



2018 Project Implementation Review (PIR)



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Resilient nations.*

Snow leopard in Tian Shan

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A. Basic Data

Project Information	
UNDP PIMS ID	5411
GEF ID	6958
Title	Conservation of globally important biodiversity and association land and forest resources of Western Tian Shan Forest Mountain ecosystems and support to sustainable livelihoods.
Country(ies)	Kyrgyzstan, Kyrgyzstan
UNDP-GEF Technical Team	Ecosystems and Biodiversity
Project Implementing Partner	KGZ10 (Kyrgyzstan)
Joint Agencies	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Project Type	Full Size

Project Description
<p>The project is focused on biodiversity, land and forest resources in Western Tian Shan in Kyrgyzstan. Aim of the project on key biodiversity areas is establishing new formal PAs for underrepresented globally significant species and strengthening the key existing PAs, with special focus on Western Tian. The project will build capacities of the SAEPP Department of Protected Areas.</p> <p>It will ensure continuity and congruence between KBAs and use of land and forest resources in wider productive landscapes. The project creates new and strengthens PAs at a total area of 226,621 ha (which includes 25,000 of High Conservation Value Forests) and creates wildlife corridors and buffer zones at a total area of 50,000 ha. The direct effect thus is 0.28 mln ha.</p> <p>The project will further support work on improvement and sustainable use of pastures. The total area of pastures in the region exceeds 0.6 mln ha; the project aims to restore at least 65,000 ha of degraded pastures in Toktogul and Togustorous districts.</p>

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B. Overall Ratings

Overall DO Rating	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall IP Rating	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	Low

C. Development Progress

Description					
Objective					
To promote a landscape approach to protection of internationally important biodiversity, and land and forest resources in the Western Tian Shan mountains in Kyrgyzstan					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2017	Cumulative progress since project start
<p>1. Trend in population levels of globally significant fauna (Red List, ecosystem indicator or keystone species) in Jalal-Abad province:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Snow leopard (<i>Panthera uncia</i>) - Ibex (<i>Capra sibirica</i>) - Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>) - Tian Shan white clawed bear (<i>Ursus arctos isabellinus</i>) 	<p>Negative trend over the past 25 years of individuals that are present at least sometime during the year in Jalal-Abad province. Number of individuals and annual rate of change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Snow leopard (<i>Panthera uncia</i>): 49; - Ibex (<i>Capra sibirica</i>): 4116; - Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>): 31; - Tian Shan white clawed bear (<i>Ursus arctos isabellinus</i>): 197; 	<p><i>(not set or not applicable)</i></p>	<p>Population trend is at least stable over a rolling five-year period. Number of individuals and annual rate of change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Snow leopard (<i>Panthera uncia</i>): 49; >0% - Ibex (<i>Capra sibirica</i>): 4839; >3% - Golden eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>): 40; >1% - Tian Shan white clawed bear (<i>Ursus arctos isabellinus</i>): 256; >5% 	<p><i>(not set or not applicable)</i></p>	<p>Key activities in the reporting period included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Series of meetings and consultations with the key partners and government counterparts resulted in agreeing on types of methodologies to be used and applied during monitoring of Snow leopard. The project supported the State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry to develop a Snow leopard conservation plan for 2018-2021, which became now a part of the National Biodiversity Conservation Plan for 2018-2023. 2. An inventory of Ibex, Golden eagle and Tian-Shan white clawed bear is in process in partnership with the State Agency on Environment Protection and

					Forestry (SAEPF) .By the next PIR project will be able to provide data on this indicator.
<p>2. Status of globally significant flora in Toktogul and Toguz-Toro districts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Semenov's fir (Abies Semenovii) - Juniper (Juniperus sp.) - Relict spruce (Picea schrenkiana) 	<p>Index of area and forest quality of globally significant flora in Toktogul and Toguz-Toro districts (ha):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Semenov's fir (Abies Semenovii) – Total = 4,281.8 ha: Ha - Category 1: 2,025.1 (47%) Ha – Category 2: 1,728.3 (40%) Ha – Category 3: 528.4 (12%) Ha – Category 4: 0 (0%) - Juniper (Juniperus sp.) – Total = 6,847.3 ha: Ha - Category 1: 694.4 (10%) Ha – Category 2: 4,254.9 (62%) Ha – Category 3: 1,898 (28%) Ha – Category 4: 0 (0%) - Relict spruce (Picea 	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>Index of area and forest quality of globally significant flora in Toktogul and Toguz-Toro districts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Semenov's fir (Abies Semenovii) – Total = 4,281.8 ha: Ha - Category 1: 2,225.1 Ha – Category 2: 1,956.3 Ha – Category 3: 100.4 Ha – Category 4: 0 - Juniper (Juniperus sp.) – Total = 7,171.8 ha: Ha - Category 1: 1289.1 Ha – Category 2: 4,701.7 Ha – Category 3: 1,181.0 Ha – Category 4: 0 - Relict spruce (Picea schrenkiana) – Total = 4,202.6 ha: Ha - Category 1: 1,745.7 	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>An inventory of significant flora of the two target districts is in process. Results of the inventory are expected by the end of 2018.</p> <p>All key stakeholders are involved in the inventory, including the State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry, Institute of Forestry of the Academy of Science, PA counterparts.</p> <p>One of the key results of the capacity building workshop on METT assessment held by the Project is the knowledge transfer to rangers of all seven protected areas in the Western Tian-Shan, including two pilot Pas--the State National Park “Alatai” and the State National Park “Kan - Achu” and their capacity building per se for primary data collection and recording to enable proper monitoring of flora in the future. This contributes to addressing one of the risks/assumptions on weak capacity under this indicator.</p>

	<p>schrenkiana) – Total = 2,125.5 ha:</p> <p>Ha - Category 1: 850.6 (40%)</p> <p>Ha – Category 2: 1,048.8 (49%)</p> <p>Ha – Category 3: 226.1 (11%)</p> <p>Ha – Category 4: 0 (0%)</p>		<p>Ha – Category 2: 2,456.9</p> <p>Ha – Category 3: 0</p> <p>Ha – Category 4: 0</p>		The project agreed the list of the monitoring equipment needed for the target PAs and the procurement is in process.
<p>3. Area of degraded pastureland in four target A/As in Toktogul and Toguz-Toro districts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cholpon-Ata - Kyzyl-Ozgorush - Kok-Irim - Atai 	65,361 ha (estimated based on relevant available data)	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	0 ha (decrease of 65,361 ha)	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>65,361 ha</p> <p>Key results in the reporting period include:</p> <p>1. The project has established strong links with all involved partners working on pastures at all levels including ARIS, Association of pasture committees “Kyrgyz Jaiyty”.</p> <p>2. The project is building its work on the key result of another UNDP-GEF project “Demonstrating the Sustainable Management of Mountains Pastures in the Suusamy Valley” by upgrading the information system “Electronic Pasture</p>

					<p>Management". This system is accepted by all involved parties and will be introduced in four (4) pasture committees established before project; and include results of economic, geobotanic assessment and mapping, which is underway. The review of the existing pasture management plans of the target pasture committees is in process.</p> <p>3.The project started setting up four (4) demonstration sites (0.3 ha in total) to conduct a monitoring of degraded pastures.</p>
4. Landscape area under directly improved conservation management	<p>Area of Jalal-Abad province for which improved biodiversity, forest, and land management measures will be directly influenced by project results:</p> <p>- 0 ha</p>	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>Area of Jalal-Abad province for which improved biodiversity, forest, and land management measures will be directly influenced by project results:</p> <p>- 472,635 ha (SFM in 34,382 ha of forest (the forested area under management by Toktogul and Toguz-Toro leskhoz), restoration of degraded forest in 4,886 ha, implementation of SLM in 147,268 ha of pasturelands (65,361 ha of which is degraded pasturelands). In addition,</p>	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>0 ha</p> <p>The project started implementation of activities in close partnership with the key partners as FAO, Camp Ala Too and World Bank project on Forestry sector, local NGOs.</p> <p>By the end of 2018, the project plans to restore up to 400 ha of degraded forest area in the Jalal-Abad province under Toktogul and Toguz Toro lezkhoz. To achieve this plan, the initial steps to restore are being implemented (soil loosening, planting trees, fencing the forest, etc.)</p>

			286,099 ha of protected areas, of which 87,322 ha are the two new PAs in the primary target districts.)		
5. Landscape area under indirectly improved conservation management	<p>Area of Jalal-Abad province for which improved biodiversity, forest, and land management measures will be indirectly influenced by project results:</p> <p>- 0 ha</p>	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>Area of Jalal-Abad province for which improved biodiversity, forest, and land management measures will be indirectly influenced by project results:</p> <p>- 944,317 ha (Area of two target districts, less the area of the PAs (87,322 ha), SFM land (34,382 ha), afforested area (4,886 ha), and SLM land (147,268 ha) covered in these districts under direct coverage above.)</p>	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>0 ha</p> <p>Key progress under this indicator includes the well-established links with all involved partners at all levels as rayon, province administrations and local NGOs, public communities as women, youth censors, pasture committees to review the existing Development Strategies of the target districts and Management Plans of the institutions (forestries, protected area plans, pasture committees and province administrations) working on sustainable land management with the goal to integrate Biodiversity Conservation and Joint Sustainable Land Management aspects.</p>
6. Population of Toktogul and Toguz-Toro districts that have derived indirect livelihood benefits from project results (disaggregated by gender)	<p>Toktogul District</p> <p>- 0 women</p> <p>- 0 men</p>	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>Toktogul District communities of Cholpon-Ata and Kyzyl-Ozgorush</p> <p>- 8,979 women</p> <p>- 9,328 men</p> <p>Toguz-Toro District</p>	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>The project conducted broad stakeholder consultations in the target areas about the opportunities for community initiatives to gain livelihood benefits, with the gender aspects considered. In general, from four ayl okmotu 1,822 people participated, of which 896 were</p>

	<p>Toguz-Toro District</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 0 women - 0 men <p>Baseline: 2015</p>		<p>communities of Kok-Irim and Atai</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2,723 women - 2,909 men 		<p>women. Key results of this meetings: community members were informed about project goals, main activities, expressed their interest to participate in the microgrant component of the project.</p> <p>The project conducted an initial needs assessment to identify the types of such initiatives and further detailed assessment is to be conducted by a company. The results are expected to be available in October 2018 and reported in the next PIR.</p>
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The progress of the objective can be described as:

On track

Outcome 1

Conservation and sustainable management of Key Biodiversity Areas within landscape

Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2017	Cumulative progress since project start
7. Management effectiveness of key alpine protected areas in Jalal-Abad province covering 286,099 ha	<p>METT Score:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alatai SNP (new PA): 17 - Kan-Achuu SNP (new PA): 16 - Sary-Chelek SBR: 59 - Padysh-Ata SNR: 45 - Besh Aral SNR: 43 - Saimaluu-Tash SNP: 	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>METT Score:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alatai NP (new PA): >50 - Kan-Achuu NP (new PA): >50 - Sary-Chelek SNR: >65 - Padysh-Ata SNR: >50 - Besh Aral SNR: 	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>METT scores for target PAs will be updated by the next PIR</p> <p>The project supports the State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry, in partnership with the UNDP BIOFIN project, to improve program budgeting in line with the recent changes. The project assists with development of methodological instructions on program budgeting to strengthen environment related contributions</p>

	29		>50 - Saimaluu-Tash SNP: >40		<p>through the budget. This will help to achieve the required budget on time.</p> <p>A model business plan that contains new sustainable financial mechanisms for PAs is being developed in partnership with the BIOFIN project.</p> <p>METT training on management effectiveness of key alpine PAs was conducted in April 2018 and the assessment of PAs management effectiveness of PAs is planned for the second half of August.</p>
8. Status of HCVF management approach legal and regulatory framework	HCVF management approach not legally recognized, and consequently not regulated	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	HCVF management approach has legal basis, and relevant regulations are produced,	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	The first initial review of the legal and regulatory framework was carried out. The review concluded that the HCVF management approaches are not reflected in existing legal framework. The review demonstrated a high interest of the key project partners as Forestry Department under the State Agency, Forestry Institute etc. in improving the legal framework and the full in-depth analysis of the legal and regulatory framework will be conducted by local and international experts. The recruitment process is underway.
9. Existence of HCVF management measures in FMPs and level of implementation in	HCVF management measures not incorporated in FMPs in Toktogul and	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	4/6 on GEF TT scale: "Step 4: The regulations are under	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>No progress can be reported yet.</p> <p>The achievement of this indicator</p>

Toktogul and Toguz-Toro districts	Toguz-Toro districts 0/6 on GEF TT scale: No existence or mention of biodiversity (e.g. HCVF) considerations in sector policy Implementation is initiated (defined as incorporation of HCVF management practices in approved FMPs) in Toktogul and Toguz-Toro districts		implementation”		is linked to implementation of activities under Indicator 8 above.
10. Average number of hectares covered per week by anti-poaching patrols (PA rangers, forest rangers, and game wardens) in Alatai SNP (56,826 ha) and Kan-Achuu SNP (30,497 ha), Toktogul (104,860 ha) and Toguz-Toro (57,356 ha) leskhoz territories, and Chychkan Zoological (game) reserve (65,551) territories in Toktogul and Toguz-Toro districts, out of the 315,090 ha total SNP, leskhoz, and game reserve)	250 hectares patrolled per week in 2016 (10 km covered per day by ranger teams (2+ individuals) for each of five management areas for 5 of 7 days)	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	1000 hectares patrolled per week in 2021 (baseline * four times the number of anti-poaching ranger team patrols for each location. Assessed as the minimum coverage necessary to ensure effective management, regulatory monitoring, and deterrence of illegal activities)	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	The project supported the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Conservation department of the State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry to inform, identify members of the anti-pouching groups. Also, the project determined training needs of anti-poaching patrols. Based on the identified needs, trainings covering legal framework, monitoring will be conducted in August. The project already received approx. 100 requests for trainings. Procurement is in process to purchase the equipment for these training groups. The national partners such as State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry, local NGOs, Academy of Science, local representatives from the project pilot area, through the joint site visit learned the community-

					based conservancy experiences (i.e. Panthera). Follow-up replication in target areas will be supported by the project.
The progress of the objective can be described as:		On track			
Outcome 2					
Ecosystem resilience and habitat connectivity in Western Tian Shan are enhanced by regulating land and forest use in buffer zones and corridors and support to sustainable livelihoods					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2017	Cumulative progress since project start
11. Area of sustainably managed forest in Toktogul and Toguz-Toro districts (broken down by HCVF in PAs, HCVF in leskhoz, and all other forest)	Total 0 ha out of 40,839 ha of HCVF Toktogul HCVF: 31,045 ha (5,658 ha within Alatai PA, 25,387 ha in leskhoz); Toguz-Toro HCVF: 9,794 (799 within Kan-Achuu PA, 8,995 ha in leskhoz);	(not set or not applicable)	>40,000 ha	(not set or not applicable)	0 ha of HCVF No progress can be reported yet. The achievement of this indicator is linked to implementation of activities under Indicator 8. And as reported under Indicator 8, the project already initiated some activities related to inclusion of HCVF considerations in forest management.
12. Area of forest resources restored in the landscape (broken down by reforested/afforested area, vs. area under natural regeneration support	0 ha	(not set or not applicable)	4,886 ha (500 ha reforestation/afforestation, 4,500 ha supported for natural regeneration)	(not set or not applicable)	0+ The project started implementation of the Indicator related activities in close partnership with the State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry. By the end of 2018, the project plans to restore up to 400 ha of degraded forest area in Jalal Abad province. To achieve

					<p>this plan, the initial steps to restore degraded forest lands are being implemented, i.e. soil loosening, fencing forests, etc.)</p> <p>The project faces some delays with implementation of these activities due to the project late start. Given the seasonality of forest reforestation works (e.g. tree planting), this risk will remain valid in the coming years. The project undertakes some preventive measures to minimize this risk. The project secured preliminary agreement on all planned activities with the State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry, and in autumn 2018 the project plans to start initial works (soil preparation for planting).</p> <p>Note: This indicator is linked to the Indicator 4 of Outcome 1.</p>
13. Lifetime indirect GHG emissions avoided	0 tons CO2 equivalent	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	2,979,548 tons CO2 equivalent	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	No progress can be reported yet.
14. Implementation of e-Pasture Management System (as an SLM mechanism supporting implementation of the Pastures Law) in Toguz-Toro and Toktogul districts	Pasture Management Committees (PMCs) do not have support mechanisms to implement SLM	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	e-Pasture Management System implemented by 4 PMCs in Toktogul and Toguz-Toro districts	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>No progress can be reported yet.</p> <p>This indicator is closely linked to the Indicator 3 of Outcome 1. And as reported under Indicator 3, the project already initiated some activities related to improved pasture management.</p>

15. Hectares of alpine grassland and forest ecosystems under improved conservation management	0 ha	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	186,536 ha - SFM in 34,382 ha of HC VF, restore degraded forest in 4,886 ha, and implement SLM in 147,268 ha of pasturelands	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	0+ha Implementation is in progress. There is a plan to have 400 ha forest lands restored by the end of 2018. See more details above under Outcome 1, indicator 4.
16. Hectares of pastureland under SLM in Toktogul and Toguz-Toro districts	0 ha	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	147,268 ha	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	0+ha In progress through introduction of an upgraded version of the E-pasture information system in Toktogul and Toguz-Toro districts. It is linked to the indicator 14.
17. Number of people whose livelihoods are affected by land degradation in Toktogul and Toguz-Toro districts (with a population number index value fixed set at 100 for 2016 (in case of total population increases or decreases)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women: 11,702 - Men: 12,237 - Total: 23,939 - Index = 100% Toktogul District Cholpon-Ata Village <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3,562 women - 3,802 men Kyzyl-Ozgorush Village <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5,417 women 	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women: - Men: - Total: - Index: Toktogul District Cholpon-Ata Village <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3,562 women - 3,802 men Kyzyl-Ozgorush Village <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5,417 women - 5,526 men 	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	The exact number of livelihoods affected by land degradation will be identified during the in-depth assessment commissioned by the Project to be completed by the next PIR.

	<div>- 5,526 men</div> <div>Toguz-Toro District</div> <div>Kok-Irim Village</div> <div>- 1,703 women</div> <div>- 1,782 men</div> <div>Atai Village</div> <div>- 1,020 women</div> <div>- 1,127 men</div>		<div>Toguz-Toro District</div> <div>Kok-Irim Village</div> <div>- 1,703 women</div> <div>- 1,782 men</div> <div>Atai village</div> <div>- 1,020 women</div> <div>- 1,127 men</div>		
18. Herder/farmer income change based on benefits from micro-finance/grant program for individuals participating in the program.	<div>- Women: N/A</div> <div>- Men: N/A</div>	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<div>- Women: 10% increase</div> <div>- Men: 10% increase</div>	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	No progress can be reported this year. Income change figures will be identified following implementation and evaluation of the income generation initiatives (a grant program) as described under indicator 4 of Outcome 1 above. The project currently discusses terms and administration of the program with local micro-finance organizations: Bai tushum, Aiyl Bank, Fiancé micro finance companies.
The progress of the objective can be described as:		On track			
Outcome 3					
Strengthened national capacities for snow leopard conservation, promoting Kyrgyz regional and global cooperation, and setting the scene for up-scaling					

Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2017	Cumulative progress since project start
19. Level of illegal wildlife trade activity, as indicated by number of snow leopard, snow leopard prey, and other illegal wildlife seizures at border crossings and at Manas international airport, as well as number of arrests related to wildlife trafficking	<p>Annual number of seizures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2015 - On the Tajik-Kyrgyz border - attempted transfer from Tajikistan to Kyrgyzstan of two snow leopard skins and one snow leopard cub - 2015 - one snow leopard skin confiscated in Bishkek (from Talas region) - 2016 - one snow leopard skin confiscated in Issyk-Kul - Zero seizures assisted by specially trained dogs - 4 arrests related to wildlife trafficking - 	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>Annual number of seizures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Snow leopard: - Snow leopard prey: - Other illegal wildlife: - Number of arrests = >baseline - >50% of arrests result in prosecutions 	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>Good progress is observed in implementation of this indicator. The project exercises strong cooperation with the government partners, customs services in implementation of the following activities:</p> <p>1. Together with the Secretariat of CITES, the first four-days training on illegal wildlife trade (CITES Convention) was conducted in Russia for the government, law enforcement, customs representatives and scientists of Central Asia. A visit to a cynological services center was organized (dogs training on derivatives). There is an agreement with the Customs service to (1) construct a special cage for dogs at the Manas airport to contribute to improved control of illegal wildlife trade and (2) develop a visual classificatory of wildlife trade products for identification and recognition by the customs.</p> <p>2. Memorandum of Understanding on issues of regular data sharing on illegal wildlife trade between the State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry, Law Enforcement, Customs Services and the Academy of Sciences</p>

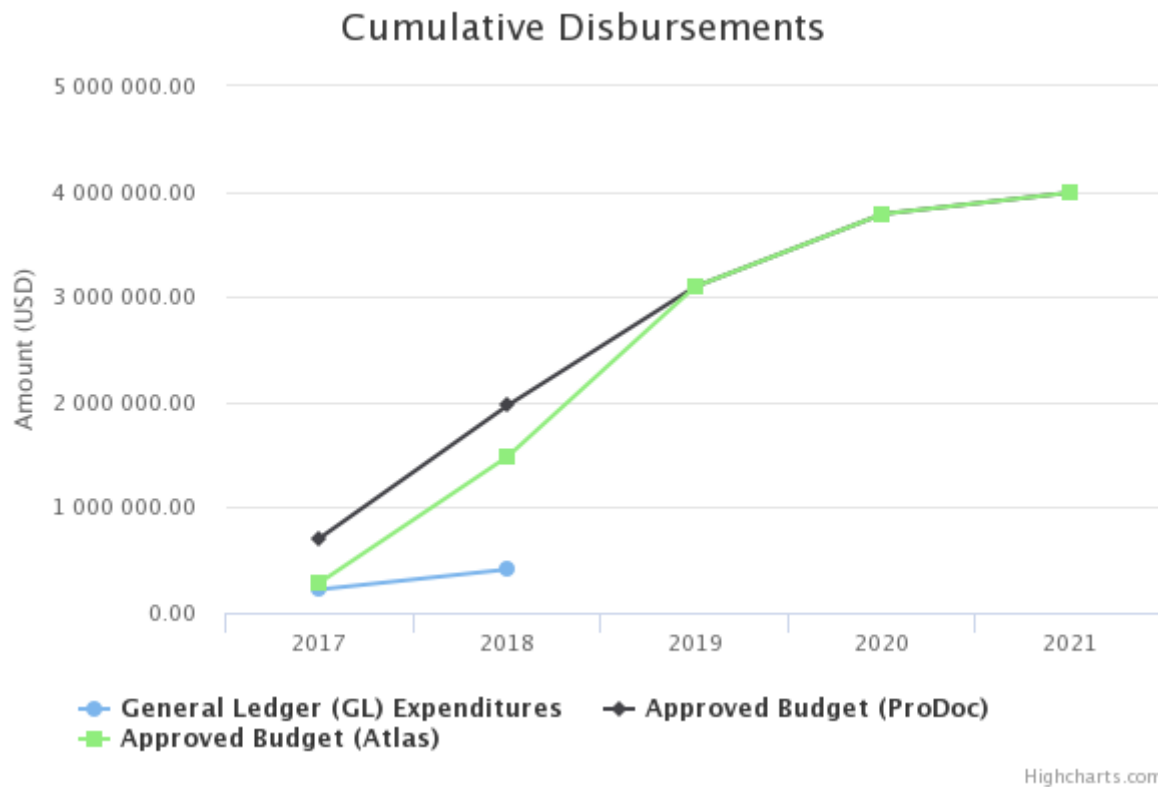
					<p>has been renewed. The project will provide a space for regular meetings and discussions among these parties to improve the coordination and collaboration.</p> <p>3. The project will support the development of a data base of hunters and violations under the State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry to be then shared with the law enforcement organizations. The project will contribute to addressing the key risks regarding to the procedural issues of violation cases monitoring from registration until the court and data sharing, as outlined in the project document. The data base is expected to document all legal violations and have this information available in one place and online, which will contribute to reducing corruption and improving monitoring of legal violations.</p>
20. Level of international cooperation and coordination with Kyrgyzstan border countries regarding illegal wildlife trade, biodiversity management in borderland protected areas, and snow leopard monitoring	No formal international agreement between Kyrgyzstan and neighboring countries related to snow leopard conservation	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>International agreement between Kyrgyzstan and at least one bordering country under implementation regarding at least one of the below issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperation on law enforcement at border points regarding illegal 	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<p>Implementation of the Indicator is in progress. The key highlights include:</p> <p>1. A high-level international forum on Conservation of Snow Leopard and its Ecosystems was attended by 500 participants from all 12-range countries and resulted in signing the 2nd Bishkek Declaration that confirmed high-level</p>

			<p>wildlife trade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Illegal hunting by border guards - Data sharing on snow leopard monitoring 		<p>commitments of range countries to work together for Snow Leopard Conservation. The Forum was organized by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the project contributed financially and provided expertise and technical assistance.</p> <p>The Forum increased awareness of the broad stakeholders on the Snow leopard conservation issues, involved the high political leadership who recognized the key importance of the Forum and requested UNDP to initiate a regional project on Snow Leopard conservation. The Forum initiated series of good discussions on joint resource mobilization and green investments. UNDP is following-up with the partners on resource mobilization.</p> <p>The Forum had excellent visibility resulting from a well-designed and successfully implemented Communication Strategy of the Forum in general and which is linked to our Communication Strategy of the Project . These included broad coverage in social media and TV, including international media. Outreach products were developed using innovative new technologies (3-D application Arloopa, video 360, theatre performance, photo book,</p>
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					<p>video and radio products etc). This forum was a result of excellent partnership with all key partners working on Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation at all levels, including other UNDP-GEF funded projects</p> <p>2. As a continuation of the Forum and an effort to build on its results, the project supported the 3rd Steering Committee of the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Programme (GSLEP) held on June 3 in the Issyk-Kul district. The key result is a positive decision on a regional project proposal covering 12-range countries to be presented during 6th GEF Assembly in Vietnam.</p> <p>Another result is the launch of Western Tian-Shan Landscape, as important habitat for Snow Leopard. The strong level of coordination among UNDP-GEF-funded projects in Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan should be highlighted. The next coordination meeting is planned in Tashkent in July this year. The meeting will discuss the Snow Leopard monitoring issues and the governments of three Central Asian will sign the MoU on Cooperation.</p>
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					3. The Project presented its objective and ongoing activities at the Inception workshop UNDP/GEF and Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan Project "Conservation and sustainable management of key globally significant ecosystems for various benefits" in Astana, Kazakhstan, on May 10, 2018.
21. Quality and coverage of snow leopard monitoring data in Kyrgyzstan as indicated by estimated accuracy and timeliness of national snow leopard population estimate	Latest population estimate 15 years prior (2001) with a 30% confidence level (lowest possible estimated population / highest possible estimated population, i.e. $150/500 = 30\%$)	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	Publishing of annual estimates with a 60% confidence level (the average confidence level among other snow leopard range states in GSLEP population estimate)	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	Snow Leopard monitoring data base is being developed in partnership with all relevant stakeholders: Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Department, Panthera, Snow Leopard Trust, NABU etc. The project managed to unite all key parties to improve coordination for better synergies and information sharing through the regular meeting with them and joint planning of our activities.
The progress of the objective can be described as:		On track			

D. Implementation Progress



Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc):	10.32%
Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year:	20.91%
Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August):	411,608.54

Key Financing Amounts	
PPG Amount	121,013
GEF Grant Amount	3988575
Co-financing	24,519,183

Key Project Dates	
PIF Approval Date	Jun 4, 2015
CEO Endorsement Date	Dec 27, 2016
Project Document Signature Date (project start date):	Mar 17, 2017
Date of Inception Workshop	Dec 7, 2017
Expected Date of Mid-term Review	May 15, 2019

Actual Date of Mid-term Review	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation	Oct 4, 2021
Original Planned Closing Date	Mar 16, 2022
Revised Planned Closing Date	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>

Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2017 to 1 July 2018)	
2017-12-07	
2018-07-11	

E. Critical Risk Management

Current Types of Critical Risks	Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period
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F. Adjustments

Comments on delays in key project milestones

Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure.

The Project faced some issues during its inception phase related to (1) delayed staff recruitment causing delays in finalizing the inception phase; (2) long time period from the project development and project start took additional efforts to clarify some of the expectations of the key government partners to ensure that all parties have clear understanding of the project goals and objectives; (3) final check and clarification of the indicators took time that delayed the completion of the inception report.

The project team conducted several meetings with the stakeholders at local level (representative of the State National Parks, local self-government authorities, local communities) before the Inception seminar to clarify the expectations of the key government partners to ensure that all parties have clear understanding of the project goals and objectives. This certainly delayed the inception phase and finalization of the inception report. The project is now well on track and proceeds as planned with its implementation.

The Midterm review expected in the middle of next year (2019) with the terminal evaluation and project closure to take place in December 2021.

Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure.

(not set or not applicable)

UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure.

The project showed some traces of delays in responding during the PIR process, and ensuring proper UNDP GEF documentation availability on time (inception report), which might require a bit more focus on the part of both the project manager and the country office in the future.

G. Ratings and Overall Assessments

Role	2018 Development Objective Progress Rating	2018 Implementation Progress Rating
Project Manager/Coordinator	Moderately Satisfactory	- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -
Overall Assessment	<p>The project addresses needs and priorities of the state and is in high demand. The kick off meeting has been very well received by the government.</p> <p>There has been a delay in hiring the key project staff, and a slight delay in the project startup that the project needed to overcome. Coordination with the main national project partner (the State Agency on Environment) also needs to be improved, especially given their recent restructuring that led to changes of their respective department 's roles and responsibilities. This in turn slowed down, for example, major procurement cases, where the project needed to seek government's advice on the development of technical specifications, etc to ensure full national ownership and buy in.</p> <p>But overall, partnership with major stakeholders (both state and non state) has been strengthened. For instance, the Ministry of Education is now on board and took the lead in the design and dissemination of public education materials for the local communities where the project works. A number of training and educational methodologies have also been developed based on the training needs of the major target groups. As such, the forestry inventory guidelines with focus on PAs have been an innovative tool that has been officially adopted and tested to streamline forestry management and will now enable to conduct full inventory of flora and fauna.</p> <p>In addition, amendment to the Law on Fishery have been adopted, and work on other legal and normative acts are in progress, which will result in improved biodiversity conservation legislation both at the national and local levels.</p> <p>Finally, partnership with other GEF projects has been ensured, and MoU between the governments of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan is expected to be signed, with technical and legal support from the Project, which will also have a detailed Action Plan to be agreed between the environmental authorities of the two countries.</p>	
Role	2018 Development Objective Progress Rating	2018 Implementation Progress Rating
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Assessment	<p>The project is in needs and priorities of the state and is in high demand. The kick off meeting has been very well received by the government. There's been a delayed hire of the key project staff, and a slight delay in project start have been the challenges that the project needed to overcome. Coordination with the main national project partner (the state agency on environment) also need to be</p>	

	improved, give their recent restructuring, which led to their respective department 's roles and responsibilities. This in turn slowed down, for example, major procurement cases, where the project needed to seek government's advice on the development of technical specifications, etc to ensure full national ownership and buy in. But overall, partnership with major stakeholders (both state and non state) has been strengthened; for instance, the ministry of education is now on Board, which has taken a lead in the design and dissemination of public education materials for the ;local communities where the project works. a number of training and educational methodologies have also been developed, based on the training needs of the major target groups. For example the forestry inventory guidelines with focus on PA's has been a novelty and innovative tool which has been officially adopted and tested to streamline forestry and will now enable to conduct full inventory of flora and fauna. In addition, amendment to the Law on Fishery have been adopted, and work on other legal and normative acts are in progress, which will result in improved biodiversity conservation legislation both at the national and local levels. In addition, partnership with other GEF projects has been ensured, and MoU between the governments of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan is expected to be signed, with technical and legal support from the Project, which will also have a detailed Action Plan to be agreed between the two countries's environmental authorities.	
Role	2018 Development Objective Progress Rating	2018 Implementation Progress Rating
GEF Operational Focal point	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<i>- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -</i>
Overall Assessment	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	
Role	2018 Development Objective Progress Rating	2018 Implementation Progress Rating
Project Implementing Partner	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<i>- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -</i>
Overall Assessment	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	
Role	2018 Development Objective Progress Rating	2018 Implementation Progress Rating
Other Partners	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	<i>- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -</i>
Overall Assessment	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>	
Role	2018 Development Objective Progress Rating	2018 Implementation Progress Rating
UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser	Moderately Satisfactory	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Assessment	This is the first PIR for this project aiming at conservation of globally important biodiversity and associated land and forest resources of Western Tian Shan Forest Mountain ecosystems. The project started with some challenges due to internal restructuring in the State Agency on Environment (the project's implementing partner) and delayed recruitment of the key project staff. Given complexity of the project, the project team had to invest sufficient efforts in	

ensuring that key national stakeholders have a clear understanding of its objectives, indicators, and outputs, as well as envisaged roles. The project showed some traces of delays in responding during the PIR process, and ensuring proper UNDP GEF documentation availability on time, which might require a bit more focus on the part of both the project manager and the country office in the future. Considering these challenges and the ongoing pace of implementation, the overall progress towards achieving its objective is rated “Moderately Satisfactory”, and the same rating is given for the implementation.

After a delayed start, the project, during its first year of implementation, began to make progress towards its objective (which is to promote a landscape approach to protection of internationally important biodiversity, and land and forest resources in the Western Tian Shan).

- The most pertinent is the approved Snow leopard conservation plan for 2018-2021, which now became part of the National Biodiversity Conservation Plan for 2018-2023. This project team provided technical inputs to this work that was led by the State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry.

- The partnership with the State Agency and GSLEP Secretariat is effective so far, which is an important factor for the achievement of project goals.

- The forestry inventory guidelines with focus on PAs have been developed with assistance from the project as an innovative tool that has been officially adopted and tested to streamline forestry management and will now enable to conduct full inventory of flora and fauna.

- Some initial steps are noted on rehabilitation of degraded pastures of 400 ha in the Jalal-Abad province, and initial needs assessment of population in two target districts is ongoing to identify potential livelihood benefits. Stemming from the above, progress towards the development objective is rated to be MS (Moderately Satisfactory).

Regarding Outcome 1 on conservation and sustainable management of key biodiversity areas within the Snow Leopard landscape, the progress is largely limited to scoping activities.

- An initial review of the legal and regulatory framework pertaining to HCVF management approach was carried out. The review concluded that the HCVF management approaches are not reflected in existing legal framework. As a follow-up, the project developed a ToR for in-depth analysis of the legal and regulatory framework to contract national experts.

- In terms of PA management effectiveness, the project conducted METT training on management effectiveness for target alpine PAs and a model business plan that contains new sustainable financial mechanisms is being developed. Despite the initial difficulties faced by the project on PA establishment and connectivity due to internal reorganization in the State protection agency, the project managed to reach agreements, though informally at this point, on important aspects such as increasing the territory of PA, establishing a network of PAs and ecological corridors, buffer zones to ensure the wildlife safety.

- The delayed process of project staff recruitment postponed the project's seasonal activities (tree planting, pasture assessment, etc.) to the next year.

Overall progress under this Outcome is assessed as MS (Moderately Satisfactory).

The project's second outcome aims at enhanced ecosystem resilience and habitat connectivity in Western Tian Shan. It is a complex outcome containing six indicators and progress towards this outcome is closely linked to implementation of Outcome 1. Thus far, the project reports no actual progress for most of indicators, except for some rehabilitation/restoration works that started at 400 ha of forestlands. In addition, the project faces some challenges in building support of pasture committees in target area due to lack of understanding of PA values among local residents. The RTA supports the intention of the project team and country office to carry out an additional environment awareness raising campaign, interactive/practical trainings and focus on increasing knowledge about the benefits of protected areas, pro-environment attitude and biodiversity-friendly activities among local residents and individuals living in and around of Project target area.

The project reported difficulties in accessing the second area (Kan-Achuu in Toguz Toro district) due to poor road conditions that limits project works in this area to summer only. A social tension in Toguz-Toro district resulting from disagreements between local residents and a mining company operating in that area prevented the project from initiating activities on a pasture management mechanism as well as pilots in the area. These aspects have to be duly reflected in the risks and the team (country office, project team, jointly with Government and RTA) need to agree on the best way forward.

Progress towards Outcome 2 is therefore rated to be MU (Moderately unsatisfactory).

Under Outcome 3 on strengthened national capacities for snow leopard conservation, overall good progress is observed. The project exercises meaningful and effective cooperation with the government partners, customs services on illegal wildlife trade activity resulting in renewed MoU between the State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry, Law Enforcement, Customs Services and the Academy of Sciences and targeted trainings for the customs services. Partnership with other GEF projects in Central Asia has been ensured. MoU between the governments of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan is expected to be signed, with technical and legal support from the Project. The MoU will have a detailed Action Plan to be agreed between the environmental authorities of the two countries. Overall progress under this Outcome is assessed S (Satisfactory).

The GEF CEO endorsement was granted to the project on Dec 27, 2016 and the project document was signed soon after on March 17, 2017. Project implementation was delayed due to slow process of recruitment of the project team by UNDP, which in turn delayed finalization of the inception phase. The project invested considerable efforts to clarifying expectations and roles of the key government counterparts as well as project indicators. During the inception phase, the project reviewed and updated status of each risk. No new critical risks to the project have been identified. The project held its inception workshop on December 7, 2017 followed by a Project board meeting that confirmed the project's relevance to the country's context, and no adjustment to project

indicators has been made.

The project team is successful at maintenance of partnerships at the national level to define most relevant and cost-effective interventions for the project. Coordination with the State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry requires further improvements, especially in light of the recent changes of department 's roles and responsibilities. The project needs to ensure that regardless of any restructuring, the Agency is fully on board and has a complete understanding of the project's implementation strategy. This requires establishment of continuous and meaningful relationships of the PM, UNDP CO and the national project director from the Agency.

Planning and preliminary procurement activities have been slowed down due major restructuring in the Agency (the key national project partner) as the project needed to seek the Agency's advice on the development of technical specifications to ensure full national ownership and buy in. This resulted in low cumulative delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc) and against expected delivery as of this year, 10.31% and 20.9% respectively. Delayed recruitment of the key project experts in turn put on hold some seasonal activities of the project. Also, as mentioned above, poor accessibility of the second project area limited on the ground activities to warm season only and unresolved issues between local residents and a mining company deferred implementation of the project's workplan related to that area. An implementation rating of moderately satisfactory is therefore judged appropriate.

The RTA advises:

- For the project team to learn better the reporting requirements of UNDP GEF at various stages and deliver the needed reports on time and in needed quality.
- Seek to address the issue with the second project site (where social tension and private sector engagement are risking success). Discuss the issue with RTA and Government, raise at the project board as necessary, consult with the parties involved and seek the best way for the project to work in the area. Fix this agreement in the updated risks table and log-frame as necessary.
- Maintain effective working relationships with the State Agency to ensure timely procurement of goods and services. It is critical to allow no further delay or slowdown of activities. Involve Country Support Desk of IRH and / or RTA as necessary before delays reach critical periods.
- Equally, keep track on budget use and ensure that as activities roll out so does the budget delivery. In case of difficulties with TORs, or procurement process, the country office should benefit from RTA advise, as well as assistance of Country Support Desk of the Istanbul Regional Hub.

H. Gender

Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning. The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

Gender Analysis and Action Plan: WTS ID_Gender mainstreaming plan_2018_FINAL.docx
Please review the project's Gender Analysis. If the Gender Analysis is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis.
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.
Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.
<p>The project has been developed with substantive gender analyses and gender indicator included. Therefore, the gender marker 2 was assigned.</p> <p>According to the UNDP rules, project has developed a Gender mainstreaming plan (attached to the PIR) and works closely with the Gender Team while implementing gender related activities.</p> <p>The project has been addressing the issues of gender-equality and the empowerment of women in different ways, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recruiting women into the project team (3 out of 7 recruited project staff are women: Project Coordinator, Project Assistant, national UNV) 2. Ensuring participation of women in all project activities at all levels. About 35% of all participants of project activities in target communities are women. 3. Gender balanced Independent Boards were established in target parks: in the State National Park "Alata" 4 out of 9 people are women, in the State National Park "Kan-Achuu" also 4 out of 11 people are women. 4. All information material are being gender mainstreamed as per standard operation procedures 5. According to prevailing norms, traditions, stereotypes in the country women are the key agents of knowledge transfer to children. Therefore the project focused on building first their capacities on eco-education, importance of biodiversity, also financial literacy (how to prepare microgrant proposals), etc.
Does this project specifically target woman or girls as direct beneficiaries?
Yes
Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced

the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.

All project activities are designed and being implemented with considerations of women empowerment.

Through inclusive community-based institutions for pasture management (pasture committees), small holding farmers will benefit from improved access to pastures, as pasture committees will be assisted in grouping and organizing herding of animals of small-scale animal owners, including women. The Project's ongoing work on pasture committees in target districts aims at improving women representation in all community-based bodies up to 25%.

The project we will pay attention to the gender issues, up to 30% should be women lead initiatives. For now, we didn't start this component yet and will wait the result's of the assessment from the company who will conduct this research

Also, the project's grant program includes gender indicators, particularly favoring women as small-scale project implementors. The project envisages a target of 30% of women receiving project grants.

I. Social and Environmental Standards

Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)

The Project Manager and/or the project's Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate. For reference, the project's Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP), which was prepared during project design, is available below. If the project began before the SESP was required, then the space below will be empty.

SESP: KGZ_PIMS6958_WTS_SESP_signed.pdf
1) Please provide a brief update on the project's social and environmental risks listed in the SESP. If the project has not prepared an SESP (i.e. if the project began before the SESP was required), then please indicate when that screening will be done (recommended before the Midterm Review and/or Terminal Evaluation, or after a significant change to the project context). If the project has updated its SESP during implementation, then please upload that file to this PIR. If any relevant grievances have arisen during the reporting period please describe them in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.
The project's SESP risks were low and these remain with no changes.
2) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?
Yes
If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.
The new social and environmental risk emerged during this reporting period in one of the target areas of the project - Kazarman city of the Toguz Toro district. The conflict between the local population and the mining company on potential threat of new deposits exploration to the human health and environment caused social tension and delays in implementation of the project's activities in this area. This risk is viewed as low for now. The situation is under the close control of the government and the project closely coordinates all actions and activities in this area with the government at national and district level.
3) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during implementation? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.
No
If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.
N/A

J. Communicating Impact

Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's lives.

(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)

How tree planting in mountains has changed my perspective on forests.

My name is Murataliev Kenjebek Esenkanovich. At the age of 39, I have a big family being a father of three sons and two daughters. I'm from Kara-Kungei village. In spring of 2018 there was a call for workers to plant trees in Toktogul forestry. Thinking of additional income for my family, I have decided to go to the forestry and work there. I have been given a temporary job. I hurried to tell my family about my success and the day after left for the mountains. There were also workers like me.

In Oi-Alma, together we planted about 40 hectares of nut trees. We have found out that the planting activities of Toktogul forestry have been fully funded by the UNDP-GEF project. And that our salaries have been included in the funding. I haven't participated in planting perennial trees before. After finishing planting in Oi-Alma and receiving payment for my work, I returned to my family. They were glad that I have managed to earn some money for our spring plowing and sowing works.

Before that we were planting trees only in our courtyards, but I have learned that planting in mountains can bring a lot of positive benefits. While trees grow, land surface in mountains become strong and can save from floods. Moreover, it cleans the atmosphere and serves as a home for birds as well. Planting trees in mountains for the first time in my life, I have learnt a lot of valuable information on the use of plants.

Villagers used to cut down plants growing in the mountains for their own interests. This was a wrong thing to do. I started questioning myself as a villager why we can't plant perennial trees ourselves year by year. If every villager plants a tree every year, our forests in mountains will become dense thickets, nature will get more beautiful and land will get stronger. We were hurting the nature instead of healing it. From now on, I won't hurt small bushes in the fields, won't cut trees in the mountains. I understand that forests save us. And I want my family, my relatives and friends understand that too.

What is the most significant change that has resulted from the project this reporting period?

(This text will be used for internal knowledge management in the respective technical team and region.)

The following can be considered as one of the most important change resulting from the project this reporting period:

Lake Kara-Suu of the "Alatau" State National Park was managed by the Ministry of agriculture, food industry and melioration and included in the list of fishing farms. Thanks to the extensive consultations held by the project and close work with the parliamentary corps, a change was made to the Law on Fisheries that excluded this lake from the list of water bodies where fishing is permitted. The uniqueness of this lake lies not only in its beauty and attractiveness for tourists and development

of the eco-tourism in the region, but also in its high potential of becoming a testing ground for scientific research (https://24.kg/vlast/72574_ozero_kara-suu_isklyuchili_izspiska_ozero_ryibohozyaystvennogo_naznacheniya/).

Describe how the project supported South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year.

(This text will be used for internal knowledge management within the respective technical team and region.)

1. The SSC between the Government of Kyrgyz Republic and the Government of Uzbekistan on Snow Leopard Conservation and Monitoring took place in May 2018. Four (4) representatives from the government and representatives from UNDP Uzbekistan (UNDP-GEF funded project in Uzbekistan) exchanged information and learned about the practices of the Kyrgyz Government on Snow leopard conservation and monitoring, and participated in the CITES workshop. The Kyrgyz delegation will pay a visit to Uzbekistan during July 16-20, 2018 to participate in the Coordination meeting of Central Asian countries.

2. The second SSC event focused on pasture management issues, including E-pasture information system. Eighteen (18) representatives of the government of Uzbekistan, local communities, pasture committees and UNDP CO learned the Kyrgyz experience on pasture management, visited the famous site of the previous UNDP-GEF funded project in the Suusamyrgyz valley. As a result of this visit, there is an agreement to jointly upgrade the E-Pasture information system with further application in the project sites in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.

The project partnered with the development partners including Snow Leopard Trust, NABU, Panthera, FAO, WB and other local NGOs in organizing these two SSC events.

Project Links and Social Media

Please include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, Adaptation Learning Mechanism (UNDP-ALM) platform, Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file upload' button in the top right of the PIR.

When implementing project activities, the project team always focuses on sufficient information sharing and communication aspects of the project's activities.

Information on the project activities, important international or national dates and holidays in the area of environment and all relevant information goes through various channels including:

1. UNDP quarterly newsletters
2. UNDP biannual magazine Bayan
3. UNDP social media (Facebook, Twitter etc.)
4. Websites and newspapers of local partners

5. UNDP website (<http://www.kg.undp.org/content/kyrgyzstan/en/home/projects/conservation-of-globally-important-biodiversity-and-associated-l.html>)
6. State Agency website
7. Development of various media products (photo book, articles in newspapers and social media, TV channels)
8. Two pages on Facebook were created for the Alatai and Kan-Achu parks
(<https://www.facebook.com/Государственный-природный-парк-Алатай-State-Nature-Park-Alatay-124922858138568/>; <https://www.facebook.com/Государственный-природный-парк-Кан-Ачуу-State-Nature-Park-Kan-Achuu-788284528020649/>).

UNDP social media

1. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/videos/1705115142917721/>
2. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/posts/1703028866459682>
3. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/posts/1701867729909129>
4. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/posts/1700717726690796>
5. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/posts/1694544903974745>
6. <https://www.facebook.com/notes/undp-in-the-kyrgyz-republic/%D0%BA%D1%8B%D1%80%D0%B3%D1%8B%D0%B7%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B0%D0%BD-%D1%81%D0%B0%D0%BC%D0%B0%D1%8F-%D0%B1%D0%B0%D1%80%D1%81%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%B0%D1%8F-%D1%81%D1%82%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%BD%D0%B0-%D0%B2-%D1%86%D0%B5%D0%BD%D1%82%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%BB%D1%8C%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%B9-%D0%B0%D0%B7%D0%B8%D0%B8/1688383881257514/>
7. <https://www.facebook.com/notes/undp-in-the-kyrgyz-republic/%D0%B1%D0%BE%D0%B3%D0%B0%D1%82%D1%8B%D0%B9-%D0%BF%D1%82%D0%B8%D1%87%D0%B8%D0%B9-%D0%BC%D0%B8%D1%80-%D0%BA%D1%8B%D1%80%D0%B3%D1%8B%D0%B7%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B0%D0%BD%D0%B0-%D0%BE%D1%82-%D0%BF%D0%B5%D0%B2%D1%87%D0%B8%D1%85-%D0%B4%D0%BE-%D0%BB%D0%BE%D0%B2%D1%87%D0%B8%D1%85/1688374177925151/>
8. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/videos/1684751691620733/>
9. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/posts/1681682221927680>
10. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/videos/1681435211952381/>
11. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/posts/1680918482004054>
12. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/videos/1680293018733267/>
13. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/posts/1652739964821906>
14. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/posts/1667202483375654>
15. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/posts/1651992788229957>
16. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/videos/1650104478418788/>
17. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/posts/1649755571787012>

18. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/posts/1646929322069637>

19. <https://www.facebook.com/undpkg/posts/1645769858852250>

Flickr

1. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/101543825@N07/sets/72157698663638985>

2. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/101543825@N07/sets/72157698495605075>

3. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/101543825@N07/sets/72157696793354281>

Links to materials posted on mass media

1. https://kaktus.media/doc/374742_vnedorojniki_na_straje_prirodnih_parkov:_proon_podarila_egeriam_avto.html

2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3fZOiwuWgoU>

3. <https://eco.akipress.org/news:1449852>

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%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B5%D0%BD%D0%B8%D1%8F%D0%BC%D0%B8

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K. Partnerships

Give the name of the partner(s), and describe the partnership, recent notable activities and any innovative aspects of the work. Please do not use any acronyms. (limit = 2000 characters). This information is used to get a better understanding of the work GEF-funded projects are doing with key partners, including the GEF Small Grants Programme, indigenous peoples, the private sector, and other partners. Please list the full names of the partners (no acronyms please) and summarize what they are doing to help the project achieve its objectives. The data may be used for reporting to GEF Secretariat, the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP Corporate Communications, posted on the UNDP-GEF website, and for other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts. The RTA should view and edit/elaborate on the information entered here. All projects must complete this section. Please enter "N/A" in cells that are not applicable to your project.

Civil Society Organisations/NGOs
<p>The project partnered with a diverse range of CSO/NGOs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Camp Ala-Too, a local NGO, has been a key partner in implementing the work in the area of sustainable management of pastures. The project applied the best practice of the partner in mobilizing local communities. 2. The Foundation "Initiative of Roza Otunbaeva" produced a set of visibility materials on Ecological Education (videos, interactive games/posters) 3. World Nomad Games (WNG) Secretariat selected the Snow Leopard as a symbol of the 3rd world nomad games. The innovative aspects include the fact that the environmental aspects are being taken into account in the games (increasing awareness on the importance of Biodiversity, Wildlife, including Snow Leopard and its ecosystems, harms of plastic wastes, pasture degradation issues, etc.) The project is developing a series of videos for broadcasting during the WNG covering the issues of biodiversity conservation and environment protection. The project also develops a Guide for organizing such large open-air events, taking into account environmental aspects (pasture and land management). This Guide will be transferred to the Department of Tourism under the Ministry of Culture, Information and Tourism of the Kyrgyz Republic. 4. An IFAD-funded project on pasture management, being implemented by the Kyrgyz Agency of Development and Communities Infrastructure, cooperated with the project to build on synergies and avoid duplication. 5. Community-based organizations working on biodiversity conservation in the two target districts are the project's partners on anti-pouching, joint patrolling and monitoring and other related activities at the community level.
Indigenous Peoples
N/A. There are no indigenous people in the Kyrgyz Republic.
Private Sector

The project had no partnership with the private sector during the reporting period. The Project currently conducts consultations with potential partners from the private sector to identify areas for cooperation. In particular, ecotourism may present good opportunities. The work is in progress with the local well-known designer to attract the attention of the public to the Red List animals through the line of clothing.

GEF Small Grants Programme

The project partnered with the GEF Small Grants Programme during the high-level Snow Leopard Conservation International Forum by using the visibility materials such as comics about the snow leopard developed with support of SGP in the past.

Other Partners

The project collaborated with the following partners:

- with UNDP BIOFIN project on financial mechanisms for environment and biodiversity protection
- with UNDP, BIOFIN and RIO convention GEF-funded project on revising the National Biodiversity Conservation strategy
- with FAO-GEF funded, GIZ, WB-GEF-funded joint Forest Management project on forestry sector, especially development of electronic system on forestry, including data collection on protected areas.
- UNDP-GEF funded project in Uzbekistan on realizing a South-South Cooperation exchange visit on pasture management
- A Night in the Museum initiative of the Ministry of Culture focused this year on the Environmental and Biodiversity Conservation issues to increase awareness of wider public.
- The Ministry of Education organized a competition for 200 school children at the International Day of Biodiversity Conservation together with the State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry.

L. Annex - Ratings Definitions

Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Project is on track to exceed its end-of-project targets, and is likely to achieve transformational change by project closure. The project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with significant shortcomings. Project results might be fully achieved by project closure if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.