



Research report

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Introduction

This document is elaborated under the project „Carpathians Connects“ which is co-funded by EU Interreg IPA CBC Romania – Serbia Programme. Project is contributing to sustainable use of natural and cultural resources in mountain region of programme area. These Southern Carpathians Mountains (spread in Caras-Severin and Mehedinti counties in Romania and Bor District in Serbia) are attracting more and more visitors and at this moment there are no comprehensive framework and guidelines of sustainable mountain tourism development. People living in Caras-Severin and Mehedinty counties as well as in Bor District are aware of great tourism potentials Carpathian Mountains has. As mountainous area, this region is fully related to the Carpathians, its resources and its particularities. Carpathians natural and cultural values can be harmed by uncontrolled development of tourism, thus making tourism development unsustainable and short-term business activity. This will lead to unsustainable usage of natural and cultural resources and will harm income generators of business sector in the region. Development of sustainable mountain tourism with cross-border approach will empower stakeholders in tourism and environmental sectors and provide long-lasting tourism product based on smart usage of heritage making Carpathian cross-border area unique mountain destination.

Tourism industry is economic activity which generates significant amounts of profits. Thus, stakeholders are sensitive and proactive when new ideas on tourism business appear. Project is establishing cross-border sustainable tourism product which will ensure long-lasting tourism activities, with minimized chances for fast destruction of key attractors (natural and cultural heritage) of the area. Local tourism business is still not well prepared for upcoming sustainable tourism activities and there is a need to get closer to these initiatives – its particularities and possibilities for diversification of the offer.

The overall project objective is to support development of local tourism businesses and sustainable use of natural and cultural heritage by providing framework, guidelines and trainings for new touristic product of cross-border mountain tourism.

The Project is intended to overcome the natural and cultural geographic and language barriers, in order to transform the border from a line of separation into a place for communication and cooperation. Project will:

- Bring new knowledge to tourism stakeholders -through elaboration of the Study on development of sustainable mountain tourism in RO-SER Carpathian cross-border area
- Enable key stakeholders from the public, private and civil sector in fulfilling their roles in effective and innovative development of cross-border sustainable mountain tourism - through establishment of “Stakeholder’s cross-border network on Mountain tourism development”
- Strongly support capacity building on sustainable usage of on natural and cultural resources in the field of cross-border sustainable mountain tourism development – through undertaking two trainings

Projects target groups are:

- Business sector dealing with tourism in RO-SER Carpathian cross-border area,
- Public authority representatives,
- Institutions and organisations operating in the field of environment and tourism,
- Professionals dealing with sustainable tourism and related sectors,

- Inhabitants of the cross-border area with age between 20-59 years.

Project results are:

- increased capacities for development of sustainable mountain tourism in RO-SER Carpathian cross-border area among stakeholders by: 1) Training on introducing sustainable mountain tourism in RO-SER Carpathian cross-border area; 2) Training on identification of cross-border projects on sustainable mountain tourism in RO-SER Carpathian cross-border area.
- Introduced cross-border sustainable mountain tourism as a new touristic product contributing to sustainable use of natural resources in RO-SER Carpathian cross-border area by: 1) Elaboration of Research „State of the art of mountain tourism in RO-SER Carpathian cross-border area“.; 2) Elaboration of „Study on development of sustainable mountain tourism in RO-SER Carpathian cross-border area“; 3) Elaboration of Manual „Identifying cross-border projects on sustainable mountain tourism initiatives“
- Established cross-border partnership for exchange of practises and for implementation of joint initiatives by “Stakeholder’s cross-border network on Mountain tourism development”.

Project partners:

Lead partner: Regional Development Agency Eastern Serbia – RARIS.

Partner: Romanian Association for Technology Transfer and Innovation – Mehedinti Subsidiary – AROTT

Aim of State of the Art is to evaluate the existing socio-economic and environmental conditions of RO-SER Carpathian cross-border area (Caras-Severin and Mehedinti counties and Bor District), its disparities and potentials for common tourist product development.

Methodology

In the time when economic activities are growing faster than ever and when mankind is struggling with overconsumption, there are still areas where nature is offering alternative possibilities for development. This is the case with this Romania-Serbia Carpathian cross-border region where Mehedinti, Caras-Severin and Bor Counties are spread. Investing time and finances in sustainable mountain tourism development is understood as good investment in future, future for the benefit for local people and local economy.

During the development of this document several meetings with stakeholders were organized. At the beginning of the document preparation, methodology approach was developed. It was agreed that mountain tourism is relying on mountain area resources and thus mountain areas were specifically defined for the purposes of this project. The draft version of the document was presented during the first meeting of Stakeholder's cross-border network on Mountain tourism development, held in Brestovacka banja, Serbia on 6th and 7th of December 2017. At this meeting the valuable comments are collected and taken into consideration.

Term "mountain settlement" is understood regarding this project as any territory of smallest administrative unit (village) which has within own territory at least some location above 500m above sea level. This means that if some village on its territory has highest peak of, for example, 520m, whole territory of that village is considered as mountain settlement.

For the purposes of this document, term "mountain tourism" is understood as any tourism activity happening above 500m.

Three regions are included in this research document: Mehedinti and Caras-Severin counties in Romania and Bor District in Serbia. For practical reasons, this document is considering all three administrative areas (Mehedinti, Caras-Severin and Bor) as counties, although in some literature it can be called as districts, regions or similar.

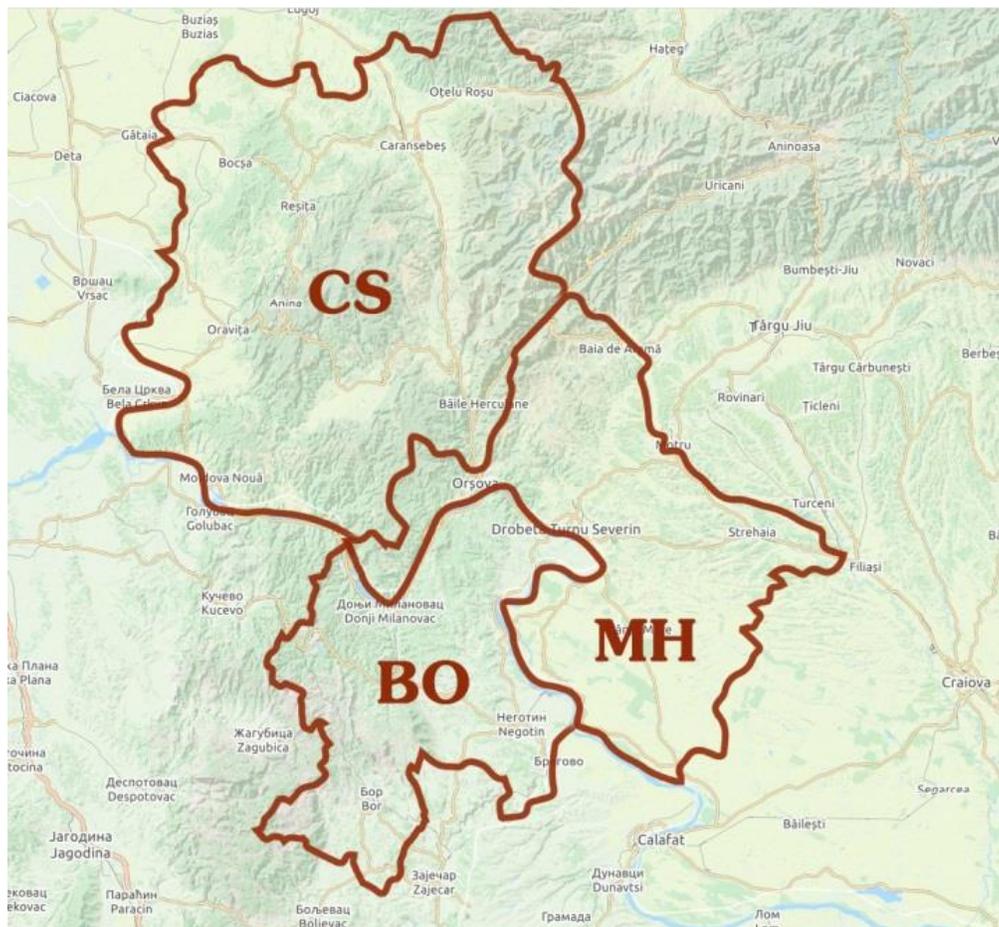
The term "cross-border region" in this document is corresponding only to three counties – Mehedinti, Caras-Severin and Bor, and does not refer to whole cross-border territory of Romania and Serbia.

In order to provide balanced information about all three counties, data and explanations are presented by counties separately, but the evaluation of the inputs is summarized as joint conclusions.

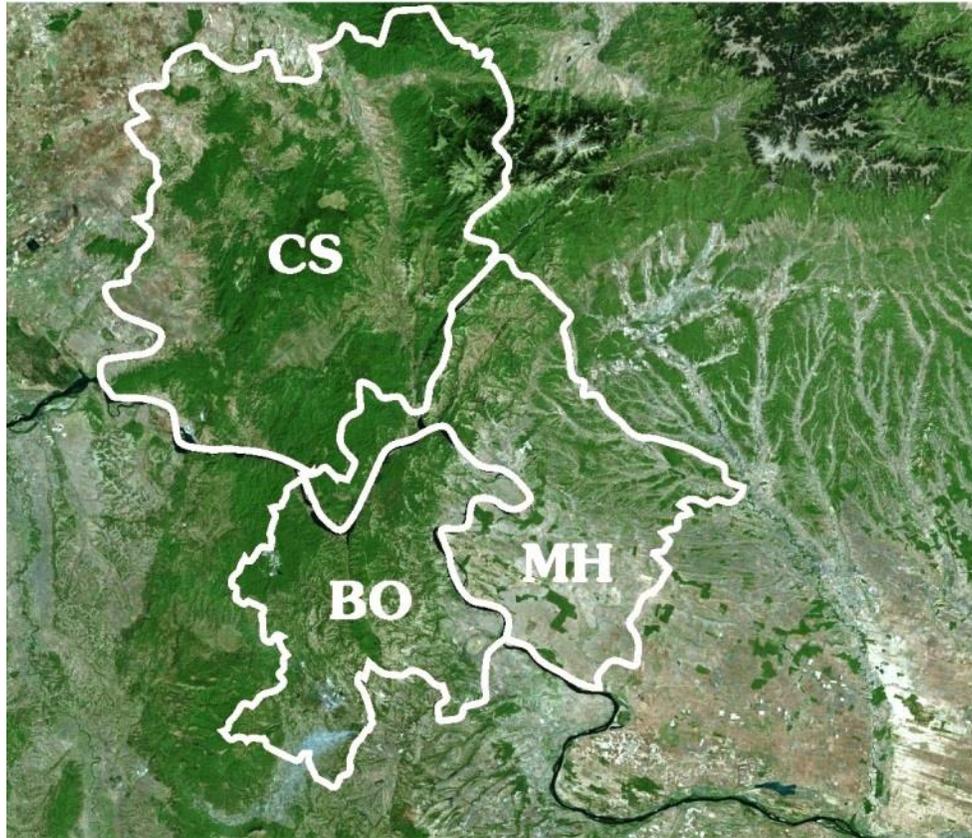
Territory of RO-SER Carpathian Cross-Border Area

Project territory is consisted of three counties in two neighbouring countries – Mehedinți County and Caras-Severin County in Romania and Bor County in Serbia. In Romania both counties are situated in Southern part of Romania, while in Serbia Bor County is situated in Eastern part of Serbia. Main cities of this area are Dobreta Turnu Severin, Resica, Caran Sebes, all in Romania and Bor and Negotin in Serbia. Total area of the cross-border region is 16.954 km² which is bit less than territory of Republic of Slovenia.

The Danube River together with Carpathian Mountains, are forming well-known Danube Gorge – Iron Gates area. Besides the mountain areas, this cross-border region possesses flat area in the western part of the region – Timok valley and Mehedinți plateau.



Map 1. Location of the three counties.



Map2. Danube River splits Carpathian Mountains defying part of national border of two countries.

Description of cross-border region

MEHEDINTI

Mehedinti County is situated the south-east part of Romania, on the border with Serbia and Bulgaria. It is mostly located in the historical province of Oltenia, with one municipality (Orsova) and three communes (Dubova, Eselnita and Svinita) all located in Banat.

Mehedinti County has a mixed relief composed by mountains in the north part (Mehedinti Mountains, Almajului Mountains) with the maximum elevation in Stan's peak of 1.466 meters height.

The relief of the county, consisting of mountains, plateaus and plain, resembles the form of an amphitheater in steps descending from North-West to South-East. The variety of land forms provides a balanced usage structure for the entire surface of the county.

The most important river is the Danube, which marks the natural border of the county, on a length of 192 km. Cerna, Bahna, Topolnita, Blahnita and Drincea Rivers flow into the Danube, on the county's territory. Motru river basin lies on the North-East, with its tributaries Cosustea and Husnita. The main lakes are the Iron Gates I and II (Portile de Fier) reservoirs.

Mehedinti County has a remarkable natural and cultural patrimony, concentrated in protected areas. Also, the county has important underground resources such as: coal, limestone, slate, sand and sulphurous waters.

The vegetation stands out by a great variety as consequence of this county's geographical position. The mountain area of the county is characterized from the point of view of flora by the existence of two vegetation layers, the sublayer of alternative forests and the sublayer of mountain (alpine) pastures and meadows.

Mehedinti County has a flora composed by deciduous forests (oak, beech, ash, holm) mixed with the coniferous ones (fir, spruce). Southward predominant is the vegetation of plain and meadow.

Total area covered by Mehedinti County is 4 932 km²

CARAS-SEVERIN

Caras-Severin County is located in South- Western part of Romania, in historical region of Banat. Caras-Severin is the third largest county in Romania; it is also the county through which the Danube River enters Romania.

The relief it is varied, the mountains being dominant - Western and Southern Carpathians, the top heights are located in the Godeanu Mountains, Gugu Peak with 2,291 m, in Cerna, Tarcu, Mehedinti, then in the Banat Mountains with altitudes below 1,400 m, represented by the Almaj, Locvei, Semenic, Anina, Docnegea Mountains, but also the southern part of the Poiana Rusca Mountains. Two branches of the Carpathians are separated by the Bistra and Timis - Cerna depressions. The hills (Mehadia, Almaj) and the plains (the extreme South - Eastern limit of the Banat Plain, between Resita and the Nera Gorges) occupy a small area of the county.

The most important rivers are the Danube River that enters the country near Bazias City and Cerna, Nera, Timis and Caras Rivers. The biggest and the most important lakes are Poiana Marului, Scorilo and Poiana Rusca Lakes.

Forests of beech, oak, holm, maple, elm, ash and also spruce, fir and pine are spread all over on county's territory. The fauna is specific to the mountain area with wolves, lynxes, foxes, wild boars and brown bears among the main animals from here.

The county's agricultural activities include livestock rising and cereal and fruit cultivation. Iron, manganese, feldspar, pyrite, coal, and anthracite mines operate in the county, and marble is quarried near Ruschita. Resita, Bocsa, and Otelu Rosu have metal-products and machinery industries.

The natural patrimony is concentrated on the main rivers which form gorges: the Danube River, the Nera River, the Caras and the Minis.

Caras Severin is speed on the territory of 8 519 km² this making this county larger of other two counties.

BOR

Bor County covers the area of 3 507 km². It includes municipalities of Bor, Negotin, Majdanpek and Kladovo. Bor County covers 3.96% of the entire Serbia's territory. The border between Serbia and Romania, in this part of the country, goes exclusively on the Danube River.

Geographically, it includes bigger part of the Timok basin, part of lower Transdanubia and its hill-mountainous background zone, spring and upper part of the Pek River.

Several geo-morphological mountain units and hilly terrains are neighboring or having the territory within the county. Those areas are mountains of Kucaj, Deli Jovan, Stol, Mali Krš, Veliki Krš; river valleys of the Danube, Veliki Timok (Great Timok) River and Pek River.

The county is rich in biodiversity hosting biggest National park in Serbia - National park Djerdap. Here is the home of many animals such as: otter, European hare, Roe deer, wolf, chamois and more. Danube Gorge is forming unique landscape formations and based on it UNESCO listed Geopark Djerdap as potential member of Geopark network.

This cross-border area covers huge mountain and hilly areas with highest peak in Caras Severin (Gugu Peak with 2,291 m). The area is rich in water flows, biodiversity and valuable part of the territory is flat area, mostly located in Eastern part of the cross-border region. Danube River as most international river basin in the world, gives wide chances for diversification of tourism activities. Cross-border region has fair bases for mountain tourism development and the territory is considered as very appropriate.

Description of mountain settlements of cross-border region

MEHEDINTI

The relief of Mehedinti County is made up of mountains, hills, plateaus and plains; it has the shape of a natural amphitheater, laid out in steps.

The area above 500 m within the Mehedinti County includes 15 local administrative units with high dispersion at the level of two relief units: Mehedinti and Almajului Mountains, and Mehedinti Plateau.

The highest level is made up of Mehedinti and Cernei Mountains, the middle level comprises Mehedinti Plateau, Motrului Hills and of Balacitei high plain; the lowest step, Blahniei Plain includes Danube terraces and the wide valleys of the Drincea and Blahnitei. There is an existence of some depressions, such as Baia de Arama, Comanesti — Halanga or the sub-Carpathian one Topolnita, as well as of some large valleys provided appropriate conditions to human settlements, including in the highlands of the county.

CARAS-SEVERIN

The area above 500 m within the Caras-Severin county include 41 local administrative units with high dispersion at the level of mountains units: Semenic, Locvei, Almăsului, Cernei, Godeanu, Tarcu and Poiana Rusca.

The mountains make up 67% of the county's surface, including the Southern Carpathians range, with Banat Mountains, Tarcu-Godeanu Mountains and Cernei Mountains and elevations between 600 and 2100 meters. Transition hills between mountains and the Banat Plain lie in the western side of the county.

BOR

Mountain areas in Bor County are located in Western part of the county. Most of the area above 500 m is within mountains of Kucaj, Deli Jovan, Stol, Mali Krs, Veliki Krs, Crni vrh, Miroc, Tilva Njaga and Tilva Mika. Highest area of Bor County is located in Municipality of Bor and is at 1.221 m above sea level. The mountain areas of Bor County have mostly karst components with rich rock formations, caves and valleys. Mountain settlements are rich in forests with dominant oak and beech forests.

Mountain settlements in cross-border area are characterized as areas with many valleys and streams and rivers. Majority of the territory is covered by the mountains and many of the mountain valleys were suitable for human settlements. These mountain settlements are considered now as driving force for development of sustainable mountain tourism in cross-border area, since one of the preconditions for mountain tourism development is human resources. More info on mountain settlements could be found in Annex 1-List of mountain settlements with number of inhabitants, within this document.

Population of RO-SER Carpathian Cross-Border Area

According to last census which took place in both countries in 2011. in this cross-border region lives in total 664.659 inhabitants. Population density for this region is 39/km² which can be considered as low density. All three regions are listed in the bottom of the list regarding the number of inhabitants of the counties on national level. For example, Mehedinți are holding 39th position out of 42 counties and Caras-Severin is at 35th position regarding the number of inhabitants living in the county. In Serbia, Bor County is on 22nd position regarding the number of inhabitants out of 25 counties listed on census from 2011.:

Year/County	1992 – RO 1991 - SER	2002	2011
MEHEDINȚI	332,091	306,732	265,390
CARAS-SEVERIN	375,794	333,219	295,579
BOR	178,718	146.551	124.992
TOTAL	886,603	786,502	685,961

These data are showing that human capital is one of the key issues to be considered while planning the future measures for development. The table is showing rapid decreasing of the population in all three counties and this is one of the weaknesses of the cross-border region. Also, low share of population on national level can lead to low priority of some key national decisions.

Description of population in the cross-border region

MEHEDINTI

With around 265,000 inhabitants in 2011, Mehedinți is one of the smallest counties of Romania, accounting for less than 15% of the population of Oltenia region. The statistical data indicate a continuous decrease of the population number, as a result of the low fertility, high mortality rate and negative migration balance. It includes many local areas with the population less than 500 inhabitants, where the share of old people is significant. The vast majority of population is Romanian (89% at the census in 2011). Other minorities, such as Serbs, Czech, Hungarians and Germans and Turkish people, who formed important communities until the 20th century, have registered significant decreases in the number of their representatives, at present accounting for less than 1% of the county's population.

The evolution of population's structure on major age groups indicates a rather slow, but continuous ageing phenomenon, with important implications for the economy and society of the county.

CARAS-SEVERIN

Demographic evolution of the county is greatly influenced by the historical background. Caras-Severin County has been part of Banat, a province under the Austrian rule for centuries. Following the Passarowitz Peace in 1718, the Austrian governor pleaded for the colonization of various ethnic groups in the area, so as to provide a strict control of the Empire borders and create a larger catholic community, which would support the Habsburg Monarchy.

Thus, the Germans from Neuburg and Martheim were the first colonists to arrive in 1721, mainly miners and metallurgists. There followed the Serbs, who mainly settled along the border, whose main task was to defend the southern border of the Empire. The second important colonization wave was registered at the beginning of the 19th century, when mainly Czech people, originating from Bohemia, arrived. Most of them were carpenters, miners, blacksmiths and woodcutters.

Although it covers a large area, being among the largest counties in Romania, due to its mountainous relief that covers great part of the county, it has a small population, which has been continuously decreasing during the last 25 years, following the drop in the fertility rate, increase of death rate since share of aging population is considerable and a negative migratory balance.

BOR

This area was populated since ancient times, but after the Second World War population in Bor County was influenced by two dominant trends. In the period 1948-1961 population was growing, but after that period it started to decrease. In 1961 the population decrease started. According to the Census from 2002, Bor County encompasses an area of 3.507 square kilometers including four municipalities (Bor, Kladovo, Majdanpek and Negotin), populated with 146.551 residents living at 90 settlements. An average population density in the Bor County is 35 people per square kilometer. The most populated municipality is Bor Municipality (65 people per square kilometer) and the least populated municipality is Majdanpek (25 people per square kilometer).

In the table below it is possible to see how the population was changing in last three Censuses in three counties.

MEHEDINTI

Years/age	0-19	20-64	65 and over	total
1992	97.540	190.752	44.276	332.901
2002	74.843	182.506	49.384	306.732
2011	55.201	162.949	56.793	265.390
% of change	56,59%	85,42%	128,27%	79,72%

This table shows that in Mehedinți County in the period of 19 years around 20% of population was lost and main lost is recorded among young population under 19 years old. Also evident is decrease of population among older population over 65 years old for about 30%.

CARAS - SEVERIN

Years/age	0-19	20-64	65 and over	total
1992	110.108	223.222	41.713	375.794
2002	81.972	204.596	46.984	333.219
2011	60.889	185.328	49.362	295.579
% of change	55,30%	83,02%	118,34%	78,65%

In the area of Caras-Severin the situation is similar like in Mehedinti County. Evident increase of older population over 65 years old is evident here in percentage of 18,34%. In total amount of population in Caras-Severin County in the period of 19 years around 80.000 people was lost.

BOR

Years/age	0-19	20-64	65 and over	total
1991	44.693	111.535	22.490	178.718
2002	30.796	87.433	26.691	146.551
2011	22.616	76.482	25.894	124.992
% of change	50,60%	68,57%	115,14%	69,94%

In respect to other two counties from Romania, Bor county records highest rate of population lost in the period of 20 years. This is mostly expressed in young population where Bor County lost half of population. Regarding total population, Bor County lost around 30% of its population in 20 years. What is very concerning is the loss of half of young people (0-19 years old) in the period of 20 years.

TOTAL for all three counties, it looks like this:

TOTAL 3 Counties	0-19	20-64	65 and over	total
1991-1992	252.341	525.509	108.479	886.603
2002	187.610	474.535	123.059	786.502
2011	138.706	424.759	132.049	685.961
% of change	54,97%	80,83%	121,73%	77,30%

This overall table for all three counties shows that the region lost around 200.000 of people in the period of 20 years which is 22.70% of population decline. Aging population is evident and decreasing of work power can be considered as a problem for future long-lasting development projections.

Educational background of population

In the context of mountain tourism development it is necessary to have highly educated staff to plan and manage the development, but it is crucial to have good services provided to the tourists, which are usually done by people with middle and lower educational level. In the following table it is shown how educational structure of population in three counties looks like.

Year 2011	no elementary school	elementary/ primary school	secondary school	higher and high education
Mehedinti	19.400	60.205	201.712	15.573
Caras Severin	20.030	50.714	193.786	17.879
Bor	24.134	26.761	45.831	11.561
TOTAL	63.564	137.680	441.329	45.013

From this table is possible to conclude that the region has low number of highly educated persons. Majority of population holds secondary school diplomas.

Population in mountain settlements in the cross-border region

It is important to identify the human capital in mountain settlements in order to have good base for sustainable mountain tourism development. In this cross-border region in mountain settlements lives 300.000 inhabitants. In Mehedinti County there are 24.302 inhabitants in Caras-Severin County there are 205.414 inhabitants and in Bor County 69.979 inhabitants living in mountain settlements.

Total share of rural population is 44,8 %. In Mehedinti County it is 49.5%, in Caras-Severin 41.6% and in Bor County it is 43,2 %. This shows that the region has almost half of the population living in rural areas which gives good ground for nature-based tourism development.

For the information about the mountain settlements and number of inhabitants and their location, please refer to Annex 1- List of mountain settlements with number of inhabitants.

Socio-economic situation in RO-SER Carpathian Cross-Border Area

Socio-economy of the region is strongly influenced by the natural and human resources available. During the centuries, in Carpathian Mountains in the region, mining was the key economic activity. Other natural resource – Danube River is great resource of energy and many people are involved in its production. As big portion is rural population, agricultural sector is as well of great importance for the region.

MEHEDINTI

According to the data published by the National Institute of Statistics, the GDP of Mehedinti county totals around 1 billion EUR, which accounts for less than 1% of the national GDP and around 10% of Oltenia development region. Currently, the main economic activities in the county are commercial and transportation and storage activities, as the industrial activities have declined severely during the last decades.

Among the main economic units in Mehedinti, the most important are: Iron Gates Hydro-Electrical Plant – the biggest in Romania, Severnav – a naval shipyard, established since 1852 by an Austrian company.

CARAS-SEVERIN

Caras Severin is part of the Western development region, one of the most dynamic development regions in Romania, with numerous economic ties with its neighbouring counties. Although it was one of the first industrialized counties in Romania as it possesses various resources (since the 18th century, during the Austrian rule), it registers a GDP lower than the national and regional average, as a result of the declining industrial activities (especially mining) in many monoindustrial areas. With a total turnover of 1.1 billion EUR, Caras-Severin ranks last in the country, followed by Mehedinti. Before 1989, Caras-Severin was the county of heavy industry, with two integrated iron and steel work factories, at Resita and Otelul Rosu, which gradually ceased their activities. Today, it is worth mentioning other important resources – forests, marble (Ruschita is the best-known quarry in the country) and the wind energy.

BOR COUNTY

GDP in 2014 for Bor County is 392 million EUR. It is about 1.4% of national GDP and it equals about 3.267 EUR per person. In industrial structure, the capital intensive capacities of a basic mining and smelting industry power production and industrial sector are dominant: production and processing of copper ore, non-metal production, electric power production, coal production and construction materials production.

Dominant industries in the municipalities are as it follows: mining and metallurgy in Bor and Majdanpek, power production and chemical industry in Kladovo and Negotin;

Referring to a structure of income in the county, the biggest part is taken by agriculture, hunting, forestry, water management (43.7 %), followed by processing industry (20.6 %), trade (15.9 %), transportation (10.2 %), construction (5.7 %) Services make 30.0 % of national income; industry (mining and construction) makes 26.3 %.

Description of the industries relevant to mountain tourism

MEHEDINTI

Agriculture is the main source of livelihood for much of the county's population, as some 60% of the county's area is represented by agricultural terrains (most of them arable fields, with fertile soils). More than 90% of the agricultural terrains were private property. There is a great agricultural potential, due to the fertile soils, favorable climate, important water resources and vast agricultural terrains, but the lack of investments and a sustainable vision for agriculture development, migration of workforce and population ageing, lead to a large share of semi-subsistence farms.

As much of the county's territory is covered by plains and hills, the wooded areas are not significant. Still, there are around 150,000 ha of woods, mainly deciduous ones, located in the northern and western part of the county, where mountains prevails.

Fishing was an important activity for centuries for the people living in the southern part of the county, along the Danube valley, where the river is providing the local communities with plenty of food. Although there are much more strict regulations now regarding fishing, there are still numerous communities for which fishing is still important.

The forested areas in the North-Western half of the county are important for the local communities, not only for wood, but also because of the other products nature has to offer – forest fruits and mushrooms, which the locals gather and sell, thus ensuring some extra income.

Tourism is another activity that supports the economic diversification of the countryside. The presence of spectacular mountains and plateaus with vast karst areas, many natural and cultural attractions have led to the emergence of some rural areas as well-known destinations not only for the people from the county, but from the entire country. Thus, most of the accommodation facilities that were built during the last 15 years are located in the countryside and not in the main towns of the county, which testifies once more for the potential of the area.

CARAS-SEVERIN

The agriculture and forestry are the economic sectors with quite a long tradition in the county. With an area of more than 413.000 ha of woods, i.e. 45% of the county surface, and various protected areas, the presence of the Danube in the southern extremity and numerous other rivers, the primary activities make up the base of the economy for much of the rural population in this county. There are favorable conditions for animal breeding, mainly cattle and sheep, as well as crop plantation in the lower and more fertile depressions. There are several attempts for introducing ecological agriculture, which could provide good premises for tourism development also, as the products might also be capitalized through tourism. The presence of large forest areas constitute an extra source of income for the local population, that have learnt from generation to generation to value, gather and sell forest fruits, mushrooms and medicinal herbs, either as fresh products or processed ones.

The accommodation facilities have diversified and increased during the last decade, addressing various types of tourists from the point of view of the budget, comfort and facilities.

BOR

In Bor County, agricultural land covers around 45% of total territory and comparing to the responding republic average of 63,7% it is quite low. Large areas have been downgraded due to mining activities, especially in the Municipalities of Bor and Majdanpek. Nearly 55% of total agricultural land are acres, meadows and pastures make 39 %, orchards make 3 % and vineyards make 2,2 % of total county territory. Its lower parts are suitable for grapes and higher for fruits cultivation. Flat land areas are suitable for crop farming and gardening such as in Kljuc region and Negotin, close to the Danube River.

Decrease of the number of livestock has been mostly affected by older human population living in villages and lack of interest in engagement in agricultural production. In spite of natural advantages, decreasing the number of livestock is recorded.

Total area under forest in Bor County is 1,571 km² out of total Bor County territory which is 3507 km² which corresponds to 44,8% of forest cover of Bor County. In the National Park Djerdap the forests are under 3 regimes of protection. Timber industry has positive sides, such as: raw materials availability, labor availability and premises are in a fairly good state. The Timber industry production and the primary wood processing on the first place are dependent of raw materials.

Richness of natural and cultural heritage is precondition for development of mountain tourism and tourism based on heritage. There are rural households who offer variety of holiday programmes over the whole year.

Supportive industries for mountain tourism development can provide adequate strengths to its stakeholders. There are initiatives for transforming agriculture towards its ecological cultivation. Forests can be considered as great potential for development, but smart management should be applied in order to save the natural richness for mountain tourism. Livestock number is decreasing and this can lead to loss of authenticity in local agricultural products.

Employment

The following table is indicating employment by county defined by sectors: agricultural as primary, industry as secondary and services as tertiary sector.

County/Number of employees	Primary sector (in thousands)	Secondary sector (in thousands)	Tertiary sector (in thousands)	Total (in thousands)
MEHEDINTI	33,9	33,3	44,8	112
CARAS-SEVERIN	30,0	49,0	55,4	134,4
BOR	0,4	8,9	18,1	27,4
TOTAL	64,3	91,2	118,3	273,8

This table shows that most of the employees are working in tertiary sectors, represented mainly by services.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

County/ Unemployment rate	Unemployment rate 2016
MEHEDINȚI	10,2 %
CARAS-SEVERIN	2,9 %
BOR	15,7 %

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES IN TOURISM SECTOR

County/Number of	Primary sector	Secondary sector	Tertiary sector	Total	Total in tourism
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employees	(in thousands)	(in thousands)	(in thousands)	(in thousands)	sector (in thousands)
MEHEDIŢI	33,9	33,3	44,8	112	1,8
CARAS-SEVERIN	30,0	49,0	55,4	134,4	2,6
BOR	0,4	8,9	18,1	27,4	0,9
TOTAL	64,3	91,2	118,3	273,8	5,3

The table above shows the percentage in tourism sector in respect to the overall employees in three counties. It is non avoidable fact that less than 2% of total number of employees are working in tourism sector.

AVERAGE SALARY

County/ Average salary	Average salary December 2016/EUR
MEHEDIŢI	428,05
CARAS-SEVERIN	394,02
BOR	410,05

This table shows the balance of salaries in three counties – there are relatively small differences in average salary.

Educational institutions in tourism

Educational institutions in tourism

	Institution	Location	Profile
MEHEDIŢI	Theodor Costescu Economic College, Tr. Severin	Drobeta Turnu Severin	Services
	Dierna, Technical College Orsova	Orsova	Services
CARAS-SEVERIN	Colegiul Economic Montan al Banatului Montan Resita	Resita, jud. Caras-Severin	Services
	ST. Dimitry Vocational Highschool Teregova	Teregova	Services
	Hercules Highschool	Băile Herculane	Services
	C.N. Economic Theodor Costescu Tr. SEverin C.T. Dierna, Orsova	Orsova	/
BOR	Economic-trade school	Bor	Tourism technician
	Technical school	Majdanpek	Tourism technician
	Highschool "Sveti Sava"	Kladovo	Tourism technician Cook

Universities:

University of Craiova www.ucv.ro

Faculty of Sciences – Geography Department – Geography of Tourism <http://ciso1.central.ucv.ro/geografie/>

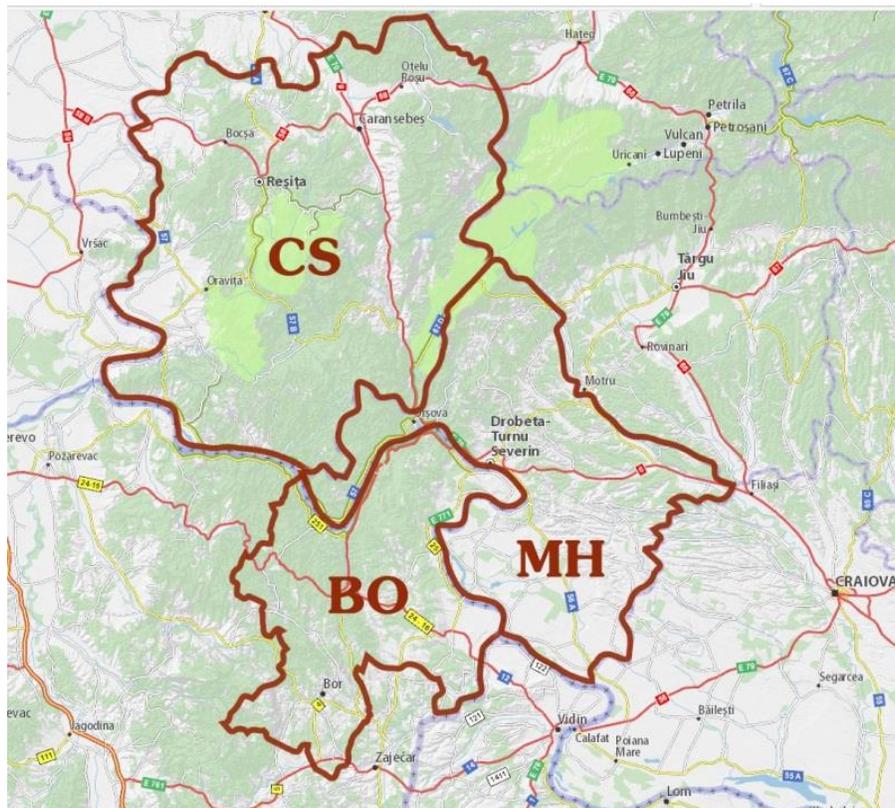
Master studies: Tourism and sustainable development

This chapter is showing that there are dissent possibilities for youth generation to educate themselves for future tourism jobs. In total 11 schools are providing tourism related courses in the cross-border region and this are considered as good possibility for youths. In Craiova, close to the target area, University of Craiova is offering various undergraduate and master courses in tourism.

Accessibility of the cross-border region

This region has various possibilities for visitation. Most commonly used is road infrastructure, but newer developments are bringing to the light flight possibilities where airports close to this region are specialised for cheap flights.

In both countries, the transportation infrastructure registers significant deficiencies, mainly related to the lack of motorways, low number of intermodal connection, low carrying capacity of existing roads, unequal distribution of rail and road.



Map 3. Main roads in cross-border area

Roads

MEHEDINTI

The public roads network has developed as a result of the need to provide road links between cities and so the new roads have followed the old ones. The result was the creation of many villages and towns disposed along the roads, without the ring road, all local and transit traffic passing through the center of the locality.

Due to the lack of investments in secondary roads (especially in rural areas), linear localities (along both sides of the road) continued to develop along national roads, worsening the situation where traffic transit from national roads is in conflict

with the daily life of the community. The only locality in the county where the bypass belt is operates is Drobeta Turnu Severin.

The public road network of the county has a length of around 1900 km. The network of national roads in the county by national road categories includes main national roads and secondary national roads.

In the Mehedinti there are about 704 km of state roads of the second order and there are about 745 km of local roads.

CARAS-SEVERIN

The Caras-severin County is crossed by the national European road 70 that enters into the country from Serbia and connects through Timisoara the northern part of the country, following the route of the former Roman road. It also serves to the economic interests of the urban and rural centres throughout the Timis-Cerna valleys.

The highest density of road network within the Caras-Severin County is concentrated in the North and North-West part of the county, while the South is poor developed.

In the Caras-Severin there are about 880 km of state roads of the second order and there are about 515 km of local roads.

BOR

Territory of the county is characteristic of proximity of the European Road Corridors X and IV and a river corridor VII, meaning the Northern border of the County is a Pan –European Corridor VII.

Territory of the Bor County is interconnected and connected with other parts of Serbia by a network of roads of different grades.

In Bor County there are 297,4 km of state roads of the first order. It exists around 444 km of state roads of the second order.

There are about 752,3 km of local roads, with a modern carriageway of 311,6 km. In spite of many years of insufficient investment in maintenance and reconstruction of roads, the current situation road network is not satisfactory.

Almost half of the local road network does not have a modern pavement. The development of the public line road transport is not satisfactory and the result of the poor quality of the local road network.

Railway

MEHEDINTI

The length of railways in Mehedinti is 124 km, from which 123 km are electrified. The density of railways is 25 /1 000 square km. Mehedinti County has quite small density in comparison with other counties in the Western Region.

CARAS-SEVERIN

The length of railways in Caras-Severin County is 341 km, from which 150 km are electrified. The density of railways is 40 /1 000 square km. Caras-Severin County has a good density in comparison with other counties in the Western Romania.

BOR

In Bor County there are about 120 km of railway tracks with standard track widths, among which there are no electrified railways.

Railways in Bor County are considered as regional. Connecting port of "Prahovo" via the Dam Djerdap 2 with the Republic of Romania would have the transtational impact, since it could be first railway borders crossing points for target cross-border area.

The condition of the railroad tracks in the Bor County is not satisfactory, as indicated by the fact that the allowed speeds range from 40km / h to 80km/h.

Railway transport and the possibility of its further development can play a significant role in the development of the traffic system in the Bor County, especially when considering that rail traffic is the most favorable from the point of view of the environment. There is a possibility to modernize the existing railroads, and to considerably increase their absorbency and transport power. The passenger transport is not high enough and is unprofitable because of rugged railroads, low speeds and a small number of passengers.

The difficulties with rail transport come from the very poor condition of the infrastructure, constantly or very obsolete in relation to the new standards, in some cases nonexistent. The state of the infrastructure is considered the main problem causing disruption of the transport system.

A major drawback is also the fact that there is no rail border crossing point between Romania and Serbia, although there are some plans for development.

Railway was traditionally good option for travels in Bor County. Nowadays, there are very low number of tourists arriving in Bor County by rail, while more and more tourist are coming via roads. The difficulties with rail transport come from the very poor condition of the infrastructure, constantly or very outdated. Poor conditions of the railway is evident in Romanian part of cross-border area as well.

Ports

The ports in corss-border region have important role in economic development, as the regeion crosses Danube River as important Pan-European Corridor VII. Commercial ports are located in Drobeta Turnu-Severin and Orsova in Romania and in Prahovo in Serbia.

Ports	Name	Location
MEHEDINTI	Drobeta Turnu-Severin	927- 934 km the left bank of the Danube, in the of the current accumulation lake - the hydropower and navigation complex "Iron Gates II"
	Orsova	953 – 957 km the left bank of the Danube, in the upstream area of the current accumulation lake - the hydropower and navigation complex "Iron Gates I"
CARAS-SEVERIN	Moldova Veche	the left bank of the Danube, in the upstream area of the current accumulation lake - the hydropower and navigation complex "Iron Gates I"
BOR	Prahovo	Is located on the right bank of the Danube River (861 km).

DrobetaTurnu-Severin and Orsova ports have a modern passenger terminal with a river station with European standards.

Drobeta Turnu-Severin ports is well connected and possess road access to the street network of the city and further links to main roads and as well possess rail access.

Orsova port has internal access to the street network of Orsova and further with other road infrastructure.

Port of Prahovo in Bor County is located on the right bank of the Danube River (861 km). It is a so called pool type of a port. It is located 4 kilometers downstream from the Hydro Power Plant Djerdap 2. Its technical equipment and supporting infrastructure are in very bad condition.

Prahovo is connected and accessible by railway and road networks.

The Ministries in both countries intend to implement several infrastructure projects for the Danube sector, within the framework of the Danube Strategy.

TOURIST PORTS

In Moldova Veche, town in Romania, there is a port at the Danube River with a modern passengers' terminal. The port has docks that are serving the industrial and passenger traffic in the area.

Moldova Veche port possesses road access to the street network of the locality and further links major roads of the county.

The Pojejena Port is situated in the south part of Caras-Severin in a touristic area called "Clisura Dunării". The port activity is not high, the main beneficiaries being tourists, investors, the approx. 7,500 inhabitants of the rural zone from the "Clisura Dunării" and approx. 23,000 of inhabitants from Kladovo and as well from Vojvodina Province from Serbia.

For the tourism purposes, main port in Bor County is in Donji Milanovac. Here, in last ten years many international cruisers stop. The number of cruise stops is increasing. Usually some of the tourists from the cruisers have the time for visitation of nearby attractions, such as Lepenski vir Museum or they just walk through Donji Milanovac.

Tourist Ports	Name	location
MEHEDINTI	DrobetaTurnu-Severin	DrobetaTurnu-Severin

	Orsova	Orsova
CARAS-SEVERIN	Moldova Veche	Moldova Veche
	Pojejena Port	"Clisura Dunării".
BOR	Donji Milanovac	Donji Milanovac
	Tekija	Tekija
	Kladovo	Kladovo

Danube shipping and cruises are relatively low developed. Only one harbour for passengers and freight – Moldova Noua (fluvial crossing-border point with Republic of Serbia) exists for a length of over 64 km (the South border of Caras Severin County). Few local operators offer trips along the Danube and most of them are private operators (Hercules Tour, S.C. Hercule S.A., S.C. Manea S.A). In general, these are one day-trips and the vessels used are small (10-20 places) with a limited number of included services.

Border crossings

Name	Location	Transport mode
Porțile de Fier I Djerdap I	Gura Văii Prahovo	Road
Porțile de Fier II Djerdap II	IzvoruFrumos Prahovo	Road
Drobeta Turnu-Severin Kladovo	Drobeta Turnu-Severin Kladovo	Port
Orsova Tekija	Orsova Tekija	Port
Naidăs Kaluderovo	Naidăs Kaluderovo	Road
Modova Veche Golubac	Modova Veche Golubac	Road

Bicycle trails

This area is internationally recognized as bicycle destination, mainly because of existence of route EuroVelo6 and EuroVelo 13. These are international bicycle roads recognized by European Cyclists' Federation, which is an umbrella federation for national cycling organizations throughout Europe. EuroVelo is a network of long-distance cycling criss-crossing Europe. EuroVelo 6 is a river route starting from France and continues through Germany, Austria, Slovakia, Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria and Romania to the river's mouth at the Danube Delta. EuroVelo 13 follows the old Iron Curtain, the divided borders of Europe during the Cold War. EuroVelo 13 runs from Norway on the Barents Sea, along the Finno-Russian border through to the Baltic Sea, and then enters in Germany. It then follows the old border between West Germany and the former East Germany, the current borders between the Czech Republic and both Germany then Austria, the Austrian-Slovak and Austrian-Hungarian borders before following the borders of Romania, Serbia, Bulgaria and Macedonia. It finishes in Bulgaria on the Black Sea after following the border with Greece and Turkey.

There are other options for mountain biking in mountain areas of three counties. One of most recognizable cross-border bicycle route is Iron Gate Cycling Route. This route is located close to the Dobreta Turnu-Severin and Kladovo and some of the routes are cross-border between the two countries.

Airports

Craiova airport, Romania

Craiova International Airport serves both passengers' traffic and aircrafts' movements in the South-Western part of Romania. Currently, at Craiova International Airport, Wizzair airline has routes to the following destinations: Milano - Bergamo, Rome, Bologna, Venice, London, Liverpool, Barcelona, Madrid, Paris, and Koln. Starting with 2016, Ryanair airline has regular flights to Valencia. So, the whole region in the South-Western part of Romania has at its disposal the fastest and most comfortable means of transport to different destinations in Europe.

The number of travellers in last three years is shown in the table below.

Timisoara airport, Romania

Timisoara International Airport serves both passengers' traffic and aircrafts' movements in the Western part of Romania. The airport is located in the North-Western part of Timisoara Municipality, at a distance of 12 km.

The national and international destinations from Timisoara airport are as follows:

- national destinations: Bucuresti, Cluj-Napoca, Iasi;
- international destinations: Paris, Dortmund, Dusseldorf Weeze, München, Frankfurt Hahn, Memmingen, Bruxelles, Milano-Bergamo, Bologna, Roma, Treviso, Bari, London, Eindhoven, Barcelona, Madrid, Valencia.

The number of travellers in last three years is shown in the table below.

Nis Airport, Serbia

Nis Airport is now specialised for low-budget flights mostly to Eastern and Northern Europe. Currently, direct flights are available to/from: Bratislava, Berlin, Basel, Bergamo, Dusseldorf, Dortmund, Eindhoven, Memmingen, Malme, Stockholm and Zurich. Carriers are: Wizzair, Ryanair, Germania and Swiss.

The number of passengers of Nis Airport is constantly increasing and the number of passengers for last three years is shown in the table below.

	2014	2015	2016	Total
Number of passengers				
<i>TIMISOARA AIRPORT</i>	736.191	924.459	1.160.482	2.821.132
<i>CRAIOVA AIRPORT</i>	138.886	116.813	222.320	478.019
<i>NIS AIRPORT</i>	1.335	36.258	124.917	162.510

TOTAL	876.412	1.077.530	1.507.719	3.461.661
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It is important to mention as well Bor Airport, located in Bor Municipality within the cross-border area. The airport is still not used and activities are being undertaken towards introduction of an airport into civil transport for night, charter, regional and international flights. The airport is at an altitude of 386 meters, and its further equipping, expansion and modernization is the main task of the Municipal Administration.

The increasing number of tourists who prefer the air travel represents a part of the potential clients for the flights to/from Nis, Craiova and Timisoara. This opportunity provides good chances for tourism operators to integrate its offer with cheap flights from main emitting countries in Europe.

State of the tourism sector

A comprehensive understanding of tourism resources, products and services existing at a destination, represents a critical early step in tourism development. This chapter provides information about natural and cultural potentials, attractions (natural and cultural), accommodations and other components of the tourism supply chain in order to summarize destination supply strengths and gaps.

Natural and cultural heritage of the cross-border region

Natural heritage represents one of the most important pillars of tourism development. It is even more important in the context of mountain tourism. Natural heritage of this area was dictating the terms for development – settlements, resources for economic growth and similar. Cultural heritage of the area is representing creations of human's history. Cultural activities were corresponding with technical and economic level of the area, thus demonstrating the state of development. Both, natural and cultural heritage are now the most valuable capital for mountain tourism development.

MEHEDINTI

NATURAL HERITAGE

Mehedinti County has great floristic diversity, over 4000 taxa with 28 endemic species in the Iron Gates Natural Park and 23 in Domogled-Cerna Valley National Park. A large number of plant species are rare, endangered and endemic, which are: *Stipa danubialis*, Iron Gates apiaceae (*Prangos carinata*), Rhodope tulip (*Tulipa hungarica*), bluebell (*Campanula crassipes*) etc. Habitats encountered within Mehedinti County are meadows and scrubland, forest, rocky, caves and wetland. Status of wild flora and fauna is directly linked to the state of natural habitats, by the impact caused by the action of other environmental factors.

Fauna of the Mehedinti County is showing a great diversity of species of vertebrates and invertebrates. The great number of species which can be found is because of the variety of biotopes in this area, resulting in the situation that on a small area a large number of species can be found.

Most valuable natural heritage of Mehedinti County is represented by the two natural parks and one national park – Nature park Mehedinti Plateau Geopark, Iron Gates Natural Park and Domogled-Valea Cernei National Park.

Iron Gates Natural Park corresponds to the V IUCN Category: "Protected landscape: protected area managed mainly for landscape conservation and recreation."

Two Special Protected Areas were declared on the Iron Gates Natural Park, as part of the European ecological network NATURA 2000 in Romania, namely:

- Danube-Bazias-Iron Gates course, covering 10,124.4 ha and Almaj Mountains-Locvei, covering 118,141.6 ha. This nature park is also declared as Site of Community Importance as Iron Gate, integrated part of the European ecological network NATURA 2000, in the area of 124,293.00 ha.

Iron Gates Natural Park is characterized by a luxuriant biodiversity, which made this protected area to be recognized both nationally and internationally. The climate, soil, petrography, geomorphology, Danube influence on them, and also the

social context created unique places that have preserved over the centuries specific features of habitats. In 2011 the park was included in the list of wetlands of international importance – declared as a Ramsar site.

The Domogled-Valea Cernei National Park, established in 1990, is located to the South-West of Romania and is situated in 3 counties - Caras-Severin, Mehedinti and Gorj. It covers 8220 ha in Mehedinti. From a geographical point of view, the Park covers the basin of the Cerna river, from its spring to the confluence with Belareca, over the Godeanu Mountains and the Cernei Mountains on the right slope and the Valcanului Mountains and Mehedinti Mountains on the left slope.

Domogled-Valea Cernei National Park with an area of 61.211 ha and represents a mountainous area with many mountain peaks, sinkholes, caves, valleys and waterfalls. This park is a shelter for a vast variety of flora and fauna species, which some of them are very rarely or endemics.

Natural Park Mehedinti Plateau Geopark was established in 2004. The Mehedinti Plateau Geopark is covering an area of 106,000 ha. Within the park there are 17 declared natural reserves such as: Ponoare Carst Complex, Topolnita Cave Reserve, Epuran Cave. Geopark Administration holds 5 tourist information points. The geographical individuality of the Mehedinti Plateau consists of the combination of mountain and hill features. It can be compared to mountains, to whom it bears a lithological resemblance, as well as in terms of land (narrow valleys, breakwaters), the presence of caves and tectonic fragmentation and, at the same time, to hills (low height, smooth peaks, many human settlements). Here, groundwater has caved many caves, famous in terms of size and beauty, such as Topolnita, Epuran, Bulba, Gramei, Isverna, etc

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Great cultural heritage of this county is now becoming the base for tourism developmet.

Cultural heritage of Mehedinti County is represented by 569 historical monuments, archaeological vestiges, popular historical monuments.

Most important of them are:

- Traces of settlements from the Paleolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic period;
- Testimonies stating the history of living: fortresses, monasteries, churches, buildings with outstanding architectural features: houses, water mills, stone arrangements etc.;
- Existence of high ethnic diversity with various customs and traditions (Romanian, Serbian, Czech, Swabians, Turks, Greeks,, Hungarians), without ethnic conflicts;
- Presence of the largest hydro technical premise in Romania and the Danube's basin;
- Ruins of Tri Kule medieval fortress, historical monument;
- Ruins of Ladislau fortress – historical monument;

Cultural heritage of the Mehedinti Plateau Geopark

List of cultural protected areas:

The medieval Fortress of Severin

The Roman Castrum in Drobeta.

Pillar of Trajan's Bridge

The Thermae of Drobeta

Topolnita Monastery

Grecescu Church

The Romano-Catholic Church

St. Ana Monastery

Vodita Monastery

The Iron Gates Museum

Strehaia Monastery

The Art Museum

CARAS SEVERIN

NATURAL HERITAGE

In Caras-Severin County there are identified 62 habitats of national interest and 51 habitats of community interest, of which 13 priority habitats in Europe. There are 218 plant species of national interest and 18 plant species of Community interest.

In Nera Beusnita National Park, 1086 species of superior plants, including 108 rare species and 13 endemic species, were found. Domogled-Cerna Valley National Park is hosting about 1110 species of vascular plants (superior) of which 66 species are endangered taxa, rare and partly endemic. In Semenic-Carasului Gorges National Park, inferior plants are represented by a number of 270 taxa and 18 taxa belonging to the group of lichens.

Due to its geographic position, climatic conditions with strong sub-Mediterranean influences (hot and dry summers, mild winters with heavy rains), Caras-Severin County has environmental conditions for many species of plants and animals, and for a great diversity of natural habitats, having the most numerous parks in the country: 4 national parks and 1 natural park.

The Semenic - Căile Carasului National Park (national park category II IUCN) is located in the central part of the county, occupying an area of 36,364.8 ha, including 10 declared reservations (14,420.8 ha) and 8 proposed reservations. Representative tourist attractions within the park include: the Buhui-Marghitas, the Caras Gorges, the Garlistei Gorge, the Caras Springs, the Nera Springs, the Buhui Cave, Comarnic Cave.

The Cheile Nerei -Beusnita National Park (national park category II IUCN) has an area of 37,100 ha and includes 6 natural reservations. The most famous tourist attractions are: Nera-Beusnita Gorge, Susara gorge, Bigar, Ducin, Ciclova -Ilidia Valley.

Domogled - Valea Cernei National Park (national park category II IUCN) spreads over 3 counties, of the total area of the park - 61,211 ha, on the territory of Caras-Severin county there are 23,185 ha; it includes the reservations: Domogled, Coronini -Bedina, launa -Craiova, Belareca, Ion Barzoni's Cave.

The Retezat National Park (national park category II IUCN) is present on the territory of the county through its western extremity, occupying 4,281 ha (11%) of Zavoi commune, of the total area of the park - 38,138 ha; there are no natural reservations or nature monuments on this surface.

Porțile de Fier Natural Park (category V IUCN), one of the largest natural parks in Romania, spreads over the surface of two counties, Caras-Severin and Mehedinti. In Caras-Severin County this park is occupying 74,774 ha and comprising 14 scientific reservations. Among the natural reservations on the territory of the county can be mentioned: Valea Mare, Nera-Danube bank, Divica Valley ravine, Bazias, Poleva Valley water cave, as well as the special avifaunistic protection areas: Ostrov, Calinovat and Divici -Pojejena wetlands.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Cultural resources are described by the ethnic heterogeneity that has generated them. One of the main influences was the occupation of the people in the region in terms of mining and metal processing and also the ethnic mosaic. From this perspective, the industrial touristic resource dates from the end of the Neolithic to the present. Consequently, the anthropogenic resources will focus mainly on Roman historical remains, fortresses and fortifications of different ages, industrial culture objectives and cultural objectives representative of its ethnic heterogeneity. The qualitative assessment of anthropogenic resources leads to the current status, namely degradation, lack of financial support and interest. Their capitalization involves the necessity of attributing a proper knowledge, a certain financial capital and a good promotion.

Roman castrum

The Pojejena fort

The Oravita church

The Berzasca church

BOR

NATURAL HERITAGE

In Bor County there are diverse natural heritage. Only in National park Djerdap it is recorded over 1,100 plant species, 50 forest and shrub communities, endemic forest communities and 200 species of birds.

In Bor County exists one National park - Djerdap. This park is situated in North-East part of Serbia along the border with Romania. Surface of the National park is 63.608 ha. The park stretches along the right bank of Danube for about 100 km, from Golubac to Karatas, covering a narrow strip of forest hills, which is about 2-8 km wide, in altitude range from 50 to 800 meters above sea level. National Park Djerdap is divided into zones with three levels of protection. Type of protection regime for each zone is determined on the basis of the purpose and function of that particular zone:

1. The first level of protection requires strict protection of exceptional natural and cultural values. In the zones with the first level of protection all protective measures, scientific research, educational activities and public presentation are carried out under special regime.

2. The second level of protection is reserved for protection of the areas surrounding the zones which have been placed under protection of the first level, protection of especially valuable natural systems (characteristic ecosystems, landscapes and the other natural assets).

3. The third level of protection is applied in those areas of the National Park which outside the first and the second level of protection. Activities pertaining for tourism, sport, recreation, forestry, water supply, exploitation of mineral raw materials.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Visiting cultural and historical monuments, enjoying the authentic stories of local residents and the taste of unique specialties are some of the specificities that should be provided to tourists. Thus, the rich cultural heritage of the Bor County would be presented to tourists in a good way.

In Bor County exists many cultural heritage monuments. Most relevant are:

Lepenski vir

Diana Forress

Tabula traiana

Fetislam Fortress

Monastery Bukovo

Stevan Mokranjc Museum

Hajduk Veljko Museum

Tourism hotspots - main tourism attractions in cross-border region

In the area of three counties area are 44 selected and elaborated tourism attractions which are contributing to tourism industry in great manner. Those are natural and cultural monuments, such as caves, museums, spas and similar. These attractions are generator of tourism development in the cross-border region. These locations are:

CARAS-SEVERIN

Name of the hotspot	Bigar Waterfall - National Park Nera Gorges -Beusnita
Location	Sasca Montana
Website	www.cheilenereibeusnita.ro
Entrance fee ¹	1 Eur
Special designations	Protected area of national interest
Managing authority	ROMSILVA -Administration of National Park Nera Gorges - Beusnita
Description	Waterfall belongs to Bigar Natural Reservation and represents a hilly area, canyons,

	limestone cliffs, valleys, ditches, sinkholes, caves, springs, meadows and pastures.
Name of the hotspot	Ochiu Beiului lake (within the National Park Nera Gorges -Beusnita)
Location	Potoc village, Beiului Valley near Sasca Montana
Website	www.cheileneibeusnita.ro
Entrance fee	Included into the Park fee of 1 Eur
Special designations	Protected area of national interest
Managing authority	ROMSILVA -Administration of National Park Nera Gorges - Beusnita
Description	This location is protected area of national interest. The lake is surrounded by a forest of fir, which gives it a charm and a very picturesque view. It has an area of 284 square meters and a depth of 3.6 m.
Name of the hotspot	Beusnita Waterfall (within the National Park Nera Gorges -Beusnita)
Location	Potoc village, Beusnitei Valley near Sasca Montana
Website	www.cheileneibeusnita.ro
Entrance fee	Included into the Park fee 1 Eur
Special designations	Nature reserve
Managing authority	ROMSILVA -Administration of National Park Nera Gorges - Beusnita
Description	Location is consisting of succession of waterfalls of Beu river of which the largest has over 5 m height.
Name of the hotspot	The Caras Gorges
Location	Caras Valley
Website	www.pnscc.ro
Entrance fee	2 Euro
Special designations	Protected area
Managing authority	ROMSILVA – Administration of National Park Semenic - Cheile Carasului
Description	The Caras Gorges are among the wildest gorges in Romania (19 km long of which 10 km are visitable) that sometimes have a depth of more than 200 m
Name of the hotspot	The Comarnic Cave (within the National Park Semenic – Cheile Caras)
Location	Semenic - Cheile Carasului National Park
Website	www.pnscc.ro
Entrance fee	2 Euro
Special designations	Protected area
Managing authority	ROMSILVA – Administration of National Park Semenic - Cheile Carasului
Description	One of the longest caves in Romania with the length of 6.000m. The cave has a massive structure consisting in monumental halls and large stalagmite formations.
Name of the hotspot	Trei Ape Lake
Location	Semenic - Cheile Carasului National Park
Website	www.pnscc.ro
Entrance fee	Included into the Park fee 1 Eur
Special designations	Recreational area.

Managing authority National Park Semenic - Cheile Carasului
Description Trei Ape Lake is situated in Semenic - Cheile Carasului National Park and represents a recreational area. The development of agro-tourism hotels and chalets makes the Trei Ape Lake a recreational place. It is possible to practice horseback riding, hiking, cycling and fishing.

Name of the hotspot Museum of Esthetic Mineralogy Constantin Gruescu

Location Ocna de Fier village
Website www.constantingruescu.ro
Entrance fee 1,7 Eur
Special designations Museum
Managing authority Museum
Description The collector C.Gruescu founded a precious Museum of Esthetic Mineralogy in his house from Ocna de Fier village. In the museum he collected special minerals, among them, are some unique samples in the world.

Name of the hotspot The Locomotives Museum-Resita

Location Resita
Website www.mlaresita.org
Entrance fee No fee
Special designations Museum
Managing authority Local museum
Description Museum exhibits 16 models of locomotives produced in Resita, over more than 100 years, including the first locomotive from Romania dating from 1872

Name of the hotspot The Oravita Theatre

Location Oravita
Website www.oravita.ro
Entrance fee 1.7 – 2 Eur
Special designations Theatre
Managing authority Municipality Theatre
Description Built in 1817 in a Vienne baronet style, it is the oldest theatre in Romania. Nowadays, there is the county cultural Museum here, keeping among other values, the Book of Honour of this institution.

Name of the hotspot History of Mountain Pharmacy Museum

Location Oravita
Website www.oravita.ro
Entrance fee 1.5 Eur
Special designations Museum
Managing authority Municipality Theatre
Description The oldest chemist's belonging to the Knoblauch family dates from 1796.

Name of the hotspot The railway of Oravita-Anina

Location Oravita

Website	www.oravita.ro
Entrance fee	3 Eur
Special designations	No
Managing authority	Administratia CFR
Description	Built between 1848 -1864 is the first mountain railway of the South-East Europe. Its length is 34 km, and altitude difference between the departure and arrival places is 339 m.

Name of the hotspot

The water mills-Rudaria

Location	Eftimie Murgu, Caras-Severin
Website	http://www.citycompass.ro/the-water-mill-park-at-rudaria-an-unesco-word-heritage-site/
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	UNESCO World Heritage
Managing authority	Museum
Description	The park of watermills is located on Rudaria valley, being considered the largest watermills park from south-eastern Europe. It's a historical monument consisting of a set of watermills with wooden buckets, built of wood, in the early twentieth century. It includes 22 mills strung along of 3 km of river length.

Name of the hotspot

Binis village

Location	Village in Doclin Commune, 5 km from Bocsa town
Website	https://ro.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biniș,_Caraș-Severin
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	No
Managing authority	Local authorities
Description	The ceramics tradition from Binis village is kept by master artist Ionica Stepan. This ceramics reminding the Dacia ceramics as its form is known today in many countries of the world.

Name of the hotspot

Baile Herculane

Location	Baile Herculane
Website	www.primaria.baile-herculane.ro
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	National park
Managing authority	Municipality
Description	This is a spa resort located in South-Western Romania. The resort is crossed by the river Cerna and is located in Domogled - Valea Cernei National Park, which houses a rich population of carnivores.

MEHEDINTI

Name of the hotspot

Iron Gates Gorges

Location	Dubova
Website	www.pnportiledefier.ro
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	Natural Park

Managing authority	ROMSILVA – Administration of Natural Park Portile de Fier (Iron Gates)
Description	Iron Gates are made up of a Large and a Small Boilers, representing a narrow sector of the Danube Gorge and with a total length of about 100 km.
Name of the hotspot	Decebal Statue
Location	Between localities Eselnita and Dubova
Website	No
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	Natural Park
Managing authority	ROMSILVA – Administration of Natural Park Portile de Fier (Iron Gates)
Description	The statue has a 55 m height and 25 m wide, is the largest statue in Europe, with 8 meters higher than the Statue of Christ in Rio de Janeiro and with 6 m lower than the Statue of Liberty in New York. The construction of Decebal statue took 10 years and 12 people worked to achieve it.
Name of the hotspot	Tabula Traiana
Location	On Serbian side – only visible from Romanian side.
Website	No
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	Cultural monument
Managing authority	National park Djerdap, Serbia / Republic Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments, Serbia
Description	Monument built by Emperor Trajan, opponent of King Decebal, to mark the Roman triumphal march of troops in Dacia. Is part of the 10 tabules set built by Trajan. The only one remaining Monument can be seen only from the water or Romanian side.
Name of the hotspot	Veterani Cave
Location	Dubova
Website	www.pnportiledefier.ro
Entrance fee	1,5 Eur
Special designations	Natural Park
Managing authority	ROMSILVA – Administration of Natural Park Portile de Fier (Iron Gates)
Description	It was the first cave charted in Europe and has been inhabited by humans since ancient times, about 3500 years ago, initially being used to shelter people or animals. Currently, the Veterans Cave is one of the most important touristic attractions of the Iron Gates. Because it can be reached only by boat, the visit of the cave is a good opportunity to observe the landscape and vegetation from the boat.
Name of the hotspot	Ponicova Cave
Location	Dubova
Website	www.pnportiledefier.ro
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	Natural Park
Managing authority	ROMSILVA – Administration of Natural Park Portile de Fier (Iron Gates)
Description	The Ponicova cave is the largest in the Iron Gates. It is consisted of several galleries, with a

total of 1.600 m. It is accessible by land or boat from the Danube River.

Name of the hotspot	Drobeta Roman Castrum
Location	Drobeta-Turnu Severin
Website	www.cimec.ro/Muzee/MuzeulRegiuniiPortilordeFier/Index.htm
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	Cultural monument
Managing authority	Portile de Fier Museum
Description	Drobeta was the first citadel built by Emperor Trajan in Dacia. Today, remains of the foundations is consisted of 4 gates, houses, barracks, roads and the building of Pretoria (commander) located in the center of the camp.

Name of the hotspot	Pillar of Trajan's Bridge
Location	Drobeta-Turnu Severin
Website	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trajan%27s_Bridge
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	Cultural monument
Managing authority	Portile de Fier Regional Museum
Description	The bridge was built between 103 -105, by Apollodorus of Damascus. The bridge had a length of 1.135 m, width 18 m, height 12 m and a total of 20 stone pillars. It was destroyed by the Roman Empire in 275. in order to protect the north of Moesia from the invasion of barbarian tribes from the south. Today remained only two pillars, the first and last, close to the banks of the Danube.

Name of the hotspot	The Medieval Citadel of Severin
Location	Drobeta-Turnu Severin
Website	www.primariadrobeta.ro
Entrance fee	0,7 Eur
Special designations	Cultural monument
Managing authority	City Council of Drobeta Turnu Severin
Description	The Severin Citadel was built between 1040 -1095. In the period of maximum development, the citadel had 6 defense towers, two concentric stone waves and a water ditch of 3 m deep.

Name of the hotspot	Tricule Fortress
Location	Svinita
Website	www.pnportiledefier.ro
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	Cultural monument
Managing authority	ROMSILVA – Administration of Natural Park Portile de Fier (Iron Gates)
Description	The Tricule citadel was built in the sixteenth century. The fortress played an important role in stopping the Ottoman expansion. It had the form of triangle, composed of three towers linked together with walls. Today, only two have remained.

BOR

Name of the hotspot	Zoo Bor
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Location	Bor
Website	www.zoovrtbor.com
Entrance fee	0,9 eur
Special designations	No
Managing authority	Public Enterprise „Zoološki vrt“Bor
Description	ZOO Bor is spread on an area of about 2 hectares. More than 70 species of animals and over 130 individuals live in the ZOO, such as tiger, lama, bear, antelope, zebra, Berber sheep, monkeys, crocodiles, ostriches and white lion.

Name of the hotspot **Veliki and Mali Krs Mts.**

Location	North-West from Bor municipality
Website	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Veliki_Kr%C5%A1 ; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mali_Kr%C5%A1
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	No
Managing authority	No
Description	Veliki Krs is a mountainous area that raises to a height of 1,148 m. Mali Krs continues on Veliki Krs in the north direction. The highest peak is Gavran (929 m).

Name of the hotspot **Brestovacka Spa**

Location	Close to Bor
Website	www.brestovackabanja.co.rs www.tobor.rs
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	No
Managing authority	Municipality of Bor
Description	One of the oldest spas in Serbia. From the time of Serbian ruler Milos Obrenovic most important buildings were built, which are now under state protection: the Turkish bath (hamam), the conch of Prince Milos built in 1837, the castle of Prince Aleksandar Karadjordjevic from 1856.

Name of the hotspot **Stol Mountain**

Location	Close to Bor
Website	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stol_(Serbia)
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	No
Managing authority	Municipality of Bor
Description	There are numerous Karst forms of relief. Stol is attractive for mountaineers, mountaineers, paragliders, scouts, hunters and in general for all nature lovers. Highest peak is at 1156m. There is existing Mountaineer hut.

Name of the hotspot **Crni Vrh Mt**

Location	Bor
Website	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crni_Vrh,_Bor

Entrance fee	No
Special designations	No
Managing authority	Sport center of Bor
Description	Existence of ski slopes which are popular among regional tourists.
Name of the hotspot	Zlot Cave with Lazar' Canyon
Location	Zlot
Website	www.tobor.rs
Entrance fee	1,7 eur
Special designations	Zlot Cave is natural monument and Lazars' Canyon is proclaimed as nature park
Managing authority	Srbijasume – Serbian Forestry Company
Description	Lazar's cave was inhabited in prehistory. It is 1,592 m long (649 meters of walkways with a guide) with average temperature 10 ° C and it is the longest known cave in Serbia. Lazars cave is surrounded by beautiful nature, as well as the unique Lazar's canyon.
Name of the hotspot	Bor Lake
Location	Bor
Website	www.hoteljezero.rs
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	No
Managing authority	Municipality of Bor
Description	Bor Lake is an artificial lake built in 1959. it covers a surface of about 30 hectares with a maximum depth of 52 meters. On the lakeshore there are many tourism and recreational facilities.
Name of the hotspot	Rajko's Cave
Location	Majdanpek
Website	www.toom.rs
Entrance fee	2,5 eur
Special designations	Natural monument
Managing authority	Tourist organization of the municipality of Majdanpek
Description	Rajko's Cave is over two kilometers long and is equipped for the tourist's visits. It is very rich with cave jewelry.
Name of the hotspot	National park Djerdap
Location	Golubac, Majdanpek, Kladovo
Website	www.npdjerdap.org
Entrance fee	1 eur for hiking trails
Special designations	National park
Managing authority	Public Enterprise „National park Djerdap“
Description	National park Djerdap is 100 km long along the Danube River and covers the territory of about 63.000 ha. It is possible to use hiking and biking trails, sightseeing spots, and fishing, enjoy in diverse flora, fauna, geology, and in historical locations.
Name of the hotspot	Lepenski vir

Location	Majdanpek
Website	www.lepenski-vir.rs
Entrance fee	2 – 3,5 eur
Special designations	Cultural monument
Managing authority	“Dobrodosli u Lepenski vir” company
Description	One of the most important archeological sites in Serbia is located on a terrace by the Danube, in the Djerdap Gorge. Monumental sculptures were found dating from 7000 to 6000 BC.

Name of the hotspot **Fetislam Fortres**

Location	Kladovo
Website	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fetislam
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	Cultural monument
Managing authority	Municipality of Kladovo, Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments, Serbia
Description	Fetislam Fortress is located on the bank of the Danube River. Built by Ottomans in 1524 as a starting point for conquest of the neighboring Hungarian cities of Severin and Erdelj, or the invasion of Transylvania.

Name of the hotspot **Diana Fortress**

Location	Kladovo
Website	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diana_Fortress
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	Archaeological Sites of Exceptional Importance
Managing authority	Municipality of Kladovo, Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments, Serbia
Description	One of the largest and best preserved fortresses on the Danube in Serbia, Diana was built most likely between 100 and 101 AD. Today there are remains of fortifications, and within the site archaeological research are carried out.

Name of the hotspot **Monastery Bukovo**

Location	Negotin
Website	www.manastirbukovo.org
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	Cultural monument
Managing authority	Serbian Orthodox Church
Description	Bukovo monastery is a late 13th- or early 14th century Serbian Orthodox monastery founded by Serbian king Stefan Milutin. It is nowadays famous, among others, for own wine production.

Name of the hotspot **Vratna natural stone bridge**

Location	Vratna, Negotin
Website	www.toon.org.rs
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	Natural monument

Managing authority	Srbijasume – State Forestry Company
Description	Vratna natural stone bridge is composed of three „gates“, with height of one of 45 meters and with width of 23 meters.
Name of the hotspot	Hajduk Veljko Museum
Location	Negotin
Website	www.muzejkrajine.org.rs
Entrance fee	1,7 – 2,5 eur
Special designations	Cultural monument
Managing authority	Public Enterprise „Museum of Krajna“ Negotin
Description	Permanent setting of the museum is composed of many ethnographic exhibits. Main focus of the museum is the Hajduk Veljko, famous Serbian warrior from this part of Serbia.
Name of the hotspot	Stevan Mokranjc Museum
Location	Negotin
Website	www.muzejkrajine.org.rs
Entrance fee	1,7 – 2,5 eur
Special designations	Cultural monument
Managing authority	Public Enterprise „Museum of Krajna“ Negotin
Description	Stevan Mokranjac was the most famous Serbian composer. The museum setting in Mokranjac's house presents an ethnological setting with original objects, photographs and documents from the life and work of Stevan Mokranjac.
Name of the hotspot	Rajac and Rogljevo stone houses/ wine cellars
Location	Rajac and Rogljevo, Negotin
Website	http://www.serbia.com/visit-serbia/enjoy-serbia/ethno-villages/the-negotin-wine-route/
Entrance fee	No
Special designations	Candidate for UNESCO World Heritage Site
Managing authority	Municipality of Negotin, Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments, Serbia
Description	These houses are 200-300 years old in which people never lived, but were used as wine cellars. Nowadays, many of them are equipped as accommodation facilities or restaurants.

Main existing tourism forms in cross-border region

MEHEDINTI

Mehedinti County is located in South-Western Romania, where the Danube and the Carpathian Mountains meet, and it is a land rich in history, ethno-cultural diversity and natural heritage. This is the region of the ancient Dacia which came in contact first with the Romans civilization, and where the Danube sculpted its way through the Carpathians.

Thus, Mehedinti county can be divided in several areas of touristic interest: the southwest with the Danube Gorges and the famous statue of the Dacian king Decebalus; the south with its protected natural reservations; and the north of the county with a karst area with caves and special natural objectives, such as the natural bridge of Ponoare.

Mehedinti county possesses certain tourist resources, both flagship natural attractions such as the Danube defile, vast karst area in Mehedinti Plateau and Mountains, and cultural attractions (ruins of the Trajan's bridge, Drobeta Castrum, Turnu-Severin medieval fortress) that offer good premises for the development of cultural tourism, rural tourism, ecotourism and adventure tourism.

The main starting point for **cultural tourism** is Drobeta Turnu-Severin, the two millenia old town, that encompass important archeological attractions – the foot of the Trajan's bridge, built in the 2nd century AD by Apollodor of Damascus, at emperor Trajans' order, the Roman castrum built by Trajan in order to defend the bridge over the Danube, being the first stone fortress built by the Romans in Dacia, the ruins of the Roman therme. Another attraction of Drobeta Turnu-Severin is the medieval fortress, recently restaured, which houses all sorts of cultural events. Another point of interest is the Iron Gates Hydro-Electrical Power Plant, the largest in Romania, which can also be partially visited by tourist (the Turbine room, located 14 m below the level of the lake is the main attraction). Cultural routes are focused on the Ancient period, middle Ages or modern history.

Ecotourism is another important form of tourism, representative for Mehedinti County, as it includes protected areas in the county: Iron Gates Natural Park, Mehedinti Plateau Geo-Park, and Domogled-Valea Cernei National Park. There are several marked hiking trails in all three parks.

Rural tourism is developed mainly in the settlements along the Danube gorge, Mehedinti Plateau and at the foothills of the Mehedinti Mountains, where the landscape is most spectacular and where are still plenty of villages that keep unaltered the traditions and celebrate the religious holidays (Isverna, Ponoarele, Ilovita, Godeanu Dubova, and Ieselnita).

Adventure tourism, proposing both soft activities, such as hiking or trekking, as well as hard-adventure activities – cave tourism, mountain-bike, cycle-tourism, finds proper ground in the mountainous part of Mehedinti County. Cave tourism can capitalize the vast and well-known caves in the area, such as Topolnita, Epuran, Isverna, Ponicoava, Gaura cu Musca. Mountain-bike and cycle-tourism are already popular among tourists visiting the Iron gates Natural Park and could bring numerous benefits with minimum investments, while having a low impact on the environment.

Mountain tourism is possible to be developed due to the diversity of the topography. In an area of 4900 sq. km. and a population of 330.000 inhabitants there are several mountains that can be capitalized.

Mehedinti Mountains (Stan Peak is the highest peak-1446m), located to the North-West of the county, are part of the western massif of the Southern Carpathians and have a high diversity of landscapes (limestone peaks, mountain lakes, gorges and limestone cliffs), with widespread Beech Tree forests, mineral springs and thermal caves.

Almaj Mountains are located to the South-West of the county. The Southern side of these mountains is part of the Danube Gorge.

The Mehedinti Plateau covers the central part of the county, from the Motru River to the western end of the Romanian plain. Its height is between 500m and 650m. The hydrographical system of the Mehedinti Plateau (Motru, Cosustea and Topolnita rivers) has yielded well-karstified areas: caves, gorges, karst lakes and natural bridges.

Watercourses are dominated by the Danube and its tributaries: Cerna, Bahna, Topolnita, Blahnita, and Drancea.

Within this context, mountain tourism is emphasized due to the presence of marked tourist routes: there are existing 14 tourist routes.

Several activities can be performed in the mountains such as bird watching, international nautical tourism (cruises on different sectors of the Danube), water sports on the Danube (rowing, canoeing), cycling and mountain-bike ride and equestrian tourism.

CARAS-SEVERIN

Caras-Severin County is situated in special natural landscape with mainly mountainous relief, with a rich and varied forest and hunting fund, with great hydrographic network, but also with cultural and historical heritage. These are the elements that support the development of mountain, making the possibilities for tourism destination of great attractiveness. Tourism is an opportunity for sustainable development of the entire county, having as a starting point the sustainable development of local communities from both the rural and the urban areas. Various forms of tourism can be developed in this county, such as:

Thematic **cultural routes** are a good solution to gather a variety of attractions under one theme, proposing tourists not only to visit some attractions, but most important, to learn and acquire ecological, ethical and civic awareness for the natural and cultural heritage. The county has already developed a strategy for the development of five cultural routes – *Nature's Show* (it capitalizes the numerous natural attractions, such as lakes, protected areas, karst phenomena, elements of vegetation and fauna), *the Iron Route* (encompassing Resita, Ocna de Fier, Oravita, Anina, Ciclova Montana, Sasca Montana, Gornea, Moldova Noua and Valiug, highlights the evolution of technologies for the extraction and manufacturing of ores and the social implications of these jobs), *the Romans' route, At the Empire's outskirts – forts and fortresses*, focusing on various vestiges so as to emphasize the tumultuous past of the dwellers as well as the evolution of military constructions throughout the entire human history, *Cultural Mosaic* (it gathers the patrimony of many settlements in the mountainous area, emphasizing the diverse ethnic background of the region).

Ecotourism is organized in protected areas and vast forests gives good experiences to hikers. As mentioned, there are several routes developed for the hikers in order to present values of protected areas of Caras Severin County.

Traditional character of most villages in the mountain area and the peculiar traditions and customs of the ethnic minorities living in the area are considerable strength for **rural tourism** development. Still, great attention should be paid to the preservation of the traditional folkloric heritage, in order to be capitalized from the tourism point of view.

Adventure tourism has the following possibilities for its development:

- cave tourism, as the Anina Mountains include the largest compact karst area in the country, there are numerous caves and some of them are located near marked tourist trails, roads and settlements.
- river rafting (on Cerna and Nera valleys, which form gorges, cascades or meanders), canyoning (Cerna and Caras gorges, implying multiple actions, such as climbing, water crossing, sliding, flowing etc.),
- cycle-tourism (EuroVelo 6 crosses through the county: apart from that, there are numerous other marked and unmarked trails popular among the young adults from the county, that connect the settlements with valuable cultural or natural attractions and spectacular landscapes: Anina-Bozovici, along the Minis gorge, Sasca-Montana – Beusnita along the Nera Gorge, Bazias-Orsova along the Danube Gorge),
- climbing – Cerna valley is one of the best-known destination for climbers in the county, as well as Vanturatoarea fall (Almaj Mountains), Minis, Caras or Nera Gorges

The relief of the Caras-Severin County is suitable for **mountain tourism**. It includes totally or partially the mountains: Semenic, Anina, Almăj, Locvei and Dognecei, Tarcu Mountains, Godeanu Mountains, Poiana Ruscă Mountains, Cerna Mountains. The mountain area delimited by the Danube River in the south and the Timis -Cerna Corridor to the east and north-east is known in the literature as "Banat Mountains".

The mountain is particularly favourable for practicing winter sports (4 ski slopes in Muntele Mic, 7 ski slopes in Semenic), hiking (36 hiking routes approved by the National Tourism Authority), recreation tourism (Secu, Crivaia, Trei Ape resorts), active tourism (adventure), speotourism. Practicing winter sports has great prospects for development, through rehabilitation and extension work in the two already-established locations.

BOR

Bor County is an area with various natural attractions that could be key elements for successful development of tourism. Most important attractions are based on: Danube River, National park Djerdap, other high land areas such as Kucaj Mts, Deli Jovan, Mali i Veliki Krs, Miroc and Homolje Mts.

Cultural heritage is represented by archeological sites and monuments of culture, such as: Diana, Fetislam, Trajan's table, Trajan 's bridge, Lepenski Vir, Vine houses of Rajac, Rogljevo and Smedovac, and cultural heritage of high importance as Monastery Bukovo, Monastery Vratna, House of Stevan Mokranjac and Old church of Negotin.

Bor County already has developed some tourism forms. They are based on rich natural and cultural heritage from the region in which the tourists are interested. In Bor County is possible to experience activities on water (e.g. on the Danube River or on some of the lakes), in flat areas (in Negotin Municipality) and in mountain areas of Stol, Veliki and Mali Krš, Miroc and many others.

In the Bor County exists many **cultural heritage** sites dating from different centuries. Coming from the west, on the road close to the Danube River, first main cultural attraction is Lepenski vir. This is one of the most important archeological sites in Serbia. It is located on a terrace on the Danube, in the Djerdap Gorge. Monumental sculptures were found here dating from 7000 to 6000 BC. On the same road towards east are located another locations of tourism interest – Tabula Traiana, Fetislam Fortress and Diana Fortress. Other cultural location in county are located in or close to towns. Usually those are museums which are interpreting historical aspects of the area.

Since the area has several protected areas, **ecotourism** have its own potential for development and growth. Largest protected area in Bor County is National park Djerdap with many possibilities for hiking and visitation of local heritage sites. National park Djerdap officers are having supporting activities for ecotourists, such as hiking tables and informational boards, but as well they are providing special ranger guiding services for the tourists.

Rural tourism in Bor County is developed mainly in villages with better accessibility of close to important tourism attractions. Main values of rural tourism are warm hospitality of the hosts, domestic food and drinks (usually wine) and clean and fresh air in rural areas. One of the representative rural tourism offers is located in Rajac village where stony wine cellars are few centuries old.

The offer of **adventure tourism** is diverse – from caving to mountain biking and cyclotourism. For some of the activities it is needed to have support from local specialized clubs and to have permit of manager of protected area (e.g. caving) and some other can be done on its own (e.g. cyclotourism and mountain biking).

In Bor County **mountain tourism** exists in the forms of hiking and some of skiing offer in Crni Vrh Mt. Hiking is one of the mostly practiced. Throughout the year, many hiking action are organized by local hiking and mountaineer clubs. As well, there are many signposted hiking trails which are used by individual hikers. In Stol Mt. there are open possibility for rock climbing.

Accommodation in cross-border region

Number of beds by accommodation type:

County/Number of beds by accommodation type:	BOR	CARAS-SEVERIN	MEHEDINTI	Total
HOTEL	1.490	4.621	1.072	7.183
MOTEL	437	161	43	641
HOSTEL	303	345	325	973
RURAL HOUSEHOLD	369	1.575	442	2.386
B&B	344	2.614	292	3.250
TOTAL	2.943	9.316	2.174	14.433

From this table it is possible to conclude that most of the beds in cross-border region are in hotels, followed by B&Bs and rural households. Motels in cross-border region have fewer beds. Also, it is important to mention that Caras-Severin County has more beds than Bor and Mehedinți together.

Number of beds by accommodation type in mountain settlements:

County/Number of beds by accommodation type in mountain settlements:	BOR	CARAS-SEVERIN	MEHEDINTI	Total
HOTEL	370	4.330	66	4.766
MOTEL	0	161	0	161
HOSTEL	0	181	82	263
RURAL HOUSEHOLD	107	1.102	353	1.562
B&B	136	2.180	80	2.396

TOTAL	613	7954	581	9.148
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Like in previous table, most of the beds in mountain settlements are in hotels, followed by B&Bs and rural households. Also, great majority, about 87% of all beds in cross-border region are situated in Caras-Severin County.

Number of accommodation units classified per accommodation type:

County/Number of accommodation units classified per accommodation type	BOR	CARAS-SEVERIN	MEHEDINTI	Total
HOTEL	9	31	13	53
MOTEL	5	5	2	12
HOSTEL	3	10	7	20
RURAL HOUSEHOLD	30	79	22	131
B&B	44	110	15	169
TOTAL	91	235	59	385

Again, most of the accommodatin units are located in Caras-Severin County. B&Bs are represented in all three counties with greatest number of units respecting the other accommodation types.

Number of accommodation units classified per accommodation type in mountain settlements:

County/Number of accommodation units classified per accommodation type in mountain settlements	BOR	CARAS-SEVERIN	MEHEDINTI	Total
HOTEL	2	24	2	28
MOTEL	0	5	0	5
HOSTEL	0	5	2	7
RURAL HOUSEHOLD	20	56	17	93

B&B	4	85	4	93
TOTAL	26	175	25	226

Mountain settlements are hosting in total 226 accommodation units in all three counties, which is around 60% of total number of accommodation units in three counties.

Prices range per person per night per person with breakfast by accommodation type:

County/Prices	BOR	CARAS-SEVERIN	MEHEDINȚI
HOTEL	21-30 euro, 30-40 euro	21-30 euro, 30-40 euro	21-30 euro, 30-40 euro
MOTEL	11-20 euro	11-20 euro	11-20 euro, 21-30 euro
HOSTEL	11-20 euro	21-30 euro, 30-40 euro	
RURAL HOUSEHOLD	11-20 euro	11-20 euro or 21-30 euro	21-30 euro, 30-40 euro
B&B	11-20 euro	21-30 euro	30-40 eur; over 40 eur

Prices range per person per night by accommodation type in mountain settlements:

County/Prices	BOR	CARAS-SEVERIN	MEHEDINȚI
HOTEL	21-30 euro, 30-40 euro	21-30 euro, 30-40 euro	21-30 euro, 30-40 euro
MOTEL		11-20 euro	11-20 euro, 21-30 euro
HOSTEL	11-20 euro	11-20 euro	
RURAL HOUSEHOLD	11-20 euro	11-20 euro or 21-30 euro	21-30 euro, 30-40 euro
B&B	11-20 euro	21-30 euro	30-40 eur; over 40 eur

Both tables above are giving the information about the price ranges in accommodations distributed by accommodation type. The lowest prices are in hostels and motels, while highest prices are in hotels, rural households and in B&Bs.

CERTIFICATIONS IN THE REGION

The Ecotourism Certification System "Eco-Romania" certifies ecotourism programmes and tours provided by tour-operators or guides and small-scale accommodation structures in rural and natural areas. The Ecotourism Certification System addresses two different categories of applicants:

-ecotourism programmes/tours provided by tour-operators (i.e. eco-tours of maximum 15 participants),

-small-scale accommodation structures in rural and natural areas (eco-lodges and guesthouses of maximum 25 rooms).

The Ecotourism Certification System has been developed by the Association of Ecotourism in Romania (<http://www.asociatia-aer.ro>) in partnership with Green Cross Romania and co-funded by the Environmental Partnership Foundation.

There are no existing partners of this eco-certification in Caras-Severin nor in Mehedinti Counties. The main eco-certified products are Băile Tusnad and surroundings, Danube Delta, Mara-Cosau Creasta Cocosului, Mărginimea Sibiului, Pădurea Craiului, Dornelor Land, Hațeg-Retezat Land, Transylvanian Highlands, Zarnesti-Piatra Craiului.

One tour provider from Serbia having the tour in Bor County is awarded from German certification company TourCert. TourCert is awarding ecological and social standards of TourCert. Based on a self-assessment, an action plan should be implemented which should be reported to TourCert annually. Tour provider implemented the basis for a CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) management and complies with the TourCert Check requirements (www.tourcert.org).

Tourism flow

The table below is summarizing the tourism flow in last 5 years. Here it is noticed slowly, but constant increase of tourist arrivals in all three counties. Tourist's overnights were highest in 2012 in Bor County, in 2015 in Caras Severin and in 2016 in Mehedinti.

Tourism flow	tourist arrivals			tourist overnights		
	Sum	domestic	foreign	Sum	domestic	foreign
Mehedinti						
2012	53.684	48.315	5.369	119.972	110.020	9.952
2013	52.323	47.233	5.090	117.103	108.842	8.261
2014	51.818	46.679	5.139	112.185	104.277	7.908
2015	81.003	69.653	11.350	165.641	147.659	17.982
2016	91.405	79.204	12.201	201.610	172.024	29.586
Caras - Severin						
2012	109.932	104.189	5.743	497.568	481.676	15.892
2013	119.070	113.193	5.877	536.376	519.814	16.562
2014	122.762	116.505	6.257	515.073	498.616	16.457
2015	171.626	161.695	9.931	711.026	666.286	44.740
2016	181.195	171.564	9.631	688.303	658.059	30.244
Bor County						
2012	68.023	59.523	8.500	164.169	145.365	18.804
2013	59.449	49.608	9.841	146.528	124.323	22.205
2014	56.789	45.631	11.158	136.252	105.997	30.255
2015	63.524	50.479	13.045	146.759	113.803	32.956
2016	70.258	57.392	12.866	144.864	115.052	29.812

SWOT Analysis of mountain tourism in cross-border area

Strengths	Weakneses
<p>Natural resources</p> <p>The cross-border region is hosting Carpathian Mountains and Danube River with numerous protected areas. This caused low pressure to the nature with still specific and unique mountain landscapes.</p> <p>Bio, geo and landscape diversity</p> <p>Existence of unique flora and fauna, diversity and density of the mountain relief, bio-eco local products with mineral and thermal waters in both countries.</p> <p>Existing of infrastructure for mountain tourism</p> <p>Although, currently not in perfect conditions, mountain tourism infrastructure such as corridors, border crossings, bridges on Danube, but as well mountaineer huts and marked hiking trails are existing and low efforts are needed for having them fully operational.</p> <p>Cultural heritage</p> <p>Good preservation of folk customs, traditional art and other tangible and intangible heritage of the cross-border region offers good starting points for mountain tourism development.</p>	<p>Depopulated mountain areas</p> <p>Lack of human resources in the mountain settlements and overall population decreasing are the facts which are complicating the mountain tourism development by lacking of the workforce age population.</p> <p>Devastated mountain tourism infrastructure</p> <p>Defective road infrastructure between some touristic attractions is making difficult the easy movement of the tourists.</p> <p>Non constant supporting mechanisms</p> <p>Missing of the local coherent policy related to the mountain tourism and missing of the cooperation between tourism stakeholders lead to the situation of lacking of cross-border mountain tourism product</p> <p>Orientation of travel agencies from the region towards emitting, but not receptive tourism</p> <p>Tour operators and travel agencies from the region are favoring the outgoing travel rather than incoming, thus diminish the visibility of current mountain tourism offer.</p> <p>Low marketing activities</p> <p>Untargeted and unprofessional promoting of the mountain tourism caused by scarce ecological education and information.</p>
Opportunities	Threats
<p>Development of existing mountain tourism infrastructure</p> <p>With less amounts of investments in already existing</p>	<p>Trend of depopulation</p> <p>Continuation of demographic drain might be one of key treats for mountain tourism development in future. This is followed by rapid decreasing of the local population in</p>

mountain infrastructure, adequate tourism products could be developed. With closer connections with airports, tourists from far destinations could be hosted.

Cooperation under Carpathian Convention and Danube Strategy

These two multilateral international agreements are providing the framework for development. In both agreements sustainable tourism, including mountain tourism is in focus.

Development of artisan activities

Valorization of old crafts is in interest of tourism markets together with natural products which could support agro touristic sector.

Increasing interest for eco-friendly tourism activities

This trend is popular not only in highly developed countries, but as well in many other countries and its tourism markets. Valorization of the local tradition and culture and development of the adventure sports could support diversification of mountain tourism activities.

Learning from the others

Possibility for learning from each other, but also from other more successful similar destinations could avoid some mistakes in planning and development of mountain tourism.

Preparing offers for tourists from nearby countries

These offers could be based on similarities which were developed for years in parallel in different countries.

mountain settlements.

Bad management of natural and cultural resources

Bad management could result in decrease of pollution – response to up-coming consequences of climate change – floods, fires, droughts.

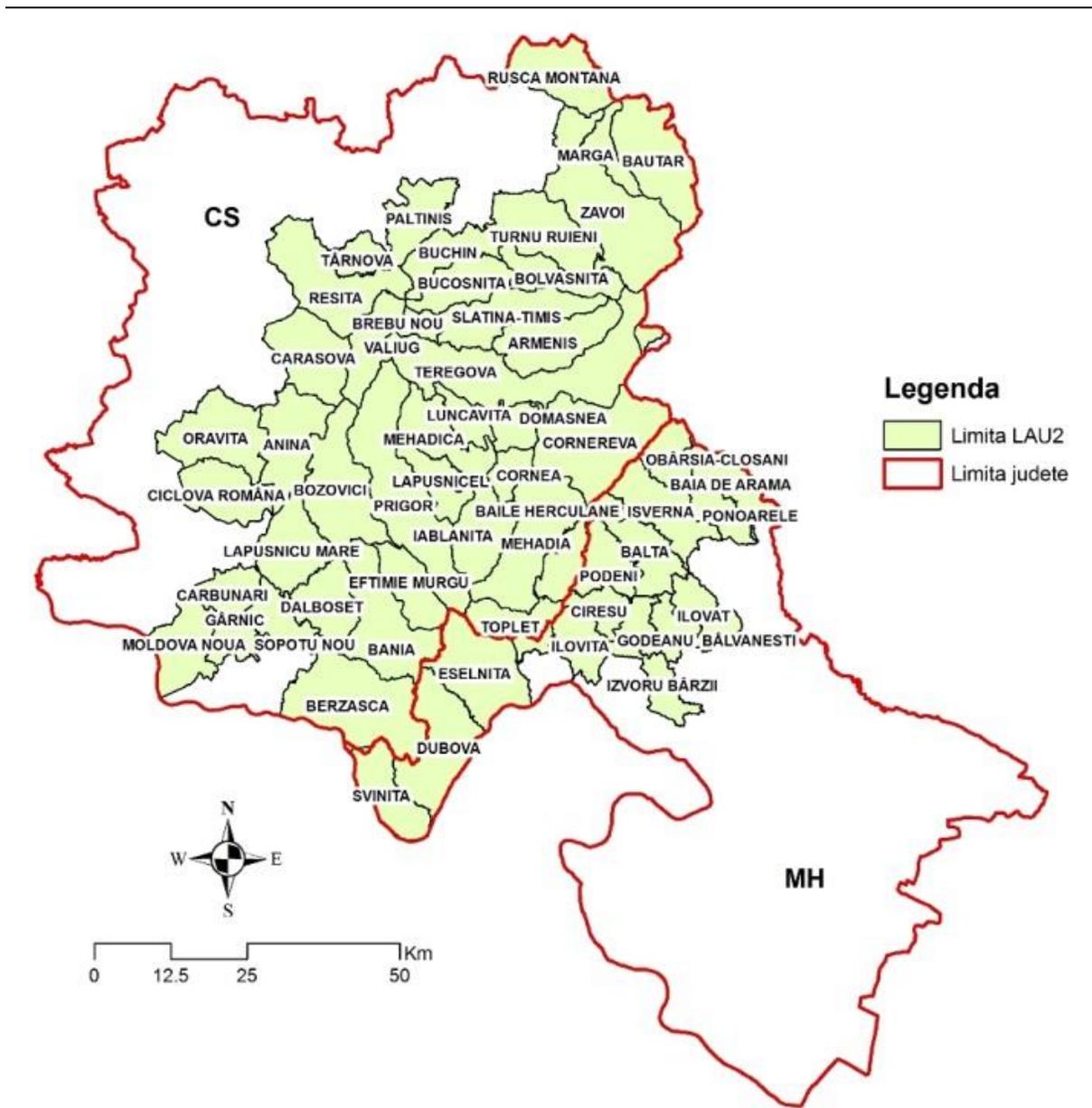
Economic instability

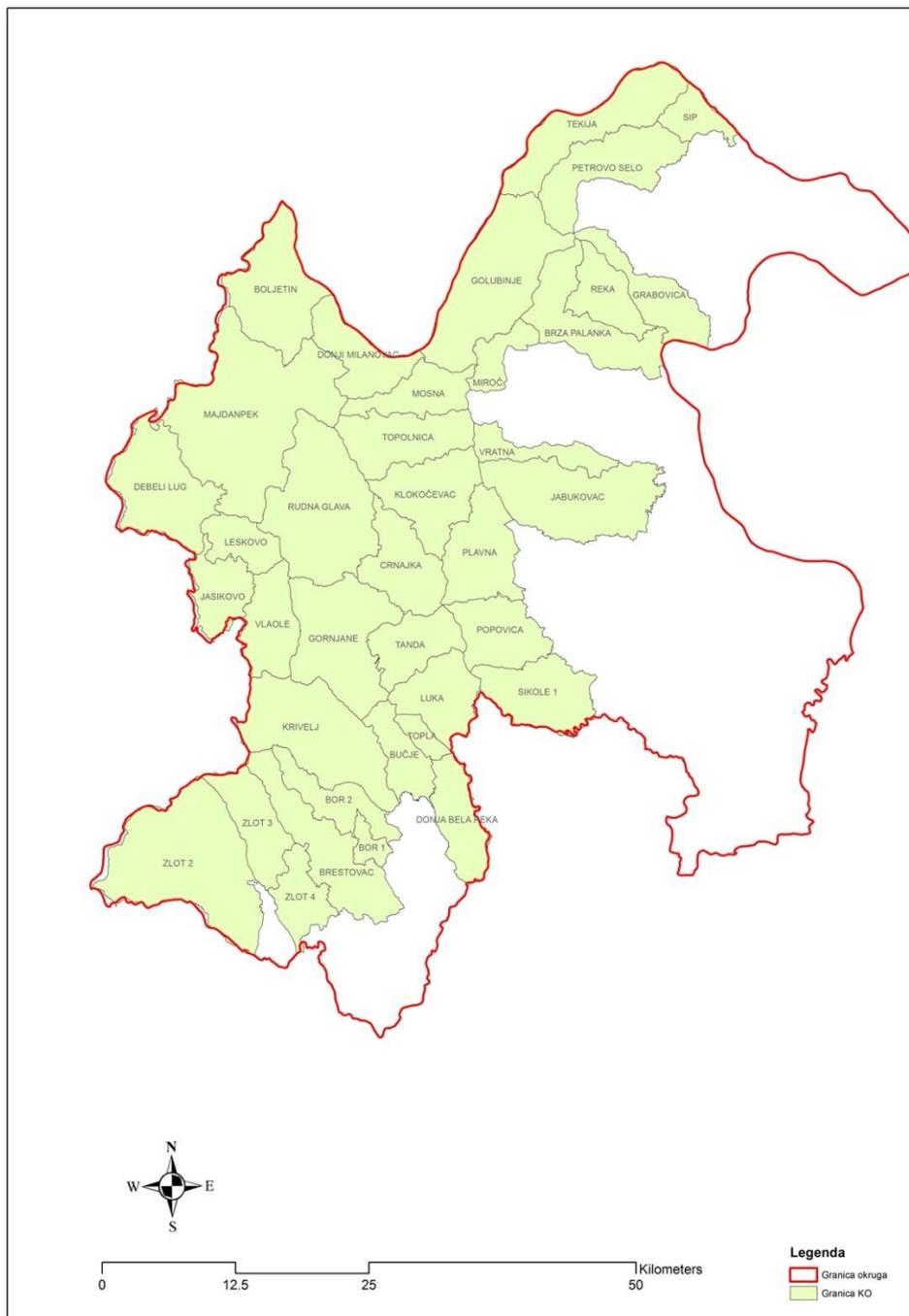
This treat is based on the purchasing power of the tourists and its instability trends which might lead to decrease of number of tourists.

Annex 1-List of mountain settlements with number of inhabitants

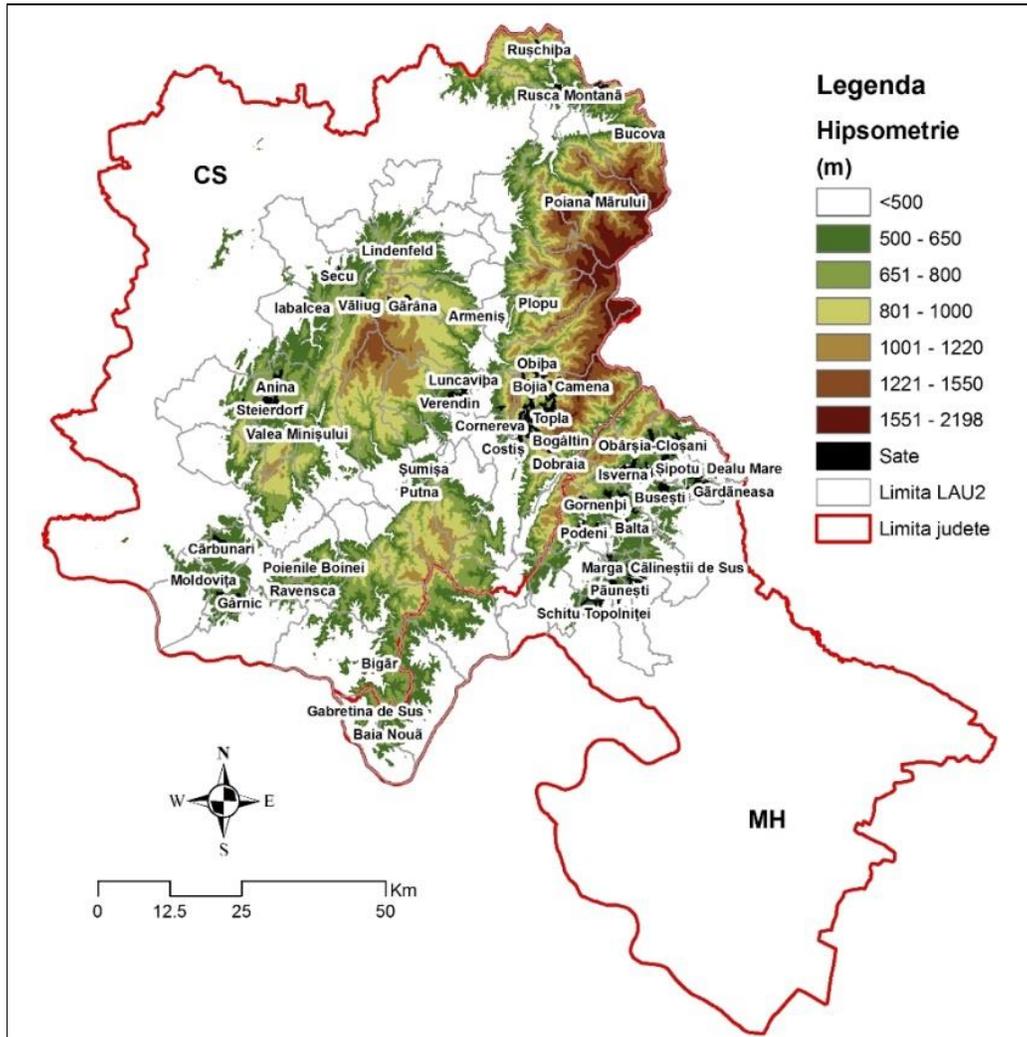
CARAS-SEVERIN		BOR COUNTY		MEHEDINTI	
Settlement	No. Of inhabitants	Settlement	No. Of inhabitants	Settlement	No. Of inhabitants
Anina	9280	Bor	34160	Baia de arama	5554
Armenis	2439	Brestovac	2690	Balta	1043
Baile herculane	5115	Buče	579	Bâlvanesti	922
Bania	1723	Gornjane	930	Ciresu	494
Bautar	2564	Donja bela reka	741	Dubova	937
Berzasca	2720	Zlot	3299	Eselnita	2909
Bolvasnita	1373	Krivelj	1052	Godeanu	586
Bozovici	2985	Luka	537	Ilovat	1241
Brebu nou	305	Tanda	319	Ilovita	1317
Buchin	2057	Topla	97	Isverna	2132
Bucosnita	2800	Novi sip	767	Izvoru bârzii	2809
		Brza palanka	860	Obârsia-closani	1070
Carasova	2964			Podeni	851
Carbunari	979	Grabovica	685	Ponoarele	2437
Ciclova româna	1605	Petrovo selo	79		
Cornea	1758	Reka	203	Total	24302
Cornereva	2957	Tekija	792		
Dalboset	1687	Klokočevac	595		
Domasnea	1326	Leskovo	348		
Eftimie murgu	1592	Boljetin	512		
Gârnic	1436	Vlaole	604		
lablanita	2138	Golubinje	736		
Lapusnicel	997	Debeli lug	405		
Lapusnicu mare	1 03	Donji milanovac	2410		
Luncavita	2415	Jasikovo	582		
Marga	1089	Majdanpek	7699		
Mehadia	4111	Miroč	319		
Mehadica	704	Mosna	720		
Moldova noua	13453	Rudna glava	2010		
Oravita	13232	Topolnica	856		
Paltinis	2451	Crnajka	890		
Prigor	2471	Sikole	599		
Resita	87 64	Vratna	260		
Rusca montana	1952	Jabukovac	1413		

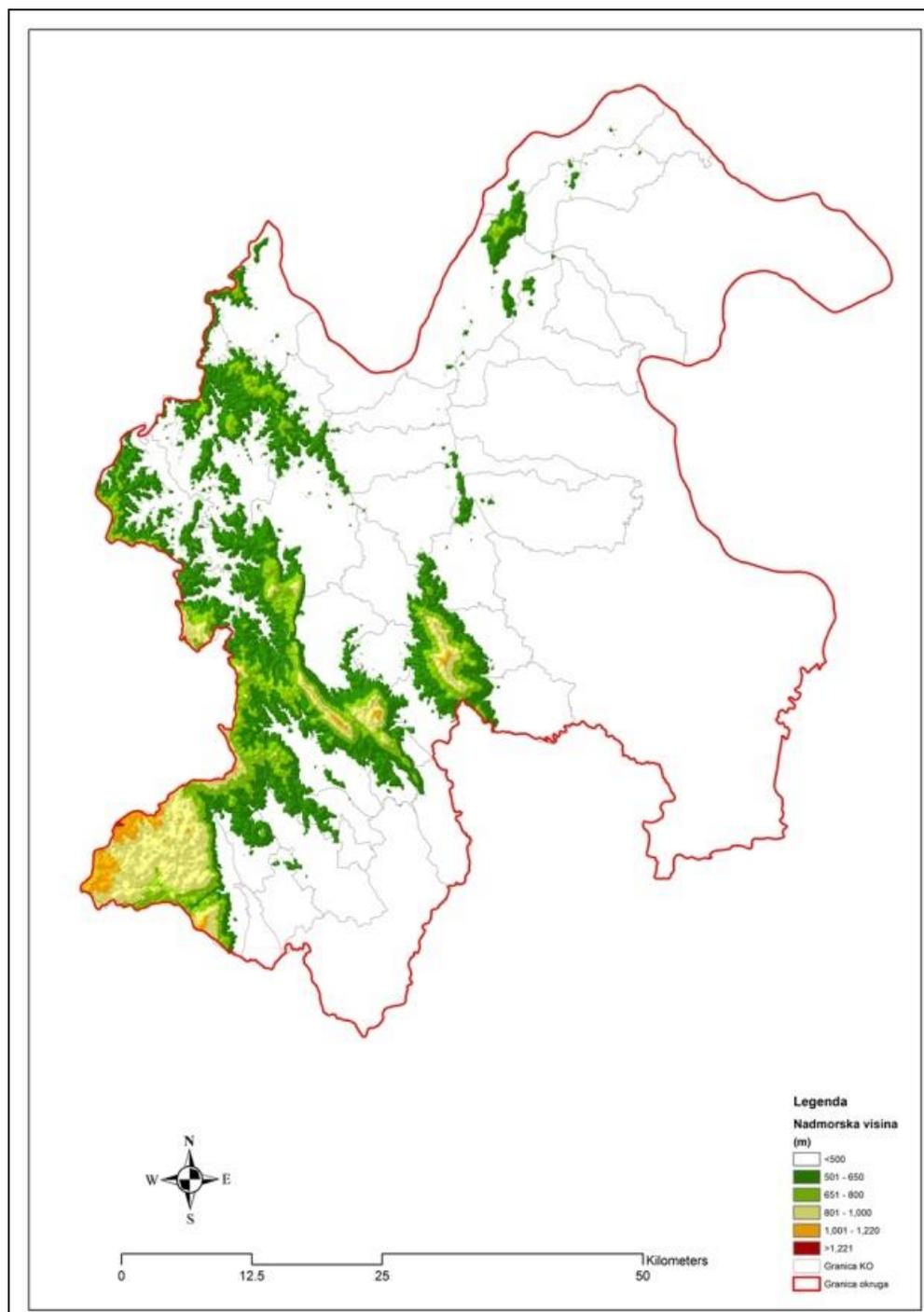
Slatina-timis	3303	Plavna	886
Sopotu nou	1149	Popovica	345
Târnova	1670	Total	69.979
Teregova	4037		
Toplet	2598		
Turnu ruieni	3482		
Valiug	777		
Zavoi	4153		
Total	205414		
		SUM :	299.695





Maps of mountain settlements with the territory in three counties





Maps of mountain areas in three counties

Annex 2 - List of tour operators and tourism agencies from cross-border region

In all three counties there are in total 51 tour operators and tourist agencies having their offices in Mehedinti, Caras-Severin and Bor County. There are 19 offices in Mehedinti, 13 in Caras-Severin and 19 in Bor County.

There are certain number of tour operators who are operating tours in this region, but it is important to state that there is no one tour operator or agency from cross-border area offering multi-day tours in own region.

List of all tour operators and tourist agencies with relevant data can be found here:

Municipality/ administrative unit	Name	Web-site	Address
Bor	X way	http://www.xway.rs	Đure Đakovića 1
Bor	Red hill	-	Jovana Dučića 6/6
Bor	Aster travel & trade	www.aster.rs	Moše Pijade 50/8
Bor	In tours	-	Moše Pijade 28/4
Bor	Putnik in	www.putnikin.com	Moše Pijade Bb
Bor	Sim tours	http://www.simtours.rs	Radomira Jovanovica Čočeta 1/A
Bor	Alfabeta	www.alphabeta.rs	Tc Kocka, I Floor
Bor	Colosseum travel	http://colosseumtravel.rs	Kralja Petra I Br.23
Bor	Riotravel	http://riotravel.rs/	Moše Pijade 64
Negotin	Denzor	http://www.denzor.rs	Jna 10
Negotin	Lira	https://turistickaagencijalira.wordpress.com/about/	Vojvode Mišića 4
Negotin	Enigma putovanja	http://www.enigmaputovanja.rs	Jna1 - Zeleni Tržni Centa
Negotin	Nikolic prevoz	http://www.nikolicprevoz.rs	Samarinovac Bb
Negotin	Neptun	http://zimovanjenegotin.blogspot.rs/	Jna1 I Sprat, Lokal 35
Negotin	Esta	esta-travel-agency.ls.rs	Age Rogožinarevića 31

Negotin	Sedmica plus	https://www.sedmicaplus.rs	Hajduk Veljkova 42
Kladovo	Regionalni turistički centar kladovo	http://krstarenja.org/	Kralja Aleksandra 42
Kladovo	Bafer	bafer.rs	Kralja Aleksandra 42
Kladovo	Epstours	Epstours.com	Dunavska 15a
Majdanpek	Mirno more	http://www.moremirno.com	Proleterska Bb
Resița	Voyage west s.r.l.	www.voyagewest.ro	Bd. Revoluția Din Decembrie, Nr. 4-5,
Resița	Birta group s.a.	www.birta-kago.ro	Pța 1 Decembrie 1918, Nr. 31,
Resița	Sagitario travel	www.sagitariotrans.ro	Al. Romaniței, Nr. 1, Resița, Cod
Resița	Lauer	www.lauer.ro	Pța Republicii, Nr. 23, Resița,
Oțelu rosu	Sagitario travel	www.sagitariotrans.ro	Pța 22 Decembrie 1989,
Oțelu rosu	Severin travel s.r.l.	http://www.severintravel.ro/	Str. Bistrei, Nr. 17, Oțelu Rosu,
Resița	Luxury holidays	http://luxuryholidays.ro/	Pța 1 Decembrie 1918, Nr. 31,
Caransebes	Hyp travel	http://www.hiptravel.ro/	Str. Ardealului, Nr. 1,
Resița	Novum travel	http://transport-austria.ro/	Bd. Republicii, Nr. 8
Resița	Astral travel	http://astraltravel.ro/	Str. Libertății, Bl.B3, Resița,
Caransebes	Sagitario travel	www.sagitariotrans.ro	Str. Mihai Viteazu, Nr. 38,

Reșița	Serviciul de promovare a turismului	http://www.pmb.ro/	Pța 1 Decembrie 1918, Nr. 1
Drobeta turnu severin	Hercules tour company	www.hercules-tour.ro	Str.Horia Nr.12
Drobeta turnu severin	Biroul de turism drobeta	https://www.facebook.com/Biroul-de-Turism-Drobeta-193366130740059/	Str.I.G.Bibicescu Nr.4
Drobeta turnu severin	Unita tour	http://www.unita-turism.ro/	Bd.T.Vladimirescu
Drobeta turnu severin	Millennium tour	www.millenniumtour-drobeta.ro	Str.Crisan Nr.16
Drobeta turnu severin	Danubius tours	http://danubius.ro/	Str.Horia Nr.12
Drobeta turnu severin	Smile travel	http://www.smiletravel.ro/	Bd. Carol I, Nr. 61
Drobeta turnu severin	Cortina	-	Str. Orly, Nr. 38
Drobeta turnu severin	Flora tour	-	Str. Brancoveanu 223, Bl. Is8a
Drobeta turnu severin	Dalexino	-	Str.Veterani Nr.20
Drobeta turnu severin	Alcogrup	http://www.alcogrupsrl.ro/	Str.Calomfirescu, Nr.157
Drobeta turnu severin	Ant-tabere	-	Str. Mihai Gusita, Nr.6
Drobeta turnu severin	Class tour	-	Str. Kiseleff, Nr. 68, Bl. Ka6
Drobeta turnu severin	Adventure tour	http://www.adventure-tour.ro/	Crisan Nr.25



Drobeta turnu severin	Antrec mehedinti	https://www.facebook.com/antrec.mehedinti	Str. Avram Iancu, Nr. 38
Drobeta turnu severin	Dali tours	-	Str. Traian 64
Drobeta turnu severin	Ava travel	http://www.avatravel.ro/	Str. Traian, Nr. 85, Bl.C1,
Orsova	Sagitario travel	www.sagitariotravel.ro	Str. Centrul Civic, Nr. 1,
Drobeta	Filadelfia	https://www.filadelfiaturism.ro/	Str. Calomfirescu, Nr. 283, Bl.B7, Et.P, Ap.1,

Annex 3 - List of operators with mountain tourism offer in the cross-border region

List of operators having mountain tourism offer in the cross-border region	Name	Info
MEHEDIŢI	Tourism Agency Mehedinti	32 Avram Iancu St., Drobeta Turnu Severin, Mehedinti, Romania Ph: 004-0252-320698
MEHEDIŢI	Antrec Mehedinti (Eco-Tourism Agency)	38 Avram Iancu St., Drobeta Turnu Severin, Mehedinti, Romania Ph: 004-0252-220833
MEHEDIŢI	Adventure Tour - S.C. Speo-Alpin Experience SRL	25 Crisan St., Drobeta Turnu Severin, Mehedinti, Romania Ph: 004-0252-322142/004-0721-264143 e-mail:adventure.tour@yahoo.com, http://www.adventure-tour.ro/
CARAS-SEVERIN	Domogled-Valea Cernei National Park Administration	9 Uzinei Street, Băile Herculane, 325200, Caras-Severin Tel: 0255/560582, Fax: 0255/560552 E-mail:parcdomogled@gmail.com www.domogled-cerna.ro
CARAS-SEVERIN	EnduRoMania	167, Brebu Nou, 327050 Caras-Severin, Romania Tel: +40-256-491565, Tel/FAX: +40-356-102815 www.enduromania.net
BOR	Panacomp	http://www.panacomp.net
BOR	Magelan	http://www.magelan.rs
BOR	Serbia UNDISCOVERED	http://serbiaundiscovered.com

Annex 4 - Trails and hiking areas

There are many possibilities for hiking in this cross-border area. There are about 61 recognized hiking trails in all three counties. This gives great possibility for hiking and other mountain tourism activities. Most of the trails are in good condition. Many of them are managed by protected area managers. List of trails and hiking areas is given as follows:

Trails and hiking areas	Managing authority	Mountain	County
" Podeni- Creasta Munților Mehedinți- La Ciucioare"	Consiliul județean Mehedinți	Munții Mehedinți	Mehedinți
" Gorneți- Creasta Munților Mehedinți- Poiana Balta Cerbului"	Consiliul județean Mehedinți	Munții Mehedinți	Mehedinți
" Izverna -Poiana Beletina"	Consiliul județean Mehedinți	Munții Mehedinți	Mehedinți
"Isverna -Saua Crovul Mare"	Consiliul județean Mehedinți	Munții Mehedinți	Mehedinți
"Balta -Lunca Ponorălului-Crovul lui Răscrăcea-Pestera Mare de la Baltă- Pârâul Bălții-Balta "	Consiliul județean Mehedinți	Munții Mehedinți	Mehedinți
"Podul lui Dumnezeu - Lacul Carstic Zăton "	Consiliul județean Mehedinți	Munții Mehedinți	Mehedinți
"Versantul drept din Cheile Băluței"	Consiliul județean Mehedinți	Munții Mehedinți	Mehedinți
"La Varniță- Gaura lui Ciocârdie"	Consiliul județean Mehedinți	Munții Mehedinți	Mehedinți
"La Varniță- Cornetul Prosăcului- Pestera Epuran "	Consiliul județean Mehedinți	Munții Mehedinți	Mehedinți
"Bala- Bala de Sus- Busesti- Dâlma - Runcisoru- Rudina- Bala"	Consiliul județean Mehedinți	Munții Mehedinți	Mehedinți
"Băile Herculane- Platoul si izvorul Coronini- Cracu lui Arendasu- Poiana cu Peri"	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Cernei	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane- Platoul Coronini- Foisorul Verde- Izvorul Diana"	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Cernei	Caras-severin

"Băile Herculane- Izvorul Munk- Izvorul Diana III"	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Cernei	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane- Izvorul Munk- Piscul Jubiliar -Vf. Ciorici-Vf. Dada"	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Cernei	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane- Vf. Ciorici- Pestera cu Aburi-Pestera lui Adam -pestera Despicătura"	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Cernei	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane- Sapte Izvoare Calde- Piatra Băniței Poiana Culmea Mare"	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Cernei	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane- cascada Vânturătoarea- Poiana Cicilovete"	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Cernei	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane- Cheile Peciniscăi- Creasta Cocosului"	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Mehedinți	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane- Cheile Peciniscăi- Poiana Pades"	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Mehedinți	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane- Cheile Ferigari -Vf. Soimului- Pestera Mare de la Soroniste"	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Mehedinți	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane- Cheile Ferigari- Obârsia Văii Ferigari- Creasta Podeni "	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Mehedinți	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane-Crucea Albă -Izvorul Jelărău-Culmea munților Mehedinți "	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Mehedinți	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane-Crucea Albă -Vf. Domogledu Mic-Cheile Ferigari-Fosta Fabrică de Var "	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Mehedinți	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane-Crucea Albă -Vf. Izvorul Jelărău- Vf. Susaie "	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Mehedinți	Caras-severin
"Cărarea Pisicii- Vf. Domogledu Mic-Vf. Domogledu Mare "	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Mehedinți	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane-Crucea Albă - Izvorul Jelărău- La Susoare-La Marginea "	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Mehedinți	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane-Cheile Săua Padina- La Marginea "	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Mehedinți	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane-Cascada Cociului "	Consiliul Județean Caras -Severin	M-ții Mehedinți	Caras-severin

"Băile Herculane-Poiana Fântâna Mosului-Creasta Gorneti "	Consiliul Județean Caras- Severin	M-ții Mehedinți	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane-Poiana Fântâna Mosului-Poiana Balta Cerbului- Poiana Tăsuc "	Consiliul Județean Caras- Severin	M-ții Mehedinți	Caras-severin
"Băile Herculane-izvorul Conteselor - Biserica Ortodoxă "	Consiliul Județean Caras- Severin	Masivul Domogled	Caras-severin
"Crucea lui Sf. Andrei "	Consiliul județean Caras- Severin	Podisul Mehedinți	Caras- Severin
"Vodița- Dealul Duhovnei "	Consiliul județean Caras- Severin	Podisul Mehedinți	Caras- Severin
"Taravăț "	Consiliul județean Caras- Severin	Podisul Mehedinți	Caras- Severin
"Racovăț - Baldwin"	Consiliul județean Caras- Severin	Podisul Mehedinți	Caras- Severin
"Alion"	Consiliul județean Caras- Severin	Podisul Mehedinți	Caras- Severin
"Ciucaru Mic"	Consiliul județean Caras- Severin	Munții Almăjului	Caras- Severin
"Dubova -Ciucaru Mic "	Consiliul județean Caras- Severin	Munții Almăjului	Caras- Severin
"Ciucaru Mare "	Consiliul județean Caras- Severin	Munții Almăjului	Caras- Severin
"Ciucaru Mare -Ponicova"	Consiliul județean Caras- Severin	Munții Almăjului	Caras- Severin
"Cioanca Cremenească - Rudina"	Consiliul județean Caras- Severin	Munții Almăjului	Caras- Severin
" Liubotina -Cioanca Cremenească"	Consiliul județean Caras- Severin	Munții Almăjului	Caras- Severin
" Sviñața- Trikule"	Consiliul județean Caras- Severin	Munții Almăjului	Caras- Severin
" Trescovăț"	Consiliul județean Caras- Severin	Munții Almăjului	Caras- Severin
" Valea Morilor de Apă - Camenița"	Consiliul județean Caras-	Munții Almăjului	Caras- Severin

	Severin		
" Balta Hera -Ostrov Moldova Veche"	Consiliul județean Caras-Severin	Munții Almăjului	Caras- Severin
Sopotu Nou- Cheile Nerei- podul Bei - Sasca Română	Consiliul Județean Caras- Severin	Munții Aninei	Caras- Severin
Sasca Română - Sasca Montană - Cascada Susara - Cărbunari	Consiliul Județean Caras- Severin	Munții Aninei	Caras- Severin
Sasca Română - Sasca Montană - Cascada Susara - Cărbunari	Consiliul Județean Caras- Severin	Munții Aninei	Caras- Severin
Sat Socolari -Custura Cetății- Valea Beiului- Lacul Ochiul Beiului- Cascadele Beusniței	Consiliul Județean Caras- Severin	Munții Aninei	Caras- Severin
Sasca Română - dealul Caraula - Podul Bei	Consiliul Județean Caras- Severin	Munții Aninei	Caras- Severin
Potoc -Chichiregul Mare - Valea Beusnița (cascada Văioagă)	Consiliul Județean Caras- Severin	Munții Aninei	Caras- Severin
Dealul Caraula- dealul Chichireg - Custura Cetății- Cetatea Socolari	Consiliul Județean Caras- Severin	Munții Aninei	Caras- Severin
Sasca Română - valea Camenița- Livezile Cărbunariilor- Poiana lui Vogiu (Cheile Nerei)	Consiliul Județean Caras- Severin	Munții Aninei	Caras- Severin
Cărbunari - Lacul Dracului	Consiliul Județean Caras- Severin	Munții Aninei	Caras- Severin
Mali Štrbac	National park Djerdap	Carpathians	Bor
Veliki Štrbac	National park Djerdap	Carpathians	Bor
Kovilovo	National park Djerdap	Carpathians	Bor
Greben	National park Djerdap	Carpathians	Bor
Gradašnica	National park Djerdap	Carpathians	Bor
Zlatno jezero	National park Djerdap	Carpathians	Bor
Bosman - Sokolovac	National park Djerdap	Carpathians	Bor
Stol	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Veliki krs grebenom	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor

Malinik	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Lazar's canyon viewpoints kanjona	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Prerast Samar	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Crnovrska pruga	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Starica	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Manastir Bukovo	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Manastir Vratna - Vidikovac	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Velika kapija – Suva kapija	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Velika kapija vidikovac – Suva kapija	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
M Vratna – Kraku Bogdan Suva kapija	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Manastir Vratna – Bigar	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Vekila kapija – Kanjon Soje	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Jabukovac – Kanjon Soje – Velika Prerast	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Veliko livadje – Zamna River - Prerast	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Stevanske livade – Veliki Deli Jovan - TV repetitor	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Popovica – Crni vrh – TV Repetitor	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Mokranje – Mokranjske stene	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Mokranje – Alija – Rogljevske pimnice	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Roglevske – Rajacke pimnice	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor
Sarkamen – Lokalitet Vrelo	Negotin Municipality	-	Bor

Annex 5 - Tourism offers in cross-border area offered by tourism agencies

Tourism offers	description
MEHEDINȚI	
Western Mehedinti	Orsova - St. Ana Monastery (with a beautiful panoramic view of the Orsova city and of the Danube) - The Danube Gorge (Eselnita - Mraconia Valley - Mraconia Monastery - Dubova) - "Ciucarul Mare" Plateau - Ponicoava Cave
Northern Mehedinti	Drobeta Turnu Severin - Trajan's Bridge ruins - the Roman Camp of Drobeta - the Medieval Severin Fortress - "The Iron Gates" Museum - "The Iron Gates" Dam Baia de Arama - The Karst Complex from Ponoarele (Zaton Lake, Bulba Cave, The lilac forest) - Tismana Monastery
Central Mehedinti	Ciresu village - The Karst Complex Topolnita-Epuran (Topolnita Cave, Epuran Cave) - The Topolnita Gorge (a breathtaking landscape with up and down hills bounded by forests of Southern plant species) - The natural reservation "Cocosul de Munte" - The Dacian iron ovens - The paleontologist reservation Bahna-Ilovita (among the richest in fossils in Romania and in Eastern Europe)
Biking of the Danube Gorge	A biking trip along the edge of the Danube Gorge is a fantastic scenic ride. Starting from Orsova, you can pedal up 25 km (16 miles) on the DN 57 road towards Dubova village. You will pass by the statue of the Dacian king, Decebalus, chiseled into the mountain rock; by the Mraconia Valley and by the the Mraconia Monastery on the Danube bank. Ahead of Dubova , you can bike up to Svinita (the biggest Serbian community in Romania), passing by the ruins of the medieval fort "Tri Kule" (14th century). Those who like the mountain biking can climb to Eibenthal, a village inhabited by Czechs coming from Bohemia during the colonization of Banat.
Cruises on the Danube	Sailing with privately owned boats Sailing with privately owned boats is allowed for the entire Romanian sector of the Danube river. There are two Danube Border Checking Points on the Romanian territory: Orsova and Drobeta Turnu Severin
CARAS-SEVERIN	
River rafting	Practiced on the Cerna Valley and Nera`s Gorges, on which courses one can meet gorges, jumping places or meanders. The descent is done with boats with minimum 5 seats.
Canyoning	Includes the crossing of wide and deep valleys, dug by the water courses (the Cerna and Caras Gorges, Muntele Mic). The activity is highly attractive due to the diversity of the procedures required to perform the crossing: climbing, descending, going down through water slides, water crossing.
Mountain climbing	The activity includes climbing, going down the rope, rope slide crossing and waterfall descends (Cerna and Caras Gorges, Muntele Mic).
Waterfall descends	Going down the rope into a waterfall course. They are organized on the Vanturatoarea Waterfall (Almajului Mountains).



Paintball	Sports team activity, demanding from a physical point of view, which, with the support of various game strategies (Save the Captain, Free the hostage, Deathmatch, etc) develops the team spirit. The paintball games are conducted on tracks, specially arranged by the X-Sports team, especially in the Nera -Beusnita Gorges area.
Off road 4x4	Practiced in the Muntele Mic area, and the organizer of these activities is the EnduRoMania Association.
Biking tourism	Practiced in the Semenic Plateau area, on established routes (Resita-Gura Golambului Lake, Anina-Garliste, Carasova - Garliste, Valiug- Borloveni village, Cuptoare-Semenic, Comarnic-Semenic, Crucea Iabalcei - Prolaz, Semenic - Garana, Semenic - Teregova, Carasova - Comarnic.
Mountain motor biking	The Muntele Mic area promoter, the EnduRoMania Association
Snowboarding	Can be practiced in the Semenic and Muntele Mic areas.
BOR COUNTY	
Team building	Danube Mysteries - Djerdap National Park
Adventure in Eastern Serbia	Mysterious Eastern Serbia
Cruise on the Danube River	Cruising the Danube through history
Touring	Mysticism of Eastern Serbia, An interesting trip to Serbia, Wine Tour Serbia - Roads of God Dionysus
Walking in National park Djerdap	Walking tour in magnificent National Park Iron Gate 7 days/6 nights
Hiking in protected areas in Eastern Serbia	4 day hiking tour through national and nature parks in Serbia
Hiking in National park Djerdap	4 days in Djerdap National park hiking tour

Annex 6 - Ski facilities in cross-border area

SKI SLOPES	COMPANY THAT MANAGES IT	MOUNTAIN	COUNTY	ALTITUDE	DIFICULTY DEGREE
BIRTA - VĂLIUG	S.C. BIRTA GROUP S.R.L.	SEMENIC	CARAS - SEVERIN	530	
GOZNA	S.C. TURISM SEMENIC S.A.	SEMENIC	CARAS - SEVERIN	530	
GOZNUȚA	SC CASA BARAJ SRL	MUNTELE SEMENIC	CARAS - SEVERIN	500	MEDIUM
CRUCEA DE BRAZI 1	SC ALPIN TRANS SEMENIC SRL	MUNTELE SEMENIC	CARAS - SEVERIN	700	MEDIUM
CRUCEA DE BRAZI 2	SC ALPIN TRANS SEMENIC SRL	MUNTELE SEMENIC	CARAS - SEVERIN	530	MEDIUM
SLALOM URIAS	SC ALPIN TRANS SEMENIC SRL	MUNTELE SEMENIC	CARAS - SEVERIN	1250	MEDIUM
BORLOVA 1	SC MUNTELE MIC SUPERSKY SRL	MUNTELE MIC	CARAS - SEVERIN	816	MEDIUM
BORLOVA 2	SC MUNTELE MIC SUPERSKY SRL	MUNTELE MIC	CARAS - SEVERIN	816	MEDIUM
VALEA SOARELUI	SC MONTE PICOLO SRL	MUNTELE MIC	CARAS - SEVERIN	1020	MEDIUM
NORDICA 1	SC NORDICA TURISM SRL	MUNTELE MIC	CARAS - SEVERIN	960	MEDIUM
CASA BARAJ	SC CASA BARAJ SRL	M-ȚII SEMENIC	CARAS - SEVERIN	800	MEDIUM
PĂRTIA DIN SAT 1	ALPIN TRANS SEMENIC S.R.L.	M. SEMENIC	CARAS - SEVERIN	500	MEDIUM
PĂRTIA DIN SAT 2	ALPIN TRANS SEMENIC S.R.L.	M. SEMENIC	CARAS - SEVERIN	500	MEDIUM
SNOW PARK GĂRĂNA	ALPIN TRANS SEMENIC S.R.L.	M. SEMENIC	CARAS - SEVERIN	650	MEDIUM

Annex 7 - Institutional support and stakeholders

ROMANIA:

ANAT -Asociația Națională a Agențiilor de Turism (www.anat.ro).

OPTBR –Organizația Patronatului din Turismul Balnear (www.spas.ro/)

FPTR -Federația Patronatelor din Turismul Românesc (www.fptr.ro)

FIHR -Federația Industriei Hoteliere din România (www.fih-romanianhotels-org.ro/)

ANTREC (www.antrec.ro).

SERBIA:

1. Local Tourism organization of Bor
2. Local Tourism organization of Negotin
3. Local Tourism organization of Majdanpek
4. Local Tourism organization of Kladovo
5. Local governments in the region: Bor, Negotin, Kladovo, Majdanpek,
6. Djerdap National park, Regional development agency eastern Serbia – RARIS, Danube Competence Center -DCC
7. Hotels and private business involved in tourist industry
8. Tourist agencies of the region
9. Transport providers (Bus, Taxi, Serbian Railroads)

Supporting programmes relevant for mountain tourism:

POR Program Operațional Regional/ Regional Operational Programme

POCU Program Operațional Capital Uman/ Human Capital Operational Programme

PNDR Programul Național de Dezvoltare Rurală/ Rural Development National Programme

Program de cooperare RO-SE/ Romania-Serbia Cooperation Programme

BS Buget de Stat/ State Budget

BL Buget Local/ Local Budget

FEADR - Fondul European Agricol pentru Dezvoltare Rurală/ The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development

IPA/CBC IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Romania-Serbia

Annex 8 - List of natural protected areas in the region

MEHEDINTI

Danube Gorge: Cazanele Mari, Cazanele Mici

Gorge and the Topolnita Cave Reservation

Karst Complex from Ponoare

Epuran Cave

Bahna-Ilovita Paleontologist Reservation

The sand martin ravine

“Porțile de Fier” Natural Park (category V IUCN)

Calinovăț Island

“Moldova Veche” Ostrov

Duhovna Hill

CARAS-SEVERIN

“Semenic - Căile Carasului” National Park (category II IUCN)

“Cheile Nerei –Beusnița” National Park (category II IUCN)

“Domogled - Valea Cernei” National Park (category II IUCN)

“Retezat” National Park (category II IUCN)

“Porțile de Fier” Natural Park (category V IUCN)

BOR

Nature reserve of strict protection “Bukovo”

Natural monument “Vratna”

Natural monument “Zamna”

Natural monument "Park šuma Badnjevo"

Natural monument "Valja prerast – Šuplja stena"

Nature reserve of strict protection "Mustafa"

Nature reserve of strict protection "Felješan"

Nature reserve of strict protection "Konjska glava"

National Park "Djerdap"
