funded project: *World of the Carpathians – Awareness Raising about Carpathian Biodiversity – Why, What, How, and possible follow up in Slovakia*.
- Presentation of the guideline and resource handbook for environmental educators *World of Carpathians* – its uses, teaching tools produced at the basis of the handbook.
- Team work – getting first hand experiences and reflecting upon presented activities.
- National teams – possibilities for follow up in particular countries and discussion.

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## Provisional programme and agenda

- 16/11 Registration, opening CWI component – introductory lectures
- 17/11 CWI component – country reports, activities and planning for the next three years  
Parallel workshop focused on environmental education *"World of the Carpathians"*
- 18/11 Fens – ecology, processes and management
- 19/11 Fens – restoration of hydrological regime  
Excursion to Belianske lúky reserve – fen system located at the base of The High Tatra Mts.

## Registration

Registration is open to experts and professionals interested in wetland conservation and management in the Carpathians.

The number of participants is limited to 50.

Organizers will cover accommodation and meals for participants. Organizers will be able to cover travel expenses of a limited number of participants.

The official language of the seminar will be English. Participants are invited to register a presentation or poster.

## Deadlines

Registration: 15 September

Abstract submission: 15 October

Second circular: 30 October



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## Contacts

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## Organizers



State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic – Carpathian Wetland Initiative (CWI)

DAPHNE – Institute of Applied Ecology

Carpathian EcoRegion Initiative (CERI)

Department of Land and Water Resources Management, Faculty of Civil Engineering,  
Slovak University of Technology.

