

CEPF Final Completion and Impact Report

Organization's Legal Name:	The Society for the Protection of Nature and Natural Resources in Lebanon
Project Title:	Promoting Traditional Land-use Practices in the Upper Beirut River Valley, Lebanon
Grant Number:	CEPF-111385
Hotspot:	Mediterranean Basin II
Strategic Direction:	3 Promote the maintenance of traditional land-use practices necessary for the conservation of Mediterranean biodiversity in priority corridors of high cultural and biodiversity value
Grant Amount:	\$150,450.00
Project Dates:	March 01, 2021 - August 31, 2022
Date of Report:	November 10, 2022

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

Municipalities Ras El Matn and Hammana: support and help in the implementation process;

- Policy (application and signature)
- Biodiversity (supporting when needed during monitoring)
- Agriculture (supporting when needed during field visit and implementation)
- Economy (sharing contact for local producers)
- Education (helping in contacting local schools, local communities, and local youth)

MESD (Al Maten Organization for Environment and Sustainable Development): NGO in Ras El Matn; supporting in all implementations when needed (contacting people, preparing contacts food, sharing information, support team).

- Involved in SNOW training
- Involved in Homat Al Hima trainings
- Present in workshops for women and farmers
- Present in each policy meeting
- Helped in economy component: new products
- helped in the monitoring process

CONSERVATION IMPACTS

Planned Long-Term Impacts: 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
<p>At least five threatened faunal and floral species will benefit from improved land management and protection</p>	<p>Four threatened faunal and floral species will benefit from improved land management and protection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 plant: Ehrenberg's Marjoram 2 birds: turtle dove and Syrian serin 1 reptile: Greek tortoise <p>Will benefit from a protection under the Hima management plan elaborated in this protect: ensure their livelihoods and passage for birds and secure their habitats</p> <p>The agriculture activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness about Greek tortoise for example and the importance of its presence in their lands, and how their presence is a sign of nature-friendly practices <p>The two policies with the municipalities and management plan to protect those 4 species : (2022 signatures)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management plan for Hammana and Ras El Matn - Protecting the trails policy - Promote sustainable agriculture policy <p>Awareness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness on fauna and flora with kids in schools and for youth so they learn: the importance of plants, their habitats, how to protect them...
<p>Improvement of livelihoods for 10 to 20 locals of farmers, food artisans and guides, from targeted community</p>	<p>Improvement of livelihoods for 15 locals of farmers, food artisans and guides, from targeted community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They will continue the integrated pest management and water management - SPNL will follow up with them to continue the nature-friendly practices - Promote between farmers what they learn and how this is increasing the quality of their crops <p>These farmers will contribute to biodiversity conservation after the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Their nature-friendly practices will be beneficial to the biodiversity - They will be protecting the fauna and flora they have with their Hima Farm best practices: combining their production with the well-being of plants and animals - Protecting the habitats and creating a nature-friendly habitats

Planned Short-Term Impacts: 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
<p>At least two local authorities recognize the importance of traditional, biodiversity-friendly land-use practices and engage in supporting their maintenance</p>	<p>Two local authorities recognized the importance of traditional, biodiversity-friendly land-use practices and engage in supporting their maintenance. The municipalities of Ras El Matn and Hammana.</p> <p>We organized several meetings and gathered all concerned local community members in the municipality, with the presence of the municipality members.</p> <p>In the meetings we:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explained the decision and actions we will take; promoting traditional, biodiversity-friendly land-use practices - Read and explained the "Letter of adoption biodiversity-friendly - Edited the draft according to the participants' comments - Signed this paper by the municipality (final version) (Annexes 22, 23, 24 A,B,C) - Discussed the role of each local authority (the municipality), and some actions to do after the reorganization of the importance of traditional, biodiversity-friendly land-use practices - Ensure that the local authority and the local community members are learning and seeing thru the work with the farmers in both site about the traditional biodiversity-friendly land-use practices - Each farmer was ready to accept visit for interested locals to see on the ground the results and practices
<p>Improved management of at least 40,000 m2 of area in terms of traditional agriculture and protection of the natural habitats and landscape</p>	<p>Working with 6 farmers in 6 lands, 34,000 m2 of area improved management in terms of traditional agriculture and protection of habitats.</p> <p>The improvement consisted of managing the land according to the Hima best practices.</p> <p>Listed below the most important practice followed a baseline under the sustainable management:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Integrated pest management: using biopesticides, minimizing the use of pesticides, taking protection/precautions when using biopesticides, studying the crops/ soil/problem before the usage 2- Water management: reducing the use of water, scheduling the irrigation, promoting drip irrigation system for less usage of water and less diseases 3- Crop rotation and planting as much as possible native varieties 4- Protecting existing animal in the lands: like bees, Greek tortoise... 5- Don't use harmful solutions against birds 6- Sustainable harvesting

Impact Description	Impact Summary
	After the project and the 18 months visits and follow ups, the farmers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Know the importance of finding animals in their lands - Follow the principles of sustainable agriculture combined with their traditional practices - Know the importance of protecting the soil and the biodiversity while farming to preserve the soil and be involved in the biodiversity conservation - Try to promote what they are doing
At least 2 traditional products demonstrate positive impacts on biodiversity, seeing a positive market trends	4 products demonstrate positive impacts on biodiversity, seeing a positive market trend: Cherry syrup, thyme, herbal tea, and soap.
Enhanced knowledge and Awareness on Biodiversity-friendly land-use practices for 15 Homat al Hima youth, 15 children and 45 local community members (farmers, shepherds and edible/medicinal plants' harvesters) who will be trained and engaged in improved traditional practices at site level, ensuring 50% participation of women and girls.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 Homat Al Hima youth • More than 15 children learned about biodiversity friendly land-use practices, around 90 kids from 2 schools in Hammana and Ras El Matn • 45 local community members (farmers, shepherds, and edible/medicinal plants' harvesters) is trained and engaged in improved traditional practices at site level, ensuring 50% participation of women.
An updated database established for Ras el Metn and Hammana's biodiversity richness facilitating conservation planning	All the collected data are documented in reports and checklists in addition to pictures taken on field when possible. The data are all in the attachments of the report, all records, pictures, reports... (Annexes 1 till 16).

Unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

POSITIVE

1- MESD: relation between SPNL and MESD (environment NGO in Ras El Matn) has been strengthened:

(Between the 2: more help, work, support, and activities)

2- Education and awareness: big positive impact on the ground and was perceived from: kids, youth, and locals

NEGATIVE:

1- COVID: it was an impact outside of the project control, we tried as much as possible to continue the activities with some changes:

- distancing in the field visits
- restrictive number for certain workshops and training
- doing the training in open air
- adapting locations
- meeting virtually when possible

2- The political-economical situation in Lebanon affected Lebanese people. So, in each activity, training, meeting, workshops...:

- we did more effort to have participants and contacted them one by one
- we offered transportation

- we offered lunch, coffee break, breakfast for more enjoyable time
- we made as much as possible the subjects interesting for local community
- we adapt dates and days to the local community

PROJECT RESULTS/DELIVERABLES

Overall results of the project:

1- Policy:

- *Elaboration of Hima Management Plans for Hammana and Ras el Matn Hima sites
- *Elaboration of Letters of Adoption of Biodiversity-friendly land-use practices by key municipalities in Upper Beirut River Valley
- *Elaboration of a Municipal Decisions on trails' protection at Hammana and Ras el Metn

2- Biodiversity:

- *Baseline data was collected for the following groups of species: Birds, Herpetofauna (excluding snakes), and Plants
- *4 SPNL Staff are trained on avifauna, flora and fauna monitoring, as demonstrated by training material and evaluation sheet
- *Assess the biodiversity, especially the targeted species' presence and distribution at Hammana & Ras elMetn: monitoring protocol for targeted species
- *Distribution maps of targeted/ identified avifauna, flora and herpetofauna species and list of breeding birds
- *A total of 30,786 bird observations were made during the count in autumn 2021 with a total of 40 migratory bird species
- *In agriculture lands: no new species monitored but common birds such as warblers species, White-speculated Bulbul, Blackcap, Blackbirds, Hooded Crow...
- *All the collected data are documented in reports and checklists in addition to pictures taken on field when possible

3- Agriculture:

- *Summary Report on traditional land-use practices at Hammana and Ras El Matn + sustainable agriculture practices:

Traditional practices:

- Planting and promoting native traditional crops and trees: pine, olive, carobs... to preserve the Lebanese varieties and don't lose this varieties
- Promoting terraces since they are very beneficial for the soil: planting several varieties, less water problems, less disease, gaining space, very traditional for farmers
- Promoting the plantation of wild medicinal edible plants like thyme, herbals, sumac... to preserve the traditional Lebanese knowledge in: planting those crops, drying it, transforming it in products...

Sustainable practices:

- Crop rotation for less diseases
- Sustainable harvesting
- Water management and promoting drip irrigation
- Integrated pest management with biopesticides
- Promote the planting of thyme to decrease the harvesting of thyme in the wild

- *6 Farms following sustainable agriculture practices in Hammana and Ras El Matn
- *Promotion of sustainable agriculture between locals

4- Economy:

- *Conducting marketing and production plan:

- Choosing the products: according to the market, the demand, and the innovation character of each product
- Testing: testing the products for quality, texture, color, and taste...
- Production: supporting in production
- Marketing: labelling each product according to Hima brand, with ingredients and production information
- Buying from the locals: buying the products from locals and selling them in the market to benefit local community and increase their benefits
- *Implementing the marketing plan (well-packaged, branded, and labelled products, adds, participation in fairs and local markets, sale...)
- *SPNL bought products from local community members from Hammana and Ras El Matn and sold them in its centers (Hammana Farm, Luc Hoffmann Hima Center, Homat Al Hima international Center):
- Soap: after several test on different soaps (liquid and hard) and also trial from all SPNL team, a local production soap has been chosen and its soaps marked (olive soap, lavender soap...)
- Cherry syrup: two local cherry syrup were tested, and one was agreed on for selling
- Herbal tea: herbal tea from Hammana and Ras El Matn, and under several training in pilot sites local women tried several formulas and agreed on one composition, the best one for them to be sold on the market
- Thyme: thyme from Hammana and Ras El Matn, and under several training in pilot sites local women tried several formulas and agreed on one composition, the best one for them to be sold on the market

5- Education:

- *Conducting education training and workshops for the local communities in both Himas target in the project:
 - For youth about several environment subjects to empower them and include them in the conservation process about: fauna and flora, plant monitoring, sustainable agriculture, birds and bird migration, sustainable harvesting and grazing, forest management,
 - For kids about: birds and bird migration, ecosystems, and biodiversity values
 - For local communities about sustainable agriculture, crop management, and nature products
- In total: 77 men and 129 women participated in training and workshop between kids, youth, and adults for both Himas: Ras El Matn and Hammana
- The impact is very visible when visiting the youth and kids, from session to session their knowledge increased, and they were more interested and involved.

6- Communication:

- *Dissemination of project results to promote land-use practices and project results.
- *On SPNL social media platforms: Facebook, Instagram, website
- * 42 Facebook post and Instagram post + 4 long Website articles:
 - Homat Al Hima: 747 views
 - Cherry festival: 696 views
 - Plant monitoring: 689 views
 - World migratory day: 763 views
- *This online exposition has the aim to target people more. In addition to targeted local community members in each site and in the neighborhood's villages, posting reach more target people: young and adults, interested and not in nature, person who have knowledge or not about: sustainable agriculture, traditional land-use practices, biodiversity conservation, monitoring, policies, awareness, and environmental education...

Results for each deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1.0	BD Cons: Assess the biodiversity, especially the targeted species' presence and distribution, to quantify the ecological impact induced by the implementation of sustainable practices on the avifaunal, floral and reptilian diversity at Hammana & Ras elMetn	1.1	Baseline Assessment Report	Baseline data was collected for the following groups of species: Birds, Herpetofauna (excluding snakes), and Plants. Methods used: Literature review and Interviews with farmers, hunters, and locals. This data was integrated with the summary reports and data sheets. (Annexes 1, 2, and 3)
1.0	BD Cons: Assess the biodiversity, especially the targeted species' presence and distribution, to quantify the ecological impact induced by the implementation of sustainable practices on the avifaunal, floral and reptilian diversity at Hammana & Ras elMetn	1.2	4 SPNL Staff are trained on avifauna, flora and fauna monitoring, as demonstrated by training material and evaluation sheet	4 SPNL staff trained. Follow-up meetings with Richard Porter on the ongoing activities under the biodiversity component are being held 1 or 2 times a month on Thursdays 6:00 PM, Lebanon time. (19 zoom meetings in 2022) A general evaluation report was submitted by Richard porter to describe and evaluate the training outcome and the work conducted under the biodiversity component. (Annex 4)
1.0	BD Cons: Assess the biodiversity, especially the targeted species' presence and distribution, to quantify the ecological impact induced by the implementation of	1.3	Monitoring Protocol for targeted species	Weekly Field visits were done for each site during spring (April to June), and once to twice a month during Autumn/winter (October- March) And Summer (July - September). The monitoring methods used are: -Transects and Quadrats for plants

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
	sustainable practices on the avifaunal, floral and reptilian diversity at Hammana & Ras elMetn			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Point count and transects for Birds -Taking note of observed herpetofauna when being on field for each location -Camera traps for mammals -The observed species were well known and already expected, no observation of new species (Annexes 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10)
1.0	BD Cons: Assess the biodiversity, especially the targeted species' presence and distribution, to quantify the ecological impact induced by the implementation of sustainable practices on the avifaunal, floral and reptilian diversity at Hammana & Ras elMetn	1.4	Distribution maps of targeted/ identified avifauna, flora and herpetofauna species and list of breeding birds	Birds (2021-2022): Total of 78 species recorded at the two sites of (43 were breeding or present in the breeding season). Plants (2021-2022): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Total of 200 species, including around 85 endemics and nearly 50 medicinal and edible plants, documented in Hima Hammana -Total of 230 species, including 78 endemics and 60 medicinal and edible plants, documented in Hima Ras El Maten Herpetofauna (2021-2022): Hima Ras El Maten: 6 species recorded, including the Greek tortoise Hima Hammana: 5 species recorded, including the Greek tortoise Mammals (2021-2022): Hima Ras El Maten: 8 species recorded, most importantly the Rock hyrax and the Wild cat Hima Hammana: 6 species recorded, most importantly the Stripped hyena and the Wild cat

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
				<p>SPNL now is working on developing a GIS system for the Himas and the biodiversity data will be correlated with these maps.</p> <p>(Annexes 2, 3, 11, 12, 13, and 14)</p>
1.0	BD Cons: Assess the biodiversity, especially the targeted species' presence and distribution, to quantify the ecological impact induced by the implementation of sustainable practices on the avifaunal, floral and reptilian diversity at Hammana & Ras elMetn	1.5	List of identified raptors species and counts	<p>A total of 30,786 bird observations were made during the count in autumn 2021 with a total of 40 migratory bird species.</p> <p>Bird species observed are coming and visiting pilot sites lands because of nature-friendly practices.</p> <p>And farmers are not using harmful method to keep birds away from their crops.</p> <p>(Annexes 10, 14, 15, and 16)</p>
2.0	Land-use Practices' Maintenance: Support the maintenance of traditional agricultural practices of benefit to biodiversity by establishing four Hima Farms at Hammana and Ras el Metn, closely with local farmers to ensure implementation of HF Best Practices	2.1	Summary Report on traditional land-use practices at Hammana and Ras el Metn	<p>6 Farmers from Hammana and Ras El Matn were supported in the maintenance of traditional agriculture practices of benefit to biodiversity and for the implementation of Hima Farm Best Practices.</p> <p>An agriculture report has been elaborated till June 2022, regrouping all the practices, testing, agriculture practices, sustainable farming... in all the period. planting, testing, pest management protocols and activities.</p> <p>The report content is based on the nature-friendly practices that we are promoting water management, pest control, planting, crop rotation, terracing, sustainable harvesting...</p>

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
				<p>This report month by month, expose the achievements of the agriculture field visits.</p> <p>(Annexes 17 and 18)</p>
4.0	Policy: Promote and advance Hima Revival in the Upper Beirut River Valley	4.1	Hima Management Plans for Hammana and Ras el Metn Hima sites	<p>Promoting the Hima revival in the Upper Beirut River Valley by elaborating management plans for Hammana and Ras El Matn Those plans include and are based on: Hima farm practices, environmental education and awareness, local products, conserving trails, cultural conservation...</p> <p>(Annexes 19, 19-A, 20, and 21)</p>
4.0	Policy: Promote and advance Hima Revival in the Upper Beirut River Valley	4.2	Letters of Adoption of Biodiversity-friendly land-use practices by key municipalities in Upper Beirut River Valley and governmental bodies	<p>The final version of the letter of adoption of the biodiversity land use-practices by key municipalities, has been revised and signed by Ras El Matn and Hammana municipalities. They started working to also apply this letter.</p> <p>(Annexes 22, 22-A, and 23)</p>
4.0	Policy: Promote and advance Hima Revival in the Upper Beirut River Valley	4.3	Municipal Decisions on trails' protection at Hammana and Ras el Metn	<p>The final version of the municipal decisions on trails protection, has been revised and signed by Ras El Matn and Hammana municipalities. They started also to apply these decisions.</p> <p>(Annexes 24, 24-A, 24-B, 24-C, and 25)</p>
5.0	Economic Empowerment: Ensure sustainability of traditional biodiversity-friendly land-use practices through promoting Souk el	5.2	Marketing Strategy	<p>The marketing plan was finalized to start the implementation. Elaborated with the aim to know the market of the chosen products: the availability, prices, demand, cost, competition, target buyer, places of buying...</p>

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
	Hima economic approach and supporting rural enterprises at Hammana and Ras el Metn			(Annexes 26, 27, and 28)
5.0	Economic Empowerment: Ensure sustainability of traditional biodiversity-friendly land-use practices through promoting Souk el Hima economic approach and supporting rural enterprises at Hammana and Ras el Metn	5.3	Evaluation Report on the implementation of the marketing plan (well-packaged, branded and labelled products, adds, participation in fairs and local markets, sales,...)	After the implementation of the marketing plan, an evaluation report elaborated to regroup the products. For each products: ingredients, packaging, labels... (Annexes 29 30)
6.0	Communication: Promote replication and upscaling of project results through media tools	6.1	Communication Report	The communication report by month regrouping all the social media (Instagram, Facebook, website...) links linked to the project activities, visits, events, results... This communication is a way to promote replication and successful work. (Annex 31)
1.0	BD Cons: Assess the biodiversity, especially the targeted species' presence and distribution, to quantify the ecological impact induced by the implementation of sustainable practices on the avifaunal, floral and	1.6	Database of collected data	All the collected data are documented in reports and checklists in addition to pictures taken on field when possible. (Annexes 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, and 14)

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
	reptilian diversity at Hammana & Ras elMetn			
3.0	Awareness and Education: Develop education and awareness raising on the importance of biodiversity agricultural landscapes, through capacity building and experiential learning	3.1	Evaluation Report on awareness and education	<p>The evaluation report on awareness and education is elaborated, regrouping all sessions done under the project. In total: 77 men and 129 women participated in training and workshop between kids, youth, and adults for both Himas: Ras El Matn and Hammana.</p> <p>The report includes:</p> <p>1- Capacity building training for local youth "Homat Al Hima" (15 participants): 4 days about sustainable agriculture, harvesting, grazing, water management, fauna and flora, medicinal-edible plants, birds, monitoring...</p> <p>2- SNOW sessions: 6 sessions for kids in 2 schools from Hammana (64 participants and Ras El Matn (22 participants)</p> <p>Third: the part dedicated to the workshops for farmers, women, and local members</p> <p>3- Awareness sessions: one with the woman about the natural products (16 women), 2 workshops with farmers about sustainable agriculture, Hima farm, nature-friendly practices... (In Hammana 9 participants and in Ras El Matn 15 participants), women training for herbal and thyme (65 women participants)</p>

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
				(Annexes 32 and all uploaded annexes starting with the number 32)
7.0	Capacity Development of SPNL Team	7.1	Tracking tools developed and submitted (CSTT and GTT)	CSTT and GTT developed and submitted.
7.0	Capacity Development of SPNL Team	7.2	Performance and final completion report including impact report	Developed and submitted and the end of the project.

Tools, products or methodologies that resulted from the project or contributed to the results:

Hima Farm practices: practices to follow for a sustainable agriculture (Annex 19-A)

Hima Management plan methodology: a methodology adopted to elaborate management plan for sites (Annexes 19, 19-A, 20, and 21)

- Analyzing the sites' situation and needs
- Analyzing the sites' assets
- Select objectives for next years
- Elaborate activities under each objective
- Delegate tasks to local communities and stakeholders

PORTFOLIO INDICATORS

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
2.0	Number of hectares of KBAs under improved management (please indicate the KBA names in comments)	100	4 Hectars of agricultural land at Hammana and Ras el Metn subjected to direct improved management in terms of the maintenance of	100	3.4 Hectars of agricultural land at Hammana and Ras El Matn subjected to direct improved management in terms of the maintenance of biodiversity-friendly land-use practices.

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
			biodiversity-friendly land-use practices. Around 100 ha of surrounding land/habitat also benefitting (land use planning)		<p>Around 100 ha (including the 3.4 hectares) of surrounding land/habitat also benefitting (land use planning).</p> <p>Working with 6 farmers from Ras El Matn and Hammana in order to improve the management skills of the farmers: working on biodiversity friendly land-use practices/ Hima farm practices. Many farmers around benefit from the sustainable practices criteria, and the lands benefit from the land use planning: this is done in the awareness workshops and the farmers groups from different villages to promote traditional and sustainable farming.</p>
3.1	Number of threatened species dependent on traditional land-use or agricultural practices, seeing status improved (i.e., short-term increase in	5	At least five threatened faunal and floral species will benefit from improved land management and protection	4	During this project, only 3 of the priority species were found in the study area: Greek tortoise, Syrian Serin and Turtle Dove (Occasional, not breeding). SPNL succeeded to raise the value of these species through awareness

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
	population and/or breeding success)				<p>activities and capacity building workshops.</p> <p>Additionally, the engaging approach adopted during the biodiversity monitoring activities succeeded to highlight the importance of these species.</p> <p>For the <i>Origanum ehrenbergii</i> (this thyme specie was found in both Himas and with the over harvesting its presence is decreasing and has been extinct) , this project allowed to decrease the stress on the endemic species from the over harvesting by supporting and promoting the plantation of 10 000 plants of the <i>Origanum syriacum</i>. This way over harvesting will decrease which will be beneficial for the wild populations of <i>Origanum</i> sp., especially that our monitoring activities showed a total absence of <i>Origanum ehrenbergii</i> that used to be present in the study area.</p>

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
					The Lebanese thin-toed gecko was not found during the monitoring activities.
3.2	Number of traditional products that demonstrate positive impacts on biodiversity, seeing a positive market trends	2	At least 2 traditional products (wild thyme by-products and fig jam) demonstrate positive impacts on biodiversity seeing a positive market trends	4	<p>1- Soap:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soap is useful daily and hygienic - It is nature-friendly and good for the health - Made with local products: sustainable, traditional, less harm for the environment, less harm for the species... <p>2- Thyme: the thyme increases species richness; it produces chemical compounds that if beneficial for plants around</p> <p>3- Herbal tea: good for health</p> <p>4- Cherry syrup: reducing waste by using the cherries that are too and not consumed by communities</p>
3.3	Number of local authorities in 3 priority corridors who recognize the importance of traditional, biodiversity-friendly land-use practices and engage in	2	With the support of the President of the Federation of Upper Metn Municipalities, at least two local authorities around the KBA/IBA would recognize and adopt the traditional land-use practices being	2	Two local authorities recognized the importance of traditional, biodiversity-friendly land-use practices and engage in supporting their maintenance. The municipalities of Ras El Matn and Hammana.

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
	supporting their maintenance.		promoted in the project		
4.6	Number of KBAs for which information on plants is improved	1	(Placeholder)	1	Beirut River Valley. After the plant monitoring conducting over the 18 months the information on plants have been improved. And all this is reported in the plant monitoring report with close pictures of each monitored species In this report, all plants found in the KBA, and pilot sites are cited with details. (Annexes 2, 3, 4, 7, and 9)

GLOBAL INDICATORS

Protected Areas

Protected areas that have been created and/or expanded as a result of the 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 Protected Area	WDPA ID*	Latitude	Longitude	Country	Original Total Size (Hectares) **	New Protected Hectares ***	Year of Legal Declaration or Expansion
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*World Database of Protected Areas

**If this is a new protected area, 0 should appear in this column

*** This column excludes the original total size of the protected area.

Key Biodiversity Area Management

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) under improved management—where tangible results have been achieved to support conservation—as a result of the project.

KBA Name	KBA Code	Size of KBA	Number of Hectares with Improved Management
Beirut River Valley	LBN03		100

Production Landscapes

Production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity as a result of the project.

A production landscape is defined as a site outside a protected area where commercial agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs.

Name of Production Landscape	Latitude	Longitude	Hectares Strengthened	Intervention
Ras El Matn	33.85228	35.62337	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *3 farmers following traditional nature-friendly practices - Sustainable agriculture practices, Hima farm practices implemented: pest management, water management, crop rotation... - Products elaborated - Plantation - Water management - Integrated pest management * Municipality policy on promoting sustainable agriculture in the villages by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - protecting land - supporting farmers - training on sustainable agriculture practices - penalization of farmers following harmful methods

Name of Production Landscape	Latitude	Longitude	Hectares Strengthened	Intervention
Hammana	33.8072	35.74289	40	*3 farmers following traditional nature-friendly practices - Sustainable agriculture practices, Hima farm practices implemented: pest management, water management, crop rotation... - Products elaborated - Plantation - Water management - Integrated pest management * Municipality policy on promoting sustainable agriculture in the villages by: - protecting land - supporting farmers - training on sustainable agriculture practices - penalization of farmers following harmful methods

Benefits to Individuals

- **Structured Training:**

Number of Men Trained	Number of Women Trained	Topics of Training
77	129	Bird identification Bird migration Biodiversity Values and Ecosystems Sustainable Agriculture, harvesting, and grazing Water Management Fauna and flora Forest Management Plant and animal Monitoring Herpetofauna Wild medicinal and edible plants Leadership and teamwork Natural Products Sustainable agriculture and crop management

Number of Men Trained	Number of Women Trained	Topics of Training
		Wild edible plants (only for women from different Himas, 65 participants)

- **Cash Benefits:**

Number of Men – Cash Benefits	Number of Women – Cash Benefits	Description of Benefits
7	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farmers: buying seedlings, material, biopesticides (1 women 5 men) - Marketing: buying soap and liquor syrup (1 woman 1 man) - Helping: selection of local liquor syrup and local guide (1 woman 1 man)

Benefits to Communities

View the characteristics column below with the following corresponding codes:	View the benefits column below with the following corresponding codes:
1- Small Landowners	a. Increased Access to Clean Water
2- Subsistence Economy	b. Increased Food Security
3- Indigenous/ Ethnic Peoples	c. Increased Access to Energy
4- Pastoralists / Nomadic Peoples	d. Increased Access to Public Services
5- Recent Migrants	e. Increased Resilience to Climate Change
6- Urban Communities	f. Improved Land Tenure
7- Other	g. Improved Use of Traditional Knowledge
	h. Improved Decision-Making
	i. Improved Access to Ecosystem Services

Community Name	Community Characteristics							Type of Benefit									Country	Number of Males Benefitting	Number of Females Benefitting	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i				
Hima Ras El Matn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lebanon	85	70							
Hima Hammana	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lebanon	55	62							

Characteristics of "Other" Communities:

Policies, Laws and Regulations

View the topics column below with the following corresponding codes:			
A- Agriculture	E- Energy	I- Planning/Zoning	M- Tourism
B- Climate	F- Fisheries	J- Pollution	N- Transportation
C- Ecosystem Management	G- Forestry	K- Protected Areas	O- Wildlife Trade
D- Education	H- Mining and Quarrying	L- Species Protection	P- Other

No.	Name of Law	Scope	Topics															
			A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1	Protecting local trails	Local	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Letter of adoption of biodiversity friendly land use practices by Ras El Matn and Hammana	Local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

“Other” Topics Addressed by the Policy, Law or Regulation:

No.	Country/ Countries	Date Enacted/ Amended	Expected impact	Action Performed to Achieve the Enactment/ Amendment
1	Lebanon	June 27, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impact on the biodiversity - Preserve natural landscapes - Opportunity to protect animals and plants - Preserve wetlands and water quality - Preserve the soil - Habitat for species - Preserve traditional practices - Eco-tourism values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - training and workshops for awareness - promotion of the importance of trails - meetings with local participants to learn about trails - open discussions about trails and biodiversity impact - action with the municipalities - opening a new trail in Ras El Matn

No.	Country/ Countries	Date Enacted/ Amended	Expected impact	Action Performed to Achieve the Enactment/ Amendment
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic benefits - Retreat for local members - Enhance the livelihoods of the local community - Ensure public health 	
2	Lebanon	June 27, 2022	<p>Those traditional biodiversity friendly practices below preserve the agriculture sector in the village, and improve the lives of the local community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planting native crops - Crop rotation - Water management - Integrated pest management - Sustainable Harvesting and grazing - Recycling Promotion - Protecting animal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - training and workshops for awareness - working and following up with 6 farmers from Hammana and Ras El Matn: following biodiversity friendly land-use practices - promotion of the importance of sustainable agriculture - open discussions about traditional and sustainable practices - action with the municipalities

No.	Country/ Countries	Date Enacted/ Amended	Expected impact	Action Performed to Achieve the Enactment/ Amendment
			<p>We will work on promoting traditional land-use practices in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Preserve our landscape <input type="checkbox"/> Follow the Hima Farm guidelines (Annex 22-A: Hima Farm Criteria, followed by local farmers under the CEPF Project) <input type="checkbox"/> Preserve the soil and water <input type="checkbox"/> Decrease the impact on the climate of intensive practices <input type="checkbox"/> Protect the biodiversity and nature in the village <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure a better quality of products 	

Companies Adopting Biodiversity-friendly Practices

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.

Name of Company	Description of Biodiversity-Friendly Practice	Country/Countries where Practice was Adopted
Ras El Matn and Hammana Villages (a compagy can be a group of local community members in this context)	1- Pre-Plantation 2- Integrated Crop Management (ICM): . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IPM: Integrated Pest Management • Hima Farm Fertilization • C. Improved Water Management 3- Sustainable Harvesting Management 4- Traditional Grazing Management 5- Use of Renewable Energy Sources 6- Recycling Promotion 7- Animals Protection	Lebanon

Networks and Partnerships

Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable.

Name of Network/Partnership	Year Established	Country/ Countries	Established by Project?	Purpose
Municipality Hammana/ SPNL	2018	Lebanon	No	Creating strong connection with the municipalities, with the aim to be always supported by them in every activities and actions in villages
Municipality Ras El Matn/ SPNL	2018	Lebanon	No	Creating strong connection with the municipalities, with the aim to be always supported by them in every activities and actions in villages
MESD/ SPNL	2018	Lebanon	No	Help and support in all activities in Ras El Matn: organization of training and workshops, connecting with locals, support in the implementation on the ground...

Sustainable Financing

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 services (PES) schemes, and other revenue, fee or tax schemes that generate long-term funding for conservation.

Name of Mechanism	Purpose	Date Established	Description	Country/ Countries	Project Intervention	Delivery of Funds?
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Globally Threatened Species

Globally threatened species (CR, EN, VU) on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, benefitting from the project.

Genus	Species	Common Name (English)	Status	Intervention	Population Trend at Site
Serinus	syriacus	Syrian Serin	VU	- Monitoring - Landscape management - Protection of habitats in the farmers and in the Himas	Unknown
Streptopelia	turtur	European Turtle Dove	VU	- Monitoring - Landscape management - Protection of habitats in the farmers and in the Himas	Unknown
Testudo	graeca	Greek Tortoise	VU	- Monitoring - Landscape management - Protection of habitats in the farmers and in the Himas	Stable
Origanum	ehrenbergii	Ehrenberg's Marjoram	VU	Monitoring - Landscape management - Protection of habitats in the farmers and in the Himas - Planting common thyme to decrease the wild harvest of this specie	Unknown

Genus	Species	Common Name (English)	Status	Intervention	Population Trend at Site
				- Awareness about the sustainable harvesting of wild thyme and its importance to try reincrease its population	

LESSONS LEARNED

1- We included in elaborating the management plan different local community members from different sectors. This was very positive, and it led to a very diverse, clear, and applicable management plan for our Himas.

2- We included women in every training we did, and one of the trainings was only dedicated to women. And planned our workshops according to their time. In that way, they can be more present in the community.

3- Working with municipalities is not always easy. We had some problems with the municipality of one of the pilot sites of the project, because it resigned. So, we tried as much as possible to double the work with the second municipality of the second pilot site in order to compensate.

4- Before starting the project, we included some stakeholders and asked for their opinions during the elaboration of the proposal. But we could have included more stakeholders, and tried also to select some activities proposed by the local community. But that was not a problem, since we included some changes during the project to adapt to the local community's needs.

SUSTAINABILITY/REPLICATION

-Success with farmers following nature-friendly practices. The promotion of sustainable agriculture in the Himas was successful. And it needs to continue and try to involve more farmers for a bigger impact.

-Success in training for youth, kids, and local members: we can see the big impact that those trainings are having, and how they are teaching local communities so much about, nature, the environment, and how to protect it.

Learning and awareness are very essential even before starting the work on the ground. When people are more aware of nature subjects, they are more involved and more ready for action.

-Success management plan was elaborated with the stakeholders for the two pilot sites: Following an assessment of the assets and needs of each site, a clear management structure was developed, including a vision, mission, objectives, and activities.

-Challenge: continuing the work on the local products elaborated: a budget is needed to continue producing, packaging, and buying (soap, cherry liquor, herbal tea, and thyme).

-Challenge: follow up with the municipalities on the two agreed policies. The policies are approved and signed, but the actions on the ground need weekly follow-up, meetings, activities, training, and work.

-Challenge: the application of the management plan is very challenging. The local communities need money to proceed with each activity under the selected objectives. And it needs follow-up, management work on the ground, time management, and procedures.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS/STANDARDS

- 1- Human right: while working and in each activity respecting the human right was essential (right of talking, right of participating, right of benefits...), resolve problems between local communities when needed staying objective and diplomatic (in policies' meetings for example)
- 2- Gender equality and women's empowerment: in each activity, training, monitoring, and farming... we ensured to have equality in participation and has organized several workshop and activities to empower women (wild edible plants workshop...)
- 3- Biodiversity conservation: The monitoring protocol was one of the biodiversity conversations actions to know the pilot sites and its species, the education and awareness to involve local community members in the conservation and to learn the importance of biodiversity, sustainable farming to learn and practice the management in order to contribute in the conservation
- 4- Community health, safety, and security: increase the quality of food with best practices like integrated pest management, try to create a secure and safe place in the Himas
- 5- Cultural heritage: preserve this cultural heritage in education, economy, and farming
- 6- Indigenous people: respect the Himas and its people
- 7- Labor and working conditions: no kids in labor in farming we work with, education for kids
- 8- Stakeholder engagement and response mechanism: all stakeholders were engaged in the project activities (policies elaboration, training, monitoring, farming, management plans...)
- 9- Access to information: the local communities have the permission to demand and access all the results of the projects and report information
- 10- Monitoring, reporting and compliance: all attachments are reports and explanation of activities
- 11- Assessment and management: while working on the project and before elaborating the project we assessed what are the needs of the pilot sites and also elaborated management plants with stakeholders according to their needs and assets

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Total Amount of Additional Funding Actually Secured (USD)	\$47,000.00
Breakdown of Additional Funding	MAVA Phase 2 Project (2020-2022): "Strengthening the ecological and socio-economic resilience of West Bekaa and Mount Lebanon Landscape through sustaining its cultural practices" (Marketing, ESS Assessment, RM Trail, Incentives for farmers, Mgt. Plans)

INFORMATION SHARING AND CEPF POLICY

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. For more information about this project, you may contact the organization and/or individual listed below.

Society for the Protection of Nature in Lebanon- [SPNL news@spnl.org](mailto:SPNL_news@spnl.org)