



CONVENTION ON MIGRATORY SPECIES

Distr: General

UNEP/CMS/SC
18 May 2007

Original: English

SIXTH MEETING OF THE SIGNATORIES TO
THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
CONCERNING CONSERVATION MEASURES
FOR THE SIBERIAN CRANE (*Grus leucogeranus*)
Almaty, Kazakhstan, 15-19 May 2007
Agenda Item 8.1.2, 8.5

CONSERVATION PLAN FOR THE WESTERN, CENTRAL AND EASTERN POPULATIONS OF THE SIBERIAN CRANE (2007-2010)

Objective I: Reduce mortality						
Programme	Activity	Range State / Organization	Collaborator	Progress/Results (2004-2007)	Further Specific Activities (2007-2010)	Priority
1.1 Determine and monitor prevailing threats of all types to the Siberian Crane and its habitats	a) Assess and monitor threats in the Siberian Crane nesting and wintering grounds and along the migration routes b) Identify and document best practice examples for conservation and management of the Siberian Crane to minimize threats to the Siberian Crane and its habitats c) Determine hunting seasons and best practices in areas used by Siberian Crane					
1.2. Strengthen and improve enforcement of legislation for crane protection	a) Review existing national and local legislation to address gaps or challenges to Siberian Crane conservation b) Ensure effectiveness of law enforcement					

Objective II: Monitoring and research						
Programme	Activity	Range State / Organization	Collaborator	Progress/Results (2004-2007)	Further Specific Activities (2007-2010)	Priority
2.1. Monitor and study the Siberian Crane and its habitat	a) Conduct regular monitoring of known areas along the flyway to determine estimated numbers of the Siberian Crane b) Determine new migration stopovers, wintering areas, as well as summering areas of Siberian Cranes through satellite or radio tracking, questionnaires, surveys, and other methods c) Investigate all reported sightings of the Siberian Crane d) Conduct ecological studies of the Siberian Crane in each country					

2.2. Maintain and extend a regional database on the Siberian Crane and its habitats	Regularly contribute to and maintain the regional database, and extend it to cover all Range States					
2.3. Promote or take into account avian influenza surveillance at important crane sites	<p>a) Collaborate with, and complement activities of other agencies to strengthen sample collection for surveillance of avian influenza in migratory waterbirds at Siberian Crane and other important crane sites</p> <p>b) Raise public awareness about avian influenza at network sites and other important crane sites</p> <p>c) Translate and disseminate international best practice/guidelines on response measures to avian influenza outbreaks in wild birds in and around network sites and other important crane sites</p>					
2.4. Evaluate efficacy and application of research/monitoring	<p>a) Review and evaluate research and monitoring activities for their efficacy</p> <p>b) Apply monitoring and research results to improve management practices and mitigation of threats to the Siberian Crane</p>					

Objective III: Increase numbers and genetic diversity						
Programme	Activity	Range State / Organization	Collaborator	Progress/Results (2004-2007)	Further Specific Activities (2007-2010)	Priority
3.1. Promote recovery of the Siberian Crane populations	<p>a) Produce eggs and chicks of Siberian Cranes for release programmes</p> <p>b) Restore Siberian Crane populations through release programmes</p> <p>c) Monitor Siberian Cranes released into the wild or reared by Eurasian Cranes</p>					

	<p>d) Conduct genetic studies to manage the genetic diversity of wild and captive populations</p>					
<p>3.2. Develop safe migration routes for Siberian Cranes based on those used by Eurasian Cranes</p>	<p>a) Identify and survey relatively safe habitats of the Eurasian Crane population -- one that frequents ecologically suitable areas on the breeding grounds, along the migration route and on the wintering grounds -- into which Siberian Cranes could be (re)introduced</p> <p>b) Determine migration routes and wintering sites of various populations of the Eurasian Crane within the current and former range of the Siberian Crane populations through satellite or radio tracking, questionnaires, surveys, and other methods</p> <p>c) Develop safe migration routes for Siberian Cranes using migration routes of Eurasian Cranes</p>					

Objective IV: Protect and manage habitats of importance for the Siberian Crane						
Programme	Activity	Range State / Organization	Collaborator	Progress/Results (2004-2007)	Further Specific Activities (2007-2010)	Priority
4.1. Protect and manage habitats of importance for the Siberian Crane	<p>a) Improve institutional, legal or physical protection of Siberian crane sites</p> <p>b) Secure protection through collaboration with local communities and/or legal measures for inadequately protected or newly identified areas of importance for the Siberian Crane</p> <p>c) Develop management plans for important Siberian Crane sites</p> <p>d) Conduct applied research on project sites in support of site management.</p> <p>e) Monitor and assess the environmental impacts of human development on habitats of importance for the Siberian Crane, including possible impacts of the climate change</p> <p>f) Provide national training and capacity building at important sites of Siberian Cranes</p> <p>g) Manage buffer zones and external threats for protected areas critical for the Siberian Crane</p>					

Objective V: Increase public awareness, community involvement, and ecological education						
Programme	Activity	Range State / Organization	Collaborator	Progress/Results (2004-2007)	Further Specific Activities (2007-2010)	Priority
5.1. Share information on Siberian Crane conservation efforts	a) Publicize information on the Siberian Crane conservation efforts in mass media, public and scientific magazines b) Develop, produce and share information and education materials for public awareness and to support education and information programmes					
5.2. Site-based education	a) Develop education and information programmes and public events for target groups of local people (especially hunters) on protection of the Siberian Crane and its habitats b) Establish learning/information centre					
5.3. Sustainable livelihood opportunities	Initiate and facilitate sustainable livelihood projects for local communities near Siberian Crane sites					

Objective VI: Enhance international cooperation and information exchange						
Programme	Activity	Range State / Organization	Collaborator	Progress/Results (2004-2007)	Further Specific Activities (2007-2010)	Priority
6.1. Improve international cooperation and information exchange	a) Designate a national lead agency/ focal points responsible for coordinating the Siberian Crane conservation and management policy b) Collaborate and conduct international research and monitoring c) Provide central coordination of information exchange through SCFC on the Siberian Crane and its sites					

	<p>d) Submit an annual report on implementation of the Siberian Crane MoU to the UNEP/CMS Secretariat</p> <p>e) Host and attend regular meetings of the Siberian Crane Range States</p>					
6.2. Development of the Western/Central Asia Site Network for the Siberian Crane and other waterbirds	<p>a) Nominate additional sites for the WCASN-SC</p> <p>b) Coordinate with Central Asian Flyway initiative on site network development</p>					
6.3 Support Siberian Crane conservation activities through the East Asian – Australasian Flyway Partnership	<p>a) Collaborate with the Crane and Stork Working Group of the EAAP to integrate Siberian Crane conservation with flyway level activities for migratory waterbirds in the annual Partnership workplans</p>					
6.4. Capacity building	<p>a) Determine country's needs, in terms of human resources, knowledge and facilities, in order to build capacity to strengthen conservation measures for the Siberian Crane and its habitats</p> <p>b) Provide training to support conservation of the Siberian Crane and its habitats</p>					
6.5. Raise funds to support a comprehensive conservation programme supporting MoU implementation	<p>a) Develop comprehensive project proposal(s) to submit to appropriate agencies for possible funding</p> <p>b) Develop small-scale project proposals to submit to CMS or ICF for their consideration</p> <p>c) Appeal to governments for funding of Siberian Crane conservation activities related to the Siberian Crane MoU</p>					