

CEPF Final Completion and Impact Report

Organization's Legal Name:	Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature
Project Title:	Mainstreaming Plant Key Biodiversity Areas into the national Conservation Planning Framework
Grant Number:	CEPF-108545
Hotspot:	Mediterranean Basin II
Strategic Direction:	4 Strengthen the engagement of civil society to support the conservation of plants that are critically endangered or have highly restricted ranges
Grant Amount:	\$155,546.44
Project Dates:	December 01, 2018 - May 31, 2022
Date of Report:	October 27, 2022

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

- 1- National botanist experts (includes RSCN, Jordanian universities, Royal botanic garden, National Agricultural Research Center, Birdlife International and Ministry of Environment) have worked to apply the KBAs criteria for the plant species that proposed in the region.
- 2- stakeholders partners in all proposed sites (Ajloun, Yarmouk and Dana) are represented by the municipal council. They were involved in the delineation of the final boundaries of the sites in accordance with the criteria and manageability of the proposal sites.
- 3- MoMA participated in the review maps of plant KBAs as part of the environmental sensitivity map and part of the natural heritage system as well as it contribute developed the land use guidelines for the all proposed sites.
- 4-The Royal Department For Conservation of Environment & Tourism (=Environmental Police) participated in prepare and develop the national patrolling plan which gave more focus to the conservation efforts within the boundaries of protected areas and ecologically important hotspots of Jordan.

CONSERVATION IMPACTS

Planned Long-Term Impacts: 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Improving conservation plants that are threatened or endemic to the Mediterranean parts of Jordan through mainstreaming their	A new national patrolling plan was prepared based on the biodiversity hotspot areas depending on the targeted species of birds and mammals in addition

Impact Description	Impact Summary
conservation in the national conservation plans.	to hunting events distribution. Finally, the IPA added a new layer of hotspots depending on plant species.
Train 5 conservationists from Libyan CEPF grantees to gain skills on protected areas management and build capacity on delivering impactful conservation programmes	This activity was cancelled due to Corona pandemic, and the political situation in Libya that prevent trainees to travel, or to get visa in Jordan.

Planned Short-Term Impacts: 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Enhancing knowledge base and resources about plant KBA's within the Mediterranean hotspot of Jordan through the assessments, reports, maps and the online monitoring system. This knowledge base will result in enhancing the decision making process relevant to the land use planning and management in and around plant KBA's.	Four sites have been identified as KBAs, a final report was prepared for the important plant area, this report includes review of the boundaries of plant KBAs located within the Mediterranean hotspot of Jordan, description and maps for each site. Based on the suggestions of the species of the national coordinating group and in accordance with the established criteria, that is found in the KBAs guidelines; 3 species were defined as important plant species in Jordan at global level, in addition to that the locations of these species within the Mediterranean region are become known now. The awareness levels of RSCN and key stakeholders in the field of IPA's identification and assessment has been Enhanced, Where a booklet for the important plant area in Jordan was prepared, including photographs and description for the trigger species and sites. as well as A film was also prepared about the important areas in Jordan. The film included clarification of the mechanism for identifying these areas and their environmental importance. Establish a national coordinating group that includes the experts and stakeholders to exchange experiences and work together during this project or any other goal aimed at protecting important plants.
Enhancing governance setting and conservation status of plant KBA's by integrating them as "Natural Heritage" areas in the national land use plans, and by providing land use guidelines for both land use planners and by integrating the plant KBA's in the environmental sensitivity map licensing committees.	The final boundaries of plant KBAs have been approved by the Ministry of Environment as an Environmentally Sensitive Area and work is underway to include them with Jordan's Environmental Law. It seems that it takes some time. and use guideline for KBAs was prepared, and work is going now with MoMA to approve the guideline as a planning tool that will be integrated in the environmental sensitivity map licensing procedures. A joint agreement was signed during this project and the Soaring Birds Project (important bird area) to create a guideline for KBA sites. The process of adopting the guide is now being through the bird project.

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Enhancing institutional capacity in the field of plant KBAs assessment through the training of at least 15 researchers and practitioners (with attention to gender balance) before the end of the project	During the project time, at least 25 researchers and practitioners were trained on plant .assessment including 8 women colleagues
Enhancing institutional capacity in mainstreaming biodiversity hotspots with focus on plant KBA's in the national land use planning framework. A minimum of 20 land use planners and practitioners from the authorities responsible for the land use and development planning, licensing and EIA will be trained through the project.	All relevant stakeholders were reached out in the aim of integrating the KBAs into the land-use plans in the country. Two of the main governmental stakeholders that were involved in the follow-up steps were MoEnv and the Ministry of Local Administration MoLA. Based on this, and building on a series of meetings, RSCN has prepared a document outlining guidelines for land-use for KBAs. The document was drafted and presented to both entities who have approved it after review. training was held for 18 members including the members of the national central licensing and EIA committees and land use planners from (MoMA and JVA). during the workshop A detailed presentation was made on how to recognize KBAs and the importance of protecting them, in addition to the presentation of the entire content of the guide and the land-use definition they include and the instruction of conserving the species and habitats under each land-use type Finally, the workshop also provided recommendations outlining future actions that are required to ensure the implementation of such guidelines while also aiming to reach out the process of KBA selection to cover all potential KBAs in the country and not just in the Mediterranean region.
Three protected areas (Yarmouk, Ajloun and Dana) will have an improving management and strengthened plant conservation component in their management plans by the end of the project	The final boundaries of KBAs were sent to the Ministry of Environmental for accreditation as environmentally sensitive area and included in Jordanian environmental law. in addition to that, all management plans were updated considering the KBAs concept, trigger species, criteria, and values in the various activities including protection, awareness, monitoring, and advocacy. Yarmouk reserve please see attached 7 (Pp53-63), Ajloun reserve see attached 8(Pp47 -58) and Dana reserve attached (Pp 16, 90, 109, 110 and 116).

Unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

There were good reactions for the acceptance of the project by the stakeholders and about the idea of determining the IPA in Jordan. But in the same time, the legal procedures and their amendment were proceeding very slowly.

PROJECT RESULTS/DELIVERABLES

Overall results of the project:

- 1- Establish a national coordinating group that includes the experts and stakeholders to exchange experiences and work together during this project or any other goal aimed at protecting important plants.
- 2- four sites have been identified as KBAs, which are: a) Um-Qeis, Yarmouk and Malka site. b) Ajloun and Ishtafaina site. c) Sakeb, Jarash and Balqa Highlands site. d) Dana, shaoubak, and Petra Highlands site.
a detailed final report was prepared of the important plant area (plant KBAs), this report includes review of the boundaries of plant KBAs located within the Mediterranean hotspot of Jordan, description and maps for each site. Based on the suggestions of the species of the national coordinating group and in accordance with the established criteria, that is found in the KBAs guidelines; 18 species were defined as important plant species in Jordan at global level, in addition to that the locations of these species within the Mediterranean region are become known now.
- 3- The final boundaries of KBAs were sent to the Ministry of Environmental for accreditation as environmentally sensitive area and included in Jordanian environmental law.
- 4- The buffer zone boundaries of Yarmouk Forest Reserve, Ajloun Forest Reserve, and Dana Biosphere Reserve have been submitted and approved by the Ministry of Environment, this approval is valid within the project lifetime.
- 5- The concept of KBAs was integrated for Yarmouk, Ajloun, Dibeen and Dana Management Plan as a new layer of conservation with focus on the conservation of this sites. This layer was included Map
of species distribution range, Kernel density for the species distribution and transformed for "hotspot" map showing the species distribution density within the reserves, update the zoning plan of the reserve, Where Some areas have been modified to integrate with the result of the IPAs assessment.
- 6- A new national patrolling plan was prepared based on the biodiversity hotspot areas depending on the targeted species of birds and mammals in addition to hunting events distribution. The project added a new layer of hotspots depending on plant species, with no major changes of the current hotspots' areas.
- 7- land use guideline for KBAs was prepared, and work is going now with MoMA to approve the guideline as a planning tool that will be integrated in the environmental sensitivity map licensing procedures.
- 8- the awareness levels of RSCN and key stakeholders in the field of KBAs identification and assessment has been Enhanced capabilities, where a booklet for the important plant area in Jordan was prepared, including photographs and description for the trigger species and sites. A film was also prepared about the important plants' areas in Jordan. The film included clarification of the mechanism for identifying these areas and their environmental importance.

Results for each deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1.0	Revision and Update of plant Key Biodiversity Areas and integrating them in land use planning	1.2	Assessment report including revised boundaries of plant KBA's located within the Mediterranean hotspot of Jordan by the end of month 15 of the project.	<p>The RSCN has worked to establish a national coordinating group that includes the experts and stakeholders to identify plant KBA within the Mediterranean region in Jordan. The group has worked to apply the criteria for all plant species that proposed within the region. After applying the KBAs guidelines to the plant initial list, only 18 species were successfully considered as trigger species according to the criteria to identify the KBA in Jordan. Based on the suggestions of the National Coordinating Group and in accordance with the established criteria, four regions have been identified as KBAs, which are: 1- Um-Qeis, Yarmouk and Malka site. 2- Ajloun and Ishtafaina site. 3- Sakeb, Jarash and Balqa Highlands site. 4- Dana, Shoubak and Petra Highlands site. at the end, a detailed final report was prepared and submitted, this report includes review of the boundaries of plant KBA's located within the Mediterranean hotspot of Jordan, description and maps for each site (see Annex (1)).</p>

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1.0	Revision and Update of plant Key Biodiversity Areas and integrating them in land use planning	1.1	Inception report by the end of month 2 of the project.	The inception report was prepared on time (1-1-2019). It mainly included a budget revision with additional funds allocated for training and provide the summary Report on the Plants KBA Induction Workshop (see Annex (2)).
1.0	Revision and Update of plant Key Biodiversity Areas and integrating them in land use planning	1.3	plant KBA's maps and guidelines adopted by MoMA as part of the Natural Heritage System (NHS) between the months 14 and 15 of the project	Building on the identified KBAs in the Mediterranean region in Jordan, The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature has reached out to all relevant stakeholders in the aim of integrating the KBAs into the landuse plans in the country The KBAs were originally selected based on the application of the global criteria. The potential trigger species were compiled and selected through a technical working group. Through the implementation of the criteria, four KBAs were identified and a validation workshop was held with all relevant stakeholders to share the findings and reach a consensus about the delineation of these KBAs taking into consideration the input from the different stakeholders. Two of the main governmental stakeholders that were involved in the follow-up steps were the MoEnv and MoLA. Both agreed that the identification of such KBAs is important, however they also stressed that if they are not integrated into the land-use plans, then it would be almost impossible to ensure their conservation. Based on building on a series of meetings, RSCN has

Component		Deliverable		
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				prepared a document outlining guidelines for landuse for KBAs.The final document was presented to both see Annex3. the guidelines are in progress of being approved formally,as they were initially approved in the project life spam
1.0	Revision and Update of plant Key Biodiversity Areas and integrating them in land use planning	1.4	plant KBA's maps will adopted by MoE as part of the Environmental Sensitivity Map that used by the Central Licensing Committee between the months 14 and 15	<p>The final boundaries of KBAs were sent to the Ministry of Environmental for accreditation as environmentally sensitive area and included in Jordanian environmental law.</p> <p>For each KBA site, six maps were prepared including (see Annex (4)):</p> <p>1- Eco-value Map: This map showed the protracted area, important bird area, SCA's, wadis high conservation value, forest land and other of ecological value in the sites.</p> <p>2- Biodiversity map: This map showed the distribution of plants, animals, and birds' species in the KBA sites, with focus on the distribution of plant trigger species for each KBAs.</p> <p>3-Landuse map: these maps were produced for each of the KBA based on the classified approved by the Ministry in 2007.</p> <p>4-Threat's map: This map showed the firing, grazing, private land, -urban and any threats was mentioned in the KBAs report.</p> <p>5-Core and Overlay classification map based on the MOMA Natural Heritage System (sensitive areas) format.</p>

Component		Deliverable		
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				6- In the end, the KBAs were classified as a Natural Heritage System (sensitive areas) format in the MOMA , where these areas were included in the new land plans under construction, which will be approved later by the People's Assembly.
1.0	Revision and Update of plant Key Biodiversity Areas and integrating them in land use planning	1.5	The National Patrol Plan will be updated to include plant KBA's boundaries during the months 15 and 19 of the project	During this project, The RSCN has recently developed its new strategy which gave more focus to the conservation efforts within the boundaries of protected areas and ecologically important hotspots of Jordan. To achieve this, the national patrolling plan was prepared. A new national patrolling plan was prepared based on the biodiversity hotspot areas depending on the targeted species of birds and mammals in addition to hunting events distribution. The RSCN manages and implements the patrol plan by its inspectors (rangers). The plan has been prepared and adopted to include all plant trigger species that have been identified. In addition, training has been given to rangers on how to protect these species. The IPA added a new layer of hotspots depending on plant species (see Annex (5)).
4.0	Establishing Long term Monitoring Systems for plant KBA's identified within the Mediterranean hotspot	4.1	A web based monitoring system for the plant KBA's in the Mediterranean hotspot of Jordan will be established	The The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) has developed the conceptual design and main components of the monitoring system for the KBAs in Jordan. the web-based achieved the below-mentioned deliverables:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
				<p>1) Upload gathered plant KBA's information from the assessment into the web-based monitoring system</p> <p>2) The KBA's database include Loads of information and observations, reports, and photos.</p> <p>4) Develop an online database, that allow both stakeholders and partners access to it.</p> <p>5) Prepare a capacity building program for stakeholders and targeted groups based on a proper needs assessment.</p> <p>6) A periodic evaluation system for the effectiveness of the KBAs database in the participation of key project partners, system users and target groups.</p> <p>7) A set of knowledge production for the KBAs database including user manual, brochures, PowerPoint presentations, developed and disseminated to all target groups and stakeholders.</p> <p>See http://kba.rscn.org.jo/</p>
4.0	Establishing Long term Monitoring Systems for plant KBA's identified within the Mediterranean hotspot	4.2	A 5 year field-based monitoring plan will develop for the revised plant KBA's sites located in the Mediterranean hot spot of Jordan	<p>The RSCN has developed the monitoring system for the KBAs and the trigger species in Jordan. This program contains the basic concepts used by KBAs secretaries to identified the Key Biodiversity Area in the world which include:</p> <p>1- Major habitats at the locality.</p> <p>2- Information on the GLOBAL status of the potential trigger species at your site.</p>

Component		Deliverable		
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				<p>3- Information about the populations of trigger species at the site (Number of reproductive units at site).</p> <p>4- Threats to trigger biodiversity elements at site (Information on threats to species, Information on threats to ecosystem types and Information on threats to areas of ecological integrity).</p> <p>see http://kba.rscn.org.jo/ and can you add any information about trigger species by http://kba.rscn.org.jo/admin_site/admin.aspx</p>
2.0	Enhancing Plant Conservation in Yarmouk, Ajloun and Dana Key Biodiversity Areas	2.1	Revised buffer zone boundaries for Yarmouk Forest Reserve, Ajloun Forest Reserve, and Dana Biosphere Reserve based on the results of the plant KBA's Assessment, merging plant KBA's with adjacent PA buffer zones if possible during the months 18 till 24	<p>The buffer zone boundaries of Yarmouk Forest Reserve, Ajloun Forest Reserve, and Dana Biosphere Reserve have been submitted and approved by the Ministry of Environment, this approval is valid within the project lifetime. Consultation meetings were held with stakeholders at PAs (Yarmouk, Dibben and Ajolun). During these meetings were presented showing the final KBAs boundaries. These boundaries were accepted by all stakeholders presents. Moreover, In the Memorandum of understanding between the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature and the Ministry of Environment. it is explicitly agreed that after one</p>

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				month of the formal submission of management plan of any reserve including its zoning plan, and buffer zone, the plan is considered approved if no communication and / or comments were made from the side of the ministry in one month time (see Annex (6)).
3.0	Strengthening the capacities and awareness levels of RSCN and key stakeholders in the field of plant KBA's identification and assessment, and integrating plant KBA's in land use planning and management	3.1	A three days training program on plant KBA criteria and their application to assess and identify plant KBA's for 15 researchers and practitioners to be held between months 3 and 6	A national working group led by RSCN team and national experts established, ten one-day technical workshops organized, a national workshop (attended by more than 50 participants) with regional and international participation (including from IUCN, BirdLife, Egypt, Palestine) organized, a detailed workshop report prepared and shared with all participants. The workshop included one field day to three of the proposed plant KBAs in Lower Zarqa Basin (Tal Rumman), Ajloun and Yarmouk Areas. see annex (10)
2.0	Enhancing Plant Conservation in Yarmuk, Ajloun and Dana Key Biodiversity Areas	2.2	The Yarmouk Forest Reserve's management Plan has strengthened plant component with strategic objectives, activities focused on the conservation of the plant KBA between the months 22 and 27	The concept of KBA was integrated in Yarmouk Management Plan as a new layer of conservation. This layer includes: 1-The importance of the KBA within Yarmouk Reserve was highlighted, with focus on the conservation of the site. Clear boundaries of the site were also demonstrated.

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
				<p>2-The species of interest (Only one species) was also highlighted and identified both in the management plan, and to the on-ground staff.</p> <p>3-The criterion of selection of KBA (A1a) was explained in the management plan to justify the selection of the site and the further integration in the conservation plan.</p> <p>4-Map of species distribution range was provided.</p> <p>5-Kernel density was estimated for the species distribution and transformed for "hotspot" map showing the species distribution density within Yarmouk Reserve.</p> <p>6-The zoning plan of the reserve has been updating, Where Some areas have been modified to integrate with the result of the IPAs assessment.</p> <p>7-Two operational objectives were added in relation to the KBA concept including:</p> <p>a-Specific conservation plan directed to conserve the areas where the species of "KBA" is distributed</p> <p>b-Long term "KBA" species monitoring programmed to be developed and focuses in specific indicators to measure the changes in the species status. See Annex (7,Pp 55-57,66)</p>
2.0	Enhancing Plant Conservation in Yarmuk, Ajloun and Dana Key Biodiversity Areas	2.3	The Ajloun Forest Reserve's management Plan has strengthened plant component with strategic objectives, activities focused	<p>The concept of KBA was integrated in Ajloun Management Plan as a new layer of conservation. This layer includes:</p> <p>1- The importance of the IPA within Ajloun Reserve was highlighted, with focus on the</p>

Component		Deliverable		
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			on the conservation of the plant KBA between the months 22 and 27	<p>conservation of the site. Clear boundaries of the site were also demonstrated.</p> <p>2- The species of interest (Two species) were also highlighted and identified both in the management plan, and to the on-ground staff.</p> <p>3- The criteria of selection of KBA (A1a) were explained in the management plan to justify the selection of the site and the further integration in the conservation plan.</p> <p>4- Map of species distribution range was provided.</p> <p>5- Kernel density was estimated for the species distribution and transformed for "hotspot" map showing the species distribution density within Yarmouk Reserve.</p> <p>6- The zoning plan of the reserve has been updating, Where Some areas have been modified to integrate with the result of the KBAs.</p> <p>7- Two operational objectives were added in relation to the KBA concept including:</p> <p>a- Specific conservation plan directed to conserve the areas where the species of "KBA" is distributed.</p> <p>b- Long term "KBA" species monitoring programmed to be developed and focuses on specific indicators to measure the changes in the species. See Annex (8, page 47-52, page 58)</p>

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
2.0	Enhancing Plant Conservation in Yarmuk, Ajloun and Dana Key Biodiversity Areas	2.4	Dana Biosphere Reserve's management Plan has strengthened plant component with strategic objectives, activities focused on the conservation of the plant KBA between the months 22 and 27	<p>The concept of KBA was integrated in Dana Management Plan as a new layer of conservation. This layer includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- The importance of the KBA within Dana Reserve was highlighted, with focus on the conservation of the site. Clear boundaries of the site were also demonstrated. 2- The species of interest (six ten species) were also highlighted and identified both in the management plan, and to the on-ground staff. 3- The criteria of selection of KBA (A1b and B1) were explained in the management plan to justify the selection of the site and the further integration in the conservation plan. 4- Map of species distribution range was provided. 5- Kernel density was estimated for the species distribution and transformed for "hotspot" map showing the species distribution density within Yarmouk Reserve. 6- The zoning plan of the reserve has been updating, Where Some areas have been modified to integrate with the result of the KBAs. 7- Two operational objectives were added in relation to the KBA concept including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a- Specific conservation plan directed to conserve the areas where the species of "KBA" is distributed.

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
				b- Long term "KBA" species monitoring programme to be developed and focuses on specific indicators to measure the changes in. see annex (9)
3.0	Strengthening the capacities and awareness levels of RSCN and key stakeholders in the field of plant KBA's identification and assessment, and integrating plant KBA's in land use planning and management	3.2	A one-day workshop on "Mainstreaming plant KBA's in development and land use planning" for 25 members including the members of the national central licensing and EIA committees and land use planners from (MoMA, JVA, and PTDR)	The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature has reached out to all relevant stakeholders in the aim of integrating the KBAs into the land-use plans in the country. Two of the main governmental stakeholders that were involved in the follow-up steps were MoEnv and the Ministry of Local Administration MoLA. Based on this, and building on a series of meetings, RSCN has prepared a document outlining guidelines for land-use for KBAs. The document was drafted and presented to both entities who have approved it after review. A workshop was held for 18 members including the members of the national central licensing and EIA committees and land use planners from (MoMA and JVA). during the workshop A detailed presentation was made on how to recognize KBAs and the importance of protecting them, in addition to the presentation of the entire content of the guide and the land-use definition they include and the instruction of conserving the species and habitats under each land-use type Finally, the workshop also provided recommendations outlining future actions that are required to ensure the implementation of such guidelines while also aiming to reach out

Component		Deliverable		
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				the process of KBA selection to cover all potential KBAs in the country and not just in the Mediterranean region.
3.0	Strengthening the capacities and awareness levels of RSCN and key stakeholders in the field of plant KBA's identification and assessment, and integrating plant KBA's in land use planning and management	3.3	A 2 days training workshop on "An overview of patrolling skills and Integrating plant KBA's into patrol plans" for 15 rangers from RSCN, the Royal rangers and Rangers from the Forestry Department	<p>RSCN was held tow-day training workshop in the period from 22-23 September 2021 with the aim to training the rangers on patrolling skills and integration of KBAs in the Patrol planning to protect the trigger species and the sites of KBAs. see annex (11)</p> <p>Training program included theoretical and practical sessions using power point presentations, discussions, and group works. The training included several topics are:</p> <p>1- Plant Biodiversity in Jordan; this presentation focused on identifying plants and their importance in the ecosystem, defining the types of vegetation cover and the boundaries of biogeographical region in Jordan</p> <p>2- Defining threatened flora, importance, and threats and a discussion on how to protect them.</p> <p>3- Important plant species in Jordan; this lecture included defining the trigger species that were identified during the project as important species at the global level, through which KBAs were identified.</p> <p>4- patrolling plans in nature reserves and outside the reserves to include all KBA sites in Jordan.</p> <p>5- Skills to using GPS within the inspection plan for Key biodiversity areas; This training</p>

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				included how to record the Sites of important species and how to transfer information to researchers as well as to contribute to the process of monitoring
3.0	Strengthening the capacities and awareness levels of RSCN and key stakeholders in the field of plant KBA's identification and assessment, and integrating plant KBA's in land use planning and management	3.4	A 10 minutes documentary on the RSCN's efforts to mainstream biodiversity conservation in the national land use planning framework will be developed between the months 30 and 36 of the project	<p>The RSCN produced the documentary film about the Key Biodiversity Area in Jordan. This movie included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Definition to Key Biodiversity Area and important plant area areas in the world. 2- Definition to criteria used to identify the Key Biodiversity area. 3- Introducing the National Working Group and How did team identify the important plants areas in Jordan? 4- Definition the sites that have been identified in Jordan and the role of the project in preserving these sites. 5- The project's contribution to establishing, supporting and directing the national working group to achieve the project's objectives 6- Explanation of the importance of protecting endemic and rare species within the habitats they contain in Jordan <p>Below links you can find video link on YouTube and Facebook</p> <p>https://www.facebook.com/100064918472640/posts/347864110720869/?d=n&mibextid=H6v3FD</p>

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				https://youtu.be/n9jCkGuKWEc
3.0	Strengthening the capacities and awareness levels of RSCN and key stakeholders in the field of plant KBA's identification and assessment, and integrating plant KBA's in land use planning and management	3.5	A booklet on plant KBA's including the list of plant KBA's identified within the Mediterranean hotspot, a brief description of each site, plant KBA qualifying criteria, key species and maps will produce between the months 16 and 21	A Booklet was prepared and designed for the important plant areas in Jordan (in Arabic) see annex (12), as well as the print the 400 copies. This book included a detailed description for each KBA area and the criteria used to determine their boundary and their importance for plants and biodiversity. In addition to that the booklet contain the high quality photo for the trigger species and photo of rare species at the global and local level with description for all these species
3.0	Strengthening the capacities and awareness levels of RSCN and key stakeholders in the field of plant KBA's identification and assessment, and integrating plant KBA's in land use planning and management	3.6	Exchange visit for project staff to participate in CEPF events in partner countries during the project implementation phase	The organization of the Mediterranean Plant KBAs National Technical workshop was the main project activity during quarter four of the year 2019. The workshop represented a critical step in the initiative related to the preparation and validation of the national Plant KBAs report for Jordan. For this aim, RSCN organized the three-day national workshop in the period from 14-16December2019 with regional and international participation (including from IUCN, Egypt, Palestine). The workshop sought to achieve the following outputs: Present and discuss the global guidelines and standard for KBAs including criteria, assessment, delineation and nomination.

Component		Deliverable		
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				<p>Present and discuss the first draft of the national Plant KBAs report based on the global standard and guideline.</p> <p>Share and discuss selected national case studies related to KBAs identification and assessment.</p> <p>Initiate the establishment of the KBAs National Coordination Group (NCG) using the global guidelines and needed arrangements for the development of the national KBAs program.</p> <p>In order to achieve the results above, the workshop was divided into two parts, a site visit and the actual workshop. A total of 51 participants have attended the workshop from 17 national, regional and international organizations, partners and stakeholders</p>
2.0	Enhancing Plant Conservation in Yarmuk, Ajloun and Dana Key Biodiversity Areas	2.5	Management Effectiveness Tracking Tools (METTs) filled up for the three sites at beginning and end of the project.	The all baseline METTs were prepared and submitted
5.0	Institutional Capacity of RSCN improved for all components of Civil Society Tracking Tool (CSTT)	5.1	CSTT will filled up during the beginning of the project as a baseline and a final one by the end of the project.	All required reports were prepared and submitted as per the CEPF criteria and format.
4.0	Establishing Long term Monitoring Systems for plant KBA's identified within the Mediterranean hotspot	4.3	A safeguard monitoring report will submitted every six months to CEPF as "Management Effectiveness	All required reports were prepared and submitted as per the CEPF criteria and format.

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
			Tracking Tool" for the revised plant KBA's sites	
6.0	Regional Training on Protected Area management through RSCN's Royal Academy for the Nature Conservation	6.1	Train at least 4 grantees from Libya	This activity was cancelled due to Corona pandemic, and the political situation in Libya that prevent trainees to travel, or to get visa in Jordan.
3.0	Strengthening the capacities and awareness levels of RSCN and key stakeholders in the field of plant KBA's identification and assessment, and integrating plant KBA's in land use planning and management	3.6	Plant specimens collected during project (within the Mediterranean region of Jordan) documented and preserved in herbarium.	About 5000 plants specimens located within the Mediterranean region were collected through the project to assess and identify KBAs in Jordan. The plant species were classified with the help of a plant expert and archived according to the international standards used in herbaria. Now the specimens are kept in the herbarium of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature.

Tools, products or methodologies that resulted from the project or contributed to the results:

- 1- Prepare the KBAs assessment report, including the assessment of site description, site KBA qualifying criteria and maps.
- 2- Prepare the Jordan Plant Key Biodiversity Areas Delineation Procedures report according to KBA guidelines document; it presents geospatial data collected and analyzed process based on the best available knowledge and data that helped build a database of 18 species that met KBAs criteria distributed within four sites in Jordan's Mediterranean region.
- 3- Develop the maps to all boundaries of the four sites' buffer zones.
- 4- KBA maps and boundaries classified to two classes according to importance and threats in a compatible format with MoMA NHS core and overlay classifications. For each KBA site, six maps were prepared including: A) Eco-value Map: This map showed the protracted area, important bird area, SCA's, wadis high conservation value, forest land and other of ecological value in the sites. B) Biodiversity map: This map showed the distribution of plants, animals, and birds' species in the KBA sites, with focus on the distribution of plant trigger species for each KBA site. C) Land use maps: these maps were produced for each of the KBA based on the classified approved by the Ministry in 2007. D) Threat's map: This map showed the firing, grazing, private land, -urban and any threat mentioned in the KBAs report. E) Core and Overlay

classification map based on the MoMA Natural Heritage System (sensitive areas) format. - Note: This map was not produced for Dana, Shoubak, and Petra site because they are not including in MoMA dataset, which was replaced by a map of land uses to that area.

5- A new national patrolling plan was prepared based on the biodiversity hotspot areas depending on the targeted species of birds and mammals in addition to hunting events distribution. The KBA added a new layer of hotspots depending on plant species, with no major changes of the current hotspots' areas.

6- Prepare, design, and print the 400 copies of the Jordanian's important plant areas booklet (in Arabic).

7- Prepare the documentary film on the project to mainstream the biodiversity conservation in the national land use planning framework.

8- Update all management plans to the reserve located in the KBA sites, considering the KBAs concept, trigger species criteria, and values in the various activities including protection, awareness, monitoring, and advocacy.

9- Prepared the 01 draft of land use guideline, but the formal approval by MOMA was delayed

PORTFOLIO INDICATORS

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
4.2	Number of unprotected sites important for plants with improved management practices			4	Each of the four KBA sites contained a nature reserve (which is protected by law) and a buffer zone for these reserves and its surroundings area (this areas include private and government lands). During this project, the KBAs have been recognized as environmentally sensitive areas to become a government-defined area and protected by law. In addition, the national inspection plan implemented by the Royal Society for the

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
					Conservation of Nature has been amended to include regular patrols of these areas and the application of law to protect them, as well as the monitoring and protection of rare plant species.
4.3	Number of management plans of protected areas incorporating specific actions for plant conservation			4	four protected areas management plans (Dana biosphere reserve, Ajloun forest reserve, Yarmouk forest reserve, and Dibben forest reserve) were incorporated specific actions for plant conservation. The amendment included a clear monitoring program for important plant species, and update the zoning plan of the reserve, where some areas have been modified to integrate with the result of the KBAs assessment, and update the zoning plan of the reserve, where some areas have been modified to integrate with the result of the KBAs assessment and produce the maps for the reserve and buffer zones including Eco value Maps, Biodiversity maps (rare plant species) Land use maps, Threat's maps

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
					and Core and Overlay classification maps based on the MOMA Natural Heritage System (sensitive areas) format.
4.4	Number of protected area managers demonstrating improved skills and knowledge on plant conservation			4	Four managers actively participated in defining the KBAs and giving enough information for how to protect them.
4.5	Number of locally endemic or highly threatened plant species for which improved knowledge is available			3	After applying the KBAs guidelines criteria to the plant species list, only 3 species were defined as important plant species in Jordan at global level, and 15 species are not evaluated by IUCN, in addition to that the locations of these species within the Mediterranean region are become known now, as well as , A booklet for important plant areas has been prepared that provides a detailed explanation of these species and their locations.
4.6	Number of KBAs for which information on plants is improved			4	Four sites have been identified as KBAs, which are: a) Um-Qeis, Yarmouk and

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
					Malka site. b) Ajloun and Ishtafaina site. c) Sakeb, Jarash and Balqa Highlands site. d) Dana, shaoubak, and Petra Highlands site. a detailed final report was prepared of the important plant area, this report includes review of the boundaries of plant KBAs located within the Mediterranean hotspot of Jordan, description and maps for each site. Based on the suggestions of the species of the national coordinating group and in accordance with the established criteria, that is found in the KBAs guidelines; 18 species were defined as important plant species in Jordan at global level, in addition to that the locations of these species within the Mediterranean region are become known now.
4.7	Number of young professionals with substantial experience in plant conservation gained			30	At least 15 researchers were involved in the process of evaluating and identifying important plants species (trigger species)

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
					and applying the criteria used in KBAs guideline and delineated the IPAs within the Mediterranean region in Jordan. At least 15 rangers participated in a training workshop patrolling skills and integration the IPA's in the Patrol planning.
4.8	Number of plans adopted at the national level with improved integration of plant conservation needs			1	national patrolling plan. Update and adopted the management plans of Yarmouk, Ajloun, Dibben and Dana reserves. The RSCN manages and implements the patrol plan by its inspectors (rangers). The plan has been prepared and adopted to include all plant trigger species that have been identified and training has been given to rangers on how to protect these species. In addition, RSCN is managing the protected areas directly, as the management plans of the four reserves plans (Dana biosphere reserve, Ajloun forest reserve, Yarmouk Forest reserve, and Dibben Forest reserve) that are located within the

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
					boundaries of the important areas have been updated.

GLOBAL INDICATORS

Protected Areas

Protected areas that have been created and/or expanded as a result of the project. Protected areas may include private or community reserves, municipal or provincial parks, or other designations where biodiversity conservation is an official management goal.

Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID*	Latitude	Longitude	Country	Original Total Size (Hectares) **	New Protected Hectares ***	Year of Legal Declaration or Expansion
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*World Database of Protected Areas

**If this is a new protected area, 0 should appear in this column

*** This column excludes the original total size of the protected area.

Key Biodiversity Area Management

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) under improved management—where tangible results have been achieved to support conservation—as a result of the project.

KBA Name	KBA Code	Size of KBA	Number of Hectares with Improved Management
Yarmouk	JOR13		2,756
Ajloun	JOR01		5,760
Dana and Shoubak	JOR02		201,035
Dibeen	JOR03		18,815

Production Landscapes

Production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity as a result of the project.

A production landscape is defined as a site outside a protected area where commercial agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs.

Name of Production Landscape	Latitude	Longitude	Hectares Strengthened	Intervention
Dana, Shoubak and Petra Highlands	30.51841	35.53914	201,035	The final boundaries of Dana, Shoubak and Petra Highlands (KBAs) were sent to the Ministry of Environmental for accreditation as environmentally sensitive area and included in Jordanian environmental law. For the site, six maps were prepared including: 1- Eco-value Map: This map showed the protracted area, important bird area, SCA's, wadis high conservation value, forest land and other of ecological value in the sites. 2- Biodiversity map: This map showed the

Name of Production Landscape	Latitude	Longitude	Hectares Strengthened	Intervention
				<p>distribution of plants, animals, and birds' species in the KBA sites, with focus on the distribution of plant trigger species for each KBA site.</p> <p>3-Landuse map: these maps were produced for each of the KBA based on the classified approved by the Ministry in 2007.</p> <p>4-Threat's map: This map showed the firing, grazing, private land, -urban and any threats was mentioned in the KBAs report.</p> <p>5-Core and Overlay classification map based on the MOMA Natural Heritage System (sensitive areas) format.</p> <p>in addition to that, a new national patrolling plan was prepared based on the biodiversity hotspot areas depending on the targeted species of birds and mammals in addition to hunting events distribution. The KBA added a new layer of hotspots depending on plant species.</p>
Ajloun and Ishtafaina	32.369624	35.760578	5,760	The final boundaries of Ajloun and Ishtafaina (KBAs) were sent to the Ministry of Environmental for accreditation as environmentally sensitive area and

Name of Production Landscape	Latitude	Longitude	Hectares Strengthened	Intervention
				<p>included in Jordanian environmental law. For the site, six maps were prepared including:</p> <p>1- Eco-value Map: This map showed the protracted area, important bird area, SCA's, wadis high conservation value, forest land and other of ecological value in the sites.</p> <p>2- Biodiversity map: This map showed the distribution of plants, animals, and birds' species in the KBA sites, with focus on the distribution of plant trigger species for each KBA site.</p> <p>3-Landuse map: these maps were produced for each of the KBA based on the classified approved by the Ministry in 2007.</p> <p>4-Threat's map: This map showed the firing, grazing, private land, -urban and any threats was mentioned in the KBAs report.</p> <p>5-Core and Overlay classification map based on the MOMA Natural Heritage System (sensitive areas) format.</p> <p>in addition to that, a new national patrolling plan was prepared based on the biodiversity hotspot areas depending on the targeted species</p>

Name of Production Landscape	Latitude	Longitude	Hectares Strengthened	Intervention
				of birds and mammals in addition to hunting events distribution. The KBA added a new layer of hotspots depending on plant species.
Um-Qeis, Yarmouk and Malka	32.690374	35.726322	2,756	<p>The final boundaries of Um-Qeis, Yarmouk and Malka (KBAs) were sent to the Ministry of Environmental for accreditation as environmentally sensitive area and included in Jordanian environmental law. For the site, six maps were prepared including:</p> <p>1- Eco-value Map: This map showed the protracted area, important bird area, SCA's, wadis high conservation value, forest land and other of ecological value in the sites.</p> <p>2- Biodiversity map: This map showed the distribution of plants, animals, and birds' species in the KBA sites, with focus on the distribution of plant trigger species for each KBA site.</p> <p>3-Landuse map: these maps were produced for each of the KBA based on the classified approved by the Ministry in 2007.</p> <p>4-Threat's map: This map showed the firing, grazing, private land, -urban and any threats was</p>

Name of Production Landscape	Latitude	Longitude	Hectares Strengthened	Intervention
				<p>mentioned in the KBAs report.</p> <p>5-Core and Overlay classification map based on the MOMA Natural Heritage System (sensitive areas) format.</p> <p>in addition to that, a new national patrolling plan was prepared based on the biodiversity hotspot areas depending on the targeted species of birds and mammals in addition to hunting events distribution.</p> <p>The KBA added a new layer of hotspots depending on plant species.</p>

Benefits to Individuals

- Structured Training:**

Number of Men Trained	Number of Women Trained	Topics of Training
20	10	<p>Training program on plant KBA criteria and their application to assess and identify plant KBA's.</p> <p>Training on patrolling skills and Integrating plant KBA's into patrol plans</p>

- Cash Benefits:**

Number of Men – Cash Benefits	Number of Women – Cash Benefits	Description of Benefits
0	0	0

Benefits to Communities

View the characteristics column below with the following corresponding codes:	View the benefits column below with the following corresponding codes:
1- Small Landowners	a. Increased Access to Clean Water
2- Subsistence Economy	b. Increased Food Security
3- Indigenous/ Ethnic Peoples	c. Increased Access to Energy
4- Pastoralists / Nomadic Peoples	d. Increased Access to Public Services
5- Recent Migrants	e. Increased Resilience to Climate Change
6- Urban Communities	f. Improved Land Tenure
7- Other	g. Improved Use of Traditional Knowledge
	h. Improved Decision-Making
	i. Improved Access to Ecosystem Services

Community Name	Community Characteristics							Type of Benefit									Country	Number of Males Benefitting	Number of Females Benefitting
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i			

Characteristics of "Other" Communities:

Policies, Laws and Regulations

View the topics column below with the following corresponding codes:			
A- Agriculture	E- Energy	I- Planning/Zoning	M- Tourism
B- Climate	F- Fisheries	J- Pollution	N- Transportation
C- Ecosystem Management	G- Forestry	K- Protected Areas	O- Wildlife Trade
D- Education	H- Mining and Quarrying	L- Species Protection	P- Other

No.	Name of Law	Scope	Topics															
			A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
1	National patrolling plans	National	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Environmental Sensitivity Area	National	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

“Other” Topics Addressed by the Policy, Law or Regulation:

No.	Country/ Countries	Date Enacted/ Amended	Expected impact	Action Performed to Achieve the Enactment/ Amendment
1	Jordan	January 02, 2022	More protection for important plant species	The amendments were written and submitted to the Protection Department of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, which is the department authorized to adopt and implement the national plan, where it was approved
2	Jordan	July 05, 2022	protection for KBA sites	Several meetings were held with the Ministry of Environment and MoEnv. The final boundaries of KBAs were sent to the Ministry of Local Administration and approved as environmentally sensitive areas.

Companies Adopting Biodiversity-friendly Practices

A company is defined as a for-profit business entity. A biodiversity-friendly practice is one that conserves or uses natural resources in a sustainable manner.

Name of Company	Description of Biodiversity-Friendly Practice	Country/Countries where Practice was Adopted
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Networks and Partnerships

Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable.

Name of Network/Partnership	Year Established	Country/Countries	Established by Project?	Purpose
National Coordination Groups	2019	Jordan	Yes	The main objective of this working group was to exchange information and expertise in a participatory and efficient way for the identification of the proposed plant KBAs. The working group included taxonomic experts, national conservation specialists, university professors who have a track record and knowledge of the species and ecosystems in the country.

Sustainable Financing

Sustainable financing mechanisms generate funding for the long-term (generally five or more years). These include, but are not limited to, conservation trust funds, debt-for-nature swaps, payment for ecosystem services (PES) schemes, and other revenue, fee or tax schemes that generate long-term funding for conservation.

Name of Mechanism	Purpose	Date Established	Description	Country/Countries	Project Intervention	Delivery of Funds?
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Globally Threatened Species

Globally threatened species (CR, EN, VU) on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, benefitting from the project.

Genus	Species	Common Name (English)	Status	Intervention	Population Trend at Site
Iris	atropurpurea	Coastal Iris	CR	<p>The species of interest (Iris atropurpurea) was highlighted and identified both in the management plan, and to the on ground staff.</p> <p>2- Map of species distribution range was provided.</p> <p>3- The zoning plan of the site has been update.</p> <p>4- Specific conservation plan directed to conserve the areas where the species of "KBA" is distributed.</p> <p>5- Long term "KBA" species monitoring programmed to be developed and focuses in specific indicators to measure the changes in the species status.</p>	Stable
Iris	bismarckiana	Nazareth Iris	EN	<p>The species of interest (Iris bismarckiana) was highlighted and identified both in the management plan, and to the on ground staff.</p> <p>2- Map of species distribution range was provided.</p> <p>3- The zoning plan of the site has been update.</p> <p>4- Specific conservation plan directed to conserve the areas where the species of "KBA" is distributed.</p> <p>5- Long term "KBA" species monitoring programmed to be developed and focuses in specific indicators to measure the changes in the species status.</p>	Stable
Iris	nigricans	Black Iris	VU	<p>1- The species of interest (Iris nigricans) was highlighted and identified both in the</p>	Stable

Genus	Species	Common Name (English)	Status	Intervention	Population Trend at Site
				management plan, and to the on-ground staff. 2- Map of species distribution range was provided. 3- The zoning plan of the site has been updated. 4- Specific conservation plan directed to conserve the areas where the species of "KBA" is distributed. 5- Long term "KBA" species monitoring programmed to be developed and focuses on specific indicators to measure the changes in the species status.	

LESSONS LEARNED

The project directly promoted the preservation of KBAs, and in particular rare species at the global level, and developed plans to protect these species.

One of the lessons learned from this project is to work with all stakeholders in order to gain the support of government institutions and local communities in preserving these areas.

SUSTAINABILITY/REPLICATION

One of the challenges that the project faced is taking government approvals on the boundary of KBAs. There was a great challenge in taking these approvals in conjunction with the time of the project, the approvals for this boundary need a lot of time, which may exceed two years. After taking full approvals, the Royal Society became authorized to manage and protect these areas, thus ensuring the continuity of their preservation within the law.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS/STANDARDS

The SEP was implemented. The Grievance mechanism was prepared and published. No complain received

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

It is very important to continue with the rare species protection projects that were identified during this project. For example, work to a new project to study the habitats of these species and it regenerate in these areas.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Total Amount of Additional Funding Actually Secured (USD)	\$70,000.00
Breakdown of Additional Funding	MAVA 20,000 USD, UNDP 50,000 (mainly in relation to KBA identification and work on patrolling plan)

INFORMATION SHARING AND CEPF POLICY

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. For more information about this project, you may contact the organization and/or individual listed below.

The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) is an independent national organization devoted to the conservation of Jordan's natural resources. RSCN was established in 1966 with His Majesty the late King Hussein as the Honorary President. RSCN

