



### 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:** Alhyat Organization to protection wildlife and marine organisms

**Project Title:** Preparation of a study on the Egyptian Tortoises Testudo Kleinmanni

**Grant Number:** CEPF- 112077

**Date of Completion of this Report:** 30 / 06 /2022

**CEPF Hotspot:** Mediterranean Basin Hotspot

**Strategic Direction: SD5:** 5 Strengthen the regional conservation community through the sharing of best practices and knowledge among grantees across the region

**Grant Amount:** 18,131 \$

**Project Dates:** 01/02/2021 to 31/05/2022

#### **PART I: Overview**

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

##### **Derna University:**

preparing a research to obtain the requirements for a bachelor's degree for students from the Department of Zoology on Egyptian tortoises. 6 students (2 men and 4 women preparing their degree in the university. Students participated to field survey as volunteers.

**Ministry of Environment, Derna District:** give authorization for field work, support and guide to identify secured field area

**Darna Municipal Council:**

Facilitating procedures for field work and participation to different workshops. The municipality supported by facilitating legal procedures for field visits within the district

**Agricultural police:** contributing to the reduction of tortoises smuggling. They do patrolling with Alkhayat to reduce smuggling.

**Near East University Northern Cyprus:**

Publishing a scientific paper in the University Journal on the study of Egyptian tortoises environmental education and awareness to protect egyptian tortoise (testudo kleinmanni) by local community participation

**Hemaya consulancy:** main partner that worked in Egypt for project CEPF-112078. Hemaya provided protocole for field survey, build capacity of Alhayat members for field survey and analysis. Hemaya valued data to prepare Egyptian tortoise action plan for Egypt and Libya

## **2. Summarize the overall results of your project**

25 random points were covered within the scope of the study area by 1377 km<sup>2</sup>. it revealed that 10 sites out of 25 are occupied by Egyptian tortoise, while 9 sites were monitored in which the Greek turtle type is active. Only 6 sites, were turtle free. The area with turtle free is close to residential areas or industrial places and a government facility.

These findings contributed to the adoption of the Wadi El Naga as a national Reserve covering 700 ha with support from local communities and Alhayat Association. The process started some years ago and achieved during the implementation of this project

An online workshop was held from 27th march to 2nd April in partnership with w Hemaya company. 4 women and 6 men from participated. The workshop focused on the importance of surveys correctly based on the protocol and properly through experts in this field from Egypt. Hemaya campany supported Alhayat association in conducting field survey and data analysis over 3 months which created good links and set up first step for future collaboration

After completing the field surveys, the elaboration of the action plan for Egyptian tortoise was achieved by Dr. Sherif Bahaa El-Din, one of the experts in the field of Egyptian tortoise, he was volunteered to prepare and submit the action plan in Libya and Egypt. The plan focuses on increasing the role of awareness and education, especially for the local population, as well as the patrolling by authorities in both countries. In Libya a complete survey is needed including Aljabal Alalkhdar and the western part of Libya. We noticed that wildlife Libyan trust identified the species in Karabulli KBA.

Some awareness and educational lectures were held for the Amsaed Security Directorate and Bir Al-Ashhab area about the dangers of smuggling Egyptian turtles in large quantities. One of the most important gains of these training courses is stopping the smuggling of 3 shipments of

Egyptian and Greek turtles in batches, which allowed the organization's work team to supervise the proper re-release. We hope to expand the scope of these lectures to be workshops and prepare trained individuals who are able to participate in the re-launch and reduce smuggling as much as possible.

**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)

<b>Impact Description</b>	<b>Impact Summary</b>
Protection of Egyptian tortoises in Libya and Egypt	This project initiates 2 important milestones for Testudo kleinmanni conservation: 1- Contribution to preparing the T. kleinmanni action plan where all specialists identified threats and conservation needs for the species in Libya and Egypt 2- Create a cross border partnership between Alhayat Association from Libya and Hemaya consultancy from Egypt for endangered species conservation
Improving knowledge about the Egyptian tortoise in Libya and developing a tracking program in cooperation with the competent authorities	It was the first structured and complete work on Egyptian tortoise in Libya. The action plan provide guidance to continue working for the species conservation
Activating the role of the local population in protecting the Egyptian turtle and stopping smuggling	The basic survey that covered Derna region and involved mostly ministry of environment, ministry of Agriculture and local communities contribute to alert these stakeholders about the species importance and make it more patrimonial species.

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

<b>Impact Description</b>	<b>Impact Summary</b>
Preparing a scientific study on the whereabouts of the Egyptian tortoise, specifically in Cyrenaica, Cyrenaica	A study was prepared on the possibility of the presence of the Egyptian tortoise and a survey of the appropriate environments for it within the scope of the study area over two seasons. About 1377 square kilometers were surveyed. Vegetation cover and turtle numbers were identified
Preparing an action plan to protect Egyptian turtles to update the risks and basic needs for protection	The results obtained from the Egyptian and Libyan parties for the Egyptian tortoise are included. the action plan prepared jointly and overall discussed internally and with external partners.
Facilitating scientific exchange between experts in Libya and Egypt in	Experience and knowledge have been exchanged by the Egyptian side to the Libyan side, through

order to protect the Egyptian tortoise in its natural habitat	virtual workshops on the zoom platforms to learn the ideal ways to prepare the study in a scientific way, which enables the Libyan side to work with greater professionalism. A total number of 18 people received the training online and in the field
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**4. Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?**

The data collected during the project was shared with the officials to be included in the portfolio of Wadi Al Nega proposed protected area. During the project implementation, Wadi Al Nega was declared a protected area.

**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
	Doing a field study on the natural habitats of the Egyptian tortoise	<p>A basic survey report was prepared and adapted with active support from Himaya consultancy. Field survey was conducted in 2 times: during the first season (2021) we proceed with a random survey based on the tortoise presence. Because lack of experience from Alhayat members, the results weren't enough to have structured information on Egyptian tortoise assurance. During 2022 season, 11 members from Alhayat Association received a training from Hemaya on field survey using the protocol.</p> <p>The basic survey using structured protocol was conducted in 1377 km<sup>2</sup> by identifying vegetation cover through squares, as well as surveying the Egyptian turtle in the area through lines</p> <p>This study contributed to prepare a PhD study and results were published (environmental education and awareness to protect Egyptian tortoise (testudo kleinmanni) by local community participation)</p>
	Preparing an action plan for Egyptian tortoise conservation in Egypt and Libya	Alhayat Association supported Himaya consultancy in preparing "Egyptian tortoise action plan"

		Work to unify the study from the Egyptian and Libyan sides to come up with an action plan,
	Public awareness around Egyptian tortoise in Libya	Local people in studied area were directly involved in Egyptian tortoise study and conservation. Alhayat Association rely on shepherds to find tortoise in the field. Instead of organizing awareness events which were forbidden because of the pandemic, Alhayat proceed with awareness through small focus groups mainly families. Different patrolling by ministry of agriculture and Alhayat were published on Libyan national TV. All over the project implementation time, at least 5000 people raised their awareness about Egyptian tortoise and the smuggling problem become public issue. Unfortunately, Alhayat couldn't prepare the expected video.

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

- Basic survey report on Egyptian tortoise in Derna

<https://dergipark.org.tr/en/pub/neuje/issue/60307/880046>

**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>.

During the work phases, the team gained experience in direct coordination with the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund team. We received help in preparing good reports. We also conducted training a group of local residents and integrating them into the project

**Sustainability / Replication**

This project is considered a first step to start a long-term partnership with the Egyptian experts to continue efforts for conservation of the Egyptian tortoise *Testudo kleinmanni*, The collected data will contribute to preparation of the management plan of the newly declared protected area Wadi Elnega Protected Area.

- 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.**

The Protocol for collecting data for *Testudo kleinmanni* will be used in the whole area where the species occur to expand the knowledge on the species and its habitat in Libya and Egypt.

**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.**

Covid -19 Health and safety Measures were taking during the meetings and trainings. We followed the instructions on leaving at least a meter space between attendees and hand sanitizer was provided.

**Additional Funding**

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

- a. Total additional funding (US\$) \$863.28**

- b. Type of funding**

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

Donor	Type of Funding	Amount
Alhayat Organisation	Counterpart	863.28

**Additional Comments/Recommendations**

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

I would like these recommendations to:

- Supporting environmental associations in Libya with projects to protect the Egyptian tortoise
- Expand the work with a larger grant to be able to cover a larger geographical area for more studies of this type .

**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 under improved management	700ha	700 ha of Alfatayeh KBA has been under improved protection and management being declared as a protected area
3.0 Number of hectares of sites with new official protection status	700ha	The project contributed to the declaration of 700 ha to be Wadi El Naqa Protected Area
5.3_Number of cross-border networking relationship	1	Holding a series of Zoom meetings throughout the project period Preparing joint action plan for Egyptian tortoise conservation Exchange and capacity building between Alhayat Association, and Hemaya company over 2 years initiated long term partnership

**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
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13	5	Online and in the field structured training on field data collection and protocol applying
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*\*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

*\*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.

The project contributed to the declaration of Wadi El-Naqa as a Protected Area

Name of PA*	Country(s)	Original # of Hectares**	# of Hectares Newly Protected	Year of Legal Declaration/ Expansion	Longitude***	Latitude***
Wadi El Naqa	Libya	700	700	2021	32.4475.0N	22.3308.7E

Commented [AA1]: Original we need to put 0 or 700?

\* 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 *
Alfatayeh	LBY05	700

*\* 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

*\* 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

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

**At the start of the project, the work team conducted interviews with local residents and explained the project's objectives.**

**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	Declaration of Wadi El-Naqa as a Protected Area		X																		
...																					

\* 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				
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			
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	Himaya company	2021	Yes	Libya Egypt	Collaborate for the conservation of Testudo kleinmanni according to the action plan
2	agricultural police	2021	Yes	Libya	To contribute to mitigating the risk of Egyptian turtle smuggling and arresting smugglers, as well as helping to re-release the turtle confiscated from smugglers.
3	The Ministry of Environment	2020	no	Libya	Working with the Ministry of Environment helps to

					strengthen the role of the organization in the environmental field, as well as the exchange of experiences
...4	Darnah Municipality	2020	no	Libya	Facilitate all legal procedures to work more freely within the municipality of Derna

## 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					
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				
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)
Testudo	Testudo kleinmanni	Egyptian tortoise	CR	Rapid survey to improve knowledge about the species and contribute to prepare an action plan jointly with Himaya	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:** Alhyat Organization to protection wildlife and marine organisms

**Generic email address:** [organizationalhayat@gmail.com](mailto:organizationalhayat@gmail.com)