PROJECTS REPORTING TEMPLATE FOR SAIGA-RELATED ACTIVITIES

This reporting template is designed to collate information on projects carried out by intergovernmental, international non-governmental and non-governmental organisations as well as academics and other experts working on any aspect of Saiga antelope conservation and sustainable use. Information will be compiled into a table for discussion at Saiga MOU meetings. The information will be used to: (1) monitor implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope (Saiga spp.) and the associated Medium Term International Work Programme; (2) support exchange of information throughout the range and beyond, and assist the identification of necessary future actions; and (3) support the implementation of CITES Decisions 18.270-18.274 on Saiga antelope (Saiga spp.).

Please complete sections as appropriate and return to the CMS Secretariat.

E-mail: cms.secretariat@cms.int; Fax: (+49 228) 815 2449

Project:						
Country:	China		Turkmenistan			
	Kazakhstan		Uzbekistan			
	Mongolia		International			
	Russia					
Organisation / Contact details: WCS Mongolia						
Duration of project: from to						
Location(s) of main activity:						
Sub-species: Saiga tatarica tatarica* □						
	Saiga tatarica mongolica * ⊠					
Areas of work:						
Anti-poaching			Habitat restoration			
Population monitoring		\boxtimes	Protected area management			
Ecological research		\boxtimes	Training & capacity-building			
Education and awareness		\boxtimes	Law enforcement			
Alternative livelihoods			Trade issues			

^{*} Note that CMS Parties have adopted Wilson, D.E. & Reeder, D.M. (2005) Mammal Species of the World. A taxonomic and geographic reference. Third edition. John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, USA as taxonomic reference for terrestrial mammals through Recommendation 9.4 where *S. t. tatarica* is referred to as *Saiga tatarica* and *S. t. mongolica* is referred to as *Saiga borealis*.

Socio-economic research Range mapping Habitat research		Captive breeding Reintroduction/release				
For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below						
Project Summary: WCS Mongolia Program is continuing efforts to educate local officials and communities on Saiga conservation and on disease spill over prevention efforts under the SNAPP funded "Steppe Health" project. WCS is also continuing efforts on saiga population and range monitoring efforts through the collared saiga data collection and analyses which was implemented in 2017.						

Planned Activities:

- 1. SNAPP "Steppe Health" broader stakeholder meetings in Mongolia and WG scientific meetings to share information, educate stakeholders on disease risk and train participants on multiple tools for risk assessment and on disease prevention.
- 2. Develop disease risk mapping for saiga and wildlife
- 3. Influence National and International policies, guidelines and documents on disease eradication, monitoring and reporting
- 4. Raise awareness on disease threat to the already struggling population of Mongolian saiga, promote measures to decrease threats to saiga population through international conventions such as CITES to ban the saiga international trade
- 5. Continue collared Saiga monitoring and analysis

Achievements to date:

- 1. SNAPP "Steppe Health" broader stakeholder meetings in Mongolia were organized annually the last meeting was held in Khovd province of Mongolia on June 10-13 where WCS and partners from MNET, FAO, CIRAD, RVC, GAVS, Mercy Corps, WWF, TNC have coorganized the meeting with local professional communities such as veterinary laboratory, protected area authority, environmental agency and with local herders community representation to discuss current saiga population and threats. Aftermath of the Saiga mass mortality, future prevention and early reporting of such events and detection of high risk disease threat areas for saiga and other wildlife populations.
- 2. Develop disease risk mapping for saiga and wildlife. The technical scientific WG was planning a meeting in March 2020 at NCEAS at Santa Barbara, USA to finalize the risk mapping findings and results, unfortunately due to COVID-19 we had short on-line WG meeting. The annual meeting in Mongolia was planned fall 2020 in Mongolia again due to COVID-19 postponed to 2021. This meeting's purpose is to share information, educate stakeholders on disease risk and introduce final risk assessment map findings and to discuss with stakeholders and plans to proceed further on Saiga conservation and disease preventions actions.
- 3. Influence National and International policies, guidelines and documents on disease eradication, monitoring and reporting WCS has organized multiple meetings with the General Authority for Veterinary Services (GAVS) of Mongolia and as a result disease outbreak response guideline especially on PPR have included wildlife monitoring as priority besides livestock focus. At International level WCS have also organized meetings with FAO and OIE and Global PPR Eradication Strategy will be updated in 2021 to include wildlife to be included in the surveillance monitoring and for eradication. This gives a heightened alert at Global level that wildlife is sensitive to the disease and may be affected therefore countries need to be vigilant and need to respond to wildlife disease and mortality making it priority.
- **4.** WCS have attended the CITES COP18 in Geneva Switzerland along with the Mongolian

- Government delegation and have jointly supported the Mongolian Government proposal to uplist Saiga into Appendix 1. Although this proposal was not supported by Saiga arrange state Governments, however they agreed to adopt a "zero quota" restriction for saiga on CITES's Appendix II, to which saiga were added in 1994.
- 5. WCS have successfully captured and collared 10 adult female saiga during 13-20 May 2017, in collaboration with WWF Mongolia Program and Local Veterinary Offices in Gobi-Altai and Khovd provinces. Since the deployment, a total 30,140 GPS locations were collected for individuals with mean of 3,014 locations until March 2019. The size of the collared animals during this tracked period ranged between 92 and 9,660 km² collared animals will be monitored continuously to detect any change in their range and population dynamics.

Reports / Publications / Information material:

Fine AE, Pruvot M, Benfield CTO, Caron A, Cattoli G, Chardonnet P, Dioli M, Dulu T, Gilbert M, Kock R, Lubroth J, Mariner JC, Ostrowski S, Parida S, Fereidouni S, **Shiilegdamba E**, Sleeman JM, Schulz C, Soula J-J, Van der Stede Y, Tekola BG, Walzer C, Zuther S, Njeumi F and Meeting Participants. Eradication of Peste des Petits Ruminants Virus and the Wildlife-Livestock Interface. *Front. Vet. Sci.* 2020, 7:50

Pruvot, M., A.E. Amanda, S. Strindberg, D. Batchuluun, B. Buuveibaatar, B. Chimeddorj, G. Bayandonoi, Kh. Bodisaikhan, S. Batkhuyag, N. Jamiyankhuu, J. Tserenjav, B. Batzorig, C. Hollinger, D. McAloose, S. Munkhduuren, B. Ganzorig, M. Mahapatra, M, Selvaraj, S, Parida, F. Njeumi, R. Kock, **S. Enkhtuvshin**. Outbreak of Peste des Petits Ruminants in Critically Endangered Mongolian Saiga and other wild ungulates. *Emerging Infectious Diseases*. 2020 Jan;26(1):51-62.

Xavier Fernandez Aguilar, Amanda E. Fine, Mathieu Pruvot, Felix Njeumi, Christian Walzer, Richard Kock, **Enkhtuvshin Shiilegdamba**. "PPR virus threatens wildlife conservation." Science 12 Oct 2018: Vol. 362, Issue 6411, pp. 165-166

Collaborators: GAVS, SCVL, MNET, FAO, OIE, RVC, CIRAD, Tufts University, Mercy Corps, WWF, TNC, Khovd University, Khovd Veterinary Laboratory, Khovd EPA, Khar Us SPA, Mongol Els SPA, Gobi-Altai Veterinary Laboratory, Gobi-Altai EPA

Budget available:200,000\$ over 3 years ending 2021				
Current sponsors: NCEAS SNAPP				
Past sponsors: MAF, FAO, SCA				
Information contributed by: Enkhtuvshin Shiilegdamba				
Date report submitted:	10/07/20 dd/mm/yyyy			
Other:				