

PROTECTED AREA SYSTEM

Recipient Expression of Interest

COUNTRY	Ukraine
REQUEST	15 mln Euro
DURATION	3 years.
ELEMENTS	<p>The Government of Ukraine announced its readiness to establish an ecologically-representative, well-managed and financially sustainable network of protected areas. During the period of December 2009 – February 2010 33 new protected areas of highest categories has been established by the relevant orders of the President of Ukraine.</p> <p>The main elements to be supported are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To substantially improve site-based protected area planning and management by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Involving local communities and relevant stakeholders; b) Identifying appropriate measurable biodiversity conservation targets; c) Providing an analysis of opportunities for protected areas to contribute to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; d) Identifying threats to protected areas and means to address them; e) Integrating climate change adaptation measures in the planning, management and design of protected areas; f) Ensuring effective management of protected areas by well-trained and skilled staff. 2) To promote equity and benefit-sharing through equitable distribution of social and economic benefits generated from protected areas; 3) To build capacity for the planning, establishment and management of protected areas; 4) To ensure financial sustainability of protected areas; 5) To integrate protected areas into broader land- and seascapes and sectors in order to maintain ecological structure and functions, as well as to rehabilitate and restore habitats and degraded ecosystems; 6) To strengthen communication, education and public awareness of the importance of ecosystems, sustainable use of resources and conservation of biodiversity by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Strengthening information-sharing mechanisms related to biodiversity conservation; b) Developing mechanisms for constructive dialogue and exchange of information between stakeholders; c) Evaluating the impacts of communication and public awareness programmes related to biodiversity conservation.

1. FINANCIAL GAP

Budget Required	Year 1 - 4 million € Year 2 - 8 million € Year 3 - 8 million €	Please indicate whether this amount refers to existing areas and/or new areas required for greater ecological representation. This amount refers to existing areas.	
		Please indicate scope of jurisdictions included (e.g. federal, provincial/state, municipal, indigenous territories, community conserved areas). Jurisdiction: federal	
Current Budget	Please indicate amount(s) here.* 2010 – 10 million UAH/ 1 million €	To extent possible, please indicate the breakdown of major revenue sources and approximate amounts here (e.g. government budget, GEF, bilateral support, trust funds, NGOs, private foundations, etc).	
	2011 - 20 million UAH/ 2 million € 2012 – 20 million UAH/ 2 million €	<p>Major revenue sources and approximate amounts: 1) Government budget. app. 10 million UAH/1 million €(2010), app. 20million UAH/2 million €, (2011), app. 20 million UAH/2 million €(2012).</p> <p>“...State Budget of Ukraine supply protected areas with resources that cover 30% of the funding required...”</p> <p>The largest portion of the State Budget is assigned for the cost of personnel. Protected areas ,which are under the Ministry of environmental protection, have had the following budgets: in 2005 the total budget was 15,7 mln UAH, of which the cost of personnel,(including taxes)was 14,5 mln UAH (92,5%), and in 2009 the total budget was 61,0 mln UAH of which the cost of personnel was 60,1 mln UAH (98,6%).</p> <p>2) Protected Area revenue. Protected areas provide chargeable services (Order Cabinet of Ministries of Ukraine #1913 from 28.12.00 and #827 from 02.06.03). During the last five years the income generated by protected areas under the Ministry of environmental protection of Ukraine increased from 4,0 mln UAH in 2005 to 8,6 mln UAH in 2009. The main source of income is timber: in 2008 the income provided by timber was 81,1% of the total income.</p> <p>3) Income from recreation has been increasing in the past years. In 2005, recreational income comprised 8,47% of total PAs income/revenue from different services, in 2009, 13,6% (National Strategy for Strengthening Financial Sustainability of Protected Areas of Ukraine (UNDP, 2009), Annex 1 (in Ukrainian).</p>	
Total Funding Gap	Please indicate amount(s) here.* 2010 – 3 million €	To be met by domestic sources:	To the extent possible, please indicate the major expected revenue sources here.:
	2011- 6 million €		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government budget - Regional Nature Conservation Funds <p>The funding needed to implement the</p>

	2012 – 6 mln €		<p>above-mentioned elements is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To substantially improve site-based protected area planning and management - up to 8 mln € - To promote equity and benefit-sharing - up to 2.1 mln € - To build capacity for the planning, establishment and management of protected areas - up to 0.2 mln € - To ensure financial sustainability of protected areas - up to 0.1 mln €; - To integrate protected areas into broader land- and seascapes and sectors so as to maintain ecological structure and functions - up to 0.5 mln € - To strengthen communication, education and public awareness - up to 4.1 mln €
		Requested from international donors:	15 million Euro

* Please indicate amounts on an annual basis for 1 to 5 years. To extent possible, indicate recurring and non-recurring expenses. You are welcome to include additional tables and/or annex relevant supporting documents. To the extent possible, please draw directly from sustainable financial plans completed as per [Activity 3.4](#), as well as other protected area system planning inputs that identify financial implications for ecological gaps, management effectiveness and capacity development and other plan listed in question 3 below, as per the CBD [Programme of Work on Protected Areas](#).

2. ECOLOGICAL PRIORITIES

Please annex map(s) and/or list of the existing protected area system as well as the priority areas to be created for greater ecological representativeness* if the funding gap is addressed.

Although Ukraine covers less than 6% of the area of Europe, it contains approximately 35% of its biological diversity, which is aided by Ukraine's placement at the crossroads of many natural ecosystems, and the migration paths of fauna and a wide array of flora. In a comparatively small area, four natural ecosystems are present: forest, steppe-forest, steppe and seaside ecosystems. Ukraine's uniqueness is the presence of the steppe ecosystem which is one of a kind for Europe (National Environmental Policy of Ukraine: assessment and development strategy, 2008, Annex 2).

In Ukraine, protected areas serve the following purposes (The Law of Ukraine On Nature Reserve Fund (Protected Areas Network) of Ukraine, Date of Entry into Force: July 25, 1992).

- nature conservation;
- research;
- human well-being and recreation;
- sustainable use of natural resources;
- education and youth upbringing;

- needs of environmental monitoring.

A total of 38 protected areas have been designated over the past four years, including 32 National Nature Parks, 2 Nature Reserves and 4 Wildlife Reserves. In addition, 8 biosphere reserves and national parks have been enlarged covering nearly 669,000 ha. With these additions, Ukraine's protected area network now covers 3.27 million ha, or approximately 5.4% of the country's territory. Ukraine's network of protected areas of national and local importance is predicted to increase by 300,000 hectares (0.5% of Ukraine's area) between 2010 and 2012. Over the last few years the number and surface of protected areas in Ukraine has grown rapidly. This has undermined the capacity of the existing protected area system to properly manage newly established protected areas and integrate them into other sectors. Furthermore, the change in land ownership over the last decade has introduced new challenges to existing protected areas, including integration of existing protected areas into other sectors and building public support for protected areas.

The protected areas network of Ukraine is well represented and covers the whole range of natural zones, types of habitats and ecosystems (see RAPPAM evaluation, WWF, 2008), Annex 6a.

The list of existing protected areas can be found in Annex 3.

The list of new planned protected areas can be found in Annex 4.

A map of the existing and planned protected areas can be found in Annex 5 (will be submitted later).

- * *To extent possible, please draw directly from the Ecological Assessments completed as per [Activity 1.1](#) in the CBD [Programme of Work on Protected Areas](#).*

3. SUPPORTING ASSESSMENTS AND PLANS

Please indicate the status of completion of the protected area system analyses that are called for by the CBD [Programme of Work on Protected Areas](#) and annex those that have been completed as supporting documents.

Protected Area System Assessment and Planning	Programme of Work on Protected Areas activity #	Status of completion Please indicate 1-5 1 = Just started 2 = Fully underway 3 = Almost completed 4 = Completed 5 = Implementation plan developed	Annexed Please indicate all that apply
Ecological Gaps	1.1	3	Annex 4
Integration and Connectivity	1.2	1	
Transboundary Protection	1.3	1	
Protected Areas Threats	1.5	1	
Costs and Benefits	2.1	1	
Governance	2.1	1	
Participation	2.2	1	
Policy Environment	3.1	2	
Protected Areas Values	3.1	1	
Capacity Needs	3.2	1	Annex 6

Sustainable Financial	3.4	2	Annex 6
Communication and Outreach	3.5	1	Annex 6
Management Effectiveness	4.2	1	Annex 6
Research Needs	4.3	1	Annex 6

4. SUPPORTING INFORMATION ABOUT PROTECTED AREA VALUES

Please briefly indicate available information about the value of protected areas in your country to climate change [mitigation](#), [adaptation](#), and [sustainable livelihoods](#). You are welcome to annex any existing supporting documents.

Contribution of Protected Areas to Human Livelihoods:

Some statistics:

-Ukraine has the largest area of arable land in Europe, which makes up 55% of the total surface of the country. Over 30% of total arable lands have been degraded.

-The availability of drinking water is 10 times lower compared to the average for European countries.

-In 2010, protected areas covered 3.27 million ha, or approximately 5.4% of surface of Ukraine. The native vegetation area is 0.35 hectare per citizen.

Protected areas have a high social importance in some regions as they provide job opportunities, recreational services, nature resource use (including timber, see also sector Current Budget, income of protected areas), and education in rural areas.

Ecosystem services have not yet been recognized by local communities and protected area managers despite the multiple ecosystem services they provide.

Above-mentioned issues are reflected in national legislation and regulation.

The socio-economic importance of protected areas network is further presented in the RAPPAM Ukraine (WWF, 2008), in Annex 6.

Protected Areas Value for Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation

All protected areas require proper management for the purpose of biodiversity conservation and integration of PAs into other sectors. This involves the change of land use with respect of biodiversity conservation needs. Very often it entails depleted soil restoration, degraded grassland restoration, afforestation, pasture improvement etc. All these changes in land use have direct positive effects on climate change mitigation through carbon emission reduction from soil and common land use practice, and carbon sequestration in humus of soil and biomass, both living and dead.

At least 30 – 40% of lands, which are included into the PAs require habitat restoration or habitat improvement. Habitat restoration is likely to lead to an increase in productivity of the biomass and depleted arable land soil restoration. This involves carbon sequestration in the soil and biomass, which also contributes to climate change mitigation.

Forestland, which is included in the PAs, requires a change of management strategy, which will lead to an increase in biomass and decrease of wood products. This produces carbon sequestration in living biomass

of wood, both aboveground and belowground.

The climate change mitigation role of the forest and meadows can be illustrated by data from national cadastre: "... the existing forests carbon sequestration estimated at level over 59 mln tonne of C equivalent in 2007; the existing meadows carbon sequestration estimated at level over 1 mln tonne of C equivalent in 2007", (GHG Cadastre of Ukraine 1990-2008), (Annex 7)

The value of protected areas for climate change adaptation includes:

- Delivering ecosystem services, e.g. drinking water, air quality improvement, pollution reduction, etc;
- Habitat restoration or conversion of arable lands into semi-natural grasslands or forestlands can significantly contribute to climate change adaptation.

The above-mentioned services of PAs could not be evaluated in Ukraine, but these roles and the high value of these roles have been recognized by other countries.

Between 200,000 and 400,000 ha of newly established PAs will entail significant land use change, which can reduce carbon emissions and increase carbon stock between 5 and 20 (and more) tonnes $\text{CO}_2 \text{ ha}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$, or between 1,000,000 and 8,000,000 tonnes $\text{CO}_2 \text{ yr}^{-1}$.

The "Climate Change: Perception and Readiness for Action" survey was conducted upon the request of UN Office in Ukraine in January 2009 in 24 regions of Ukraine and Crimea. "One of the biggest challenges on the way to adaptation to climate change is the fact that neither Ukrainian society nor Ukrainian government prioritize climate change prevention as a top priority, - commented Sergiy Volkov, UNDP Programme Manager. Experts also stressed the weaknesses of Ukrainian legislation (especially in regards to using the mechanisms of Kyoto Protocol), violating the existing laws and regulations concerning environment, lack of strategic policies in this sphere, as well as low effectiveness of authorities activities. At the same time economic opportunities for climate change mitigation, connected with introducing Kyoto Protocol should also be explained to the society.