

## PROJECT INFORMATION

25.03.2008

### Implementation of a National Park Programme for Turkmenistan



Ravine Aidere in the Southwest of the Kopetdag Mountains; Photo: W. Wucherer, Michael Succow Foundation

#### Background

Turkmenistan possesses incomparably diverse naturalistic features. At this moment 4 percent of the country's area is protected in state nature reserves. Until 2009 this share shall be increased up until 6 percent. The Turkmen government therefore plans the establishment of National Parks as defined by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and asked for Germany's support because of the experiences.

#### Project

Goal of the project is to develop national parks out of two nature reserves (Sapovedniks) derived from soviet conservation legislation. In these two nature reserves the technical expertise and the basic administrative principles for national parks in Turkmenistan will be developed. The project is implemented by the Michael Succow Foundation. The

foundation works closely together with the Turkmen Ministry for Nature Conservation and the Turkmen Institute for deserts, Flora and Fauna

In a first project step all project partners will enunciate special requirements the Turkmen National Park Programme will have to meet. Therefore field trips to visit the two nature reserves are planned to collect relevant ecological data as well as to update existing data. On this basis the project partner will analyse the premises for implementing national parks. For the two inspected nature reserves the project partners will prepare a concept to establish national parks. They serve as examples to future, additional establishments. To introduce the National Park Programme and to encourage acceptance and tolerance the project partners will hold to workshops with participation of the local population. They will explain about the content and the goals of the programme.

- Programme: Advising-Assistance Programme of the German Federal Environment Ministry
- FKZ: 380 01 178
- Region: Turkmenistan
- Duration: 02/2008 – 02/2009
- Project Management: German Federal Environment Agency (UBA)
- Project Partner Germany: Michael Succow Stiftung, [www.succow-stiftung.de](http://www.succow-stiftung.de)