

Fact sheet : 20 Years of Impact by WWF-Romania

COLLABORATION AND COMMUNITY FOR A RESILIENT NATURE

- **200** projects implemented
- **200,000** supporters and donors
- **2,000+** volunteers engaged
- **100+** local communities involved in conservation projects
- **120+** public officials and local producers trained in sustainable green procurement
- **12** cities where WWF mobilized young people for climate action
- **30,000+** young people participating in WWF educational programmes
- **22,000+** students who consumed organic products through the “Milk and Bread” programme in Brasov
- **5,000+** students participating in educational activities on certified organic farms
- **1 ton/year** of plastic collected from the Danube Delta waters and Brasov forests through the Zero Plastic Patrol
- **1** — the first “Bear Smart” community in Romania (Baile Tusnad)

FORESTS

- **200,000 ha** assessed for the identification of virgin and old-growth forests
- **84,000 ha** of primary and virgin forests placed under strict protection
- **80,000 ha** of virgin forests included in the National Catalogue
- **300,000 ha** of High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF) identified and promoted
- **100,000 ha** of forests for which EU payments have become accessible to private owners choosing biodiversity-friendly practices
- **2.9 million ha** of FSC-certified forests
- **24,000 ha** of virgin forests included in the UNESCO World Heritage
- **70,000 ha** of ecological buffer zones associated with UNESCO sites
- **5,000+** stakeholders involved in forest governance

FRESHWATER

- **15,000 ha** of wetlands restored along the Danube and in the Danube Delta, to which WWF-Romania has contributed with know-how since 2006 (Babina, Cernovca, Popina, Fortuna, Dunavat-Dranov) or has directly implemented (Mahmudia, Balta Geraiului, Garla Mare)
- **924 ha** of wetlands restored at Mahmudia–Carasuhai (Danube Delta)
- **2,500 ha** total area returned to the Danube Delta in the Mahmudia area
- **400+ ha** of floodplains and wetlands reconnected to the Danube at Garla Mare (Mehedinti)
- **5,000,000 m³** floodwater retention capacity at Garla Mare
- **350,000 ha** of Ramsar sites designated along the Lower Danube and in the Delta
- **935,000 ha** protected through the Lower Danube Green Corridor Agreement
- **224,000 ha** of wetlands targeted for ecological restoration under the Green Corridor Agreement
- **3** transboundary wetland complexes of international importance (Ramsar) created along the Lower Danube (2013)
- **4** protected areas for which Management Plans have been developed

WILDLIFE & BIODIVERSITY

- **60,000** sturgeon juveniles released into the Danube
 - **300+** reports collected in the first national database for accidental sturgeon catches
 - **500** target number of bison for a viable population
 - **250** bison already roaming freely in the South-Western Carpathians
 - **200** years of absence of the bison from Romania before reintroduction
 - **80** protected species benefiting from the wetland restoration at Garla Mare
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- **12** cities where young people were mobilized for climate action
- **20** vulnerable households benefiting from the first local energy poverty action plan in Maramures

PROTECTED AREAS & GOVERNANCE

- **330,000 ha** total area of protected sites for which WWF-Romania has developed Management Plans, namely Blahnita, Hartibaciu Plateau - Tarnava Mare - Olt, Strambu Baiut, and Nera Gorges National Park
- **40,000 ha** Blahnita (Management Plan)
- **237,000 ha** Hartibaciu Plateau (Management Plan)
- **3,000 ha** Strambu Baiut (Management Plan)
- **37,000 ha** Nera Gorges National Park (Management Plan)
- **400,000 ha** Natura 2000 site Hartibaciu Plateau–Tarnava Mare–Olt (the largest in Romania after the Danube Delta, comprising 7 Natura 2000 sites and 3 national protected areas)
- **20+** NGOs members of the Natura 2000 Coalition, co-founded by WWF

INTERNATIONAL IMPACT & ADVOCACY

PARTNERSHIPS

- **400+** — public policies to which WWF has contributed
- **500,000** signatures collected in campaigns for biodiversity protection
- **2016** — the year trophy hunting was banned, influenced through a WWF campaign
- **2017** — the year wild animals were banned in circuses, influenced through a WWF campaign
- **1** ecological corridor network for large carnivores recognized by the European Commission as a best practice model
- **5** priority conservation areas covered: Danube Delta, Lower Danube, Hartibaciu Plateau, South-Western Carpathians, Maramures

PARTNERSHIPS

- **6** partner universities in Bucharest, Brasov, Cluj-Napoca, Timisoara, Suceava, Galati
 - **100+** donor companies and 22 strategic partner companies
 - **4** key international organizations that WWF Romania is part of (IUCN, ICPDR, Carpathian Convention)
 - Founding member of the Natura 2000 Coalition, founding member of the Ecotourism Association of Romania, founding member of the Association for Forest Certification
 - Partnership between financial institutions, authorities, companies and NGOs for implementing Nature-Based Solutions through bankable projects
 - Partnership with the Energy Cooperative and independent energy policy experts to establish a coalition dedicated to energy communities, the Community Energy Coalition
 - Facilitation of the establishment of Propark – Foundation for Protected Areas, focused on strengthening the professional capacity of those working in biodiversity conservation
 - Partnerships with local fishing communities, small producers' associations and beekeepers
 - Partnership with Code for Romania, Design Thinking Society and Social Innovation Solutions
 - Partnership with the Maps Museum and ARCUB
 - Partnership with Camposaz, architects and designers from Romania and across Europe
 - PlantNet, Bucharest Botanical Garden, Forgotten Herbs, Fix Botanical Bar, for the BEEnet mobile application (to be launched this spring)
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