

CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Legal Name: Vsemirnyi Fond Prirody (WWF-Russia)

Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement): Creation of the system of protected areas of the Russian Caucasus (Green Corridor of the Russian Caucasus)

Implementation Partners for this Project:

List the full names of any partner organizations or agencies directly assisting in implementation.

Ministry of nature resources of Russian Federation

Governments of Dagestan, Ingushetia and Karachaevo-Cherkessia Republiks

Association of Protected areas of the Northern Caucasus

Caspian Institute of biological resources (Dagestan)

NGO "Biodiversity conservation center"

NGO "Partnership for zapovedniks"

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement): 1 February 2008 – 30 June 2009

Date of Report (month/year): 10 August 2009

II. OPENING REMARKS

Provide any opening remarks that may assist in the review of this report.

III. ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT PURPOSE

Project Purpose

Support civil society efforts to promote transboundary cooperation and improve protected area systems in five target corridors

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
Ecological corridor between Kavkazsky and Teberdinsky zapovedniks (as the biosphere polygon of Teberdinsky zapovednik) is established	The final documents have been sent to RF Ministry of Nature and still are awaiting for Government decision.
New protected areas Tlyaratinsky nature reserve is established	The ecological-economic basement have been sent to State expertise and we are waiting the Certificate in the end of August. All regional decisions are received.
Existing protected area (Erzi zapovednik) is enlarged	The final documents have been sent to RF Ministry of Nature and still are awaiting for Government decision
Russian Caucasus Green Corridor General Plan is developed on the level of regions	General Plan of Russian Green Corridor development is agreed by local authorities/regional governments.

Describe the success of the project in terms of achieving its intended impact objective and performance indicators.

Preparatory stage for enlargement of the Teberdinskiy and Erzi and Daghestansky Strict Nature Reserves (Zapovedniks) has been finalised and the project justification materials officially submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources of Russia to prepare Russian Government Statements on enlargement of these two protected areas.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

There were no any unexpected consequences that have occurred as a result of the Project.

IV. PROJECT OUTPUTS

Project Outputs: Enter the project outputs from the Logical Framework for the project

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
Output 1: Ending creation an ecological corridor between Kavkazsky and Teberdinsky zapovedniks (as the biosphere polygon of Teberdinsky zapovednik) - over 60 000 ha. Creation Df new protected area Tlyaratinsky nature reserve {about 50 000 ha). Enlargement of Erzi zapovednik on 60 000 ha. Developemtn of Russian Caucasus Green Corridor General Plan on the level of regions	
Necessary legal and scientific documentation for Teberdinsky Biosphere polygon creation have been successfully passed through the State Ecological Expertise (EIA)	All documents have been successfully passed through the State Ecological Expertise (EIA)
Creation of Teberdinsky Biosphere polygon has been approved by relevant federal authorities and gazetted	The final documents have been sent to RF Ministry of Nature and still are awaiting for Government decision.
Necessary legal and scientific documentation for Tlyaratinsky nature reserve creation is prepared and agreed with relevant governmental agencies.	All documents have been prepared and agreed by relevant governmental agencies.
Necessary legal and scientific documentation for creation of Tlyaratinsky nature reserve have been successfully passed through the State Ecological Expertise (EIA).	All documents have been sent to the State Ecological Expertise (EIA)
Creation of Tlyaratinsky nature reserve has been approved by relevant national authorities and gazetted.	The final documents have been sent to RF Ministry of Nature and still are awaiting for Government decision.
Necessary legal and scientific documentation for Erzi zapovednik enlargement is prepared and agreed with relevant governmental agencies.	All documents have been prepared and agreed by relevant governmental agencies.
Necessary legal and scientific documentation for Erzi zapovednik enlargement have been successfully passed through the State Ecological Expertise (EIA).	All documents have been successfully passed through the State Ecological Expertise (EIA)

Enlargement of Erzi zapovednik has been approved by relevant national authorities and gazetted.	The final documents have been sent to RF Ministry of Nature and still are awaiting for Government decision.
Russian Caucasus Green Corridor General Plan is developed and discussed with stakeholders.	General Plan agreed by all stakeholders.
General plans are adopted by relevant authorities on the level of regions.	Yes.

Describe the success of the project in terms of delivering the intended outputs.

Territorial or site-based protection of biodiversity that is realised through enlargement of existing PAs and development and designation of new protected areas is one of the most effective methods for biodiversity conservation in Russia. In the reported period materials necessary for justification of PA enlargement have been prepared for the territories of “Teberdinsky”, “Erzi” and “Daghestansky” strict nature reserves (zapovedniks). These documents were brought up for all the needed formal consideration processes, including also the state environmental impact assessment procedure, and have been finally submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources so that draft statements of the Government of Russian Federation on the enlargement of these two PAs could be developed. Overall planned increase in the size of protected areas for 130522 hectares is part of work carried out for implementation of agreements on transboundary cooperation for biodiversity conservation at the Caucasus between Russia, Georgia and Azerbajdzhan, including also the programme of work for restoration of the Persian Leopard population.

Were any outputs unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?

All activities were implemented in full.

V. SAFEGUARD POLICY ASSESSMENTS

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

Plan on increasing territories of reserves were prepared with taking into consideration all federal and local authorities and local communities opinions. Projects on enlargement were agreed by all organizations. The positive decisions of state expertise were received and sent to Ministry of nature for preparing proper Government regulation.

VI. LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PROJECT

Describe any lessons learned during the various phases of the project. Consider lessons both for future projects, as well as for CEPF’s future performance.

The determination of borders of territories including in new protected areas should be realize with a glance of opinions all project stakeholders.
The efficiency of the creation new PAs is considerably enlarged by general informing of authorities and local communities.

Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/failure)

We must take account of the national features of considerations and making decisions.

Project Execution: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/failure)

The personal contacts of the project coordinator with authorities and product design people helped us to realize project well. Active coordination with State expertise experts videlicet - submissions of all additional documents and notes- let us to get the positive State expertise certificate for all three projects of increasing of reserves territories (Teberdinskiy, Dagestanskii and Erzi reserves)

VII. ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount in USD	Notes

****Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:***

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)*
- B** *Complementary funding (Other donors contribute to partner organizations that are working on a project linked with this CEPF project)*
- C** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)*
- D** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

Provide details of whether this project will continue in the future and if so, how any additional funding already secured or fundraising plans will help ensure its sustainability.

VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

No comments and recommendations.

VIII. INFORMATION SHARING

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to help civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. One way we do this is by making programmatic project documents available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and by marketing these in our newsletter and other communications.

These documents are accessed frequently by other CEPF grantees, potential partners, and the wider conservation community.

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