

**NATIONAL REPORT
FOR THE SAIGA ANTELOPE MOU AND ACTION PLAN**

REPUBLIC of UZBEKISTAN

This reporting format is designed to monitor implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and Action Plan concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*). Reports on implementation will support exchange of information throughout the range and assist the identification of necessary future actions by the Signatories. The format has been designed to support the needs of the Range States, the MoU and CMS. Information gathered will also support the implementation CITES Decisions 13.27-13.35.

Please complete as appropriate and **return to the CMS Secretariat by 30 June 2006**, keeping in mind that not all sections are relevant to each State.

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1. Range State name:

Republic of Uzbekistan

1.2. Designated Focal Point with responsibility to co-ordinate MoU implementation (full contact details):

State Committee for Nature Protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan
700084, Tashkent, A. Temur Str. 99
Tel. + 99871 139 4195
Fax: + 99871 135 7920
E-MAIL: envconf@uzsci.net

1.3. Date submitted: 23/05/2006

1.4. Period covered by the report: From 1 January 2000 1 July 2006
dd/mm/yyyy to dd/mm/yyyy

1.5. List of other agencies or NGOs that have provided input to this report:

Institute of Zoology, Academy of Sciences

2. CMS MoU

2.1. Has the MoU been signed? Yes No N/A

2.2. Date signed: 23/05/2006

2.3. If the MoU has not been signed, what is the target date for signing?

3. SAIGA POPULATIONS

3.1. Are saiga present all year or seasonally? All year Seasonal

3.2. If seasonal, list the months of occurrence 10-5, October - May

3.3. Current total population estimate.

At present the population of saiga turned up under the pressure of poaching, it has caused the drop in the number. On the results of the winter registration the population of saiga does not exceed more than 15 000 heads.

3.4. Overall population trend Up Down Stable Mixed Unknown

3.5. List main subpopulations (if applicable) with estimated size and trend.

Usturt population of saiga

3.6. Is there a national recording system/database for saiga? Yes No

3.7. Name of agency/agencies maintaining records/database.

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Institute of Zoology, Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Karakalpak branch of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan*

3.8. At what intervals is the population monitored? Annually Seasonally Ad hoc N/A

3.9. What proportion of the population is monitored? 50 %
 >75% 50-75% 10-49% <10% None N/A

- 3.10. List agency/agencies carrying out monitoring.

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- 3.11. Methods used to carry out monitoring. Aerial Ground Vehicle Mixed
Aviation, motor (car), interrogatory of population

- 3.12. If mixed, please give details by subpopulation/area.

- 3.13. Date of most recent monitoring effort: _____ April-May, 2006
dd/mm/yyyy

- 3.14. Does monitoring cover:

population size? Yes No

sex/age structure? Yes No

reproductive rate? Yes No

- 3.15. What measures have been taken to standardise monitoring methodology with other states?

- 3.16. What is the status of saiga in the national Red Data Book/Red List? *No*

4. HABITAT

- 4.1. What proportion of saiga habitat has been lost [.....%] or degraded? [.....%]

No

- 4.2. What efforts have been made to restore degraded habitat and to what extent have these been successful?

- 4.3. Is saiga habitat intact or fragmented?

Intact Moderately Fragmented Severely fragmented

- 4.4. List any significant physical barriers on saiga migration routes: (e.g. pipelines, roads, railways, canals).

pipelines, roads, railways

- 4.5. Is the impact of proposed developments in saiga range assessed? Yes No

- 4.6. How is this enforced?
 4.7. What percentage of saiga range is covered by protected areas? [14 %]

- 4.8. List all protected areas in saiga range, together with IUCN management category, area (hectares), seasons/months when saiga are present, estimated number of saiga present, and whether these include rutting/calving areas.

Name	Size (ha)	IUCN category	Months saiga present	Estimated numbers	Rutting	Calving
State Zakaznik "Saigak"	1000000	III	October - May	near 15000	November-December	April - May

- 4.9. List any other protected areas that have been proposed or identified?

Name	Size (ha)	IUCN category	Months saiga present	Estimated numbers	Rutting	Calving

- 4.10. List key areas of saiga range lacking any protected areas.

Breeding areas

5. POPULATIONS SHARED BETWEEN RANGE STATES

- 5.1. What transboundary initiatives have been taken for saiga populations shared with neighbouring States or that migrate to other Range States?
 5.2. List any transboundary protected areas. *No*
 5.3. List any transboundary protected areas that are planned.

State Landscape Transboundary Reserve (Zakaznik) "Saigak" [Uzbekistan-Kazakhstan]

6. LAWS, INSTITUTIONS & TRADE

- 6.1. List Government agencies active in saiga conservation and management and their functions related to saiga.
State Committee for Nature Protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan
 6.2. Has a national strategy or action plan for saiga been developed? Yes No [Details]
 6.3. What is the legal status of saiga antelope?

Specially protected species

- 6.4. Provide details and references of relevant legislation.

The resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan of October 28, 2004, No.508 “On procedure for using, import and export of animals, parts and derivatives of animals outside the bounds of the Republic of Uzbekistan and maintenance of a hunting and fishing facilities”

- 6.5. How does current legislation regulate

- hunting of saiga antelope?
Bagging saiga to store up and sport-amateur hunting is forbidden
- keeping and breeding of saiga antelopes?
keeping saiga for breeding can be carried only under permit of the State Committee for Nature Protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan
- possession of saiga parts and derivatives?
only in case of a legal hunting
- domestic trade in saiga parts and derivatives? ***No trade.***
- import and (re-) export of saiga parts and derivatives, and live animals?
import and re-export of saiga parts can be carried out in according with CITES Resolutions

- 6.6. Which agencies or departments are in charge of enforcing the legislation?
[Indicate those charged with *in situ* protection, e.g. anti-poaching or surveillance of protected areas, and those charged with controlling legal and illegal trade in saiga.]

***Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan
Council of Ministers of Karakalpakstan
State Committee for Nature Protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan***

- 6.7. What penalties are applicable for infringements of the legislation?

According to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan of October 28, 2004, No.508 “On procedure for using, import and export of animals, parts and derivatives of animals outside the bounds of the Republic of Uzbekistan and maintenance of a hunting and fishing facilities” is was fixed penalty for damage in amount of 75 minimal salaries or 2500 \$ for foreign citizens.

- 6.8. Provide details of activities undertaken since 2004 to control legal and illegal trade in parts and derivatives of saiga antelope, including: controls and inspections; seizures and confiscations; and prosecutions.

- 6.9. Do stocks of horns or other saiga products exist in your country? If so, provide details on: size and nature of the stocks; source of the stocks; owners of the stocks; stock registration and monitoring system; and controls of these stocks.

No

- 6.10. What happens to confiscated parts and derivatives? Destroyed Stored
[Details]

- 6.11. Have customs and other law enforcement officers been made aware of legislation concerning saiga? Have they received training in identifying saiga parts and derivatives?

Yes

- 6.12. Provide details of activities undertaken since 2004 to protect saiga antelopes *in situ*, including: patrolling and surveying efforts; anti-poaching actions; prosecutions for poaching, etc.

- 6.13. What proportion of saiga range is covered by ranger or police patrols? [8 %]

- 6.14. Are these patrols effective in protecting saiga?

Yes

- 6.15. What resources (personnel, material, financial) are required to ensure effectiveness of the patrols?

Material and financial resources

- 6.16. Do patrols cover birthing and rutting areas? Yes No Partially N/A
[Details]

- 6.17. Do rangers inside and outside protected areas have the power of arrest? Yes No
[Details]

Rangers have the power of arrest infringers, to make a protocol in cases on infringement of the legislation (on the territory of forest fund).

- 6.18. Why are saiga antelopes poached? Has illegal killing of saiga increased/decreased/stabilized over the last three years?

Illegal killing of saiga has decreased

- 6.19. What is the estimated proportion of illegal hunting for horns [.....%]; for meat [.....%]; or for both [.....%]?

For horns is 50 %, for meat is 50 %

- 6.20. Provide details of the domestic legal/illegal market for saiga products in your country, indicating its size and nature, and whether it is growing, stable or declining.

No information

- 6.21. Provide details of the legal and illegal international trade in saiga products from your country during the last five years.

No information

- 6.22. Give details of any socio-economic surveys carried out concerning poaching of and illegal trade in saiga antelope. [details, institution, date, results].

Publications in local press

- 6.23. List any problems in implementing aspects of CITES relating to saiga antelopes.

Intensification of joint activity with customs bodies and producers of medical preparations. As saiga is not bagged there is no any problem on CITES.

- 6.24. Describe initiatives undertaken to facilitate alternative livelihoods in communities within saiga range.

7. CAPTIVE BREEDING

- 7.1. Does your country operate capture breeding facilities? Yes No N/A

There are no any special nurseries for saiga breeding in our country.

- 7.2. List existing captive breeding facilities [locality, name, managing agency]. **No**

- 7.3. How many saiga are held in total and at individual centres? **No**

- 7.4. Is reproduction successful? Yes No
[Details]

- 7.5. Give details of any co-operation with captive breeding facilities in other states?

- 7.6. Have any captive-bred animals been transferred to other range states? Yes No
[Details]

- 7.7. Have any captive bred animals been released into the wild? Yes No
[number/sex/date/locality]

- 7.8. Are released animals subject to monitoring? Yes No N/A
[Details]

- 7.9. Are any releases planned? Yes No
[Details]

- 7.10. Are any new captive breeding centres planned? Yes No
[Details]

8. EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

- 8.1. Describe the public's awareness regarding saiga.

Public are familiar with a problem of saiga conservation due to mass media, brochures.

8.2. Describe educational and publicity materials and programmes that have been developed for:

Schools

General public

Press and Media

8.3. Is any information available on the Internet? Yes No
[Details]

8.4. List any surveys carried out to assess changes in public attitudes to saiga.

9. ECOLOGICAL STUDIES

9.1. Have any studies been carried out on habitat requirements? Yes No
[Details]

9.2. Is the location of rutting and calving grounds known? Yes No
[Details]

9.3. Are migration routes known? Yes No
[Details]

9.4. Have any studies into dietary competition with domestic livestock been undertaken? Yes No
[Details]

9.5. Has any research into disease and pathogens been carried out? Yes No
[Details]

9.6. List any recent and ongoing ecological studies, with details of reports or publications. Yes No
[Details]

9.7. Are the causes of natural mortality understood? Yes No
[Details]

9.8. What are the main natural predators?

Wolves

9.9. Are there any predator control programmes in the saiga's range? Yes No
[Details]

10. THREATS

Rate the impact of the main threats to saiga in your country

	Nil	Low	Medium	High	Very high	Unknown
Hunting for meat			X			
Hunting for horns/trade					X	
Habitat loss		X				
Livestock competition		X				
Disease		X				
Climate		X				
Predation		X				
Fragmentation	X					
Demographic factors				X		
Barriers to migration		X				
Other (Please specify)						

11. ACTION

Which priority measures to conserve or restore saiga does your country wish to take in the next 5 years?

1. *Establishment of a mobile, efficient inspection for protection of Saiga and it's habitat.*
2. *Organization of a landscape zakaznik.*
3. *Organization of a constant monitoring on state of the Ustyurt saiga populations*
4. *Organization a nursery for breeding of saiga.*

12. OTHER MEASURES

Please provide details of any other country-specific actions taken that have not been covered yet.

Carrying out of joint raids with representatives of Kazakhstan on the struggle against poaching, as well as registration of the number of saiga.