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Establishing Ecological Networks.....

**Prof. Dr. Beate Jessel, President of the German
Federal Agency for Nature Conservation**

www.bfn.de

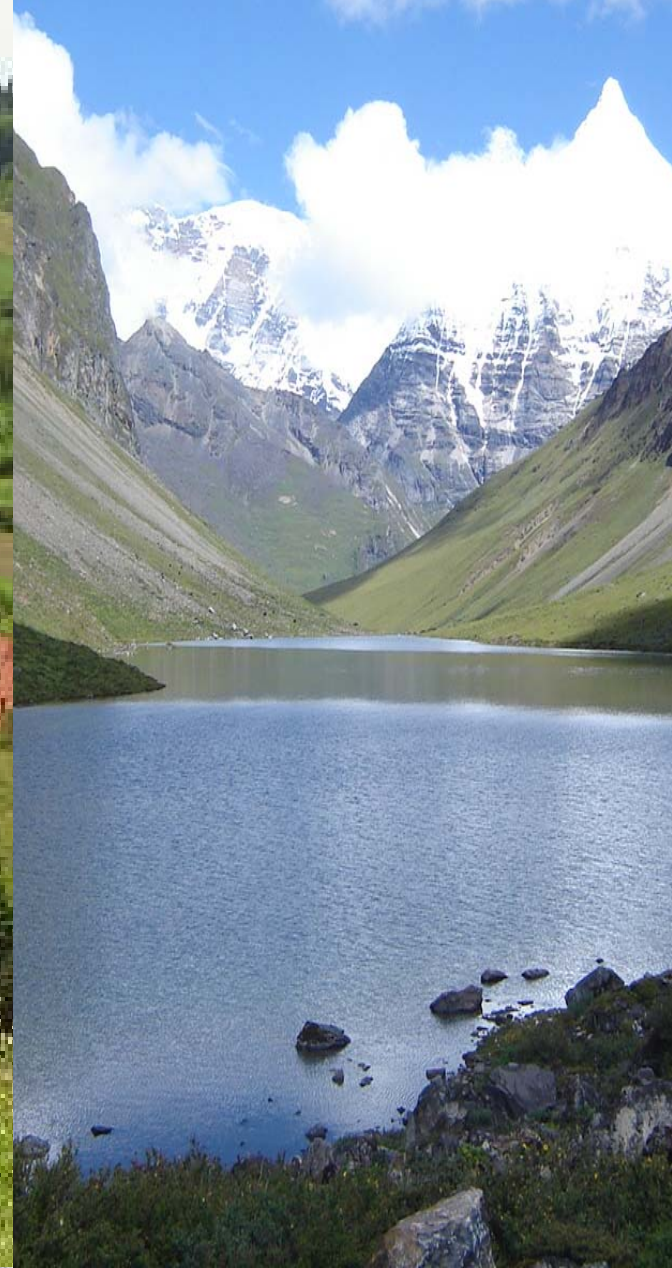
...from the Alps



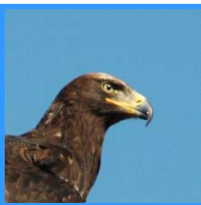
...to the Carpathians



...and beyond



Memorandum of Understanding



**Memorandum of Cooperation
Between
The Convention on Biological Diversity
And
The Alpine Convention
And
The Carpathian Convention**



The Convention on Biological Diversity (hereinafter referred to as the CBD), represented by its Presidency and its Executive Secretary, the Alpine Convention, represented by its Presidency and its Secretary General, and the Carpathian Convention represented by its Presidency and the Head of the Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention;

Structure of the Workshop

- **Introduction and background**

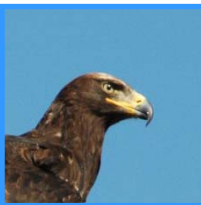
Prof. Dr. Beate Jessel, German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN)

Ecological networks in mountain regions- three examples:

- **The Alps – Local activities with far reaching impacts**
Michaela Kuenzli, Berchtesgaden National Park
- **The Carpathians – The importance of political frameworks for on site ecological networking**
Dr. Harald Egerer, UNEP Vienna
- **Challenges ecological networking in the Hindu Kush-Himalaya region**
Dr. Eklabya-Sharma, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development, Nepal
- **Statement**
by Tim Christophersen, CBD Secretariat

Discussion

Summary and closure



Ecological networks: dimensions

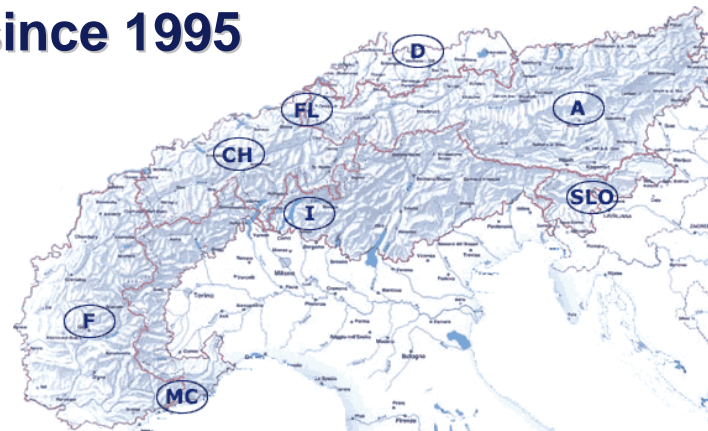
- **ecological:** how can functioning ecosystems and habitats be ensured? (functional and physical connection of habitats)
- **economic:** which resources are available, how can they be used in the most effective way?
- **social:** what are suitable social policy framework conditions for successful network projects? (communication, bringing actors together)

***Need for international cooperation:
Biodiversity (loss) does not stop at borders!***

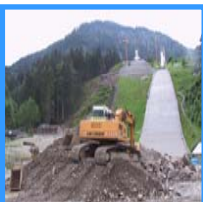


The Alpine Convention

- Is a multilateral agreement that aims to foster conservation of natural landscapes and sustainable development in the Alpine Region
- Scope: surface area of 190,600 km², population of 13.6 million
- Signed by 8 countries and the EU between 1991 and 1994; effective since 1995



- Various protocols for implementation, e.g. Protocol on „Conservation of Nature and the Countryside“- Article 12: establishment of an ecological network in the Alps



Platform Ecological Network - Mandate

- established in 2006, chaired by DE (until 2009)
- permanent expert group, including representatives from administrations, researchers, NGOs, ...
- provides the political frame for implementation activities and a forum for exchanging experience
- supports the implementation of Art. 12 of the nature conservation protocol, contributes to a global network of protected areas (CBD)
- key areas of work:
 - scientific advice for the establishment of an alpine-wide ecological network
 - project-oriented implementation
 - communication



Cooperation with projects

- new ECONNECT project: started on 1.9.2008 (3 years) (funded by EU Alpine Space Programme)
- almost finished: Ecological Continuum Pre-Project (funded by MAVA Foundation)
- the Platform provides the political (and social) background for many implementation activities



Political Cooperation

- CBD-COP-9: signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation between Alpine Convention, Carpathian Convention and CBD
- aims to foster scientific and technical cooperation
- facilitates the creation of connectivity of natural and semi-natural habitats
- now: fill this Memorandum of Cooperation with life



Thanks for your attention!



Questions for Discussion

- **Framework conventions and multilateral agreements: Further examples of what does work and what does not work - what are your experiences?**
- **Implementation of ecological networks in mountain regions - What are the main challenges, key obstacles and gaps?**
- **What can framework conventions contribute to implementation on site – and what can't they provide?**

