

**Small Grants – Final Completion and Impact Report**

**Organization Legal Name:** Hrvatsko društvo za biološka istraživanja; Croatian Biology Research Society

**Project Title:** Conservation of the Southern Dalmatian Minnow, Advanced Semi-cave Fish of the Dinaric Karst in Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Grant Number:** CEPF-110844

**Date of Completion of this Report:** 31<sup>st</sup> of March, 2022

**CEPF Hotspot:** Mediterranean Hotspot

**Strategic Direction:** 2. Support the sustainable management of water catchments through integrated approaches for the conservation of threatened freshwater biodiversity

**Grant Amount:** \$22,905.61

**Project Dates:** 1 June 2020 – 28 February 2022

**PART I: Overview**

**1. Implementation Partners for this Project (*list each partner and explain how they were involved in the project*)**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Name of partner</b>	<b>How they were involved in the project</b>	<b>Additional information</b>
1	WWF Adria	Was responsible for communication with the stakeholders, communication with public, communication with media, organization of multistakeholder platform, organization and leading meetings and conferences. Dinarica, WWF Adria and HDBI will jointly manage the multi-stakeholder platform in next 3-5-year period.	
2	Udruga Dinarica	NGO from Mostar, Bosnia and Hercegovina, played a key role in communication with local communities, collecting and sharing experience and knowledge. Helped in communication with local media. Dinarica, WWF Adria and HDBI will	

		jointly manage the multi-stakeholder platform in next 3-5-year period.	
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**2. Summarize the overall results of your project**

In total, 23 localities in the Hercegovina (Bosnia and Hercegovina) and Croatia (Dubrovnik county) and area of 8 karst poljes were included in this study. A significant decrease in distribution, population number and population size of Southern Dalmatian Minnow (*D. ghetaldii*) was detected, as well as a significantly smaller distribution area than previously thought, it is only 6.93% of the presumed by IUCN. Significant man-made impacts were detected across whole area of study. New, updated map of distribution area with the localities of detection was made and provided in the “Final field research report”. An eDNA method for detection of *D. ghetaldii* was developed, as well as a monitoring protocol and guidelines for conservation documented. Based on the data collected through this research, re-assessment of the *D. ghetaldii* status by the IUCN will be made.

A multistakeholder platform was set up in partnership with WWF Adria and Dinarica through a consultative process, bringing together individuals, NGO’s, government bodies, public institutions and companies which are recognized as important in planning and implementation of conservation of *D. ghetaldii*. The multistakeholder platform will be used for information and knowledge sharing, as well as sharing ideas, advocacy and raising awareness, over the next 3-5 years.

**3. Briefly describe actual progress towards each planned long-term and short-term impact (as stated in the approved proposal)**

*List each long-term impact from your proposal*

a. Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Protection of <i>Delminichthys ghetaldii</i> and its habitat on Hutovo Blato through research of current status and development of monitoring methodology	Project has resulted in acquiring crucial information that did not existed until now, of status and distribution of <i>D. ghetaldii</i> . Based on this data, efficient protection can be planned, on exact localities and on exact populations of this species. All the data will be provided to the national authorities which will use this data for further protection and monitoring. Complete material gathered through this project will be shared with stakeholders, including report with complete work, protocols, results, documents on monitoring species and guidelines for conservation. Information gathered through this project are used for new IUCN species re-assessment for <i>D. ghetaldii</i> , since this information sheds a new light on distribution of the species, population trend and threats.

Establishment of multistakeholder platform for conservation of biodiversity and landscape diversity of Karst	All crucial stakeholders were recognized and brought to the platform. Two meetings of the multistakeholder platform were made. Plan for next period for the platform (3-5 years) was made and partners which will continue to develop platform are recognized. Multistakeholder platform will be used for information and knowledge sharing, as well as sharing ideas, lobbying and raising awareness. Through this platform, each stakeholder will play its part in conservation of <i>D. ghetaldii</i> , as well as its habitat. Multistakeholder platform will meet regularly in the next 3-5 years in order to plan conservation projects, apply those projects for grants and finally implement it. Platform gathers diverse stakeholders and that diversity will play important part, since every member will provide its share of ideas and experiences for common cause.

b. Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

<b>Impact Description</b>	<b>Impact Summary</b>
To map distribution areal of <i>D. ghetaldii</i> , identify its habitat and prepare conservation measures	Map with localities studied in this project, with localities where the species is detected and final map of distribution of the species is made. Recognized impacts and conservation measures was prepared for wide use. Map is provided with backed-up text in “final report” document. Map is also provided as separate .tiff file. Map provides important information about updated distribution of the species. It shows drastic decline from the previously estimated distribution by the IUCN. Also, it shows in which localities species is present and thus where the biggest conservation effort should be based.
Estimate population size in 3 selected habitats via linear transects during cave diving	Population size was estimated for 1 cave habitat and two surface habitats, because the significant size of cave population was detected on only one locality – Ombla, Croatia. Complete methodology on population estimate and results are provided in “final field research report”.
To promote conservation of rare endemic fish <i>D. ghetaldii</i>	Promotion of this endangered species, its importance for local ecosystem and communities has been done since the beginning of the project. Promotion of the importance of conservation of this species was done with the social media posts, media publications, in-person meeting with local people and local experts for nature protection, online meetings of stakeholders. Project was promoted on different platforms, such as Facebook ( <a href="https://www.facebook.com/1633072060337001/posts/pfbid02JPCw22b6D7uMf3YrT9hajjUFDYWkijhdBH8Taz37Li6H7D8Umbi">https://www.facebook.com/1633072060337001/posts/pfbid02JPCw22b6D7uMf3YrT9hajjUFDYWkijhdBH8Taz37Li6H7D8Umbi</a> )

	<p><a href="https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6902945071340339200/?lipi=urn%3Ali%3Apage%3Ad_flagship3_detail_base%3BhChQORFfSCOG7IBgTgRPMQ%3D%3D">c3zmTqs81zYhbl/</a>), LinkedIn (<a href="https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6902945071340339200/?lipi=urn%3Ali%3Apage%3Ad_flagship3_detail_base%3BhChQORFfSCOG7IBgTgRPMQ%3D%3D">https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:6902945071340339200/?lipi=urn%3Ali%3Apage%3Ad_flagship3_detail_base%3BhChQORFfSCOG7IBgTgRPMQ%3D%3D</a>), Web page of WWF (<a href="https://www.wwfadria.org/hr/?6080941/ugrozen-opstanak-popovske-gaovice-endema-krskog-podzemlja">https://www.wwfadria.org/hr/?6080941/ugrozen-opstanak-popovske-gaovice-endema-krskog-podzemlja</a>), different portals in Bosnia and Hercegovina (<a href="https://www.hercegovina.info/vijesti/bih/prijeti-izumiranje-kriticno-stanje-krskog-endema-popovske-gaovice/191896/">https://www.hercegovina.info/vijesti/bih/prijeti-izumiranje-kriticno-stanje-krskog-endema-popovske-gaovice/191896/</a>, <a href="https://mondo.ba/Magazin/Stil/a1018931/Kriticno-stanje-krskog-endema-popovske-gaovice.html">https://mondo.ba/Magazin/Stil/a1018931/Kriticno-stanje-krskog-endema-popovske-gaovice.html</a>, <a href="https://www.agroklub.ba/ribarstvo/ugrozen-opstanak-endema-krskog-podzemlja-popovske-gaovice/74785/">https://www.agroklub.ba/ribarstvo/ugrozen-opstanak-endema-krskog-podzemlja-popovske-gaovice/74785/</a>, <a href="https://bljesak.info/lifestyle/kucni-ljubimci/znete-li-koja-je-vrsta-medu-najugrozenijima-u-hercegovini/375117">https://bljesak.info/lifestyle/kucni-ljubimci/znete-li-koja-je-vrsta-medu-najugrozenijima-u-hercegovini/375117</a>) as well as BirdLife International Web page where experts Dušan Jelić and Matej Vucić gave an interview (<a href="https://www.birdlife.org/news/2021/10/18/protecting-the-magical-underwater-world-that-lies-beneath-the-balkans/">https://www.birdlife.org/news/2021/10/18/protecting-the-magical-underwater-world-that-lies-beneath-the-balkans/</a>). Since the project was promoted on different platform and targeted different audience, and it featured in most visited portals in Bosnia and Herzegovina (hercegovina.info; mondo.ba; bljesak.info), it is estimated that information about this project reached more than 20 000 people. Promotion of the project is very important since it raises the awareness of the current situation and the importance of protection and how each and every one of us can contribute in its protection. Promotion also allows us to share the information how project is conducted, what methodologies are used and what novelties are coming from this research. It also enables us to reach other members of scientific community and encourage them to actively engage in the conservation activities of this species and this area.</p>
<p>To ignite establishment of multistakeholder platform for conservation of biodiversity and landscape diversity of karstic fields</p>	<p>As mentioned above, multistakeholder platform is formed and two meeting have been held. Multistakeholder platform includes wide set of individuals (Slobodan Vulešević), NGO's (Speleology society "Zelena Brda", "Vrelo Trebinje"; Center for development of Herzegovina), governmental bodies (Republic Institute for Protection of Cultural, Historical and Natural Heritage of Republika Srpska ; Natural history museum, Sarajevo; Ministry for environment, infrastructure and ecology of Republika Srpska; Ljubinje County; City of Trebinje), public institutions (Public Institution "Vjetrenica"; Public institution "Hydropowerplants on Trebišnjica") and scientists (University of Ljubljana; University of Zagreb). On the first online workshop project was presented – its main goals, activities and also the purpose of establishment of multistakeholder platform. Several participating stakeholders expressed interest for cooperation</p>

	and offered help on the field. At the final project conference, the project results were presented, especially research results and eDNA method for monitoring. Additionally, at the conference, WWF Adria used the opportunity and held multistakeholder platform meeting with participants. Platform will be taken over by NGO Dinarica, based in Mostar. The idea is also to enlarge the platform theme in the conservation of all endemic fish species of Hercegovina region, as they all face similar threats, similar solutions can improve their conservation status and population growth and similar or same stakeholders are at stake. Dinarica, WWF Adria and HDBI will jointly manage multistakeholder platform in next 3-5-year period. It is also planned to prepare and sign agreement on mutual cooperation between these three institutions.
Detailed distribution map of <i>D. ghetaldii</i> and its habitats	Map was made and presented. Map provides important information about updated distribution of the species. It shows drastic decline from the previously estimated distribution by the IUCN. Also, it shows in which localities species is present and thus where the biggest conservation effort should be based. This map can be used by scientist, NGOs, to plan future activities and governmental institutions to implement it in their conservation and management plans (for example – to plan new protected areas). Based on this map further research and conservation activities to protect this species and its habitat are possible.

**4. Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?**

Main negative impact recognized during whole project was COVID-19 pandemic. It impacted planning and conducting activities, especially activities which included travelling and in-person meetings. Most of these impacts were mitigated in the best way it was possible. Research expeditions in Bosnia and Herzegovina suffered because of travel bans but at the end all planned research activities were done. In person meeting suffered the most, so both project conferences were held online.

Positive impact was engagement of local communities and local people in the acquiring information about the species, its status and vulnerability and how they can make impact on its protection. Legal authorities were also engaged in the project, and expressing a wish for more effective protection of the species and its habitat.

**PART II: Project Products/Deliverables**

**5. List each product/deliverable as stated in your approved proposal and describe the results for each of them:**

#	Deliverable Description	Deliverable Update
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1	Detailed distribution map of <i>D. ghetaldii</i> and its habitats	Detailed distribution map of <i>D. ghetaldii</i> . Research was conducted on 23 localities in total and species was detected on 9 localities of Herzegovina and Croatian coast. Based on the data gathered through this research, updated distribution map was made. It showed significant decline in the distribution of this species from its previous known distribution published by IUCN (reduced to only 6,93%). Map with all details of research is produced and it is available in the final field research report, "Final report; završni izvještaj", of the project, document delivered with this report. Additionally, map with distribution of other endemic fish species in this area is made in the correlation with <i>D. ghetaldii</i> . We expect to publish at least one scientific article where this information will be shared. Scientific study is still in process of finishing, after which the manuscript will be written and submitted to scientific journal (such as Environmental DNA). After the publication, paper will be shared with CEPF.
2	Development of eDNA method for further research and monitoring of this species	Development and application of new eDNA method for <i>D. ghetaldii</i> is described in the final field research report, "završni izvještaj"; in Croatian, of the project, document delivered with this report. Complete protocol of application of eDNA is described in the report and can be used for further research. We expect to publish at least one scientific article where this information will be shared and protocol published in the scientific manner (peer-reviewed). After the publication, paper(s) will be shared with CEPF.
3	Development of monitoring protocol	Complete document on monitoring of <i>D. ghetaldii</i> (" <i>Potokol za monitoring popovske gaovice</i> "; in Croatian) is delivered with this report. Monitoring protocol is a document which puts together all the necessary information for the research on <i>D. ghetaldii</i> . Within this protocol, different methodologies are proposed in order to obtain the best possible results on field surveys, how to use them, when and how to conduct field work and what is important. This protocol can be used by everyone who will conduct research, management

		and conservation of <i>D. ghetaldii</i> and its habitats. It can be proposed by Republic Institute for Protection of Cultural, Historical and Natural Heritage of Republika Srpska as an official document for all scientist, scientific institutions, public institutions, NGOs, etc. who are interested in this topic.
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**6. Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.**

Main methodology resulted from this project was novel eDNA methodology developed for detection of *D. ghetaldii*. eDNA is method of detection of species without the need to catch/observe species. It can be detected from the water sample, with the DNA markers specific for species. This method will ensure easier and efficient research of the species and its monitoring.

One report document on all field activities, materials and methods, field work, lab work, results and protocols were created in “final field research report” in *HDBI-CEPF-finalni izvještaj projekta* (in Croatian).

Monitoring protocol was developed and will be shared to any interested institution and/or individual. It will be shared with the Republic Institute for Protection of Cultural, Historical and Natural Heritage of Republika Srpska. It will ensure efficient research and monitoring of the species and obtaining information for effective planning the protection and management of *D. ghetaldii* and its habitats.

Document “*Guidelines for conservation of endemic freshwater fish species, D. ghetaldii*” was created with several key points for protection. This document lists the needs of *D. ghetaldii* for normal life cycle, measures which will improve habitat for the species and listed requests for the protection and conservation of the species and its habitats. This document should be included and reviewed in any future legislation document concerning this area and this species, as well as any future document with any kind of impact (positive or negative) on habitat of this species.

Leaflet about Southern Dalmatian minnow, its type locality Popovo polje, historical facts, current status, threats and aims of the project.

Document “Multistakeholder platform workprogram” contains recognized stakeholders included in the multistakeholder platform which can, in any way, have impact on protection of *D. ghetaldii* and its habitats. This document contains proposal of the activities of the multistakeholder platform and plan of development of multistakeholder platform in the next three years. Final version of the document was made based on all comments received via e-mail and during the workshops. All stakeholders agreed with the Plan.

**PART III: Lessons, Sustainability, Safeguards and Financing**

**Lessons Learned**

**7. Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building.**

At the end of the project we can say that project was well thought. It was very important to plan complete project in a way that even unpredicted circumstances, such as COVID-19, could not impact its implementation. It was very important to organize all the permits, lab team and field team beforehand. For permits, in the end it turned out to be a good idea to start preparing documentation even 4 or 5 months before actual field work, since the bureaucratic complications took a long time before issuing research permits.

Communication and meetings with local people and local experts or even enthusiast made planning and field research easier since their comments and advices led us to exact locations, which resulted in better efficiency. Local people also shared very valuable historical data with us, making possible the comparison between past and present situation, and enabling a better detection of current problems.

Involvement of local NGOs was crucial. Dinarica as one of the largest NGOs in the Bosnia and Herzegovina and “Zelena Brda” as more local NGO helped us in communication with local representatives and helped us in understanding local problems. Dinarica was key NGO in promoting our project, since they already have strong connection with local newspapers and journalists and knowledge how to communicate conservational problems to the local people.

Due to the short duration of the project, the idea of running parallel work on the field and in the lab was great. During the project, several unpredicted circumstances happened (COVID-19, lab material shortages, broken supply chains...), but since we have started all parts of the project at the same time, we were able to overcome those problems and finish all work in time.

### **Sustainability / Replication**

#### **8. Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.**

Complete project can be replicated without any problems. For each component of the study, standardized methodology was used, in the field research, in the lab research, in the management, organization, communication and presentation of the results. Report of the research part of the project is published (in Croatian) and available upon request by any interested individual and/or institution. Complete project overview and the results were presented to the stakeholders. Presentations with all the information about the project are available. All documents developed from this study (study reports, results, Guidelines, Monitoring protocol, Stakeholder engagement plan, etc.) are available upon request. All efforts put into this project were successful – all planned activities were carried out and all planned results and products were achieved by the end of the project. Additionally, project results and newly developed methodologies as well as new knowledge gained through the project are perfect foundation for future projects and continuing activities on research and protection of *D. ghetaldii* and its habitats.

All research activities can be replicated using “final field research report” and “*Guidelines for conservation of endemic freshwater fish species, D. ghetaldii*”

Sustainability of the project and continuation of the activities – research, monitoring, protection, and communication depends mostly on the available funding. Main goal of multistakeholder platform is going to be pursuing of the project continuation through finding potential funding. Additionally, we will support local stakeholders in engaging into next steps of protection and monitoring. Local NGO (Dinarica) will take over management of the platform and will be leading partner in it, with the help and support of HDBI and WWF Adria.

## Safeguards

- 9. If not listed as a separate Deliverable and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social or environmental safeguards that your project may have triggered.**

Check Process Framework Safeguards.

## Additional Funding

- 10. Provide details of any additional funding that you have secured to support this project.**

- a. Total additional funding (US\$)**

No additional funding was received for this project.

- b. Type of funding**

Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source.

Donor	Type of Funding	Amount
n/a	n/a	n/a

## Additional Comments/Recommendations

- 11. Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF.**

Project resulted in acquiring valuable set of data on current status of *D. ghetaldii* in its area of distribution. Although it showed significant decrease in population number, size, distribution area, large number of pressures, whether human-mediated or natural, this 2-year period was too short to set in motion conservation measures. Especially in Bosnia and Herzegovina, where governmental and legal system in disorganized, slow and not adapting well and quick to the changes. We deem that this kind of project and/or projects have to be encouraged and continued. This project laid a good basis on which next project have to build active conservation, not only this species, but whole habitat. It is our opinion that decreasing population and distribution is not the case only for *D. ghetaldii*, but for all endemic species on this area, and their number is quite large since this is thought to be hot spot of biodiversity in Europe. It is our opinion that larger projects have to be encouraged, project that will work on protection, not only one or two species, but projects that will include all endemic freshwater fish species in this area. That will enable more efficient conservation and protection of large area. It is necessary to act quickly, since the negative impacts are reducing species number and suitable habitats at a large pace.

We would also like to use this paragraph to thank our CEPF Regional implementation team, Marijana Demajo, Vedran Lucić and Salwa Elhalawani, who put a big effort into helping us and without whom this project wouldn't be possible. They were always at our disposal and their tips and instructions were always quick and on point.

We deem that is also important to emphasize current status of stenoendemic freshwater fish species *Telestes dabar*. This species is distributed only in Dabar karst field (Dabarsko polje, KBA BIH01). It is not yet assessed by the IUCN, probably due to the lack of research on the species and lack of the data. But unfortunately, field data shows severe decline in the population size of this species. No specimens were recorded during this project, although Dabarsko polje was surveyed two times. It is important to include this species in the list of endangered species and consider it for further management and conservation actions. In order to protect remaining individuals, it is also important to protect its habitat in Dabarsko polje.

#### **PART IV: Impact at Portfolio and Global Level**

##### **Contribution to Portfolio Indicators**

12. In order to measure the results of CEPF investment strategy at the hotspot level, CEPF uses a set of Portfolio Indicators which are presented in the Ecosystem Profile of each hotspot. Please list these below and report on the project's contribution(s) to them.

Indicator	Actual Numeric Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
2.4 Number of Freshwater KBAs in priority CMZ with improved information on biodiversity, shared with stakeholders	2	<p>North Travunija  <a href="https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/factsheet/31889"> (https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/factsheet/31889)</a>            = Popovo polje, Vjetrenica (BIH06)  <a href="https://birdlife.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=813c1287a6dc46339ecef713a02867c"> (https://birdlife.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=813c1287a6dc46339ecef713a02867c)</a>            Dabarsko i Fatničko kast fields (BIH01)  <a href="https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/factsheet/31798"> (https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/site/factsheet/31798)</a></p> <p>We put most of our research efforts in these two KBAs, since they were our target areas for detection of <i>D. ghetaldii</i>. We collected considerable amount of data in these areas (biodiversity, anthropogenic pressures, negative and positive impacts, etc.) and shared them with the stakeholders in our multistakeholder platform through the reports and workshop presentations.</p>
5.3 Number of cross-border networking relationship	1	<p>Through multistakeholder platform, more than 10 different organizations came into the contact and formed platform. Organizations are from four different countries (Bosnia and Hercegovina, Serbia, Slovenia and Croatia). Multistakeholder platform is planned to continue in the next period and its task will be providing and sharing information on biodiversity, sustainable practices, biodiversity monitoring and conservation efforts as well as sharing knowledge and information. Plan for next three</p>

		years is also set up for the multistakeholder platform and leading partners were defined.
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### **Contribution to Global Indicators**

**Please report on all Global Indicators that pertain to your project.**

#### **13. Benefits to Individuals**

##### **13a. Number of men and women receiving structured training.**

Report on the number of men and women that have benefited from structured training due to your project, such as financial management, beekeeping, horticulture, farming, biological surveys, or how to conduct a patrol.

<b># of men receiving structured training *</b>	<b># of women receiving structured training *</b>	<b>Topic(s) of Training</b>
0	0	0

*\*Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men received structured training in beekeeping, and 3 of these also received structured training in project management, the total number of men who benefited from structured training should be 5.*

##### **13b. Number of men and women receiving cash benefits.**

Report on the number of men and women that had an increase in income or cash (monetary) benefits due to your project from activities such as tourism, handicraft production, increased farm output, increased fishery output, medicinal plant harvest, or payment for conducting patrols.

<b># of men receiving cash benefits*</b>	<b># of women receiving cash benefits*</b>	<b>Description of Benefits</b>
0	0	0

*\*Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men received cash benefits due to tourism, and 3 of these also received cash benefits from increased income due to handicrafts, the total number of men who received cash benefits should be 5.*

#### **14. Protected Areas**

##### **Number of hectares of protected areas created and/or expanded**

Report on the number of hectares of protected areas that have been created or expanded as a result of your project. Protected areas may include private or community reserves, municipal or provincial parks, or other designations where biodiversity conservation is an official management goal.

Name of PA*	Country(s)	Original # of Hectares**	# of Hectares Newly Protected	Year of Legal Declaration/ Expansion	Longitude***	Latitude***
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

\* If possible please provide a shape file of the protected area to CEPF.

\*\* Enter the original total size, excluding the results of your project. If the protected area was not existing before your project, then enter zero.

\*\*\* Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456). To obtain the latitude and longitude of your protected area, use googlemap, right click on the center of your protected area, and select "What's here?", and copy the latitude and longitude appearing in the popup window.

## 15. Key Biodiversity Area Management

### Number of hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) with improved management

Report on the number of hectares in KBAs with improved management, where tangible results have been achieved to support conservation, as a result of your project. Examples of improved management include, but are not restricted to: increased patrolling, reduced intensity of snaring, invasive species eradication, reduced incidence of fire, and introduction of sustainable agricultural/fisheries practices. Do not record the entire area covered by the project - only record the number of hectares that have improved management.

If you have recorded part or all of a KBA as newly protected for the indicator entitled "protected areas", and you have also improved its management, you should record the relevant number of hectares for both this indicator and the "protected areas" indicator.

Name of KBA	KBA Code from Ecosystem Profile	# of Hectares Improved *
n/a	n/a	n/a

\* Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were improved due to implementation of a fire management regime in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were improved due to invasive species removal in the second year, the total number of hectares with improved management would be 500.

## 16. Production landscapes

### Number of hectares of production landscape with strengthened management of biodiversity

Please report on the number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity, as a result of your project. A production landscape is defined as a landscape where commercial agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs.

- For an area to be considered as having "strengthened management of biodiversity," it can benefit from a wide range of interventions such as best practices and guidelines implemented, incentive schemes introduced, sites/products certified, and sustainable harvesting regulations introduced.
- Areas that are protected are not included under this indicator, because their hectares are counted elsewhere.
- A Production Landscape can include part or all of an unprotected KBA.

<b>Name of Production Landscape*</b>	<b># of Hectares with Strengthened Management**</b>	<b>Latitude***</b>	<b>Longitude***</b>	<b>Description of Intervention</b>
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

*\* If the production landscape does not have a name, provide a brief descriptive name for the landscape.*

*\*\*Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were strengthened due to certification in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were strengthened due to new harvesting regulations in the second year, the total number of hectares strengthened to date would be 500.*

*\*\*\* Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456). To obtain the latitude and longitude of your production landscape, use googlemap, right click on the center of your production landscape, and select "What's here?", and copy the latitude and longitude appearing in the popup window.*

### 17. Benefits to Communities

CEPF wants to record the non-cash benefits received by communities, which can differ to those received by individuals because the benefits are available to a group. CEPF also wants to record, to the extent possible, the number of people within each community who are benefiting. Please report on the characteristics of the communities, the type of benefits that have been received during the project, and the number of men/boys and women/girls from these communities that have benefited, as a result of your project. If exact numbers are not known, please provide an estimate.

Please provide information for all communities that have benefited from project start to project completion.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics (mark with x)							Country of Community	Type of Benefit (mark with x)								# of Beneficiaries	
	Small landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists / nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Other*		Increased access to clean water	Increased food security	Increased access to energy	Increased access to public services (e.g. health care, education)	Increased resilience to climate change	Improved land tenure	Improved recognition of traditional	Improved representation and decision-making in governance forums/structures	Improved access to ecosystem services	# of men and boys benefiting
n/a																		

\*If you marked "Other" to describe the community characteristic, please explain:

**18. Policies, Laws and Regulations**

Report on policies, laws and regulations with conservation provisions that have been enacted or amended, as a result of your project. “Policies” pertain to statements of intent formally adopted or pursued by a government, including at sectoral or sub-national level. “Laws and regulations” pertain to official rules or orders, prescribed by authority. Any law, regulation, decree or order is eligible to be included.

**18a. Name, scope and topic of the policy, law or regulation that has been amended or enacted as a result of your project**

No.	Name of Law, Policy or Regulation	Scope (mark with x)			Topic(s) addressed (mark with x)																
		Local	National	International	Agriculture	Climate	Ecosystem Management	Education	Energy	Fisheries	Forestry	Mining and Quarrying	Planning/Zoning	Pollution	Protected Areas	Species Protection	Tourism	Transportation	Wildlife Trade	Other*	
1	n/a																				
2																					
...																					

\* If you selected “other”, please give a brief description of the main topics addressed by the policy, law or regulation.

**18b. For each law, policy or regulation listed above, please provide the requested information in accordance with its assigned number.**

No.	Country(s)	Date enacted/ amended MM/DD/YYYY	Expected impact	Action that you performed to achieve this change
1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

2				
3				

## 19. Biodiversity-friendly Practices

### Number of companies that adopt biodiversity-friendly practices

Please list any companies that have adopted biodiversity-friendly practices as a result of your project. While companies take various forms, for the purposes of CEPF, a company is defined as a for-profit business entity. A biodiversity-friendly practice is one that conserves or uses natural resources in a sustainable manner.

No.	Name of Company	Description of biodiversity-friendly practice adopted during the project	Country(s) where the practice has been adopted by the company
1	n/a	n/a	n/a
2			
...			

## 20. Networks & Partnerships

### Number of networks and/or partnerships created and/or strengthened

Report on any networks or partnerships between and among civil society groups and other sectors that you have created or strengthened as a result of your project. Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable. Examples of networks/partnerships include: an alliance of fisherfolk to promote sustainable fisheries practices, a network of environmental journalists, a partnership between one or more NGOs with one or more private sector partners to improve biodiversity management on private lands, or a working group focusing on reptile conservation.

Do not list the partnerships you formed with others to implement this project, unless these partnerships will continue after your project ends.

No.	Name of Network / Partnership	Year established	Did your project establish this Network/ Partnership? Y/N	Country(s) covered	Purpose
1	WWF Adria Dinarica	2016 2020	N Y	Croatia, Bosnia and Hercegovina	Partnership was strengthened in order to combine scientific studies and sharing that information with the public. HDBI is providing

					knowledge from the field and lab studies and WWF Adria is sharing the information with the stakeholders and public. Furthermore, partnership with Dinarica was created for the purpose of the information and knowledge sharing, since both organizations are sharing similar interests and work on similar topics (ichthyology, biospeleology, karst, conservation). This collaboration through the stakeholder platform will continue in the next 3-5 years.
6	Republic Institute for Protection of Cultural, Historical and Natural Heritage of Republika Srpska	2019	Y	Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina	Partnership was created for the purpose of the information and knowledge sharing, especially for the purposes of conservation activities.

## 21. Sustainable Financing Mechanism

List any functioning sustainable financing mechanisms created or supported by your project. Sustainable financing mechanisms generate funding for the long-term (generally five or more years). These include, but are not limited to, conservation trust funds, debt-for-nature swaps, payment for ecosystem service (PES) schemes, and other revenue, fee or tax schemes that generate long-term funding for conservation. To be included, a mechanism must be delivering funds for conservation.

### 21a. Details about the mechanism

No.	Name of Financing Mechanism	Purpose of the Mechanism*	Date of Establishment**	Description***	Countries
1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2					
3					

*\*Please provide a succinct description of the mission of the mechanism.*

**\*\*Please indicate when the sustainable financing mechanism was officially created. If you do not know the exact date, provide a best estimate.**

**\*\*\*Description, such as trust fund, endowment, PES scheme, incentive scheme, etc.**

### 21b. Performance of the mechanism

For each Financing Mechanism listed previously, please provide the requested information in accordance with its assigned number.

NO.	Project intervention (mark with x)			Has the mechanism disbursed funds to conservation projects?
	Created a mechanism	Supported an existing mechanism	Created and supported a new mechanism	
1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2				
3				

### 22. Red List Species

If the project included direct conservation interventions that benefited globally threatened species (CR, EN, VU), as per the IUCN Red List, add the species below.

Examples of interventions include: preparation or implementation of a conservation action plan, captive breeding programs, species habitat protection, species monitoring, patrolling to halt wildlife trafficking, and removal of invasive species.

Genus	Species	Common Name (Eng)	Status (VU, EN, CR or Extinct in the Wild)	Intervention	Population Trend at Site (increasing, decreasing, stable or unknown)
<i>Delminichthys</i>	<i>ghetaldii</i>	Southern Dalmatian Minnow	VU	Data collection, data interpretation, defining distribution area, preparation and implementation of a conservation action plan, preparing species habitat protection, species monitoring, removal of invasive species, raising awareness in order to	unknown

				decrease anthropogenic pressures and adapt sustainable practices.	
<u>Telestes</u>	<i>metohiensis</i>	Striped dace	VU	preparing species habitat protection, species monitoring, removal of invasive species, raising awareness in order to decrease anthropogenic pressures and adapt sustainable practices	decreasing

#### **Part V. Information Sharing and CEPF Policy**

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final completion and impact reports are made available on our Web site, [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net), and publicized in our e-newsletter and other communications.

Provide the contact details of your organization (organization name and generic email address) so that interested parties can request further information about your project.

**Organization Name:** Hrvatsko društvo za biološka istraživanja; Croatian Biology Research Society  
**Generic email address:** [ured.hdbi@gmail.com](mailto:ured.hdbi@gmail.com); [matejvucic@gmail.com](mailto:matejvucic@gmail.com)

**Organization Name/Project partner:** WWF Adria  
**Generic email address:** [info@wwfadria.org](mailto:info@wwfadria.org); [smalic@wwfadria.org](mailto:smalic@wwfadria.org)