Southern Romanian Carpathians in 2050: a glimpse into the future

Topic
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The envisioned future of the Southern Romanian Carpathians in 2050 is based on four interconnected pillars: stronger communities, controlled building development, sustainable tourism, and better integrated agricultural activities.

During the foresight workshop, together with the local and regional stakeholders, we identified the main key variables impacting the resilience and sustainability of the area (land use change, mass tourism and associated infrastructure and demographic changes) which transformed into two long-term forces that shape the dynamics of the Southern Romanian Carpathians: increasing demand for land for building development and socio-demographic trends (out-migration and ageing population).

For building the envisioned future and for strengthening the resilience of the Southern Romanian Carpathians stakeholders agreed that diverse and integrated strategic course of actions are needed:

1) Implementation of sustainable forms of tourism – for ensuring an efficient and long-term collaboration between stakeholders, and the protection and conservation of local biodiversity, while contributing to safeguarding and promoting the local cultural heritage and supporting entrepreneurship and traditional agricultural activities.
2) Development and promotion of green local economy – for ensuring multiple, diverse and sustainable sources of income to the local community.
3) The protection and sustainable use of the natural and cultural resources of the area.
4) Social cohesion – rekindle the local community and focus on the importance of collaboration between multiple stakeholders.
5) Investments in road and utility infrastructures.

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