

## **Nature Protection Component**

### **Standard Summary Project Fiche – IPA decentralised National programmes**

(maximum 12/15 pages without the annexes)

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#### **1. Basic information**

**1.1 CRIS Number: TR2011/0627.01**

**1.2 Title:** Strengthening the national nature protection system for implementation of Natura 2000 requirements

**1.3 Statistical code: Environment**

**1.4 Sector: Environment and Climate Change**

**1.5 Location: TURKEY**

#### **Implementing arrangements:**

#### **1.6 Implementing Agency:**

The Central Finance and Contracts Unit (CFCU) will be Implementing Agency and will be responsible for all procedural aspects of the tendering process, contracting matters and financial management, including payment of project activities. The director of the CFCU will act as Programme Authorizing Officer (PAO) of the project. The contact details of the CFCU Director are given below.

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#### **1.7 Beneficiary (including details of SPO):**

Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs

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#### **Financing:**

**1.8 Overall cost (VAT excluded)<sup>1</sup>: 6 816 000 EUR**

**1.9 EU contribution: 6 099 100 EUR**

**1.10 Final date for contracting:** 2 years after the signature of the Financing Agreement.

**1.11 Final date for execution of contracts:** 3 years following the final date for contracting.

**1.12 Final date for disbursements:** 1 year following the final date for execution of contracts.

## **2. Overall Objective and Project Purpose**

### **2.1 Overall Objective:**

To protect and enhance the Turkey's natural habitats and biodiversity.

### **2.2 Project purpose:**

Strengthening the Institutional and Technical Capacity to Select and Design NATURA 2000 Network in Turkey

### **2.3 Link with AP/NPAA / EP/ SAA/ Progress Report**

**Negotiating Position of the Republic of Turkey Chapter 27: Environment, 13 November 2009** it is stated that

“Since Turkey has a wide range of habitat and species as a result of its various phytogeographic regions, there is a need for comprehensive scientific studies, strong database and continuous surveys respectively. All of the above mentioned issues require time, financial support and professional expertise.

Taking into account the rich biodiversity of Turkey, although some small-scale projects have been carried out in this field, studies executed in scope of transposition and implementation of the Directives is only at the starting stage. In this respect, for a detailed impact assessment and financial analysis, determination of transposition and implementation schedule, capacity building, and establishment of technical infrastructure, a project is foreseen to be initiated in 2012.

Harmonisation with the provisions related with the transboundary issues will be ensured by accession. The ongoing preparatory studies towards reaching full implementation (efforts towards strengthening institutional capacity and technical infrastructure etc.) are expected to be finalised until 2018. However, the date could be revised according to the results of the Project. Full implementation will be ensured by the date of accession.”

“As stated by Turkey, during the negotiations on opening of the Environment Chapter, transboundary issues, including their implementation aspects will be concluded and harmonized 2 years before the ascertained date of Turkey's accession.”

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<sup>1</sup> The total cost of the project should be net of VAT and/or other taxes. Should this not be the case, the amount of VAT and the reasons why it should be considered eligible should be clearly indicated (see Section 7.6)

## **Turkey 2010 Progress Report, Environment:**

In 2010 Turkey Progress Report, it is stated that “No progress can be reported on nature protection The list of potential Natura 2000 sites has not yet been compiled. Adoption of a framework law on nature protection which will be an important tool for implementing legislation on birds and habitats is also stated as “...raises concerns, in particular as regards the abolition of the current protection status of many sites that would be a useful contribution to the Turkish Natura 2000 network”. National biodiversity strategy and action plans remain to be adopted.<sup>2\*</sup>

### **NPAA priority:**

The Turkish Government approved National Programme published in Official Gazette of the Republic of Turkey dated 31 December 2008 numbered 27097(5.Bis.) for the Adaptation of the Acquis (NPAA). One of the main priorities within the NPAA includes;

- Review of existing status of protected areas, carrying out biotop/habitat classification and mapping for protected areas and evaluation of potential Natura 2000 areas.
- Within the scope of improving the technical structure of biodiversity monitoring systems; establishment of a data base system, determination of monitoring indicators and establishment of the institutional structure for monitoring
- Carrying out studies to examine all species and habitats within the scope of the Habitat and Bird Directives

### **2.4 Link with MIPD:**

According to the 2011-2013 MIPD document “The objective in environmental sector is for Turkey to fully comply with EU environmental and climate change legislation upon accession requiring adoption of all relevant Directives and legislation, including the necessary investments”.

Besides, for the biodiversity conservation, in the 2011-2013 MIPD document, it is specifically stated that “designated and supported nature protection areas and biodiversity, and legislation on nature protection”

### **2.5 Link with National Development Plan (where applicable)**

Ninth Development Plan (2007-2013) designed as the basic strategy document that would contribute to the EU accession process approved by Turkish Grand National Assembly on 28.06.2006 with Law No: 877:

“10. Natural resources, cultural assets and the environment will be protected considering the future generations, as well.

52. The necessary administrative capacity will be set up for the effective implementation of the legal arrangements for harmonization and the problems arising from implementation will be identified and eliminated

54. Effective measures will be taken in order to educate the work force required for new duties and responsibilities. In this context, the number of qualified public sector personnel will be increased and necessary steps will be taken for continuous training of the existing personnel.

454. Fulfillment of international obligations will be realized in the framework of the principle of sustainable development and the principle of common but differentiated responsibility.

474. Training and informing activities for public will be realized to increase the environmental consciousness.”

## **2.6 Link with sector strategies and national/ sectoral investment plans (where applicable)**

In the Plan for Setting up Necessary Administrative Capacities at National, Regional and Local Level and Required Financial Resources for Implementing the Environmental Acquis Opening Benchmarks in Chapter 27, September 2009 it is stated that “the studies executed in scope of transposition and implementation of Habitat-Bird Directives are only at the starting stage; for this reason, implementation timetable and plan, the cost calculations of relevant institutions and bodies for full transposition and implementation cannot be accurately determined at this stage; hence, Turkey needs a Technical Assistance to provide necessary institutional and technical infrastructure concerning said directives.”

The most priority issue that has to be implemented in Turkey in scope of Habitats and Birds Directives is strengthening of the institutional capacity in line with the Directives needs and establishment of a scientific organization to provide support for this structure. In this context, a project is foreseen to be initiated in 2011 and afterwards.

The second document that includes national priorities on environment is the “EU Integrated Environmental Compliance Strategy (2007 - 2023)”. The main purpose of the strategy is to prevent the loss of biological diversity through securing protection and sustainability of the biological diversity, and conserving the flora and fauna and their natural environments.

The EU Integrated Environmental Compliance Strategy includes many targets to support biodiversity conservation and management of the areas, which have rich biodiversity. Two main targets are determining institutional infrastructure requirements and training of the personnel to strengthen the capacity in order to implement Acquis Communautaire effectively.

## **3. Description of project**

### **3.1 Background and justification:**

In terms of biodiversity, Turkey is one of the most important countries in the temperate zone. There are 1510 identified vertebrate species and around 380 butterfly species, of which 42 are endemics and 20 are near-endemics. The number of vascular plant species in the country is around 10,000, of which one third is endemic, nearly 1,700 are rare and 12 are extinct.

Turkey has been addressing the issue of conservation of this unique biodiversity within the framework of the science modern conservation biology, ever since the first protected area in Yozgat was established in 1959. Following this, efforts towards the conservation of biodiversity has been continuing in a more systematic way, especially after 1990's with the emergence of concepts such as Important Bird Areas, Important Plant Areas, Important Turtle Nesting Areas, and Key Biodiversity Areas. The gap analysis approach, which emerge in late 1990's and gradually evolved in to Systematic Conservation Planning (SCP), also developed rapidly in Turkey. Since then, work on prioritization for nature conservation have been continuing region by region. In 2002, after the establishment of the Biodiversity Monitoring Unit (BMU) within the Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs (MoFW), central and field units to conduct regional SCP studies were set up by the BMU. In 2009, GDNCNP declared SCP as the officially accepted method for nature conservation prioritization and for selection of Natura 2000 sites in Turkey, and has been applying this method in conservation prioritization. Now in 2010, with the involvement of major NGO's and universities, SCP studies for half of Turkey have been completed. The next logical step is the integration of SCP into the Natura 2000 site selection procedure. This step, which involves establishing the methodology of integration and the necessary scientific knowledge-base, must be followed by building up the capacity for applying this integrated procedure. Once the procedure is established and the capacity for carrying it out is increased, it is expected that the task of selecting Natura 2000 sites will progress at a desired pace.

SCP refers to the selection of areas for conservation action to achieve explicit, and usually quantitative, conservation goals. It is a process of building up a conservation management system. The main rationale behind the GDNCNP official declaration of SCP as the method for nature conservation prioritization, is the fact that SCP it is built on the concepts of efficiency and complementarity. The concept of complementarity expresses the notion of conservation areas complementing each other with respect to the biodiversity within them. The procedure takes into consideration many factors such as biological and social elements of the planning region, as well as existing protected areas and the availability of resources allocated to conservation action. This process potentially identifies conflicts and trade-offs between conservation and socioeconomic values, as well as determining optimal solutions.

In 2006, during the *First European Congress of Conservation Biology* (organized by the

Society for Conservation Biology, European Chapter) one of the major themes was on how to improve the Natura 2000 system and the issue was discussed in the context of three major questions:

1. How to strengthen the operational link between conservation goals and the conservation strategy,
2. To what extent the network of protected areas set up based on this conservation strategy protects biodiversity in Europe, and
3. How systematic conservation planning—the most advanced and versatile tool available to conservation planners—can contribute to the achievement of the goals.

One of the major outcomes of these discussions was the necessity of the integration of SCP methodology into the Natura 2000 procedure (Pressey and Rondonini 2007).

During the last ten years, the GDNCNP, General Directorate of Forestry, NGOs and universities, with some support from the private sector, have conducted SCP studies in different regions. Throughout these studies, the SCP methodology has been re-evaluated, developed and adapted to the conditions in Turkey, such as data limitations, political constraints and socio-economical features of the country. However, in the process of accession to European Union, Turkey also would like to incorporate the legal and political instruments that will be provided with one of the best-established conservation system of the world, Natura 2000.

In 2006, the MoFW conducted a Twinning project called ‘Capacity Building in the field of Environment for Turkey Project, Component 3: Nature’. Throughout this project, the Natura 2000 procedure, the concepts of Bird Directive and Habitat Directive were introduced, capacity building among the relevant MoFW staff was carried out and legal constraints for implementing the Natura 2000 approach were identified. In addition, a MATRA project which aims to develop a practical model and a communication strategy is completed by the end of 2010. These projects have helped Turkey to identify the requirements and the strategy for implementing the Natura 2000 procedure in Turkey.

Within the Twinning Project, some progress took shape with regards to the application and harmonization of the Birds and Habitats Directives. It includes the *Anatolian Biogeographical Region*, which does not extend into other European countries. This situation necessitates comprehensive work on the species which are to be included in annexes of the Bird Directive and the Habitats Directive.

One of the basic facts underlined in the MATRA project which was carried out in cooperation with the Dutch Government is the necessity of getting scientific contribution from Turkish academicians and also the importance of the active participation of Turkish academicians in determining Turkey’s Natura 2000 sites. The

fact that Turkish Academicians were not assigned actively in the Twinning Project is one of the reasons why the project could not reach all its targets.

The Central Anatolian bio-geographic region is well suited for testing the methodology for selecting Natura 2000 sites. It is significantly different from those in the rest of Europe. Thus, determining habitat types, developing Turkey's lists for the directives, selecting Natura 2000 sites for the region, will all contribute towards development of the expertise. Also, experience and insight gained in a totally different bio-geographic region can be used by other countries, whenever similar circumstances arise.

However, the opposite situation is considered in the project too; where Turkey has similar features with the existing EU biogeographical regions. For this purpose project aims to fill Natura 2000 site forms in two areas in the Blacksea region. This will be a good test to consider the use of Bird and Habitat Directives when Turkey has similar species and habitats.

Based on the above-explained facts, this project will help Turkey enhance its experience on different approaches for the identification of the Natura 2000 sites and also establish the necessary institutional and technical infrastructure.

The Project is planned as the first phase of adaptation of Turkish Nature Conservation System to EU Conservation System. This phase shall be followed by the other phases consequently. The following phases must focus on identification of Natura 2000 sites; preparation of site forms and conservation strategies for the selected sites; and developing a management system for the Natura 2000 sites.

The position of Turkey regarding NATURA 2000 had been clearly expressed in the letter dated 20 March 1998, addressed to the European Commission by the Turkish Permanent Delegation to the EU. Turkey agrees with the general intent of the program. Yet, Turkey finds unacceptable the exploitation of the said program by an EU Member State to advance its political objectives. Therefore, references made to NATURA 2000 in this project neither can be construed as a change in the legal and political position of Turkey with regard to the Aegean issues nor have any bearing on the legitimate rights and interests of Turkey.

### **3.2 Assessment of project impact, catalytic effect and sustainability and cross border impact (where applicable)**

The structure of the project is built for maximizing the impact within Turkey and outside Turkey, and also to ensure its sustainability and the sustainability of its results.

Project impact: Procedures within the project and the overall results are expected to have a positive impact on the following issues within Turkey:

- Suitability, efficiency, applicability and sustainability of potential selected Natura 2000 sites in Turkey: Suitability being in terms of conservation power, efficiency in terms of being part of a efficient network, applicability in terms of viability of establishment, and sustainability in terms of success and continuance of functionality, including through global climate change.
- Overall cost of potential Natura 2000 sites for the country: The multi-criteria site selection system is expected to minimise the cost of individual sites and of the overall network of sites, through efficient locality selection which maximizes representation of target features, and through giving preference to areas which provide conservation opportunities to the local communities.
- Integration of socio-economical data (e.g. cost, threat and opportunities) into Natura2000 site selection will enable to consider other sectors such as agriculture, tourism and rural development from the beginning of the procedure. Furthermore, for developing an effective conservation strategy in selected sites in Central Anatolia, integration of agriculture and rural development into the conservation practices will be main approach. In that respect, this study will also provide an invaluable insight for MARA to integrate nature friendly approaches into the agricultural practices
- Technical, institutional and knowledge-base capacity of the country for producing Turkey's lists for the Bird Directive and Habitats Directive and for selecting potential Natura 2000 sites. Following the successful implementation of the project, MoFW will have teams and a well-established system for completing the task for the rest of the country using the same methodology.
- Pace of work on selecting potential Natura 2000 sites in other regions: After the establishment of the system, MoFW will be continuing the task of selecting potential Natura 2000 sites in other regions of Turkey with higher motivation and enthusiasm.
- Data available for the scientific community, conservation bodies and governance bodies.

The project is also expected to have a positive impact on the suitability, efficiency, applicability and sustainability of selected potential Natura 2000 sites in other countries through improved methodology of selection.

Catalytic effect: The project will develop a method to integrate SCP and N2000. The two approaches will strengthen the power of site selection and conservation in Turkey and Europe in many ways like efficiency, conservation targeting etc. The new method may serve needs of countries experiencing similar conditions in Turkey in terms of biodiversity data and site selection.

Exchange of information among European and Turkish experts during the project will establish new collaboration environment that can produce valuable results in terms of European diversity and synergy on nature conservation studies.



The database outputs will contribute to serve needs of people asking for biodiversity data for many purposes.

Project sustainability: The following will contribute towards sustainability of the project:

- The MoFW will be providing staff, experts, baseline maps, its digital data archive and working space when necessary.
- The MoFW attaches great importance to this project, as it will be building the capacity which is necessary for the completion of the requirements for the accession process.
- In 2009, GDNCNP declared SCP as the officially accepted method for nature conservation prioritization and for selection of potential Natura 2000 sites in Turkey. As this project is in line with this commitment and with the needs of the MoFW, there will be a high level willingness to complete the project successfully.
- Experts in Turkey have experience in SCP: Experts from BMU, the General Directory of Forestry, the universities and NGO's been participating in applying SCP, in developing it according to the countries needs and characteristics and in contributing to its evolution, for the last 10 years.
- Turkey has the necessary scientific and technical basis: The number and capacity of scientists and technicians are high and the amount of data is good for many species and groups.

The Project will be one of the earliest stages of the adaptation of Turkish Nature Conservation System to EU Conservation System. Main products of the project (i.e. species lists for the Annexes of the Bird and Habitat Directives, Natura 2000 selection procedure for Turkey) will prepare the stage for the subsequent steps.

MoFW assumes that this will be one of the first projects that will be followed by three more projects to complete Natura 2000 adaptation process;

- identification of Natura 2000 sites,
- preparation of site forms and conservation strategies for the selected sites,
- developing management system for the Natura 2000 sites.

### 3.3 Results and measurable indicators:

Results	Objectively Verifiable Indicators
<b>Result 1</b> <b>Technical structure established to designate NATURA 2000 sites in Turkey.</b>	1.1. Preliminary national reference lists of Habitat and Bird Directives by the end of the 1,5 year of the project. 1.2. A scientific report for the integration of the SCP and Natura 2000 site selection by the third year of the project. 1.3. A Draft List of Natura 2000 sites for Central Anatolia by the third year of the project.

	1.4. Draft Secondary Legislation under Draft Nature and Biodiversity Law prepared that is compatible with EU legislation.
<b>Result 2. Turkey's IT infrastructure has all means to match the EU for Bird and Habitat Directives.</b>	2.1. SITE database is ready for the data query by the end of the project. 2.2. New data fields and user interfaces for the bird and habitat directives integrated into Noah's Arch Database by the end of second year.
<b>Result 3 Institutional capacity regarding the Natura 2000 concept increased in Turkey.</b>	3.1. Increased capacity of 50 MoFW staff, 30 member of universities and 30 staff related institutions, local authorities by the end of the project.

### 3.4 Activities

#### 1. Technical structure established to designate NATURA 2000 sites in Turkey.

- 1.1. Prepare a preliminary species and habitat lists for the relevant Annex's of the Bird and Habitat Directive
  - 1.1.1. Harmonise the bird species list and evaluation system according to Bird Directive
  - 1.1.2. Harmonise the species and habitat lists according to Habitat Directive
- 1.2. Integrate SCP approach with Natura 2000 procedure
  - 1.2.1. Assess Natura 2000 site selection procedure
  - 1.2.2. Integrate of Species and Habitats Reference List to the species scoring system of the Natura 2000
  - 1.2.3. Integrate socio-economic features as threat, cost and opportunity layers
  - 1.2.4. Integrate the impacts of climate change on listed or proposed species and habitats as well as other relevant ecological and evolutionary factors
  - 1.2.5. Address and integrate a multi criteria decision making system for the selection of Potential Natura 2000 sites
- 1.3. Identify the draft potential Natura 2000 sites with the integrated approach in Central Anatolia
  - 1.3.1. Refine the boundaries of Central Anatolia sub-ecoregion to reflect ecological integrity of the region
  - 1.3.2. Generate spatial data sets on geography, geology, soil land use pattern, infrastructure and nature protection
  - 1.3.3. Generate spatial data sets on biodiversity values
  - 1.3.4. Classify vegetation cover
  - 1.3.5. Generate a digital map surface reflecting threats, conservation costs and opportunities
  - 1.3.6. Site selection
- 1.4. Develop a rationale for the conservation of the Natura 2000 sites
  - 1.4.1. Detailed analysis and preparation of the standard data forms in selected 6 sites (3 from Central Anatolia 3 from Black Sea region)

- 1.4.2. General evaluation of the conservation status and threats for all sites
- 1.5. Prepare a need assessment report to determine the existing gaps regarding the human resources, organizational structures, data etc.
- 1.6. Prepare EU compatible draft secondary legislations for the Draft Nature and Biodiversity law
  - 1.6.1. Prepare the necessary draft secondary legislations for the law; organize meetings, hire experts.

## **2. To establish data management system for the Natura2000 process**

- 2.1. Develop a SITE database
  - 2.1.1. Need analysis
  - 2.1.2. Design of the database
  - 2.1.3. Coding
  - 2.1.4. Testing database
  - 2.1.5. Data upload
- 2.2. To harmonize existing national biodiversity database with the Natura 2000 system
  - 2.2.1. Harmonisation of data fields of the national biodiversity database system with the Bird and Habitat Directives
  - 2.2.2. Integration of user interfaces for Bird and Habitat Directives
  - 2.2.3. Develop a module for vegetation/habitat codes of SCP, EUNIS, GDF classification schemes for data exchange
- 2.3. Ensure sustainability of the National Biodiversity database and site database
  - 2.3.1. Identify maintenance system for both databases
  - 2.3.2. Identify institutional management system for both databases
  - 2.3.3. Establish quality control system
  - 2.3.4. Promote Site and Biodiversity Database for National Usage
  - 2.3.5. Establish a high performance computer to host the database.
  - 2.3.6. Increase the physical capacity of 30 local branches of the Ministry in order to participate to database by purchasing key equipment such as computers, ArcView software, camera, GPS and binoculars.

## **3. To improve the capacity of administration and stakeholders for effective implementation of Natura 2000 in Turkey.**

- 3.1. Increase the institutional capacity of MoFW on Natura 2000 Network and SCP approach
  - 3.1.1. Learning Natura 2000 network formation experience in other countries. 15 persons make 5 day long visits to relevant organizations 2 times during the project.
  - 3.1.2. Learning “How to designate and manage Natura 2000 sites?”
  - 3.1.3. Getting experienced in European experience on SCP by attending 10 Ministry staff to various relevant conferences.
- 3.2. Increase the institutional capacity of MoFW on EUNIS database and NATURA2000 database
  - 3.2.1. A study visit to European Biodiversity Topic Center to learn about EUNIS database – species, habitats, sites. 10 persons to attend to 5 day long study visit.
  - 3.2.2. A visit to learn about EUNIS mapping practice in one site
- 3.3. Prepare the second phase of the project in a participatory way.
  - 3.3.1. Organize workshops to involve perspectives of the central and local branches of the Ministry.

### 3.4. Prepare a project action plan at the beginning of the project to detail the actions versus timeline.

#### Details for some activities

##### Activity 3.1.1

Two study visits will be made to European institutes to obtain detailed and hands on experience on Natura 2000 network formation experience and using SCP approach accordingly. 15 persons will join to each visit that will take 5 days each.

##### Activity 3.1.2

#### Training for Stakeholders

This activity will consist of a national two-days workshops involving all stakeholders.

- to increase awareness of the SKP methodologies
- to identify ways of participation in the management of Natura 2000 sites.
- Promote biodiversity conservation in scope of potential Natura 2000 sites, during development, evaluation and implementation process of project proposals.
- To selection process of N2000 sites

the workshop target audiences will be as follows:

- Project Launched and close Meetings with participation of 100 people from universities, stakeholder institutions and government offices, NGOs.
- Workshops 1.1: Opening /closing workshops for 6 species groups with 50 persons: To introduce the work /outputs to a large number of related audience of academicians and nature conservationist.
- Workshops 1.1: 6 Expert studies by 50 persons– Species and habitat experts, representatives of NGOS and relevant governmental departments to work on species lists for N2000 in Turkey.
- Workshop 1.2: Launch to introduce integration study to a large number of audience (100 persons).
- Workshops 1.2: 2 Expert meetings on integration of SCP and N2000 criteria and site selection method. 75 participants of experts and stakeholders from Turkey, Europe and other countries applying SCP will join to discuss and develop a method.
- Workshop 1.3: Threat analysis workshop to be held to gather data about threats on biodiversity in Central Anatolia. Province officers from the region responsible from nature conservation, forestry and agricultural activities will participate together with GIS experts (50 persons).
- Workshops for databases: A launch meeting will be held to introduce the biodiversity database, works to be done to develop and implement new modules for N2000 and the site database with participation of 1000 guests. Two more technical workshops will be held to do the need analysis and direct the development phases with contribution of 50 participants.
- Workshop 4–addressing universities

##### Activity 3.2.1.

A study visit to European Biodiversity Topic Center will be made to obtain knowledge and exchange know-how on EUNIS database – species, habitats, sites. 10 persons will attend to the 5 day long study visit.

### **3.5 Conditionality and sequencing:**

Contract signature under this PF is conditional up on the adoption of the Framework Law on Nature Protection and Biodiversity.

All technical assistance within this project will be covered by a single service contract.

The supply needs will be revised once the needs analysis is finalised.

### **3.6 Linked activities**

The activities planned under this project will be linked to the results and recommendations of several other running and just completed projects. Three of them are ‘GEF-II Biodiversity and Natural Resources Management Project’ funded by the World Bank, Twinning- TR02-EN-01 ‘Capacity Building in the Field of Environment for Turkey’ Component 3. Nature project funded EU and Third project is ‘Strategy for Natura 2000 Implementation in Turkey’ which is supported by The Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation.

The proposed project is in the nature of continuation of the GEF-II Biodiversity and Natural Recourse Management Project. One of the main activity was establishing a system to monitor the status of biodiversity and conservation initiatives throughout the country. Under this activity Biodiversity Monitoring Strategy has been developed and national biodiversity database has been founded. Field studies to identify priority biodiversity areas were compiled in Aegean Region and all the data were entered in to this system. This project will support existing monitoring system and strengthen it.

The other linked project is “Twinning Covenant- TR02-EN-01”Capacity Building in the Field of Environment for Turkey ”Component 3. Nature” project.

The project aimed to contribute to the implementation process of the acquis communautaire namely Implementation of the Birds (79/409/EEC) Directive and the Habitats (92/43/EEC) Directive and of CITES Convention and EU Regulation (EEC/362/82, EEC/341/83 and EC/338/97). The project provided capacity building activities as well as technical assistance on nature conservation.

The Overall Objective of the “Capacity Building in the Field of Environment for Turkey, Component 3 Nature with the Twinning project” is to establish to capacity of the Turkish administration to implement the acquis communautaire in the field of environment. Our needs and gaps according to the twinning project results are; broader scientific background information and research capacity, higher number of qualified scientists and experts working for the habitats and species protection, overall coordination system for conservation activities, ecologically trained / experienced and permanent positioned staff in the Ministry, dedicated scientific agencies working for conservation of biodiversity and scientific support to the Ministry.

Project result:

- Analyze of existing situation has been done and technical support has been provided for nature conservation law,
- Two biotope mapping has been done which are selected two protected areas.
- According to the Annexes of the Habitat and Bird Directive, the scientific studies have been done in order to review of habitats and species, but it could not complete yet.
- Some protected areas have been reviewed in order to identify potential SAC according to the Habitat Directive
- A glossary which is covering scientific terms about habitat directive has been prepared and manuals formed.

However; due to rich biodiversity of Turkey and the wide area that Turkey occupies, sustainability of this support is needed. It is not easy and realistic to expect to determine all potential Nature 2000 sites, Habitat and Birds directives' requirements of Turkey, in a short term period because of the fact that needed scientific data concerning nature of Turkey cannot be collected in a few years. Our needs and gaps according to the twinning project results are; Broader scientific background information and research capacity, Higher number of qualified scientists and experts working for the habitats and species protection, Integration of nature protection with habitat approach and biotope mapping to the university programs, Overall coordination system for conservation activities, Ecologically trained / experienced and permanent positioned staff in the Ministry, Dedicated scientific agencies working for conservation of biodiversity and scientific support to the Ministry.

The Strategy for Natura 2000 Implementation in Turkey Project tried to test the entire process of Natura2000 from site-designation up to management planning. The project was given special emphasis to site design trough studies in two pilot sites. Dutch experts conducted several training workshops to discuss the basic steps of Natura2000 process in Turkey. These experiences were used to develop the strategy needed for implementation of the European Directives, specifically for the Turkish situation. One of the critical outcomes of the project is wider realization of the steps of the Natura2000 process within the GDNCNP.

### **3.7 Lessons learned**

As experienced in The Strategy for Natura 2000 Implementation in Turkey Project' , getting scientific contribution from many Turkish academicians and nature conservation NGOs is crucial for the success and acceptance of the species lists and site selection method for N2000 implementation. So it is planned to involve as many experienced academicians and NGO representatives as possible.

Above-mentioned Twinning project has also clearly stated the lack of institutional and technical background for the implementation of the Natura2000 process and the importance of improving technical and institutional capacity of GDNCNP.

#### 4. Indicative Budget (amounts in EUR)

			SOURCES OF FUNDING										
			TOTAL EXP.RE	TOTAL PUBLIC EXP.RE	EU CONTRIBUTION		NATIONAL PUBLIC CONTRIBUTION					PRIVATE CONTRIBUTION	
ACTIVITIES	IB (1)	INV (1)	EUR (a)=(b)+(e)	EUR (b)=(c)+(d)	EUR (c)	% (2)	Total EUR (d)=(x)+(y)+(z)	% (2)	Central EUR (x)	Regional Local EUR (y)	IFIs EUR (z)	EUR (e)	% (3)
Technical Assistance Contract	X	-	6 110 000	6 110 000	5499000	90	611000	10	611000				
Supply Contract	-	X	706000	706000	600100	85	105900	15	105900				
TOTAL IB						90	614,920	10	614,920				
TOTAL INV						85	104,070	15	104,070				
<b>TOTAL PROJECT</b>			<b>6 816 000</b>	<b>6 816 000</b>	<b>6099100</b>		<b>716900</b>		<b>716900</b>				

(1) In the Activity row use "X" to identify whether IB or INV

(2) Expressed in % of the **Public** Expenditure (column (b))

(3) Expressed in % of the **Total** Expenditure (column (a))

*Minimum national joint co-financing rates:*

*Service 10%, Supply 15%, Works 15%, Service Supervision 15%, TW 5%, Grant Schemes 10% (public contribution), Direct grant agreements 10%*

"The Turkish authorities commit themselves to provide national cofinancing according to the above provisions. The NAO will verify that cofinancing has been provided in line with the above provisions before submitting requests for funds and final declarations adjusting payment requests to the above ratio as necessary."

In the context of beneficiary staff participating in missions outside of Turkey paid for under a contract, the maximum amounts eligible for accommodation costs and daily allowances ("per diems") are the official rates provided for by EuropeAid for the destination country (see website for the latest rate). Provided the total cost of daily allowance and accommodation charged to the contract remains below these maximum rates, the applicable Turkish rules and regulations for per diems shall be applied when reimbursing these costs for public servants from the beneficiary institutions. Where a contract foresees the reimbursement of such expenses for Turkish public servants and other beneficiaries of IPA projects during missions inside of Turkey, the maximum costs reimbursed under the contract will be those provided for domestic missions under the applicable Turkish legislation provided that they are subject to the same ceiling for maximum rates. This provision cannot be construed and applied in contradiction

## 5. Indicative Implementation Schedule (periods broken down per quarter)

Contracts	Start of Tendering	Signature of contract	Project Completion
Technical assistance contract	QR3 2012	QR1 2013	QR4 2015
Supply contract	QR3 2012	QR1 2013	QR4 2015

Tender dossiers will be prepared by beneficiary.

## 6. Cross cutting issues (where applicable)

### 6.1 Equal Opportunity

The project will stimulate the process building the partnership between the national and European partners in terms of cooperative work, decision making and producing an output of common needs. None of the steps will be discriminatory in terms of gender, life-style, religion or politics. The project will comply with the European Commission's equal opportunity policy. An appropriate gender balance will be sought on all the managing bodies and working groups of the project.

### 6.2 Environment

The project itself is proposed to strengthen nature conservation in Turkey with an effective method to be implemented for N2000 site selection in Turkey that will serve the national and EU needs. The project will also help capacity building of the people who work for nature conservation directly or producing works serving on that purpose. So it will also support producing better works for nature conservation in Turkey.

As one of the basic principles, project will follow the waste hierarchy refers to the 3Rs of reduce, reuse and recycle principle. Project will organize the activities with minimum environmental impact in terms of energy use both in the desk studies and field works.

### 6.3 Minorities and vulnerable groups

According to the Turkish Constitutional System, the word minorities encompass only groups of persons defined and recognized as such on the basis of multilateral or bilateral instruments to which Turkey is a party. This project has no negative impact on minority and vulnerable



groups. The project will apply the policy of equal opportunities for all groups including vulnerable groups.

#### **6.4 Civil Society/Stakeholder involvement**

In the annex studies, the nature conservation NGOs will be represented in working groups since they are the organisations collecting data in the field, doing project for conserving targets and create public opinion. NGOs have many data to be considered in the evaluations and experience in the field. Those will be purchased and implemented in the process. It will support the works of NGOs.

### **ANNEXES**

1. Logframe
2. Contracting and Disbursement Schedule
3. Institutional Framework
4. Reference List of Relevant Laws and Regulations
5. Details EU funded contract where applicable

**ANNEX 1: Logical framework matrix in standard format**

LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR Project Fiche	Programme name and number	XX
	Contracting period expires 2 years after the last day of the contracting deadline.	Disbursement period expires 1 year after the end date of the execution of contracts.
	Total budget : 6,816,000 €	EU budget: 6,099,100 €

**Overall objective**

To protect and enhance the Turkey's natural habitats and biodiversity.

**Objectively verifiable indicators**

The number of threatened species decreased 10 % by 2018.

**Sources of Verification**

National red lists and status updates.

Turkey's protected areas list vs. Critical Habitats listed by the project.

**Project Purpose**

Strengthening the Institutional and Technical Capacity to Select and Design Natura 2000 Network in Turkey

Biodiversity and sites Data management system compatible with Bird Directive (2009) and Habitats Directive (1992)

Selection of 10 Special Protection Areas under Birds Directive and 10 Sites of Community Interest under

- Structure documents of both database systems

-

- Report describing the Natura 2000 Network formation mechanism

**Assumptions**

Habitat Directives by 2020

Mechanism in place to form Natura 2000 network

- Staff from different departments of MoFW integrate the relevant EU aquis into their usual work

50 % increase in the number of experts assigned to work on Natura 2000 process by 2020 (currently 10 people)

## Results

1) **Technical structure established to designate NATURA 2000 sites in Turkey**

2) Turkey's IT infrastructure has all means to match the EU for Bird and Habitat Directives.

### Objectively verifiable indicators

1. Preliminary national reference lists of Habitat and Bird Directives by the end of the 1,5 year of the project.
2. A scientific report for the integration of the SCP and Potential Natura 2000 site selection by the third year of the project
3. A Draft List of Natura 2000 sites for Central Anatolia by the third year of the project
4. Legislation under the new Nature and Biodiversity Law prepared that is compatible with EU legislation.
  - 2.1. SITE database is ready for the data query by the end of the project.
  - 2.2. New data fields and user interfaces for the bird and habitat directives integrated into Noah's Arch Database by the end of second year

### Sources of Verification

- Preliminary reference lists of Habitat and Bird Directives submitted to the GDNCNP
- scientific report for the integration of the SCP and Potential Natura 2000 site selection
- A draft Natura 2000 site list for Central Anatolia submitted to the GDNCNP
- Query forms for the protected areas
- Query forms including species status in the Bird and Habitat Directive Annex's

### Assumptions

Database effectively used by the national scientific and NGO community

3) Institutional capacity regarding the Natura 2000 concept increased in Turkey.

3.1. Increased capacity of 50 MOFW staff, 30 members of universities and 30 staff from related institutions and local authorities by the end of the project.

- List of participants to study visit to learn about Natura 2000, EUNIS database, European Biodiversity Information System
- Training workshop participation list and materials
- A curriculum for a graduate program

**Activities**

**Means**

**Costs**

**Assumptions**

**1. Technical structure established to designate NATURA 2000 sites in Turkey**

1.1. Prepare the preliminary species and habitat lists for the relevant Annexes of the Bird and Habitat Directives

Consultancy, Workshops

1.2. Integrate SCP approach with the Natura 2000 procedure

Consultancy, Workshops

1.3. Identify the draft Natura 2000 sites with the integrated approach in the Central Anatolian region

Consultancy, Notebooks, High performance computer, Field equipments, Software

1.4. Develop a rationale for the conservation of the potential Natura 2000 sites

Consultancy, Workshops, (means from activity 1.3 will also be used in this activity)

1.5. Prepare a need assessment report to determine the existing gaps regarding the human resources, organizational structures, data etc.

Consultancy, workshops

1.6. Prepare EU compatible secondary legislations for the Draft Nature and Biodiversity law

Consultancy, workshops

**2. To establish data management system for the Natura2000 process**

Relevant institutions are using and providing feedback on the SITE and National Biodiversity

databases

- 2.1. Develop a SITE database  
Consultancy, Workshops,  
Software, Server
- 2.2. Harmonize existing national biodiversity  
database with the Natura 2000 system  
Consultancy, Workshops  
(the same server will also be used  
here)
- 2.3. Ensure sustainability of the National  
Biodiversity database and site database  
Consultancy, Brochure, Booklet,  
Website, Meetings
- 3. To improve the capacity of MoFW  
administration and stakeholders for  
effective implementation of Natura 2000  
in Turkey.**
- 3.1. Increase the institutional capacity of MoFW  
on Natura 2000 Network and SCP approach  
Consultancy, International study  
visit  
Training workshop, Booklet,  
Brochure
- 3.2. Increase the institutional capacity of MoFW  
on EUNIS database and NATURA2000  
database  
Consultancy, International study  
visit, Training workshop
- 3.3. Prepare the second phase of the project in a  
participatory way  
Consultancy, workshops
- 3.4. Prepare a project action plan at the  
beginning of the project to detail the actions  
versus timeline.  
Project team

- Trained staff continue to  
work on NATURA2000 and  
EUNIS database  
- Other relevant institutions  
continue to work on Natura  
2000

**ANNEX 2: Amounts (in €) Contracted and disbursed by quarter for the project  
(IPA contribution only)**

<b>Contracted</b>	<b>I/2013</b>	<b>II/2013</b>	<b>III/2013</b>	<b>IV/2013</b>	<b>I/2014</b>	<b>II/2014</b>	<b>III/2014</b>	<b>IV/2014</b>	<b>I/2015</b>	<b>II/2015</b>	<b>III/2015</b>	<b>IV/2015</b>
TA Contract (Act.1-3)	5,499,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Supply Contract (Act. 3)	600,100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Cumulated</b>	<b>6,099,100</b>	<b>6,099,100</b>	<b>6,099,100</b>	<b>6,099,100</b>	<b>6,099,100</b>	<b>6,099,100</b>	<b>6,099,100</b>	<b>6,099,100</b>	<b>6,099,100</b>	<b>6,099,100</b>	<b>6,099,100</b>	<b>6,099,100</b>
<b>Disbursed</b>	<b>I/2013</b>	<b>II/2013</b>	<b>III/2013</b>	<b>IV/2013</b>	<b>I/2014</b>	<b>II/2014</b>	<b>III/2014</b>	<b>IV/2014</b>	<b>I/2015</b>	<b>II/2015</b>	<b>III/2015</b>	<b>IV/2015</b>
TA Contract (Act.1-3)	1,099,800	0	962,325	0	962,325	0	962,325	0	962,325	0	0	549,900
Supply contract (Act. 1-3)	120,020	0	105,017.5	0	105,017.5	0	105,017.5	0	105,017.5	0	0	60,010
<b>Cumulated</b>	<b>1,219,820</b>	<b>1,219,820</b>	<b>2,287,162 .5</b>	<b>2,287,162 .5</b>	<b>3,354,505</b>	<b>3,354,505</b>	<b>4,421,847 .5</b>	<b>4,421,847 .5</b>	<b>5,489,190</b>	<b>5,489,190</b>	<b>5,489,190</b>	<b>6,099,100</b>

