



---

**CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY  
SPECIES**

Distr: General

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
CONCERNING CONSERVATION,  
RESTORATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE  
OF THE SAIGA ANTELOPE**

CMS/Saiga/MOS3/Inf.13.2  
1 October 2015

Original: English

---

THIRD MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO THE  
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING  
CONSERVATION, RESTORATION AND SUSTAINABLE  
USE OF THE SAIGA ANTELOPE

Tashkent, Uzbekistan, 26-29 October 2015  
Agenda Item 3.0

**REPORT FROM SCA**

1. The Secretariat is circulating herewith, for the information of participants of the Third Meeting of the Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Saiga Antelope, the report provided by the Saiga Conservation Alliance (SCA).
2. The Report is provided unedited in the format and language that it was submitted.

## Report of SCA-Uzbekistan about implementation saiga MoU's medium-term international work programme for 2011-2015

1. Participatory monitoring of saiga distributions and poaching, Ustyurt population / Uzbekistan.

In 2011 through 2015 SCA conducts robust participatory monitoring with local people, in order to provide long-term data on saiga distribution and abundance, using the survey transects census method. Also we collected qualitative data about saiga poaching and illegal trade, and made analyse what categories of people were involved in illegal activities. Moreover, we compiled questionnaire data about saiga sightings from local people. These activities funded by WFN/WCN/SCNP.

2. Alternative sources of income, Ustyurt population / Uzbekistan.

Since 2011 SCA tried to organize alternative source of income for women in the Ustyurt, to promote saiga conservation. Currently "Kuralai" embroidery centre based in one of the main saiga poaching villages is working for production local handicraft based on tradition Karakalpak embroidery . SCA provides them with materials, additional training, advice and environmental education, linkage with international market through selling via our online shop ("Kuralai" has website with information about the meaning of the designs, information about saigas, Uzbekistan and the project) and selling at the annual wildlife conservation Expo (WCN Expo) and in UK. Funded by WCN, Disney Canada, Houston Zoo, Los Angeles Zoo.

3. Supporting the State Committee for Nature Protection (SCNP) in the re-designation of the Saigachy Reserve.

The process of re-designating the Saigachy reserve which we started in 2008 under FFI support is still in progress. Jointly with State Committee for Nature Conservation and our GEF/UNDP partner project, SCA was engaged in re-designation of Saigachy and technical support. In 2014-15 we provided support and impetus to the process through both support for SCNP's technical needs and improvement in the effectiveness of saiga protection. Funded by WFN.

4. Educational programme.

- 1) **International Saiga Day** is a top annual event to raise awareness about saigas and nature conservation first of all for children, their teachers and parents who participated in organising this event and in the lead-up to it when numerous competitions and educational training are held. Each year this festival held in saiga villages and regional centre of Uzbekistan, at least 3000 people take part in Saiga Day. It includes numerous competitions and educational training: intelligence games like ecological express and quizzes; sport competitions (saiga marathon, saiga cup), actions (saiga garden, King of cleanness); demonstration videos (saiga clip, saiga cartoon) and show itself. Saiga Day was supporting by Coins for change of Disney Canada (annually), Disney and PTES (2013-2014).
- 2) **Day of Migratory species.** Since 2013 SCA has organised a new seasonal event with the SWCs - the Day of Migratory Species to give general understanding about the global significance of seasonal movements in the life-cycles of numerous wild animals, about the role and responsibility of all countries in protecting migratory species and

their ecosystem through international conventions for nature conservation, particularly the Convention on Migratory Species. We focussed on saigas and the steppe ecosystem and how Steppe Wildlife Clubs could be involved in their protection. Such techniques as ecological theatre, quizzes, intelligence games ('What, Where and When') used. Supported by Disney Canada.

- 3) **Saiga mural** production. In 2014 we piloted a new educational tool - involving local children in painting a mural about native wildlife with Rory McCann, wildlife artist. The mural was painted in one of the regional schools, and lots of students were involved. As part of the mural project we organised numerous presentations and communication with kids, music and songs. We created a short video about the project. Funded by Disney Canada.
- 4) **Saiga participatory cartoon** in two 2 parts. In 2013 and 2014 SCA with the children providing all the artwork for the animations as well as voiceovers produced three languages versions of Steppe tale and Steppe tale-2 in Uzbek, Russian and English. We organized screenings and quizzes for children and discussion for adults in Tashkent and Ustyurt. Funded by Disney Canada.
- 5) **Steppe Wildlife Clubs** creation for engagement of teenagers in the saiga conservation activities. In 2013-2015 SCA has set up 5 SWCs in the main poaching villages and regional centre of Uzbekistan in order to change attitudes in this particularly important and hard-to-reach group. Each SWC participates in organising basic events like Saiga Day and International Day of Migratory Species, and other events and from the calendar of ecological dates. In 2015 members from SWCs participated in ecological actions for creation of saiga ecological garden and cleaning streets of village from the rubbish (King of cleanness); most active members of two SWCs participated in first Saiga Youth Camp. This activity supported by PTES, Disney (2013-2014) and Disney Canada (2015).
- 6) **Educational materials** production, including printing materials (saiga educational course including school book, two poster, table game and guide for the teachers); videos (saiga clip; saiga mural video). Funded by Disney Canada.
- 7) **Improvement of professional skill of the educational teachers and leaders of SWCs** for effective work for wildlife conservation. This activity goes through trainings and exchange, exchange of ideas and cooperation in Uzbekistan. SCA organized training on ecological educations for the teachers from saiga villages, provincial and regional centres at the annual basis. Funded by WCN.
- 8) **Exchange of the best practices** in community education and outreach between SCA projects in each range state. In 2014 we very successfully organized a joint workshop in Elista, Kalmykia for the project teams from Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Russia. The aim was to share knowledge and experience about SWC implementation to date. Funded by PTES, Disney.