

Stakeholder Engagement Plan

15 November 2021

CEPF Grant 112419

Global Forest Coalition

**Strengthening Conservation of Priority KBAs Without Protection Status in Kazakhstan,
Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan by members of the Global Forest Coalition**

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan

Grant Summary

1. **Grantee organization:** Global Forest Coalition (GFC)
2. **Grant title:** Strengthening Conservation of Priority KBAs Without Protection Status in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan by members of the Global Forest Coalition
3. **Grant number:** 112419
4. **Grant amount (US dollars):** approximately US \$150,000
5. **Proposed dates of grant:** 1 January 2022 – 31 December 2023
6. **Project location (country):** Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan
7. **Date of preparation of this document:** 15 November 2020

8. Background

Component 1: Capacity building of partner NGOs (IP 4.1):

The Global Forest Coalition (GFC) is an international coalition of CSOs and Indigenous Peoples' Organizations defending social justice and the rights of forest peoples in forest policies. It currently has 118 members in 70 countries. Over the 20 years of its history, GFC has implemented more than 50 different projects in different regions of the world in partnership with its member groups, including several projects in Central Asia.

The current project will engage 6 GFC members from the region, which are already involved in biodiversity conservation and management. Their members are professionals with knowledge of forest ecosystems, species, and genetic resources. The GFC has 7 members in the region; 6 of them are linked to biodiversity issues. All six organizations confirmed their willingness to participate in the project that to increase their capacity in the area of biodiversity conservation and management, using the GFC experience and knowledge. The members of GFC that announced their participation in the current project are the following: in Kyrgyzstan -Aleyne+, BIOM, and Kyrgyz Society for Wildlife Protection (KSWP). The members of GFC in Kazakhstan are Karaganda EcoCenter and Socio-Ecological Fund. The member of GFC in Tajikistan is Noosfera. All NGOs from the region joined the Global Forest Coalition during the period from 2005 to 2021.

There are three priority key biodiversity areas (KBAs) in the three countries that have no formal protection: Narynkol in Kazakhstan, Kassan-Sai in Kyrgyzstan, and Dashtijum in Tajikistan. This project will work primarily to strengthen the capacity of the six GFC members while guiding them in efforts to improve the management of those KBAs. This will include (1) promoting partnerships between the GFC members and relevant government counterparts and (2) improving public awareness and stakeholder engagement within and around those KBAs.

9. Summary of Previous Stakeholder Engagement Activities

Each of the six GFC members has endorsed GFC's proposal to CEPF. Each is an active member of the GFC network. The six groups, in turn, have ongoing programs in their respective countries.

10. Project Stakeholders

Stakeholders include the GFC members in each country:

- Kazakhstan: Karaganda EcoCenter, Socio-Ecological Fund
- Kyrgyzstan: Aleyne+, BIOM, Kyrgyz Society for Wildlife Protection
- Tajikistan: Noosfera

In addition, in each country, stakeholders include:

- Kazakhstan: the government and residents of the Akimat municipality in the Rayimbek District
- Kyrgyzstan: the government and residents of Ala-Buka District
- Tajikistan: the government and residents surrounding Dashtijum, and primarily, the Khojiyen-2011 Farmer Association and the Komron Farmer Association.

Stakeholders will be further enumerated by each of the GFC partners as the project progresses.

11. Stakeholder Engagement Program

Related to the stakeholders named above, GFC will:

- Run capacity building activities for each of the six GFC partners.
- Facilitate partnerships between the GFC partners and local governments.

Related to the governments and residents in and around the three KBAs, as the project progresses, each partner will develop its own engagement program that will include, at a minimum, a grievance mechanism. Most work of the partners is anticipated to be around raising public awareness on KBAs and facilitating community-supported management plans that are, by definition, consultation-based.

12. Consultation methods

Consultation is core to the GFC approach. GFC will work with its partners to build their capacity in areas that the partners have identified. GFC will then work with the partners in each country as they develop community-supported management plans.

13. Other Engagement Activities

In each country, considerable focus will be on raising awareness of community members about the importance of the KBAs. Engagement will take the place of campaigns, education, and the use of outreach materials on threatened species and land management.

14. Timetable

The project will proceed over 24 months. Engagement with the GFC partners will begin immediately, with engagement in the field expected to take place beginning by Month 6.

15. Resources and Responsibilities

GFC's Andrey Laletin, Elena Kreuzberg, and Jeanette Seequeira will be responsible for capacity building activities of the six members. Raushan Dauletbayeva of Karaganda EcoCenter will lead on community

engagement in Kazakhstan; Gamal Soronkulov, working under BIOM, will lead in Kyrgyz, and Tatjana Novikova of Noosfera will lead in Tajikistan.

16. Grievance mechanism

We will share all grievances – and a proposed response – with the Regional Implementation Team and the CEPF Grant Director within 15 days. If the claimant is not satisfied following the response, they may submit the grievance directly to the CEPF Executive Director at cepfexecutive@conservation.org or by surface mail.

GFC will work to ensure that its partners are aware of the work and understand how to voice complaints, if any. We will post contact information in the offices of each partner in appropriate languages, explaining our activities.

During all meetings and in general interactions with the public, GFC personnel will inform local people and other stakeholders that they have the right to raise a grievance at any time with GFC, its partners, or CEPF about any issue relating to the project.

GFC will post telephone numbers and e-mails of contact persons at GFC, GFC partners, and CEPF. This information will also be put on all education materials that will be produced during this project implementation including posters, brochures, and booklets. Contact information of the Regional Implementation Team and CEPF will be made publicly available in local languages.

We will inform stakeholders that grievances should proceed in the following order below. If the stakeholder is unsatisfied with the response at any step, they may proceed further.

- Andrey Laletin, Project Director, laletin3@gmail.com, +7-950-4351945
- Simone Lovera, simone@globalforestcoalition.org, +31-6-47392511
- Lizza Protas, RIT Team Leader, WWF-Russia, lprotas@wwf.ru
- CEPF Executive Director: cepfexecutive@conservation.org

Once individual work plans are designed in each country, the partners will establish their own grievance mechanisms, which themselves are a formal deliverable of GFC under its grant with CEPF.

17. Monitoring and Reporting

GFC will report on this plan every six months, per the items above. This will include listing of activities and participants, grievances and their resolution, and changes to the project if these affect stakeholder engagement either positively or negatively.