

## Small Grants – Final Completion and Impact Report

**Instructions:** CEPF requires that each grantee report on project results and impacts at the end of their grant. To monitor CEPF's global indicators, CEPF will aggregate the data that you submit with data from other grantees, to determine the overall impact of CEPF investment. The aggregated results of all grantees will be reported on in our annual impact report and other communications materials. Your Final Completion and Impact Report will be posted on the CEPF website.

**Ensure that the information provided pertains to the entire project, from start date to project end date.**

*Please complete all fields and respond to all questions listed below.*

**Organization Legal Name: Udruga Dinarica**

**Project Title: Conservation of steno-endemic species Mostar minnow (lat. *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus*) in Mostarsko Blato**

**Grant Number: CEPF 110830**

**Date of Completion of this Report: 29 July 2022**

**CEPF Hotspot: Mediterranean Basin**

**Strategic Direction: Strategic Direction 2 (Sustainable management of water catchments)**

**Grant Amount: 29088\$**

**Project Dates: 15.6.2020 - 31.5.2022**

### PART I: Overview

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

##### **Project partners:**

**Eko Hub Široki Brijeg** - One of the primary partners, they obtained a grant from the Fund for Environment FBiH and are continuing with advocacy activities to build the reserve. Dinarica signed an MoU with them. MoU is signed for the purpose to continue activities on Mostarsko blato and preservation of environment and nature. This MoU binds EKO HUB Široki Brijeg to further advocate with Elektroprivreda HZHB and Autoceste Federacije BiH to invest back in the reserve in Mostarsko blato.

**ReReC** - CEPF grantee that worked also on Mostarsko blato. We had common workshops. They covered the illegal fishing aspect in training of local communities and government officials.

Project stakeholders:

**Municipality of Široki Brijeg** - They support the creation of the park reserve for the species and were involved in rallying up support. They also provided cadaster and land registry data for Mostarsko blato to see ownership of land and all information about water channels so that we can identify the right place for the reserve. They participated in all activities of the project and are interested in co-financing the reserve and giving the land for the creation of the reserve. We had meetings with the Mayor and his advisors multiple times.

**Herzegovina Neretva Canton** - Lower part of Mostarsko blato is in Herzegovina Neretva Canton and we had meetings with the Prime Minister and Water Management Minister about the *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus* problem.

**Elektroprivreda HZHB** - One of the main stakeholders, draining the field and is willing to build the reserve for the fish (now also legally obliged to do so)

**Autoceste FBiH** - Company which intends to build a road through the northern part of Mostarsko blato. Under Current Environment Impact Study it has to provide habitat for *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus* if works start. They are one of our most important stakeholders. We had meetings with them and together with EKO HUB when the financing for building the road is found we will be engaged with them to enforce the element of nature protection in the road infrastructure investment.

**Adriatic Watershed Agency** – authority for issuing water permits on Mostarsko blato. Udruga Dinarica had intensive meetings and discussions with them since 2021, which was the year of expiry of Hydropower Plant Water Permit. They also were the authority for issuance of water permit for the high speed road.

**Anglers Association Široki Brijeg** - Primary stakeholder, attended all our workshops.

**Anglers Association Mostar**- Stakeholder for lower part of Mostarsko blato where currently only Hydropower accumulations are.

**Federal Ministry of Tourism and Environment** - Partner in enlisting *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus* in the Red List, supervises and issues Environment Impact Studies for Mostarsko blato. Ministry of Tourism and Environment is in charge of environment and nature protection on Mostarsko blato. For the reserve they will have a further role of protecting it under Federal Law on Nature Protection and it is also the authority for issuing permits. We commented on the EIA study for the new fast road and the Ministry took into account most of our comments, increasing the cost of the road by increasing measures for nature protection. The reserve for *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus* is something that came out from initial research, it would be the only solution for preserving the species.

**Cantonal Development Agency HZHB** – The Agency has a project to build a bike road through Mostarsko blato which would be adjacent to the reserve for *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus*. We were in contact with them throughout the project so that we are informed what plans are and activities in the field.

**Elementary and High Schools in Mostarsko blato** - Conducted workshops in schools in Mostarsko blato.

## 2. Summarize the overall results of your project

The project lasted for approximately two years. Action plan (Plan mjera) for preservation of *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus*, Legal Analysis for the preservation of *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus*,

Study of the Population of *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus* was produced after field research and analysis of legislation in the first year of the project.

During the second year of the project, we also had 35 specimens of *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus* in an aquarium in *ex situ* conditions. We observed their behavior, measured temperature of water and tried to see if they would spawn. Spawning experiment was unsuccessful, but the biggest revelation was their survival instinct to find colder water around 13 degrees.

We pinpointed a perfect place for the park/reserve and through our partners we already have a concept solution (architectural design) of this park with a solution for the water flow. This solution was presented at the final conference and the advocacy activities for the construction of this reserve continue with our partners. Request for the enlistment of *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus* in the red list of FBiH was sent to the Ministry and we have positive feedback, the Minister has to sign it to become law. It will soon be published on the pages of the Ministry. <https://dnevni.ba/mostar/prikanac-uskoro-na-crvenoj-listi-fbih-kao-ugrozena-vrsta/>

Project team raised awareness of local population and the whole country that this specie is disappearing. We achieved this through active engagement with stakeholders and media activities. Facebook page was created for the purpose of promoting project activities to wider public: <https://www.facebook.com/prikanac.mostarskoblato>. Advocacy for the reserve and activities to build it are continued through partnership with EKO HUB Široki Brijeg with whom an MoU was signed.

Engagement of state agencies (Agency for Adriatic Watershed) and firms (Elektroprivreda HZHB and Autoceste FBiH) and their willingness to help through the Fund for Environment FBiH was achieved and activities still continue as we are, together with partners, in a fundraising process for a project to establish the reserve.

**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
Halt biodiversity loss in Mostarsko Blato	In the first year of the project, we conducted the population study and found that the habitat of the species is severely damaged by drainage of the field. Under current IUCN assessment it is Critically Endangered and we submitted our analysis to the Federal Ministry of Tourism and Environment for enlisting <i>Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus</i> officially in the FBiH Red List as Critically Endangered. Since further infrastructure projects are planned in Mostarsko blato, the only way to halt the extinction of the species is to artificially make wetlands and this is the project to be finalized in the future with the Hydropower Plant, FBiH Motorways Company,

	Eko Hub Široki Brijeg and Municipality of Široki Brijeg. The architectural and spatial planning solutions are already made.
Open opportunities for future research in Mostarsko Blato	After the construction of Hydropower plant (opened in 2010) ours was the first research to deal with the population of <i>Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus</i> . Except for this endemic species, we found another species (still not evaluated by IUCN) Hercegovački vijun ( <i>Cobitis herzegoviniensis</i> ). We found <i>Cobitis herzegoviniensis</i> in much less amount than <i>Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus</i> . Further research into this species has to be made and there are also other ornithological research to be made, especially for cranes or sand martins from Mostarsko blato.
Make authorities and Electric Company invest back in Mostarsko Blato and protect Mostarsko Blato	We commented on the Environment Impact Assessment study for the construction of the new road in Mostarsko blato and our comments were taken into consideration and made into an obligation signed by the Minister of Environment and Tourism FBiH. With this document the Hydropower plant and Motorways Company have an obligation to keep wetlands during the whole construction period in Mostarko blato to preserve the species and to build a reserve.

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Start a dialogue on Mostar minnow preservation and biodiversity by producing the first comprehensive population study on the steno-endemic specie Mostar minnow and Mostarsko Blato KBA with socio-economic part and recommendations - all condensed in an Action Plan (Plan mjera).	Research has been conducted in the course of one year duration of the project in different seasons. In field research declining population and habitat was found. Findings were described in Action Plan (Plan mjera) and Structure of Fish Population Study. These documents were basis for opening a constructive dialogue with stakeholders and to agree on concrete measures and interventions in the field to prevent the extinction of this species. Based on these findings and policy work, the team engaged with the media, organized workshops/conferences/presentations, and participated in other events organized by stakeholders and partners where it was discussed about specificities of karst field ecosystems, species, Mostar minnow biology, legal implications etc. We also presented our findings to kids in schools which was very well received.
At least 50% of main stakeholders (CSO and inhabitants) of Mostarsko blato are	Mostarsko blato has around 5000 inhabitants. It is divided between Municipality of Mostar and

<p>mapped and aware of conservation needs of Mostar Minnow by May 2021</p>	<p>Municipality of Široki Brijeg, Široki Brijeg having the larger part of Mostarsko blato. We mapped the important stakeholders at the beginning of the project and we engaged with all the planned stakeholders. We conducted media activities, we went to all three schools in Mostarsko blato and had conferences and individual meetings. With all the activities mentioned more than 50% of main stakeholders were engaged in project activities. Visits to 3 schools, municipalities, outreach to CSOs and individual meetings with interested locals were organized. On the federal level also meetings with authorities and NGOs were organized. Project was implemented during the COVID pandemic so individual meetings were organized as to not spread the virus. 3 visits to schools were organized for groups of around 30 students per school, as well as two in person workshops (December 2021 workshop to present all the findings, May 2022 workshop to present the architectural solution for the reserve). Main stakeholders from institutions mentioned in the first part of this report, as well as other interested individuals who are willing to help with the preservation of the species were involved in project activities.</p>
<p>Influence decision makers and hydro power plant by the end of project to invest back in biodiversity of Mostarsko blato</p>	<p>Decision makers were involved and informed about the project. Main stakeholders from Hydropower company were involved through workshops and individual contacts. In our initial contacts with Director of Operations of Elektroprivreda HZHB he was very adversarial to us. The Director of Hydropower Plant Mostarsko Blato had a very positive attitude towards our project and activities and promised to help us. However, he thinks we should finance the reserve through the Environment Fund of FBiH and has put us in contact with the Director of the Steering Board with whom we collaborate and EKO HUB Široki Brijeg has gotten a grant from. Autoceste Federacije were also informed through individual contacts, and they received our comments on Environment Impact Assessment Study for the high speed road they are planning to build through Mostarsko blato. Their attitude towards environment protection was positive and through their project they have to respect measures prescribed by in the Environment Impact Assessment for the high speed road Široki Brijeg Croatian Border (project team contributed to</p>

	the Environment Impact Assessment study through comments)
By the end of the project improved management of 6.5 ha of KBA Mostarsko blato	Initially in the Environment Impact Assessment study for the construction of the road Široki Brijeg – Border of Croatia (initiated by Autoceste Federacije BiH) the area designated for the reserve was supposed to be a landfill for construction waste but through our comments we managed to displace the waste landfill and preserve 6,5 ha of land for the future reserve.
By the end of the project at least 90 people participated in recognition of importance of Mostar minnow conservation and will be able to contribute to the conservation of this species.	In the year part of the project, Covid prevented big gatherings. In first year mainly individual meetings were organized and online workshops (legal analysis presentation and biology of <i>Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus</i> presentation). In the second year of the project, we managed to organize in person workshops. In the second year of the project we organized an in person workshop in December 2021 with important stakeholders. We also conducted in person final conference where we presented the architectural solution for the reserve. School workshops were conducted live, but only for 30 students in 3 schools (90 students) in Mostarsko blato, since covid did not permit larger gatherings. Around 150 people were met: local communities, 3 schools in Mostarsko blato and presentations to schools, local NGO's, Angler Societies, Municipal Governments, Hydropower Company, Motorways Company, Cantonal Government, Federal Government, partner donors and NGOs from Sarajevo.
By the end of the project Mostar minnow reaches protection on the federal level and Hydropower Company recognize importance of its protection	Inclusion of Mostar minnow in the FBiH red list grants better protection of the species. The Environment Permit (Official Gazette of the Federation of BiH, number: 36/21) binds the companies Elektroprivreda HZHB and Autoceste Federacije to build a reserve. Sustainability and monitoring is also achieved through collaboration with Eko Hub Široki Brijeg who continues the project. Declarations and commitments were made through MoU with EKO HUB Široki Brijeg.

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

The issuance of permits to build a high-speed road through Mostarsko blato was a negative development and we had to act quickly to intervene. In the duration of the project a high-speed

road that was in spatial plans, but nobody thought the plan was going to be implemented, was all of a sudden on the table again. The permits for this road were obtained in the duration of the project. The authorities did this since there is a plan to get cross border EU funding for building of infrastructure to connect BiH with Croatia and there were statements of Croatian Transport Minister on this topic together with officials from BiH. It was said in the statements that this road is a priority for Croatia and BiH. The Road cuts through the intact northern part of Mostarsko blato. We intervened with comments on EIA and achieved our goal to keep the location for the planned reserve for the species intact.

**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
	Population estimated, spawning grounds identified, sinkholes mapped and recommendations made	<p>This was done in the first year of the project. In May and in October of 2020 two field research were made. In March 2021 additional one was made as well as in May to map the sinkholes. In total 5 field trips with all locations covered on Mostarsko blato to estimate the structure of the population and the habitat were made. Spawning grounds were identified mostly in artificial canals and in northern part of the field which is intact by hydropower (but is under threat of the new high-speed road). Recommendations were made based on field research and legal analysis.</p> <p>Unfortunately, all the biggest sinkholes are tapped by the Hydropower company, so the only solution is to build a reserve and open one sinkhole which is already existing in that 6,5 hectares area. Spawning <i>ex situ</i> experiment was unsuccessful, but the biggest revelation was their survival instinct to find colder water around 13 degrees.</p> <p>They prefer water from 10-13 degrees Celsius and this is how they survive. The conclusion is that in the summer period the water is too warm for them, and they go towards natural springs in Mostarsko blato where the water is always around 10-13 degrees, and when the water dries out, they enter the springs. In warmer water they are attacked by parasites and from 35 specimens we lost 3 to parasites in May 2022. Also this <i>ex situ</i> experiment was important for</p>

		<p>the design of the reserve. In collaboration with the Municipality of Široki Brijeg and their water inspector, using geological maps we saw that it would be possible to open a couple of springs inside the reserve so that Mostar minnow would have colder water to hide in.</p>
	<p>Main stakeholders of Mostarsko blato understand the threats to the site and to Mostar Minnow</p>	<p>Various stakeholders were reached through individual meetings and periodical press releases on the stage of the project and findings. Around 150 people were met: local communities, 3 schools in Mostarsko blato and presentations to schools, local NGO's, Angler Societies, Municipal Governments, Hydropower Company, Motorways Company, Cantonal Government, Federal Government, partner donors and NGOs from Sarajevo. In the second year of the project, we organized an in person workshop in December 2021 with important stakeholders (30 people attended). We also conducted in person final conference where we presented the architectural solution for the reserve (26 people attended). In first year due to covid individual meetings were organized and online workshops (legal analysis presentation and biology of <i>Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus</i> presentation). Around 20 people attended the legal analysis and biology presentation. When the Action Plan (Plan mjera) was finalized it was also presented on zoom and around 15 people attended the presentation.</p>
	<p>Authorities aware of biodiversity loss in Mostarsko Blato and the threats to Mostar minnow by end of project</p>	<p>The Environment Permit for high-speed road takes into consideration Udruga Dinarica comments and explicitly binds Operators in Mostarsko blato to take measures to prevent extinction of the species. Operators (Elektroprivreda HZHB and Autoceste FBiH, both state owned firms) are aware of the CEPF/Dinarica project and the dangers that their interventions in Mostarsko blato pose to nature and environment. This was achieved through project teams contact with them. Cantons and municipalities in Mostasko blato were also involved in meetings and are aware of biodiversity loss.</p>

		Federal Ministry for Environment was aware of the project and is in process of enlisting <i>Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus</i> in the red list.
	Mostar minnow enlisted in the FBiH red list	We are waiting for the official publication on the Federal Ministry website. The documentation has been submitted and orally it has been confirmed that the enlisting is in process, but the lack of capacity in the Ministry in charge of environment is taking time to publish it officially.
	Granted concession to the angler association and established fishing zone	Southern area of Mostarsko blato appertaining to Municipality of Mostar is under supervision of an Anglers Society. The second area is still officially not, we prepared the documentation for the tender to grant concession (Documents for formation of Anglers Society in West Herzegovina Kanton) the Cantonal Ministry of Economy (which has authority over water management). However, the Cantonal Ministry of Economy has still not published a tender for granting a concession. We also were in touch with anglers from this part of Mostarsko blato and advised them to send an inquiry to the Ministry upon which the ministry has to act upon this issue. However, still no developments are made, but Anglers are aware of the situation, we explained the benefits of legally registering and doing a fish management plan. Our consultants are still in touch with Anglers from Široki Brijeg, but due to personal problems within the Anglers association we have not managed to make conditions for this concession/permit to be issued and it will take time, as well as finding someone with enthusiasm and willingness to be the president and manage the Angler society, as well as paying for the management plan, implementing it, etc.
	Advocacy activities conducted for future protection of Mostarsko blato	Meetings with Municipal Governments, Hydropower Company, Motorways Company, Cantonal Government, and Federal Government were made. Periodical press releases and Facebook page was opened and updated. There was a lot of interest from locals and many calls and inquiries to project coordinator. Federal Fund for Environment was also interested to invest more in Mostarsko blato.

		Currently there are ongoing negotiations for increasing the funding for Mostarsko blato through the Federal fund for environment.
	Local community and authorities educated about the importance of the Mostar minnow conservation	Through individual meetings and periodical press releases on the stage of the project and findings, around 150 people were met: local communities, 3 schools in Mostarsko blato and presentations to schools, local NGO's, Angler Societies, partner donors and NGOs from Sarajevo. In the second year of the project, we organized an in person workshop in December 2021 with important stakeholders. We also conducted in person final conference where we presented the architectural solution for the reserve. In first year due to covid individual meetings were organized and online workshops (legal analysis presentation and biology of <i>Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus</i> presentation).

**6. Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.**

- Action plan (Plan mjera) for preservation of *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus*
- Legal Analysis for the preservation of *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus*
- Study of the Population of *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus*
- Architectural Solution for the *Phoxinellus Pseudalepidotus* - Reserve
- Request for enlisting *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus* (Dopis FMOIT Crvena lista FBiH)
- Documents for formation of Anglers Society in West Herzegovina Kanton

**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.**

“Lessons learned” are experiences you have gained that you think would be valuable successes worth replicating or practices that you would do differently if you had the chance. Consider lessons that would inform project design and implementation, and any other lessons relevant to the conservation community. CEPF Lessons Learned Guidelines are available here: <https://www.cepf.net/sites/default/files/cepf-lessons-learned-guidelines-english.pdf>.

There were a couple of projects on Mostarsko blato on *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus* but they were mainly PhD research studies or project with only a scientific research component (to enlist the

species in IUCN, or similar). The project is the first of its kind in the Mostarsko blato, having a research, policy and, advocacy component. A lot of lessons were learned through the project that can be replicated on all karstic areas with endemic fish species. Pinpointing the spots for the survival of the fish are very important and a pilot project of building a reserve could be replicated in other areas. Our main takeaway is that all of the fish in the Adriatic Karst need further *ex situ* or if possible *in situ* research of their behavior, spawning and other characteristics of their lifecycles. This research could contribute to their survival in reserves which need to be established *in situ*, since their habitats are irreparably ruined by hydropower and the hydropower plants are not going to disappear.

What we have learned in this project is that: however well the project is initially designed, many new revelations or circumstances can change the course of the project. One has to be patient, diligent and respect the bureaucratic procedures to change the design of activities or even objectives so that the project can be implemented with the most effective result.

What we also learned is that projects never end. This is why it is of utmost importance to ensure the continuity of activities through partnerships and engagement with stakeholders. As the Udruga Dinarica project was mostly research-oriented, we proposed and advocated for measures based on field research. The project should be continued by concrete field interventions or legislative changes as proposed by Policy Recommendations and Fish Study documents. This is currently done by our partner organization Eko Hub Široki Brijeg and Udruga Dinarica continues to be involved in the project.

The interest of the local community in the project was to our surprise immense. People care about their environment but are not against the development of infrastructure. We learned through our work that if endemic species are presented as local patriotic heritage, as something special or specific for the region that the locals can be proud of, it is easier to engage with people and make local communities involved in biodiversity conservation more easily. Religious leaders can also be great allies in the conservation of nature.

We had adversarial meetings with government officials and the hydropower company. The lesson learned from this is to try to avoid conflict and be cooperative as much as possible. Resolving conflicts peacefully is the best option, since if the conflict escalates nothing is going to be done. In a democratic society sometimes things resolve themselves better on their own through mass pressure. Media engagement and soft power is the best way to act in these situations.

### **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.**

Sustainability is ensured by the continuation of the project. The research and advocacy can be replicated across the karstic region of the Balkans where there are endemic fish species. The biggest potential for replication has the reserve as a solution for preservation of the species. Sustainability of Mostarsko blato project is currently continuing through activities of EKO HUB

Široki Brijeg and we have plans to upscale current activities through additional funds from FBiH Fund for Environment and work of WWF on karstic fields.

Architectural solution will soon be made public by EKO HUB Široki Brijeg.  
<https://mislioprirodi.ba/eko-hub-siroki-brijeg/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/EkoZHUdruga/>

They already started with project activities regarding Mostarsko blato and have created the project solution which was presented on Dinarica final conference. However, the donor (Fund for Environment FBiH) is requesting for them a securement/freezing of 100% of the funds of the grant in the bank before distribution and they are not going public with activities until this restriction is lifted. It will be soon lifted and funds will be distributed.

### **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.**

Engagement with stakeholders started with obtaining the permit to conduct field research which entails informing the ministries in charge, inspectors and local police that research will be conducted. After obtaining the research an article we sent to the media that this research is under way. Upon first field work results and legal analysis workshops with stakeholders were organized where results were presented. Participation of local communities was asked.

During the first meeting with stakeholders, we explained the grievance mechanism. The contact information of our organization hierarchy well as of the CEPF Regional Implementation Team was shared. The grievance mechanism was explained to stakeholders as part of the meeting. There were no appeals.

### **Additional Funding**

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

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

10,969.49 US\$ (to partner organization EKO HUB Široki Brijeg) with this funding the activities started in the CEPF project are continuing through EKO HUB Široki Brijeg

**b. Type of funding**

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

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Type of Funding</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Federal fund for environment	Grant	10,969.49 US\$

\*the funding is provided to our local partners Eko Hub Široki Brijeg who based on our research and policy materials produced will continue advocacy activities. The funds were raised together

with Udruga Dinarica and then enable the activities on preservation of Mostar minnow to continue in Mostarsko blato such as implementation of the plan to build a reserve.

**Additional Comments/Recommendations**

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

**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
2.0 Number of hectares of KBAs with enhanced protection or management	7 hectares	<p>Total surface of Mostarsko blato (BIH04) is 3,800 ha and it is very damaged, it will be further devastated by a road which is to be built. However, in total 7 hectares will be isolated and saved from destruction by creating a reserve for <i>Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus</i> protection.</p> <p>Information was collected on the following: fish structure, structure on different stations and accumulations, sinkholes, population, state of the habitat, legal status, status of endemic fish under the law and an all-encompassing socio legal analysis what to do to protect the species in the KBA. In ex situ we found</p>

		<p>out the temperature that Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus prefer which is the most important finding and at which temperature parasites kill it. All these investigations and reserve creation lead to KBAs enhanced protection and management.</p>
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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.

# of men receiving structured training *	# of women receiving structured training *	Topic(s) of Training

*\*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.

# of men receiving cash benefits*	# of women receiving cash benefits*	Description of Benefits
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***

\* 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 *
Mostarsko blato	BIH04	7

\* 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.

Name of Production Landscape*	# of Hectares with Strengthened Management**	Latitude***	Longitude***	Description of Intervention
Mostarsko blato	7	17.7269° E	43.3167° N	In total 7 hectares will be isolated and saved from destruction by creating a reserve for <i>Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus</i> protection.

\* 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	Improved access to ecosystem services	# of men and boys benefiting	# of women and girls benefiting
Mostarsko blato							x	Bosnia and Herzegovina							x	x	x	80	40

\*If you marked "Other" to describe the community characteristic, please explain: The given villages surrounding Mostarsko blato benefited from increase of knowledge regarding *Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus* and other biodiversity in Mostarsko blato. Villages also benefited from being in the media in terms of promotion. They benefited from promotion of the traditional ways of living in them. They benefited from advocacy activities

for the reserve, since it would be beneficial for the villages to have their park/reserve to which school children would be brought from other parts of BiH for educational activities.

The project also benefited in the promotion traditional values, biodiversity and protection of the area. There are ongoing debates on the protection of the area and strives to form a public institution to manage the key biodiversity areas in Western Herzegovina Canton. The government of West Hercegovina Canton included Mostarsko blato and the reserve in protected areas of West Hercegovina Canton list based on Dinarica and CEPF project. This would also benefit the local communities, especially in village Biograci where the reserve will be located. It will have multiple benefits from school visits and educational and promotional activities.

## 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	Decision to enlist <i>Phxoinellus pseudalepidotus</i> in FBiH Red List (in process)		x													x				
2	Comments on strategy of Cantons taken into consideration <sup>12</sup> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategija razvoja ZZH za razdoblje 2021 – 2027 godine</li> </ul>	x					x	x							x					

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.eui-zzh.ba/images/PDF/Strategije/Strategija\\_razvoja\\_ZZH\\_za\\_razdoblje\\_2021 - 2027\\_godine.pdf](http://www.eui-zzh.ba/images/PDF/Strategije/Strategija_razvoja_ZZH_za_razdoblje_2021_-_2027_godine.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.vlada-hnz-k.ba/sites/default/files/17.11.strateska\\_platfoma\\_hnk\\_2021\\_2027\\_nacrt\\_mm\\_1.pdf](https://www.vlada-hnz-k.ba/sites/default/files/17.11.strateska_platfoma_hnk_2021_2027_nacrt_mm_1.pdf)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strateska platforma hnk 2021 - 2027</li> </ul>																		
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\* 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	Decision to enlist <i>Phxoinellus Pseudalepidotus</i> in Red List	14.2.2022	Enhanced protection of species under Federal Law on Nature Protection	Project team prepared all the documents to enlist the species and sent request to the Federal Ministry of Tourism and Environment on 14 February 2022
2	Comments on strategy of West Herzegovina Canton and Herzegovina Neretva Canton taken into consideration	Strategic development of Canton ZHŽ 23.12.2020 Strategic development of Canton HNZ 24.11.2020	The strategies were developed for the period 2021 to 2027. Usually, the programming process in Cantons works in a way that a strategy is made, a strategy action plan is made with a developed budget and that budget is approved in the cantonal assembly at the end of the year. So, we expect to have money in the budget for the establishment of protected areas and protection of the species, or at least there is a legal basis to advocate for it in the strategies.	In both cantonal strategies we included information collected from our research and analysis conducted.

## 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	Autoceste FBiH - Company	Autoceste FBiH Company will have to implement “the element of nature protection in the road infrastructure investment. According to the EIA it has to provide habitat for <i>Phoxinellus pseudalepidotus</i> .	Bosnia and Herzegovina
2	Elektroprivreda HZHB	Elektroprivreda HZHB has been warned of the dangers to biodiversity caused from drainage of Mostarsko blato. They have been confronted directly and in the media which will cause their credit rating to plummet with multinational donors such as KfW if they do not improve these practices. Since the articles are available online, ESG rating agencies through IA algorithms automatically take this into account when allocating a rating.	Bosnia and Herzegovina
...			

## 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	EKO HUB Široki Brijeg	May 2022	Yes	BiH	Sustainability of CEPF project. MoU was signed with EKO HUB Široki Brijeg for the purpose of continuation of collaboration on Mostarsko blato in areas of nature and environment protection. They are currently implementing the project on building a reserve for <i>Phoxinellus Pseudalepidotus</i> in Mostarsko blato. Project is financed by Federal Fund for Environment. Together with EKO HUB Široki Brijeg we are also in negotiations with Federal Fund for Environment on other activities regarding Mostarsko blato.
2	ReReC and CZZS	At beginning of CEPF funding	Yes	BiH	CZZS and ReReC plan to continue activities on protection of areas in West Herzegovina Canton and there will be partnerships with them after the project.
...					

## 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

\*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?
	Create a mechanism	Supported an existing mechanism	Created and supported a new mechanism	
1				

### 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>Phoxinellus</i>	<i>Pseudalepidotus</i>	Mostar minnow	VU	Preparation and implementation of a	decreasing

				conservation Action Plan (Plan mjera); Enlistment in National Red List	
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**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: Udruga Dinarica/WWF Adria**

**Generic email address: [vkordic@wwfadria.org](mailto:vkordic@wwfadria.org)**