

Improving the coverage and management efficiency of protected areas in the Steppe Biome of Russia

PIMS 4194

Terminal Evaluation, December 2016 Volume II (Annexes)

Russian Federation

GEF BD SO-1, SP-3 (GEF-4), Outcome 1.1 (GEF-5)

Russian Federation

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

United National Development Program (UNDP)

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Annex 1 Terms of Reference

Background

In accordance with UNDP and GEF monitoring and evaluation policies and procedures, all full and medium-sized UNDP-supported GEF-financed projects are required to undergo a terminal evaluation upon completion of implementation. These terms of reference (TOR) set out the expectations for a terminal evaluation (TE) of the “Improving the Coverage and Management Efficiency of Protected Areas in the Steppe Biome of Russia” Project (PIMS 4194).

The essentials of the project to be evaluated are as follows:

Project Summary Table:

Project Title:	Improving the Coverage and Management Efficiency of Protected Areas in the Steppe Biome of Russia			
GEF Project ID:	3745		<i>At endorsement (million US\$)</i>	<i>At completion (million US\$)</i>
UNDP Project ID:	4194	GEF financing:	5.31	N/A
Country:	Russian Federation	IA/EA own:	0.01	N/A
Region:	ECA	Governm ent:	14.20	N/A
Focal Area:	Biodiversity	Other:	0.69	N/A
FA Objectives:	GEF-4: SO-1, SP-3 GEF-5: SO-1, Outcome 1.1	Total co-financing:	14.90	N/A
Executing Agency:	Federal Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Total Project Cost:	20.21	N/A
Other Partners Involved:	Implementing entity (for financial management): Non-commercial Partnership for Zapovedniks (Partnyorstvo dlya Zapovednikov)	ProDoc Signature (date project began):		February 27, 2010
		(Operatio nal) Closing Date:	Proposed: February 28, 2017	Actual: N/A

The project objective is to develop the capacity and ecologically based enabling tools and mechanisms for the consolidation, expansion and disturbance based integrated management of a system of protected areas (PA) at the landscape level within the steppe biome. The three main outcomes of the project are:

- consolidation and expansion of the system of steppe protected areas (SPA);
- strengthened operational management capacities for PA site management; and
- strengthened institutional management capacities for managing an expanded PA system.

The project is designed to improve management effectiveness of a network of 15 SPA across Russia covering over 1.8 million hectares. The project will expand this system and its coverage of steppe ecosystems by nearly 50% or 867,400 hectares through:

- consolidating three zakazniks into Chernye Zemli Zapovednik in Kalmykia, expanding the zapovednik by 496,200 hectares;
- facilitating the expansion or establishment of five SPA in Kursk, Orenburg and Dauria regions covering additional 305,200 hectares; and
- creating the enabling environment for the protection of additional 30,000 hectares of steppe ecosystems in the Orenburg steppe.

Cumulatively, these results represent an important step in securing the long-term conservation of globally significant northern temperate grassland/steppe ecosystems, one of the least protected biomes in the world.

Project location: Russian Federation

Project pilot sites: Kursk Oblast, Orenburg Region, Zabaykalsky Krai (Dauria), Republic of Kalmykia

The implementation of project activities is coordinated by the Project implementation Unit based in Moscow. The overall management of the project is the responsibility of Project Manager, who is a full time employee of the project.

The project was launched in 2010 and was supposed to be implemented within five years. Given the late start and funds availability, the project was recommended for an extension until February 28th 2017. The project funding provided by the GEF amounts to USD US\$ 5,304,545. Pledged co-financing is estimated at USD 14,900,000.

The project is implemented by the Government of Russia (GOR) represented by the federal Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment (MNRE) and operates according to UNDP National Implementation Modality (NIM).

Project website: <http://savesteppe.org/>

The TE will be conducted according to the guidance, rules and procedures established by UNDP and GEF as reflected in the UNDP evaluation guidance for GEF financed projects. The objectives of the evaluation are to assess the achievement of project results, and to draw lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project, and aid in the overall enhancement of UNDP programming.

Evaluation approach and methodology

An overall approach and methodology for conducting project TEs of UNDP-supported GEF-financed projects has developed over time. The evaluator is expected to frame the evaluation effort using the criteria of **relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and impact**, as defined and explained in the UNDP Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-supported, GEF-financed Projects.

The evaluation must provide evidence-based information that is credible, reliable and useful. The evaluator is expected to follow a participatory and consultative approach ensuring close engagement with government counterparts, in particular the GEF operational focal point, UNDP project support office, project team, UNDP/GEF technical adviser based in the region and key stakeholders. The evaluator is expected to conduct a field mission to Moscow and project pilot sites, tentatively Orenburg State Nature Reserve and Daurian State Nature Reserve in Zabaykalsky Krai. Interviews will be held with the Federal Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and all major stakeholders.

The evaluator will review all relevant sources of information, such as the project document, project reports – including Annual APR/PIR, project budget revisions, midterm review, progress reports, GEF focal area tracking tools, project files, national strategic and legal documents, and any other materials that the evaluator considers useful for this evidence-based assessment.

Evaluation criteria and ratings

An assessment of project performance will be carried out, based against expectations set out in the Project Logical Framework/Results Framework, which provides performance and impact indicators for project implementation along with their corresponding means of verification. The evaluation will at a minimum cover the criteria of: **relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact**. Ratings must be provided on the following performance criteria. The completed table must be included in the evaluation executive summary.

Evaluation Ratings:			
1. Monitoring and Evaluation	<i>rating</i>	2. IA& EA Execution	<i>rating</i>
3. Assessment of Outcomes	<i>rating</i>	4. Sustainability	<i>rating</i>
M&E design at entry		Quality of UNDP Implementation	
M&E Plan Implementation		Quality of Execution - Executing Agency	
Overall quality of M&E		Overall quality of Implementation / Execution	
Relevance		Financial resources:	
Effectiveness		Socio-political:	
Efficiency		Institutional framework and governance:	
Overall Project Outcome Rating		Environmental :	

	Overall likelihood of sustainability:	
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Project Financing / Co-financing

The Evaluation will assess the key financial aspects of the project, including the extent of co-financing planned and realized. Project cost and funding data will be required, including annual expenditures. Variances between planned and actual expenditures will need to be assessed and explained. Results from recent financial audits, as available, should be taken into consideration. The evaluator(s) will receive assistance from the Project Support Office (PSO) and Project Team to obtain financial data in order to complete the co-financing table, which will be included in the terminal evaluation report.

Impact

The evaluators will assess the extent to which the project is achieving impact or progressing towards the achievement of impact. Key findings that should be brought out in the evaluations include whether the project has demonstrated: a) verifiable improvements in ecological status, b) verifiable reductions in stress on ecological systems, and/or c) demonstrated progress towards these impact achievements.¹

Conclusions, Recommendations & Lessons

The evaluation report must include a chapter providing a set of **conclusions, recommendations and lessons**.

Implementation Arrangements

The principal responsibility for managing this evaluation resides with the UNDP Project Support Office (PSO) in the Russian Federation. The UNDP PSO will contract the evaluators and ensure the timely provision of per diems and travel arrangements within the country for the evaluation team. The Project Team will be responsible for liaising with the Evaluators team to set up stakeholder interviews, arrange field visits, coordinate with the Government etc.

Evaluation timeframe

The total duration of the evaluation will be up to two months, with up to 30 working days, distributed according to the following plan:

- Preparation: 4 working days (tentatively, 14-17 September 2016);
- Field mission to the Russian Federation: 12 working days, excluding travel (tentatively, 19 September – 1 October 2016);
- Development of draft evaluation report: 10 working days (tentatively, 3 - 12 October 2016);
- Finalization of terminal evaluation report: 4 working days (tentatively, 27-30 October 2016).

¹ A useful tool for gauging progress to impact is the Review of Outcomes to Impacts (ROtI) method developed by the GEF Evaluation Office: [ROTI Handbook 2009](#)

The assignment envisages international travel to Moscow, Russian Federation and two domestic field visits to the project sites in Orenburg and Chita.

Evaluation deliverables

The evaluator is expected to submit 3 key deliverables:

- Presentation of the initial findings;
- Draft evaluation report;
- Final report, provided that all comments to draft evaluation report are submitted by UNDP within two weeks.

When submitting the final evaluation report, the evaluator is also required to provide an 'audit trail', detailing how all received comments have (and have not) been addressed in the final evaluation report.

Duty Station

The consultant's duty station/location: home-based, with the following travel arrangements:

Travel:

- International travel to Russia (Moscow) and domestic to Orenburg and Chita during the mission;

Evaluation Ethics

Evaluation consultant will be held to the highest ethical standards and are required to sign a Code of Conduct ([Annex E](#)) upon acceptance of the assignment. UNDP evaluations are conducted in accordance with the principles outlined in the [UNEG 'Ethical Guidelines for Evaluations'](#)

Annex 2 Rating Scales

Ratings for Progress Towards Results: (one rating for each outcome and for the objective)

6	Highly Satisfactory (HS)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve or exceed all its end-of-project targets, without major shortcomings. The progress towards the objective/outcome can be presented as “good practice”.
5	Satisfactory (S)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve most of its end-of-project targets, with only minor shortcomings.
4	Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve most of its end-of-project targets but with significant shortcomings.
3	Moderately Unsatisfactory (HU)	The objective/outcome is expected to achieve its end-of-project targets with major shortcomings.
2	Unsatisfactory (U)	The objective/outcome is expected not to achieve most of its end-of-project targets.
1	Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	The objective/outcome has failed to achieve its midterm targets, and is not expected to achieve any of its end-of-project targets.

Ratings for Project Implementation & Adaptive Management: (one overall rating)

6	Highly Satisfactory (HS)	Implementation of all seven components – management arrangements, work planning, finance and co-finance, project-level monitoring and evaluation systems, stakeholder engagement, reporting, and communications – is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management. The project can be presented as “good practice”.
5	Satisfactory (S)	Implementation of most of the seven components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management except for only few that are subject to remedial action.
4	Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	Implementation of some of the seven components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management, with some components requiring remedial action.
3	Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	Implementation of some of the seven components is not leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management, with most components requiring remedial action.
2	Unsatisfactory (U)	Implementation of most of the seven components is not leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management.
1	Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	Implementation of none of the seven components is leading to efficient and effective project implementation and adaptive management.

Ratings for Sustainability: (one overall rating)

4	Likely (L)	Negligible risks to sustainability, with key outcomes on track to be achieved by the project’s closure and expected to continue into the foreseeable future
3	Moderately Likely (ML)	Moderate risks, but expectations that at least some outcomes will be sustained due to the progress towards results on outcomes at the Midterm Review
2	Moderately Unlikely (MU)	Significant risk that key outcomes will not carry on after project closure, although some outputs and activities should carry on
1	Unlikely (U)	Severe risks that project outcomes as well as key outputs will not be sustained

Annex 3 List of documents reviewed

1. PIF
2. UNDP Project Document
3. Project Inception Report
4. Project Midterm Review
5. All Project Implementation Reports (PIR's) with the project's results framework
6. Budgets and annual workplans
7. Project lessons learned logs
8. Project Risk logs
9. Many examples of the publications that the project put out
10. Audit reports
11. Finalized GEF focal area Tracking Tools at CEO endorsement [\(Tracking tool for Biodiversity \(BD-1\)\)](#)
12. Project site location maps
13. All the technical reports from various studies and consultancies

Annex 4 TE Itinerary & list of persons interviewed

Sunday, October 2, 2016	
	Arrival and accommodation in Moscow.
Monday, October 3, 2016	
10:00 – 13:00 Venue: Room #205, UN House	<p>Meeting with the UNDP PSO and the Steppe Project Team</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project overview and implementation status <p>Meeting participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Evgeny Kuznetsov, Project Manager - Mr. Ilya Smelansky, Project Chief Technical Advisor - Mr. Ruslan Medzhidov, Project Coordinator (Kalmykia) - Mr. Andrey Vlasov, Project Coordinator (Kursk) - Mr. Bataar Ubushaev, Director, Chernye Zemli Reserve (Kalmykia) - Ms. Natalya Pyagay, Project Associate
14:00 – 17:00	<p>Meeting with Mr. Armen Grigoryan, Project Coordinator, Center for Biodiversity Conservation: project activities related to fire prevention and management</p> <p>Meeting with Mr. Arkady Tishkov, Deputy Director, Institute of Geography, Russian Academy of Sciences: steppe conservation strategies and action plans</p> <p>Meeting with Mr. Anatoly Maksimuk, Director, Moscow Brunch, Institute of Game Management and Fur-Farming: saiga national conservation strategy</p> <p>Meeting with NextGIS</p>
17:00 – 17:30	Meeting with UNDP PSO (Irina Bredneva, Programme Analyst, UNDP PSO)
Tuesday, October 4, 2016	
09.00 – 12.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Evgeny Kuznetsov, Project Manager
12:15 – 19.50	Travel to Orenburg
Wednesday, October 5, 2016	
11:15 – 13:00	Meetings with the Orenburg Nature Reserve

	Management and staff
14.00 – 18.00	Site visit of to Burtinskaya Steppe of Orenburg zapovednik
18.00 – 21.00	Travel to Pre-Ural Steppe site of Orenburg zapovednik
Thursday, October 6, 2016	
09:00 – 18:00	Site visit of Pre-Ural site of Orenburg zapovednik, meeting with the Head of Local Administration
21.50	Meeting with project CTA
Friday, October 7, 2016	
10:00 – 11:00	Meeting with the Deputy Minister of Natural Resources of Orenburg Oblast
11:30 – 15:00	Meetings with the RAS Steppe Institute representatives
15.00 – 19.00	Meeting with representatives of Orenburg zapovednik
Saturday, October 8, 2016	
09:00 – 14:00	Site visit to a zakaznik in Orenburg with members of Steppe Institute and Orenburg zapovednik
14.00 – 20.00	Working with project CTA (going through PRF)
Sunday, October 9, 2016	
05:55	Travel to Moscow; writing in UNDP offices in Moscow
17:00	Travel to Chita
Monday, October 10, 2016	
08:40	Arrival in Chita
14:00 – 16:00	Meeting on project results at the Regional Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy of Zabaikalsky krai; numerous stakeholders present
16:30 – 18:30	Departure to Tsasuchey
Tuesday, October 11, 2016	

10:00 – 14:00	<p>Meetings at the Daurian State Nature Reserve</p> <p>Presentation by Mr. Vadim Kirilyuk, Project Regional Coordinator – PA expansion, patrolling & monitoring, co-management and cooperation with neighbours, ungulates conservation, fire-fighting.</p> <p>Meetings at the Daurian State Nature Reserve (continued):</p> <p>Presentation by Mr. Oleg Goroshko - transboundary activities, Duldurginsky Refuge, ETLs, steppe eagle, GIS-introduction, climate programme, etc.</p> <p>Presentation by Ms. Olga Kirilyuk – biosphere reserve, UNESCO WH nomination, sharing of best practices and promotion of project initiatives at various international forums</p> <p>Presentation by Acting Head of District Power Grid Company (re. BPD)</p>
14.00	Travel to Dauria (Semenovsky) zapovednik – International Biological Station “Cordon Utochi”, sites for expansion, infrastructure, Mongolian antelope, etc.
Wednesday, October 12, 2016	
10:00 – 18:00	Site visit around Dauria/ Semenovsky zapovednik
18.00 – 21.30	Presentation by members of staff of Dauria/ Semenovsky zapovednik
21.30 – 23.00	Meeting with two Hunting Inspectors
23.00 – 02.00	Meeting with project CTA
Thursday, October 13, 2016	
10:15 – 12:00	Site visit to local school in town (on Mongolian border) near International Biological Station “Cordon Utochi”
12.00 – 13.00	Meeting with staff of municipality town (on Mongolian border) near International Biological Station “Cordon Utochi”
13.00 – 19.00	Site visit to Dzeren Valley Refuge
20.30 – 22.00	Discussion with Mr. Vadim Kirilyuk, Project Regional Coordinator and Director of Dauria zapovednik
Friday, October 14, 2016	
10:00 – 13:00	Travel to and site visit of Adon-Chelon: PA expansion, infrastructure for educational tourism, area for argali re-

	introduction, etc.
14:00 – 16:00	Departure to Tsasuchey
20.00 – 21.00	Attending celebration of nature and Dauria zapovednik
Saturday, October 15, 2016	
10.00 – 18.00	Site visit to zakaznik with eco-tourism site Travel to Chita
Sunday, October 16, 2016	
10:00 – 12.00	Travel to Moscow
Monday, October 17, 2016	
11.00	Departure of international consultant

Annex 5 List of members of the Project Board (with active members in bold)

Name	Position	Institution
Mr. Victor Baryshnikov	Director	Dept. of Environmental Safety and Nature Management, Kursk Region
Ms. Elena V. Gangalo (resigned)	Deputy Director	Dept. of Economy and Finance, Federal Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Mr. Alexander Kalinin	Deputy Minister	Ministry of Public and External Relations, Orenburg Region
Mr. Yuri B. Kaminov (resigned)	Deputy Minister	Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment Protection and Energy Development, Republic of Kalmykia
Mr. Sergey M. Katasonov (transferred to State Duma)	Chairperson	Legislative Assembly Committee on Property, Nature Management and Construction, Orenburg Region
Mr. Vitaly G. Levakhin (resigned)	Deputy Minister	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Processing Industry, Orenburg Region
Mr. Sergey V. Melentyev	Deputy Minister	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Protection, Republic of Kalmykia
Ms. Natalia Olofinskaya	Portfolio Manager	UNDP Project Support Office
Mr. Evgeny P. Savinov (resigned)	Deputy Minister	Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Property Relations, Orenburg Region
Mr. Vsevolod Stepanitskiy	Deputy Director, National Project Director	Dept. of State Policy and Regulation in the field of Environmental Protection, Federal Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Mr. Bataar Ubushaev	Deputy Minister	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Protection, Republic of Kalmykia
Ms. Natalia Kharchenko	Deputy	Ministry of Nature Resources and

(recently resigned)	Head	Ecology of Zabaikalsky krai
Mr. Alexander Chibilev	Director	Steppe Institute of Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences

Annex 6 Maps of pilot sites

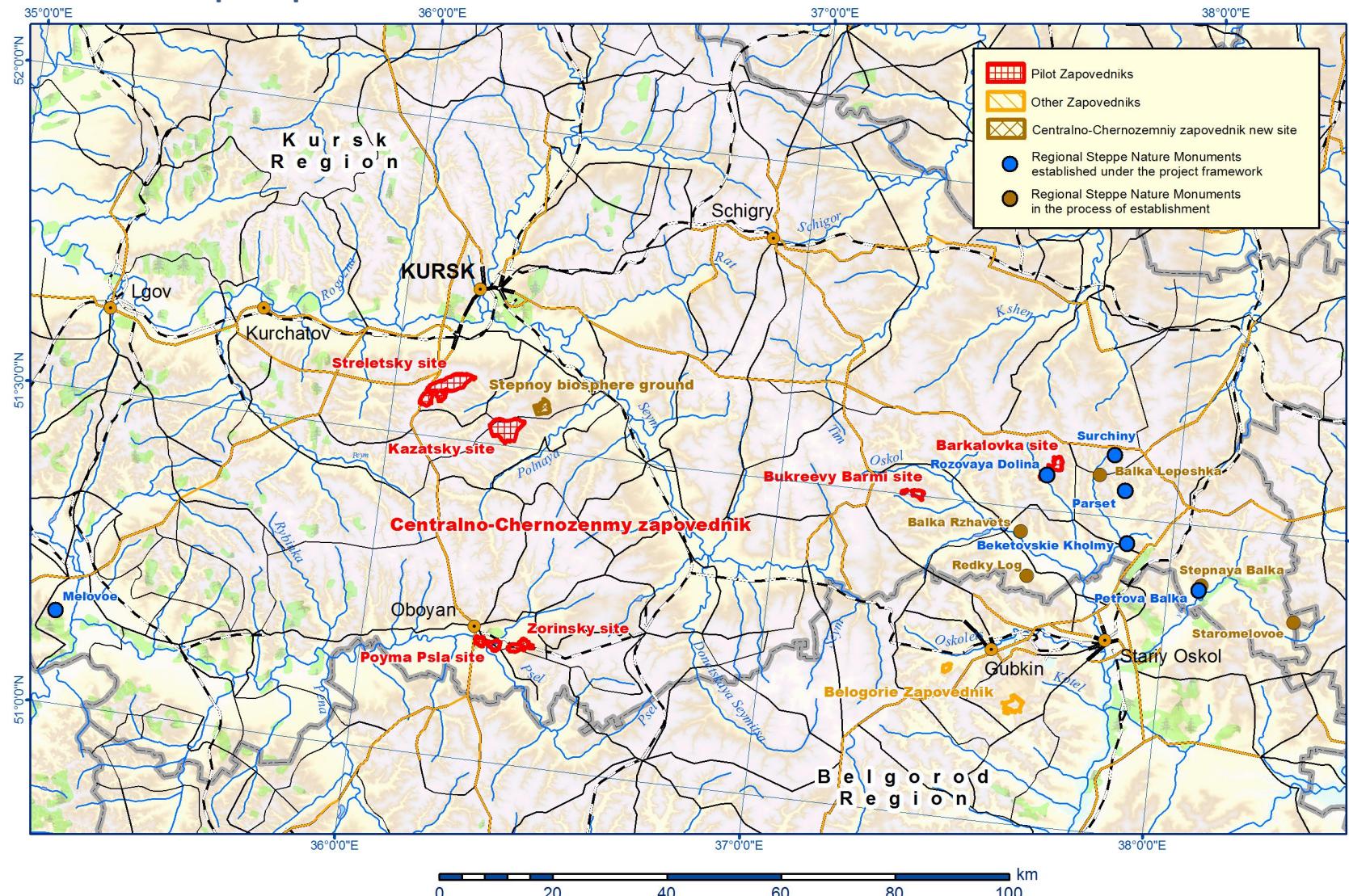


Figure 1. Map of the protected areas within the Kursk region with which the project worked.

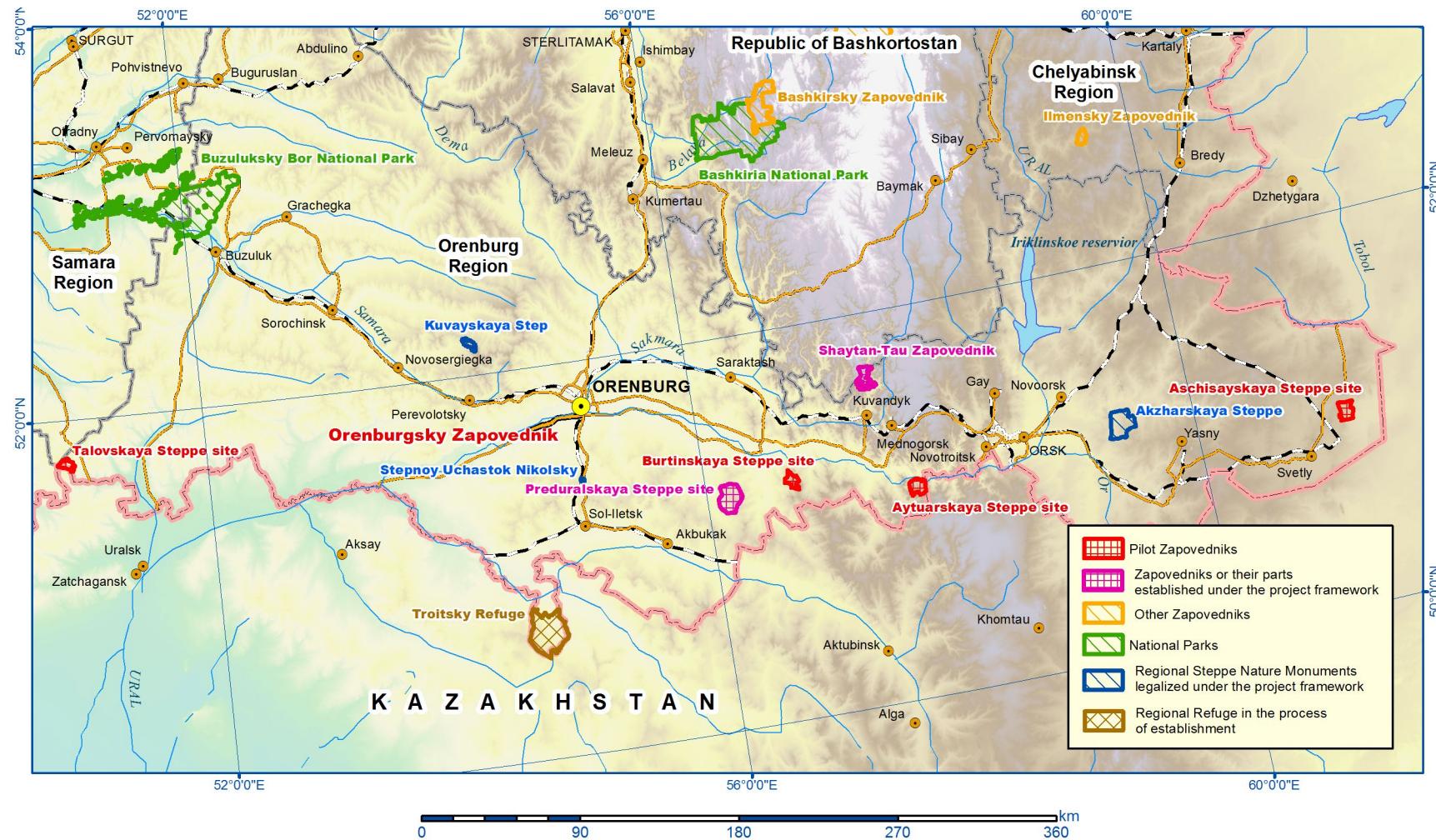


Figure 2. Map of the protected areas within the Orenburg region with which the project worked.

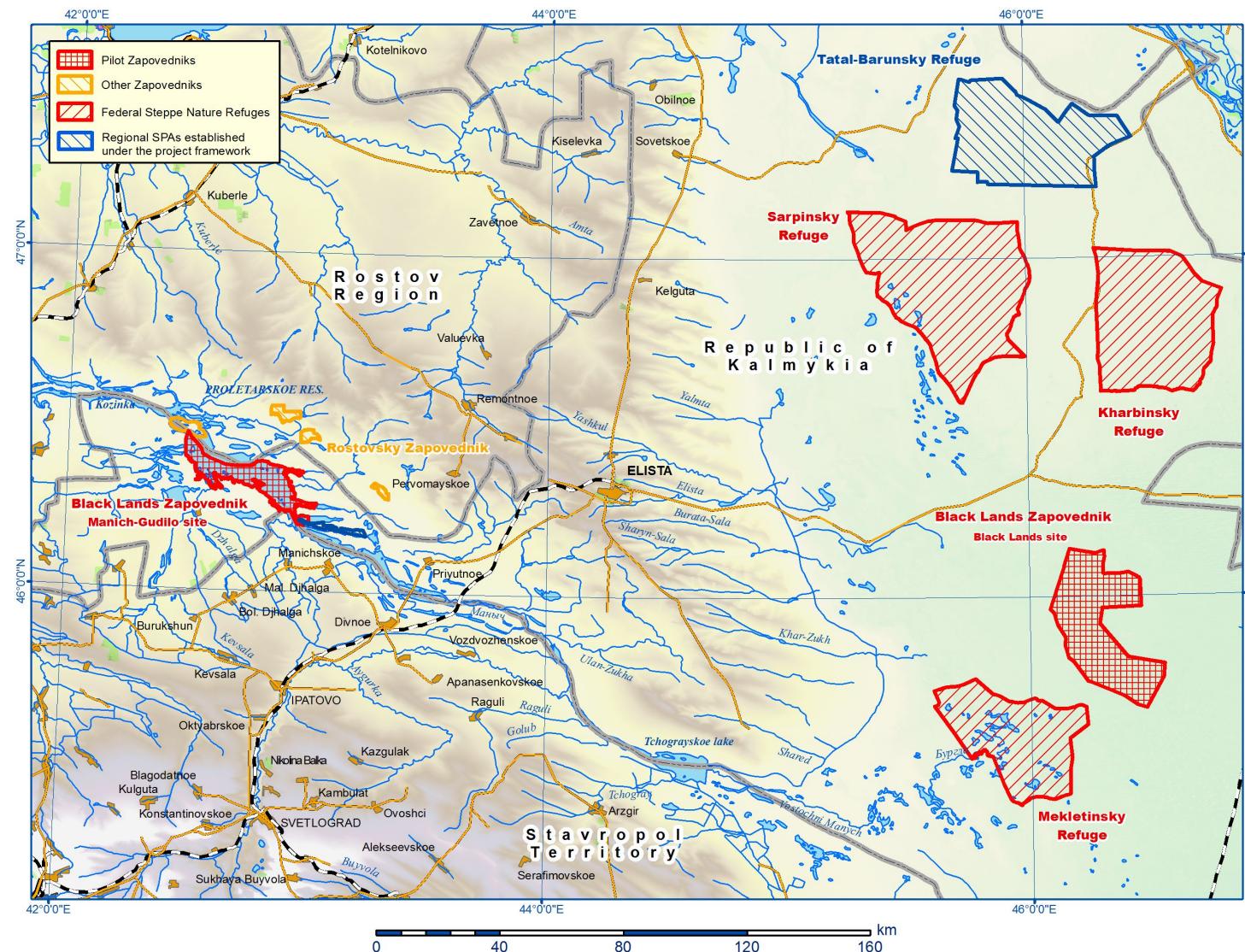


Figure 3. Map of the protected areas within the Kalmykia region with which the project worked.

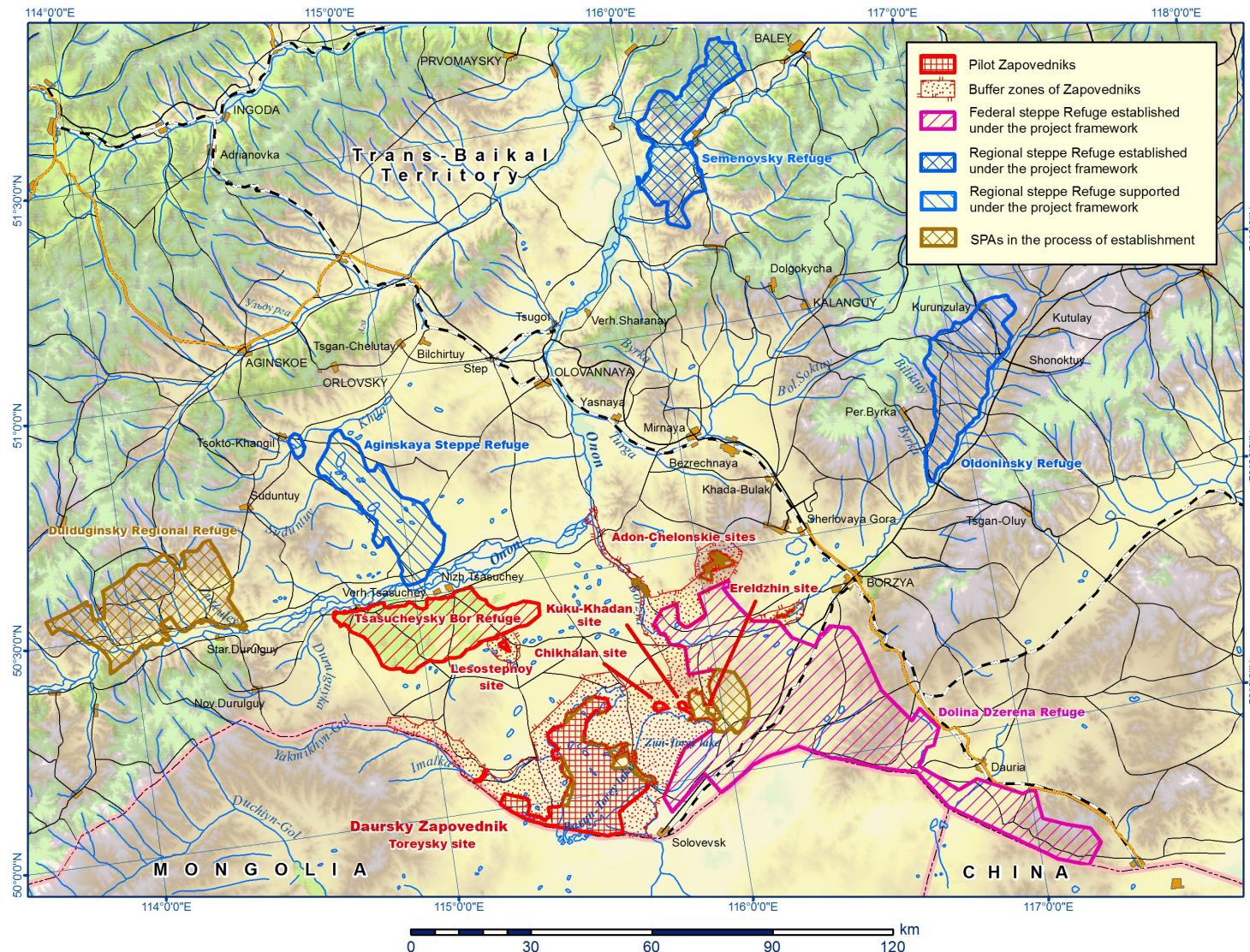


Figure 4. Map of the protected areas within the Transbaikal region with which the project worked.

Annex 7 The full PRF as it was submitted to the TE

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
Objective: To develop the capacity and ecologically based enabling, tools and mechanisms for the consolidation, expansion and disturbance based integrated management of a system of protected natural areas at the landscape level within the steppe biome	Steppe area under protection expanded: [Comment: The baseline figure was corrected by MTR as during the calculations at the PPG stage some PAs were assessed with buffer zones and some without ones. The correct baseline figure is 1,605,529 ha; it includes buffer zones and excludes three consolidated SPAs to avoid double-counting of the latter]	1,834,161 ha (as in the approved Prodoc) 1,605,529 ha (revised baseline level)	2,701,561 ha (original target level as in the approved Prodoc) 2,472,929 ha (revised target level)	2,297,461 ha	2,576,518 ha	2,827,480 ha Comment1: The baseline figure is incorrect (as during the calculations at the PPG stage some PAs were assessed with buffer zones and some without ones). The correct baseline figure is 2,068,829 ha (including buffer zones). Consequently, the end-of-project target value should be 2,936,229 ha to reflect the same desired increase in PA coverage as declared in the Prodoc. Comment 2: the indicator value at 30 June 2012 is incorrect as there was double counting of Dolina Dzerena zakaznik in Dauria. The correct figure for the previous reporting period is 2,842,327 ha Comment 3: the indicator value for the current reporting period is less than the corrected figure for the previous reporting period; this negative trend is due to the fact that this year doesn't count Orenburgskaya Tarpania as SMSA anymore.	Level at 30 June 2014 against the revised baseline and target level as recommended by MTR and approved by RTA: 2,364,626 ha (+759,097 ha)	2,371,502 ha (+765,973 ha) 96.66%	2,390,293 ha (+784,746.5 ha)	2,530,108 ha (+924,579 ha) Orlinyy regional refuge in Kalmykia with 139,814.65 ha established since PIR report There are several new small PAs in the process of establishment; it is expected that by project operational completion the PA expansion target will be exceeded by 2.3%.	Official decree declaring new SPAs issued by the provincial governments of the pilot provinces (for the provincial sanctuaries and nature monuments) and the federal government (for the national level SPAs)
	Area of SPA in the process of establishment		(+ 867,400 ha)	(+463,300 ha)	(+742,357 ha)	(+758,651 ha) Comment: the indicator value at 30 June 2012 is incorrect as there was	(+ 867,400 ha)	(+752,186.5 ha)	(+ 799,355.7 ha) Comment: For more detailed	See the indicator 'Area of SPA in the process of establishment' on	

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
						double counting of Dolina Dzerena zakaznik in Dauria. The correct figure for the previous reporting period is +773 498 ha			information please refer to the data on the same indicator below.	the page 19	
	(1a) Area of consolidated new SPA	0	496,200 ha.	463,300 ha (Three federal zakazniki - Mekletinsky, Sarpinsky, Kharbinsky transferred under the management authority of "Chernye Zemli" zapovedniks)	694,742 ha, which is comprised of: 463,300 ha (Three federal refuges transferred under the management authority of Chernye Zemli reserve as reported in the last year's PIR; 231,442 ha (Newly created Dolina dzerena federal refuge has been transferred under the management authority of Daursky reserve)	463,300 ha (Three federal refuges transferred under the management authority of Chernye Zemli) Comment: the indicator value at 30 June 2012 is incorrect as there was double counting of Dolina Dzerena zakaznik in Dauria. Although this zakaznik was indeed consolidated under management authority of Daursky reserve, still, in order to avoid double counting the area of Dolina Dzerena should be mentioned only in "Additional new PA created". Therefore, the correct figure for the previous reporting period should same as reported this year	463,300 ha [same as reported in 2013]	463,300 ha [same as reported in 2013, 2014]	463,300 ha [same as reported in 2013-2015]	463,300 ha [same as reported in 2013-2015]	The National Annual Reports of the MNRE since 2011 (stated the three refuges are under the management authority of Chernye Zemli Zapovednik). The Chernye Zemli Zapovednik Annual Reports (included reporting for management of the three refuges)
	(1b) Additional area new SPA created [MTR recommended that 30,000 ha of the target value under the "Enabling environment" category be	0	305,200 ha (target level as in the approved Prodoc) 335,200 ha (revised target level)	no change from baseline	293,661 ha which is comprised of: 231,442 ha (Newly created Dolina dzerena federal refuge in Dauria) 47,615 ha (Newly created Semenovskii regional refuge in	295,351 ha (the SPAs referred a year ago + Kuvaiskaya Steppe and Steppe Site Nikolskiy Nature Monuments in Orenburg) [Comment: 30,000 ha is added to the end-of-project	295,797 ha (the SPAs reported in 2013 PIR (295,351 ha) + Urochische Melovoe Nature Monument in Kursk with an area of 199.8 ha)	319,210 ha [the SPAs reported in 2014 PIR (295,797 ha) + new Shaitan-Tau Zapovednik in Orenburg (6,726 ha), new Preduralskay	321,464.3 ha [the SPAs reported in 2015 PIR (319,210 ha) + new Rose Valley, Surchiny, Parset, and Beketovskie Hills Nature Monuments in Kursk (84.3 ha totally), Tulip Steppe Nature	477,816 ha [the SPAs reported in 2015 PIR (319,210 ha) + new Rose Valley, Surchiny, Parset, and Beketovskie Hills Nature Monuments in Kursk (84.3 ha totally), Tulip Steppe Nature	Official decree declaring new SPAs issued by the provincial governments of the pilot provinces (for the provincial sanctuaries and nature monuments) and the federal government (for

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
	transferred under this category]			Dauria) 14,604 ha (legalized Akjarskaya steppe Nature Monument in Orenburg)			value by transferring this indicator from the former "Enabling environment" category as recommended by the MTR]	a Steppe (16,537 ha) site of Orenburgsky Zapovednik in Orenburg, and new Petrova Balka Nature Monument in Kursk (150 ha)]	Kursk (84.3 ha totally), Tulip Steppe Nature Monument (2170 ha) in Kalmykia]	Monument (2170 ha) and Tatal-Barun provincial sanctuary (139814,65 ha) in Kalmykia]	the national level SPAs)
	(1c) Enabling environment created for new SPA [This indicator dropped as per MTR recommendation; 30,000 ha added to 1b category above]	0	30,000 ha	no change from baseline	no change from baseline	no change from baseline Comment:According to preliminary MTE recommendation, this particular indicator no longer seems feasible/possible to report on, since there is no concrete definition of what should be considered enabling environment for new SPA and how the area in ha should be calculated.	The MTR recommended that this category should be dropped while the target value is added to the category (1b) above. The project no longer reports against this indicator, as a stand alone indicator.	n/a (dropped)	Dropped	Dropped	
	(1d) SMSA covering [This category has been dropped according to MTR recommendation]	0	36,000 ha	no change from baseline	16,537 ha (Orenburgskaya Tarpania SMSA in Orenburg, ongoing establishment)	0 ha Comment: last year certain progress was reported as Orenburgskaya Tarpania was cadastered and therefore became semi-legalised as SMSA. However, this year a decision was made that this area will no longer be supported as SMSA but will be turned into a cluster of a federal PA.	The project no longer reports against this indicator as per MTR recommendation	Dropped	Dropped	Dropped	

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
	Indirect impact on improved management effectiveness in 1.9 million hectares of SPA through METT Score. [As per MTR recommendation, this indicator should be moved under Outcome 2, where it's more relevant]	(see scores below)	+20% (see scores below)	no change from baseline	3 refuges +57%, +70% and +70% from targeted raising; for other PAs no assessment was performed in the reporting period	Belogorye +13.5% Galichya Gora +24.4% Privolzhskaya Lesostep +12.5% Rostovskiy +8.96% Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina +21.57% Pribaikalskiy NP +55.9% Saratovskiy +166.7% Tsimlyanskiy +141.7% Note: progress with three federal refuges in Kalmykia (Kharbinsky, Mekletinsky, Sarpinsky) is reported under Outcome 2 indicators (to reflect project direct impact)	Belogorye +13.5% Galichya Gora +24.4% Privolzhskaya Lesostep +12.5% Rostovskiy +8.96% Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina +21.57% Pribaikalskiy NP +55.9% Saratovskiy +71.4% Tsimlyanskiy +100%	Belogorye +13.5% Galichya Gora +24.4% Privolzhskaya Lesostep +12.5% Rostovskiy +8.96% Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina +21.57% Pribaikalskiy NP +55.9% Saratovskiy +71.4% Tsimlyanskiy +100%	Belogorye +21% Galichya Gora +24.4% Privolzhskaya Lesostep +12.5% Rostovskiy +13.5% Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina +27.5% Pribaikalskiy NP +70.6% Saratovskiy +71.4% Tsimlyanskiy +100%	Belogorye +21% Galichya Gora +24.4% Privolzhskaya Lesostep +12.5% Rostovskiy +13.5% Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina +27.5% Pribaikalskiy NP +70.6% Saratovskiy +71.4% Tsimlyanskiy +100%	METTs prepared by a group of experts with major input from official PA's reports to MNRE and consultations with the PA management

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								indicators but Indirect impact through METT scores should be moved under Outcome 2, as recommended by MTR and approved by RTA]			
	Zapovedniks - Belogorye - 52 Galichya Gora - 45 Privolzhskaya Lesostep - 56 Rostovskiy - 67 Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina - 51	Zapovedniks - Belogorye - 62 Galichya Gora - 54 Privolzhskaya Lesostep - 67 Rostovskiy - 80 Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina - 61	Zapovedniks (METT baseline scores): Belogorye - 52 Galichya Gora - 45 Privolzhskaya Lesostep - 56 Rostovskiy - 67 Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina - 51	Zapovedniks (METT scores): (no assessment was performed during the reporting period) Belogorye - 52 Galichya Gora - 45 Privolzhskaya Lesostep - 56 Rostovskiy - 67 Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina - 51	Zapovedniks: Belogorye - 59 Galichya Gora - 56 Privolzhskaya Lesostep - 63 Rostovskiy - 73 Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina - 62	Zapovedniks: Belogorye - 59 Galichya Gora - 56 Privolzhskaya Lesostep - 63 Rostovskiy - 73 Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina - 62	Zapovedniks: Belogorye - 59 Galichya Gora - 56 Privolzhskaya Lesostep - 63 Rostovskiy - 73 Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina - 62	Zapovedniks: Belogorye - 63 Galichya Gora - 56 Privolzhskaya Lesostep - 63 Rostovskiy - 76 Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina - 65	Zapovedniks: Belogorye - 63 Galichya Gora - 56 Privolzhskaya Lesostep - 63 Rostovskiy - 76 Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina - 65	Zapovedniks: Belogorye - 63 Galichya Gora - 56 Privolzhskaya Lesostep - 63 Rostovskiy - 76 Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina - 65	METTs prepared by a group of experts with major input from official PA's reports to MNRE and consultations with the PA management

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
								the terminal PIR.			
	National Parks Pribaikalskiy - 34	National Parks: Pribaikalskiy - 40	National Parks Pribaikalskiy - 34	National Parks Pribaikalskiy - 34	National Parks Pribaikalskiy - 34	National Parks: Pribaikalskiy - 53	National Parks: Pribaikalskiy - 53	National Parks: Pribaikalskiy - 53	National Parks: Pribaikalskiy - 58	National Parks: Pribaikalskiy - 58	METTs prepared by a group of experts with major input from official PA's reports to MNRE and consultations with the PA management
	Federal Zakazniks Kharbinskiy - 11 Mekletinskiy - 18 Sarpinskiy - 11 Saratovskiy - 9 Tsimlyanskiy - 12	Federal Zakazniks Kharbinskiy - 51 Mekletinskiy - 55 Sarpinskiy - 51 Saratovskiy - 17 Tsimlyanskiy -15	Federal Zakazniks Kharbinskiy - 11 Mekletinskiy - 18 Sarpinskiy - 11 Saratovskiy - 9 Tsimlyanskiy - 12	Federal refuges (only those directly affected were assessed during the reporting period) Kharbinskiy - 39 (+70%, 76% from targeted value) Mekletinskiy - 39 (+57%, 70% from targeted value) Sarpinskiy - 39 (+70%, 76% from targeted value) Saratovskiy - 9 Tsimlyanskiy - 12	Federal Zakazniks Saratovskiy - 24 Tsimlyanskiy -29	METTs prepared by a group of experts with major input from official PA's reports to MNRE and consultations with the PA management					

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification	
								in pilot sites (below) to register the project's direct impact.				
	a) Number of SPA in Kursk pilot where feathergrass dominates. b) Coverage of feathergrass on sampling sites [Reference to Orenburg in the description of the indicator is deleted as confirmed by MTR, i.e. domination of feathergrass in Orenburg is not indicative for the assessment of steppe ecosystem health. The indicator is intended to show maintenance or increase in ecosystem quality and quantity for feathergrass species in Kursk, which are typical for the project-targeted meadow steppe]	a) 1 Federal PA (Central-Chernozem Reserve) consisting of 6 plots in 4 of which feathergrass dominates. b) Same level of coverage in sampling sites. No regional PAs. b) Baseline on 4 sampling sites: Streletskaya steppe - 5% Kazatskaya steppe fallow land - 7% Bukreevy Barmy - 15% Barkalovka - 9%.	a) Same or increased number of SPAs. b) Same level of coverage in sampling sites.	no change from baseline	No changes from baseline as an assessment is in progress. Data will be available soon and should be included in the next year's PIR.	No change from baseline. However, certain progress can be reported as two steppe nature monuments are under formation (estimated completion time - 2013 and 2014). Once the PAs are formally gazetted, the indicator value would be 3 PAs Coverage of feathergrass on sampling sites: Same. Comment: Reference to Orenburg should be deleted from the indicator description (as domination of feathergrass in Orenburg is not indicative for the assessment of steppe ecosystem health)	a) Same number of Federal PAs + 1 newly established regional Nature Monument in Kursk b) According to expert assessments (2014) coverage of feathergrass remains at the baseline level: Streletskaya steppe - 5% Kazatskaya steppe fallow land - 7% Bukreevy Barmy - 15% Barkalovka - 9%.	a) Same number of Federal PAs 2 new regional Nature Monuments in Kursk b) Feathergrass dominates on 5 out of 6 established nature monuments.	a) Same number of Federal PAs + 5 regional PAs (including 4 established during the reporting period) b) Streletskaya steppe -1->5% (same as baseline) Kazatskaya steppe fallow land - 5-25% (significantly increased) b) Streletskaya steppe -1->5% (same as baseline) Kazatskaya steppe fallow land - 5-25% (significantly increased) b) No changes from previous year's figures. New 2015 assessment is currently underway and the data will be available by the end of August.	a) Same number of Federal PAs + 5 regional PAs (including 4 established during the reporting period) b) Streletskaya steppe -1->5% (same as baseline) Kazatskaya steppe fallow land - 5-25% (significantly increased) b) Streletskaya steppe -1->5% (same as baseline) Kazatskaya steppe fallow land - 5-25% (significantly increased) b) No changes from previous year's figures. New 2015 assessment is currently underway and the data will be available by the end of August.	a) Same number of Federal PAs + 5 regional PAs (including 4 established during the reporting period) b) Streletskaya steppe -1->5% (same as baseline) Kazatskaya steppe fallow land - 5-25% (significantly increased) b) Streletskaya steppe -1->5% (same as baseline) Kazatskaya steppe fallow land - 5-25% (significantly increased) b) No changes from previous year's figures. New 2015 assessment is currently underway and the data will be available by the end of August.	Justification documents for establishing new regional (provincial) PAs in Kursk (were made under the project framework) Report from feathergrass censuses (financed by the Project - http://savesteppe.org/project/docs/report_interim_kovyli2016.zip)

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
	ecosystems.]						status or increase in ecosystem quality and quantity for feathergrass species in Kursk, which are typical for the project-targeted meadow steppe ecosystems.				
	a) The number of sites where Spring Adonis occurs (Kursk) b) Density of Adonis on sampling sites (Kursk) [This indicator is for assessment of management effectiveness on 4,311 hectares of 4 (out of 6) plots of CCZ reserve]	a) 4 sites within Central-Chernozem Reserve; also sporadically occurs outside the PAs b) Optimal average density registered at 'Strelets'kaia steppe' plot (in areas used as pastures): 0.52 (vs 3-4 of the original baseline value) per 1 m ² (sampling areas are 100 m ² taking as 100 m * 0,2 m * 5 repeats); For other areas does not exceed 0.28 per 1 m ² [Baseline figure corrected taking into account MTR recommendation to reflect the LTM as a baseline and not the year 1 data: the LTM is a 5 year period when the density was relatively unchanging]	Stable pop or within +/- 20% of Long-Term Mean (LTM).	no change from baseline	No changes from baseline as no assessment took place in the reporting period. Data will be available soon and should be included in the next year's PIR.	Stable: 4 sites within Central-Chernozem Reserve; also sporadically occurs outside the PAs Maximum density registered at Strelets'kaia cluster (in areas used as pastures): 3-4 per m ² . Same stable trend recorded for other areas.	This indicator is for assessment of management effectiveness on 4,311 hectares of 4 (out of 6) plots of CCZ reserve. The Adonis target density (0.5 per m ²) is achieved under optimal grazing pressure. a) Stable: 4 sites within Central-Chernozem Reserve; also sporadically occurs outside the PAs b) Maximum density registered at "Strelets'kaia steppe" (in areas used as pastures): 3-4 per m ²	a) Stable: 4 sites within Central-Chernozem Reserve + 5 new Nature Monuments (increased) b) Optimal average density registered at 'Strelets'kaia steppe' plot (in areas used as pastures): 4.55 per 1 m ² (sampling areas are 100 m ² taking as 100 m * 0,2 m * 5 repeats). Data for 2010-2015 varied from 3.7 to 5.6 with average at 4.36, thus the figure is actually stable fluctuating +/- 30%. In other areas (under other regimes) the figure was significantly lower, 0.535-2.115 per 1 m ² in average, and still stable fluctuating +/- 30% year to year	a) 4 sites within Central-Chernozem Reserve + 5 new Nature Monuments (increased) b) Optimal average density registered at 'Strelets'kaia steppe' plot (in areas used as pastures): 4.55 per 1 m ² (sampling areas are 100 m ² taking as 100 m * 0,2 m * 5 repeats). Data for 2010-2015 varied from 3.7 to 5.6 with average at 4.36, thus the figure is actually stable fluctuating +/- 30%. In other areas (under other regimes) the figure was significantly lower, 0.535-2.115 per 1 m ² in average, and still stable fluctuating +/- 30% year to year	Justification documents for establishing new regional (provincial) PAs in Kursk Report from censuses (not financed by the Project - http://savesteppe.org/project/docs/adonis.pdf)	

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
									2.115 per 1 m ² in average, and still stable fluctuating +/- 30% year to year		
	Population # of little bustard during nesting season (Orenburg) and migration (Kalmykia) Density/km ² during nesting season (Orenburg and Kalmykia)	Orenburg 2,000 Kalmykia 4,000 Population data reassessed in year 1: Orenburg 14,000-17,000; Kalmykia approximately 60,000 migrating (spring migration, assessment based on the data of 2007-10) Density during nesting identified in year 1: Orenburg 0.1975 unit/km ² Kalmykia 0.134 unit/km ² (for appropriate habitats only)	Stable or increasing population relative to year 1, as assessed over a minimum 3 year period (three last years of the project)	Population # of little bustard: in Orenburg assessed as 14000-17000 (May 2011), Density during migration in Kalmykia: 0.134 birds/km ² Density during nesting season in Orenburg: 0.1975 birds/km ²	No changes from last assessment as no survey was planned for the reporting period. Expert assessments show no decrease (even increase for many areas) in numbers and density. New census data are to be obtained in May-June 2013 and processed by the end of August Comment: baseline population data should be corrected based on census conducted in year 1; density identified in year 1 should be indicated. A clarification should be made that this refers to the population in the entire area surrounding the zapovedniks in these two regions, not just within the boundaries of the zapovedniks	No changes from last assessment as no survey was planned for the reporting period. Expert assessments show no decrease (even increase for many areas) in numbers and density. New census data are to be obtained in May-June 2013 and processed by the end of August Comment: baseline population data should be corrected based on census conducted in year 1; density identified in year 1 should be indicated. A clarification should be made that this refers to the population in the entire area surrounding the zapovedniks in these two regions, not just within the boundaries of the zapovedniks	Population # of little bustard: Orenburg (nesting period) - no change (14000-17000, assessment of 2011 was confirmed in 2013), Kalmykia (migration): increase minimum 10% (68,000-78,000, data of spring 2013)	No changes from the last assessment as no survey was planned for the reporting period. In 2016 the project will perform the final survey.	Preliminary results of field surveys show stable population relative to the baseline. Final assessment results will be available in November 2016.	Waiting for the report on the little bustard 2015/16 survey Preliminary results of field surveys show stable population relative to the baseline. Final assessment will be available in November 2016.	Reports on the little bustard survey organized under the Project framework in 2010/11, 2013, and 2016 (report yet to be appraised)
	Steppe Eagle - #	Kalmykia 500 pairs	Stable pop or within	Kalmykia: 400	No changes from	Kalmykia – no changes	No changes from	No changes	Kalmykia: 527	Kalmykia: 527 pairs	Reports on the

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	and density/km2 during nesting season (Kalmykia / Orenburg / Dauria) and in migration (Kalmykia).	Orenburg 250 Dauria 125 Density to be identified in year 1.	+/- 20% of LTM [original target value] Stable or increasing population relative to year 1, as assessed over a minimum 3 year period--last three years of the project [revised target value as per MTR recommendation]	pairs, density 12 per 1000 km2 Orenburg: 375 pairs, density 9-15 per 1000 km2 Dauria: 144 pairs, density 3-6 per 1000 km2	last assessment as no survey was planned for the reporting period.	from last assessment as no survey held during reporting period Dauria – no changes from last assessment as no survey held during reporting period Orenburg – 289 pairs (233-345) Density – 5.06 pairs/1000 km2 during nesting in Orenburg Comment: baseline value should be corrected: density data identified in year 1 should be indicated	last assessment as no survey completed this reporting period. An updated assessment using new census data will available next reporting period.	from last assessment as no survey completed this reporting period. The survey is underway and the data will be available in October.	pairs in 2015 vs. 683 pairs - revisited assessment for 2011 (23% decrease from the baseline), mean density 17 per 1000 km2 (2015, nesting pairs) Orenburg: 267 pairs in 2015 vs. 321 pairs - revised assessment for 2010 (17% decrease from the baseline, or 20.6% based on more correct evaluating method), mean density 7.3-18 per 1000 km2 (2015, nesting pairs) Dauria: 219 pairs in 2015 vs. 152 pairs - revisited assessment for 2010 (44% increase from the baseline), mean density 12.7 per 1000 km2 in 2015 vs. 8.8 - revised assessment for 2010 (nesting pairs)	in 2015 vs. 683 pairs - revisited assessment for 2011 (23% decrease from the baseline), mean density 17 per 1000 km2 (2015, nesting pairs) Orenburg: 267 pairs in 2015 vs. 321 pairs - revised assessment for 2010 (17% decrease from the baseline, or 20.6% based on more correct evaluating method), mean density 7.3-18 per 1000 km2 (2015, nesting pairs) Dauria: 219 pairs in 2015 vs. 152 pairs - revisited assessment for 2010 (44% increase from the baseline), mean density 12.7 per 1000 km2 in 2015 vs. 8.8 - revised assessment for 2010 (nesting pairs)	steppe eagle surveys organized under the Project framework in 2010, 2013, and 2015 http://savesteppe.org/project/docs/report_final_steppe_eagle_monitoring_2016.pdf Publications and presentations based on the surveys results
	Mongolian antelope in	2,500 animals	5,000 Stable pop or within +/- 20% of	3,500 animals	3,800 animals. Share of young	4,550 animals (data from autumn 2012) - about	4,600 animals (censuses of fall	4900 animals (censuses of	5,100-5,400 animals	6,400 animals (more accurate	Reports on the dzeren surveys

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
	Daursky Zapovednik - population # and share of young in population.	LTM. 35% young	17% young will be identified in August 2012.	80% increase over the baseline. The population is sustainably rising fast for the reason of both high birth rate and migration from Mongolia 32% of young in population	(2013) - about 84% increase over the baseline 26.7% of young in population The % of young is lower than the target but it is a good level too. The population is sustainably raising fast for the reason of both high birth rate and immigration from Mongolia	fall 2014) - 96% increase over the baseline, reached 98% of the target. 26.1% of young in population (fall 2014). The % of young is lower than the target but it is a good level too.	(censuses of spring 2016) – 28% over the target level. Share of young in population: data will be available after the 2016 survey (Daursky Reserve – after August, 2016)	assessment based on censuses of spring 2016) – 28% over the target level. Share of young in the population 27,5% (based on the survey on Sept 8, 2016) – within the target range	organized annually under the Project framework during 2010-2016 Publications based on the surveys results - http://www.save-steppe.org/project/docs/report_interim_dzeren2016.pdf		
	Saiga antelope in CZZ / Kalmykia – population # and share of males in population	15,000 animals 6% males	Stable pop or within +/- 20% of LTM. 15-20% males	no change from baseline 12,870 animals (October 2011)	7,500 (beginning of 2013) – 50% decline from the baseline 7.2% are males (summer 2012) – about 20% increase over the baseline Population decrease is continuing for already a decade. The male ratio is rising within natural fluctuation rate Comment: the description of indicator should be clarified that the data is provided based on summer season census	10,000 animals (data from August 2013) - about 33% decrease from the baseline level 6% of males in population (mid-summer census) Population size decrease is continuing for a decade. It is a long-term trend the project can not halt yet in spite of its efforts. The male percentage is stable – it is a good trend resulting from both improving protection and good wintering condition last year	9,800 animals (data from September 2014) – about 34% decrease from the baseline level. The number of saiga stabilized at low level. The aerial survey at first time for the last 20 years will be done in autumn 2015	5,000 adults animals (censuses of fall 2015) – threefold decrease from the baseline. It should be for both overestimation in baseline and actual decrease as a result of long-term processes in population which still not overcomed. 6% males (mid-summer assessment in 2015) Male ratio at baseline level	5,000 adults (censuses of fall 2015) – threefold decrease from the baseline. It should be for both overestimation in baseline and actual decrease as a result of long-term processes in population which still not overcomed. 6% males (mid-summer assessment in 2015) Male ratio at baseline level	Reports on the saiga surveys organized annually under the Project framework during 2010-2015 PM to provide a reference to census data	

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	Manul in Zabaikalsky Krai - 2500 animals in all the region - 200 animals in the Daursky reserve [The baseline level for the indicator was revised as per MTR recommendation to include both the population in the region overall, and the population inside the Daurian reserve - 200 animals]	- 2500 animals in all the region - 200 animals in the Daursky reserve [The baseline level for the indicator was revised as per MTR recommendation to include both the population in the region overall, and the population inside the Daurian reserve - 200 animals]	Stable or increasing long-term population trend (over at least 3 years), and/or + / - 50% of the LTM at project completion [Target value clarified as suggested by MTR]	no change from baseline	10,000 animals. The baseline figure was set in 1994/95 and an accounting was not absolutely accurate. The new figure reflects both the increased accounting accuracy and the real growth of population due to decrease of main threats.	No survey undertaken for Zabaikalsky krai so no changes from previous year data; 80 animals in Dauria Reserve (beginning of 2013) - 60% decrease from the baseline Dramatic decrease could be associated with a decline of the cat's main prey (Brandt's Vole) population size due natural factors (a part of long-term cycle) Comment: the baseline and target levels for the indicator should be revised to include both the population in the region overall, and the population inside the Daurian reserve. Currently only the baseline for the region is present; the baseline for the Daurian Reserve (200 animals) should also be indicated	The baseline level for the indicator was revised to include both the population in the region overall, and the population inside the Daurian reserve (200 animals) Target clarified as suggested by MTR.	The winter 2014/15 survey failed for the harsh weather conditions. Thus there is no change from previous year data. The new assessment will be made next year	5000 animals in the region; 170 animals in Daursky reserve. Dramatic decrease of the PC population number in 2015/16 winter due to the bad weather and (most importantly) the massive die-off of Pikas in the main part of the region (only on the northern range edge both Pikas and PCs survived successfully).	4000-5000 animals in the region. App. 64 animals in the Daursky reserve (buffer zone and federal refuge included) based on the census of March 2016 Dramatic decrease of the PC population number in the winter 2015/16 due to the bad weather and (most important) the massive die-off of Pikas in the main part of the region (only on the northern range edge the both Pikas and PCs survived successfully).	Reports on the manul census organized under the Project framework in 2010, 2012, and 2016 – http://www.savesteppe.org/project/docs/report_final_manul2016.pdf Zapovednik's publications and presentations based on the surveys results
	Threat Reduction Assessment (TRA), % (the first figure is for the region, second one for the pilot SPA) [This indicator has been added following MTR recommendation]	Kalmykia – 0 (0) Kursk – 0 (0) Orenburg – 0 (0) Dauria – 0 (0)	Positive trends towards the end of the project				Kalmykia – 6.2 (ChZ – 30.7) Kursk – 3.3 (CChZ – 32.9) Orenburg – 6.4 (OZ – 32.9) Dauria – 7.2 (DZ – 36.8)	not assessed this year, will be done to the final assessment	Kalmykia – 12.6 (+6.4) <i>The main change driver is a rise of livestock number resulting in increasing of grazing press across the whole province</i>	Kalmykia – 12.6 (+6.4) <i>The main change driver is a rise of livestock number resulting in increasing of grazing press across the whole province</i> ChZ – 34.9 (+4.2) <i>Improving fire control and increasing efficiency</i>	Expert assessments based on stakeholder interviews, official reports, and reports of the project subcontractors and partners

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ns]									(+4.2) <i>Improving fire control and increasing efficiency of anti-poaching efforts</i>	<i>of anti-poaching efforts</i>	

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									Dauria - 7.5 (+0.3) <i>Changing in the threats urgency rating and improving bird protection on power lines</i> DZ - 42.1 (+5.3) <i>Improving fire control and decreasing bird death collisions on power lines</i>	<i>decreasing bird death collisions on power lines</i>	
	Number of avoided bird death resulting from installation of bird protection equipment on power lines [The indicator is added as it was recommended by MTR]	Death rate on powerlines: Orenburg – not less than 0.7 dead eagles per km per year; Kalmykia – not less than 1.13 and 0.78 dead eagles and buzzards per km per year Dauria - not less than 0.24 dead buzzards and sakers (together) per km per year	Death rate reduction 90%				Death rate assessed for power lines in the vicinity of SPAs that required immediate protection measures Level at 30 June 2014: Orenburg – no dead eagles, 100% reduction; Kalmykia – death rate unchanged since powerlines remain unprotected (planned to be equipped in 2014), Dauria - no dead sakers and	Death rate assessed for power lines in the vicinity of SPAs that required immediate protection measures Level at 30 June 2015: Orenburg – no dead eagles, 100% reduction (2 lines are equipped); Kalmykia – death rate unchanged since powerlines remain	Death rate assessed for power lines in the vicinity of SPAs that required immediate protection measures Orenburg – no dead eagles, 100% reduction (2 lines are equipped); Kalmykia bird protecting measures have been just initiated (summer 2016); their effect can be assessed not earlier than	No new data after 30 June assessment	Reports of the project subcontractors and pilots performed the bird carcasses censuses under power lines Publications based on the censuses results

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
							buzzards, 100% reduction	unprotected (plans to protect them are postponed to 2015), Dauria – 1 saker death, 0.015 per km per year 94% reduction (6 lines are equipped). Dead saker was a result of failures in one particular protection cap which was repaired after the case	June 2017. Dauria – no dead eagles, 100% reduction (all the lines in vicinity of the reserve are equipped).		
	Direct impact on improved effectiveness in pilot sites = improved management in 489,782 ha through METT Score. [As per the MTR this indicator is now under Objective; used to be under Outcome 2] According to	Centralno-Cherno -53 Chernye Zemli - 42 Orenburgskiy - 52 Daurskiy - 49	Centralno-Cherno - 79 Chernye Zemli - 67 Orenburgskiy - 75 Daurskiy - 75				Centralno-Chernozem - 67 (+26.4%) Chernye Zemli - 56 (+33.3%) Orenburgskiy - 65 (+25%) Daurskiy - 78 (+59.2%) Federal Zakazniks in Kalmykia: Kharbinskiy - 43 (+138.8%) Mekletinskiy - 43 (+138.8%) Sarpinskiy - 43	Centralno-Chernozem - 70 (+32%) Chernye Zemli - 66 (+57.1%) Orenburgskiy - 82 (+38.5%) Daurskiy - 72 (+38.5%) Daurskiy - 82 (+67.3%) Federal Zakazniks in Kalmykia: Kharbinskiy - 55 (+138.8%) Mekletinskiy - 55 (+138.8%) Sarpinskiy - 51	Centralno-Chernozem - 79 (+49%) Chernye Zemli - 75 (+78.6%) Orenburgskiy - 82 (+38.5%) Daurskiy - 87 (+77.5%) Federal Zakazniks in Kalmykia: Kharbinskiy - 55 (+138.8%) Mekletinskiy - 55 (+138.8%) Sarpinskiy - 55	Centralno-Chernozem - 76 (+43.4%) Chernye Zemli - 75 (+78.6%) Orenburgskiy - 82 (+38.5%) Daurskiy - 87 (+77.5%) Federal Zakazniks in Kalmykia: Kharbinskiy - 55 (+138.8%) Mekletinskiy - 55 (+138.8%) Sarpinskiy - 55	Expert assessments based on the official reports of SPAs, reports of the project subcontractors and partners, and surveys of the pilots staff

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	<p>the MTR recommendations:</p> <p>a) This indicator should be upscaled to the level of Objective;</p> <p>b) Three federal zakazniks in Kalmykia, as well as newly established regional PAs are moved here from the indicator on the indirect impact on PA management effectiveness since the project provides direct impact on improving management effectiveness of these PAs</p> <p>c) The METT score target for Orenburg is revised to be in line with the 40%-50% range increase for other PAs, which would equate to a target of approximately 75 (instead of 90 previously indicated).</p> <p>d) It was</p>						(+290%) new Zakazniks and Nature Monuments: Dolina Dzerena – 56 Semenovsky – 39 Akzharskaya steppe – 9 Kuvayskaya steppe – 9 Nikolsky site – 9 Urochische Kreidyanka - 9 Comment: This indicator was previously under Outcome 2 and the past years' levels can be seen there	(+138.8%) Mekletinskiy – 51 (+138.8%) Sarpinskiy – 51 (+290%) New Zapovedniks: Shaitan-Tau - 32 new Zakazniks and Nature Monuments: Dolina Dzerena – 64 Semenovsky – 39 Akzharskaya steppe – 9 Kuvayskaya steppe – 10 Nikolsky site – 9 Urochische Kreidyanka - 9 Petrova balka – 9 Rose Valley – 9 Surchiny – 9 Parset – 9 Beketovskie Hills - 9 Tulpanovaya Steppe – 10 Tatal-Barunsky - 10	Sarpinskiy – 55 (+290%) New Zapovedniks: Shaitan-Tau - 32 new Zakazniks and Nature Monuments: Dolina Dzerena – 64 Semenovsky – 39 Akzharskaya steppe – 9 Kuvayskaya steppe – 10 Nikolsky site – 9 Urochische Kreidyanka - 9 Petrova balka – 9 Rose Valley – 9 Surchiny – 9 Parset – 9 Beketovskie Hills - 9 Tulpanovaya Steppe – 10 Tatal-Barunsky - 10	(+290%) New Zapovedniks: Shaitan-Tau - 32 new Zakazniks and Nature Monuments: Dolina Dzerena – 64 Semenovsky – 39 Akzharskaya steppe – 9 Kuvayskaya steppe – 10 Nikolsky site – 9 Urochische Kreidyanka - 9 Petrova balka – 9 Rose Valley – 9 Surchiny – 9 Parset – 9 Beketovskie Hills - 9 Tulpanovaya Steppe – 10 Tatal-Barunsky - 10	

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	agreed with MTR that the target is set based on a rationalized analysis of the METT for each PA to assess reasonable and achievable goals by the end of the project (this actually appears to be the case for the original target METT scores, as the target scores do not conform to a single % increase calculation). As recommended, targets were re-calculated.										
Consolidation and expansion of SPA system.	Area of SPA in the process of establishment.	0	867,400 hectares [original target value] 50,400 hectares [revised target value] As recommended by the MTR, in reporting on this indicator the project should clearly distinguish between hectares of PAs "established" and those still in the process of establishment. Therefore, here only the PA in the process of establishment are	463,300 ha (Three federal zakazniks - Mekletinsky, Sarpinsky, Kharbinsky transferred under the management authority of "Chernye Zemli" zapovedniks) 200,000 ha ("Dolina Dzerena" zakaznik)	742,357 ha (three federal zakazniks in Kalmykia reported in the PIR 2011; Dolina dzerena and Semenovskii refuges in Zabaikalsky region; Akjarskaya Steppe, Kuvayskaya Steppe and Nikolsky Site nature monuments in Orenburg have been formally established. At the early stages of establishment process are:	ca. 830,137 ha (three federal zakazniks in Kalmykia; Dolina dzerena and Semenovskii refuges in Zabaikalsky region; Akjarskaya Steppe, Kuvayskaya Steppe and Nikolsky Site nature monuments in Orenburg have been formally established. In the process of establishment currently are: - new site of Orenburgsky Reserve (Orlovskaya Steppe)(16,537 ha), - two nature monuments	As recommended by the MTR, in reporting on this indicator the project should clearly distinguish between hectares of PAs ?established? and those still in the process of establishment. Therefore, here only the PA in the process of establishment are calculated. Target value is revised accordingly.	752,186.5 ha - Troitskiy regional zakaznik in Orenburg (projected in 39280 ha), - 5 nature monuments in Kursk (1280 ha), - expansion of Central-Chernozem Reserve (creation of biosphere polygon / new site)(463 ha), - expansion of Daursky Reserve (up to 23,558 ha,	799,355.7 ha - Troitskiy regional zakaznik in Orenburg (39280 ha), - 5 nature monuments in Kursk (1280 ha), - expansion of Central-Chernozem Reserve (creation of biosphere polygon / new site)(463 ha), - expansion of Daursky Reserve (up to 23,558 ha,	649,932 ha - Troitskiy regional zakaznik in Orenburg (39280 ha), - 5 nature monuments in Kursk (1280 ha), - expansion of Central-Chernozem Reserve (creation of biosphere polygon / new site)(463 ha), - expansion of Daursky Reserve (up to 23,558 ha,	Justification documents for the SPAs establishment

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
			calculated. Target value is revised accordingly.		- five nature monuments in Orenburg (ca. 11900 ha) - two nature monuments in Kursk (55 ha) - expansion of Central-Chernozem Reserve (creation of biosphere polygon / new site)(463 ha), - expansion of Daursky Reserve (up to 35,000 ha), - regional zakaznik for Saiga in Kalmykia (up to 600,000 ha)	in Kursk (350 ha), - expansion of Central-Chernozem Reserve (creation of biosphere polygon / new site)(463 ha), - expansion of Daursky Reserve (up to 35,000 ha), - regional zakaznik for Saiga in Kalmykia (up to 600,000 ha)		new site)(463 ha), - expansion of Daursky Reserve (up to 23,558 ha, buffer zone included), - Duldurginskiy regional zakaznik in Dauria (planned for 68,891.32 ha), - expansion of the buffer zone of the Chernye Zemly Reserve in Kalmykia (planned for 517,500 ha),	site)(463 ha), - expansion of Daursky Reserve (up to 23,558 ha, buffer zone included), - Duldurginskiy regional zakaznik in Dauria (planned for 78,500 ha), - expansion of the buffer zone of the Chernye Zemly Reserve in Kalmykia (planned for 517,500 ha), - regional zakaznik for Steppe Eagle in Kalmykia (139,814.65 ha), approved by MNRE and awaits for regional government's decree	buffer zone included), - Duldurginskiy regional zakaznik in Dauria (planned for 68,891.32 ha), - expansion of the buffer zone of the Chernye Zemly Reserve in Kalmykia (planned for 517,500 ha),	
	Area/share (# ha) of regional level PA correctly documented per the Land Code (surveyed, PA	Kursk: 0 ha	Kursk: at least 3,000 ha	no change from baseline	No changes from baseline	Kursk: 200 ha (nature monument under formation but already cadastered)	Kursk: 200 ha : The new steppe nature monument in Kursk is correctly documented in the course of the process of	Kursk: 350 ha : The new steppe nature monuments in Kursk are correctly	Kursk: 433.8 ha : The new steppe nature monuments in Kursk are correctly	Kursk: 433.8 ha : The new steppe nature monuments in Kursk are correctly	Documents of the State Land Cadastre,

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	regime entered in the Property Registered; State Register of Immovable Property Rights and Transactions).						establishment	documented in the course of the process of establishment	documented in the course of the process of establishment	process of establishment	
	Kalmykia: 0	Kalmykia: at least 200,000 ha (not regional)	no change from baseline	No changes from baseline	Kalmykia: 463,300 (3 federal refuges properly cadastered)	Kalmykia: 463,300 (3 federal refuges properly cadastered) Additionally, 232,000 ha in the three new regional SPAs, which currently are in the process of establishment, will be correctly documented as it is planned in respective ToRs	Kalmykia: 463,300 (3 federal refuges properly cadastered)	Kalmykia: 463,300 not regional (3 federal refuges) and 2,170 ha (a new regional PA) are properly cadastered	Kalmykia: 463,300 not regional (3 federal refuges) and 2,170 ha (a new regional PA) are properly cadastered	Kalmykia: 463,300 not regional (3 federal refuges) and 2,170 ha (a new regional PA) are properly cadastered	Documents of the State Land Cadastre,
	Orenburg: 0	Orenburg: at least 20,000 ha	no change from baseline	14,604 ha (Nature Monument "Akjarskaya steppe" legalized)	Orenburg: 32,794 ha (new site of the Orenburg reserve, 3 nature monuments. Conservation restrictions and easements under Land Law were legalized for the three nature monuments and the future cluster of the Orenburgsky Reserve	Orenburg: 32,794 ha	The regime which was set by the Nature Monuments statutes is made more correct and legalized as land property restrictions for three regional nature monuments and the new site of the federal reserve. + 59,000 ha reported as wokin in process (SPAs in the process of establishment or re-establishment,	Orenburg: 32,794 ha	The regime which was set by the Nature Monuments statutes is made more correct and legalized as land property restrictions for three regional nature monuments and the zapovednik's new site.	Orenburg: 32,794 ha	Documents of the State Land Cadastre,

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
							all they will be correctly documented as it is planned in respective ToRs)				
	Dauria: 0	Dauria: at least 500,000 ha	no change from baseline	47,615 ha (newly created Semenovskii regional refugee)	Dauria: 263,838 ha (1 federal and 1 regional refuges properly cadastrered)	Dauria: 47,615 ha (the regional zakaznik established in 2012) + 70,000 ha in the new SPAs (regional zakaznik, "Dolina Dzerena" and new area of the zapovednik), which currently are in the process of establishment, will be correctly documented as it is planned in respective ToRs	Dauria: 263,838 ha (1 federal and 1 regional refuges properly cadastrered, 47,615 ha in the regional one) + 23,558 ha (new area of the zapovednik)	Dauria: 263,838 ha (1 federal and 1 regional refuges properly cadastrered, 47,615 ha in the regional one) + 23,558 ha (new area of the zapovednik)	Dauria: 263,838 ha (1 federal and 1 regional refuges properly cadastrered, 47,615 ha in the regional one) + 23,558 ha (new area of the zapovednik)	Dauria: 263,838 ha (1 federal and 1 regional refuges properly cadastrered, 47,615 ha in the regional one) + 23,558 ha (new area of the zapovednik)	Documents of the State Land Cadastre,
# of ha of steppe ecosystems conserved under contractual conditions or other obligations, without direct government involvement. [MTR recommended to drop this indicator]	0	36000	no change from baseline	No changes from baseline (talks about one or two conservation agreements started in Orenburg in June 2012)	0 Reasons for lack of progress: Contract-based conservation is new and non-traditional for Russia and thus the progress is slow. The project is in process of negotiations with a potential partner	As recommended by the MTR, the project no longer reports against this indicator	n/a (dropped)	dropped			
# of possessors of land ownership rights (farmers)	0	At least 5 by EoP	0+ (no legal agreement with the land owner concluded,	No changes from 2011: 0+ (talks about one or two conservation	0+	As recommended by the MTR, the project no longer reports on this	n/a (dropped)	dropped			

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	and/or subsurface users) that have undertaken voluntary obligations to conserve steppe [As per MTR recommendation, this indicator has been dropped]			however, de-facto voluntary steppe conservation obligations have been undertaken)	agreements started in Orenburg in June 2012)	No changes from 2012. See comments to the indicator value above	indicator				
	# of draft regulatory acts submitted to a legislative branch and # of standard-setting initiatives formally entered on govt agenda.	0	4	0+ (a number of legal and regulatory amendments are proposed by the project experts and recommended by the Public Chamber of Orenburg Oblast to be adopted by State Duma, federal Government, Ministry of Agriculture, Legal Assembly of Orenburg Oblast	8 amendments to 3 federal acts - Land Code, On agriculture development, On changing land status - were proposed by the project experts and recommended by the Public Chamber of Orenburg Oblast to be adopted by State Duma, Federal Government and Ministry of Agriculture	8 amendments to 3 federal acts - Land Code, On agriculture development, On changing land status - were proposed by the project experts and recommended by the Public Chamber of Orenburg Oblast to be adopted by State Duma, Federal Government and Ministry of Agriculture	One amendment to the regional legislation adopted in Orenburg	Two amendments to the regional legislation adopted: one in Orenburg and one in Kalmykia (the acts legalizing the 'Regional Steppe Day' events)	Unchanged from the previous reporting period	Unchanged from the previous reporting period	Letters from regional MNREs appraising species conservation regional action plans
					Additionally drafts submitted to executive authorities: Kursk region - 1, Orel region - 1, Orenburg region - 2			Waiting for national and regional policies on three endangered species (Saiga, Dzeren, and Steppe Eagle) to be approved in 2016: the national policies strategies for Saiga, Dzeren, and Steppe Eagle are previously endorsed in the federal Ministry, they should be formally approved by the Ministry (or Federal Government) before the end of 2016	Waiting for national and regional policies on three endangered species (Saiga, Dzeren, and Steppe Eagle) to be approved in 2016: the national policies strategies for Saiga, Dzeren, and Steppe Eagle are previously endorsed in the federal Ministry, they should be formally approved by the Ministry (or Federal Government) before the end of 2016	Officially published species conservation plans of the MNRE – http://www.mnr.gov.ru/upload/iblock/2fc/33.tif	

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SPA know how for critical ecologically-based site management is strengthened.	Direct impact on improved effectiveness in pilot sites = improved management in 489,782 ha through METT Score. [According to MTR this indicator was moved under Objective]	Centralno-Chernozem -53	Centralno-Chernozem - 74	Centralno-Cherno -54	65	Centralno-Chernozem - 67 (+26.4%)	According to MTR this indicator was moved under Objective. Please see the indicator progress as of June 30, 2014 under Objective level indicators.		Moved to Objective level		
		Chernye Zemli - 42	Chernye Zemli - 67	Chernye Zemli - 43	55	Chernye Zemli – 56 (+33.3%)	According to MTR this indicator was moved under Objective. Please see the indicator progress as of June 30, 2014 under Objective level indicators.		Moved to Objective level		
		Orenburgskiy - 52	Orenburgskiy - 75	Orenburgskiy - 52	65	Orenburgskiy – 65 (+25%)	According to MTR this indicator was moved under Objective. Please see the indicator progress as of June 30, 2014 under Objective level indicators.		Moved to Objective level		
		Daurskiy - 49	Daurskiy - 75 Federal Zakazniks in Kalmykia: Kharbinskiy – 43 (+138.8%) Mekletinskiy – 43 (+138.8%) Sarpinskiy – 43	Daurskiy - 50	67	Daurskiy – 78 (+59.2%) Federal Zakazniks in Kalmykia: Kharbinskiy – 43 (+138.8%) Mekletinskiy – 43	According to MTR this indicator was moved under Objective. Please see the indicator progress as of June 30, 2014 under Objective level indicators.		Moved to Objective level		

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			(+290%) new Zakazniks and Nature Monuments: Dolina Dzerena – 56 Semenovsky – 39 Akzharskaya steppe – 9 Kuvayskaya steppe – 9 Nikolsky site – 9 Urochische Kreidyanka - 9			(+138.8%) Sarpinskiy – 43 (+290%) new Zakazniks and Nature Monuments: Dolina Dzerena – 56 Semenovsky – 39 Akzharskaya steppe – 9 Kuvayskaya steppe – 9 Nikolsky site – 9					
	a)IFM demonstration through full implementation b)Number of steppe PA management authorities that have formally discussed the potential use and development of an IFM [The indicator reformulated as was recommended by the MTR. A replication dimension has been added]	a)0 b)0	1 IFM 3 pilots plus 3 other SPA = 6.	no change from baseline	No change from baseline	1 in progress (IFM plan for Orenburg reserve to be adopted in 2013)	a)1 IFM plan for Orenburg reserve is adopted implementation started b)no change from baseline; presentation of IFM and discussion will be held in the workshop planned in October 2014	a) No change from the last year. b) no change from baseline yet. Planned workshop for presentation of IFM and discussion was postponed till October 2015	a) 1 IFM plan for Orenburg reserve is adopted and implemented b) Best practices on Integrated Fire Management from the Orenburg Reserve have been shared with 3 pilot PAs and 5 other PAs (4 zapovedniks and 1 Museum-Zapovednik) management authorities during the workshop in November 2015. As a follow up to this discussion, Chernye Zemli Reserve has signed an agreement with	Unchanged from the June 2016	Officially approved IFM plan in Orenburg Reserve signed by regional stakeholders and the Reserve ИЛЬЯ ДАЙТЕ ССЫЛКУ НА ДОКУМЕНТ, ЛУЧШЕ НА САЙТЕ РАФИЛИ Minutes of the discussion during the workshop in November 2015 Signed agreements between zapovedniks and different stakeholders in Kalmykia and Dauria Documents on transfer of firefighting equipment from

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											the Regional Ministry of Emergency Situation on IFM-related cooperation. Daurian Reserve's management authorities have been actively engaging local population for joint IFM activities.
% reduction in area swept by ecologically & economically destructive grassland fires within pilot PA during hazardous seasons April/May-Sept/Oct.	Centralno-Cherno - 100 ha/yr (2,1%) Chernye Zemli – 17500 ha/yr (15%) Orenburgskiy – 3200 ha/yr (15%) Daurskiy – 2300 ha/yr (15% of terrestrial area)	50% reduction by EoP	no change from baseline	Centralno-Chernozemny - 39,8 ha/yr (0,75% of the reserve area), Chernye Zemli - 900 ha/yr (0,4%), Orenburgskiy - 0 ha/yr (0%), Daurskiy - 2300 ha/yr (5%)	Centralno-Cherno - <10 ha/yr (0.2% of the reserve area) Chernye Zemli – 340 ha/yr (0.2%) Orenburgskiy – 3500 ha/yr (15%) Daurskiy – 2500 ha/yr (2012, 15% of terrestrial area)	Centralno-Chernozemny - 0 ha/ys - 100% reduction of steppe fires, Chernye Zemli – 1050 ha/yr (0.9% of the reserve area) – 93.3% reduction Trends are generally positive. High values in Orenburgskiy and Daursky are resulted from extremely hard fire situation in 2012. Probably, without the fire management interventions and relevant capacity building provided by the Project, the burned area could have been much more extensive	Centralno-Chernozemny – 0 ha/ys - 100% reduction of steppe fires, Chernye Zemli – 12200 ha/yr (9% of the reserve area) – 30% reduction, Daurskiy – 5500 ha/yr (65% of the reserve terrestrial area) – no reduction, 130% rise All the figures are for the period since May 2013 to May 2014. Trends for Chernye Zemli and Orenburgskiy are	Centralno-Chernozemny – 0 ha/yr - 100% reduction of steppe fires in the reserve area (10 illegal ignitions and fires were suppressed in the buffer zone and on the approaches to them, covered 44.5 ha since July 2015 till June 2016), Orenburgskiy – 2000 ha/yr (9.2% of the reserve area, without the buffer zone) – 37.5% reduction, Daurskiy – 3.5 ha/yr (0.2% of the reserve	Centralno-Chernozemny – 0 ha/yr - 100% reduction of steppe fires in the reserve area (10 illegal ignitions and fires were suppressed in the buffer zone and on the approaches to them, covered 44.5 ha since July 2015 till June 2016), Chernye Zemli – 1800 ha/yr (1.5% of the reserve area) – 90% reduction, Orenburgskiy – 0 ha/yr – 100% reduction,		Annual reports of the pilot zapovedniks Open data of wild fire monitoring via www.kosmosniki.ru

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							positive. Centralno-Chernozem has the positive one too but one fire was in the forest site (Zorinsky site). Also there were 38 ha/yr burned in the buffer zone of the Centralno-Chernozem (0,1% of the area). In Daursky in 2014 there was extremely hard fire situation again. It was an emergency in the whole region of Dauria, thus the reserve faced the threat of uncontrolled fires coming from every sides. All necessary measures were undertaken but there was no way to protect the reserve area.	terrestrial area) - 99% reduction [note that the figure is for the reserve per se, without buffer zone and subordinate Zakaznik; the total steppe fire area in the reserve with buffer zone and subordinate Zakazniks is 13,795.8 ha, what makes ca. 4% of the total area under protection]	Daurskiy – 0 ha/yr – 100% reduction [+ 9 ha in buffer zone and 40,692 ha in subordinate Zakaznik; in the total steppe fire in the buffer zone and subordinate Zakaznicks covered ca. 9.3% of their total area]	In general, significant reduction of dangerous fire observed during the last years resulted from the project activities aimed at upgrading and acquiring fire-fighting equipment, implementation of IFM best practices, greater engagement of the local population, including co-management in the buffer zones, etc.)		
	# of SPA incorporating sustainable	1	At least three pilots.	no change from baseline	No change from baseline	No change from baseline	For many SPAs managers and experts, grazing	No change from the last year.	2 (Centralno-Chernozem had it as baseline,	2 (Centralno-Chernozem had it as baseline,	Annual reports of the pilot zapovedniks to	

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	grazing best practice into their management regime for steppe areas.						remains a very complicated and controversial management practice. This was observed during hot public discussion organized in the last issues of the Steppe Bulletin. The project is preparing a manual on grazing as a management instrument and master-plan for implementation it. The manual and master-plan will be presented in November 2014.		Chernye Zemli is currently incorporating sustainable grazing into the management practice)	Chernye Zemli is currently incorporating sustainable grazing into the management practice)	MNRE Amended Statute of the Chernye Zemli Reserve
	# of hectares involved in rehabilitation and restoration activities in/around SPA [As recommended by the MTR the indicator has been dropped]	0	At least 10,000 ha of grassland habitat under rehabilitation in selected sites	Testing of one rehabilitation method accomplished: 7 ha in Kursk oblast (upper limit for meadow steppe restoration in this pilot region)	No changes from 2011: Testing of one rehabilitation method accomplished 7 ha in Kursk oblast (upper limit for meadow steppe restoration in this pilot region)	7 ha in Kursk. Additionally, rehabilitation is planned in Orenburg: up to 3000 ha	As recommended after the MTR, the project no longer reports against this indicator	n/a (dropped)	Dropped		
Outcome 3. Strengthened SPA system effectively captures knowledge and enables replication of best practice.	[Original indicator]: The share of SPA area with management regime updated to include steppe ecosystem conservation	1	7 of 15 SPA [Original target value] 4 or more documents [Revised target value as per MTR recommendation]	no change from baseline	No change from baseline	8 SPAs ? 4 pilot reserves and 4 refuges managed by them	2 SPA statutes that include steppe-specific context approved (Kharbinskii and Sarpinskii refuges in Kalmykia) and 1 SPA statute adopted (Akjarskaya Steppe	4 documents: 2 SPA statutes that include steppe-specific context approved (Kharbinskii and Sarpinskii refuges in	4 documents: 2 SPA statutes that include steppe-specific context approved (Kharbinskii and Sarpinskii refuges in	No changes from June 2016	TPA statutes

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	priorities [Revised indicator as per MTR recommendation]: Steppe PA management by-laws and regulations (including SPA statutes) revised to include steppe-specific context, and eliminate non-steppe relevant regulations						Nature Monument in Orenburg) Comment: The indicator and its target value are reformulated as recommended by the MTR. The project now reports progress against the revised indicator and target value.	and Sarpinskii refuges in Kalmykia) and 2 SPA statute adopted (Orenburgskiy Zapovednik and Akjarskaya Steppe Nature Monument in Orenburg)	Kalmykia) and 2 SPA statute adopted (Orenburgskiy Zapovednik and Akjarskaya Steppe Nature Monument in Orenburg)	More than 100 statutes of Steppe Nature Monuments in all pilot regions are being currently revised; respective acts and recommendations will be provided to the provincial MNR.		
	MNRE SPA Capacity Scorecard	(see categories and scores below)	(see categories and scores below)	n/a	n/a	n/a	MNRE SPA capacity scores will be available for the next reporting period in preparation for the project's terminal evaluation	MNRE SPA capacity scores will be available for the next reporting period in preparation for the project's terminal evaluation	See explanation and comments in the 'Ratings and Comments on Project Progress' section	No changes from June 2016 (see the next 5 lines)	Expert assessment based on reports, official documents, and publications	
	Policy formulation Systemic	Policy Formulation 3 / 6 2 / 3	Policy Formulation 5 / 6 2 / 3	n/a	n/a	n/a	The score will be available for the terminal PIR in 2015	The score will be available for the terminal PIR in 2016	Policy Formulation 4 / 6			

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
	Institutional								2 / 3 Comments: PAs capacity in Policy Formulation has met the target on Institutional level and approaches it on Systemic level. Thanks to the project efforts, the protected areas agenda, and in particular the steppe PAs agenda, has been effectively championed at both levels.		
	Implementation	Implementation	Implementation	n/a	n/a	n/a	The score will be available for the terminal PIR in 2015	The score will be available for the terminal PIR in 2016	Implementation		
	Systemic	3 / 9	7 / 9						5 / 9		
	Institutional	10 / 27	20 / 27						18 / 27		
	Individual	6 / 12	8 / 12						8 / 12 Comments: PAs capacity in Implementation has met the target on Individual Level only, and was assessed as 18/27 vs. 20/27 on the Institutional Level and as 5/9 vs. 7/9 on the Systemic Level.		

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
									The Systemic Level scores towards the two outcomes: adequate skills for protected area planning and management and a fully transparent oversight authority for the protected areas institutions reached satisfactory state but steppe PA system is still patchy both in number and geographical coverage and has many gaps in terms of representativeness. On Institutional Level (assessed for the pilots only) the progress on PA institutions are effectively led and There are legally designated PA institutions with the authority to carry out their mandate outcomes has been rated as the Best State. Other 5 outcomes on this level have been assigned with the Satisfactory		

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
											State Rating, which is deemed as a significant progress achieved with the Projects support. The overall highest score couldnt be attained due to the Marginal State rating for remaining 2 outcomes: only some pilot SPAs have up-to-date management plans and they are typically not comprehensive and were not prepared in a participatory manner, SPA institutions are still not transparent and only occasionally audited without being held publicly accountable. Notable progress has been made on Individual Level leading to the upgrading of the two outcomes to the Best State: SPA staff became more able to advance and develop professionally, and more appropriately

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification	
									skilled for their jobs			
	Engagement & consensus	Eng. & consensus	Eng. & consensus	n/a	n/a	n/a	The score will be available for the terminal PIR in 2015	The score will be available for the terminal PIR in 2016	Eng. & consensus			
	Systemic	3 / 6	5 / 6						4 / 6			
	Institutional	2 / 6	4 / 6						4 / 6			
	Individual	1 / 3	2 / 3						2 / 3			
									Comments: PAs capacity in Engagement & Consensus has met the target on two lower levels. Institutional: all pilots have been assessed as institutional mission are well defined and internalized but not fully embraced (vs. poorly defined and generally not known and internalized at all levels at baseline). Partnership outcome has been rated as Satisfactory State as many partnerships have been effectively developed with a			

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
									wide range of agencies, NGOs, etc, but some gaps still exist: partnerships are not always effective and do not always enable efficient achievement of objectives. Individual: the Satisfactory State has been assigned to the outcome as many individuals (around pilot SPAs) carry appropriate values and integrity, but not all. The target on the Systemic Level has not been reached (4/6 vs. 5/6) as both outcomes were rated as Satisfactory: both political commitment and public support for SPAs are reasonable but not sufficient and not always strong enough to fully support SPAs. Specifically, conservation NGOs weakened in the last years and were not able to perform their mandates		

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
									in full.		
	Info & knowledge	Info & knowledge	Info & knowledge	n/a	n/a	n/a	The score will be available for the terminal PIR in 2015	The score will be available for the terminal PIR in 2016	Info & knowledge		
	Systemic	2 / 3	3 / 3						2 / 3		
	Institutional	2 / 3	3 / 3						2 / 3		
	Individual	1 / 3	2 / 3						2 / 3 Comments: The progress on Info & knowledge outcomes has been assessed as satisfactory. Individual level scores have been raised, and the target has been achieved. However, the scores for the other two levels have remained unchanged (2/3 vs. 3/3 planned). This can be attributed more to the inadequacy of the scorecard formulation rather than to the lack of progress. The availability and quality of the pilot PAs information has significantly improved, while some gaps in quality,		

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
									coverage and availability remain. Thus, the outcome progress should formally be assessed as Satisfactory, though not Best.		
	Monitoring	Monitoring	Monitoring	n/a	n/a	n/a	The score will be available for the terminal PIR in 2015	The score will be available for the terminal PIR in 2016	Monitoring		
	Systemic	3 / 6	4 / 6						5 / 6		
	Institutional	2 / 6	4 / 6						5 / 6		
	Individual	1 / 3	2 / 3						2 / 3	Comments: PAs capacity in Monitoring has met the target on Individual level and exceeded it on the two others (5/6 vs. 4/6). On the Systemic Level, national protected areas policy has been reviewed annually (Best State) and there is a reasonably open public dialogue going on. However, certain issues remain taboo (Satisfactory). The banned topic include fire	

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
											management (though some positive changes are being noted), threats of tourism to PAs, and some others. On Institutional Level, pilot PA institutions have become highly adaptive, responding effectively and immediately to change (Best State). They have reasonable mechanisms for monitoring, evaluation, reporting and learning but the mechanisms are not as strong and comprehensive as they could be (Satisfactory). On Individual Level, there is significant measurement of performance and some feedback but this is not as thorough and comprehensive as it might be (Satisfactory). The project has made significant contribution on the two lower levels.
	% improvement of SPA staff understanding	TBD at beginning of each training workshop	At least + 25% in scoring at end of each training workshop	TBD at training workshops	50% (federal reserves' employees who	At least + 50% in scoring at end of each training workshop	>50% (pilots' employees who participated in co-	Feedback from training workshops			

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
	of key steppe issues (grazing, fire, species conservation, agricultural context) before/after training.			participated in steppe fire fighting trainings in Kalmykia and Orenburg region)			management training, fire control training, rangers' training, workshop on ecosystem monitoring, workshop on eco-tourism and steppe management in PAs in EU)	participated in co-management training, fire control training, rangers' training, workshop on ecosystem monitoring, GIS consultations, workshop on eco-tourism and steppe management in PAs in EU, visits to SPAs of US and Hungary)	co-management training, fire control training, rangers' training, workshop on ecosystem monitoring, GIS consultations, workshop on eco-tourism and steppe management in PAs in EU, visits to SPAs of US and Hungary)	management training, fire control training, rangers' training, workshop on ecosystem monitoring, GIS consultations, workshop on eco-tourism and steppe management in PAs in EU, visits to SPAs of US and Hungary)	
	# of scientific/methodological publications (incl. Internet-based) based on/related to the project activities	0	At least 50	6	15	Over 50 (incl. conference publications)	Over 60 (incl. conference publications)	Over 90 (incl. Conference publications)	Over 120 (incl. conference publications)	Over 125 (incl. conference publications)	List of scientific/methodological publications (available with the national CTA)
	Size of circulation for key steppe conservation such as Steppe Bulletin.	Current circulation - 1500 printed and 1300 circulated through mail	2000 printed and 1700 through mail	1,750 printed, 1,400 circulated via mail	1,600-1,700 copies were printed and 1,470 mailed, free online access - 4,000 visits per month	1750 printed in 2011-2012, 1550 – starting from autumn 2012, 1400 circulated through mail	1550 copies, 1450 circulated through mail	1550 copies, 1450 circulated through mail, free online access – 5,600 visits per month	1,550 copies, 1,450 circulated through mail, free online access - 1396 downloaded in full (pdf; online access to individual articles is not assessed)	Has not been reassessed since June 2016	Reports of Steppe Bulletin distribution Availability on website (http://savesteppe.org/sb), statistics on SB downloading (see on statistics service http://hotlog.ru)
	# of visits of the steppe conservation website.	Current level of monthly site visitation 0	# of visits up to 15,000 a month	8,000 visits a month	8,500 visits a month	5,086 visits a month	11,793 visits per month in average (December 2013 to March 2014)	9,710 visits per month in average (July 2014 to June	8,872 visits per month in average (July 2015 to June	Has not been reassessed since June 2016	Report of the site administrator based on the Yandex-Metric and Hot-Log

Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
								2015) Summer months reduce visiting rate, so there is 11,198 visits a month for the period from September 2014 to April 2015.	2016) Comments: (1) Based on the Yandex-Metric and HotLog ratings, it can be assumed that the visits number is typical for local (national) websites dedicated to any specific problems in conservation, geography, wildlife, etc. The steppe site has been placed within the modal interval of the Russian segment web ratings for such sites. Thus, it can be concluded that the target value was overestimated, and the actual number of visits is deemed as satisfactory. (2) Number of visits is not the best metric for a web-site prominence. There are some other metrics, such as website rating in search engines returns The steppe site		ratings data (on statistics service http://hotlog.ru) Online visitor statistics sevice https://www.revolvermaps.com/?target=enlarge&i=03zb35zvner&dm=2

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Level	Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Target Level at end of project	Level at 30 June 2011	Level at 30 June 2012	Level at 30 June 2013	Level at 30 June 2014	Level at 30 June 2015	Level at 30 June 2016	Level at 30 Sept 2016	Means of Verification
									has held steadily good positions in the Yandex and Google search for 'steppe conservation' in the Russian language.		

Annex 8 List of protected areas that were involved in the project

No.	Name	Level	Pilot region	Area (ha)	Number of sites / under mgt authority	Impact	Status	Comments	IUCN Cat.	Legal document reference
	Basic pilot SPAs			Area and sites number before the project started						
1	Centralno-Chernozemniy zapovednik	Federal	Kursk	5,287.40	4	Direct	Existing	Project pilot PA: management capacity building, staff trainings, equipment supply, expansion of the PA, monitoring and research	1	
2	Chernye Zemli zapovednik	Federal	Kalmykia	121,900.00	2	Direct	Existing	Project pilot PA: management capacity building, staff trainings, equipment supply, expansion of the PA, monitoring and research	1	
3	Daurskiy zapovednik	Federal	Dauria	49,764.00	8	Direct	Existing	Project pilot PA: management capacity building, staff trainings, equipment supply, expansion of the PA, monitoring and research	1	
4	Orenburgskiy zapovednik	Federal	Orenburg	21,653.00	4	Direct	Existing	Project pilot PA: management capacity building, staff trainings, equipment supply, expansion of the PA, monitoring and research	1	
	Centralno-Chernozemniy zapovednik buffer zone	Federal	Orenburg	28,662.00	n/a	Direct	Existing	same as respective PAs	1	
	Chernye Zemli zapovednik buffer zone	Federal	Orenburg	91,170.00	n/a	Direct	Existing	same as respective PAs	n/a	

	Daurskiy zapovednik buffer zone	Federal	Orenburg	173,320.00	n/a	Direct	Existing	same as respective PAs	n/a	
	Orenburgskiy zapovednik buffer zone	Federal	Orenburg	12,208.00	n/a	Direct	Existing	same as respective PAs	n/a	
	Consolidated existing SPAs			Area at EOP						
5	Mekletinskiy federal zakaznik	Federal	Kalmykia	102,500.00	1	Direct	Existing	was consolidated under management authority of Chernye Zemli reserve; support of institutional development and management capacity, equipment supply, monitoring and research	4	Приказ Минприроды РФ от 03.11.2009 N 361 "Об утверждении Положения о государственном природном заказнике федерального значения "Меклетинский" (Зарегистрировано в Минюсте РФ 18.12.2009 N 15751)
6	Sarpinskiy federal zakaznik	Federal	Kalmykia	195,925.00	1	Direct	Existing	was consolidated under management authority of Chernye Zemli reserve; support of institutional development and management capacity, equipment supply, monitoring and research	4	Приказ Минприроды РФ от 08.07.2010 N 239 "Об утверждении Положения о государственном природном заказнике федерального значения "Сарпинский" (Зарегистрировано в Минюсте РФ 20.08.2010 N 18205)
7	Kharbinskiy federal zakaznik	Federal	Kalmykia	163,900.00	1	Direct	Existing	was consolidated under management authority of Chernye Zemli reserve; support of institutional development and management capacity equipment supply, monitoring and research	4	Приказ Минприроды РФ от 08.07.2010 N 242 "Об утверждении Положения о государственном природном заказнике федерального значения "Харбинский" (Зарегистрировано в Минюсте РФ 30.07.2010 N 18016)
	New SPAs and new sites of existing SPAs									
8	Shaitan Tau Zapovednik	Federal	Orenburg	6,726.00	1	Direct	New	was established with direct support from the project, support of institutional development and management	1	Постановление Правительства РФ от 09.10.2014 N 1035 "Об учреждении государственного природного заповедника "Шайтан-

							capacity		Tay"	
	Preduralskaya steppe	Federal	Orenburg	16,538.34	1 - a site of Orenburgskiy Zapovednik	Direct	New	new site of Orenburgskiy Zapovednik, established with direct support from the project,	1	Пост пр-ва РФ 13-07-15 № 700 О расширении территории государственного природного заповедника "Оренбургский"
9	"Dolina dzerena" (Valley of Zeren) Federal Zakaznik	Federal	Dauria	213,838.00	1	Direct	New	The PA is managed by Daurskiy zapovednik; was established within the project framework and consolidated with the Daurskiy zapovednik	4	Распоряжением Правительства Российской Федерации от 24 ноября 2011 г. № 2116-р
10	Semenovsky Zakaznik	Regional	Dauria	47,615.00	1	Direct	New	established with direct support from the project	4	Постановление Правительства Забайкальского края от 18.10.2011 № 377 «Об образовании государственного природного ландшафтного заказника регионального значения «Семёновский»
11	Steppe Site Nikolskiy in Orenburg	Regional	Orenburg	190.00	1	Direct	Existing	correct land documentation and renovation with direct support from the project	3	ЗОУИТ 56.29.2.317 Территория памятника природы областного значения - "Степной участок "Никольский", Дата постановки на учет:20.08.2014
12	Kuvaiskaya Steppe in Orenburg	Regional	Orenburg	1,500.00	2	Direct	Existing	correct land documentation and renovation with direct support from the project	3	ЗОУИТ 56.23.2.271 Территория памятника природы областного значения - "Кувайская степь", Дата постановки на учет:20.08.2014
13	Akzharskaya Steppe in Orenburg	Regional	Orenburg	14,604.00	1	Direct	Existing	correct land documentation and renovation with direct support from the project	3	кадастровый паспорт (№56/12-104640 от 18.06.2012) земельного участка с кадастровым номером 56:35:0000000:207 (Земли особо охраняемых территорий и объектов, для размещения памятника природы "Акжарская степь").

14	Urochische Melovoe Nature Monument	Regional	Kursk	184.60	2	Direct	New	was established under the project framework	6	Постановление Администрации Курской области от 30.12.2013г. №1055-па "О памятнике природы регионального значения "Урочище "Меловое"
15	Petrova Balka Nature Monument	Regional	Kursk	62.96	1	Direct	New	was established under the project framework	6	Постановление Администрации Курской области от 16.10.2014 г. № 657-па "О памятнике природы регионального значения "Урочище "Петрова балка"
16	Rose Valley Nature Monument	Regional	Kursk	11.48	1	Direct	New	was established under the project framework	6	Постановление Администрации Курской области от 16.09.2015 г. № 617-па "О памятнике природы регионального значения "Урочище "Розовая долина""
17	Surchiny Nature Monument	Regional	Kursk	4.90	1	Direct	New	was established under the project framework	6	Постановление Администрации Курской области от 16.09.2015 г. № 618-па "О памятнике природы регионального значения "Урочище "Сурчины""
18	Parsest Nature Monument	Regional	Kursk	50.00	2	Direct	New	was established under the project framework	6	Постановление Администрации Курской области от 11.05.2016 г. № 291-па "О памятнике природы регионального значения "Урочище "Парсет" или "Мишин бугор"
19	Beketovskie Hills Nature Monument	Regional	Kursk	17.80	1	Direct	New	was established under the project framework	6	Постановление Администрации Курской области от 22.06.2016 г. № 435-па "О памятнике природы регионального значения "Бекетовские холмы"
20	Tulip Steppe Nature Monument	Regional	Kalmykia	2,170.00	1	Direct	New	was established under the project framework	6	Приказ Министерства природных ресурсов и охраны окружающей среды Республики Калмыкия от 02.06.2016 N 118

										"Об объявлении памятником природы регионального значения природного комплекса Республики Калмыкия "Тюльпановая степь", и утверждении паспорта памятника природы регионального значения Республики Калмыкия "Тюльпановая степь"
21	Tatal Barun Zakaznik	Regional	Kalmykia	139,814.65	1	Direct	New	was established under the project framework	4	Постановление Правительства Республики Калмыкия от 16.09.2016 №316 "О создании государственного природного заказника регионального значения "Татал-Барунский"
SPAs being established										
22	Daurskiy zapovednik	Federal	Dauria	21,444.50	10 - as part of Daursky zapovednik	Direct	in process of enlargement	new sites to be attached to the reserve under the project framework	1	
23	Stepnoi Polygon (new site) of Centralno-Chernozemniy zapovednik	Federal	Kursk	463.00	1 - a part of Centralno-Chernozem Zapovednik	Direc	in process of establishing	new site to be established under the project framework	1	
24	Duldurginskiy Zakaznik in Dauria	Regional	Dauria	68,891.32	1	Direct	in process of establishing	to be establishedunder the project framework	4	
25	"Redkiy Log" Nature Monument	Regional	Kursk	69.80	1	Direct	in process of establishing	to be establishedunder the project framework	6	
26	"Balka Lepeshka" Nature Monument	Regional	Kursk	34.50	1	Direct	in process of establishing	to be establishedunder the project framework	6	

27	"Staromelovoe" Nature Monument	Regional	Kursk	29.76	1	Direct	in process of establishing	to be established under the project framework	6	
28	"Balka Rzhavets" Nature Monument	Regional	Kursk	557.80	1	Direct	in process of establishing	to be established under the project framework	6	
29	"Steppe ravine near Melovaya village" Nature Monument	Regional	Kursk	17.90	1	Direct	in process of establishing	to be established under the project framework	6	
30	Chernye Zemli zapovednik buffer zone expanding	Federal	Kalmykia	517,500.00	n/a	Direct	in process of establishing	to be established under the project framework		
31	Troitskiy refuge	Regional	Orenburg	37,870.00	1	Direct	in process of establishing	to be established under the project framework	4	
Other SPAs with direct impact										
31	Oldondinskiy Zakaznik in Borzinskiy District	Regional	Dauria	51,500.00	1	Direct	Existing	staff trainings, equipment supply	4	
32	Aginskaya Steppe Zakaznik in Aginskiy District	Regional	Dauria	45,762.00	1	Direct	Existing	staff trainings, equipment supply	4	
SPAs with indirect impact										
	Saratovskiy federal zakaznik	Federal	not pilot	44,302.00	The PA is managed by Khvalynsky National park	Indirect	Existing	support of institutional framework and staff capacity	4	

	Belogorye zapovednik	Federal	not pilot	2,131.00		Indirect	Existing	support of institutional framework and staff capacity	1	
	Tsimlyanskiy federal zakaznik	Federal	not pilot	44,998.00	managed by Rostovskiy zapovednik	Indirect	Existing	support of institutional framework and staff capacity	6	
	Galichya Gora zapovednik	Federal	not pilot	234.40		Indirect	Existing	support of institutional framework and staff capacity	1	
	Privolzhskaya Lesostep' zapovednik	Federal	not pilot	8,373.00		Indirect	Existing	support of institutional framework and staff capacity	1	
	Rostovskiy zapovednik	Federal	not pilot	9,532.00		Indirect	Existing	support of institutional framework and staff capacity	1	
	Ubsunurskaya Kotlovina zapovednik	Federal	not pilot	323,198.40		Indirect	Existing	support of institutional framework and staff capacity	1	
	Pribaikalskiy national park	Federal	not pilot	417,300.00		Indirect	Existing	support of institutional framework and staff capacity	2	

Annex 9 List of project outputs and publications

General issues of steppe conservation (based on prodoc and so on)

1. Smelansky I.E., Tishkov A.A. The Steppe Biome in Russia: Ecosystem Services, Conservation Status, and Actual Challenges // M.J.A. Werger and M.A. van Staalanduin (eds.), *Eurasian Steppes. Ecological Problems and Livelihoods in a Changing World*, Plant and Vegetation 6, Springer Science+Business Media B.V. 2012. 45-101.
2. Тишков А.А. Экосистемные услуги ландшафтов России: потенциал и изменения в процессе антропогенного воздействия и изменений климата. В кн.: Изменения природной среды России в XX веке. М.: Монет, 2012. С. 153-165.
3. Смелянский И.Э. Сколько в степном регионе России залежей? // СБ, 2012, № 36. 4-7.
4. Смелянский И.Э. Роль степных экосистем России в депонировании углерода // СБ, 2012, № 35. 4-8.
5. Тишков А.А., Белоновская Е.А., Царевская Н.Г., Титова С.В. Роль лесостепных ландшафтов России в создании первичной продукции и в депонировании углерода. В кн.: Проблемы изучения и восстановления ландшафтов лесостепной зоны. Историко-культурные и природные территории. Тула: Государственный военно-исторический и природный музей-заповедник «Куликово поле», 2013. С. 9-17.
6. Чибилев А.А., Тишков А.А., Рябуха А.Г. Изучение, сохранение и восстановление степей Северной Евразии (об итогах VI Международного симпозиума «Степи северной Евразии», 18-23 июня 2012 г., г. Оренбург). Изв. РАН. Сер. геогр., №1, 2013. С. 143-144.
7. Филатова Т.Д., Власов А.А., Золотухин Н.И. Состояние лугово-степных экосистем Курской области // Степной бюллетень. – Зима 2010. – № 28. – С. 33-35.
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Annex 10 Example questionnaire used for data collection

1. What is the achievement, so far, of which you are most proud?
2. If you could go back in time, what would you change or do differently?
3. If you could go back in time, which activities would you definitely do again?
4. If the project had an extra USD 2 million and an extra two years, what else would you consider doing?
5. What are you doing to ensure take up/replication of the concept and processes in other landscapes?
6. What are the effects of inflation or changes in the exchange rates to the budgeting and/or expenditure?
7. Please give examples of how you are ensuring cost effectiveness?
8. Please provide all information on cofinance to date, including both cash and in-kind expenditure and a summary of the items on which the co-finance has been spent.
9. What is your role/relationship with the project?
10. What are you doing to ensure sustainability of the project's processes and impacts?
11. This (xxx) success seems very good: what did you do to achieve it?
12. Who are the partners (i.e., people actively working to the same goals) on the project?
13. Who would you say *owns* the project?
14. Who are the stakeholders in the project (i.e., people that are involved in the project, either actively or passively or will be affected by the project in some way)?
15. Who prepares the TOR for all contracting?
16. Who signs the contracts?
17. Imagine this scenario: if the Minister phones you up and says that he needs to make a brief report on the project to the President and he needs 5 bullets on the following subjects:
 - Key successes
 - what would you advise the next door country to do if they were to implement a similar project
 - what works and why
 - what does not work and why
 - key challenges
18. Is the project having any useful (but unplanned) spin-offs?
19. Is the project having any detrimental or negative (but unplanned or unintended) impacts?
20. This is a UNDP project – what advantages or disadvantages does this bring?
What if it was a World Bank project instead – what difference would that bring?
21. If you were to re-write the Project Document, what would you change?
22. Who are the project's champions?
23. Standard issues:

- Project Manager Forum
 - Procurement rules and efficiencies
 - UNDP training/support
 - Financial audits
 - Cofinance information
 - Communication strategy?
 - Monitoring awareness/knowledge
 - Backing up data and digital information
 - Team functionality
 - Staff turn over
 - If training is provided, how is training now being used in job?
 - How including gender and/or indigenous peoples issues?
 - Need to provide all information, including equipment, inputs, infrastructure, tracking tool data.
 - If there was a delay, what was the reason?
24. How is the project aligned to the national development plan, region-level development plans and the UNDAF?
25. Is the project trying to increase awareness? If so, among which target groups? How is the project monitoring changes in awareness and attitude? How has any changes in attitude and awareness affected project implementation, and how is it being used in the daily, professional lives of the target groups?
26. Infrastructure has been developed over the course of this project. Was it in alignment with the strategic plan developed at the landscape level? If not, how was the decision made for any given infrastructural input?
27. New institutions have been created over the course of the project (specifically the landscape management committees). How will these be sustainable? In five years' time, how do you imagine the committees functioning?
28. Why did the Financial and Administrative Assistant resign?
29. At a landscape level, what monitoring activities are being undertaken to determine the impact of the project?
30. How does the project interface with the land reform processes in the country?
31. The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) appears to be largely unsuccessful: we aim to propose that no further effort be expended to make it active. However, in the long-term, particularly once the GEF project has ended, will there be a role for i) an umbrella coordination body (to continue the work of the PCU – and if so, should it be independent or remain within govt?) and/or ii) a centralised technical body to assist landscapes with technical issues?
32. It appears as if some key stakeholders are not part of the landscape management committees – e.g., Regional Governments, Roads, Water, etc. Would it be useful to try to include some of these organizations, at least on an ad hoc basis?
33. How is the project – and landscape management committees in particular – interfacing with regional governments?
34. To what extent is the project strategy relevant to country priorities, country ownership, and the best route towards expected results?
35. To what extent have the expected outcomes and objectives of the project been achieved thus far?

36. Has the project been implemented efficiently, cost-effectively, and been able to adapt to any changing conditions thus far?
37. To what extent are project-level monitoring and evaluation systems, reporting, and project communications supporting the project's implementation?
38. To what extent are there financial, institutional, socio-economic, and/or environmental risks to sustaining long-term project results?
- 39.

Six questions to overcome fear of failure:

1. What would you attempt to do if you knew you could not fail?
2. What if I fail — how will I recover?
3. What if I do nothing?
4. What if I succeed?
5. What's truly worth doing, whether you fail or succeed?
6. In this failure, what went right?

Annex 11 Audit trail of comments on draft TE

Comment, location	TE response
Minor edits, typographical errors	All corrected and incorporated into the final version of the report
Factual errors (of which there were a small number)	All corrected and incorporated into the final version of the report
Specific comments requiring response from TE	In footnotes through final version of report

Annex 12 UNEG Code of Conduct Form

Evaluators/Consultants:

1. Must present information that is complete and fair in its assessment of strengths and weaknesses so that decisions or actions taken are well founded.
 2. Must disclose the full set of evaluation findings along with information on their limitations and have this accessible to all affected by the evaluation with expressed legal rights to receive results.
 3. Should protect the anonymity and confidentiality of individual informants. They should provide maximum notice, minimize demands on time, and respect people's right not to engage. Evaluators must respect people's right to provide information in confidence, and must ensure that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. Evaluators are not expected to evaluate individuals, and must balance an evaluation of management functions with this general principle.
 4. Sometimes uncover evidence of wrongdoing while conducting evaluations. Such cases must be reported discreetly to the appropriate investigative body. Evaluators should consult with other relevant oversight entities when there is any doubt about if and how issues should be reported.
 5. Should be sensitive to beliefs, manners and customs and act with integrity and honesty in their relations with all stakeholders. In line with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, evaluators must be sensitive to and address issues of discrimination and gender equality. They should avoid offending the dignity and self-respect of those persons with whom they come in contact in the course of the evaluation. Knowing that evaluation might negatively affect the interests of some stakeholders, evaluators should conduct the evaluation and communicate its purpose and results in a way that clearly respects the stakeholders' dignity and self-worth.
 6. Are responsible for their performance and their product(s). They are responsible for the clear, accurate and fair written and/or oral presentation of study limitations, findings and recommendations.
 7. Should reflect sound accounting procedures and be prudent in using the resources of the evaluation.

MTR Consultant Agreement Form

Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System:

Name of Consultant: Stuart Williams

Conduct for Evaluation.

front wing

Signature:

Annex 13 TE Final Report Clearance Form

TE Review Report Reviewed and Cleared By:

Russia UNDP Project Support Unit

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Advisor

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____