

PROJECT INFORMATION

Updated: March 2014

Strengthening the expert group working on establishing national parks in Turkmenistan



Leopard in the planned national park Artschabil (Photo: S. Fatayev)

Background

Turkmenistan's biodiversity is of global and regional importance due to the bio-geographic location of the country. It belongs to the European, Mediterranean, Asiatic and Middle-Eastern faunal and floral region. The country holds diverse ecosystems, including deserts, wetlands, lakes and mountain forests and borders the Caspian Sea.

The international projects "National park programme Turkmenistan" and „Implementation planning and capacity building for the establishment of the first national parks in Turkmenistan" (2008-2011) contributed to develop basics for the future establishment of first large protected areas.

As project Results a "Master Plan for Establishment of the First National Park "Archabil" in the Kopetdag Mountains, Turkmenistan" were handed to the national partners in 2012.

Further need of advisory service for the establishment of the first national park became now obvious: precise planning and tuning steps, especially for the formal preparation of the technical and economical substantiation of the national park proposal are important.

Project

The projects aim was the support of the Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan developing a proposal for protected areas, coordinated with representatives of the regional authorities. This will be suitable for submission to the Cabinet of Ministers for decision. The project developed the formal basics for the establishment of the Nationalpark Archabil. It may serve as a model and will stay available for the country for further usage.

The following activities were conducted:

- Workshop of an expert groups for the zonation and financing of the planned national park, especially with members of the regional authorities;
- Update of the master plan including the existing business plan, regarding the changed legal situation;
- Preparation and adjustment of a technical and economical substantiation for the Artschabil National Park in Russian and Turkmenistan.

The Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan is now in position to submit a proposal for a protected area to the Cabinet of Ministers for decision, which is already coordinated with regional representatives.

- Target country: Turkmenistan
- Duration: 1.10.2013 – 17.03.2014
- Beneficiary: Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan (www.natureprotection.gov.tm)
- Implementing organisation: Michael Succow Foundation; www.succow-stiftung.de
- Project number: 32759