

Nature for All

The aim of the Nature for All project is to improve the status of rare species and Natura 2000 habitats in five selected pilot sites – **Záhorie, Poľana, Muránska planina, Latorica, and the peatlands of northern and central Slovakia**. We implement specific restoration measures and develop new management approaches. Cooperation and effective communication with the landowners and land users of the sites is important. Our goal is to show that by caring for the species and habitats, we contribute not only to improving their living conditions, but also to the quality of life of people in these regions.



Zelienka Nature Reserve,
Záhorie

We investigate how climate change affects Natura 2000 sites in Slovakia and we improve the protection of peatlands by establishing two specialized management centers. We establish agroforestry systems to help endangered habitats, increase biodiversity in selected locations and support farmers. Through integrated nature conservation, we aim to restore the habitats of five endangered species – **western capercaillie, the European pond turtle, bastard toadflax *Thesium ebracteatum*, long-horned beetle *Pseudogaurotina excellens* and the European water-clover**. We also strive to ensure the ecological connectivity between the Natura 2000 sites. Experience and knowledge is being translated into relevant policies. At the same time, we educate about the importance of the Natura 2000 network, the socio-economic benefits and ecosystem services that nature provides.



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Partneri

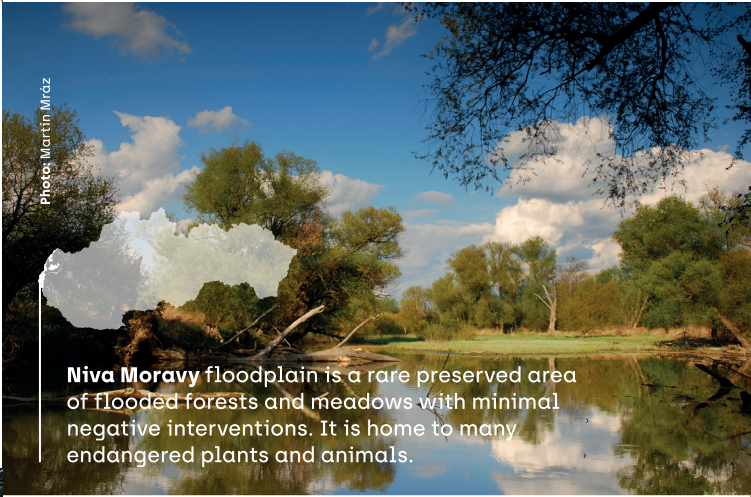


Photo: Martin Mraz

Niva Moravy floodplain is a rare preserved area of flooded forests and meadows with minimal negative interventions. It is home to many endangered plants and animals.

Záhorie

The floodplain area of Záhorie is frequently flooded and shaped by the activity of rivers. We restore wetland habitats here by decommissioning drainage channels and reconnecting river meanders to the main flow of the Morava and Rudava rivers. On selected sections of the Morava River, we remove stone reinforcements from the banks in order to restore the river's natural dynamics. On agricultural land, we create grasslands for grazing. By removing non-native trees, we restore the composition of unique pine-lichen forests.



Photo: Rudolf Jureček

The **kingfisher** is a turquoise jewel of our rivers. In Záhorie, up to 200 pairs of these extravagant fish lovers nest every year.



Photo: Jakub Korytiak

The **Apollo butterfly** is a rare gem among butterflies, adorning the warm rocky habitats of the Muránska Planina.

Muránska Planina

Muránska Planina is one of our wildest national parks, very diverse and rich in species. It is mainly covered by forest and grassland, there are also wetlands and Peatlands. By thinning the forest stands, we create better conditions for the endangered western capercaillie. We restore semi-natural grasslands which are home to rare pollinators such as the large blue butterfly and the rare and critically endangered Apollo butterfly.



Photo: Jakub Korytiak

Muránska planina is full of enchanting meadows where we take care of grassland habitats. Grazing livestock is important for their preservation.

Natura 2000

The most precious treasures of European nature



Photo: Jakub Korytiak





Photo: Ivan Šustr

Peatland Rudné

Role of the Natura 2000 network and management of some prioritized habitats in the integrated landscape protection of the Slovak Republic
LIFE-IP NATURA 2000 SVK (LIFE19 IPE/SK/000003)
Nature for All Project

Project website:
<https://www.prirodaprevsetkych.sk/en/home/>

Coordinating Beneficiary:
Ministry of Environment of The Slovak Republic

Associated Beneficiaries:
The State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic,
WWF Slovakia,
The National Forest Centre,
DAPHNE – Institute of Applied Ecology,
The Slovak Water Management Enterprise,
Muránska planina National Park,
Comenius University in Bratislava, Faculty of Natural Sciences

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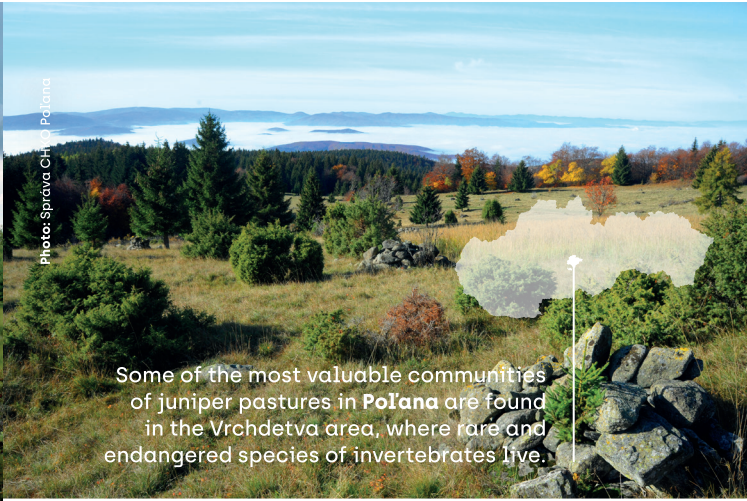


Photo: Správa CHKO Poľana

Some of the most valuable communities of juniper pastures in **Poľana** are found in the Vrchdetva area, where rare and endangered species of invertebrates live.

Poľana

Poľana is the highest and best-preserved volcanic mountain range in Slovakia. Forests are the most prevalent feature here. The varied relief of the area offers an abundance of different types of grazed and mowed meadows, peatlands, unique farmland and old orchards. We restore mountain meadows and juniper stands, introduce agroforestry measures and thin forest stands. In Poľana, it is crucial for us to better protect the habitat of the capercaillie and the rare bastard toadflax *Thesium ebracteatum* which occurs at only one location in Slovakia.



Photo: Správa CHKO Poľana

The **western capercaillie** is our largest galliform bird, inhabiting mixed and coniferous mountain forests. Only a small population remains in Poľana.



Photo: Miloš Balla

The **European water-clover** can be found in old river arms and regularly flooded warm areas of the Latorica river.

Latorica

The Latorica region is a mosaic of floodplain forests, wetlands, oxbow lakes, and sandy meadows in Zemplín, thriving thanks to the Latorica and Bodrog rivers. By removing invasive trees, we restore grasslands to improve the conditions for the endangered European pond turtle and plant species characteristic of this area. We improve the condition of the water in the Tajba and Tice oxbow lakes using a network of channels and sluices that bring water from nearby water management structures. This will support the living conditions of the rare wetland communities.



Photo: Miloš Balla

The **Latorica** region is a mosaic of floodplain forests, wetlands, oxbow lakes and sandy meadows in Zemplín, thriving thanks to the Latorica and Bodrog rivers.



Photo: Správa CHKO Horná Orava

Orava is an area with a diverse mosaic of habitats. Peatlands, mountain spruce forests and meadows create a unique environment for rare species of plants and animals.

Peatlands in northern and central Slovakia

Peatlands are among the oldest and most valuable habitats in Slovakia. In times of climate change, they provide us with important services – they capture carbon and retain water. However, due to insensitive interventions in the past, they are becoming increasingly rare. We help them by maintaining a favourable water regime in the area, mowing, removing shrubs and if necessary, mulching. We offer peatland management services to landowners and land users, as we see the cooperation as a key to preserving peatlands.



Photo: Ivan Šustr

The **Carpathian Tozzia** is a Carpathian subendemic. It prefers the moist environment of floodplains near mountain streams.