

CEPF Final Project Completion Report

Instructions to grantees: please complete all fields, and respond to all questions, below.

Organization Legal Name	Lebanese Environment Forum
Project Title	Promoting Responsible Hunting Practices in Lebanon using Community Based Approach
CEPF GEM No.	LEB-63289
Date of Report	November 2015
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CEPF Region: MEDITERRANEAN BASIN BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

Strategic Direction: Strategic Direction 3: Improve the conservation and protection status of 44 priority key biodiversity areas

Grant Amount: 182385\$

Project Dates: 1 January 2014 – 30 June 2015 (extension to 30 September 2015)

1. Implementation Partners for this Project (*list each partner and explain how they were involved in the project*)

LEF was the lead partner responsible for the coordination of the project on administrative and financial basis.

The principal implementation partner of LEF for this project is **SPNL** who provided the technical support to LEF during the project including moderating the national workshop targeting LEF conservation NGOs and municipalities in component 1, the support in developing awareness material on responsible hunting in component 2, and leading on the field research and development of the management and monitoring plans for RHA models in component 4.

Conservation Impacts

2. Describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile

Through this project, LEF has worked to reduce the hunting threat in Lebanon through a national outreach campaign by raising awareness about importance of KBAs, birds and biodiversity and the concept of responsible hunting to the public and especially to environmental NGOs.

The Responsible Hunting Project in Lebanon is contributing to the CEPF ecosystem profile through the development of a communication plan for sustainable hunting addressing the general Lebanese public where different awareness material has been produced (posters, brochure, roll ups, website, short film, smart phone application) to be used by LEF

conservation NGOs where activities will be done on local level (around nature reserves, IBAs, IPA, KBAs, or identified RHAs).

This project initiated a pilot model RHA area to be replicated later, with management and monitoring plans including all the needed actions and activities for promoting responsible hunting with a support group members – SSG trained on basic bird identification skills, site and bird monitoring, sustainable hunting practices, site management and conservation advocacy.

All project activities aims to improve the conservation and protection status of 44 priority key biodiversity areas”, by raising constituency towards responsible hunting practices and supporting responsible hunting areas-RHAs in order to reach a positive change towards organized responsible hunting practices and decreasing hunting pressure on the declared KBAs and IBAs.

3. Summarize the overall results/impact of your project

At the end of the project, LEF has accomplished the following achievements and results:

- Through a national workshop gathering more than 40 NGOs, and other stakeholders such as municipalities and nature reserves in Lebanon, awareness is raised on the importance of KBAs, birds and biodiversity, on the threat of hunting and the concept of sustainable hunting and RHAs.
- Signature of NGOs on the declaration of the “Code of Best Practices for Responsible Hunting and the Full Protection of Migratory Soaring Birds”.
- Consensus is reached on the proposed criteria for selection of RHAs and adopted by NGOs.
- An action plan forward for awareness is drafted and agreed on with the LEF conservation NGOs.
- LEF conservation NGOs interested to follow up on the implementation of public awareness campaign on responsible hunting and RHAs were identified.
- List of activities for LEF NGOs to be implemented by each one of them with budget and a monitoring plan for follow up by LEF.
- A communication plan for responsible hunting targeting general public is developed with a project logo and branding guidelines.
- Printed awareness materials (posters, roll ups, and booklets) were prepared targeting all the public and especially hunters. A Website with a social media channel, short film, and a mobile application on responsible hunting was developed to raise awareness about conservation of birds and to promote best hunting practices.
- Two potential RHAs are selected in Anjar and Qayouli-Roum to be as RHA model.
- Field survey for Anjar RHA (for its habitats, land uses, general biodiversity, and threats) has been implemented.
- A management plan including all the needed actions and activities for promoting responsible hunting in Anjar RHA has been developed including a site and game species action plan.
- Two different EIA studies for Anjar and Qaytoui-Roum Sites are developed.

- Site support group members-SSG from for Anjar and Kfarzabad region are trained in basic bird identification skills, site and bird monitoring, sustainable hunting practices, site management and conservation advocacy.
- Two kiosks at the entrance of the RHAs are now established.

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

List each long-term impact from Grant Writer proposal

To support the conservation status of key biodiversity areas-KBAs in Lebanon through decreasing the unsustainable hunting pressures in Lebanon

4. Actual progress toward long-term impacts at completion

All project activities are considered as a good start towards the adoption of responsible hunting practices by the Lebanese general public and next generations, especially by Lebanese conservation NGOs. In this context, awareness about hunting pressures will protect birds and IBAs by the community (NGOs) and the concept of RHAs as mitigation for the proper implementation of the hunting law will be adopted and applied by the municipalities. A continuous corporation between local NGOs and municipalities will lead to the protection of natural resources, not only birds and biodiversity, but also will gather efforts in all environmental issues.

Producing the website with the social media channel targets a large audience as young adults and smart phone holders in Lebanon and Arabic region. Mobile application will create a network among hunters and interested users, and between LEF and users on other hand (Push notifications messages, news and updates). Locations (with a GPS direction), bird photos, violations, could be reported by hunters anywhere and anytime.

The field survey and the management plan of the RHA Anjar site could be used for future projects plan for action, in addition to the business plan and species monitoring plan for the model RHA site.

EIA study for Qaytouli- Roum RHA will serve in all other future studies and research on Fauna/ Flora and land use in the region.

Kiosks will be used by the municipalities to promote responsible hunting for hunters, visitors and locals: for entrance fees to the RHA, to display awareness material on responsible hunting (especially the material developed by LEF), for selling locals products (handcrafts, local foods). The kiosk will serve as a center/office for hunting guards, to meet, coordinate, and rest.

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

List each short-term impact from Grant Writer proposal

To reduce the hunting threat in Lebanon by end of the project through national outreach campaign, building constituency around responsible hunting practices & RHA towards the proper implementation of the law.

5. Actual progress toward short-term impacts at completion

It is important to highlight that LEF NGOs members and municipalities are aware about the importance of IBAs/KBAs, birds and biodiversity, and the concept of responsible hunting areas RHAs is introduced as a solution for hunting chaos for the upcoming years, and LEF NGOs are enthusiastic to initiate an awareness campaign in their regions.

During the project, LEF members were gathered under the umbrella of conservation and responsible hunting practices, and promoted to work together to achieve this goal.

This project has created printed awareness material ready to be used by LEF NGOs in their local awareness campaign (in training workshops, and hunting related events) to raise awareness on responsible hunting and RHAs. Containing information on game species declared by the Lebanese HHC, on safety guidelines, hunting permit procedures and hunting law, these materials could be used by Hunting Clubs, as a tool for responsible hunting and permit license tests organized by the ministry of Environment, also in gun and ammunition stores and in the kiosks at the entrance of RHAs.

And a lot of individuals, schools, and interested organizations are asking for these materials to be used in their environmental activities to spread the concept of responsible hunting in their communities.

Online awareness materials will create a live and active interaction involving both hunters and nature lovers and especially youth hunters using project social media channel.

Hunters and other mobile app users will be able to locate RHAs sites and gain immediate access to on-the-spot species profiles, rules and regulations, and important permits and licensing details. Also advanced GPS technology allows hunters to record trails and use waypoints and photos to mark sites and uncover which RHAs are closest to the hunter.

SSG training for Anjar and Kfarzabad hunters raised awareness on nature and bird conservation and introduced the concept of responsible hunting and the environmental and socioeconomic benefits of establishing a Responsible Hunting area in the region that could be managed not only by the municipality but also by locals. The success of this training will lead to its replication in all Lebanese regions, especially around RHAs.

Municipalities of the RHAs (Anjar, Aytoule, and Roum) are more engaged in responsible hunting concept (municipality members and employees, policemen, and locals in a later stage).

EIA study of Anjar and Qaytoui- Roum RHA will be used for a proper RHA management plan in the region in the future.

Kiosks established at the entrance of the RHA are considered as a concrete action for municipalities, locals and decision makers as a first step into a real managed responsible hunting area, other than just studies.

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

Success:

Gathering a large number of NGOs in a national workshop with the patronage of the ministry of Environment, where awareness about importance of KBAs, birds & biodiversity, the concept of responsible hunting and RHAs was raised. All participants in the workshop were highly engaged and interested.

At the beginning of the project, potential risks were expected to be faced during implementation like lack of interest from the conservation NGOs towards the national collaboration on responsible hunting and from municipalities towards RHAs in their domain, but NGOs and municipalities were highly involved and excited in organizing hunting in Lebanon through this project.

LEF and SPNL succeeded in advocating for the community management of the RHA by municipalities-local authorities where three municipalities (Anjar, Roum and Qaytouli) are enthusiastic and expressed their readiness in establishing RHAs on their lands.

This project has produced a large number of awareness materials covering all hunting issues (game birds, Safety guidelines, hunting permit procedures, hunting law, and Responsible Hunting Areas in Lebanon). It is a potential component to be used in a large national campaign all over Lebanon

Since there is no practical work on the ground in the pilot RHA, Kiosks established at the entrance of the RHA are considered as a concrete action for municipalities, locals and decision makers and a first step into a real managed responsible hunting area.

Challenges:

Political and security instability in the country and region:

Due to the current security situation, and upon the request of the Lebanese Minister of Environment, the workshop was postponed from June 27, 2014 to November 8, 2014. This has delayed the implementation of the component 1.

7. Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

There were no negative impacts from project activities.

Several unexpected positive impacts occurred during the implementation of activities:

The national workshop gathered 81 participants from different stakeholders: LEF conservation NGOs and other Lebanese environmental NGOs, municipalities, nature reserves, Himas, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Agriculture and others. Reaching this number of participants shows a high interest by NGOs on mitigating the hunting issue.

The training workshop held for Anjar and Kfarzabad showed a participation of local and hunters from different ages, (old and young hunters) and a full engagement from early morning and during two days in Ramadan month. They were aware of their responsibility and of the importance of bird conservation for their benefits and the planning for a responsible hunting area (RHA) in their region was very well accepted and the local population has high expectations.

Municipality of Anjar, Qaytoully, and Roum were involved during all the process of studies and surveys and very cooperative especially to establish a successful responsible hunting area on their Land. A great corporation was shown by the municipalities of Roum and Qaytoully in the establishment process of the kiosks for example in preparing the land on site to establish the kiosk on their own expense. All project field visits were made with the help and companion of a policemen or a person from the municipalities. The municipalities are now involved to finish the installation of electricity and water from the village to the kiosks.

Project Components and Products/Deliverables

Component 1 (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each component and product/deliverable from Grant Writer

Strengthening role of LEF and raising the capacity of their member conservation NGOs on responsible hunting:

- Awareness is raised on importance of KBAs, birds & biodiversity.
- Awareness is raised on threat of hunting and the concept of sustainable hunting & PHAs.
- Consensus is reached on the proposed criteria for identification of PHAs.
- An action plan forward for awareness is drafted and agreed on with the LEF conservation NGOs.

8. Describe the results from Component 1 and each product/deliverable

LEF organized a national workshop in November 8, 2014 in Beirut under the patronage of the Minister of Environment Mohammad El Machnouk.

The national workshop, mainly addressed to Lebanese NGOs, highlighted the importance of promoting responsible hunting in order to protect KBAs, birds and biodiversity. Number of participants: 81 from (25 LEF NGOs, 16 non-LEF NGOs, 7 nature reserves, 3 municipalities). LEF presented the idea of the project of the responsible hunting funded by CEPF with its components, and highlighted the importance of promoting responsible hunting practices in Lebanon by involving LEF conservation NGOs in awareness campaigns within their different regions. Sessions were provided to raise awareness about the importance of IBAs/KBAs, and the conservation of birds and biodiversity, about the status of hunting, and the concept of responsible hunting and the concept of Responsible Hunting Areas to the LEF conservation NGOs with the criteria for RHAs identification and selection.

The “Code of Best Practices for Responsible Hunting and the Full Protection Migratory Soaring Birds”, was presented with the signature of NGOs on the declaration at the end of the workshop. The major output was the presentation and discussion of the scientific objective criteria for the identification of RHAs. They were discussed with the participating NGOs and endorsed for implementation. All participants in the workshop were engaged and interested.

Component 2 (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each component and product/deliverable from Grant Writer

Production of awareness material on sustainable hunting practices by the Lebanese Environment Forum- LEF:

- A communication plan for sustainable hunting targeting general public is developed.

- Bidding process for the development of the awareness material is insured.
- Awareness material on sustainable hunting & PHAs such as posters, brochure, roll ups, TV spot/short documentary, smart phone application/online game, with the main target as general Lebanese public are produced.

9. Describe the results from Component 2 and each product/deliverable

Under this component, expert for developing communication plan was contracted in February 2014, and a communication plan on responsible hunting addressing general Lebanese public has been developed. This communication plan defining the roles, responsibilities of LEF conservation NGOs was presented in the national workshop, and discussed with LEF conservation NGOs. After the collection of scientific material, offers for design of awareness material were mobilized. A media design company (Golden Vision) was contracted to design printed awareness material with a logo Project and Branding Guidelines. Based on the communication plan, and the cost estimate for the awareness material several awareness materials and tools were prioritized and developed such as:

- Printed awareness material in Arabic language (5000 brochures and 8000 posters and 56 rolls ups) on responsible hunting, game birds, Safety guidelines, hunting permit procedures, hunting law, and Responsible hunting Areas in Lebanon, are now produced and ready to be used by LEF conservation NGOs for awareness activities in different Lebanese regions.
- A project Website for promoting responsible hunting, updates and hunting news (<http://www.responsiblehunting.org>)
- A social media channel: Facebook Page (Responsible Hunting), Twitter account (@rhlebanon), Youtube Channel (Responsible Hunting).
- Mobile application on responsible hunting in native language to raise awareness about conservation of birds and to promote best hunting practices is now available on Google store for Androids: (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.omar.lef>) and Apple store for iOS: (<https://itunes.apple.com/lb/app/responsible-hunting/id1032369115?mt=8>).
- A short film for hunters and nature lovers- video available on Youtube: (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EktfUJIGehc&feature=em-upload_owner).

Component 3 (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each component and product/deliverable from Grant Writer

Raising public awareness on sustainable hunting by LEF conservation NGOs:

- LEF conservation NGOs interested to follow up on the implementation of public awareness campaign on sustainable hunting & PHAs are identified.
- The region/NGO where activities will be done on local level are identified in addition to a clear workplan.
- "Terms of Reference", tasks & workplan, and budget/NGO in addition to a monitoring plan which would be the basis of sub-agreement between LEF & each involved NGO are identified.
- Approval from CEPF on the sub-grant agreements & the amendment of LEF agreement with CEPF (upgrade budget accordingly) are granted.

- Public awareness activities in the agreed regions such as workshop, seminar, festival ...in collaboration with concerned municipalities, using the developed awareness material, are implemented.
- Advocating effort with municipalities for the revival of the “Law of Municipalities” regarding role of municipal guard in enforcing the hunting law has been done.
- General media tools (newspapers, TV stations, radio, social media...) are supportive to the campaign on sustainable hunting.

10. Describe the results from Component 3 and each product/deliverable

LEF conservation NGOs interested to follow up on the implementation of public awareness campaign on responsible hunting and RHAs were identified during and after the national workshop.

In the workshop, files were distributed containing a template of three tables to be filled by the interested NGOs. And at the end of the workshop, we received some applications by some NGOs filling preliminary info and suggestions (approximately 6 NGOs). SPNL suggested concentrating on the 10 RHA regions identified within MSB project, to implement awareness activities on local level in addition to the need for a clear workplan per NGO.

Some NGOs suggested other regions to spread awareness other than the regions suggested by SPNL (such as around protected areas).

LEF with SPNL prepared a list of activities for the LEF NGOs to be implemented by each one of them. This would include TOR, workplan for each NGO and budget with a monitoring plan for follow up. This follow up plan is ready to be submitted to CEPF approval whenever requested.

Component 4 (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each component and product/deliverable from Grant Writer

Promote sustainable hunting practices in Lebanon through initiating a pilot model RHA area to be replicated later, with management and monitoring plans at the end of project implementation:

- A model PHA is selected
- Field survey the PHA site (for its habitats, land uses, general biodiversity, and threats) has been implemented.
- A management plan including all the needed actions and activities for promoting sustainable hunting in the PHA has been developed including a) a site and game species action plan b) site business plan c) site and species monitoring plan & d) basic infrastructure and human resources.
- Site support group members-SSG from the selected PHA are trained in basic bird identification skills, site and bird monitoring, sustainable hunting practices, site management and conservation advocacy.
- Two Kiosks established at entrance of RHAs

11. Describe the results from Component 4 and each product/deliverable

An Ornithologist for the bird field survey was contracted in early April 2014. He supported us in assessing the scientific criteria for the selection of RHAs (until the model RHA is selected).

Anjar was chosen to be the model RHA site.

Another site was also enthusiastic to initiate a model RHA, namely Qaytouli Roum, out of the 8 sites identified by SPNL within the MSB project

A “Field assessment” on habitats, land uses, general biodiversity, and threats has been implemented, and a “Management plan” for Anjar RHA with associated business and monitoring plans were developed.

Two Environmental Impact Assessment EIA studies for both RHAs sites : Anjar and Qaytouli-Roum.

Two training days (20- 21 June 2015) for SSG in Anjar and Kfarzabad, has been implemented on responsible hunting practices, basic bird identification skills, and site management and conservation advocacy.

Two kiosks at the entrance of the RHAs are now established. Each kiosk (3x6m- galvanized Steel base, sandwich panels walls, and plywood flooring), has a kitchenette area and a restroom, and a panel containing the logo of the project, with the CEPF, LEF, SPNL and Birdlife logos.

12. If you did not complete any component or deliverable, how did this affect the overall impact of the project?

In the component 3: Public awareness activities by LEF conservation NGOs have not been initiated because of the national workshop that was postponed to November 2014 and delay in the draft of an action Plan for LEF NGOs work.

Activities and budget of each NGO involved were developed after the workshop. But it needs the approval of CEPF and requires the amendment of LEF- CEPF agreement to upgrade the budget accordingly (as stated in the approved proposal).

Printed awareness materials that were developed to be used by LEF NGOs remains now in LEF office without any benefits, where they are highly needed.

Public awareness activities in regions in collaboration with municipalities are not implemented, thus no lobbying advocating effort with municipalities for the revival of the “Law of Municipalities” regarding role of municipal guards in enforcing the hunting and no awareness raised on sustainable hunting and nature conservation.

Developing the public awareness campaign by LEF conservation NGOs would further strengthen networking and collaborative efforts within LEF which is a national platform for conservation NGOs. Since that component is not achieved yet, cooperation and common platforms will not arise.

13. Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results:

- Communication plan for sustainable hunting targeting general public is developed
- Project logo & Branding Guidelines

- Printed awareness material in Arabic language (5000 brochures and 8000 posters and 56 rolls ups) on responsible hunting, game birds, Safety guidelines, hunting permit procedures, hunting law, and RHAs in Lebanon.
- A project Website (<http://www.responsiblehunting.org>)
- A social media channel:
Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/responsiblehunting.org/>),
Twitter account (<https://twitter.com/rhlebanon>)
Youtube Channel (<https://goo.gl/1e1jsr>).
- Mobile application for Androids and iOS:
(<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.omar.lef>) and
(<https://itunes.apple.com/lb/app/responsible-hunting/id1032369115?mt=8>).
- A short film on responsible hunting
(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EktfUJIGehc&feature=em-upload_owner).
- A Field assessment report for the Anjar RHA on habitats, land uses, general biodiversity, and threats
- A Management plan for Anjar RHA and its associated business and monitoring plans
- EIA study for Anjar RHA Site
- EIA study for Qaytouli-Roum RHA Site
- Two kiosks at the entrance of the RHAs.

CEPF Global Monitoring Data

Respond to the questions and complete the tables below. If a question is not relevant to your project, please make an entry of 0 (zero) or n/a (not applicable).

14. Did your organization complete the CEPF Civil Society Tracking Tool (CSTT) at the beginning and end of your project? (Please be sure to submit the final CSTT tool to CEPF if you haven't already done so.)

	Date	Composite Score
Baseline CSTT	April 2014	51.5/100
Final CSTT	November 2015	63/100

15. List any vulnerable, endangered, or critically endangered species conserved due to your project

Hectares Under Improved Management

Project Results	Hectares*	Comments
16. Did your project strengthen the management of an existing	340	<i>List the name of each protected area</i>

protected area?	(40+300)	2 RHAs established: Anjar, Bekaa (40ha) Qaytouli-Roum , South Lebanon (300ha)
17. Did your project create a new protected area or expand an existing protected area?		<i>List the name of each protected area, the date of proclamation, and the type of proclamation (e.g., legal declaration, community agreement, stewardship agreement)</i>
18. Did your project strengthen the management of a key biodiversity area named in the CEPF Ecosystem Profile (hectares may be the same as questions above)		<i>List the name of each key biodiversity area</i> Hunting pressure will be reduced in all of Lebanon, and non-game birds will be protected in the RHA area through the implementation of the management and monitoring plans.
19. Did your project improve the management of a production landscape for biodiversity conservation		<i>List the name or describe the location of the production landscape</i> Through the establishing of a RHA in Anjar and in Qaytouli-Roum with proper management and monitoring plan, will contribute in enhancing the biodiversity conservation and lead to a controlled use of natural resources.

** Include total hectares from project inception to completion*

20. In relation to the two questions above on protected areas, did your project complete a Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT), or facilitate the completion of a METT by protected area authorities? If so, complete the table below. (Note that there will often be more than one METT for an individual protected area.)

Protected area	Date of METT	Composite METT Score	Date of METT	Composite METT Score	Date of METT	Composite METT Score
Anjar RHA	14 May 2014	33				

21. List the name of any corridor (named in the Ecosystem Profile) in which you worked and how you contributed to its improved management, if applicable.

NA

Direct Beneficiaries: Training and Education

Did your project provide training or education for . . .	Male	Female	Total	Brief Description
22. Adults for community leadership or resource management positions	27	0	27	SSG training on responsible hunting practices, basic bird identification skills, site management and conservation advocacy for Anjar and Kfarzabad hunters. (Anjar, 20-21 June 2015)
23. Adults for livelihoods or increased income				
24. School-aged children				
25. Other (NGOs)	50	15	65	Raising the capacity of LEF NGOs members on sustainable hunting, reach consensus on agreed criteria for identification of RHAs, raise constituency on sustainable hunting and RHAs concepts. (National Workshop- 8 November 2014)

26. List the name and approximate population size of any “community” that benefited from the project.

Community name, surrounding district, surrounding province, country Population size

This project is targeting all Lebanese public.

From the socio economic side, no benefits for RHAs communities has occurred yet until the establishment of the RHA site. Once finalizing the establishing and opening RHAs, hunters start visiting the site, socioeconomic incomes will be accrued on all levels.

RHA communities:

Anjar – Bekaa- Lebanon

Qaytouli Roum – Jezzine- South Lebanon

27. Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities

Based on the list of communities above, write the name of the communities in the left column below. In the subsequent columns under Community Characteristics and Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit, place an X in all relevant boxes.

Community Name	Community Characteristics								Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit												
	Small landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists / nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty line	Other	Increased income due to:				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
									Adoption of sustainable natural resources management practices	Ecotourism revenues	Park management activities	Payment for environmental services									

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

Lessons Learned

28. 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

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

LEF- CEPF project was well designed especially in terms of preparing LEF NGOs and raising their capacity in the component 1 before initiating awareness campaign in the regions. Reaching consensus on RHA and consultations during the national workshop was very important to get LEF NGOs support for the project and for establishing a pilot RHA with national campaign on responsible hunting and protecting birds, biodiversity and KBAs.

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

This project has contributed in enhancing LEF performance in management and organizing financial issues to ensure effective work in every period.

During the national workshop preparations, LEF has found that it will be more effective to raise capacity and awareness for all environmental Lebanese NGOs not only for LEF NGOs members in order to spread widely responsible hunting knowledge and RHA concept for all stakeholders.

LEF NGOs are interested to participate in the national awareness campaign, but they lack the capacity to develop their own workplan on hunting issues and estimate budget. Thus, SPNL and LEF have suggested local workplan and estimate budget and shared it with the interested NGOs for endorsement.

When finalizing all awareness materials (printed and electronic), a big need to spread these materials came out and developed to maintain their sustainability. Electronic materials, such as website and mobile application especially, should be spread on a larger scale to be used frequently by the target public (launching ceremony, ads, social media ads...) to achieve their main objectives in promoting a responsible hunting among the Lebanese public and the Arab region.

31. Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community

This project is a good start towards responsible hunting but it will be a long path in regulating and organizing hunting sector in Lebanon, especially that bad habits are disseminated and integrated in the community and their minds. The experience on the ground and especially after training of SSG has shown that it is very important to coordinate with hunters through meetings and continuous dialogue to get their trust and to convince them about responsible hunting practices and organizing this sector. Talking in the language of the hunter, and cooperating with responsible hunters to elaborate training sessions, will better convince them to protect nature without stopping them from doing their hobbies in a responsible way.

Changing the name to "Responsible hunting Area" (RHA), instead of "Public Hunting Area" (PHA) (The name of PHA was based on the ownership of the land) . The new name is clearer and more compatible with the concept of responsible hunting promoted. Thus, RHA was more accepted by the Public.

Sustainability / Replication

32. Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated

Sustainability of the RHA site will be managed by the authority of the municipality. And the success of the pilot RHA will be replicated in other RHAs. On the other hand, establishment and management of RHA would need further resources that would be mobilized by fundraising through other later projects.

Strengthening networking and capacity with scientific research will promote sustainable hunting and conservation of the important IBAs/KBAs in Lebanon, and thus enhancing environmental sustainability and decrease the negative impacts of hunting on the environment in Lebanon.

Building constituency from LEF conservation NGOs and the general public advocate for the endorsement of the municipal RHA option for sustainable hunting based on professional scientific approaches, and their adoption by the Ministry of Environment. (Policy sustainability)

All the components of the project have been developed and reached their objectives as planned, Expect for component 3 that requires CEPF approval for upgrading the budget to implement awareness campaigns in regions by LEF NGOs and insure the sustainability of the awareness material produced by the project.

33. Summarize any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability

- Reaching larger audience during the national workshop shows the interest from the conservation community to mitigate hunting threat. Thus, provides important platform for future cooperation on spreading the concept of responsible hunting through national campaign.
- Promoting electronic awareness material will be sustained by some activities such as launching ceremony, ads, and social media ads... to reach all Lebanese public and achieve their main objectives in promoting responsible hunting in Lebanon and Arab region.
- High interest from conservation NGO for awareness campaign, and from municipalities for establishing cost effective RHAs in their land jurisdiction.

Safeguards

34. If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social, environmental, or pest management safeguards

None. It has been addressed in the EIA for each RHA site.

The support of NGOs and municipalities would be highly expected as the project would help in changing the situation from complete chaos and illegal unsustainable hunting towards positive state of organized sustainable that benefits birds, nature and people's livelihood.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

35. Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF

As mentioned above, the component 3 is highly recommended to be accomplished. Without a national awareness campaign directed by LEF and implemented by NGOs members on different Lebanese regions in corporation with municipalities, this project will not accomplish its objectives in enhancing the awareness level on responsible hunting and decrease pressures on birds and biodiversity. Additional fund is requested from CEPF as agreed on the original proposal to upgrade budget for awareness campaign by NGOs.

Additional Funding

36. Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes

* Categorize the type of funding as:

- A Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this 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 funded project)
- C Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)

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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