



## **German Environment Agency**



# **PROJECT INFORMATION**

Preservation of the cultural landscape in the Carpathians in Romania through cooperation of agriculture, landcare and tourism



Cultural landscape in the Carpathian Mountains

Source: Kőrössy Ruki

## **Background**

The mountain meadow grasslands of the Carpathian Mountains represent a hot spot of biodiversity in Europe. Their extensive management is necessary for preservation. However, structural changes in the agricultural sector in Romania threaten these grasslands. On the one hand, the threats originate from land abandonment, which is followed by succession. On the other hand, some sites are affected by an intensified use. Both developments result in a loss of biodiversity. Maintaining extensive grassland management is only possible if land users are able to earn a sufficient income for themselves and for their families. Cooperation of land users, nature conservationists and local authorities can contribute to the maintenance of extensive grassland management.

## **Project details**

The project goal was to promote the development of cooperative approaches to preserve the cultural landscape in the Carpathian Mountains. This should support land users to continue extensive grassland management and additionally complement their income sources. On several information events, the concept and functioning of German Landcare Associations (LPV) were introduced. In meetings with authorities and stakeholders, the range of potential activities and financing sources for a similar kind of cooperation in the project region was investigated and discussed. The project results comprise inter alia a new way of cooperation between the different stakeholders in the project region, the integration of supportive funding measures into the regional LEADER Programme, the start of the founding procedure of an organisation similar to a LPV in the project region as well as a brochure, which summarises the most important steps.

Updated: December 2017

Target country: Romania,

Harghita County

Duration: 05/2015 – 12/2017

Beneficiaries: Local administrations, compossessorates, regional development associations, farmers,

LEADER Action Groups

Implementing organisations: Deutscher Verband für Landschaftspflege (DVL)

e.V.,

Pogány-havas Association (PHA)

Project number: 56347

#### Thematic management:

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#### Advisory Assistance Programme (AAP)

for environmental protection in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and other countries neighbouring the European Union – a programme of the Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

### **AAP Project service unit:**

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www.uba.de/en/advisory-assistanceprogramme www.uba.de/en/project-database-advisory-assistance-programme

Project website: https://bit.ly/2KbOqxN