



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

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SEVENTH MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO
THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
CONCERNING CONSERVATION MEASURES
FOR THE SIBERIAN CRANE (*Grus leucogeranus*)
Bonn, Germany, 10-12 June 2010
Agenda Item 7.4

DRAFT ACTION PLAN FOR WESTERN/CENTRAL ASIA SITE NETWORK FOR 2010-2012

(Document prepared by ICF)



Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature Conservatio
and Nuclear Safety

Federal Office for the
Environment



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This draft Action Plan for Western/Central Asian Site Network for the Siberian Crane and Other Waterbirds (WCASN AP) forms a subset of actions under the overall Siberian Crane MoU Conservation Plans and it is presented as part of the Conservation Plans. The actions will be focused on the nominated sites, supporting new nominations, and regional actions to service the site network such as website, sharing information, raising funds, etc.

The Action Plan is expected to focus on activities in the five countries (Iran, India, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan), that have already designated sites as well as on new sites which will be nominated at the Siberian Crane MoU meeting in Bonn.

Objectives and Specific Activities	Involved Countries	Involved WCASN Sites	Confirmed Funding Sources	Proposed Funding Sources
Objective I: Reduce mortality				
1.2. Strengthen and improve enforcement of legislation for crane protection				
1. Implement key activities from Hunting Strategy developed and approved under the MoU as outlined below.				
a. Reduce uncontrolled hunting and poaching through publication and distribution of awareness materials (poster, booklets, and video?). Identify key audiences and messages to promote needed changes in behavior (legislation, penalties for poaching, and species identification). Share these materials through national inspection services, hunting and fishing societies and in public sites (markets, shops, clubs, clinics, administration buildings, schools and colleges. and NGOs). Conduct activities at demonstration sites in combination with community participation measures (see 4 below).	KZ, TU, UZ	Naurzum, Zharsor-Urkash, Tyuntyugur-Zhanshura, Kulykol-Taldykol lake systems, Ural Delta (KZ), Durnaly (TU), Termez (UZ)		
b. Reviews current waterbird harvesting practices, national policies, legal frameworks and their conservation implications	All involved countries	All designated sites		
c. Develop and promote regional guidelines for sustainable waterbird harvesting and	All involved countries			

Code of Conduct for hunters for national adaptation and use				
d. Demonstration projects at sites with significant hunting issues including community participation, sustainable livelihoods and awareness raising	To be determined	To be determined		Partly supported by new GEF proposal
Objective II: Monitoring and research				
2.1. Monitor and study the Siberian Crane and its habitat				
1. Strengthen/establish regular monitoring of cranes and other waterbirds at WCASN sites to ensure updated knowledge of crane usage, habitat needs and conservation issues	All range states	All designated sites and all potentially important sites		
2. Provide monitoring information to the Siberian Crane database, International Waterbird Census and IBA databases	All range states	All designated sites and all potentially important sites		
3.2. Develop safe migration routes for Siberian Cranes based on those used by Eurasian Cranes				
3. Conduct census of cranes and other waterbirds during migration and at wintering grounds as far as possible at WCASN sites	All range states	All designated sites and all potentially important sites		
4. Study relationship between waterbird distribution, habitat condition and climate change, as a basis for proposing adaptation measures to reduce the vulnerability of regional waterbird populations.	All range states	All designated sites and all potentially important sites		
Objective III: Increase numbers and genetic diversity				
1. Support "Flight of Hope" Project activities approved by international planning group	KZ, UZ (other countries should	Naurzum Lake System, Termez (Currently no sites in Russia		

established under MoU for reintroduction programme on recovery of Western/Central Asian population	be added if scope of reintroduction project expands in future years)	are designated on WCASN)		
Objective IV: Protect and manage habitats of importance for the Siberian Crane				
4.1. Protect and manage habitats of importance for the Siberian Crane				
1. Build capacity for effective site management through development and implementation of site management plans, incorporating climate change adaptation measures	All involved countries	Selected demonstration sites		
2. Review water management needs to sustain wetlands and local communities	All involved countries	Selected demonstration sites		
3. Build capacity for the financial sustainability of site management	All involved countries	Selected demonstration sites		
4. Regional and national training workshops held on wetland protected area management and monitoring, business planning, climate change adaptation, water management and community participation for network site management	All involved countries	Selected demonstration sites		
Objective V: Increase public awareness and ecological education				
5.2. Site-based education				
1. Organize mass education and public awareness events (Crane Celebration, World Migratory Bird Day, World Wetlands Day) at WCASN sites	All involved countries	All designated sites		
2. Organize lectures and discussions with key	All involved countries	All designated sites		

stakeholders including hunters, frontier guards and other group of local people near WCASN sites about conservation of cranes and other waterbirds and wetlands				
3. Increase public awareness through involving local people in waterbird and habitat monitoring	To be determined	To be determined		
4. Develop methods on involving volunteers in crane count and waterbirds monitoring by adapting ICF, WI, and Birdlife experiences to local communities	To be determined	To be determined		
5. Implement young scholar programmes and competitions to mentor and empower promising young students – annually?	To be determined	To be determined		
Objective VI: Enhance national and international cooperation and information exchange				
6.1. Improve international cooperation and information exchange				
1. Publish information in CWGE Newsletter, ICF Bugle and other international publications.	All involved countries	All designated sites		
2. Include list of new publications in regional newsletters	All involved countries	All designated sites		
3. Identify awareness raising activities to be undertaken by countries, network sites, local NGOs (local press, TV, films, etc.) Share successful examples (I.e., Sterkh Foundation).	All involved countries	Countries, network sites, local NGOs		
4. Upload information about activities and news at WCASN sites to WCASN webpage	All involved countries	All designated sites		
6.2. Development of the Western/Central Asia Site Network for the Siberian Crane and other waterbirds				
5. Prepare and submit documents for nomination	AF, AZ, IN, KZ,	Ab-i-Estada and Dashte-Nawar		

of proposed sites	RU, TU, UZ	(AF), Shirvan National Park and Gyzyl-Aghach Nature Reserve (AZ), Etawah-Mainpuri (IN), Sarykopa, Irgiz-Turgai, Kurgaljino (KZ), Kunovat, Kondo-Alymka, Belozerskiy and Agrakhan (RU), Tallymerjen & Kelif-Zeyit (TU), Tallymjen (UZ)		
6. Review nominations as submitted by country representatives	All involved countries	WCASN Review Working Group, WSASN Committee		
7. Evaluate proposals of potential sites in Afghanistan – Amudaria Valley near the border with Uzbekistan	AF	Amudaria Valley		
8. Investigate possibility to create an international site in the border region between Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan and between Uzbekistan and Afghanistan in the Amudaria Valley	AF, TU, UZ	Termez (designated) and Tallymerjen (proposed)		
6.4. Capacity building				
9. Promote and organise regional and national training workshops on wetland protected area management and monitoring, business planning, climate change adaptation, water management and community participation for network sites	All involved countries	All designated sites		
6.5. Raise funds to support a comprehensive conservation programme supporting MoU implementation				
10. Identify existing projects and programmes that are or could support the WCASN sites. (For example, the WWF Forever Indus program could potentially support the 2 nominated Pak sites)				
11. Secure support from national or regional	All involved	All designated sites with		

governments to support priority activities	countries	support from CMS, ICF, and WI		
<p>12. Submit grant applications to support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Hunting strategy (Part GEF, To Be Determined (TBD)) b. Monitoring of cranes and other waterbirds at WCASN sites (TBD) c. Research on relationship between waterbird distribution, habitat condition and climate change (GEF) d. Support “Flight of Hope” Project (TBD) e. Review water management needs to sustain wetlands and local communities (GEF?) f. Regional and national training workshops held on wetland protected area management and monitoring, business planning, climate change adaptation, water management and community participation for network site management (GEF) g. CEPA activities including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. organizing mass education and public awareness events (TBD) ii. young scholars program (GEF) 	<p>CMS, ICF. WI with involved countries</p>	<p>As stated above</p>		