



Our Home – Manyava
Youth Environmental NGO, Ukraine

CARPATHIAN INITIATIVE

**FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESILIENCE
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

2026–2028

OUR HOME – MANYAVA

Strengthening environmental resilience in the Ukrainian Carpathians through education, ecosystem restoration, and community development.



EDUCATE

Empowering youth and communities through environmental education.



RESTORE

Protecting and restoring ecosystems and water resources using Nature-based Solutions.



EMPOWER

Building healthy, resilient communities and improving quality of life.

CONTEXT AND RATIONALE

The Carpathian region is increasingly facing complex environmental and climate-related challenges that directly affect the quality of life of local communities and the stability of ecosystems.

Over recent decades, the Ukrainian Carpathians – particularly in the Ivano-Frankivsk region – have experienced a rise in average annual temperatures of approximately 2–2.4°C, accompanied by significant changes in precipitation patterns and water balance.

-  **OVER 80%**
of drinking water sources depend on mountain ecosystems
-  **161,000 ha+**
of forest area lost over the past 20 years
-  **2–2.4°C**
Rise in average annual temperatures

Hydrological studies confirm a decline in river flow, particularly during the summer period, which is critical for communities dependent on natural water sources.

This results in increased risks of droughts and water shortages, higher vulnerability to floods and extreme weather events, and growing risks of wildfires, landslides, and infrastructure damage.

Despite these challenges, environmental awareness and youth engagement in practical environmental action remain limited.

KEY TRENDS INCLUDE:



Decreasing precipitation
(up to –117 mm over recent decades)



Increased evaporation rates



Reduced water levels
in small rivers



Growing periods
of water scarcity



The Carpathians are our home.
Protecting them today means securing a resilient future for our communities, our ecosystems, and the generations to come.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

1



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

To build a culture of environmental responsibility among children, youth, and communities through modern, interactive, and practice-oriented learning.

Key actions:

- Development of eco-education programmes and learning spaces
- Creation of eco-libraries, camps, and interactive platforms
- Support for youth initiatives and school eco-clubs
- Promotion of environmental volunteering and civic engagement

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ENVIRONMENT AND ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE

To protect and restore ecosystems (forests, rivers, and water resources) and strengthen their resilience to climate change.

Key actions:

- Ecosystem restoration and reforestation
- River restoration and protection
- Environmental monitoring and citizen science
- Youth-led environmental initiatives
- Local climate adaptation measures

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HEALTH, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, AND INFRASTRUCTURE

To improve quality of life through safe environments, strengthened healthcare systems, and increased community resilience.

Key actions:

- Support to healthcare infrastructure and services
- Creation of eco-friendly community spaces
- Strengthening community resilience
- Multi-stakeholder cooperation

ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE: NbS & WATER STEWARDSHIP

The initiative promotes Nature-based Solutions (NbS), including forest restoration, river ecosystem rehabilitation, and sustainable land management practices.

It also applies principles of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) to ensure sustainable and balanced use of water resources, particularly in small river basins such as the Prut.



FOCUS AREAS



Forest restoration and sustainable land management



River and watershed rehabilitation



Water resource protection



Environmental monitoring using modern tools



Youth engagement in practical environmental actions

APPROACH



INTEGRATED APPROACH

The initiative is based on an integrated and systemic model combining environmental education, ecosystem restoration, and community development.



DIGITAL AND DATA-DRIVEN APPROACH

The initiative integrates innovative digital tools to improve monitoring, planning, and transparency.

This includes:

- Mobile data collection (KoboToolbox, ActivityInfo)
 - GIS mapping and analysis
 - Drones for ecosystem monitoring
 - Low-cost sensors for water and environmental indicators
-



INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY

The initiative promotes inclusive and equitable participation, ensuring accessibility for all, including children and youth with disabilities, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and vulnerable groups.

PARTNERSHIP, IMPACT & ALIGNMENT

EXPECTED RESULTS (2026–2028)



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

- 1,000+ children and youth engaged
- 15+ eco-clubs supported
- 50+ educational activities conducted



ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE

- 20+ environmental initiatives implemented
- 500+ participants engaged
- 10+ ecosystems restored or improved



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- 5+ infrastructure projects supported
- 500+ residents reached
- 10+ community spaces created

PARTNERSHIP MODEL

The initiative is implemented through partnerships with:



International organizations



Research institutions



Local authorities



Private sector



NGOs and community groups

POLICY ALIGNMENT

The initiative contributes to:

- The European Green Deal
- The EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030
- Sustainable mountain development frameworks



**TOGETHER FOR A RESILIENT CARPATHIANS –
FOR NATURE, FOR COMMUNITIES, FOR OUR FUTURE.**

CONTACTS & ORGANISATION

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FOCAL POINT

Mykola Skydaniuk, Director



ABOUT THE ORGANISATION

Youth Public Environmental Organization “Our Home—Manyava” is one of the first youth environmental organizations in the Bohorodchany district, established in 2003.

The organization was founded by three students and two teachers from Manyava School who united to protect the natural environment of their community.

Since then, we have actively contributed to environmental protection, community development, and the formation of a new generation of environmental leaders.

We engage communities, especially young people, in environmental protection, awareness, and sustainable development initiatives.

We work in partnership with local authorities, NGOs, and international partners to implement projects that strengthen environmental and community resilience.



OUR VISION

Conscious communities
living in harmony
with nature.



OUR MISSION

To promote environmental
conservation and sustainable
development of the Ukrainian
Carpathians through youth
engagement, awareness-raising,
and community development.



TARGET GROUPS

- Residents, particularly children and youth
- Communities of the Carpathian region
- NGOs, media, and local authorities



OUR CORE VALUES

- The right to a clean and safe environment
- Cooperation for environmental protection
- Openness, voluntariness, and equality of members
- Transparency and accountability
- Efficient use of resources
- Non-partisanship
- Synergy of efforts for sustainable development of Prykarpattia

IMPLEMENTED & ONGOING PROJECTS



MONITORING OF SMALL RIVERS IN THE REGION (2026)

The project aims to improve environmental awareness and access to information on water resources.

Our focus:

- Community engagement and participation
- Data collection and monitoring of small rivers
- Awareness-raising on water resources protection
- Strengthening local capacity in water management and decision-making



MEDICAL EQUIPMENT SUPPLY

Improved access to modern healthcare services through the provision of medical equipment to the perinatal center.

- Essential medical equipment delivered
- Improved quality of care for mothers and newborns
- The project contributed to improving healthcare quality for thousands of patients.



CARPATHIAN ECOLOGICAL AND EDUCATIONAL CENTER

Creation of an environmental education space to support learning, awareness, and community engagement.

Planned activities include:

- Environmental education programs for youth and communities
- Workshops, trainings, and public events
- Information and resource center on environmental protection and sustainable living

OUR FOCUS

We combine key areas to achieve long-term sustainable impact in the Carpathian region:



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Empowering youth and communities through knowledge and awareness.



ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

Protecting and restoring ecosystems and water resources using nature-based solutions.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Building strong, resilient communities and improving quality of life.



SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

Promoting responsible resource use and climate-resilient practices.



**Together for a resilient Carpathians –
for nature, for communities, for our future.**



FROM ACTION TO IMPACT

The implemented and ongoing initiatives demonstrate how integrated environmental action can create tangible and long-term change in mountain communities.

Through a combination of environmental education, ecosystem restoration, and community engagement, the initiative contributes to building resilience in the Carpathian region.



WHAT CHANGES ON THE GROUND

- Improved access to environmental knowledge and education
- Strengthened local capacity in water resource management
- Increased community participation in environmental action
- Protection and restoration of small rivers and ecosystems



BROADER IMPACT

- Enhanced climate resilience of communities
- Improved environmental sustainability
- Stronger cooperation between local stakeholders
- Long-term benefits for ecosystems and future generations



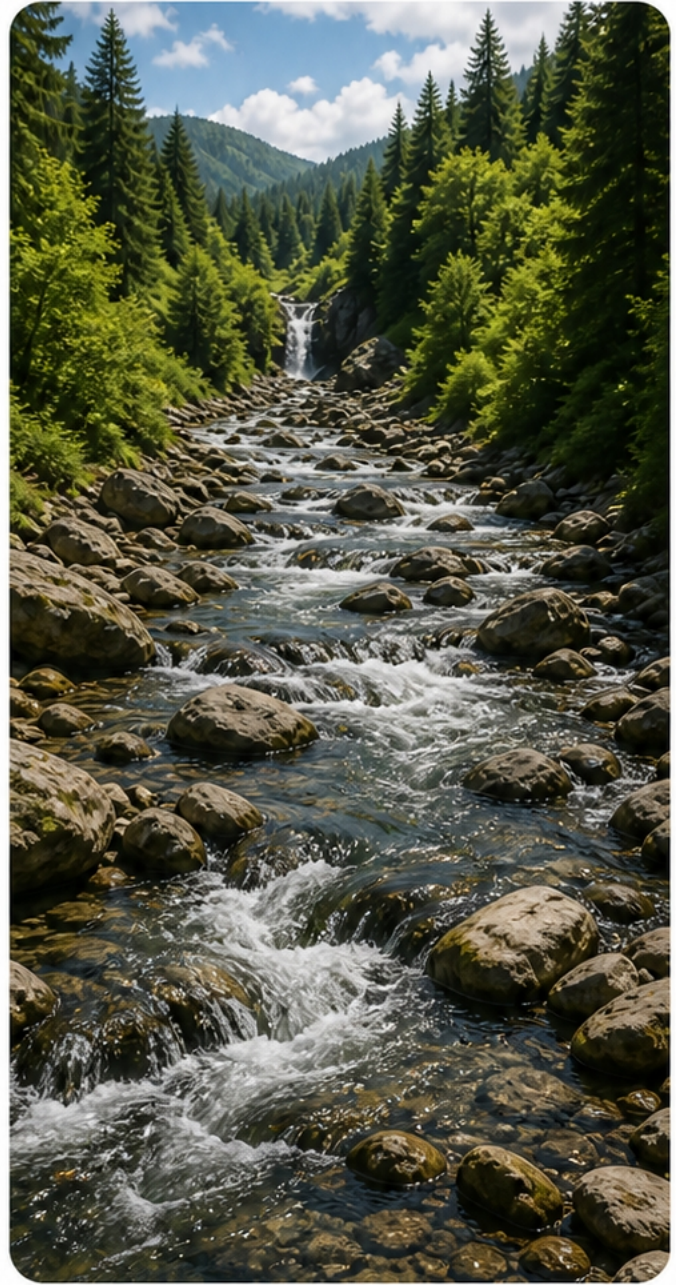
SOCIAL DIMENSION

The initiative empowers young people and local communities to become active participants in environmental protection and sustainable development.



LOOKING FORWARD

The Carpathian Initiative is designed as a scalable model that can be replicated in other mountain regions facing similar environmental challenges.



WHY IT MATTERS

Healthy ecosystems are the foundation of resilient communities. Investing in environmental education, river protection, and community development today ensures a sustainable and climate-resilient future for the Carpathians.



Together for a resilient Carpathians –
for nature, for communities, for our future.



10. MONITORING, EVALUATION, ACCOUNTABILITY AND LEARNING (MEAL)

We are committed to transparent, evidence-based management and continuous learning. Our MEAL system ensures accountability, measures our impact, and helps us adapt and improve our actions over time.



1. MEAL FRAMEWORK

- Continuous monitoring of activities and progress
- Regular data collection and verification
- Use of reliable tools and participatory methods
- Transparency and accountability in reporting
- Accountability to communities and partners
- Evidence-based planning and decision-making
- Continuous learning and improvement

2. KEY INDICATORS (2026–2028)



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

- 1,000+** children and youth engaged
- 50+** educational activities conducted
- 15+** eco-clubs and youth groups supported



ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE

- 20+** environmental initiatives implemented
- 10+** ecosystems restored or protected
- Monitoring of **10+** small rivers and water resources



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE

- 5+** infrastructure projects supported
- 10+** community spaces created or improved
- Partnerships with local stakeholders



ACCOUNTABILITY & ENGAGEMENT

- Regular feedback from communities and partners
- Transparent reporting and communication
- Grievance mechanism in place

3. TOOLS & VERIFICATION METHODS



Data collection using KoboToolbox and mobile applications



GIS & mapping for environmental monitoring



Surveys, interviews, and focus groups



Annual reports and financial documentation



Partner reports and feedback



Website analytics and communication metrics

4. LEARNING & ADAPTATION



Annual reviews of progress and results



Stakeholder consultations and community feedback



Lessons learned integrated into future planning



Adaptive management to respond to challenges and opportunities



The MEAL system ensures transparency, accountability and continuous improvement, builds trust with our partners, and secures a sustainable future for the Carpathians and our communities.