



## **Sectoral Integration in Kyrgyz Republic**

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## **1. Introduction**

Kyrgyz Republic reported<sup>1</sup> the efforts to integrate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies in Kyrgyzstan. The theme is extremely innovative as biodiversity issue was not correlated with sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies and programmes. It indicates an importance of biodiversity issues at sectoral and cross-sectoral levels.

To solve biodiversity conservation problems effectively it is necessary to involve different interest groups from direct natural resources users, NGO representatives and scientists till decision makers.

Sectoral and cross-sectoral interaction requires constructive dialogue of different interest groups, identifying cross-cutting points, assessment of capacity of all parties to increase opportunities in partnership.

However for effective development of sectoral and cross-sectoral interaction it is important efficient cooperation among state agencies. Analysis of current situation demonstrates weak partnership among state bodies, existence of inter-agency competition and lack of common objectives in the field of sustainable development and rational use of natural resources. Corporative coordination among agencies, working in the field of rational natural resources use, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is restricted. Indistinct responsibilities in state structures and weak communications barrier timely, full dialogue and interaction among executive ministries and agencies in decision making of significant environmental issues. There is a lack of integrated concept of sectoral and cross-sectoral partnership at local and national levels. Involvement of all stakeholders in solving of rational nature management is decisive factor for successful implementation of nature protection policy in country and region as whole.

Currently there is a line of legal documents that regulate process of involvement different interest groups into decision making process of significant environmental issues. There is political will that supports wide public dialogue and process of achievement of sustainable development goals, but declared norms are not fulfilled due to the lack of clearly developed mechanisms of sectoral and cross-sectoral interaction.

An example of successful sectoral partnership in fulfillment of obligations undertaken within CBD is activities of Intergovernmental Commission on Sustainable Development of Central Asia (ICSD), directed to solving of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Public organizations influence on process of decision making in the field of rational nature management, including development of national programmes and laws. The most active NGOs in the country,

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<sup>1</sup> Kyrgyz Republic (2008). Fourth National Report on Conservation of Biodiversity of the Kyrgyz Republic, State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry, Bishkek, 2008, 102 pp.

implementing projects in the field of biodiversity conservation and working with local population are EM “Biom” (environmental education), NGO “Independent ecological expertise: (public environmental expertise, protection of public interests; EM “Aleine” (biodiversity protection), PA “Nabu Kyrgyzstan” (biodiversity protection), “Unison” (alternative energy sources), PA “Eco Oi”, “Tashtar Ata” (biodiversity protection and reforestation), PA “Chintamani” (biodiversity protection), PA “Eco Joomart” (biodiversity protection, struggle with poaching), PF “CAMP Ala-Too” (work with local population on rational use of natural resources in mountain regions and other organizations).

Projects and informational campaigns of ecological NGOs and their networks allow to cover board public groups, contribute into conservation of biodiversity at local level, include environmental component in local territories development plans, protect public interests for favorable environment. In 2006 on initiative of NGO the “Chatyr-Kul” Lake returned SPNA status, and lake included into the list of Ramsaar lands. Public organizations work on reforestation and struggle with poaching.

### **Including of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity issues into appropriate sectoral and cross-sectoral plans and programmes**

#### **2. Agriculture**

Agrarian sector and processing industry were and remain the key sector in providing of food safety of the country. Main impact of agriculture on biodiversity is followed by extreme livestock pasturing, expansion of arable lands, dehydration of water-swamp lands and destruction of habitat of flora and fauna.

Area of pastures makes up almost half (45%) of the country's territory and includes grass ecosystems that are suffered from extreme livestock pasturing. As a result pastures' fertility is decreased, soil erosion is started, and natural habitat of rare and endangered species of flora and fauna is reduced. Today in agrarian policy there is a lack of complex approach on forming and improvement of ecological balanced systems of pastures use and distant livestock pasturing. Adaptation of mountain pastures related to growing livestock population is a factor of concern as it cause reduce of population and natural habitat of Red Book animals, particularly, argali, snow leopard, wild mountain goat and marmot

In spite of above listed forms of impact of agriculture on biodiversity, the three-year program of development of agriculture complex for 2008-2010 impact factors on flora and fauna are not included.

Approves governmental programme “Development of wheat seed farming for 2008 – 2010”, “Building of hydroeconomic objects and adaptation of new irrigated lands in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2008-2010” and “Strategic plan of veterinary service development for 2008-2012” also were developed without consideration issues of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

The structure of MAWRPI includes Department of Fishing Industry that is authorized body, providing elaboration of complex programmes on development of fishing industry. Fishing industry of the Kyrgyz Republic is a sector of economy covers board range of activities. Raw materials base of fish industry has line specific features related to seasonality of fishery and low forage resources of natural reservoirs.

There are difficulties of true forecasting of fish stock, defining of limit and quota for exception without damage for reproduction and state of population. Currently monitoring, conservation, reproduction and catch of fish resources are provided net appropriately. This situation is conditioned not only by economic causes of the country but by lack of target investing policy on fishery industry objects.

System of fish resources and their habitat protection requires further improvement, as scales of illegal fishery, especially endemic and protected fish species. Cross-sectoral regional operation groups developed urgent measures and set objectives on reproduction of fish resources, their protection and monitoring of fish reservoirs.

The programme of fish industry of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2008-2012 is approved by the Decree of the Government of the KR as of April 22, 2008. The programme determines main directions of integrated long term state policy in the area of fish industry development. During its implementation will be established single unified legal space that able to provide legislation basis for fishery industry in the Kyrgyz Republic. For these purposes it is planned development and adaptation of legislation, in the first place Law of the KR “On fishery and protection of fish sources”, that will be directed to complex regulation of multi-aspect problems in the field of study, reproduction, use and conservation of fish resources in reservoirs of the Kyrgyz Republic.

At legislative basis norms related to the proprietary right on fish resources, quoting and limiting in the field of fishery.

### **3. Environmental education and public awareness**

In 2005 Kyrgyzstan joined global process of implementation of UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development and implementation of UNECE Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development. Initiative in the field of education for sustainable development in the KR is implemented in the framework of environmental education that was reflected in national political documents.

Ministry of Education and Sciences (MES) of the KR and SAEPF closely cooperate in the area of environmental education for sustainable development. One of the main documents of education for sustainable development is a Concept of continuous environmental education of the Kyrgyz Republic, that was prepared by cross-sectoral group of MES and SAEPF with participation of NGO “Biom” under the Decree of the Government of the KR “On establishment of Coordination Council on ESD” (2005).

On the basis of the Law on Education the schools are provided the right to use additional educational component which can be selected on pupils’ choice. As result in the Kyrgyz Republic some innovative schools have an individual curriculum, allowing introduce in it such subject as “Ecology”, “Biodiversity conservation” and others. Some higher institutions are prepare specialists on environmental directions.

According to the decision of the board of the Ministry of Education and Culture in 2002 the Concept of schoolchildren education of the Kyrgyz Republic was adopted one of its main components is environmental education.

There is a lack of publications with information on state of biodiversity and its conservation. National reports on state of environment also do not solve this problem. The newspaper “Jer Ene”, “Les-Tokoi” magazine of KIRLES are published quarterly, workshops and trainings on qualification improvement for personnel of regional environment protection administrations and NGOs’ representatives are conducted. SAEPF hosts information on state of environment on its web: [www.nature.kg](http://www.nature.kg) and provides opportunity to host information of stakeholders. Example of active informational portal is the Central Asian Informational Network [www.caresd.net](http://www.caresd.net), participating in the process of increasing of public awareness on biodiversity conservation issues. The portal is supported by the UNDP. There are also web-sites of public and international organizations.

NGOs contribute and publish reports in the framework of environmental education, education for sustainable development, lawmaking and public participation, which helps to develop sectoral and cross-sectoral partnership in issues of conservation of natural resources. Mass media also pay attention to rational use of natural resources and conservation of biological diversity. The initiatives of NGOs on holding Festival of Ecological Journalism in Central Asia starting since 1999 to present time serve as stimulus for this.

Documents in the field of environmental education and education for sustainable development adopted at national level are being implemented mainly in the framework of projects and programmes supported by international institutions. GEF, UNDP, CAREC and other projects conduct activities on increasing awareness of local communities on importance of biodiversity conservation.

#### **4. Public health**

Public health is one of the sectors of Kyrgyzstan that is being reformed. It reflects its role not only in health care but in increasing life expectancy and welfare of the republic’s citizens and achievement of Millennium Development Goals.

One of the sectors significantly influences on biodiversity is pharmaceutical sector. In republic there are 42 pharmaceutical producers of 160 herbal medicines from local herbs. Percentage of medicines based on herbs is about 40%. The most part of registered phyto medicines are natural pickings from wild growing or cultivated herbs.

For pharmaceutical sector of Kyrgyzstan the herbs with export and industrial capacities are important. The study of biological resources was conducted with support of international organization and private sector, it defines supplies and develops rational way of stocking for 10 species of herbs with industrial purposes. The study shows that availability of raw material base can serve basis for foundation of pharmaceutical production in Kyrgyzstan. In this connection Ministry of Public Health classified and listed medicine on basis of medicinal herbs. In the suggested classification about 90 species of medicinal herbs of the local flora are significantly important. These species are economically profitable and furthers to reduce poverty level of rural and mountain regions’ population. Such approach presents an interest not only as economically valuable medicinal herbs but as measures to conserve rare and endangered medicinal herbs.

There is a lack of knowledge in raw materials and locations of economically important objects of flora, ecology and biology peculiarities of used species, rational approaches and methods of continuous use of wild plants in the area of medicinal herbs use.

On the basis of existing flora and fauna traditional knowledge of traditional medicine is being developed during centuries. These traditions are based on knowledge of medicinal herbs and approaches of health improvement in conditions of mountain inhabitancy. Unfortunately, local population gathers medicinal herbs, separate objects of fauna that undermines their funds opportunity to recover. It happens in most regions of the republic with the connivance of local and central authorities.

State policy in the area of protection and use of flora resources is inconsequent and declarative. There is a lack of cadastre of flora species and analytical data base of plant resources, without which it is impossible to regulate system of sustainable use and effective control of raw materials. Issues of rational use of flora objects at local level are not included into the programmes of complex socio-economic development of territories. Also there is a lack of interaction between state structures and self-governance bodies. Imperfection of the legislation establishes opportunities for violations and abuses.

## **5. Forestry**

Taking into account socio-ecological significance of forest and its global importance for conservation of biological diversity and climate regulation in 2004 new edition of the Concept of forestry development of the Kyrgyz Republic till 2025 was adopted and approved by the Decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (2004). The forecasted climate change can follow essential negative conditions of conservation of forests and biodiversity.

One of the fortunate approaches of the mentioned concept is attraction of local communities for getting on the fair and equal basis benefits in the process of joint forest management that also responds to the 3<sup>rd</sup> goal of the UNCBD. Improvement of system of joint forest management and rent relations is a basis of strategic directions of the concept. With the aim to increase responsibilities of local communities to forest resources, strengthening of integrity in forests recovery the community based forest management (CBFM) is being developed) Introduction to CBFM has provided an opportunity to local population in the line with state and local authorities participate in planning of forest activities. But, on lands provided for CBFM forest protected measures are not conducted

On the basis of the Concept of forestry development of the Kyrgyz Republic National Forest Programme for 2005-2015, aimed at forest conservation and recovery and National Action Plan of Forestry Development for 2006-2010 to conserve biodiversity in forest sector were developed. To implement the mentioned Programmes forestry activities on protection and recovery with participation of regional, rayon, local authorities and forest services are conducted.

In spite of existence of consecutive documents of development of forest sector (concept-program - five-year plan) the mechanisms of mutually beneficial cooperation among local communities, business and

forestries aimed at rational use of natural resources and biodiversity protection are worked insufficiently.

## **6. Mining industry**

Kyrgyzstan is rich with mineral resources and has a developed mining industry.

Most of minings are located at the relative height (including gold and ore minings), are threat to vulnerable mountain ecosystems and destroy habitat of species of flora and fauna, pollute rivers and ground waters. Open ways of mining destroy cover and blast works provide inconvenience to most of animals.

There are cases of breaking of nature protection laws by geological companies that worsens tension with local population (Kumtor, Taldybulak, Levoberjnyi, Jerui and Chatkal Gold Mining Companies).

Necessity of planning of measures on protection of natural resources under IEA and control by republican and territorial divisions of SAEPP, local self-governance bodies, ecological NGOs and local communities decreases impact of mining industry on environment.

Follow “Big Eight” countries Kyrgyzstan, confirming its commitments to fight with corruption, implements an Initiative of Increasing of Transparency of Mining Sectors Activities. A basis of the initiative is control over mining companies by NGOs and local communities, cross-sectoral partnership among business, NGOs and local communities. But issues of biological resources in the initiative are not priority.

## **7. Development of rural rayons**

The developed National Strategy “Decentralization of State Governance and Development of Local Self-governance in the Kyrgyz republic till 2010” does not include conservation of biological diversity.

In the framework of complex environment management local self-governance bodies elaborate socio-economic development plans of territories, which include measures on conservation and rational use of resources. Low socio-economic basis of rural areas does not allow implement all planned activities. Socio-economic development and planning of rural areas without consideration of ecosystems’ capacity and environmental risks, development of their infrastructure and strengthening of the economic activities can not be reflected on state of ecosystems and biodiversity.

In 2008 within reforestation works forest services provided seedlings to Ayil Okmotu. Within UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme local communities implement different environmental projects.

## **8. Tourism**

Today Kyrgyzstan pays attention to development of tourism, but, unfortunately, availability of regions, climatic peculiarities, and state of infrastructure and possible impact of tourism on environment are not taking into account.



The concept of tourist sector of the Kyrgyz Republic till 2010 was approved by the Decree of the President of the Kyrgyz. In 2003 the Government of the KR developed and adopted Programme of measures in the KR till 2010. Action plan on complex development of tourism of Issyk-Kul region was developed under support of the Aga Khan Foundation and adopted by the Decree of the Government in November 2002. However, these programmes and action plans are of declarative character, as concrete measures and executors are not defined in them, budgets are not indicated, issues of biodiversity conservation are not considered and not all stakeholders participated in the process of their development.

Recreational and tourist capacity of ecosystems is not identified as monitoring of tourist effects on nature is not conducted. State services that certify ecological routes, taking into account impact of tourism on biodiversity do not exist. Kyrgyz Association of Tourism based on Communities (KABTC) certifies tourist routes, but does not consider impact of tourism on biodiversity.

In the framework of Intergovernmental project EuropeAid/TACIS on biodiversity conservation of Western Tien Shan training on ecotourism development was conducted, tours to Sary-Chelek and Besh-Tash reserves, taking into account biodiversity conservation were developed.

Hunter tours for foreigners, especially after endangered Marko Polo sheep and mountain Siberian goat, which are organized taking into account the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna. Hunter tours are organized in forest of Naryn and Issyk-Kul oblasts. About 90 hunting companies, organizing hunting tours function in the republic.

In whole there is a lack of sectoral and cross-sectoral partnership among different interest groups.

## **9. Finance, trade and industry**

Financing of state management in the area of environment protection, recovery and rational use of biological diversity, forestry are covered by the republican budget according to economically justified standards, developed by SAEPF and approved accordingly. Financing methods of conservation of biodiversity and forests re defined by the Ministry of Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic.

With the aim to integrate to world economics Kyrgyzstan joined the Marakesh Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization and agreements adopted within WTO, including TRIPS Agreement and Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Control on November 17, 1998. In 2003 the Interagency Commission on WTO issues was established, it includes representatives of ministries, state committees and administrative agencies of the KR on fulfillment of the WTO agreements. Under joining to the WTO our country undertook commitments on free movement of goods, payments and capitals. Procedures of licensing in the area of environment, including import and export of the goods are being reduced.

International technical standards in the field of environment protection (ISO 14000) are being implemented slowly. It allows introducing new approach to protect of biodiversity. When solving of issues of direct investment into the business sector a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is not considered and carried out.

Development of sectoral and cross-sectoral interaction in development of resource-intensive sectors (mining, energy, agriculture) that seek benefits from natural resources is becoming more actual.

According to the Law of the KR “On basis of technical regulations in the KR” and the Decree of the President of the KR “On institutional and structural reforms in the field of technical regulations in the KR” in 2006 the Resolution of the Government of the KR “On realization by state inspectorates on control of measures of security in the field of veterinary, plants quarantine, epidemiology, sanitary and ecology”.

To implement this document MAWRPI, Ministry of Health, SAEPF and Frontier Service of the KR the joint measures on assessment of objects equivalence and providing security activities in the field of veterinary, plants quarantine, epidemiology, sanitary and ecology.

### **10. Other national and sub-national strategies and programmes, directed to poverty alleviation and achievement of Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable development**

The main document in the area of sustainable development – Country Development Strategy (CDS) till 2010 it is mentioned that reforming of all sectors of national economics should become basis for changes of relation to use of natural resources, realization of socio-economic development with a glance to conservation of natural resources. Country Development Strategy for 2009-2011 presents strategic vision of the country development till 2011 and is an update of version of CDS till 2010. An action plan was reviewed in the framework of the common concept of regional development the role of regions are strengthened and indicators of monitoring are reviewed as well. Strategic goal of the updated CDS is improvement of life quality through economic growth, improvement of environment quality. Under development of CDS the principle of sectoral and cross-sectoral partnership was used, the working groups with involvement of all interested sectors were established; discussions and collection of recommendations on document improvement were conducted.

State Environmental Programmes are significant in implementation of ecological policy of the country. In the Strategy of Biodiversity conservation for 2002-2006 adopted by the Decree of the Government of the KR an action plan for interested ministries and agencies were defined.

To fulfill decision of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002) SAEPF experts under support of UNEP and UNDP “Environment Protection for Sustainable Development” Programme developed “Agenda XXI century for KR” and Concept of transition of the KR to Sustainable Development till 2010 was approved. One of the main trends of the Concept is environmental sustainability and rational use of natural resources through economical consumption of non-renewable and inexhaustible use of renewable resources. Correlation of economics and ecology, forming of ecology oriented economic system is strengthened as well. In the framework of the document strategic priorities of Kyrgyzstan for transition to sustainable development and following targets for biodiversity conservation till 2010 are defined:

- Develop Cadastre of biodiversity of the KR;

- Expand and develop national network of specially protected territories, increasing its area;
- Conservation of in-situ and ex-situ genetic fund;
- Increase forest area of the KR territory till 6% by joint efforts of the government, local communities and private sector;
- Involve local communities and NGOs to fight for conservation of biodiversity on their territories.

Within the ICSD activities Sub-regional Strategy of Sustainable Development (SSSD) of Central Asia was developed. Principles of Agenda XXI, MDG and plan of fulfillment of decisions of the World Summit on Sustainable Development lied in the basis of SSSD. SSDA CA is an integrated orienteer of CA countries, defining joint approaches and trends on forming of favorable legal, institutional, economic, ecological, informational and other conditions for achievement of sustainable development objectives in the region.

In 2006 Central Asian Framework Convention on Environment Protection for Sustainable Development was developed under support of UNEP. The Convention is signed by Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan are in the process of joining to the Convention. Thanks to the EcoNet-CA WWF/GEF/UNEP conservation of biodiversity of the region is included in the Convention. As an interim document, confirming readiness of countries to establish ecological network for conservation of biological diversity, WWF and ICSD (2007) signed Agreement about intensions on transboundary implementation of ECONET.

With the aim to conserve land and water resources Kyrgyzstan joined an Central Asian Countries Initiative on Sustainable Land Management (CACILM), it represents an innovative international cooperation of donors to support development and fulfillment of National Framework Programme (NFP). NFP is an important document aimed at fight with land degradation and sustainable natural resources management in the country, including biodiversity conservation. State agencies, public organizations, donors, local communities and civil society participate in NRP.

Processes defined in the framework of adjacent conventions (CITES, Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, Convention on Wetlands having international importance mainly as habitats of the waterfowl (Ramsar)) and conventions adopted in Rio-de-Janeiro (UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, UN Convention to Combat Desertification and others).

In 2002 Kyrgyzstan joined the UN Convention on Wetlands having international importance mainly as habitats of the waterfowl (Ramsar). One of the results of joining to this convention is an international status of wetland assigned to the Chatyr-Kul Lake (2005).

In 2007 Kyrgyzstan joined CITES. In accordance with the Law of the KR "On joining to CITES» SAEPP is an administrative agency responsible for implementation of articles of the Convention, and its scientific partner s NAS of the KR. CITES licensing to import, export and reexport of flora and fauna objects, excluding circus tours, transportation of hunting and fish trophies, museum exhibits, and individual models of flora and fauna are carried out on basis of recommendations of the KR CITES Scientific body.

In 1995 the Kyrgyz Republic ratified International UNESCO World Heritage Convention. In 2007 the Government of the KR the List of nature objects for including to the List of World Cultural and Nature Heritage of the UNESCO. However due to the lack plans of management of the objects Kyrgyzstan did not present any objects of nature to include into the List of UNECO.

Kyrgyzstan ratified the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in January 1992. In 2001 the Government adopted the Decree "On measures on fulfillment of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change". At present time an executive agency of the Convention is SAEPF, which implements coordination of state agencies' activities on the obligations undertaken in the framework of the Convention. The Law "On ratification of Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change" was adopted on January 15, 2003. National Strategy and Action Plan on prevention of economic, social, ecological and other negative climate change consequences were not worked out. Currently under support of GEF the process of development of the Second National Communication on Climate Change is being completed. Results of this work were got in a partnership of all interest groups and discussion of stakeholders. In the National Communication an assessment of vulnerability and adaptation to climate change were worked out, technical needs were identified and list of measures on impact mitigation on climate change was developed. National Committee on Climate Change Consequences was established according to the Decree of the President of the KR. Also the Memorandum of Understanding between the Governments of the Kyrgyz Republic and Denmark in the area of implementation of the Kyoto Protocol and UNFCCC was signed the same year.

In 1997 Kyrgyzstan joined the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, with the aim to implement the Convention under Institute of Irrigation of MAWRPI the national Centre on Combat Desertification was established, at the same time the Centre is an executive body on fulfillment of National Action Plan on Combat Desertification. In the framework of the Centre pilot projects on land degradation are implemented.

Joining the Aarhus Convention in January 2001, Kyrgyzstan did not sign addition to item 6: participation of public in decisions on premeditated release into environment and sale on market of genetically changed organisms. The item obligates Parties to provide transparency of licensing for import and production on country's territory new for genetically changed organisms.

National Reports on the Convention implementation are prepared by cross-sectoral groups, i.e. projects on preparation National Report on Aarhus Convention and UNFCCC.

Kyrgyzstan, being a member of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (2008) and active member of regional institutions supported an idea of sustainable development as at global level so in the Central Asia. Our country also signed Central Asian Convention on Environment Protection for Sustainable Development and actively participated in development of Sub-regional Strategy of Sustainable Development of CA. Kyrgyzstan is a Party of VEKCA Strategy and Central Asian Initiative on Sustainable Development (CAISD).

The country has not yet joined Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals.

In spite of positive examples in implementation of obligations of environmental convention, there are significant distinctions in understanding of commitments on fulfillment of international agreements and initiatives at national and local levels. Therefore, there are decreasing of responsibility for decision making and inefficiency in implementation of different multilateral nature protection agreements. Disconnection of departmental interests does not facilitate optimal decisions, cross-sectoral and inter-agency capacity, resources at central and local levels are not used fully. Implementation of different multilateral nature protection agreements in the country is not coordinated with strategies of sustainable development, the agreements are not considered as effective tool of national policy and decision making.

### **11. Information on scopes of including of biodiversity issue into sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies and plans**

In Kyrgyzstan there is an adequate legislative basis for building sectoral and cross-sectoral interaction, including the fields of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The public right for access to information is consolidated by international agreements and normative acts of the Kyrgyz Republic. In 2001 Kyrgyzstan joined the Aarhus Convention. The signing strengthened opportunities of access to information of all stakeholders in the field of environment protection, although internal legislation provided the right of public to information and the right to participate in decision making process in 1991.

In august 2005 Kyrgyzstan joined Cartagena Protocol to UNCBD. Its joining allows Kyrgyzstan to implement activities related to transboundary movement of genetically changed organisms and products; take measures on non-admission their import to the country, including mutual assistance in making researches and scientific and technical elaborations, and information exchange in the field of biotechnology.

Since 1994 Kyrgyzstan is a member of World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The Government of the KR realized a necessity of development of methods of protection and working out of standards in the field of protection of traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore. International symposium “Intellectual property and traditional knowledge” hold on June 16, 2008 with participation of WIPO. In the framework of symposium measures on cooperation between Kyrgyzstan and WIPO in the area of protection of intellectual property for transformation of human capacity, cultural wealth, unique folklore and ancient history in economic development. The Government of the KR adopted State Programme on development of system of intellectual property “Intellect” for the period of 2001-2010, National network of Informational provision of subjects was established in its framework. In the programme the issues of protection of traditional knowledge, genetic resources and folklore are considered.

Kyrgyzstan as a competent subject of international right has joined 14 environmental conventions and protocols, which made possible attraction of international resources for solving issues of rational nature resources management, including conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, capacity building of all stakeholders and promotion of sectoral and cross-sectoral partnership.

For improvement of the Conventions implementation in Kyrgyzstan in the framework of GEF/UNDP “National Capacity Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management in Kyrgyzstan” (2005) an inventory of capacity of Kyrgyzstan in the field of three Conventions: UNFCCC, UNCCD, UNCBD. Identification of problems and perspectives to fulfill commitments of the KR on mentioned conventions and development of measures became the project results. For its effective implementation analysis of sectoral and cross-sectoral interaction for fulfillment of GEC was made. Cooperation among interested parties in the area of environment protection for sustainable development through building dialogues among stakeholders using interagency and cross-sectoral approach was result of the UNDP “Capacity Building and Environmental; Governance Strengthening for Sustainable Development” Project. Expert support was provided in realization of the first steps in integration of principles of sustainable development, Agenda XXI, MDG into the main strategies and programmes at national and local levels.

Since 2007 the UNDP “Environment Protection for Sustainable Development” Programme develops sectoral and cross-sectoral partnership for sustainable development successfully. The main focus of the Programme became activities in the field of sectoral and cross-sectoral partnership, issues of integration commitments of international environmental conventions into national legislation, capacity building of state, public organizations and business structures in the field of rational nature management and biodiversity conservation.

## **12. Description of process of including of biodiversity issue into sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies and plans and measures, undertaken at national and local levels to achieve objectives of the Convention on biodiversity**

Rational use of natural resources is a process of cooperation, which requires joining of efforts of Government, NGOs, business and citizens. Involvement of public into nature management activities is a key moment for development and realization of environmental policy.

Since 2006 a process of development and discussion of the main nature protection document, Environmental Code, is initiated and in 2009 the Code is approved by Jogorku Kenesh of the KR. The Environmental Code now is on approval of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic. The work was implemented under support of the UNDP “Environment Protection for Sustainable Development” Programme and WWF with involvement different groups, from NGOs till Parliament deputies. The basic principles of the document are: “pollutant pays” and “strengthening of inter-agency and cross-sectoral interaction in decision of issues of rational use of natural resources”. This year also the process of defining legislative regime of pastures use for conservation of biodiversity was started. Development of the Law “On pastures” was initiated “top-down”, in its discussion a wide range of public took part: ministries, agencies, NGOs, scientific society, business and farmers. Implementation mechanisms of the project of the Law are developed with active participation of representatives of MAWRPI, Institute of

Pastures and Forage, "CAMP "Ala-Too" NGO and "LARC" Public Foundation, including international organizations - UNDP, WB, GTZ and others. This activity is a best practice of sectoral and cross-sectoral partnership in law-making process. Local communities, living for pastures use played a special role in the process of law development. In six pilot villages of the country committees for discussion and promotion of the draft law were organized.

State structures and international institutions in cooperation with NGOs and local communities realize principle of rational use of natural resources through limitation and control of flora and fauna resources use. Under licensing of trophies for foreign hunters, mainly on Marco Polo sheep interaction at cross-sectoral level is taken into account. Licensing on hunting after the mentioned animals is limited. Annually limit and terms of hunting are identified by SAEPF in coordination with NAS of the KR. Hunting received licenses on hunting after wild animals have to register in local self-governance bodies that jointly with territorial sub-division of SAEPF and NGOs control rational use of biodiversity. Although hunting objects are located on territories of local self-governance, it does not have economic benefit from fees for use of natural resources.

International institutions support activities on achievement the convention's objectives. The best practice is EU-JUMP «Support of sustainable development of juniper forest of the south of Kyrgyzstan» Project (2004-2006), its goal to develop integrated plans of juniper forests management with involvement of local population.

MAWRPI expand cooperation in the field of development and rehabilitation of fish sector: NAS and SAEPF inspections developed and approved fish and biological standards. Representatives of MAWRPI and NAS developed a draft law "On changes and additions in the Law "On fishing sector"".

The GEF/UNDP "Strengthening policy and regulatory framework for mainstreaming biodiversity into fishery sector" Project was launched in 2007. This is the first applied project in Kyrgyzstan, directed on conservation and rehabilitation of ichthyofauna of Issyk-Kul Lake. In 2008 Turkish International Cooperation Agency (TICA) and Department of Fishing under MAWRPI implement project on rehabilitation of Ton fish factory. The aim of the project is to establish incubation department on reproduction of fish materials in Issyk-Kul oblast.

Expanded network of consultative services, established under support of international donor organizations, works to provide consultative, educational and informational services to farmers. Farmers and rural population especially poors are supported through knowledge on agro technique, production methods, agro business and handcraft. Kyrgyz agrarian market informational system (KAMIS) is improving with the aim to provide information to farmer organizations timely.

Measures on prevention introduction, control and extermination of species, constituting a menace to ecosystems, habitats are undertaken on basis of international standards and national legislation. In legislation coordination on import, export, release and settlement of animals, import and grow of plants, damaging objects of flora and fauna of the republic and health of population are regulated. Our country signed regional and international agreements on providing close international cooperation, including

mutual assistance in researches and scientific and technical studies, information exchange in the field of biotechnology.

Under support of Helvitas Swiss Programme and Kyrgyz Tourism Association, Based on Communities (KTABC) Instructions for Guides and Guideline for guest houses owners were developed. EuropAid (TACIS) on conservation of biodiversity of Western Tien Shan (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan) together with Helvitas, KTABS organized workshops and trainings for local communities in the field of tourism. On workshops information about value of biodiversity for population living near Western Tien Shan was provided. The project also assisted in creation of CBT – tourism based on communities in project territories of three countries.

The Law “On protection of traditional knowledge” was adopted in June 2007; it includes traditions of biodiversity conservation. In historical heritage of Kyrgyz people there are traditions of rational use of natural resources, for example, culture of rational use of biodiversity, variable and distant pastures management, allowing pastures to recover, violation for hunting in the period of reproduction. Traditional knowledge are also used when collection of medicinal, food and technical herbs.

### **13. Mechanism and measures, providing minimal loss under implementation of strategies and plans, directed to achievement of objectives of the Convention on biodiversity**

One of the mechanisms to achieve objectives of the Convention on biodiversity is improvement of legislation in accordance with international nature protection conventions.

Measures on conservation of biodiversity are included into Forest and Land Codes of the KR, and in Laws of the KR “On environment protection”, “On protection and use of flora”, “On fauna”, “On fishing sector”, “On SPNA”, “On chemicalization and protection of plants”, “On legal protection of selection achievements”, “On seeds” and others.

In result of sectoral and cross-sectoral interaction in the field of biodiversity conservation the following activities were hold with involvement of NGOs:

- The Resolution of State Administration of Issyk-Kul oblast “On introduction of moratorium of hunting for wild animals on territory of Issyk-Kul oblast” was adopted in 2007.
- SAEPF worked out Regulation “On stationary ecological posts of the KR”.
- Guideline on interaction of prosecutor’s offices, Service of National Safety, Ministry of Internal Affairs, State Customs Inspection and SAEPF and struggle against violation with nature protection legislation is signed in 2006. In 2008 to this Guideline Frontier Service of the KR joined.
- Moratorium on cut, processing and sale of finewood on territories of forests of the KR was introduced (2006).
- Hardening as responsibilities for caused damage to environment were introduced into the Criminal Code of the KR .



To provide control over use of valuable species of flora and fauna Licensing Commission under SAEPF was established in 2007.

UNDP Poverty Reduction Programme implements its activities with the aim to decrease load on biodiversity through support of alternative profitable activities: public crafts, bee and poultry keeping, agriculture processing, yak-breeding and others.

In the framework of CBD commitments implementation under support of GEF, UNDP and WB activities on mitigation anthropogenic impacts on specially protected territories local initiatives on alternative energy sources are introduced.

Since 2008 Kyrgyzstan participates in building of Mechanism of contract of Cartagena Protocol on Biological Security under support of UNEP. In April 2008 international experts hold training on Mechanism of contract for representatives of appropriate state structures. Mechanism of contract of CBD established in accordance with Article 18 (3) of Cartagena Protocol. It calls to provide access to information on biodiversity, and free informational exchange among interested parties, including effective scientific and technical cooperation for achievement of CBD objectives at all levels:

- Conservation of biodiversity;
- Sustainable use of its components;
- Joint obtaining of fair and equal basis benefits related to use genetic resources and providing access and transition of appropriate technologies, taking into account all rights to such resources and existence of proper financing.

#### **14. Use of positive and elimination of faulty stimulus**

Positive stimulus can influence on process of decision making, providing recognition and compensation of activities for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. In all adopted Programme of regions development measures, stimulating conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity components are not considered. Legal and strategic frameworks for preparation and implementation of encouraging measures are not developed.

For forming of positive stimulus directed to conservation biodiversity in the country only some steps are undertaken:

1. Joining to international environmental conventions is a starting point for creation of stimulus through international cooperation and/or financing.
2. CDS till 2011 developed on basis of MDG contains a section “Ensuring environmental sustainability”. Concept of environmental security developed and adopted as a main strategic document to form state policy in the field of environment protection and rational use of natural resources.

Development of agro ecological programmes can serve as one of positive stimulus to conserve biodiversity. For instance, Asian Centre of Permalloy culture and PF “Eco Oi” implement project in Issyk-

Kul oblast (2008), that reform agro-industrial sector. Programme of distribution of parmalloy culture implements in the oblast resources saving and environmental technologies, allowing population to alleviate poverty. Projects and informational campaigns of ecological NGOs and their networks allow covering a wide range of population, contributing to conservation of biological diversity at local level, including environmental component into local plans of territories development. For example, in the framework of cooperation of EM "BIOM", Japan Nature Protection Fund "Keidanren" and PF "Communities of Kyrgyzstan – for biodiversity conservation" in 2006-2007 the wide informational campaign on conservation of sea-buckthorn at Issyk-Kul cost was hold. Campaign resulted resonance and found its supporters – deputies, staff of SAEPP, NGOs, higher institutions, schools, local population, and mass media. In 2007 in Tosor, Kichi-Jyrgalchak and Ak-Terek villages of Issyk-Kul oblast the first public micro-reserves were created. Local communities protect more than 1000 bushes of sea-buckthorns on costal strip.

### **15. Implementing ecosystem approach and its use under including of biodiversity issue into sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies and plans and programmes**

The legal basis, proclaiming biodiversity conservation in industrial and scientific activities at ecosystem level - Laws of the KR "On environment protection", "On protection and use of flora", "On fauna". International projects influence on state of flora and fauna objects at ecosystem level.

With the goal to rehabilitation and support of healthy, productive and biologically diverse ecosystems, integrity of its structures, functions and quality of population life in the Kyrgyz Republic presumption of guilt against environment under licensing of intended activities was introduced.

A responsibility of representatives of industry and private sector is to provide information is defined by the legislation of the KR. Practically all big enterprises prepare annual reports on fulfillment of nature protection activities, which are hosted at web-sites of enterprises (if the are) and can be provided on inquiry. But industrial enterprises and nature users often distort information on emissions and dumping, state of sewage disposal plants, contingencies, threatening environment and health of population.

### **16. Information on scopes of including of biodiversity issue into assessment of environmental consequences and strategic environmental assessment conducted at different levels**

To identify, analyze and consider character of supposed impacts of intended activity and caused changes in environment it is fulfilled environmental impact assessment (EIA). EIA is an important approach of monitoring of different impacts on biodiversity. Implementation of such monitoring makes possible to provide timely adequate reaction on mitigation of negative impact on biodiversity. Impact assessment also allows analyzing actions of initiators on environment protection. EIA is one of the mechanisms of ecosystem approach under technogenetic influence, as in its frameworks impact assessment of intended activities on biodiversity, flora and fauna, on health is made.

State environmental expertise, apart from EIA till the start of intended activities of industrial enterprises is undertaken. An assessment of the project document as well as EIA materials is made. All enterprises,

implementing economic and other activities, not depending from property form, should have positive resolution of the State Environmental Expertise. It means that intended activity does not exceed acceptable impact on environment.

Also Public Environmental Expertise (PEE) is carried out; in the expertise methods and tool of strategic environmental assessment (SEA) are used. Public expertise and SEA are of recommendation character. Today Kyrgyzstan is not a party of SEA Protocol, but PEE has the same methods and the same initial data. On PEE holding in line with ecological factors, socio-economic factors are assessed, i.e. influence of intended activities on environment and on human is considered, that is principal distinction of PEE from State environmental expertise.

The cases of abuse of nature protection legislation became more rapid. For instance, building of cement plant (Kyzyl-Kiya), cement-slate plant (Nookat) and ferroalloy plant were begun without appropriate environmental expertise, participation of public in EIA procedure and therefore were stopped after court according to action of "Independent environmental expertise" NGO.

On results of cross-sectoral partnership of some NGOs, commercial and international organizations on protection of public and environmental interests guideline on procedures of public environmental expertise with SEA tools was published.

## **17. Analysis of achieved results in the process NBCAP implementation**

Process of implementation of sustainable development principles, including sectoral and cross-sectoral interaction in the field of conservation of flora and fauna, practically introduced into all national strategies, programmes and action plans as at governmental level so at local level. Unfortunately, all of them do not have financial (budget) support of the government, and implementation mechanisms that cause assumption of commitments without guarantees. And only in the case of existence of international financial resources strategies and plans are started functioning. This trend increases dependence of implementation most of national strategies and programmes from external factors.

Current economic situation in Kyrgyzstan conditions that any budget expenses that do not give immediate effect in rehabilitation of economic are insignificant. Expenses directed to protection of environment during last years decreased till critical level and makes up 0,026% of DGP. Tendency of decreasing of capital investments is observed in line of positions, directed on environment protection and rational use of natural resources, conservation of biodiversity.

There is a lack of specialists in the field of environment protection and nature management; accordingly, state structures do not have appropriate capacity to implement prioritized measures in the framework of national strategies and plans on biodiversity conservation.

In spite of this, interests of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are included into national sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policy. Priorities in national strategies and action plans on biodiversity conservation as one of the means to provide implementation of CBD at national level are being identified, but this is not transformed in implementation of measures at local level.

Activities on increasing public awareness are conducted in the republic. These activities stimulate public to participate in decision making and support in CBD implementation.

Main participants and subjects of activity (state structures, NGOs, international institutions), including private sector forms partner relations to realize the Convention and interests of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral programmes and plans.