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: Agency for Sustainable Development Altus Mostar (Altus)
Project Title: Enhancing Knowledge on Biodiversity of the Lower Catchments of Neretva River, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Grant Number: 112817
Date of Completion of this Report: 30 June 2022
CEPF Hotspot: Mediterranean
Strategic Direction: 2
Grant Amount: $13,005.79
Project Dates: 01 April 2021 - 31 May 2022

PART I: Overview

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

The principal partner in this project was University Dzemal Bjedic. The partnership has been established through the large grant, CEPF-109212, with Altus being a subgrantee. Established cooperation has continued throughout this small grant. All salaries for project team were paid through the large grant from the University Dzemal Bjedic. The laboratory facilities and classrooms provided by the university were essential for data and taxonomic analysis of collected species. University students participated in fieldwork and report writing and have assisted us in meeting deliverables. We have also relied on university's legal team to procure all necessary equipment and materials for implementation of project activities. All chemicals were stored at the university and disposed of in accordance with laboratory protocols. University's health and safety protocols were followed and applied throughout the project. Annual project presentations for stakeholders were held at the university, and final presentation of project results will be organised at the university.

2. Summarize the overall results of your project

The research and fieldwork activities conducted through this project have shown current state of ichthyopopulation in lower catchments of Neretva and its tributaries. We collected data on population structure, numerousness, distribution, recorded which species were observed. The condition of waterways has also been assessed, along with ecosystem quality. The immediate threats to long-term sustainability of ecosystems and habitats have been identified. The quality of water from chemical physical, and microbiological aspects has been analysed. In general, data provides a base for further development strategies of urban development, freshwater management plans, restocking of rivers and development of tourist offers. Plan of protection and conservation of rivers, provided sound scientific evidence and materials that will assist in reaching wider audience long after the project has been completed. Educational tools will serve future high schools and university students to expand their base of knowledge. Information provided through this project can also provide invaluable guidance for new conservation projects which would plan direct conservation actions with the aim of conserving specific species. The project contributed to enhancing general knowledge on biodiversity of the researched area and established updated database with relevant information readily available to interested stakeholders. The project enabled us to narrow the knowledge gap and continue research in order to valorise conservation value of this natural resource and its diverse aquatic wildlife, allowed us to work with the local community and further raise public awareness through educational programs and dissemination of research findings. Despite its exceptional conservation value the waterways in the area are highly endangered along with their unique freshwater fauna. The concern is that the majority of natural attributes that mark this area as significant will be permanently lost. Hence improved knowledge on aquatic fauna and its conservation value, with focus on education and collaboration with relevant authorities, high schools, NGOs, the local community and other stakeholders contributed to addressing key threats by highlighting the conservation of nature and its importance for further development of the region. This project compiled data on the current state of ecosystems whilst taking into account existing threats. The aim was to compile a comprehensive list of coastal flora and aquatic fauna, determine conservation status of the species, assess ecological status of diverse habitats and ecosystems. Detailed research provided data on current status of indigenous, endemic and allochthonous fish species, with a view of creating comprehensive inventory of ichthyofauna, determining degree of vulnerability and its causes. Good fishing guide was developed based on research data, literature search and discussions with stakeholders. Water quality was assessed on all seven rivers and two lakes on a monthly basis over a twenty month period. This have us a comprehensive understanding not only of the trends of the quality of water in these waterways, but also condition of ecosystems as habitats for fish and other aquatic organisms. Microbiological pollution trends were also assessed. Macroinvertebrate surveys have been completed which enabled us to calculate biodiversity indices and state of ecosystems using macrozoobenthos as bioindicators of ecosystem health. Botanical surveys have been completed adding value to database of aquatic biodiversity and enhancing knowledge on plant species in the area. Scientific articles have been published, increasing value of the project and making data available for wider range of stakeholders.

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

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Improved conservation status of lower Neretva river and its tributaries with increased involvement of stakeholders for sustainable management.	All preconditions for full achievement of this impact have been met within the framework of the project. The knowledge database has been enhanced on ichthyofauna in all tested waterways. Current state of fish communities and population structure is now known, data is available on species abundance and numerousness, which could serve as a base for devising restocking plans in the future, by fishing societies and development of strategies for management of waters. Critical habitats (Buna estuary, Source of Bunica and upper catchments of Bregava) for fish spawning have been identified and have been marked as areas that require special attention by NGOs and fishermen. Educational activities enabled members of hunting societies, sports fishermen, naturalists and students to devise their own approaches and contribution to sustainability. We have already witnessed increased awareness and more frequent actions of litter removal from the rivers and their shores and increased public demands for better communal services. Local conservation NGOs have been very enthusiastic about continuing conservation work. Several project proposals based on our research findings are currently being prepared by NGO “Novi val” and “Majski cvijet”.

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
The database on freshwater biodiversity with free access created and used by at least three local stakeholders of Neretva river (BIH07) and Trebižat (BIH09) KBAs: NGO, experts, and authorities in strategic decisions.	This impact has been fully achieved. We aggregated a large amount of data and devised inventory of species inhabiting this area, including their current conservation status. Database has been a little expanded from the one originally planned, which endeavoured to list fish and plant species. We included macrozoobenthos and other water-dependent animal species that commonly habitate this area. Database can be further processed in electronic format and updated as needed. It is freely available for use by experts, students, NGOs and authorities. It is advisable to refer to this database when planning future research and conservation work, and for any strategic development by authorities or other investors. The use of database has been recommended as a

	supplemental and useful tool for use by undergraduate and graduate students at the Department of Biology Dzemal Bijedic University of Mostar. The list is not exhaustive and is a base for future updates. The list contains common species name, latin name, family, distribution range in Nerteva basin and conservation status on national/global IUCN Red list, if any.
Awareness of at least 100 local fishermen about the importance of long-term conservation of endemic fish and their habitats increased and their fishing techniques made more sustainable.	We reached more than 100 local fishermen with targeted education, not limited to organised activities and events. Seminar was organized for stakeholders, 16 representatives of fishing societies who were invited to attend the presentation on the current state of ichthyofauna. The presentation was held at the university. Seminar and a dialogue session were organized for six members of local hunting societies, who found them very valuable and informative. We kept record of the willing participants on sign-off sheet, with over 100 signatures. One of the most interesting and important aspect of fieldwork was direct contact with sports fishermen who were highly interested in our work and happy to share their concerns and ideas with us. All educational materials shared with stakeholders were very welcomed. Good fishing guide was developed and shared with relevant stakeholders. Due to Covid-19 pandemics and strict epidemiological restrictions, educational activities, seminars and workshops could not be organised far in advance, and had to be in line with restrictions. Implementation of all our activities was planned with high degree of responsibility for our own health and the health of the participants. High numbers achieved reflect a continuous effort throughout fieldwork and outreach.
Improved organisation capacity for delivering conservation work.	One of the most important steps in capacity building was creation of website for Altus. Website domain registration has been purchased. Altus website has been created with with support of Programme Officer for the Balkans, Vedran Lucic, and is up and running. Website is essential in increasing our visibility and familiarizing potential donors with our skills and experience. In April 2022 we participated in CEPF's excellent proposal writing workshops delivered by Maaike Manten from the CEPF Med Regional Implementation Team. The second round will be held in July, after project's end date. CEPF's project has significantly enhanced our skills and

	experience, especially in project management, helped us to improve capacities. Hence, we wish to apply our knowledge and all experience gained during this project in developing a good quality proposal for a new project.

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

Altus established cooperation with National and University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and registered as publishers. The library has recognised importance of our research results as an important addition to scientific literature in Bosnia and Herzegovina and approved publication of final project results.

NGO "Novi val" approached us to establish cooperation and present our project in their series of video clips produced as part of their project financed by Swedish embassy. We were of course very happy to collaborate.
Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H5NOuKBhOec&ab_channel=EkoHubBlagaj

Collaboration started with management company of "Kravica" waterfalls, Parkovi, at Trebizat. They wish to use our data in their promotional materials.

Pandemics also caused people to spend more time outdoors, engaging in various activities in the nature, hence we encountered a larger number of sports fishermen and nature lovers that we would have normally, and that increased our outreach and dissemination of information.

Representatives oof the Swedish embassy were impressed with the project and results especially the fact that it was financed by CEPF, so they accompanied us on water quality monitoring fieldtrip. We discussed further funding possibilities with them and shared our knowledge and experience. Management at Kravica was very welcoming to our team during our fieldwork, expressed their interest in furthering the cooperation and allowed us access to the park without having to pay the admission fee. Pandemics disrupted our activity schedule and required certain adjustments to be made. Restrictions were imposed which limited a number of passengers in cars, at certain times travel to and from certain municipalities was restricted, but we managed to work around it as we were committed to achieving the best possible results.

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
	Database on freshwater biodiversity with free access created	This deliverable has been achieved. Database on freshwater biodiversity has been created in word format in tabular form and is open to further content and design updates. Database will be submitted to CEPF in this form and upon approval by CEPF on Altus'

		and UNMO's websites. We included in database, not only species observed during this project, but also other species confirmed to populate this area. Database is in one document, divided into four parts. The first part lists fish species, followed by plants, macrozoobenthos and other animals. The list is not exhaustive and is a base for future updates. The list contains common species name, latin name, family, distribution range in Nerteva basin and conservation status on national/global IUCN Red list, if any.
	Finalized Red list assessment for 20 species	This impact has not been fully achieved during the project. However all preconditions necessary for completion of IUCN assessment have been reached. We have completed training that enables us to complete assessment and have all data needed for assessment. Unfortunately we are out of time to fully complete assessments for this project.
	Promotional materials created and distributed, and scientific reports and good practice manual published	All promotional materials were printed and distributed as planned. Fieldwork workshops were organised for high school students. Manual for fishermen "Good fishing guide" has been created, Project brochures and ichthyological catalogue, laminated botanical and ichthyological cards have been printed and distributed to schools through Institute for Schooling. Due to corona virus pandemic restrictions it was not possible to organize visits to schools personally, as many classes were cancelled or went online. Materials were promoted on seminars organized by Institute for Schooling. T-shirts with logo were created as promotional material. Students at Department of Biology have been actively involved in data analysis and presentation of results. Three scientific articles ware published. Report on Critical habitat / biodiversity assessment was completed, along with Database and Galleries on plant and animal biodiversity. Water quality monitoring data and ichthyological data have been statistically analysed, reports to follow in the large grant reporting period. Publication of final project results is currently being compiled. Its promotion will be held at the university along with presentation of final project results.
	Organizational capacities increased	Altus website domain registration purchased. Altus website has been created and is up and running. Project proposal completed.

	CEPF Reporting	CEPF reporting has been conducted and completed as scheduled. In the first reporting period, we were required to submit CSTT, GTT, H&S, Financial report detailing expenses from 1 April 2021 to 31 December 2021, and Progress report for the same period. All reports were due by 31 January 2022. It is important to note that CSTT and GTT were completed in December 2021 by Altus staff in our capacity as subgrantee to the large grant 109212. In the final reporting period by June 30, 2022 we are submitting final CSTT, GTT, H&S, completed in June 2022, Financial report for the period from 1 January 2022 to 31 May 2022, and this Final Completion and Impact Report. Health and safety protocols for Altus were reviewed, and it was concluded that they are in compliance with current federal legislation on occupational health and safety as well as University Dzemal Bijedic's protcols.

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

Good fishing guide has been created and printed, as an educational tool and a handy guide for all current and aspiring recreational fishermen, anglers and nature lovers as stakeholders. It was developed after two seasons of fieldwork, where we met many local fishermen and naturalists, listened to their complaints, advice and wishes for clean rivers and environment. After collecting data from the field, and having had numerous conversations with them, we developed this guide taking into account their interests and level of knowledge, whilst paying special attention to usefulness and useability of this guide.

Database on aquatic biodiversity – please see deliverable description.

Project brochure (pocket edition), listing project aims and objectives, fish species and flora in researched area.

Laminated cards on plants and fish species, showing most common autochtonous and allochtonous species.

Monography on river Buna as the most significant fish nursery in Neretva River basin, important also for macroinvertebrate biodiversity.

Published scientific articles (3)

Report on critical habitat / biodiversity assessment

Final project publication

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.

The concept of the project and its design are very simple. The project focused on enhancing knowledge on freshwater biodiversity through research and fieldwork, as a baseline study focused on ichthyology. It is well known that ichthyological fieldwork is very demanding and challenging, professional equipment and expertise are necessary. It is impossible to predict size of a catch on a particular day. Research season for ichthyology was limited from April to October, and the fieldwork across a large area on large waterbodies that we worked on was very intense and demanding. If we were planning a similar project again, we would decrease the size of an area or plan our budget to be more cost effective.

Implementation of the project was smooth, in the most part owing to dedication, good cooperation and skills of our team members, as well as excellent collaboration with CEPF. That bond proved crucial when we encountered problems with the university in the implementation of this project. Support that we received from CEPF during those challenging times was what enabled us to implement all planned activities.

It is also important not to devise activities and deliverables, implementation of which depends on expertise of one person. E.g., red list assessments were planned as deliverables, as one of the original team members had sufficient expertise to conduct them at least on the national/regional level. However, he had to leave the project before its finalization for personal reasons. Our own workload was very high, which allowed us little time for extra tasks. We embarked upon IUCN training and our level of expertise is now sufficient to attempt the assessment, but unfortunately, we are running out of time. Alternatively we could have made a provision in the budget which would allow us to hire an independent consultant with enough expertise to complete the assessment. If we had a chance to do another project at this level, the budget itself would be simpler and more flexible.

Our fieldwork was carried out impeccably, due to high level of enthusiasm and interest of team members. However, we very left with not enough needed expertise for deskwork, the amount of which proved to be much greater than we originally anticipated. Expert reports are needed for a high level donor such as CEPF.

Collaboration with university was very beneficial to both parties. Mechanism for subgrant functioning should be more clearly defined between the parties, to allow more direct protection to subgrantee.

Altus has gained significant experience in project management, project coordination, reporting, and financial management.

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.**

The project has been designed with objective of long-term sustainability. It was planned that knowledge and obtained data will be shared with relevant stakeholders in order to diversify activities from the start. With this project we attempted to raise ecological awareness of stakeholders, especially those that are in direct and frequent contact with water and are avid water users, such as fishermen, hunters and naturalists, as well as local inhabitants for benefits of an entire community in general. Authorities, through the fishing societies that are in charge of water management will be able to take into account research data in creation of sustainable management plans. Collaboration with local NGOs has proved to be mutually beneficial for all concerned parties, providing opportunities to share knowledge and experience. During floral research we established cooperation with management of the Park „Kravica“, at river Trebizat. They expressed interest in using our data on vegetation in this area for their promotional material. High school students gained enhanced knowledge. Educational materials were distributed to schools through Institute for Schooling. University students gained practical and hand-on conservation and research experience in fieldwork, taxonomic determination, data analysis and write up of reports.

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.**

Additional Funding

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

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

    b. **Type of funding**

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

Donor	Type of Funding	Amount

Additional Comments/Recommendations

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

Communication with CEPF has been excellent throughout the project. All CEPF staff that we came in contact with have always been very helpful, able to provide us with the right and timely information, ready to answer any question we had and to guide us to achieve the best possible outcomes in any situation. It was easy and flexible to schedule online meetings and receive help and any needed information on time.

PART IV: Impact at Portfolio and Global Level

Contribution to Portfolio Indicators

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

Indicator	Actual Numeric Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
2.4. Number of Freshwater KBAs in priority CMZ with improved information on biodiversity, shared with stakeholders	2	Key biodiversity areas: Trebizat River Tributary (BIH 09) and Neretva River (BIH07). Results of the project show which fish species are present in each of researched waterways, their abundance, distribution, numerousness and gender ratio with particular emphasis on endemic species. Impacts of HPPs on population structure have been examined. Scarce data on biodiversity of macroinvertebrates has been improved by this project, including calculation of biodiversity indices. Critical habitat

		/ biodiversity assessment report completes data on significant freshwater habitats in the area which should be awarded priority conservation strategies. Information and knowledge on the plant species present in the area has also been enhanced through plant surveys and inventories conducted on assessed rivers, as well as through creation of database, which compiles knowledge on freshwater biodiversity of the area. Plant and fish galleries, Good fishing guide, project brochure and laminated cards, created as educational and informative tools, significantly improve information on biodiversity in the area. All project tools have been shared with stakeholders.
4.6. Number of KBAs for which information on plants is improved	2	Key biodiversity areas: Trebizat River Tributary (BIH 09) and Neretva River (BIH07). Compiled data from surveys conducted on plant species present in the area have been completed. They include plant biodiversity assessments that have been conducted on the river Neretva (within the City of Mostar), and its tributaries, rivers Radobolja, Buna, Bunica, and Trebizat. Surveys show which riparian plant species are most commonly present in the

		area. River Neretva's riparian belt show typical Neretvian bushes and shrubbery. Database on freshwater biodiversity includes updated information on plants that have been commonly observed in wider research area. It includes scientific name, common name, IUCN conservation status and National Red List status. Research results do not show significant differences between plant species present along rivers across the researched area. This project contributed to enhancing knowledge on plant species in the area.
2.2	2	Catchment management zones: Trebizat drainage including Imotsko polje, Tributaries of Lower and Middle Neretva, Part of the Neretva upper catchment, Part of the Neretva upper catchment - eastern mid catchment. Good fishing guide as an instruction manual, educational activities and dissemination of knowledge should significantly improve adoption of biodiversity-friendly fishing practices across communities in Mostar, Salakovac, Buna, Blagaj, Kosor and Stolac. Breeding programs in fish farm Laks will be updated in line with our research data. Fishing practices have thus been improved throughout the region,

		which can also be utilized for development of ecotourism, as it is already a significant area of interest for the local communities and their economic development. Further development of ecotouristic activities will include various sports fishing competitions, which are already in planning in cooperation of the Fishing Society and Mostar City Council. Particular areas of interest are Buna and Bunica.
2.0	800	KBA Neretva River (BIH07): improved management on 500 ha with increased efforts of cleaning litter from the river banks through organized actions by local communities, NGOs and authorities, awareness raising, ecotourism opportunities have been highlighted through adoption of more sustainable and biodiversity-friendly practices in sports fishing. Fish farm Laks which conducts regular restocking with selected fish species will adapt its breeding programs in line with research results, thus directly enhancing management of fish stock in Neretva and its tributaries. The focus of future restocking programs with Fishing Society will be placed on increasing endemic fish numbers, which have been shown to be decreasing.

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
180	20	Biodiversity of the lower catchment of Neretva River; critical habitats; index of macroinvertebrate biodiversity; state of ecosystems; population of fish species and water quality monitoring; microbiological analyses and water quality; impact of HPPs on Neretva, especially impacts on microclimate, increased humidity and high water temperatures in summer; fragmentation of fish populations; data on vegetation; endemic fish; coastal vegetation; fieldwork with emphasis on practical experience and good practices; good fishing practices; endemic plants; conservation of biodiversity; conservation and management of fresh water. Eight Biology students participated in project activities directly, seventeen benefited from seminars and enhanced knowledge.

**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.

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 *
Neretva River	BIH07	500
Trebizat River	BIH09	300

** 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
Bunica Source + Buna channels (estuary of Buna river into Neretva)	1000	43,2385265	17,8335528	The size of the area refers to sources of rivers Buna and Bunica, their watercourses, as well as Buna's

				channels on the river Neretva where fishing takes place. Data from our research has significantly contributed to the City of Mostar revoking permits for planned construction of mHPPs at this site and completely deleting them from the Municipality's development strategy. Data significantly improved knowledge on biodiversity and water quality of the Bunica Rivers and especially its Source.

** 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 knowledge	Improved representation and decision-making in governance forums/structures	Improved access to ecosystem services	# of men and boys benefitting	# of women and girls benefitting
Blagaj/Buna						X	X	Bosnia and Herzegovina				X						68	23
Ilici						X	X	Bosnia and Herzegovina				X						15	0

Jasenica						X	X	Bosnia and Herzegovina			X							35	0
Mostar						X	X	Bosnia and Herzegovina			X							10	15
Salakovac						X	X	Bosnia and Herzegovina			X							15	6
Stolac						X	X	Bosnia and Herzegovina			X							72	41
Trebizat						X	X	Bosnia and Herzegovina			X							40	6

*If you marked “Other” to describe the community characteristic, please explain: Rural communities

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.		Scope (mark with x)			Topic(s) addressed (mark with x)															
	Name of Law, Policy or Regulation	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	Zakon o prostornom uređenju ("Službene novine Hercegovačko-neretvanske županije", broj: 4/04); amendments in 2012 provided for zones for the construction of hydropower facilities	X					X	X		X				X	X	X	X			
2																				
…																				

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

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

No.	Country(s)	Date enacted/ amended MM/DD/YYYY	Expected impact	Action that you performed to achieve this change
1	Bosnia and Herzegovina	December 29, 2022	The changes foresee the deletion of the small hydropower plants Buna 1 and 2 from the existing Spatial Plan of the City of Mostar - likely to be fully revoked.	Our research data on ichthyofauna, water quality and critical habitats were used to support affiliated NGOs and citizens in fight to prevent construction of mHPPs
2				
3				

19. Biodiversity-friendly Practices
Number of companies that adopt biodiversity-friendly practices

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

No.	Name of Company	Description of biodiversity-friendly practice adopted during the project	Country(s) where the practice has been adopted by the company
1	Fish farm "Laks"	Adjusting breeding programs and planned restocking in accordance with data on distribution and community structure of ichthyofauna in Neretva basin.	Bosnia and Herzegovina
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	NGO "Novi val"	2021	Y	BIH	Collaboration on research and educational activities, fieldwork station for students

2	Dzemal Bijedic University of Mostar	2018	N	BIH	Collaboration of scientific field research, outreach activities and education
3	Fish farm “Laks”	2019	Y	BIH	Collaboration on ichthyological research and breeding programs

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)**
Salmo	*obtusirostris*	Soft-mouth trout	EN	Rescuing fry stranded after autumn flood	Decreasing
Squalius	*svallize*	Neretva chub	VU LC	Obtained data on numerousness, gender ratio and distribution in the area. Joint efforts were made with Fishing Society to organize translocation of fish populations that were captured in parts of the river Jasenica after it dried up, to the river Neretva. This was one of the conservation efforts to save stranded fish species.	Decreasing
Chondrostoma	*knerii*	Neretvan nase	VU	Joint efforts were made with Fishing Society to organize translocation of fish populations that were captured in parts of the river Jasenica after it dried up, to the river Neretva. This was one of the conservation efforts to save stranded fish species.	Decreasing
Anguilla	*anguilla*	European eel	CR	Species monitoring	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, 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: Agency for Sustainable Development Altus Mostar
Generic email address: info@altus.ba