

## CEPF Final Project Completion Report

*Instructions to grantees: please complete all fields, and respond to all questions, below.*

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Organization Legal Name</b>    | <i>The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature</i>                            |
| <b>Project Title</b>              | <i>Strengthening Management Planning of Mujib as a Biosphere Reserve in Jordan</i> |
| <b>CEPF GEM No.</b>               | <i>61467</i>   |
| <b>Date of Report</b>             | <i>20/10/2015</i>  |
| <b>Report Author</b>              | <i>Mahmoud Bdour</i>   |
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**CEPF Region:** *Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot*

**Strategic Direction:** *The project will directly focus on the strategic direction no. 3. "Improve the conservation and protection status of 44 priority key biodiversity areas.*

**Grant Amount:** *US \$ 242160.00*

**Project Dates:**

Starting Date: 01/03/2013

End Date: 31/03/2015

With three months NO COST EXTENTION till 30/06/2015.

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

1. Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MOMA): MoMA is considered the main planning entity in Jordan; they have a specialized directorate that is responsible for master planning all over Jordan except the areas that is declared as special economic zones. MoMA is playing a tremendous effort in collecting the appropriate data that is important for their master planning, they have developed a Natural Heritage System Layer (NHS) that consists of all natural values, RSCN cooperated with MoMA and provided all required biodiversity values. MoMA is also developing guidelines to administrate the land uses within this layer, the land use team at RSCN has formed a committee that is chaired by MoMa and consist of Jordan Valley Authority, the objective of this committee is to facilitate data transfer and to strengthen RSCN and MoMA's cooperation. MoMA provided the NHS layer for the northern part of Mujib located with Madaba Governorate.
2. Jordan Valley Authority (JVA): Since Mujib area lies within the Jordan Rift Valley, JVA is juristically responsible about the area, JVA had prepared a land use plan for the Jordan Rift Valley in 2006, and their plan was prepared before any other planning initiatives in the area. JVA provided RSCN land use team with their land use plan as well as its associated reports.

3. Dead Sea Development Zone (DSDZ): Dead sea development company was formed in 2009 to serve the master development of the dead sea development zone, in 2011 the DSDZ's master plan was officially published, it was complementary to JVA's plan, but juristically DSDZ master plan overcome JVA's plan, RSCN was one of the national organizations who have been technically consulted in the plan's preparation phase, RSCN land use team had a copy of the plan and its associated maps as well as its guidelines.
4. Ministry of Environment (MoEnv)-Environmental Impact Assessment Committee (EIA): RSCN has been member in the National EIA committee that is chaired by the MoEnv, this membership along more than seven years enabled RSCN to oversee a tremendous number of development projects all over the country, the land use team have built a database for all development projects, quarries, mining projects as well as mega projects, Recently these projects have been classified into certain categories in order to develop a "limitations map" that illustrates limitations surrounding the network of protected areas in Jordan. This product was one of the main layers that has been utilized in data analysis of The MBR land use plan.
5. Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI): the land use team contacted the MWI requesting hydrological data for Mujib area in GIS shapefile forms, such as springs locations, main and secondary wadies, surface and ground water basins..etc.

The Royal Geographic Centre: Mujib CEPF project has funded the purchase of a geological map for Mujib area, the importance of having this data back to the geological importance of Mujib area.

Livestock owners with about 35 members ( 35 families).

Faqou women cooperative : This society was established on March, 2010 to meet needs of women within Faqou community, train them and build their capacity to be active members in the community. It involve (60) members. Its main objectives are: Raise awareness of women in all fields , Improve socio-economy conditions of women, Empower women to be active members in the community and Conduct training courses in communications skills, voluntarism activities, Agricultural production and other useful skills in cooperation with M'utah University

Saqi Agricultural Cooperative Association: This society was established on March, 2008 to raise awareness of local community of Faqou in the field of agriculture and Environment. It involve (110) members. Its main objectives are:

- Create new jobs opportunities and Improve socio-economy conditions of local communities.
- Benefit from agricultural resources and new technologies in this field.

Saqi and in cooperation with RSCN initiated an ideal farm which included some new technologies

1. Faqou Agricultural Cooperative Association for breeding sheeps  
This society was established on June, 2007 to serve farmers, and sheep and cattle owners. It involve (35) members of sheep and cattle owners. Its main actives are:

- Raise some pastoral plants inside the reserve land to be used for grazing and contribute to RSCN efforts to control grazing.
- Rehabilitate and dig new rain water harvesting tanks to be used for watering the sheeps.
- Provide water for sheep and cattle owners to water their sheep's for nominal prices.
- Pave and Incision of new roads to facilitate reaching grazing areas

## **Conservation Impacts**

### **2. Describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEFP ecosystem profile**

The project fully in line with the CEFP strategic direction 3. "Improve the conservation and protection status of 44 priority key biodiversity areas", and contributed to the achievement of the Investment Priorities listed in the CEFP Investment Strategy under strategic direction

#### **Strengthening management planning and the new MP**

1. The project improved the management planning process and effectiveness of Mujib Reserve management in a participatory approach.
2. A new management plan was developed and it will be implemented over the period from 2015 – 2019.
3. The project promoted and introduced a participatory conservation planning for areas beyond the reserve boundaries to develop ecologically-sound and economically-viable land use patterns around the reserve, In order to achieve sustainable conservation of key ecosystems and habitats.

#### **Socio economic pilots an related threat levels reduction, grazing, and improved livelihood.**

1. The project contributed in developing a community-based conservation programs and integrated them with socio-economic development.
2. Two small project were funded by this project for two local NGO's, faquo women cooperative and saqi sder agricultural cooperative.

#### **Land use plan**

1. A land use plan was developed for the reserve buffer zone covering an area of 8500 ha.
  2. The zoning plan for the reserve was updated based on Man and biosphere zoning scheme requirements
- These achieved project results fully consistent with the mentioned CEFP investment priorities and mechanisms.

### **3. Summarize the overall results/impact of your project**

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

The project will aid into developing a comprehensive five-year management plan based on participatory planning approach. This will directly be integrated into achieving the RSCN mission in biodiversity conservation and enhancing the socio-economic development. Therefore, more support from local communities to the conservation efforts will be gained. In addition, this project will be used as a pilot case-study to be applied in other nature reserves managed by the RSCN

#### **4. Actual progress toward long-term impacts at completion**

A five year management plan for Mujib was developed that is in line with MAB zonation scheme requirements and that is operational since 2015 and will continue till the end of 2019.

The implementation of the project enhanced RSCN management planning process through the use of participatory approach with the local communities, influencing land use planning outside reserve boundary through effective partnership with stakeholders, and the use of MAB requirements for zonation and also the layout of the new plan will be in line with MAB thematic areas, and this new format will be used for RSCN reserves that are declared as Man and Biosphere reserves.

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

The project is aiming at producing a comprehensive management plan to be applied effectively, therefore, four main short term impact are expected from the project: (1) developing an accurate zoning plan based on scientific research program and according to the man and biosphere concept. The zoning plan will identify hotspot areas for conservation and sites for socio-economic development and accordingly will guide the reserve management into achieving a well-planned patrolling plan, educational program and eco-tourism plan. (2) Reducing the impact of threats in the reserve and its surrounding areas through establishing a detailed land use patterns, therefore, enhancing better decision making attempts and ensuring integrating conservation and economical development (3) Responsible use of natural resources, and promoting the use of environmentally sound techniques, through effective participatory approach with local communities and relevant stakeholders. Accordingly, gathering further support to the implementation of the management plan (4) developing knowledge on nature conservation importance through a wide-range outreach program working with local communities, local cooperatives and schools from both genders.

#### **5. Actual progress toward short-term impacts at completion**

- a) Five year management plan
- b) Land use plan
- c) Zoning plan
- d) Patrolling plan
- e) Research and survey strategy
- f) Two socioeconomic project for two local cooperatives
- g) Outreach plan
- h) Capacity building activities

- i) Adequate publication materials were produced and distributed among wide targeted groups of stakeholders ( maps, brochures and posters ).

**6. Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives**

- a) All the supporting documents for Al-Mujib biosphere reserve Management Plan were produced through the implementation of the project:
  - (1) Management plan
  - (2) Zoning plan
  - (3) Land use plan (The main products of this component is to develop an integrated transitional zone for Mujib and its surroundings).
  - (4) Patrolling plan
  - (5) Research and survey strategy
- b) Two socioeconomic projects were established for two local cooperatives in al-mujib reserve surroundings, those are to engage local communities in the project and to promote for environmentally sound practices.
- c) Capacity building programme and workshops for the local communities and the reserve staff
- d) Networking with official and local stakeholders gaining more support to the planning process of the reserve and this is expected to ease the implementation of the newly developed management plan.
- e) Comprehensive Outreach plan for the reserve was developed
- f) The Bureaucratic procedures of the government were one of the difficulties that faced the project specially the approval procedures of the management and transitional zone plans.

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

A strong relation with the ministry of municipalities that led to their consent to integrate biodiversity in their land use planning, and also to provide RSCN with their plans near the all the reserve for free.

**Project Components and Products/Deliverables**

**Component 1 (as stated in the approved proposal)**

- a) Active stakeholder consultation process
- b) Management plan document
- c) Ecological research and monitoring strategy.
- d) Wildlife Enforcement scheme Report.
- e) Zoning plan compatible with the Man and Biosphere criteria and functions.

**8. Describe the results from Component 1 and each product/deliverable**

**1) Active stakeholder consultation:**

- The tracking tools (METT 1 and CSTT) were completed as follows:

#### 1. CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY TRACKING TOOL

A meeting was held in April 10<sup>th</sup> 2013 with representatives from the RSCN where a complete review for the sheet was accomplished. Results showed a total score of 77.5 out of 100 divided as:

|                         |      |          |
|-------------------------|------|----------|
| 1) Human resources=     | 13.5 | \20,     |
| 2) Financial Resources= | 19   | \20,     |
| 3) Management System=   | 17   | \20,     |
| 4) Strategic planning=  | 12   | \20, and |
| 5) Delivery=            | 16   | \20.     |

Another meeting was held on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> 2015 with representative from RSCN and a complete review of the sheet was accomplished. Results showed a total score of 81 out of 100 divided as:

|                         |      |          |
|-------------------------|------|----------|
| 1) Human resources=     | 14.5 | \20,     |
| 2) Financial Resources= | 19   | \20,     |
| 3) Management System=   | 18.5 | \20,     |
| 4) Strategic planning=  | 12   | \20, and |
| 5) Delivery=            | 17   | \20.     |

#### 2. Tracking Tool for GEF Biodiversity Focal Area Strategic Priority One:

Another meeting was held in June 12<sup>th</sup> 2013 with the participation of RSCN related staff, Mujib reserve staff (major units= management, conservation, education, and tourism), local community representatives, Ministry of Environment. All questions were answered and assessed except for question number 22 (Indigenous People) as the group agreed that this term does not fit in Jordan. The total score was 58.

In Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> 2015 another meeting was held and the tracking tool was reviewed, the reserve total score was 69

- Advisory committee was established and had meetings all over project implementation period and this committee is to continue working after the end of the project.

## 2) Al-Mujib reserve management plan

- The management planning team was formulated and composed of:

- 1) Head of National Conservation Monitoring Center-RSCN,
- 2) Mujib Reserve Manager,
- 3) Acting Head of the Wild Jordan Division,
- 4) Acting Head of the enforcement section
- 5) Head of Education Section
- 6) Head of reserves section.

This team supported by consultants, other units such as GIS, climate change and landuse and governmental bodies in later stages.

- Baseline information for Mujib reserve were collected and reviewed, the information and the evaluation parts were prepared but a new approach was raised and discussed for the management plan writing scheme. This approach implies following a specific theme where

each unit in the reserve should be targeted on specific manner with clear headlines, sub-headlines and objectives. The approach might include (but is under discussion),

- 1) Conservation (research, enforcement, biodiversity, climate change),
- 2) Sustainable development (local communities, site management, socioeconomic projects...), and
- 3) Logistic support (management, communication, landuse..

These thematic areas are the functional areas of the Man and Biosphere Program. This approach was discussed and approved internally with the RSCN senior management.

Under each thematic areas there are a series of work packages:

1. Nature conservation:
  - A. Species and Habitat management, B. Wildlife enforcement plan
2. Socio economic development:
  - A. Socio economic programs,
  - B. Local community development and engagement.
3. Logistical Support:
  - A. Finance and administration and HR management,
  - B. Facilities and equipment management,
  - C. Environmental research and Monitoring
  - D. Communication strategy and
  - E. Environmental Education

Each work package will follow a systematic structure and a table of contents which shall include three major parts and these are:

- 1) Situation analysis (detailed description of old, current and future activities that have been conducted in relation to each theme,
- 2) Assessment part (assess gaps and needs in implementation according to the situation analysis part and
- 3) The logframe of this work package with a detailed action plan (to be developed for five years from 2015- 2019).All themes were combined after within one introduction to create the new management plan of Mujib.

### **3) Ecological research and monitoring strategy.**

- A TOR for the reserve ecologist was prepared and announcement was made for the local communities to appoint an ecologist. However, number of applicants was very low (three applicants in 20 days of announcement) and the qualifications obtained were under what is needed (assessed through interviews) so no appointment was done.
- The required equipments were prepared and purchased.
- The research strategy team was identified which involve the research and survey section teams (fauna, flora and support from GIS), A brief situation analysis was conducted for the past, current and future research activities. The analysis showed that there are many issues and problems in the current research program and this led to not implement many of the research activities in the reserve. A priority list of research activities was suggested by the team and TOR was prepared for employing a reserve ecologist. All information gathered from the reserve rangers over the last years of the reserve establishment were collected, analyzed and included within a computerized system. The information included data on species with special concerns such as indicator species especially the Nubian Ibex. In addition, data on threats, and hotspot areas were collated. All data used to develop Mujib's zoning plan

- The research team initiated a monitoring program for the Nubian Ibex using photo-trapping cameras. This program was developed as a needed tool to understand population and impact of hunting on it. As well, it will help to measure patrolling effectiveness in Mujib reserve.

The information gathered from this program helped into developing the reserve zoning plan as well as it will be included within the next management plan activities as a long-term monitoring program.

#### **4) Wildlife Enforcement scheme Report.**

A detailed strategy which followed the framework mentioned earlier was prepared, The first part included the general information about the reserve establishment, literature review about previous patrolling activities, ecological importance and key species present, hotspot areas, and threats.

This was followed by assessing the previous patrolling activities depending on the gaps appeared in the first part, and followed by assessing patrolling in means of the reserve size, entrances and the control over them, species present, rarity in the reserve, typicalness, and human interaction, investments around the reserve and their consequences on patrolling, logistic support present, team composition and number, and indicators for successful patrolling implementation were discussed.

The last part included a detailed action plan which identified the Mujib management objectives in relation to enforcement and described outputs and activities to be implemented within the next five years.

This plan was submitted and reviewed by RSCN experts and agreed upon and integrated within the management plan document.

#### **5) Zoning plan compatible with the Man and Biosphere criteria and functions.**

The information updates were included within the GIS system including a vegetation types map using the results of RSCN's vegetation surveys in Mujib, The zoning plan was updated based on the evaluation of ecological hotspots and human threat within the PA. This builds on historical data, current research findings, and updated land use layers, RSCN was able through the landuse unit to obtain the locations of quarries, and mining, and other types of development projects around Mujib Biosphere Reserve. The Ministry of Municipalities provided the natural heritage layer for the northern part of Mujib located with Madaba Governorate. Other important data like the distribution of springs and water sources were also compiled.

All the data were finalized, the hotspots of conservation values and human threat were prepared, and the zoning map was finalized accordingly.

#### **Component 2 (as stated in the approved proposal)**

- a) socio-economic assessment report
- b) Three projects identified
- c) Outreach program developed

#### **9. Describe the results from Component 2 and each product/deliverable**

## 1) Socioeconomic report:

The project team conducted a study to understand potential socioeconomic projects in Mujib and mechanisms of local community's involvement. A detailed study was performed in Mujib targeting community based organizations including:

- 1) Women of Faqou,
- 2) SaqiSdeer and
- 3) Livestock owner's cooperatives.

This study described each cooperative history in means of the year of establishment, number of members, location, major activities implemented; previous funding attempt to each cooperative. This was followed by listing down needs of each cooperative and a suggested budget.

## 2) Three projects identified

- Socio-economic projects have been identified and included sustainable projects currently established on the ground represented by three projects implemented by the RSCN and these are

- 1) Silver workshop, 2) medicinal plants workshop and 3) sandblasting workshop.

A detailed proposal was prepared about these workshops identified their aims, number of local people involved, financial statements, required improvements, and expected impacts.

Other sustainable projects exist in Mujib for local communities are

- 1) A project for the women cooperative,
- 2) Agricultural project for the SaqiSdeer cooperative and
- 3) Green fodder project for the Livestock owners cooperative.

Opportunities were discussed between different parties to link the projects together to ensure having sustainable projects that will last after the project period. Acceptance was gained from different partners and stakeholders and some Initial thoughts were raised to connect the agricultural project of the local community cooperative with the medicinal plant workshop

Based on the previous study, three projects were identified to be implemented fully with the local communities in Mujib as follows:

### 1) Faqou women cooperative:

It was agreed to develop an MOU with this cooperative in order to raise their economic status as well as providing them with training aiming to develop their experiences and knowledge on environmental friendly practices.

Therefore, a MOU was signed and the first step implemented was to renovate the cooperative building through fixing the signs which will include the donor, implementing agency and the cooperative logo. This was followed by buying equipment which is needed by the cooperative to enhance their development and modernize the building. The cooperative start to produce more than three products depending on the other cooperatives agricultural product, like the (Zattar Baladi which comes from the green thyme production from Saqi cooperative and yogurt by products which comes from diary production from livestock owners cooperative.

### 2) SaqiSdeer cooperative:

This is an agricultural based cooperative which depends on crops cultivation as a major source of income. The developed project was to support this cooperative by renting a land

and fixing the necessary equipment needed for crops cultivation in it. After that, the project supported the cooperative with herbal plants seedlings as a tool of strengthen the agricultural practices which consumes less water and chemical pesticides and have a market. The project facilitate signing an MOU with Faqou women cooperative to ensure that all herbal plants produced from this cooperative to be sold to the new project established for the Faqou women cooperative.

### **3) Livestock owners cooperative:**

The idea was to support this cooperative with a machine that can create fodder for livestock but still feasibility study is conducted to understand its applicability.

The cooperative had a green fodder machine that was granted to them through previous CEPF project, and the idea was to support the cooperative in the running cost of it till they get enough income and experience to run it on their own, but after so many meetings and delays the cooperative informed the project management that they are not willing to cooperate in this matter and the available funds were used to support the other two cooperatives.

### **3) Outreach program developed**

Outreach program was development and the action plan was reviewed and agreed upon.

List of information available at the RSCN were viewed and these includes

- 1) Previous communication strategy for Mujib,
- 2) Available educational materials produced for Mujib and
- 3) Medicinal Plants project

Many reports were reviewed including:

Reports revised:

1. Applying the GEF Tracking Tools for GEF Biodiversity Focal Area Strategic Priority One (this report prepared through a workshop attended by representatives of all parties and local communities around mujib biosphere reserve.
2. Previous managements plans for Mujib biosphere reserve where all stakeholders were part of the planning process as RSCN is following the public participation approach
3. Available educational programs such as water education and herbal medicinal programs
4. National network for protected areas in Jordan book
5. Water strategy for mujib reserve under the integrated water conservation and management in mujib nature reserve project, again the planning process allowed adequate opportunity for key stakeholders to influence the management plan
6. Communication strategy under the integrated water resources management and conservation in mujib biosphere reserve.
7. Approved proposal : Integrated Water Conservation and Management in Mujib Nature Reserve
8. Consultation reviews with teachers from the local community, and revision to initiatives developed by some schools and environmental activist from fagou village.
9. And other internal reports prepared by RSCN before this project The analysis above helped in identifying the target groups whom will be targeted in the outreach program, and categorized them into eight main categories in addition to detailed segmentation including (school students both males and females starting from the age 12 up to 15 years old, local NGO's specifically representatives from the agricultural and grazing sectors, hunters,

women civil societies will be targeted as women play a major role in the family level, water sector, industrial sector, the media).

Target groups were also segmented based on their interest to conserve the biosphere reserve's ecosystem.

Opinion leaders also identified as they will be one of the arms to reach the target audiences. Later on RSCN developed the first draft of the outreach strategy, the main aim of the outreach, outreach objectives and outputs. The document also included the awareness and education program and its activities.

Some tools have been also suggested. After that the educational program have been reviewed and we have found that it concentrates on the concepts related to the herbal and medicinal plant, agriculture ,and water education, missing the key concepts related to the criticalhabitats, species and cultural values of the protected area .

RSCN have started the development of the junior ranger program to target the students from the local communities who will pass four cycles to graduate as junior rangers, those rangers will become crucial vanguards in the changing of community perceptions of the reserves and commitment to conservation. The junior ranger program will be branded in a very unique image to attract the students from the local community to participate in this program.

The junior ranger program wasdevelopedwith the local community engagement by workshops with stakeholders and decision makers, focus groups with the students, and the parents to get their feedback on the junior ranger program

And those activities were supported by the project

### **Component 3 (as stated in the approved proposal)**

- a) Integrated transitional zone for Mujib reserve and its surroundings developed
- b) Landuse plan document for Mujib and its surroundings
- c) Integrated transitional zone promoted using well designed products

### **10. Describe the results from Component 3 and each product/deliverable**

• The list of information available at the RSCN were viewed and included:

1) Land portion of Jordan, 2) Boundaries, 3) Water reservoir, wadis and watershed, 4) Natural heritage sites, 5) Ecological information including vegetation types, and species distribution. In addition, the list of information required to be gathered were discussed and included: 1) Tourism information: available resources were highlighted such as Jordan trails book, Dead Sea Development Zone information.

And field verification studies to confirm the information on the ground, 2) Ecological hotspot areas, 3) Legal expert, 4) Geology and the threats in Mujib reserves and its surroundings were also gathered and integrated in the preparation process.

• The GIS unit followed with the Globwetlands project which is a regional pilot project of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. Its primary objective is to facilitate the integration of remote sensing into the conservation and management of Wetlands. The project provide GIS tools and data for the monitoring and observation of wetlands. Mujib Protected area and its surrounding were chosen in addition to Azraq Wetland and Jafr Area for the preliminary testing of the software. The project offered satellite imagery for the Mujib area to be classified according to the "Corine" Classification system, the project offered satellite

imagery and performed preliminary land classification of the wetland area and RSCN will do the field identification of the Corine classes.

The resulting data produce an updated Classification map of the area, and will show the land cover change using recent and historical satellite imagery.

The result will help identify areas under stress, and can be integrated in enhancing the Mujib Protected area management zoning.

- The project facilitated and activated the landuse committee which is composed of representatives from the RSCN (landuse and GIS unit), Ministry of Municipalities, and the Jordan Valley Authority. Meetings were held for the committee and discussion about the need to include the reserve in the planning process. In addition, it was stressed on the need to consider buffer and transitional zones. Results of those meeting were obtaining different and important GIS layers that will enrich the zoning plan of Mujib and included:

- 1) Natural and cultural layer for the Karak vicinity,
- 2) Boundaries layer for the vicinity as agreed by the Jordanian governments, and
- 3) Roads and off-roads layer.

A preparatory meeting was conducted with MoMa, aimed at commencing the collaboration process, as well as discussing the plan's adoption process, consequently; MoMA agreed on adopting the plan since the plan will be prepared with their full participation

#### **Component 4 (as stated in the approved proposal)**

*List each component and product/deliverable from Grant Writer*

#### **11. Describe the results from Component 4 and each product/deliverable**

#### **12. If you did not complete any component or deliverable, how did this affect the overall impact of the project?**

All components and deliverable were achieved.

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

##### **Project main document**

1. Management plan for MBR .
2. Transitional zone plan for MBR .
3. Outreach program for MBR .
4. Researches and studies strategy MBR .
5. Zoning plan for MBR .
6. Patrolling plan for MBR .

##### **Studies that help in producing the Transitional zone plan**

1. Soil and agriculture report
2. Tourism potential values.
3. Geology Of the Mujib – Wala/Heed and the geological potential values .

### Publication materials

1. Project general brochure.
2. Project banners ( Arabic and English ).
3. Project poster
4. Transitional zone map

### CEPF Global Monitoring Data

Respond to the questions and complete the tables below. If a question is not relevant to your project, please make an entry of 0 (zero) or n/a (not applicable).

- 14. Did your organization complete the CEPF Civil Society Tracking Tool (CSTT) at the beginning and end of your project? (Please be sure to submit the final CSTT tool to CEPF if you haven't already done so.)**

|               | Date                           | Composite Score |
|---------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Baseline CSTT | 10 <sup>th</sup> of April 2013 | 77.5 / 100      |
| Final CSTT    | 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov. 2015     | 81/ 100         |

- 15. List any vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species conserved due to your project**

| Conservation Status                                  | Scientific Name        | English Name                            | Arabic Name        |
|--|------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Dead sea endemic                                     | Iris moabiticus        | Iris                                    | سوسنة              |
| Dead sea endemic                                     | Daucus jordanicus      | Carrot                                  |                    |
| Dead sea endemic                                     | Cynanchum acutum       | Montpellier scamony<br>(plant Milkweed) | عليق               |
| Dead sea endemic                                     | Caloptryx syriaca      | -                                       | البيسوب السوريه    |
| New to science ( this is before the project period ) | Anadrymadusa jordanica | Hoper grass-                            | الجنذب الاردني     |
| Nationally threatened                                | Capeota damascina      | -                                       | سمكة الخفاف        |
| Nationally threatened                                | Nemacheilus insignis   | -                                       | سمكة الدافور       |
| Nationally threatened                                | Garra rufa             |   | سمكة الغارا        |
| Red list listed species                              | (Testudo graeca)       | Gr eek Tortoise                         | السلحفاة الإغريقية |
| Regionally threatened                                | Neophron percnopterus  | Egyptian Vulture                        | النسر المصري       |
| Globally threatened                                  | Caracal caracal        | Caracal                                 | الوشق              |

|                                  |                    |      |       |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|------|-------|
| Nationally threatened to extinct | Capra ibex nubiana | Ibex | البدن |
|                                  |                    |      |       |

**Hectares Under Improved Management:**

| Project Results  | Hectares* | Comments  |
|--|-----------|---|
| <b>16. Did your project strengthen the management of an existing protected area?</b>   | 21200     | <i>Al-Mujib Biosphere Reserve new management plan<br/>New zoning plan</i>   |
| <b>17. Did your project create a new protected area or expand an existing protected area?</b>  | 8500      | <i>Al-Mujib Biosphere Reserve Buffer Zone<br/>The area out of the boundaries of the designated reserve.<br/>New land use plan for the buffer zone</i> |
| <b>18. Did your project strengthen the management of a key biodiversity area named in the CEPF Ecosystem Profile (hectares may be the same as questions above)</b> | 29700     |   |
| <b>19. Did your project improve the management of a production landscape for biodiversity conservation</b>   | 8500      |   |
| <b>Total</b>   | 29700     |   |

\* Include total hectares from project inception to completion

**20. In relation to the two questions above on protected areas, did your project complete a Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT), or facilitate the completion of a METT by protected area authorities? If so, complete the table below. (Note that there will often be more than one METT for an individual protected area.)**

| Protected area             | Date of METT               | Composite METT Score | Date of METT | Composite METT Score | Date of METT | Composite METT Score |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Al-Mujib biosphere reserve | 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2013 | 58                   |              |                      |              |                      |
| Al-Mujib biosphere reserve | 10 <sup>th</sup> Nov. 2015 | 69                   |              |                      |              |                      |
|                            |                            |                      |              |                      |              |                      |
|                            |                            |                      |              |                      |              |                      |

21. List the name of any corridor (named in the Ecosystem Profile) in which you worked and how you contributed to its improved management, if applicable.

**Direct Beneficiaries: Training and Education**

| <i>Did your project provide training or education for . . .</i>             | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> | <b>Brief Description</b>  |
|---|-------------|---------------|--------------|---|
| <b>22. Adults for community leadership or resource management positions</b> | 8           | 10            | 18           | For males the training was on the organic farming and ecotourism initiatives<br>For females the training was on the Packaging and recycling |
| <b>23. Adults for livelihoods or increased income</b>                       | 8           | 10            | 18           | Both have training on marketing<br>Medicinal plants farming training<br>Medicinal plants packaging  |
| <b>24. School-aged children</b>   |             |               |              |   |
| <b>25. Other</b>  |             |               |              |   |

26. List the name and approximate population size of any “community” that benefited from the project.

| <i>Community name, surrounding district, surrounding province, country</i> | <i>Population size</i> |
|--|------------------------|
| Faqou Village      Alqaser district Alkarak governorate      Jordan        | 8500                   |

## 27. Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities

Based on the list of communities above, write the name of the communities in the left column below. In the subsequent columns under Community Characteristics and Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit, place an X in all relevant boxes.

| Community Name | Community Characteristics |                     |                            |                                |                 |                   |  |       | Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit                                |                     |                            |                                    |  |                                       |   |  |                               |   |  |   |       |  |
|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--|-------|--|---------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------|---|--|---|-------|--|
|                | Small landowners          | Subsistence economy | Indigenous/ ethnic peoples | Pastoralists / nomadic peoples | Recent migrants | Urban communities | Communities falling below the poverty line | Other | Increased income due to:                                       |                     |                            |                                    | Increased food security due to the adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or agricultural practices | More secure access to water resources | Improved tenure in land or other natural resource due to titling, reduction of colonization, etc. | Reduced risk of natural disasters (fires, landslides, flooding, etc) | More secure sources of energy | Increased access to public services, such as education, health, or credit | Improved use of traditional knowledge for environmental management | More participatory decision-making due to strengthened civil society and governance | Other |  |
|                |                           |                     |                            |                                |                 |                   |  |       | Adoption of sustainable natural resources management practices | Ecotourism revenues | Park management activities | Payment for environmental services |  |                                       |   |  |                               |   |  |   |       |  |
| Faqou          | x                         |                     |                            | x                              |                 |                   | x  |       |  | x                   | x                          |                                    |  |                                       |   |  |                               |   | x  |   |       |  |
| Mekawer        | x                         |                     |                            | x                              |                 |                   | x  |       |  | x                   | x                          |                                    |  |                                       |   |  |                               |   | x  |   |       |  |
|                |                           |                     |                            |                                |                 |                   |  |       |  |                     |                            |                                    |  |                                       |   |  |                               |   |  |   |       |  |
|                |                           |                     |                            |                                |                 |                   |  |       |  |                     |                            |                                    |  |                                       |   |  |                               |   |  |   |       |  |
|                |                           |                     |                            |                                |                 |                   |  |       |  |                     |                            |                                    |  |                                       |   |  |                               |   |  |   |       |  |
|                |                           |                     |                            |                                |                 |                   |  |       |  |                     |                            |                                    |  |                                       |   |  |                               |   |  |   |       |  |

If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit:

## Lessons Learned

### **28. Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building. Consider lessons that would inform projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community**

Mujib area is located in the middle of the Jordan Rift Valley (JRV), with elevations ranging from -420 m b.s.l in the west along the Dead Sea to 750 m a.s.l in the east. This dramatic variation in elevation gave the area its remarkable biodiversity, therefore; one Protected Area (PA) and two Special Conservation Areas (SCAs) were established by RSCN to conserve the unique representation of habitats. Additionally, the area is part of the worldwide important cultural, religious sites and the tourism developments of the Dead Sea one of the main nationally and internationally nature-based tourism attractions in Dead Sea. It has the largest agricultural area, and it is wealthy with many natural resources like potash, salt among other minerals and it has many mega industrial projects.

In light of above potentials of the area and its sophisticated responsibilities that have been effected the conservation actions in the area ,RSCN created better mechanism to find the adequate method with the stakeholders to protect the area and its surroundings through engaged them in the early step of planning process which is motivated them to participated more in the planning and implementing of the management and land use plans and share all the present and future developing plans that occurs in MBR surrounding with RSCN. The engagement process is sufficient tool that give RSCN the ability to build prior actions before the government and other development agencies initiated any development around the protected area which is safe good time and efforts of RSCN to mitigated the impacts of any new development the effect the conservation actions in and around protected area.

The project team at RSCN has formed a committee that is chaired by MoMa and consist of Jordan Valley Authority, the objective of this committee is to facilitate data transfer and to strengthen RSCN and MoMA's cooperation, this committee played an important role to achieve the producing the transitional zone of MBR and regulates the conservation actions in the area which was help RSCN to put the MBR in main streaming planning process at high level of master planning map of the land use that will be the reference of all development projects in the country .

In addition more information and data gathered and collected is an exhaustive process which requires time, efforts and money, but has an optimistic consequences and lead to a variety of benefits to the project success.

### **29. Project Design Process (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings)**

- Planning at the early stages of the project is a tool for success, time and efforts saving. As well, it will aid into developing other outputs within the project period.

### **30. Project Implementation (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings)**

- Good understanding of stakeholders' capabilities, existing workshops and skills assists into the project implementation and defining the appropriate development of their projects
- Stakeholders' participation should be more effective for better implementation. as well, the integration between multi-leveled stakeholders stresses the importance of the project

**31. Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community**

- Outreach and environmental plans should be tailored to the specific target audience of the project. The planning team should be innovative and think out of the box.

**Sustainability / Replication**

**32. Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated**

- RSCN capability to executing such as projects is very motivation tool for the project team to achieve their objectives through huge data base that obtained necessary information and required experience at the level field of conservation.
- Linking the zoning and transitional zone plan of MBR with line of Master land use plan that made by MOMA is one of the success result that will insure the continuity of protection actions and safeguard the surrounding potential areas of MBR.
- The engaging of local communities through participation in planning phase of management plan preparation and support their socio- economic small project will build good relation with reserve management and get more support to the long term management activities.
- Five years management plan with comprehensive attached planed such as( zoning plan ,transitional plan ,outreach program, patrolling and research and monitoring ) will oriented the reserve management to take the right decisions which are build on scientific information and accumulated experience .

Strategy

**33. Summarize any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability**

**Safeguards**

**34. If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social, environmental, or pest management safeguards**

**Additional Comments/Recommendations**

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

**Additional Funding**

**36. Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment**

| <b>Donor</b> | <b>Type of Funding*</b> | <b>Amount</b> | <b>Notes</b> |
|--------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|
|              |                         |               |              |
|              |                         |               |              |
|              |                         |               |              |
|              |                         |               |              |

*\* Categorize the type of funding as:*

- A Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B Grantee and Partner Leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project)*
- C Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)*

The project identified the Czech Republic Official Development Assistance as a donor earlier ,this project it was potential project and nothing seriously had been done on this proposal because the donor change their plane to support the area.

**Information Sharing and CEPF Policy**

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net), and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

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Promotional event for CEPF Project in MBR



Stakeholders Reflecting Meeting on New MBR Management plan

