



## **Tamara Mitrofanenko**

**Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, United Nations Environment Programme**

Dr. Tamara Mitrofanenko coordinates activities on science-policy-practice interface and education for sustainable development (ESD) at the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention, hosted by the UNEP Vienna Office. In this capacity, she oversees cooperation with the Science4Carpathians Network and played a key part in the creation of the Carpathian ESD Expert Network, formally recognized at the 7th Conference of the Parties (COP 7) of the Carpathian Convention in October 2023. Dr. Mitrofanenko has been actively engaged with UNEP Vienna Office since 2007, managing activities and projects linking education with sustainable development in mountainous regions. In addition, she has worked as an expert with an international non-profit Zoï Environment Network, contributing to capacity building of governmental and practice experts as well as journalists. She received her PhD in 2018 at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU), with her thesis focused on participation of underrepresented groups, including youth, in protected area management and regional development governance.

From 2015 until 2023, Dr. Mitrofanenko combined her UNEP engagement with academic work at BOKU University, where managed projects integrating transdisciplinary teaching and research approaches in the Caucasus region. She continues her work towards strengthening the role of universities and academic networks in shaping policy, particularly within the context of sustainable regional development and Education for Sustainable Development.