

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Legal Name: International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement): Global Mammal Assessment – Wider Caucasus, Regional Workshop

Implementation Partners for This Project: Doga Dernegi, Ankara, Turkey

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement): November 1, 2005 - April 30, 2006

Date of Report (month/year): August 11, 2006

II. OPENING REMARKS

Provide any opening remarks that may assist in the review of this report.

The workshop was successful in achieving it's objectives as laid out below. Final expenditure was well in line with budgeted expenditure.

III. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

1. What was the initial objective of this project?

The initial objective was to have an accurate assessment of the conservation status of the mammal species occurring in the Caucasus Hotspot. These assessments were to take place at a regional workshop in Turkey in November, 2005.

The workshop process aimed to address the Strategic Direction #2. 'Strengthen mechanisms to conserve biodiversity of the Caucasus hotspot with emphasis on species, site and corridor outcomes'.

2. Did the objectives of your project change during implementation? If so, please explain why and how.

No

3. How was your project successful in achieving the expected objectives?

The project accomplished its Deliverables and Outputs which were essential to achieving the objectives. These include:

- Building conservation capacity within the area by bringing together national and regional experts on the mammals of the Caucasus; IUCN will work with a number of its member

organizations, and recognized experts, within the Caucasus region to identify appropriate workshop participants.

Over twenty experts from eleven countries attended the workshop, bringing a good biogeographic knowledge of species occurring throughout the Caucasus Hotspot and portions of the Irano-Anatolian Hotspot. Experts were identified through consultative processes with Doga Dernegi and other important experts in the region. The workshop setting provides a tremendous opportunity for the experts, who may not normally have the opportunity to meet, to make contacts and explore collaborative ideas.

- Collecting and reviewing, through expert discussion, of detailed information on the threats and conservation measures needed for each species; accurately mapping (electronically) the current known distribution for each mammal species; assessing the conservation status of each species through the use of the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria classification system:

The workshop successfully compiled species and distribution information on rodents, shrews and bats to undertake a conservation status assessment of each species; in addition electronic maps were finalized for the large species occurring in the region.

These data are in the final stages of review. Preliminary results show that over 10% of the mammal fauna of southwest Asia region are at risk of extinction. A further 12% were classified as Data Deficient. The region's large mammal species were assessed although since many of these species have populations occurring outside of the region, their Red List assessments are still pending. Among small mammals, 48 species of bats (Chiroptera) were fully assessed, with preliminary assessments yielding five Vulnerable, five Near Threatened, and a further nine listed as Data Deficient due to lack of information necessary for evaluation. A total of 20 species of shrews (Soricomorpha) were assessed, with all Least Concern except for four species listed as Data Deficient. Shrews in this region are particularly widespread geographically, and as such, maintain relatively secure global populations. However, many of these insect-eating species are doing poorly at local levels due to increased human pressures on their habitats. A total of 96 species of rodents were assessed, of which five are Endangered, seven Vulnerable, three Near Threatened, and six Data Deficient in the preliminary assessment.

- Identifying conservation priorities for the mammal species in the Caucasus with regards to threatened species

Preliminary results show that over 10% of the mammal fauna of southwest Asia region are at risk of extinction, the main threat being habitat loss, although many of the large mammals have been heavily hunted. In fact, some large mammals have been completely extirpated from the region, including tigers, while others survive in remnants of their natural range, including the Arabian oryx *Oryx leucoryx* and the cheetah *Acinonyx jubatus*.

Twelve percent of mammals were assessed as DD highlighting the need for further research to determine the conservation status of these species, some of which may be threatened.

- Significantly contributing to the refinement of Key Biodiversity Areas and Site Outcomes within the Caucasus region.

Preliminary maps and species information from the workshop were supplied to Doga Dernegi in December 2005 for an important meeting on Key Biodiversity Areas of Turkey. Other information collected at the GMA workshop, once finalized will be freely available on the IUCN Red List web site. The Global Mammal Assessment team work closely with CI to provide information to KBA projects, the assessment information establishes a baseline against which the success of conservation actions can be measured.

4. Did your team experience any disappointments or failures during implementation? If so, please explain and comment on how the team addressed these disappointments and/or failures.

No, the project was successfully implemented.

5. Describe any positive or negative lessons learned from this project that would be useful to share with other organizations interested in implementing a similar project.

N/A

6. Describe any follow-up activities related to this project.

The assessment data is now in the final stages of review. Once the assessments are complete the information will be submitted to the IUCN Red List Office in Cambridge for final review before general release on the IUCN Red List Web site.

Once the data assessments for species inhabiting the Caucasus and the rest of the globe are finalized, a major analysis of the data will be undertaken. Key results will be released in the 2007 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and made available on the GMA website using a searchable database providing detailed species-by-species information. Journal articles detailing the key findings will be published in 2007.

7. Please provide any additional information to assist CEPF in understanding any other aspects of your completed project.

N/A

IV. ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
Doga Dernegi	B		Pro bono time for workshop organisation
Doga Dernegi	A	5000USD	Accommodation and food costs

***Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:**

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)*
- B** *Complementary funding (Other donors contribute to partner organizations that are working on a project linked with this CEPF project)*
- C** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)*
- D** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

Provide details of whether this project will continue in the future and if so, how any additional funding already secured or fundraising plans will help ensure its sustainability.

V. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

VI. INFORMATION SHARING

CEPF aims to increase sharing of experiences, lessons learned and results among our grant recipients and the wider conservation and donor communities. One way we do this is by making the text of final project completion reports available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and by marketing these reports in our newsletter and other communications. Please indicate whether you would agree to publicly sharing your final project report with others in this way.

Yes _____
 No _____

If yes, please also complete the following:

For more information about this project, please contact:

Name:
 Mailing address:
 Tel:
 Fax:
 E-mail: