



MOVING
MOUNTAIN VALORIZATION THROUGH
INTERCONNECTEDNESS AND GREEN GROWTH

PRACTICE ABSTRACT

STARA PLANINA | Overcoming the challenges of public policy- making for maintaining the supply of public goods in Bulgaria



Photo credit: Koen de Rijk



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 862739

2. Overcoming the challenges of public policy-making for maintaining the supply of public goods from High Nature Value (HNV) farmland in Bulgaria

The Western Stara Planina (WSP) region of Bulgaria is one of 23 mountain value chain case studies in the H2020 MOVING project (<https://www.moving-h2020.eu/>). It is characterised by low input extensive agriculture and the majority of farmland in the region is considered as High Nature Value (HNV). Over many years, traditional farming practices have created and maintained a diverse range of semi-natural habitats for valuable plant and animal species, many of which are protected by international conventions.

Well-designed public policies, especially EU-funded rural development measures, have great potential to reduce the loss of HNV farmland in the WSP and to maintain the supply of biodiversity-related public goods. For example, HNV grasslands were eligible for agri-environmental payments under the 2007-2013 and 2014-2020 Bulgarian Rural Development Programmes. Nonetheless, the supply of these public goods continues to be at risk due to various factors and much greater attention needs to be given to more integrated and innovative approaches that address the profitability and overall socio-economic viability of the traditional HNV farming systems in the region.

This is a complex task for Bulgarian policymakers. Effective interventions must be designed, targeted and implemented to ensure complementarity, coherence and consistency around common objectives. Wide consultation with relevant stakeholders is therefore essential, as is the “watchdog” role of civil society organisations such as the Society for Territorial and Environmental Prosperity (STEP).

For more information see: <https://www.step-bg.bg/en> and <https://www.arc2020.eu/bulgarias-cap-strategic-plan-backsliding-on-nature-and-biodiversity/>

MOVING Reference Region
Stara Planina
Country Bulgaria
Authors Mark Redman (Highclere Consulting)
More info https://www.moving-h2020.eu/reference_regions/stara-planina-bulgaria/





www.moving-h2020.eu



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 862739