CEPF Final Completion and Impact Report

Organization's Legal Name:	Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan
Project Title:	Advancing cooperative biodiversity conservation in Kazakhstan's Dzungaria Ecological Corridor
Grant Number:	CEPF-110779
Hotspot:	Mountains of Central Asia
Strategic Direction:	1 Address threats to priority species
Grant Amount:	$149,215.04
Project Dates:	February 01, 2021 - January 31, 2023
Date of Report:	March 30, 2023

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

ACBK – overall project coordination;

Institute of Zoology of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan - services of institute experts (theriology, botany, computer modeling fields of expertise), information and data support (literature data, methodologies, research results);

Forestry and Wildlife Committee of Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan – informational support, support in providing information needed for the project;

Department of Natural Resources of Zhetysu oblast - informational support, support in providing information required for the project (information required for the development of Upper Koksu State Nature Sanctuary 2 model territory Pasture management plans);

Taldykorgan Forestry of Zhetysu oblast - informational support, support in providing information required for the project (information required for the development of Upper Koksu State Nature Sanctuary 2 model territory Pasture management plans); support in organizing field trips to the territory of Upper Koksu State Nature Sanctuary;

Akimat of Kerbulak district of Zhetysu oblast - informational support, support in providing information needed for the project (information on land users of Kerbulak district);

Territorial Inspection of Zhetysu oblast - logistical support (provision of a site for PMP development meetings on the project);

Tekeli Education Department of the Department of Education of Zhetysu oblast - informational support, logistical support (assistance in the organization of the PR-event);

"Altyn-Emel" SNPP- information and technical support (provision of information necessary for the development of PU, METT-evaluation, internal trainings);

"Zhongar-Alatau" SNPP - information and technical support (providing information for internal trainings, literature data and research results);

«Kazankol» Ltd. - logistic support (assistance in organizing feld trips to the project area)

CONSERVATION IMPACTS

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
240 000 hectares of the Upper Koksu State Nature Sanctuary are under improved management, as measured by an increase in METT scores from 2021-2022 to three years in the future.	Status: Partially achieved Description: Addition of the special inclusion in the current management plan of SNNP "Altyn-Emel" (related to the Upper Koksu SNS) in 2023 is planned, since MP of SNNP "Altyn-Emel" itself should be prolonged in 2023 for 5-year period. The obligation to fulfill the METT Evaluation has been achieved.
Up to 100 households in Karabulak and in villages around benefit from improved livelihoods, through better livestock rearing practices as guided by sustainable pasture management plans.	Status: Not achieved Description: Due to partially revision of the PMP-related project task this impact was not addressed during current project's lifespan and should be addressed in parallel with the development of the actual PMP..
The conservation status of the Semirechensk Salamander is improved through implementation of a species action plan and as measured by reduced threats and improved status on the IUCN Red List.	Status: Achieved Description: Achieved through development of assessment of the current state of the SS population to update the species' status on the IUCN Red Lis; by creation of the first National Conservation Action Plan for the species.

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
240 000 hectares of the Upper Koksu State Nature Sanctuary are under improved management via institution of a site management plan	Status: Achieved Description: In order to effectively manage the existing Upper Koksu SNS territories, a special inclusion in the current management plan of SNNP "Altyn-Emel" was developed together with the management and staff of aforementioned SNNP (including the basis of METT assessment). This inclusion is necessary to expand the staff of the SNPP and the material base for more effective management and monitoring of the Upper Koksu State Nature Sanctuary, which is managed by Altyn-Emel SNPP.
Minimum 3000 ha of production landscape in	Status: Partially achieved

Impact Description	Impact Summary
the Dzungaria Corridor are under improved management through implementation of pasture management plans.	Description: Currently developed recommendations for the creation of Pasture Management Plan displays all the necessary information for the development of PMP and in fact can be (and should be) used as guidelines for the development, which should be carried out in close cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources of Zhetysu oblast and Akimat of Kerbulak district of Zhetysu oblast.
Threats to the endangered Semirechensk Salamander are clarified (if not also reduced), as measured by improved water quality, reduced grazing pressure, and better habitat management.	Status: Achieved Description: Within the framework of field researches, 4 seasonal trips on research of 60 localities of SS habitats in the territory of Dzungarian ecological corridor were carried out. In general cases, biological features of the species, peculiarities of habitat conditions and 33 watercourses were studied, anthropogenic load was evaluated.
At least 219310 hectares of production landscape in three hunting lease sites in the Dzungaria Corridor are under improved wildlife management through engagement (confirmed by agreement) with the leaseholder – Kazankol Ltd.	Status: Achieved Description: Achieved by special agreement contract with Kazankol Ltd. (2021)
Around 100 households have improved income due to healthier cattle benefiting from pasture management plans	Status: Not Achieved Description: Due to partially revision of the PMP-related project task this impact was not addressed during current project's lifespan and should be addressed in parallel with the development of the actual PMP.

Unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?
In the framework of the project, the implementation of the set tasks took place in general in the current order, using the calendar plans, action plans, selected research methodologies and monitoring work, which were developed at the stage of creating the project application. Accordingly, most of the tasks were completed within the two-year period of the project, and there were no unforeseen impacts as such.

However, this is not true for all tasks. The task of developing pasture management plans for the two model areas within the Dzungarian ecological corridor (specifically, within Upper Koksu SNS) has been partially revised over the life of the project, which has affected the final result of its implementation. In the October 7th ,2021 was conducted a meeting with local stakeholders (representatives of the ACBK, regional Okhotzooprom, regional Department of Natural Resources, Taldykorgan Forestry, national border control and the private sector representatives) to discuss current situation with pasture problem in the region, specifically in Upper Koksu Site region. At this meeting cooperation was achieved, and as result, data for preparation of a PNP draft were collected in October-November 2021. A PNP draft was prepared by PNP expert K. Shanbayev by the end of 2021. In February 2022, in a general meeting of the project's executives together with some project region stakeholders further work on the development of the PMP was revisited and identified. It was agreed that the project document should be presented as a recommendation for the development of a pasture management plan for the Upper Koksu Sanctuary itself, but in

PMP form. The reason for the change of concept of the document was the identification of the current obstacles to the immediate implementation of the new PMP and the replacement of the current existing plan. The obstacles are determined mainly by the procedure for approval of the PMP at the legislative level, as well as by the recommended grazing load specified in the draft plan. It is recommended to be much less than the existing one, according to the results of the research carried out in the course of the project, which, in turn, implies changes in the number and manner of issuing permits for pasture use. Currently developed recommendations for the creation of Pasture Management Plan displays all the necessary information for the development of PMP and in fact can be (and should be) used as guidelines for the development, which should be carried out in close cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources of Zhetysu oblast and Akimat of Kerbulak district of Zhetysu oblast.

Another task that was not completed within the project timeframe was the creation of an informational Nature Guide of the project region. The main difficulty in accomplishing this task for ACBK was underestimating the time required to develop the concept, determine the key species to illustrate, and subsequently finding a printer company who would undertake to print a "non-standard" format of the guide (different from conventional brochures).
As of March 31, 2023, the printing services have been paid for, and the final printing of the product is underway. The resulting product is planned to be used in all environmental initiatives in the region related to the ACBK’s work.

PROJECT RESULTS/DELIVERABLES

Overall results of the project:
1. Within the framework of the project, the work on updating the general information on biodiversity in the territory of Dzungarian ecological corridor was carried out. The main studied territories were the territories of Upper Koksu State Nature Sanctuary (northern part), hunting estates Kumbel and Koyandy-Tau.
The Biodiversity Survey was conducted from July 16th to 27th (2021). A total of 43 spot sites were surveyed by foot recording of birds and mammals encountered (indicating species, place of encounter, specifics of observation), as well as with the search for appropriate spot for further camera traps installation. In addition, four camera trap surveys (2 in 2021, 2 in 2022) were conducted in the aforementioned areas in order to clarify the species diversity. Based on the results of processing video footage from camera traps, the presence of 18 animal and bird species in the Upper Koksu SNS and 9 animal and bird species in the "Koyandy-tau" hunting estate was confirmed.
Information reports on the region's biodiversity research are presented in Section 18. Other information (1.1-1.2)

2. Research of Semirechensk Salamander (SS) in the region also was carried in frames of the project, including both field studies and work on revising the international conservation status of the species and creating the first National Conservation Plan for the species.
Within the framework of field researches, 4 seasonal trips on research of 60 localities of SS habitats in the territory of Dzungarian ecological corridor were carried out. In general cases, biological features of the species, peculiarities of habitat conditions and 33 watercourses were studied, anthropogenic load was evaluated.
The results of the field work were used to assess the current state of the SS population to update the species' status on the IUCN Red List.
In turn, the above results were involved in the creation of the first National Conservation Action Plan for the species.

Information reports on the SS survey, watercourse surveys, IUCN Red List Status update process, and the draft of NAP are presented in Section 18. Other information (1.1-1.2; 1.3; 2.2).

3. In general, the impact on local ecosystems of the region's invasive species - the American mink - was assessed. This includes literature studies of the species, 4 field trips to assess the density of mink populations in the Upper Koksu SNS, Kumbel and Koyandy-Tau hunting estates, analysis of the species' excreta to determine the seasonal food ration, and computer modeling to assess the future pressure of the species on local ecosystems. Information reports on literature studies, population density estimates, food rations, and computer modeling are presented in Section 18. Other information (1.1-1.2; 1.4)

4. In order to effectively manage the existing Upper Koksu SNS territories, a special inclusion in the current management plan of SNNP "Altyn-Emel" was developed together with the management and staff of aforementioned SNNP (including the basis of METT assessment). This inclusion is necessary to expand the staff of the SNPP and the material base for more effective management and monitoring of the Upper Koksu State Nature Sanctuary, which is managed by Altyn-Emel SNPP.
The results of the METT assessments and the Inclusion Project are presented in Section 18. Other information (2.3, 2.4)

5. As part of the project work, the existing Pasture Management Plan of the Upper Koksu SNS was reviewed, in search of availability to use any criteria to meet biodiversity conservation needs. For the purpose of evaluation, 4 field visits were carried out to collect basic botanical information, which was further used to develop a draft of Pasture Management Plan and subsequently to develop proposals and recommendations for the creation of Pasture Management Plan.

Information reports on botanical studies, PMP draft and recommendations for PMP creation are presented in section 18. Other information (2.5).

6. During the project the technical capacity of Altyn-Emel and Zhongar Alatau State National Nature Parks was assessed. On the basis of this assessment, training sessions were held on topics identified by the national parks management.
All related information about the trainings is presented in section 18. Other information (3.3).

7. The results of project activities were covered in the local media, and 1 PR event was held in the region with the participation of local educational institutions (high schools).
All related information about the PR component is presented in section 18. Other information (3.1).

Results for each deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	**Description**	**#**	**Description**	**Results for Deliverable**
1.0	Research	1.1	Biodiversity survey report of the Upper Koksu SNS and nearby Dzungaria Corridor, incl. status of mammals/birds/amphibians/ reptiles/freshwater fish/plants, results of camera traps, the ecological status of the Semireshensk salamander and status of mink.	Status: Achieved Description: Materials presented in Section 18. Other information (1.1-1.2; 1.3)
1.0	Research	1.4	Report on climate change predictions, and associated GIS, for the Dzungaria Corridor.	Status: Achieved Description: Materials presented in Section 18. Other information (1.4)
2.0	Conservation	2.1	Updated the Semirechensk Salamander IUCN Red List assessment	Status: Achieved Description: Materials presented in Section 18. Other information (1.1-1.2)
2.0	Conservation	2.2	Draft National Species Action Plan for the Semirechensk Salamander.	Status: Achieved Description: Materials presented in Section 18. Other information (2.2)
2.0	Conservation	2.6	Proposals for development of protected areas network presented to the Committee for Forestry and Wildlife	Status: Achieved Description: Materials presented in Section 18. Other information (2.2, 2.3, 2.5)
2.0	Conservation	2.3	Upper Koksu State Nature Sanctuary Site Management Plan	Status: Achieved Description: Materials presented in Section 18. Other information (2.3)
2.0	Conservation	2.5	Two 'Pasture Management	Status: Partially achieved

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
			Plans' developed, agreed and implemented in key salamander habitat within the Dzungaria Ecological Corridor	Description: Materials presented in Section 18. Other information (2.5)
3.0	Capacity Building	3.1	Report on communications activities, including photos and facsimiles of printed materials, summaries of conducted events (dates, locations, participants), representative photos of events and recommended next steps.	Status: Achieved Description: Materials presented in Section 18. Other information (3.1)
3.0	Capacity Building	3.2	Capacity needs assessment report for Altyn Emel NNP and Zhongar-Alatau State NNP.	Status: Achieved Description: Materials presented in Section 18. Other information (3.2)
3.0	Capacity Building	3.3	Report on capacity building in state national parks, including dates of trainings, agendas, participants (name, gender, position), materials provided, and recommended next steps.	Status: Achieved Description: Materials presented in Section 18. Other information (3.3)
1.0	Research	1.2	Biodiversity database with species and site data for the Upper Koksu State Nature Reserve and nearby Dzungaria Corridor.	Status: Achieved Description: Materials presented in Section 18. Other information (1.1-1.2)
1.0	Research	1.3	Report on water quality and	Status: Achieved

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
			pollutants with baseline and subsequent data from at least 4 monitoring sites.	Description: Materials presented in Section 18. Other information (1.3)
2.0	Conservation	2.4	METT for Upper Koksu State Nature Sanctuary in 2021 and 2022.	Status: Achieved Description: Materials presented in Section 18. Other information (2.4)
4.0	Stakeholder engagement (safeguards) and ACBK capacity	4.1	Report on Process Framework	Status: Achieved Description: Was delivered during Project's report period via ConservationGrants
4.0	Stakeholder engagement (safeguards) and ACBK capacity	4.2	Civil society tracking tool	Status: Achieved Description: Was delivered during Project's report period via ConservationGrants
4.0	Stakeholder engagement (safeguards) and ACBK capacity	4.3	Gender tracking tool	Status: Achieved Description: Was delivered during Project's report period via ConservationGrants
1.0	Research	1.5	Covid-safe field operation guidance	Status: Achieved Description: Materials presented in Section 18. Other information (1.4)

Tools, products or methodologies that resulted from the project or contributed to the results:
All of the materials mentioned above are presented in "Other Information" tab

PORTFOLIO INDICATORS

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
1	15 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), covering 600,000 hectares, have	462,310	240,000 HA (protected area of Upper Koksu) 3,000 HA (production	459,310	240,000 HA (protected area of Upper Koksu), 219,310 HA (production landscape covered by hunting sites)

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
	improved management		landscape covered by pasture management plan) 219,310 HA (production landscape covered by hunting sites)		
4	10 land-use plans or land-use management practices incorporate provisions for biodiversity conservation	2	Pasture management plans bordering Upper Koksu SNS	1	Pasture management plans bordering Upper Koksu SNS - creation guidelines with actual data
5	5 partnerships and networks formed or strengthened among civil society, and with government and communities, to leverage complementary capacities and maximize impact in support of the ecosystem profile	1	Partnership between state protected areas, hunting concession, and livestock grazing communities in Dzungaria region	1	Partnership between Zhongar Alatau SNPP, Altyn-Emel SNPP, Kazankol Ltd., Department of Natural Resources of Zhetysu oblast, Akimat of Kerbulak district of Zhetysu oblast
6	At least 20 local organizations receiving CEPF grants demonstrate improved organizational capacity	1	Improvement of ACBK	1	ACBK
1.1	Number of species to which threats are	1	Semirechensk Salamander	1	Semirechensk Salamander

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
	reduced				
1.2	Number of species benefiting from strengthened regulation on extractive use	0	Possible result for Semirechensk Salamander, depending on site management plan	0	Not achieved until adoption of NAP by Forestry and Wildlife Committee of Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan
3.2	Number of local level land use plans that incorporate biodiversity conservation as a management objective	2	2 pasture management plans	1	Pasture management plans bordering Upper Koksu SNS - creation guidelines with actual data
4.1	Number of private companies that adopt biodiversity-friendly practices	1	Hunting concession	1	Kazankol Ltd.
4.2	Number of hectares of farming or grazing areas that incorporate biodiversity conservation into operations	222,310	3,000 HA (pature management plan sites) 219,310 HA (hunting concession)	219,310	219,310 HA (hunting concession)
5.6	Number of advanced degree students that receive structured training in applied biodiversity science and/or support for research that leads directly to Intermediate Outcomes 1, 2, or 3	2	Interns working with ACBK	2	Interns working with ACBK – 1 theriologist, 1 botanist

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
6.1	Number of local organizations that actively participate in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile	2	ACBK Hunting company	2	ACBK, Kazankol Ltd.
6.2	Number of local civil society organizations receiving grants that demonstrate improved organizational capacity	1	ACBK	1	ACBK
6.3	Number of local civil society organizations receiving grants that demonstrate improved understanding of and commitment to gender issues	1	ACBK	1	ACBK
2	60,000 hectares of protected areas are created or expanded	240,000	Upper Koksu (existing area; expanding is possible in dependence of results of research and recommendations)	240,000	Existing area; not expanded.

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

*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
Koksu	KAZ22		240,000

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
Kumbel	44.685338	78.942367	79,833	Improved grazing plan on hunting estate. Removed invasive American mink.
Shagan	44.600741	78.520774	43,715	Improved grazing plan; removal of invasive American mink.
Koyandytau	44.66931	78.896251	95,762	Improved grazing plan on hunting estate. Removed invasive American mink.

Benefits to Individuals

- **Structured Training:**

Number of Men Trained	Number of Women Trained	Topics of Training
66	8	- General Theriology. The fauna of small mammals (rodents and hares). -Insect pests of steppe and semi-desert plants of SNNP - Pests of forest plantations of SNNP: - General ornithology

- **Cash Benefits:**

Number of Men – Cash Benefits	Number of Women – Cash Benefits	Description of Benefits
0	0	

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**			
Koksu	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	Kazakhstan	20	0
Rudnichnuy	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	Kazakhstan	20	0
Araltobe	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	Kazakhstan	20	0
Shubar	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	Kazakhstan	20	0
Tekeli	☒	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	Kazakhstan	20	0

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

"Other" Topics Addressed by the Policy, Law or Regulation:

No.	Country/ Countries	Date Enacted/ Amended	Expected impact	Action Performed to Achieve the Enactment/ Amendment

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
Kazankol Ltd.	Kazonkol is the company responsible for the three hunting estates/concessions named under Production Landscapes. They (1) worked to reduce disturbance to mammal breeding areas by grazing and hunting, (2) set aside salamander habitat in riparian areas to protect it from grazing	Kazakhstan

Name of Company	Description of Biodiversity-Friendly Practice	Country/Countries where Practice was Adopted
	cattle, (3) encouraged removal of invasive American mink by hunters	

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

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?

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
Ranodon	sibiricus	Semirechensk Salamander	EN	The salamander lives in the riparian corridor and gets trampled. It also is eaten by invasive minks. Grantee reduced mink population and its grazing plan keeps	Unknown

Genus	Species	Common Name (English)	Status	Intervention	Population Trend at Site
				livestock out of riverbed.	

LESSONS LEARNED

Perhaps the main lesson learned was to understand the complexity of obtaining data from government agencies (in our case - obtaining up-to-date data on pasture area, grazing volumes, cartographic data). The best solution in the future will be to clarify the possibility of obtaining data before the start of the project, for example, at the stage of formation of the project application, or maybe even earlier.

Another lesson can be considered an understanding of the need to carefully assess the implementation of highly complex tasks, in our case - the creation and implementation of the Pasture Management Plan. As in the previous case, it is necessary to understand in advance the feasibility within a certain time frame of each subtask of the complex task.

SUSTAINABILITY/REPLICATION

First of all - bring to a logical conclusion the work begun under the project to define and approve the Management Plan for the mountain pastures of the Upper Koksu SNS. Given that all the necessary research data have been collected under this project, it will be possible to complete this task through co-financing of other regional ACBK projects.

In addition, in the future, it is necessary to assess the effectiveness of implementation of additions to the existing management plan of the Altyn-Emel SNNP (concerning Upper Koksu SNS). This assessment can be done through METT (including verbal comments from management).
It is necessary to follow up the implementation of the Semirechensk salamander Conservation Plan, as far as possible at this moment - to put forward the plan to the TSS of the Forestry and wildlife committee.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS/STANDARDS

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Total Amount of Additional Funding Actually Secured (USD)	$2,326.00
Breakdown of Additional Funding	ACBK provided: extra field equipment for additional participants ($700); extra equipment for PR-event ($200). Institut of Zoology provided: transport rent (1 car) for first botany research (June 2021, 5 days total) – 255,000 KZT ($592). Kazankol Ltd. provided: transport rent (1 car) for Talgat

	Kisebayev first trip to the Kumbel and Koyandy-tau hunting estates (May 2021, 6 days total) - 306,000 KZT ($714). Altyn-Emel SNNP provided: transport rent (1 car) for training participants (trip to the SNNP territory, October 2021, 1 day total) - 51,000 KZT ($120).

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.

Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan (ACBK); acbk@acbk.kz - correspondense; artyom.khrokov@acbk.kz - project coordinator; sergey.sklyarenko@acbk.kz - lead conservation specialist