



# Capacity-building Training Package

## Organisational Manual

Part of Output T1.3 Capacity Building Programme

April, 2022



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# Capacity-building Training Package: Organisational Manual

## **Part of Output T1.3 Capacity Building Programme**

SaveGREEN “Safeguarding the functionality of transnationally important ecological corridors in the Danube basin”

Danube Transnational Programme, DTP3-314-2.3

April 2022

The Capacity-building Programme consists of the following parts:  
Toolkit - Handbook - Training Package



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## About SaveGREEN

The SaveGREEN project, funded by the Interreg Danube Transnational Programme is focused on the identification, collection, and promotion of the best solutions for safeguarding ecological corridors in the Carpathians and further mountain ranges in the Danube region. Currently, ecological corridors in the region are under threat due to the lack of adequate planning of economic development initiatives. Therefore, basing its work on integrated planning, SaveGREEN will monitor the impact of mitigation measures in 8 pilot areas and derive proper recommendations for follow-up actions and policy design.

[www.interreg-danube.eu/savegreen](http://www.interreg-danube.eu/savegreen)

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A black and white photograph of a forest path, with a teal overlay on the left side containing the chapter title. The path is covered in fallen leaves and leads through a dense forest of trees. The teal overlay is semi-transparent and contains the text 'CHAPTER 1 Introduction' in white. The background image shows a path leading through a forest of trees, with a teal overlay on the left side containing the chapter title.

# CHAPTER 1

# Introduction

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**T**his document has been prepared to detail the knowledge and assets that the SaveGREEN project has to offer to stakeholders, like public authorities and key players, as well as students in the form of face-to-face training events (Output T3.4), with regard to the capacity-building programme materials.

The need for sound educational materials on ecological connectivity, and especially landscape-level connectivity in the context of SEA and EIA is clear, as there are not many resources available on this topic in the existing literature. The development of Deliverable 1.3.1 “Report on collection and gap analysis of existing methodologies / best practices / training materials” in the beginning of the project also showed that in most of the project countries, ecological connectivity is not taken into account in the environmental assessment stage of project development, due to multiple reasons. Among them: unclear regulations at European and national levels, lack of clear methodologies and instructions, poor information for the practitioners who develop SEA and EIA, lack of knowledge regarding available resources, and so on. The results of this gap analysis were used for the development of the capacity building materials, ensuring that these materials respond to the main issues identified in the Gap Analysis Report.

In the following, the materials are introduced, based on which a training schedule and further materials were developed in order to support

project partners in preparing for the capacity-building events in their respective countries. It gives a skeleton for the adaptation of the training materials to the national needs and outlines organisational aspects including budget estimations. The capacity-building training programme includes several training events on various aspects of green infrastructure planning, which will be offered to public authorities, stakeholders from the transport sector, other key players, and students.

There should be at least one training per participating country: Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, and Ukraine.

In SaveGREEN, several activities contribute to capacity-building like the Transnational zbe held in the pilot areas, the development of the Cross-sectoral Operational Plans for each of the 8 pilot areas where key stakeholders are involved, and the workshops to be held during the IENE Conference in autumn 2022. From these events, knowledge and feedback to our materials/tools were collected and integrated. This way the materials address the real needs of our stakeholders.

The entire package of Output T3.3 will contribute to Specific Objective 1 “Knowledge/experience among relevant authorities and stakeholders increased” and to a certain degree to Specific Objective 3 “International and national governance frameworks established”.



## CHAPTER 2

# Training structure & organization

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**A**ccording to the SaveGREEN project proposal, the structure should be the following:

- » EPC prepares the training materials both in Romanian and English with input from project experts and relevant ASPs;
- » EPC carries out training events in Romania with support from WWF-RO and Zarand Association (AZ).
- » The PPs adapt the capacity-building materials to their national needs. Also, if deemed necessary the PPs will translate the materials for the training events.

The following PPs are to conduct and organize the rest of the training events for public authorities and key players as follows:

- » LP WWF Central and Eastern Europe together with the Environment Agency Austria,
- » Black Sea NGO Network and Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation in Bulgaria,
- » Associated Strategic Partner, the Nature Conservation Agency in the Czech Republic together with the Transport Research Centre,
- » CEEweb for Biodiversity and the Hungarian University for Agriculture and Life Sciences in Hungary and Ukraine (if the country situation will allow),
- » Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava - SPECTRA Centre of Excellence of EU in Slovakia.

# CHAPTER 3

# Training materials



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**Training materials comprise the following:**

### **3.1 Toolkit for Ensuring Sustainable Use and Management of Green Infrastructure in Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA)**

**The SEA and EIA Toolkit** is aimed at proposing a toolbox that can be used by SEA and EIA practitioners, environmental authorities, NGOs, and other stakeholders in identifying and assessing, in a quantified manner, the impacts of plans or projects likely to appear in regards to green infrastructure and securing ecological connectivity. In this deliverable, there are general descriptions of the SEA and EIA procedures, as well as specific tools for assessing the impacts identified as

generated by different transport-related plans or projects.

### **3.2 Handbook of Best Practices for Planning and Implementation of Mitigation Measures on Landscape Connectivity**

**The Handbook** showcases best practices for planning and implementation of mitigation measures, through the use of examples and case studies. It is intended for the Handbook to showcase best practices related to connectivity at a landscape level, integrating connectivity-related requirements from multiple domains (such as agriculture, forest management, river management etc.).

The deliverables are elaborated in English. If deemed necessary, they will be translated into the PPs local languages.

### 3.3 PowerPoint presentation (PPT) for training delivery (in English and the language of each country where training will be organized)

The PowerPoint presentation represents the basis of the Capacity-building programme and will be the main document upon which the training events will be built.

#### The presentation is structured thus:

- » A general introduction to the SaveGREEN project, which showcases comprehensive information regarding the project (the period of implementation, the main objectives, the preliminary results) as well as the connection of this project with other projects;
- » A brief introduction to the SEA/EIA Toolbox. This outlines the scope and objectives of this deliverable and gives a short description of the SEA and EIA legislative requirements, practical application, relation to ecological connectivity at the country and EU levels;
- » A description of the relevant links between the SEA/EIA procedures and ecological connectivity, as well as information of what can be done for ecological connectivity at different project stages - strategic level, project level, construction, operation;
- » An interactive exercise related to the assessment of long-distance and long term cumulative impacts. For the exercise, an example from the Targu Mures - Targu Neamt Pilot Area will be used. The example could be replaced by the PP with other examples from each country if deemed necessary;
- » A short introduction to the Handbook for best practices for planning and implementation of mitigation measures. This outlines the scope and objectives of the deliverable as well as its structure. As the Handbook represents a collaborative document, any examples of good practices

that are available will be discussed during the training event. The most relevant case studies identified until the event date will also be discussed during the trainings.

- » A short description of landscape-level connectivity, with a discussion on why it is important, as well as examples of what was done wrong in the past during the implementation of infrastructure;
- » An introduction to the Cross-Sectoral Operational Plans (CSOPs) developed during SaveGREEN. This will involve a description of the scope & objectives of the deliverable and its structure, as well as an outline of the common elements of the CSOPs.
- » Seeing as the training events are mainly targeted toward different authorities in the transport-related infrastructure, the presentation showcases what would it mean for the different authorities to implement a CSOP.
- » An exercise in imagination: a roe deer needing to go from point A to point B in a fragmented landscape. The participants are invited to discuss, based on the outlined Google Earth pathway, what would be the main obstacles the deer will face and how they could be overcome through changes in design or through additional interventions on already built structures;
- » An exercise in the identification of relevant stakeholders. This exercise will indicate to the participants why it is necessary to identify all of the stakeholders (especially at local level) and what is their role in this identification.

The PowerPoint presentation should be prepared in a non-technical manner in order to be accessible for all participants of the trainings. It is prepared in English as the primary language and will be translated as needed by the PPs for being used in the training events. The model of the presentation is annexed to this report.

### 3.3 General training agenda

The training agenda showcases the allocated time for each activity proposed for the

event. The proposed agenda is similar to the following, but can be particularised by each PP responsible for the capacity building event in each country.

Time	Activity	Responsible
09:00 – 09:30	Registration of participants	Project partner
09:30- 10:00	Presentation of participants and their interest towards the theme of ecological connectivity	Project partner
10:00 -10:25	Presentation of the SaveGREEN project and the capacity building programme: » Introduction to the SaveGREEN project and the deliverables elaborated within the project (WP1, WP2, WP3)	PP involved in development of capacity building materials
10:25 – 10:45	» Introduction to the capacity building programme (WP T1.3), including a presentation of the deliverables (Gap report, SEA/EIA Toolkit, Handbook of best practices)	
10:45-11:15	<b>Coffee break</b>	
11:15-11:45	Presentation of specific characteristics for transport infrastructure in impact assessment: » Scope, objective, components necessary for EIA; » General presentation of the strategic environmental assessment ( + mentions on the analysis of alternatives, strategic assessment of effects, SEA monitoring, etc.)	PP involved in SEA
11:45 – 12:30	» General presentation of the environmental impact assessment ( + mentions on the analysis of alternatives, presentation of baseline conditions, assessment of effects and impacts, measures, monitoring) » Assessment of effects and impacts (short presentation of the methodologies detailed in the Toolkit)	PP involved in EIA
12:30- 13:30	<b>Lunch break</b>	
13:30-15:30	Presentation of the methodology for assessing permeability of transport infrastructure: » Presentation of the methodology for assessing permeability: IO, size requirements, frequency requirements » Team exercise: completion of a table on permeability for a motorway / railway project (60 minutes – exercise + conclusions)	PP involved in EIA
15:30 - 16:00	<b>Coffee break</b>	
16:00-17:30	Networking & discussions on environmental impact assessments from the domain of transport: » Case study – Pilot area situation from the SaveGREEN project	PP involved in EIA
17:30-17:45	Feedback form	PP involved in EIA
17:45 -18:00	O&A, conclusions & closure	PP involved in EIA



### 3.4 The training plan

It is represented by this document, which is aimed at defining the target group (the participants), the goal and main objectives of the training, the expected competencies gained by the participants, as well as the methods and themes of the training. Each capacity training requires the participation of 20 participants per country. The training events focus on presenting and practicing the use of the tools developed in this project.

The main goal of the training events is to inform the relevant stakeholders in regards to the need to maintain ecological connectivity at the level of the landscape, through a cross-sectoral approach that involves a different input from all of the different stakeholders.

#### The objectives of the training events will be to:

- » inform on the relevant aspects to be considered in impact assessment in relation to ecological connectivity at different stages of the project life cycle;
- » showcase case studies (successful and unsuccessful) related to the maintenance of ecological connectivity at the landscape level, from different domains, such as agriculture, forestry, transport infrastructure, water management etc.
- » inform on the concept of Cross-Sectoral Operational Plans, their purpose and the stakeholder's involvement in their creation and implementation;



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The face-to-face events of the capacity-building programmes introduce the audience to the basics of the environmental assessment and increase the knowledge/ experience among relevant authorities and stakeholders regarding the SEA and EIA methodologies, in the field of sustainable transportation, ecological connectivity etc.

In accordance with the Project proposal, the **Target Groups** for which the capacity-building training will be done are:

- » local public authorities
- » regional public authorities
- » national public authorities

- » sectoral agencies
- » infrastructure and (public) service providers
- » interest groups including NGOs
- » students

The **Capacity-building events (T3.4)** are dedicated to the above-mentioned target groups including environmental consultancy companies, forest enterprises and environmental authorities, and representatives of other sectoral agencies (chambers of agriculture, forestry, water management, spatial planning, protected area administrations, architects and engineers etc.).

A black and white photograph of a rocky riverbank. The foreground is dominated by a wide, shallow stream of water with a rocky bed. The background shows a line of trees and a clear sky. A blue rectangular overlay is positioned in the upper left quadrant, containing the chapter title in white text. The page is decorated with vertical bars in yellow, blue, teal, and green on the left side.

## CHAPTER 4

# Costs, logistics & communication

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Item	Description	Amount/ Number	Responsible	Deadline
<b>Number of training</b>	7 national training (Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Ukraine)	7	Each PP will be responsible for the event in their country	
<b>Period</b>	The training events need to be held until 12.2022	TBD by each PP	TBD by each PP	12.2022
<b>Budget for the entire event</b>		max 5,000 EUR (VAT incl.)	Each of the partners mentioned above as responsible for these events has a special budget allocated for this task.	
<b>Purpose of the training</b>	To increase the knowledge/ experience among relevant authorities and stakeholders regarding the SEA and EIA methodologies etc.	-	-	-
<b>Location</b>	When we decide on locations we must also take into account the advantages and disadvantages that they bring, e.g. friendlier setting; good technical and logistical conditions - internet, conference room, equipment etc.	TBD by each PP	TBD by each PP	-
<b>SaveGREEN team present at the event</b>	-	TBD by each PP	TBD by each PP	-
<b>Participants</b>	List of invitees, SaveGREEN target groups;	Minimum 20 participants	TBD by each PP	-
<b>Offers for the service</b>	Transport & Catering	1	TBD by each PP	-
<b>Trainers</b>	1 or 2 trainers in each country to deliver the session	TBD by each PP	TBD by each PP	-
<b>Print materials</b>	Capacity building materials, factsheets, etc.	TBD by each PP	TBD	-
<b>Branding</b>	Roll-up posters, flyers etc.	TBD by each PP	TBD	-

## 1. SaveGREEN Capacity-building Training Event Feedback form

**Location:**

**Date:**

Dear Participant,

We hope that you have found the SaveGreen capacity building training program for public authorities and key players (WP T3) to be informative and useful. In this regard, we would be most grateful if you could provide feedback to the organizers on the training.

### EVALUATION FORM

**Name\*:**

**E-mail\*:**

**Institution/ Authority\*:**

**Country:**

1. What is your **overall assessment** of the training?

Excellent                  Very Good                  Good                  Satisfactory                  Poor

Comments .....

.....

.....

2. How would you rate **the location and the facilities** of the training?

Excellent                  Very Good                  Good                  Satisfactory                  Poor

3. How would you rate **the support from the organizers?**

Excellent                  Very Good                  Good                  Satisfactory                  Poor

4. How would you rate **the contents** of the training as a whole?

Excellent                  Very Good                  Good                  Satisfactory                  Poor

5. How would you rate **the quality and format of the sessions** (speakers, length of speeches, time allocated for discussion, structure of the presentations etc.)?

Excellent                  Very Good                  Good                  Satisfactory                  Poor

6. How would you rate **the quality of background documents and materials** provided and their relevance for your institution?

Excellent                  Very Good                  Good                  Satisfactory                  Poor



7. Which topics represented a major interest or relevance to your institution?

.....

.....

.....

.....

8. To what extent do you expect to use the information obtained through this training further in your work?

Very Significantly      Significantly      Moderately      Unimportantly      Not at all

9. Please identify possible future topics and areas for discussion

.....

.....

.....

.....

10. Please feel free to provide further comments/ suggestions on the training as a whole:

.....

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.....

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11. I liked the training because

.....

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.....

.....

12. I didn't like the training because

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## 2. PowerPoint presentation template

Available as an extra ppt file.



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### Project partners:

**Austria:** WWF Central and Eastern Europe (Lead Partner), Environment Agency Austria

**Bulgaria:** Black Sea NGO Network, Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation

**Czech Republic:** Friends of the Earth Czech Republic – Carnivore Conservation Programme, Transport Research Centre Czech Republic

**Hungary:** CEEweb for Biodiversity, Hungarian University for Agriculture and Life Sciences

**Romania:** Zarand Association, EPC Environmental Consultancy Ltd., WWF Romania

**Slovakia:** Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava – SPECTRA Centre of Excellence of EU

### Associated Strategic Partners:

**Austria:** Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation, and Technology

**Bulgaria:** Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry – Executive Forest Agency, Southwestern State Enterprise SE – Blagoevgrad

**Czech Republic:** Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation Agency

**France:** Infrastructure and Ecology Network Europe (IENE)

**Germany:** Bavarian State Ministry of the Environment and Consumer Protection

**Greece:** Egnatia ODOS S.A.

**Hungary:** National Infrastructure Developing Private Company Ltd. (NIF Ltd.), Ministry of Agriculture, Danube-Ipoly National Park Directorate

**Romania:** Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests, Ministry of Public Works, Development and Administration, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure and Communications

**Slovakia:** State Nature Conservancy, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Transport and Construction, National Motorway Company

**Ukraine:** M.P. Shulgin State Road Research Institute State Enterprise – DerzhdorNDI SE, Department of Ecology and Nature Resources of Zakarpattia Oblast Administration

SaveGREEN “Safeguarding the functionality of transnationally important ecological corridors in the Danube basin”

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