A BEAR FED BY HUMAN IS A BEAR SENTENCED TO DEATH!

LIFE FOR BEAR

Project - LIFE 13 NAT/RO/001154

,,Conservation of the Brown Bear (Ursus arctos) population in Romania''

Implementation period: oct 2014-oct2019 (prolonged: dec2021)
Total Project budget: 1.567.512 Euro.UE CONTRIBUTION: 1.115.911 Euro (71.19%)

THREATS FOR THE BROWN BEAR AND THE SOLUTIONS PROMOTED IN THE PROJECT

1.INEFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF HOUSEHOLD WASTE LOCATED AT THE EDGE OF THE FOREST

- Implementing adequate household waste management adapted to each critical area. In this sense, this effect could be reduced over time, through combined measures to increase the food supply and waste management with specific measures (special containers, increased frequency of waste collection, repellents, education of the population).

2.UNORGANIZED TOURISM

- Formation and operation of patrol teams, in order to identify tourists who do not respect the specially arranged areas and tourist routes.
- Informing tourists about the danger of camping in undeveloped areas.

3.CONFLICTS IN SHEEP FARMS, ORCHARDS, APIARIES

- Regulation of grazing in the forest, promotion of the use of specialized dogs and electric fences for the defense of herds and and apiaries, use of audible warnings in orchards, flag systems and repellents.

4.DECREASE IN TROPHIC SUPPLY / INTERRUPTION OF HABITAT CONNECTIVITY

- Implementation and promotion of innovative demonstration techniques for cultivation (planting) and maintenance of feeding areas intended for wildlife, especially for bears.
- The multiplication of ant mounds also has a direct impact in reducing this threat by creating an important protein source.
- Elaboration of a set of measures at the national level leading to the legislative modification of the norms for the arrangement of stands, especially in the area of Natura 2000 sites, which would allow for the promotion of tree species, shrubs and sub-shrubs that provide natural food to bears.

5.NEGATIVE ATTITUDE OF SOME COMMUNITIES AND FARMERS

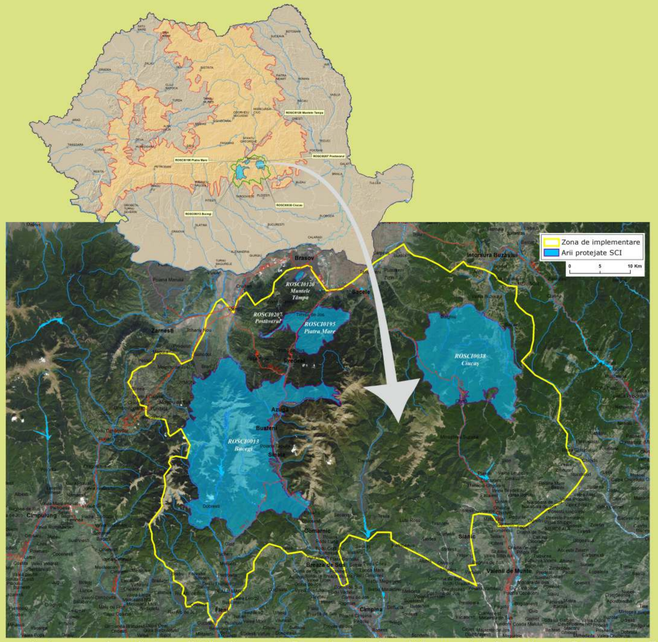
- Information campaigns on the objectives, actions and results of the project, both on the target groups and the general public.

6.LACK OF A SPECIALIZED INTERVENTION TEAM

- Training and equipping the intervention team to resolve human-bear conflict cases within the project.

7.THE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE BROWN BEAR IS NOT UPDATED

- Inclusion in the management plan of all measures necessary to reduce the impact of new pressures and threats and its adaptation to the current situation.



- The project area overlaps the bear distribution area in Romania, including all the mountain formations in Romania: the Eastern, Southern and Western Carpathians, the sub-Carpathian area and the adjacent hilly area.
- The Carpathian region of Romania, although it represents less than 2% of the surface of Europe, supports a viable and stable bear population: approximately 35% of the brown bear total population from Europe. These large animals are a symbol species for the conservation of biodiversity in Europe, having an important role in the ecosystem through the "top-down" control that it exercises over large areas of prey populations.
- The area of the project implementation is limited to the north by Brasov, to the west and south by Bucegi Special Conservation Area (SCI) limit and to the east by the eastern boundary of Ciucaş SCI limit.
- The surface of the project implementation area is approximately: 290,000 ha and is composed of:

representative urban areas occupied by the following development unit: Braşov, Săcele, Bran, Moieciu, Fundata, Predeal, Azuga, Sinaia, Buşteni, Comarnic, Măneciu, Moroieni, etc;

- agricultural areas predominantly cultivated with corn, potatoes, beets;
- orchards with fruit trees;
- pastures, respectively alpine pastures;
- oak forests, present at the edge of depressions;
- beech forests in the hill to mountain range from lower to middle;
- coniferous, spruce, fir, pine, larch forests.

- The implementation area is of high importance for biodiversity conservation, because within it there are a number of 8 SCI's consisting of 28 types of habitats, of which 7 are priority ones and also a number of 54 species of plants and animals listed in Annex II of Council Directive 92/43 / EEC.

The importance of the project LIFE FOR BEAR:

The project LIFE FOR BEAR brings, in addition to what has been applied up to now, a complex management of human-bear conflicts by testing new methods and the improvement of the ones previously applied, namely the optimization of the solutions. The results will lead to finding the most efficient means of reduction of the negative impact of the urban development on the bear population, i.e. the improvement of the urban mass education regarding the protection of this species, with effects upon all habitats and species in the area.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE LIFE FOR BEAR PROJECT ARE:

- Updating the management plan of the brown bear population in Romania within the social and economic development context.
- Improving the conservation status of the brown bear population in the conflict area of Braşov-Valea Prahovei.
- Optimising the household waste management in order to reduce the human-bear conflicts in the area of Braşov-Valea Prahovei.
- Transferring good practice techniques to the stakeholders regarding the conservation and the management of the brown bear population.
- Improving the attitude of the local and national stakeholders regarding the conservation of the brown bear population and the promotion of Natura 2000 sites.

ACTIVITIES OF THE PROJECT

- The social and economic analysis of stakeholders.
- Analyzing the human-bear conflict nationally and locally in the conflict area Brasov – Prahova Valley.
- Analyzing the bonitation (quality) of the brown bear's habitat nationally in view of social and economic development over the past decade.
- Revising the action plan on brown bear population conservation in Romania and the development of a GIS database, which will provide the basis for the management plan of the bear population in Romania.
- Compiling of an operational team comprising certified specialists (BEAR CONFLICT) to solve the conflict situations between the human and the bear.
- Catching, relocating and monitoring problematic bears in the entire project area.
- Improving the trophic supply for naturally feeding the bear near conflict areas.
- Developing a set of measures applicable for forest planning in order to provide special management measures for stands favorable for bears in critical areas.
- Transfer of best practices regarding demonstration sheep farms, orchards, agricultural crops and apiaries protection systems in order to reduce human-bear conflicts.
- Monitoring the project's impact on bear population and anthropogenic factor.
- Exchanging experience with other LIFE projects.
- Informing, raising awareness and disseminating the results.

THE BEAR'S HOUSE IS IN NATURE!

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Scanează codul si citeşte broşura

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