

Charter on Establishing a Network for the Conservation of Karst Eco-Regions

The ECO KARST Project Partners:

Slovenian Forest Service (SI), Notranjska Regional Park (SI), Public Institution Nature Park Žumberak - Samoborsko gorje (HR), Kalkalpen National Park (AT), Global Nature Fund (DE), Bükk National Park Directorate (HU), Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Centre for Ecological Research (HU), Apuseni Nature Park Administration (RO), Parks Dinarides (ME), CENER21 (BiH), Cantonal Public Institution for the Protected Natural Areas of Sarajevo (BiH), Public utility 'National Park Tara' (RS)

and other interested parties

are forming a transnational network for the protection and sustainable use of ecosystem services and for the development of pro-biodiversity businesses in karst eco-regions.

The transnational network will be coordinated by GNF, Global Nature Fund, with its headquarter in Radolfzell, Germany, contact person of the network is: Mrs Andrea Peiffer: peiffer@globalnature.org

The undersigned ARE:

- ❖ Sharing the view that the biosphere is a unity and all its diverse constituent parts are interdependent; every life form is unique and possesses intrinsic values independent of its worth to humanity; the well-being of humanity should be ensured by protecting the health and integrity of the Earth's biosphere and by implementing the goals of sustainable development;
- ❖ Willing to contribute to the implementation of the EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy, the maintenance and restoration of ecosystems with their services, and to increasing the contribution of agriculture and forestry to biodiversity;
- ❖ Willing to contribute to the implementation of specific objectives of the Danube Transnational Programme
 - SO1: Improve the management of protected karst areas,
 - SO2: Strengthen the cross-sectoral local and transnational cooperation;
- ❖ Considering the specific characteristics of karst areas and the IUCN Guidelines for cave and karst protection;

And are COMMITTED TO:

1. Continue and intensify the cooperation in the assessment and management of ecosystem services and in the development of pro-biodiversity businesses, by working at three levels
 - ❖ Local level (e.g. continue the participatory processes in the park management's decision-making)
 - ❖ Bilateral level (e.g. cross-border hiking and cycling trails, cooperations of cross- border parks)
 - ❖ International level (e.g. proposing and implementing common EU funded projects in karst eco-regions).

2. Take an active part in existing networks of protected areas, such as ALPARC, Parks Dinarides and Carpathian Network of Protected Areas (CNPA);





















3. Develop and promote regional brands for marketing sustainable nature-based tourism and other products ;


















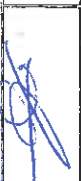
4. Exchange good practices in the implementation of:
 - ❖ relevant EU environmental directives and international conventions;
 - ❖ biodiversity-friendly agriculture and innovative agricultural products and related marketing approaches;
 - ❖ sustainable, multifunctional and close-to-nature forest management in karst forests;
 - ❖ environmental education and awareness raising programmes and pro-biodiversity business education programmes;
 - ❖ sustainable tourism and recreational activities;
 - ❖ participative decision making.



























PARTICIPANTS LIST, ECO KARST Final Event, Monday, 17th June 2019 – Wednesday, 19th June 2019

Hotel Jama, Postojna and Kras Plateau, Slovenia










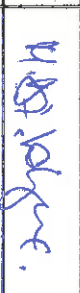














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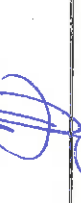



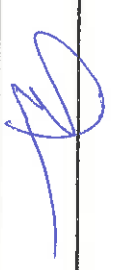

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