



Project title: «Conservation-oriented management of forests and wetlands to achieve multiple benefits»

Номер проекта: 09096096

National Implementing Agency: Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection

Activity	Donor	Budget account	Planned Resources, USD	Actual expenditures, USD	Balance	Annual Target	Overall assessment of completed project activities (brief)
<b>Component 1. Institutional, financial and management sustainability of forest and mire protected areas, which are key areas for conservation of globally threatened species, has been improved.</b>							
<b>Output 1.1. Improvement of nature conservation legislation aimed at conservation of globally threatened species and their habitats, as well as of the system of registration of nature protection areas</b>							
<b>Activity 1.1.1 Elaborate the concept and draft of the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On the Protection and Use of Peatlands" establishing legal grounds for the protection and rational (sustainable) management of mires.</b>							
1.1.1.1	GEF	71300	4 800	4 800	0	Proposals on the composition of the law's draft have been prepared: Classification of Mires (Peatlands), Regimes for Protection and Use of Mires (Peatlands), Distribution of Mires (Peatlands) per Directions of Use, Rehabilitation of Disturbed Peatlands, Requirements and Scientific Support for the use of Mires (Peatlands), Register of Mires (Peatlands)	Activity completed.
1.1.1.2.	GEF	71300	4 800	4 800	0	Proposals on the composition of the following chapters of the Law's draft have been prepared: General Provisions on Protection of Mires (Peatlands), Protection Regimes, Requirements on Protection and Use of Mires (Peatlands), Comprehensive Monitoring of Mires (Peatlands), Scientific Support to the Conservation of Mires (Peatlands)	
1.1.1.3.	GEF	71300	4 800	4 800	0	The proposals submitted by wetland science and biodiversity experts have been consolidated and adapted. Proposals for the chapters General Provisions, Government Control of Mires (Peatlands) Protection and Management, Involvement of Individuals and Legal Entities in Addressing Conservation and Management of Mires (Peatlands), Supervision (Compliance Monitoring) and Dispute Settlement, Responsibility for the Conservation and Management of Mires (Peatlands), Concluding Clause have been prepared. Draft Law of the Republic of Belarus On the Conservation and Management of Mires (Peatlands), a rationale for the adoption of the law, and a financial feasibility study have been prepared. The prepared draft law and respective rationales have been submitted to the MNREP.	
1.1.1.4.	GEF	72100	1 000	2 100	-1 100	Coordination Group for the development of the Law's draft established including representatives of various organizations and leading experts in mire conservation and management; two meetings of the Coordination Group have been conducted for the discussion of the structure of the draft of the normative act being developed and the prepared proposals on its chapters.	Activity continues. A working group was created to draft the Law from representatives of various organizations and leading experts in the field of wetland conservation and use (46 people), and two meetings of the working group were held to discuss the structure of the draft regulation being developed and proposals for its chapters prepared.
<b>Activity 1.1.2. Preparation of proposals on improvement of normative legal acts, regulating issues of registration and management of protected areas.</b>							
1.1.2.1.	GEF	71300	2 300	2 000	300	Draft technical regulations on the designation and management of protected areas subject to strict protection (typical and rare natural landscapes and biotopes, habitats of wild animals and plants listed in the Red Data Book of Belarus) have been prepared with due regard for the changes in the nature conservation and forest legislation, agreed with the stakeholders and submitted to the MNREP.	Activity completed. A draft technical regulatory legal act regulating the issues of transferring species of wild animals and wild plants listed in the Red Book of the Republic of Belarus to the protection of growing areas has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, taking into account changes in environmental and forest legislation. Report prepared.
1.1.2.2.	GEF	72105	1 000	1 560	-560	A workshop on improving the Law of the Republic of Belarus On Strictly Protected Natural Areas and other regulations has been conducted (first quarter 2018), proposals have been elaborated for the revision of the Law and other regulations.	Activity completed. A seminar was held with the participation of the interested (state authorities, scientific organizations, NGOs) on improving the Law of the Republic of Belarus "On Specially Protected Natural Territories" and other regulatory legal acts (March 2018), proposals were made for revising this Law and other regulatory acts legal acts. The seminar was attended by 20 people (7 women)
<b>Activity 1.1.3. Updating data on the number and area of protected areas, optimization of corresponding informational resources (registry of strictly protected areas, databases on Red Data Book species, rare and typical biotopes, etc.). The activity is scheduled for 2019-2020.</b>							
1.1.4.	GEF	72100	3 000	1 072	1 928	According to the Project Document requirements, the inception workshop of the project has been conducted. The workshop was attended by the representatives of Project's partner organizations. During the workshop, expected project results, proposals on the implementation of main activities, and possible adjustments of some targets in the project's log frame have been presented and discussed.	Activity completed. In accordance with the requirements of the project document, the Inception Workshop was held on February 27, 2018. The workshop was attended by representatives of partner organizations of the project (30 people, including 8 women). The seminar presented, discussed and approved the expected results of the project, the proposals for the implementation of the main activities.
<b>Total Output 1.1.</b>			<b>21 700</b>	<b>21 132</b>	<b>568</b>		
<b>Output 1.2 Improved habitat conditions for the European bison micro population in the Naliboksky Reserve through creation of mosaic meadow grounds among dense forests</b>							
<b>Output 1.2.1. Improved habitat conditions for the European bison micro population in the Naliboksky Reserve through creation of mosaic meadow grounds among dense forests</b>							
1.2.1.1.	GEF	NIM	10 000	10 000	0	A scientific rationale and plan of activities for the improvement of the foraging grounds of European bison covering 490 ha (including Tyakovo area and plots in the forest) has been prepared. A positive assessment of the governmental environmental expertise has been obtained.	Activity completed A scientific substantiation and an action plan aimed at improving the food supply of the bison on an area of 146 hectares (Tyakovo tract) was prepared. Report prepared.



Activity	Donor	Budget account	Planned Resources, USD	Actual expenditures, USD	Balance	Annual Target	Overall assessment of completed project activities (brief)
1.2.1.2. Development of biological justifications, an action plan and a package of documents necessary for the introduction of new pasture species of megaterio fauna (tarpan-like horse, tour-like cattle) to the territory of Belarus in order to restore and sustain the functioning of meadow and marsh ecosystems.	GEF	NIM	7 000	7 000	0	A set of documents necessary for the introduction of new pasture species of megaterio fauna (tarpan-like horse, tour-like cattle) to the territory of Belarus and a biological justification for the introduction of these species into model territories have been prepared.	Activity completed The package of documents necessary for the introduction of new pasture species of the mega fauna (tarpan-like horse, cattle-like cattle) to the territory of Belarus and the biological rationale for the introduction of these species into model territories (Sredniya Pripyat reserve, Sporovsky reserve, Nalibokskaya Forest reserve) was prepared. Documents are submitted to the Ministry of Environment for decision-making on conducting pilot activities for the introduction of these species. Report prepared.
1.2.1.3. Study tour of representatives of stakeholders interested in the introduction of the tarpan-shaped horse and tour-like cattle to the territories, where free-range populations of these species were successfully established aiming to landscape management	UNDP	71600 72130	15 000	12 544	2 456	Representatives of interested organizations (8 people) got acquainted with the practical experience of creating stable free-living populations of the tartan-like horse and tour-like cattle in open meadows (presumably in the Netherlands) and their influence on landscapes. The experience gained will be used when deciding on the possibility of creating populations of these species in the pilot areas of the project.	Activity completed. During the tour in October 2018, representatives of interested organizations (7 people) got acquainted with the practical experience of creating sustainable free living populations of tarpanoid horse and tour-like cattle in 4 territories in the Netherlands and their influence on landscapes. Gained experience was used in the preparation of a feasibility study on reintroduction of tour-like cattle at Turovshchina.
1.2.1.4. Creating food plots for the Naliboksky micro-population of European bison in the forest (removal of shrubs, mowing, planting forage plants, etc.)	GEF	72100	21 000	32 157	-11 157	Additional fodder fields have been created for the Naliboksky micro-population of European bison on the territory of at least 40 ha. (ameliorative system has been cleared, floodplain meadows have been remediated).	Activity continues. An engineering project for clearing the Tyakovo melioration system was prepared and implemented in order to create fodder fields for the Naliboksky micro-population of bison on an area of 106 hectares. (clearing of ameliorative system was carried out and recultivation of floodplain meadows was carried out). 40 ha of unused meadows were mowed on a meliorative system in order to harvest forage for feeding bison during the winter period (about 20 tons were harvested).
1.2.1.5. Conducting a press tour for representatives of the mass media on the restoration of natural forage lands of the European bison in the territory of the Naliboksky reserve	GEF	75700	950	1 614	-664	A press tour for 17 representatives of the mass media of the Republic of Belarus (newspapers, electronic media, radio, television) was held. During the press tour, a plan of action for the restoration of fodder lands of the European bison in the Naliboksky reserve was presented. According to the results of the press tour, at least 7 information materials have to be published.	Activity completed. 2 press tours were held for 29 representatives of the media of the Republic of Belarus (newspapers, electronic media, radio, television). During the press tour, a plan of actions within the framework of the project to restore the forage lands of the European bison in the Naliboksky reserve was presented. According to the results of the press tour, 14 information materials were published.
Activity 1.2.2. Maintaining restored foraging meadows in a highly productive state.							
1.2.2.1. Purchasing machines and equipment to maintain a highly productive state of the food plots for European bison in the best possible state and monitoring of the effectiveness of activities (mower, mulcher, press-picking machine, a trailer for the transportation of rolls, trail cameras, a webcam).	GEF	72200	133 000	139 039	-6 039	Based on the list of equipment approved by the MNREP, part of the equipment has been purchased to maintain food plots for bison in the best possible state and to monitor the effectiveness of activities.	Activity completed. Based on the list approved by the Ministry of Natural Resources, tender procedures were carried out and equipment was procured to maintain the forage fields for the bison in optimal condition and monitor the effectiveness of measures (mulcher, tractor, 2 saws, 2 brush cutters). Equipment transferred to the reserve "Naliboksky".
1.2.2.2. Maintenance of the created forage meadows in the territory of the Naliboksky reserve in a highly productive state.	GEF	NIM	7 890	7 088	802	The additional created fodder fields for the Naliboksky micro-population of the bison in the territory of at least 40 hectares are supported in a highly productive state	Activity continues. Created additional fodder fields for Naliboksky bison micropopulation on the territory of 146 hectares. maintained in a highly productive state.
1.2.2.3. Acquisition of seeds for creation fodder meadows on the territory of the Naliboksky reserve in a highly productive state.	GEF	NIM	1 610	1 610	0		
1.2.2.4. Acquisition of seeds for creation fodder meadows on the territory of the Naliboksky reserve in a highly productive state.	GEF	NIM	4 500	4 530	-30		
1.2.3. Periodic monitoring through field visits to project sites	GEF	71600	2 300	405	1 895	About 6 monitoring visits to the territory of Naliboksky National Landscape Reserve have been organized to assess the progress and effectiveness of project activities.	During the 6 visits the progress of the project's activities on the territory of the Naliboksky reserve was monitored, the issues of timely and quality implementation of the planned activities were discussed with the management of the reserve.
<b>Total Output 1.2.</b>			<b>203 250</b>	<b>215 987</b>	<b>-12 737</b>		
Output 1.3 Profitable use of cranberry reserves as an effective way of mire ecosystem conservation.							
Activity 1.3.1. Support to local businesses engaged in the collection and processing of organic products made from cranberries collected by the local people at natural mire ecosystems							
1.3.1. Developing local businesses engaged in the production of organic products made from cranberries collected by the local people at natural mire ecosystems	GEF	72100	8 000	6 796	1 204	To improve the marketing capacity of Arzhanitsa company a labelling machine and drying cabinet has been purchased and transferred to final user	Activity completed. The purchase and transfer to the end user of the "Arzhanitsa" ALC of the label etiquette of the final products and drying cabinet were carried out.
1.3.2. Develop a marketing strategy for promoting products, produced as a result of cranberry processing, to the entire territory of Belarus and beyond	GEF	72100	9 000	9 000	0	In accordance with the provisions of the approved project document, a marketing strategy has been prepared for the distribution of ODO PKF "Arzhanitsa" products, produced as a result of cranberry processing, to the entire territory of Belarus and beyond, in terms of implementing a responsible attitude to the use of resources in bog ecosystems and promoting the principle of non-depleting economically justified use of bogs.	Activity completed. An analysis of the market for products from wild cranberries in Belarus and neighboring countries has been carried out and a marketing strategy has been prepared for the promotion of these products throughout Belarus and abroad with respect to implementing a responsible attitude to the use of wetland ecosystem resources and promoting principle of non-depleting use on swamp resources. New packaging designs were prepared for 10 different cranberry products in 3 languages (Belarusian, Polish and English), a product promotion strategy was offered in the markets of Poland and Belarus. Report prepared.
1.3.3. Prepare and implement a program of actions for training of wild berries harvesters to methods and principles of sustainable use of natural resources by bog ecosystems. Conduct an information campaign among local residents of Glubokoe, Sharkovshchina and Miory districts, including pupils, on requirements for sustainable use of natural resources of bog ecosystems.	GEF	72100	4 000	4 200	-200	In order to practically implement responsible attitude to the use of the resources of the mire ecosystems and to promote the principle of non-depleting economically feasible use of bogs, information stands (at least 6 pieces) are established at the harvesting sites on the permitted dates and methods of berries collection in the Glubokoye, Sharkovshchina and Miory districts. In the schools of these districts, students were given information and educational activities are undertaken on the need to ensure the conservation of wetland ecosystems (approximately 300 students took part in the activities).	Activity completed. An analysis of current use of cranberry resources in places of mass gathering in the Vitebsk region was made, problems were identified and 4 meetings were held with collectors on sustainable cranberry harvesting (90 participants). Four information boards were installed near the main wetlands, containing information about the rules and timing of cranberry harvesting. In schools of the Glubokoe district, 3 events were held with schoolchildren about needs to respect the wetland ecosystems (135 participants). An information booklet has been published on behavior in the forest and on the swamps when picking berries.
1.3.1.4. Periodic monitoring through field visits to project sites	GEF	71600	600	484	116	Two travels of the project staff to project sites have been organized to coordinate the activities and monitor their implementation	During the first visit, after a potential assessment of the ALC Arzhanitsa, a prospective plan for the implementation of the planned activities was drawn up.
Activity 1.3.2. Sustainable use of cranberry reserves in Olmany Mires Reserve. The activities are scheduled for 2019-2022.							
<b>Total Output 1.3.</b>			<b>21 600</b>	<b>20 480</b>	<b>1 120</b>		
Output 1.4 Financially self-sustaining wetland biomass harvesting and processing program launched at two PAs (Sporovsky and Zvanets) in partnership with local businesses.							
Activity 1.4.1. Purchasing necessary equipment for the sustainable and profitable mowing of reeds, shrubs and grass.							



Activity		Donor	Budget account	Planned Resources, USD	Actual expenditures, USD	Balance	Annual Target	Overall assessment of completed project activities (brief)
1.4.1.1	The list of equipment for Sporovsky and Zvanets Reserves has been prepared and agreed with the MNREP. Part of equipment has been purchased.	GEF	72100	427 500	431 925	-4 425	Based on the list of equipment approved by the MNREP, terms of reference have been prepared and part of equipment and necessary goods have been purchased. The purchased equipment has been transferred to the Sporovsky and Zvanets Reserves according to the Project Document.	Activity continues. Based on the list of equipment approved by the Ministry of Natural Resources, technical specifications were prepared, tender procedures were carried out and partial purchase of equipment and necessary materials was carried out. The acquired equipment was transferred to the "Sporovsky" reserves (tractor, baler, front mower, technological vehicle, dump truck) and "Zvanets" reserve (tractor, mulcher, baler, front mower, technological automobile, 2 saws, 2 brush cutters) according to the project document.
Activity 1.4.2. Annual mowing and cutting shrubs and reeds at Sporovsky and Zvanets Reserves.								
1.4.2.1.	Annual mowing and cutting shrubs and reeds at Sporovsky Reserve.	GEF	NIM	19 274	19 274	0	Mowing and cutting shrubs have been performed at Sporovsky Mire: without the collection of biomass - total area of 380 ha; with the collection of biomass - total area of 500 ha (about 2,000 tones). Report prepared	Activity continues. Mowing grass and removing shrubs in Sporovskoye bog without collecting biomass on a total area of 402 hectares and with the collection of biomass on an area of 460 hectares (1,115 tons) were undertaken. Report prepared.
1.4.2.2.	Purchase of fuel for grass mowing and removal of shrubs	GEF	NIM	20 726	20 726	0		
1.4.2.3.	Purchase of consumables for maintenance of machinery when mowing grass and removing shrubs (filters, belts, etc.)	GEF	NIM					
1.4.2.4.	Annual mowing and cutting shrubs and reeds at the Zvanets Reserve.	GEF	NIM	10 600	10 600	0	480 ha of mire have been cleared of shrubs and reeds (without the collection of biomass) at the Zvanets Reserve. Report prepared.	Activity continues. Mowing grass and removing shrubs in a swamp on the territory of the Zvanets reserve without collecting biomass on a total area of 420 hectares were carried out. Report prepared.
1.4.2.5.	Purchase of fuel for grass mowing and removal of shrubs	GEF	NIM	8 650	8 650	0		
1.4.2.6.	Purchase of consumables for maintenance of machinery when mowing grass and removing shrubs (filters, belts, etc.)	GEF	NIM	750	750	0		
1.4.2.7.	Conducting the seminar "Management of ecosystems of the Zvanets bog".	GEF	75700	3 200	2 687	513	A seminar was held with the involvement of international experts in collaboration with the Life project "Aquatic Warbler". In the course of the seminar, an assessment was made of the measures implemented in 2007-2017 to increase the stability of the population of the aquatic warbler in the Zvanets bog. Based on the results of the seminar, recommendations were prepared on the activities planned for the Wetlands and Aquatic Warbler projects in 2018-2022 to increase the stability of its local population.	Activity completed. In May 2018, a seminar was held with the involvement of international experts from Germany and the Netherlands (together with the Life Aquatic Warbler project); the total number of participants was 22 participants, of which 8 were women. In the course of the seminar, an assessment of measures taken in 2007-2017 to increase the resilience of the swirling warbler in the Zvanets bog was carried out. Based on the results of the workshop, recommendations were prepared on the measures planned in the framework of the Wetlands and Aquatic Warbler projects for 2018-2022 to increase the sustainability of the local Aquatic Warbler population.
1.4.2.8.	Conducting a press tour for representatives of the mass media on the issue of increasing the resilience of the aquatic warbler populations in Belarus.	GEF	75700	1 000	679	321	A seminar was held with the involvement of international experts in collaboration with the Life project "Aquatic Warbler". In the course of the seminar, an assessment was made of the measures implemented in 2007-2017 to increase the stability of the population of the aquatic warbler in the Zvanets bog. Based on the results of the seminar, recommendations were prepared on the activities planned for the Wetlands and Aquatic Warbler projects in 2018-2022 to increase the stability of its local population.	Activity completed. In September 2018, a press tour was conducted to the pilot area of the Sporovskoye project in order to present the project's activities aimed at increasing the resilience of the globally threatened species of Aquatic warbler in Belarus (21 participants, including 8 women). During the event, the results of the project activities for 2018 on the territory of the Sporovsky and Zvanets zakazniks reserves are presented. According to the results of the press tour, 8 information materials were prepared.
Activity 1.4.3. Develop business plans for the Sporovsky and Zvanets Reserves for the profitable use of the mire vegetation biomass in accordance with the results of practical works and dissemination of the experience to other protected areas. The activities are scheduled for 2020-2022.								
1.4.4.	Periodic monitoring through field visits to project sites	GEF	71600	2 300	4 432	-2 132	Six monitoring visits to the project implementation sites on the territory of Zvanets and Sporovsky Reserves to agree the project's activities and monitor their implementation have been conducted.	In course of 14 visits conducted, the progress of implementation of project activities in the territories of the Sporovsky and Zvanets reserves was monitored, the issues of timely and high-quality implementation of the planned activities were discussed with the management of the reserves.
<b>Total Output 1.4.</b>				<b>494 000</b>	<b>499 723</b>	<b>-5 723</b>		
<b>Output 1.5 Improved financial sustainability of measures for conservation of floodplain meadows (key habitats of globally threatened species) through introduction of technology of sustainable use of meadows for mowing and grazing and through development of ecological tourism</b>								
Activity 1.5.1. Test methods of the sustainable management of floodplain meadows (Turov Meadow, Pogost Meadow) for the conservation of unique biodiversity habitats								
1.5.1.1.	Development of a scientific rationale and a technology for the restoration and sustainable management of Turov and Pogost floodplain meadows, monitoring of the effectiveness of activities.	GEF	NIM	17 000	15 000	2 000	A scientific rationale and the technology for the restoration and sustainable management of Turov and Pogost floodplain meadows, and the programme of monitoring the effectiveness of the implemented activities to ensure sustainable management of floodplain meadows have been developed. The first cycle of monitoring has been completed.	Activity continues. A scientific substantiation (including a detailed map of vegetation) for the restoration and sustainable use of floodplain meadows "Turovsky Meadow", "Pogost" has been developed, and a program has been prepared to monitor the effectiveness (environmental and socio-economic) of measures implemented for the sustainable use of floodplain meadows. The first monitoring cycle has been completed. Report prepared.
1.5.2.2.	Purchasing equipment for the sustainable management of floodplain meadows: a mulcher for removing shrubs, disc mowers, a press-picking machine, mobile equipment and systems for the free range grazing of cattle, purchasing seeds, veterinary drugs.	GEF	72200	92 000	81 782	10 218	Based on the list of equipment approved by the MNREP, terms of reference have been prepared and part of equipment and necessary goods have been purchased. The purchased equipment has been transferred to the Turovshchina OAO according to the Project Document.	Activity continues. Based on the list of equipment approved by the Ministry of Environment, technical specifications were prepared, tender procedures were carried out and partial purchase of equipment was carried out (2 mowers, baler, mulcher). The acquired equipment was transferred to OAO Turovshchina for work according to the project document.
Activity 1.5.2 Based on the project's experience develop technology of ecologically effective and economically profitable use of meadows for raising cattle for beef. The activity is scheduled for 2020-2022.								
1.5.3.	Periodic monitoring through field visits to project sites	GEF	71600	600	3 559	-2 959	2 monitoring visits were made to the places of implementation of the project activities on the Turov and Pogost Meadows for coordinating the project activities and monitoring the progress of their implementation	In course of 8 visits conducted, the progress of the project's activities on the territory of Turovshchina OJSC was monitored, and issues of timely and quality implementation of the planned activities were discussed with the its management.
<b>Total Output 1.5.</b>				<b>109 600</b>	<b>100 341</b>	<b>9 259</b>		
<b>Output 1.6. Output 1.6 Ecological tourism developed at key protected areas, resulting in improved financial sustainability of protected areas and raised awareness about importance of globally biodiversity conservation</b>								



Activity	Donor	Budget account	Planned Resources, USD	Actual expenditures, USD	Balance	Annual Target	Overall assessment of completed project activities (brief)
1.6.1	GEF	NIM	27 000	9 600	17 400	The strategy and plan for the development of ecotourism at project's target PAs (Olmany Mires, Turov Meadow, Servech, Zvanets, Sporovsky) have been developed: improvement and establishment of tourist infrastructure, development of tourist routes, preparation of promotional items (posters, booklets, maps, etc.). Respective report prepared.	The activity continues. The analysis of the state of ecological tourism development in the target PAs of the project ("Turovsky Meadow", "Servech", "Zvanets", "Sporovsky") was carried out, problems in its development and possible prospects were identified, working meetings with representatives of executive and administrative bodies were organized and held authorities, subjects of agro-ecotourism, representatives of the tourism industry and others interested. A draft Concept for the development of ecological tourism in PAs has been prepared. Report prepared.
1.6.2	GEF	72100	10 000	9 284	716	In accordance with the strategy and plan of the development of ecotourism at the project's target PAs, one watching tower has been constructed, and two billboards have been manufactured and installed.	Activity continues. In accordance with the provisions of the strategy and plan for development of ecological tourism, construction of 3 observation towers and 3 feeding platforms was carried out on the territory of the Naliboksky reserve.
1.6.3	GEF	71600	4 400	4 426	-26	In order to increase the capacity of the national executive agency in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, the representative of the Ministry of Natural Resources participated in 6th session of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. The gained experience will be used in the planning and implementation of project activities related to economically sustainable use biodiversity resources of Belarus.	Activity completed. A representative of the Ministry of Environment attended the 6th session of the Intergovernmental Scientific-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. It ensured that gained experience will be used during planning and implementation of project activities related to economically sustainable use of biodiversity resources of Belarus.
<b>Total Output 1.6.</b>			<b>41 400</b>	<b>23 310</b>	<b>18 090</b>		
1.7	UNDP	74500, 73400, 71300, 74200, 72500	16 700	16 700	0	Payment for services related to the operation of the project office (communications, translators, insurance, purchase of low-value goods, fuel, etc.)	The technical operations of the project office were supported (communication services, insurance, purchase of low-value goods, fuel, etc.)
1.8	GEF	71400	26 481	30 372	-3 891	The functioning of the project management team is ensured within the budgetary framework of the approved project document.	The project management team has operated within the budget, approved by the project document.
<b>Subtotal Component 1.</b>			<b>934 731</b>	<b>928 045</b>	<b>6 686</b>		
<b>Outcome II: Sustainable management of biodiversity-important forest and wetland ecosystems outside protected areas</b>							
<b>Output 2.1 Forest biotopes, subject to special protection, are identified, approved and sustainably managed at an area of 150,000 ha</b>							
Activity 2.1.1. Harmonize forest and nature conservation legislation with respect to designation of protection status for biodiversity-valuable forest plots by ensuring that such plots can be transferred to protected biotopes under the legislation.							
2.1.1.1.	UNDP	71300	3 400	3 800	-400	The forest and nature conservation legislation has been analyzed, and proposals on its harmonization with respect to designation of protection status for biodiversity-valuable forest plots by ensuring that such plots can be transferred to protected biotopes under the legislation have been prepared. Development of proposals to amend regulations TKP 17.12-06-2014 (02120) "Rules of Designating and Protecting Typical and Rare Biotopes, Typical and Rare Natural Landscapes" with due regard for the established practice.	Activity completed. Analysis of forestry and environmental legislation has been carried out and proposals have been prepared for their harmonization in the area of providing protection status to specially protected forest areas by transferring them to rare and typical biotopes that are subject to special protection. Proposals for amendments to the TCP 17.12-06-2014 (02120) "Rules for the isolation and protection of typical and rare biotopes, typical and rare natural landscapes" were prepared with taking into account existing practice. Proposals submitted to the Ministry of Environment. Report prepared.
Activity 2.1.2. Inventory taking, preparation of passports and conservation obligations for the transfer of land plots and/or bodies of water with rare and typical biotopes subject to strict protection and situated in forests (150,000 ha) under the protection of land users so that they organize their protection and sustainable management.							
2.1.2.1.	GEF	NIM	52 000	43 460	8 540	Inventory of rare and typical biotopes in the territory of Dyatlovo, Ivye, and Beshenkovich Forestries, development of proposals on integrating the system of their sustainable management into the projects on the organization of forest management.	Activity completed. An inventory of rare and typical biotopes was carried out on territory of the forestry "Dyatlovsk", forestry "Ivye", forestry "Beshenkovich". Isolated habitats for seven categories (6.1 Western Taiga, 6.6 alder and birch forests on waterlogged soils and lowland bogs, 6.7 Nemoral deciduous forests with hornbeam, 6.8 Coniferous forests on raised, transitional and lowland bogs, birch forest on the transitional swamps, 6.9 Deciduous forests river valleys, 6.10 Floodplain oak forests, 6.11 Lichen pines, subject to special protection on the area of 642.7 hectares at Forestry "Dyatlovo", 200.0 hectares in "Beshenkovich forestry" and 2750.0 hectares in "Ivye forestry". Developed proposals for integration of their sustainable management systems in projects for the organization and management of forestry submitted to the respective forestries. Report prepared.
Activity 2.1.3. Integrating the system of the sustainable management of rare and typical biotopes subject to strict protection into the projects on the organization of forest management of state-run forestries. The activity is scheduled for 2020-2022.							
Activity 2.1.4. Education of foresters, responsible for development and implementation of forest management plans, in identification and sustainable use of biotopes subject to special protection.							
2.1.4.1.	GEF	NIM	4 000	2 171	1 829	At least 6 pilot sites of rare and typical biotopes have been created at the project territory of Dyatlovo Forestry. Report prepared	Activity continues. Created 5 pilot demonstration sites of rare and typical habitats (6.6 alder and birch forests on waterlogged soils and lowland bogs, 6.7 Nemoral deciduous forests with hornbeam, 6.8 Coniferous forests on raised, transitional and lowland bogs, birch forest on the transitional swamps, 6.9 Deciduous forests in river valleys, 6.10 Floodplain oak woods) in the project area of the State Forest Fund "Dyatlovo Forestry". Report prepared.
2.1.4.2.			1500	1 477	23	Representatives of 35 forestries and other organizations involved in the development and implementation of forest management projects were trained at a seminar on the identification and sustainable use of rare and typical biotopes.	Activity continues. Specialists, engaging in developing and implementing forest management projects (employees of the Belgosles RUE and forest enterprises), were trained at a seminar on identification and sustainable use of rare and typical biotopes (December 2018, 35 participants). Report prepared.
2.1.4.3.	GEF	72100	2 000	1 700	300	Using infographic and animation methods a 30 second movie on damage to ecosystems caused by uncontrolled autumn and spring grassy fires is prepared for showing on national television. The video was transferred to the Ministry of Natural Resources for further demonstration on national television as a social advertisement.	Activity completed. Using the methods of infographics and animation a 30 second video was prepared on damage to ecosystems caused by unmanaged autumn and spring grass fields. The video was submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources for subsequent demonstration on national television.
2.1.5.	GEF	71600	500	0	500	Two monitoring visits have been made to Dyatlovo Forestry where project activities are implemented to coordinate activities and participate in the training workshop	
<b>Total Output 2.1.</b>			<b>63 400</b>	<b>52 608</b>	<b>10 792</b>		



Activity	Donor	Budget account	Planned Resources, USD	Actual expenditures, USD	Balance	Annual Target	Overall assessment of completed project activities (brief)
<b>Output 2.2. Avoided degradation of inefficiently drained forest peatlands (260,000 ha) as a result of development and implementation of the Scheme of Sustainable Use of Drained Forest Peatlands, defining ways of use of each peatland. Demonstration of approaches for the ecological rehabilitation of inefficiently drained peatlands at an area of about 12,456 ha.</b>							
Activity 2.2.1. Implement a complex inventory of forest hydro ameliorative systems with evaluation of their economic and ecological value based on specially developed and approved criteria. Development of proposals on the ways of their use (260,000 ha).							
2.2.1.1.	GEF	NIM	25 000	24 835	165	Analysis of the available departmental and scientific information on the functioning of forest hydro ameliorative systems in the Republic of Belarus has been performed. The methodology and criteria for the assessment of the cost efficiency and environmental efficiency of forest hydro ameliorative systems and their influence on forest and mire ecosystems (biodiversity, productivity, state) have been developed and tested based on the inventory of forest hydro ameliorative systems of four forestries. Ways of the further use of the forest hydro ameliorative systems at pilot forestries have been determined. A report has been prepared.	Activity continues. The complex research works on first stage of inventory of hydro-forest melioration systems was performed: (i) an analytical review of information on current state of forest reclamation systems in the forest fund of the Republic of Belarus; (ii) criteria and methods for assessing economic and environmental efficiency of forest reclamation systems have been developed; (iii) methodology and criteria were tested on example of inventory of hydro-forest melioration systems of four forestries; (iv) directions for further use of forest reclamation systems in the territory of 4 pilot forest enterprises (Elsk, Mozyr, Rogachev and Zhlobin) were determined. Report prepared.
Activity 2.2.2. Development and acquiring approval of the ways of the further use (reconstruction, re-wetting, etc.) of forest hydro ameliorative systems (260,000 ha) based on their integrated assessment. The activity is scheduled for 2020-2022.							
Activity 2.2.3. Develop and implement engineering projects on the environmental rehabilitation of forest hydro ameliorative systems (12,456 ha).							
2.2.3.1.	GEF	NIM	30 000	19 599	10 401	Developed: (i) scientific substantiation of ecological rehabilitation of inefficiently drained forest peatlands (hydro-forest reclamation systems), (ii) acts of site selection and design specifications for four territories: Berezovik in the Vileika District of the Minsk Region, Zhada in the Miory and Sharkovshchinsky Districts of the Vitebsk Region; "Ostrovo" in the Smorgon district of the Grodno region, Verech in the Gorodoksky district, Vitebsk region; (project areas can be changed while retaining the total area as agreed with local land users). (iii) Water level sensors (8 sensors) were purchased and installed in the pilot areas. A report has been prepared.	Activity continues. Developed by: (i) scientific substantiation of ecological rehabilitation of inefficiently drained forest peatlands (hydro-melio-reclamation systems) "Berezovik" in Vileyka district of the Minsk region, "Zhada" in Miory and Sharkovshchinsky districts of the Vitebsk region; "Ostrovo" in Smorgon district of the Grodno region, Verechskoe in Gorodok district, the Vitebsk region; (ii) Respective permits for design and survey and construction works and design specifications were obtain from local authorities for four territories: Berezovik in Vileyka district, Minsk region; Zhada in Miory and Sharkovshchina districts; Vitebsk region; "Ostrovo" in Smorgon district, Grodno region; Verechskoe in Gorodok district, Vitebsk region; (according to the research results, it is recommended to exclude the project area of Berezovik due to its natural waterlogging). (iii) 8 GW sensors were acquired and installed in 4 project areas (2 per each territory) - Zhad in Miory and Sharkovshchina districts; "Island" in Smorgon district; "Berezovik" in Vileika district; "Verechskoe" in Gorodok district. Report prepared.
<b>Total Output 2.2.</b>			<b>55 000</b>	<b>44 434</b>	<b>10 566</b>		
2.3.	GEF	71400	26 481	30 237	-3 756	The functioning of the project management team is ensured within the budgetary framework of the approved project document.	The project management team has operated within the budget, approved by the project document.
<b>Subtotal Component 2.</b>			<b>144 881</b>	<b>127 279</b>	<b>17 602</b>		
<b>Component 3. Increased experience and knowledge of innovative measures for habitat restoration and elimination of the most significant threats to globally threatened species; monitoring of efficiency of the project's measures. Monitoring performance of project activities.</b>							
<b>Output 3.1 Restored habitats (about 1,820 ha) of globally threatened species (Aquatic warbler, Greater spotted eagle, Great snipe, Black-tailed godwit) within the most important protected areas (Servech, Dikoe) through control of vegetation succession (control of the spread of shrubs and reeds) and optimization of hydrological regime.</b>							
Activity 3.1.1 Restore key aquatic warbler habitats at Dikoe fen mire and Servech fen mire. The activity is scheduled for 2019-2021.							
Activity 3.1.2. Environmental rehabilitation of the depleted Dokudovskoe peatland.							
3.1.2.1.	GEF	NIM	25 000	25 000	0	Cycle of preparatory works for the environmental rehabilitation of the disturbed Dokudovskoye peatland organized, coordinated, scientifically substantiated and supported, including preparation of the following documents: (i) an act of selecting a site for re-waterlogging; (ii) scientific justification; (iii) development of a method for accelerated restoration of wetlands, (iv) terms of reference for design; (v) engineering design. A report has been prepared.	Activity continues. Organization, coordination and scientific substantiation and maintenance of the cycle of preparatory work on the environmental rehabilitation of the developed Dokudovskoye peat bogs has been ensured. (i) authorization from local authorities for design and survey and construction works obtained; (ii) scientific justification prepared; (iii) a methodology for the accelerated recovery of wetlands was developed; (iv) technical design specifications were prepared and agreed upon with interested parties; (v) the preparation of the engineering project has begun. Report prepared.
Activity 3.1.3. Develop and test method of creation of new aquatic warbler populations through relocation of young birds from Zvanets Reserve to restored habitats in Zuvintas Reserve (Lithuania). All works for the resettlement of aquatic warbler will be co-financed by the Life project.							
<b>Total Output 3.1.</b>			<b>25 000</b>	<b>25 000</b>	<b>0</b>		
<b>Output 3.2. Program on exchange of individuals across micro-populations to improve the genetic status of the Naliboksky micro population of the European bison developed and realized. The activities under this Output are scheduled for 2019-2022.</b>							
<b>Output 3.3. Targeted measures to stabilize populations of insufficiently studied globally threatened species.</b>							
Activity 3.3.1. Undertake an inventory of key habitats of globally threatened species.							
3.3.1.1.	GEF	NIM	39 028	39 000	28	The inventory of key habitats of the globally threatened species in Brest and Gomel Oblasts and the assessment of the state of their populations have been completed. A report have been prepared.	Activity continues. An inventory of habitats of poorly studied species that are under threat of global extinction in the Brest and Grodno regions has been carried out and the conditions of their populations has been assessed. 52 new populations of 18 of terrestrial animals, 18 new populations of 6 aquatic organisms, 5 populations of 3 plants were identified, populations were described, threats and ways to eliminate them were determined, and GPS mapping of habitat data was conducted. Report prepared.
Activity 3.3.2. Change land use status of the habitats of globally threatened species to the protection category.							



Activity	Donor	Budget account	Planned Resources, USD	Actual expenditures, USD	Balance	Annual Target	Overall assessment of completed project activities (brief)
3.3.2.1. Prepare passports and conservation obligations for land plots and/or water bodies for transfer to land users for protection and sustainable use and organization of the sustainable management of the identified key habitats of globally threatened species.	GEF	NIM	5 000	5 000	0	Passports and conservation obligations (40 passports) for land plots and/or water bodies for transfer to land users for protection and sustainable use and organization of the sustainable management of the identified key habitats of globally threatened species have been prepared and transferred according to the established procedure. A report have been prepared.	Activity continues. 42 passports and conservation obligations for 18 animal species and 1 plant species (24 passports for the Brest region, 18 passports for the Grodno region) were prepared, agreed with land users and transferred to the land users and / or water bodies. Report prepared.
Activity 3.3.3. Develop and implement priority measures to address targeted threats to the most important populations of globally threatened species.							
3.3.3.1. Elaborating pilot activities to eliminate threats to the most significant populations of globally threatened species and optimization of the key habitats of globally threatened species.	GEF	NIM	3 000	3 000	0	Species and territories have been identified where the implementation of pilot activities is planned, the cost of activities has been calculated, necessary approvals and permits have been acquired. Based on the above, pilot activities have been elaborated to eliminate threats to the most significant populations of globally threatened species and optimization of the key habitats of globally threatened species to be implemented in 2019-2020. A report have been prepared.	Activity continues. Pilot measures were developed to eliminate threats to the most significant species and populations of the globally endangered species: prevent death of a marsh turtle in the territory of Sporovsky reserve; installation of artificial nesting sites for great spotted eagle in the territory of Zvanets reserve; measures to infiltrate into new habitats of the marsh turtle (2 populations), crawfish (2 populations), mollusc (2 populations), medicinal leech (2 populations), a large raft spider (restored part of the Dokudovsky swamp); restoration of previously existing populations (reintroduction) of bubble aldrovand (lake of Brest and Pinsk districts), water vole (in the Zvanets reserve). A schedule has been developed for eliminating threats to the most significant populations and for optimizing the key habitats of the BS for the years 2019-2020, the cost of the planned work for 2019 (8.4 thousand US dollars) has been calculated. Report prepared.
<b>Total Output 3.3.</b>			<b>47 028</b>	<b>47 000</b>	<b>28</b>		
<b>Output 3.4. Monitoring the efficiency of implementation of project measures (monitoring of globally threatened species, soil and ground water table, carbon emissions avoided and carbon sequestered).</b>							
3.4.1. A study of the current state of the populations of the globally endangered species (European bison, Large spotted eagle, Aquatic warbler, Great snipe, Curlew, Black-tailed godwit, Lapwing, Meadow pipit and others) in the pilot areas of the project prior to the start of the project.	GEF	NIM	29 000	29 000	0	Data were obtained on the number and condition of the populations of the globally endangered species prior to the implementation of the project activities (European bison, Large spotted eagle, Aquatic warbler, Great snipe, Curlew, Black-tailed godwit, Lapwing, Meadow pipit and others) in the pilot territories (Naliboksky, Zvanets, Sporovsky, Dikoe, Olmansk bogs, Turovsky meadow, Pogost). A report has been prepared.	Activity continues. Data were obtained on conditions of main globally endangered species populations prior to implementation of the project's activities (the great spotted eagle, the warbler warbler, the great snipe, the big curlew, the large spindle, the lapwing tree, the meadow horse, etc.) in the pilot areas (Zvanets, Sporovsky, Servet, Wild, Olmansk swamps, Turov meadow, Pogost). The number of fiddling warbler, snipe, large curlew, meadow ridge in the project areas continues to vary over the years and gradually decreases as the area of open sedge marshes and floodplain meadows decreases. At the same time, in areas where mowing was performed, an increase in the density of these species was observed. The number of the great spotted eagle in all territories remains stable. The main factor determining the annual fluctuations in the numbers of all species is the dynamics of water levels in the nesting period. Report prepared.
3.4.2. The study of the dynamics of vegetation in the project areas prior to the implementation of measures to optimize and restore disturbed ecosystems			10 000	10 000	0	Vegetation maps, correlation of areas of plant associations were prepared and their condition was investigated in the project areas (Zvanets, Sporovsky, Servech, Dikoe, Turovsky meadow, Pogost) prior to the implementation of the project activities. A report has been prepared.	Activity continues. Vegetation maps and habitat maps, ratio of areas of plant associations (habitats) were prepared, and their condition in the project areas (Zvanets, Sporovsky, Servech, Dikoe, Dokudovskoe) was assessed before implementation of the project activities. In the project areas, the area of open sedge marshes is reduced due to overgrowing by shrubs and reeds. As of 2018, the open area is: on the Zvanets bog - 3093.4 ha (41.9% of the lowland sedge bog), Sporovsky - 1407.7 hectares (44.7% of the lowland sedge bog), Servech 300 hectares (49.1% of the area of the lowland sedge marsh), Wild - 2908.1 hectares (38.1%). Report prepared.
3.4.3. Monitor ground water levels.			3 000	3 000	0	Data were obtained on the dynamics of water levels in 2018 before the start of the project activities. A report has been prepared.	Activity continues. Sensors were installed and data on dynamics of water levels in 2018 were obtained in the project areas of Zvanets, Sporovsky, Servech, Dikoe, Dokudovskoye prior to the project start. In the project areas of Zvanets and Sporovsky, due to the measures taken in previous years, the dynamics of GWL stabilized (close to the optimal GWL in the nesting period), but the water quality needs further improvement. Due to the straightening of the Servech and Narev rivers, the influence of adjacent drainage systems of GWM is significantly disturbed and needs to be stabilized in the Dikoe and Servech bogs. Report prepared.
Activity 3.4.4. Assess efficiency of measures on the improvement of foraging conditions for European bison.							
3.4.4.1. Assess the baseline situation on the use by European bison of the foraging grounds (spatial distribution, frequency of visiting food plots and agricultural lands).	GEF	NIM	3 000	3 000	0	The assessment of the spatial distribution of European bison in the Naliboksky Reserve, the frequency of visiting food plots and agricultural lands prior to the beginning of the project.	Activity continues. An assessment of initial situation on use of food resources by bison (spatial distribution, frequency of visits to forage fields and agricultural land) was made. Before violation of territorial conservatism (2013), the core of the Naliboksky micropopulation was confined to the central part of the Nalibokskaya Forest (Tyakovo tract), and habitat in the winter season was about 5 thousand hectares, in the summer - about 35 thousand hectares. At present, the main herd of bison has moved to peripheral agricultural lands, there is a tendency of preference and selectivity of fields with crops and hayfields for animals. In winter, current habitat of the Naliboksky micropopulation is about 7 thousand hectares, and during vegetative season it is about 50 thousand hectares. The deterioration of food supply is the main reason for decline in growth and fertility. On average, perennial growth rate (9.6%) was lower compared with the average growth in the country (10.3%). Negative changes in composition of mature bison participating in the reproduction were revealed. Report prepared.
Activity 3.4.5. Apply the METT and UNDP-GEF financial scorecard to monitor management effectiveness and financial sustainability at target PAs. The activities are scheduled for 2020 and 2022.							
Monitor carbon benefits. The activity is scheduled for 2019 and 2022.							
<b>Total Output 3.4.</b>			<b>45000</b>	<b>45000</b>	<b>0</b>		
3.5. Corporate email addresses	GEF	72440	972	972	0	Project activities implemented in full compliance with the Project DAWP	Мероприятия проекта реализованы в полном объеме в соответствии с рабочим планом.



Activity	Donor	Budget account	Planned Resources, USD	Actual expenditures, USD	Balance	Annual Target	Overall assessment of completed project activities (brief)
3.6. Organizing the activity of the Project Management Unit (PMU)	GEF	71400 сервис-контракт	26 481	31 732	-5 251	The functioning of the project management team is ensured within the budgetary framework of the approved project document.	Обеспечено функционирование группы управления проектом в рамках бюджета утвержденного проектного документа
<b>Subtotal Component 3.</b>			<b>144 481</b>	<b>149 704</b>	<b>-5 223</b>		
<b>4. Project management</b>							
4.1. Organization of the activity of the Project Steering Committee	GEF	72100	2 000		2 000	At least two meetings of the Project Steering Committee have been conducted	2 meetings of the Project Management Committee (February and July 2018) were held. Project activities were implemented in full in accordance with the work plan. The percentage of the development of financial resources 97% of the planned for 2018.
4.2. Purchasing office equipment	GEF	72400	5 000	1 457	3 543	Office equipment has been purchased for the project staff (display, photo camera, GPS, 3 VHF radio transceivers, LCD projector, quadcopter, and other equipment)	Office equipment for the project was purchased (monitor, camera, GPS navigator, 2 VHF radios, LCD projector, other equipment)
4.3. Organizing the activity of the Project Management Unit (PMU)	GEF	71400	19 731	22 496	-2 765	The functioning of the project management team is ensured within the budgetary framework of the approved project document.	The project management team has operated within the budget of the approved project document.
4.4. Planning and reporting					0	Project progress reports prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Nature, UNDP and the Ministry of Economy in accordance with the approved schedule and in the	
4.5. Project administration costs	GEF	74596	22 000	11 946	10 054	The reimbursement of UNDP operational expenses for project administration has been ensured according to the established rates.	Reimbursement of UNDP operational expenses for project execution provided in accordance with the provisions of Annex 11 of the approved project document.
<b>Subtotal Component 4.</b>			<b>48 731</b>	<b>35 899</b>	<b>12 832</b>		
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			<b>1 272 824</b>	<b>1 240 927</b>	<b>31 897</b>	<b>The figure is indicative, the final amount of expenses will be determined after the end of the fiscal year.</b>	

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