CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal	**Herzegovinian Mountain Rescue Services**
Project Title:	**Production of speleologica cadastre for the Trebizat area**
Date of Report:	**30.12.2014.**
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CEPF Region: Mediteran

Strategic Direction: 3. Improve the conservation and protection status of 44 priority key biodiversity areas, 3.1. Establish new protected areas and promote improved management of exiating proceted areas by developing and implementing sustainable management plans, 3.3. Raise awareness of the importance of priority key biodiversity areas, including those that have irreplaceable plant and marine biodiversity

Grant Amount: 18.684,00 $

Project Dates: 23.08.13.-30.12.2014.

Implementation Partners for this Project (please explain the level of involvement for each partner):

Centar za Krs BIH, Drustvo za jamsko biologio for Kranj/Slovenia, Sveuciliste u Mostaru

Conservation Impacts

Please explain/describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile.

Our project had three directions: 3. Improve the conservation and protection status of 44 priority key biodiversity areas, 3.1. Establish new protected areas and promote improved management of existing protected areas by developing and implementing sustainable management plans, 3.3. Raise awareness of the importance of priority key biodiversity areas, including those that have irreplaceable plant and marine biodiversity
We explored so far unexplored areas, made speleo cadastre of Trebizat area which is very important in taking further actions in preserving this area. Awareness has been raised among the local population and first steps in protecting these areas are made but further action is necessary.

Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project.

12 caves have been explored. All objects are located in the catchment area of the river Trebižat, on the stretch between Ljubuski and Capljina. Objects are appointed, exact position of entrance into the object is recorded including geographic coordinates. The approach to each object is described. It consists of cave-research record with basic information about the genesis, geology, micro-climate, ecology, archaeological and paleontological data and current literature references. For each object is made topographic map (plan and profile).

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected:

Species Conserved:

Corridors Created:

Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives.

The success of the project is that it is fully investigated so far speleologicly neglected area. We found a lot of new speleological objects of which 12 are fully explored and described. The biggest challenge was to run the local community to actively begin to deal with this issue and this goal has not been fully met, but the first steps were made in it. Accordingly, short-term objectives in the long term is to be achieved to recognize the unique potential in terms of tourism, recreation, adventure, health, what trough specific tourist offer has already been recognized. The unusual combination of lighting effects and noises that are amplified cave acoustics, can become a recognizable part of the tourist offer, which would have significantly contributed to the development of the local community and the state as a whole. Our focus is on sustainable tourism, which can contribute to better promotion of values and thus protect the river Trebižat. You need to encourage and conduct education on the sensitivity of karst areas and their natural resources, because only knowledge we can now make successful steps towards sustainable coexistence between man and nature.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Delay of the equipment was an unexpected impact which negative affected project mission.

Project Components

Project Components*: Please report on results by project component. Reporting should reference specific products/deliverables from the approved project design and other relevant information.*

Component 1 Planned: *Collecting literature data*

Component 1 Actual at Completion: *Not found*

Component 2 Planned: *Defining and making digital caving database*

Component 2 Actual at Completion: *Digital database is done based on the research*

Component 3 Planned: *Terrain of speleo identifying of Trebizat area*

Component 3 Actual at Completion: *In the summer of 2013, for the project study caves in the catchment area of the river Trebižat, a detailed reconnaissance was prefomed of the catchment area of the river Trebizat stretching from Ljubuski and Capljina. During this period, members of the Speleological Society of Herzegovinian mountain rescue from Mostar explored twelve caves*

Component 4 Planned: *Spelological exploration of selected speleo objects*

Component 4 Actual at Completion: *We explored 12 caves. All objects are located in the catchment area of the river Trebižat, on the stretch between Ljubuski and Capljina. Objects are appointed, there was exact position entrance into the object and geographic coordinates. Approach to each facility is described. It consists of cave-research record with basic information about the genesis, geology, micro-climate, ecology, archaeological and paleontological data and current literature references. For each object is made topographic map (plan and profile).*
In caving research were used caving techniques. In preparing topographic draft (plan and profile) was used measuring tape length 50 meters, laser rangefinder, compass and padomjer brand shunt. The measured data were recorded on graph paper on which the on-site hand-drawn and topographic map of the cave.

Component 5 Planned: *Making of topografical drawings*
Component 5 Actual at Completion: *Cave-research record is made with basic information about the genesis, geology, micro-climate, ecology, archaeological and paleontological data and current literature references. For each object is made topographic map (plan and profile).*

Component 6 Planned: *Making of elaborata*

Component 6 Actual at Completion: *Based on the results of this study and the submitted report has been drafted elaborate: "Exploring caves in the catchment area of the river Trebizat"*

Were any components unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?

The first component, finding the literature data is unrealized but it had no impact on the activities of the project

Please describe and submit (electronically if possible) any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

As a result speleological drawings are made for cave database, first for this area.

Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building. Consider lessons that would inform projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.

Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings)

During realization of this project we encountered on some unexpected problems caused by external factors that we could not affect on. We learned that better risk management is necessary in dealing with such issues.

Project Implementation: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/ shortcomings)

We also learned that in terms of unstable environment such as ours you cannot count on people to do as agreed verbally, but is necessary to sing contracts with defined line of work for each participant..

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

Additional Funding

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes

Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:
A) Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)
B) Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)
C) Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)

Sustainability/Replicability

Summarize the success or challenge in achieving planned sustainability or replicability of project components or results.

There has been success in ways that are actually for the first time speleological objects studied and described, and made plans in this area which in itself represents considerable progress in the development of caving in BiH, however, although local population is aware of the problem this project is appealing to, this research has not yet achieved satisfactory awareness about the importance, protection and preservation of underground objects, and thus the entire karst areas and river Trebizat.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

This project presents a basis for further action to be taken in order to prevent ecological disasters in the area of river basin Trebizat. The garbage in caves is not just a problem of beauty of nature,but rather it directly pollutes groundwater and thus drinking water. This problem requires action to be taken in preventing this.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

The need for this area to be put under greater protection is indispensable. Basics guidelines should be delivered through scientific and higher educational institutions, opening the karst at natural science, historical and humanistic, educational and economic sciences, which could be merged into the new studio landscape. Also, it is necessary to finance the extra-curricular program that will lead to greater identification of goods and karst, scholarships for young researchers and their involvement in international flows, create a new generation that will be able to take responsibility for the development of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Competent, County and Federal environmental institutions should take into consideration the river Trebizat as a highly sensitive ecosystem, and as such included in national and European protected areas.
This area offers a unique potential in terms of tourism, recreation, adventure, health, what is the specific tourist offer has already been recognized. The unusual combination of lighting effects and noises that are amplified cave acoustics, can become a recognizable part of the tourist offer, which would have significantly contributed to the development of the local community and the state as a whole. Our focus is on sustainable tourism, which can contribute to better promotion of values and thus protect the river Trebižat. You need to encourage and conduct education on the sensitivity of karst areas and their natural resources, because only knowledge we can now make successful steps towards sustainable coexistence between man and nature.

Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and

publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below:

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Performance Tracking Report Addendum

CEPF Global Targets

(Enter Grant Term)

Provide a numerical amount and brief description of the results achieved by your grant.
Please respond to only those questions that are relevant to your project.

Project Results	Is this question relevant?	If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.	Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.	Describe the principal results achieved from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. (Attach annexes if necessary)
1. Did your project strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.	NO			Please also include name of the protected area(s). If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas did your project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?	NO			Please also include name of the protected area. If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
3. Did your project strengthen biodiversity conservation and/or natural resources management inside a key biodiversity area identified in the CEPF ecosystem profile? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	YES			Our project strengthen biodiversity conservation and natural resources management inside a key biodiversity area identified in the CEPF ecosystem profile but in several different locations that are not necessarily connected into one area so we do not have hectares coverage. Speleological objects are explored and included into speleological cadastre. By doing this it is now possible to take further action concerning issues like polluting ground water and destroying the biodiversity of the caves, Now that caves are marked and appointed as protected areas, and now that awareness has been raised among the local population about meaning of these cave systems it is less likely that pollution is going to continue, but not only that, plans for clearing out already polluted areas are being made.
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	YES			Some cave systems did not necessarily fall into ground of protected area but since exploration was taking place in nearby areas, those are also included into making of cadastre, and records of their location is made so further, expanded, exploration can be planned. However, there are not records in how many hectares does this cover since

				these are objects in different locations, same as the ones in protected areas.
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1below.	**YES**			

If you answered yes to question 5, please complete the following table

Table 1. Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities

Please complete this table if your project provided concrete socioeconomic benefits to local communities. List the name of each community in column one. In the subsequent columns under Community Characteristics and Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit, place an X in all relevant boxes. In the bottom row, provide the totals of the Xs for each column.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics								Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit											
									Increased Income due to:											
	Small landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists/nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty rate	Other	Adoption of sustainable natural resources management practices	Ecotourism revenues	Park management activities	Payment for environmental services	Increased food security due to the adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or agricultural practices	More secure access to water resources	Improved tenure in land or other natural resource due to titling, reduction of colonization, etc.	Reduced risk of natural disasters (fires, landslides, flooding, etc)	More secure sources of energy	Increased access to public services, such as education, health, or credit	Improved use of traditional knowledge for environmental management	More participatory decision-making due to strengthened civil society and governance	Other
Villages around Ljubuski	x													x		x				
Villages around Čapljina	x													x		x				
Total	2													2			2			

If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit: