

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](#).

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

Project:				
Country:	China	<input type="checkbox"/>	Turkmenistan	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Kazakhstan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Uzbekistan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Mongolia	<input type="checkbox"/>	International	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Russia	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Organisation / Contact details: Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union Germany, Charité-Str. 3, 10117 Berlin.				
Duration of project:	from <u>2015</u> to <u>continues</u>			
Location(s) of main activity:				
Sub-species:	<i>Saiga tatarica tatarica</i> *	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
	<i>Saiga tatarica mongolica</i> *	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Areas of work:				
Anti-poaching	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Habitat restoration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Population monitoring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Protected area management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Ecological research	<input type="checkbox"/>	Training & capacity-building	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Education and awareness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Law enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Alternative livelihoods	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trade issues	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Socio-economic research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Captive breeding	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Range mapping	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reintroduction/release	<input type="checkbox"/>	

* 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*.

Habitat research



For each box ticked, please provide brief details in the project summary box below

Project Summary: NABU focuses its saiga conservation activities on community-based conservation of the Ustyurt subpopulation. The main activities take place in the Kazakhstan part of the range area, but due to the transboundary character the activities are of relevance for Uzbekistan too and may be expanded there in the future. Main NABU partner is the Tabigi Orta Association which involves local communities in the area for the saiga conservation. Moreover, since 2022 Tabigi Orta is the legal holder of the 5,000 km² Diyar Game Management Area for the conservation and sustainable use of wildlife. This area includes key sections of the habitat of the Ustyurt saiga subpopulation.

NABU and Tabigi Orta have piloted eco-tourism in 2024 and intend to expand these activities, including hunting tourism once quotas are issued.

Another NABU-supported activity is the research of the ongoing human-wildlife conflict in the range of the Ural subpopulation. NABU experts study the reasons of the conflict and develop recommendations on saiga management for decision makers in Kazakhstan.

NABU experts are consulted by the Committee for Forestry and Wildlife and by Okhotzooptom and have provided advice on the development of elements of a proposal for removing the annotation on saiga in CITES App. II.

Additionally, NABU supports educational activities through the production of didactic materials (animated movies, comics, schoolbook) and is involved in the international discussion on conservation and sustainable use of saiga antelope through the participation of its experts in international meetings under the umbrella of the CMS Saiga MoU (NGO signatory) and the SCA (NABU Federal Working Group Eurasia is institutional member).

Planned Activities:

- 1) Development of community-based saiga conservation of the Ustyurt population in Kazakhstan through community level NGOs and the integration of saiga conservation and sustainable use with other land use (mobile grazing systems);
- 2) Production/update of education materials;
- 3) Support Kazakh government (CFW) in the process of study and mitigating of the human-wildlife conflict
- 4) Participation in international discussions on saiga conservation and sustainable use.

Achievements to date:

- 1) NABU has signed a new MoU with the Ministry of ecology and natural resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- 2) Community-based conservation of saiga antelope in the Ustyurt region is developing, to date:
 - Tabigi Orta became the holder of Diyar GMA which is used as a conservation area;
 - Tabigi Orta rangers implementing monitoring activities of Ustyurt saiga antelope population in a regular basis;
 - Piloting of eco-tourism.
- 3) NABU in collaboration with the Bokeyorda State Nature Reserve and Greifswald University (Germany) implements research to study ongoing human-wildlife conflict. Intermediate results were presented by NABU specialist in CMS CoP 14 in Samarkand (Uzbekistan)

<p>Reports / Publications / Information material: Muzbay, A., Dieterich, T, Ismailov, N, Michel, S. 2023: An increase in the Ural saiga population and its impact on agriculture — observations during the calving period 2023. <i>Saiga News</i> 29 p. 23-25. Michel, S., Dieterich, T., Lohe, R., Muzbay, A. 2023: Take them or leave them in the steppe? Potentials of use of saiga horn from natural mortality. <i>Saiga News</i> 29 p. 37-39. Muzbay, A. 2024. <i>Balancing Biodiversity and Livelihoods: Examining the human-wildlife conflict in the West Kazakhstan region with focus on the Ural saiga antelope population</i>. MSc Thesis, University Greifswald, Germany. 62 p.</p>	
<p>Collaborators: Committee for Forestry and Wildlife of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources RSE Okhotzooptom Association of NGOs of Western Kazakhstan “Tabigi Orta” Karaganda regional Ecological Museum Centre for Introduction of New Environmentally Safe Technologies</p>	
<p>Budget available: Approx. 50,000 EUR/year</p>	
<p>Current sponsors: NABU Germany’s supporters</p>	
<p>Past sponsors: NABU Germany’s supporters, German Federal Environment Ministry’s Advisory Assistance Programme (AAP) for environmental protection in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and other countries neighbouring the European Union</p>	
<p>Information contributed by: Stefan Michel, Til Dieterich, Aibat Muzbay</p>	
<p>Date report submitted:</p>	<p><u>04/09/2024</u> dd/mm/yyyy</p>
<p>Other:</p>	