



CEPF and the Mountains of Central Asia

Ecosystem profile and investment strategy definition, 2016-2017

The mountains of Central Asia Hotspot consists of two of Asia's major mountain ranges, the Pamir and the Tien Shan, and its 860 000 square kilometers cover parts of seven countries: southern Kazakhstan, most of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, eastern Uzbekistan, western China, northeastern Afghanistan, and a small part of Turkmenistan. The hotspot holds a large number of endemic and endangered species, but the overuse of natural resources, climate change and other pressures have placed much of its biodiversity under serious threat.

The hotspot has many mountains above 6 000 meters in elevation, as well as densely populated and agricultural piedmont areas, the largest of which are the Fergana, Zaravshan and Ili Valleys, along with the major cities of Tashkent, Bishkek, Almaty, Dushanbe and Urumqi.

Planning CEPF's Investment

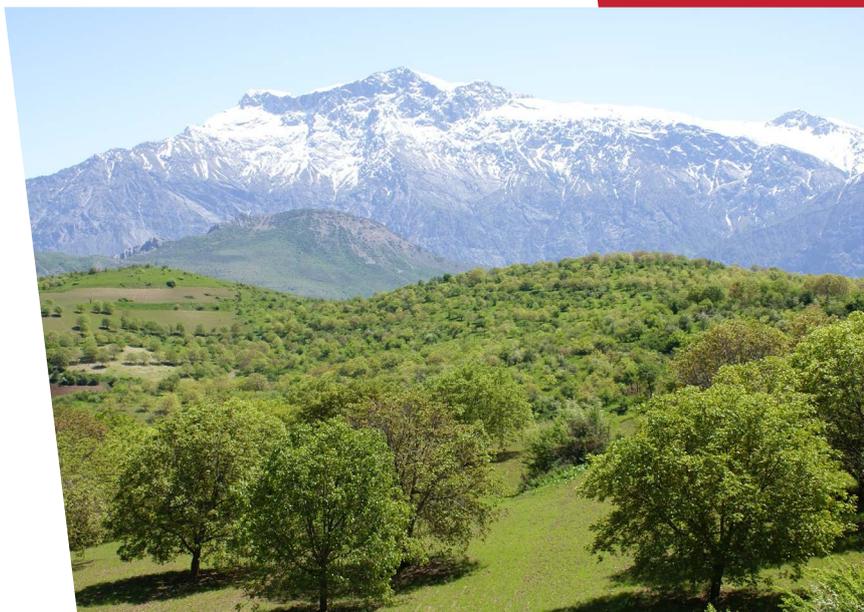
Over the period of May 2016 through May 2017, CEPF and its partner, Zoï Environment Network (www.zoinet.org) of Geneva, Switzerland, will prepare an Ecosystem Profile with an investment strategy to guide future grant making to civil society groups working in the region. This will require an extensive consultation process to define biological priorities for conservation action, document the context in which conservation must take place, and identify priority actions for strengthening and engaging civil society in biodiversity conservation and sustainable economic development, as seen by stakeholders in the region.



THE MOUNTAINS OF CENTRAL ASIA HOTSPOT



The consultation process will be characterized by a bottom-up approach, capturing the perspectives, priorities and capacity development needs of local stakeholders, such as grassroots NGOs and community groups, as well as of government, the agriculture industry, the private sector, donors, and international civil society stakeholders. The results of this process will be presented in a document, the Ecosystem Profile for the Mountains of Central Asia Biodiversity Hotspot, which sets out a situational analysis, based on a review of biodiversity priorities, threats, policy environment, civil society context, and patterns of conservation investment by other funders. The document also presents a stakeholder-agreed-upon geographic and thematic investment strategy.



Zoï will be leading extensive public consultation processes in Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan, between June and November 2016, and intends to hold meetings in China and Uzbekistan as well. A desk review in close collaboration with local partners will substitute for in-country consultations in Afghanistan and Turkmenistan.

CEPF and Zoï welcome contact and participation from interested parties.

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the partnership

CEPF unites seven global leaders under a common vision, maximizing the efficiency and effectiveness of their conservation investment by enabling civil society to protect vital ecosystems and promote economic prosperity.

L'Agence Française de Développement (www.afd.fr)

Conservation International (www.conservation.org)

The European Union (www.europa.eu)

The Global Environment Facility (www.thegef.org)

The Government of Japan (www.env.go.jp)

The MacArthur Foundation (www.macfound.org)

The World Bank (www.worldbank.org)



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