

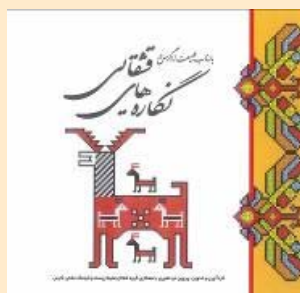
# GEF 5 SGP Iran Overview



SGP The GEF Small Grants Programme



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.



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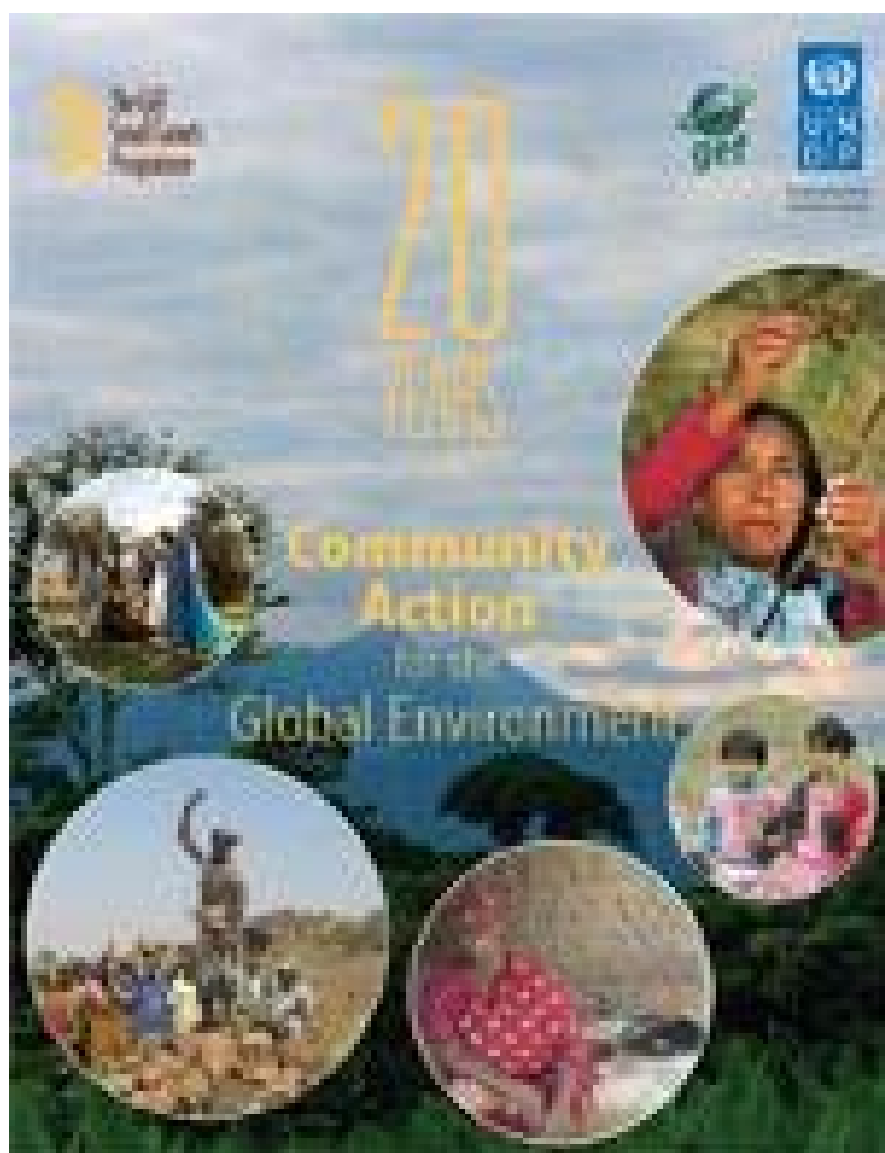
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## Chapter 1

# Brief Introduction to GEF SGP Iran



20 YEARS: COMMUNITY ACTION FOR THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

<https://www.sgp.undp.org>



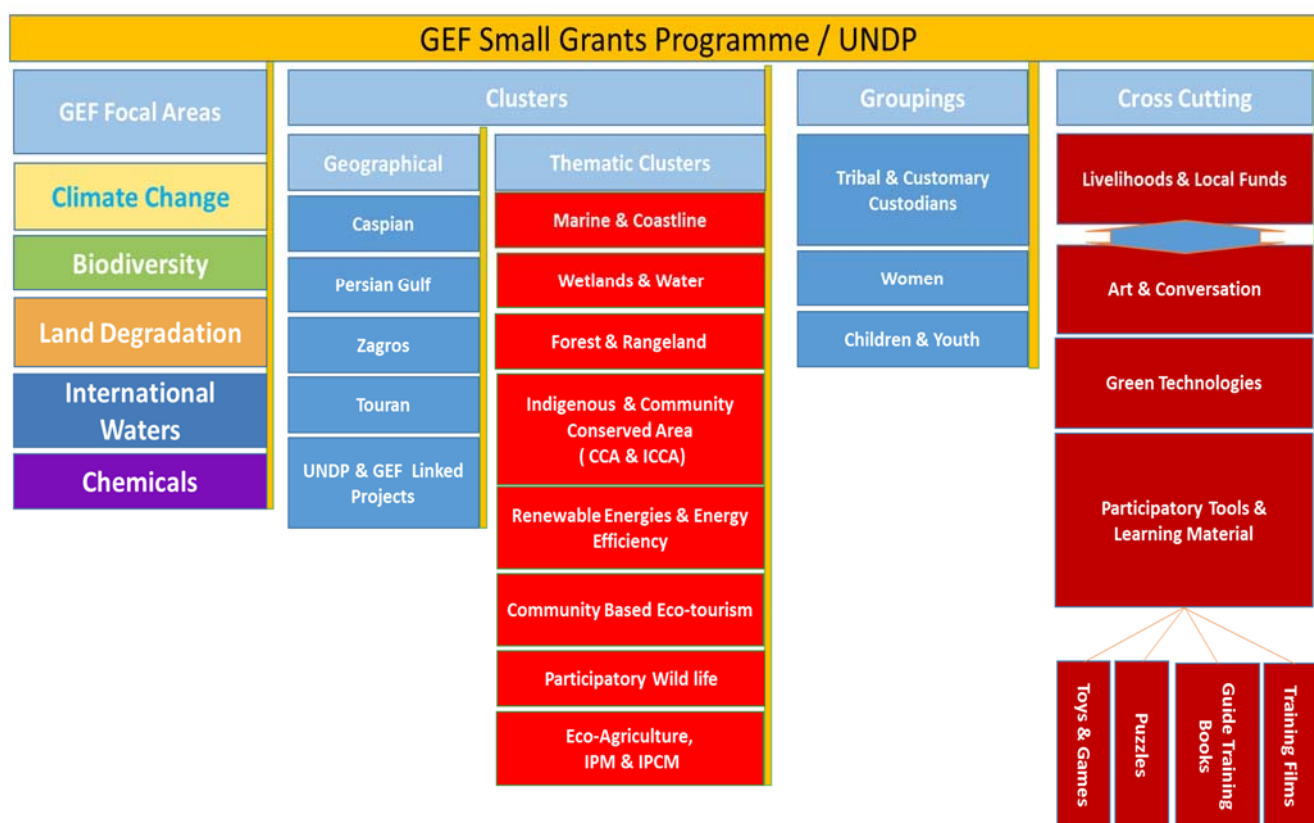
# Brief Introduction to GEF SGP Iran

Launched in 1992, SGP supports activities of non-governmental and community-based organizations in developing countries towards climate change abatement, conservation of biodiversity, protection of international waters, reduction of the impact of persistent organic pollutants and prevention of land degradation while generating sustainable livelihoods. At the country level it is implemented by UNDP and executed by UNOPS.

SGP is operating in over 120 developing countries and I.R. Iran was the 54th country to join the program starting in 2001. To date, SGP Iran has funded over 240 projects. When the program started in Iran there were very few development projects using a participatory approach. It was a learning by doing process, which produced the participatory literature as the projects went along, in order to fill the gap. This overview only demonstrates the work of SGP in I.R. Iran in GEF 5 (from 2012 to 2015). Our collective experience has demonstrated that change comes community by community, it does not come through a top-down approach. When development takes shape from the grass roots it is sustainable, and when the communities are empowered to be part of the solution, then innovative solutions arise. Participatory assessments, planning and implementation is what SGP and the grantees in Iran have been doing. This is the story of a period of history of civil society empowerment in taking care of their environment, although there were many hindrances and many sensitivities which we had to collectively bear and overcome. It is a story which needs to be told.

**For more information go to:**

<https://sgp.undp.org> or <http://www.ir.undp.org>



## Thematic and Geographic Clustering

# SGP Approach & Methodology

Experience has shown that SGP approach has been more successful than the conventional development programs and projects because, the SGP approach is demand-driven (based on community and NGO needs and aspirations), sustainable (as it includes ecological, economic and socio-cultural aspects), focused on capacity building (awareness raising and training are an integral part of project activities) and operates as a network (including key stakeholders).

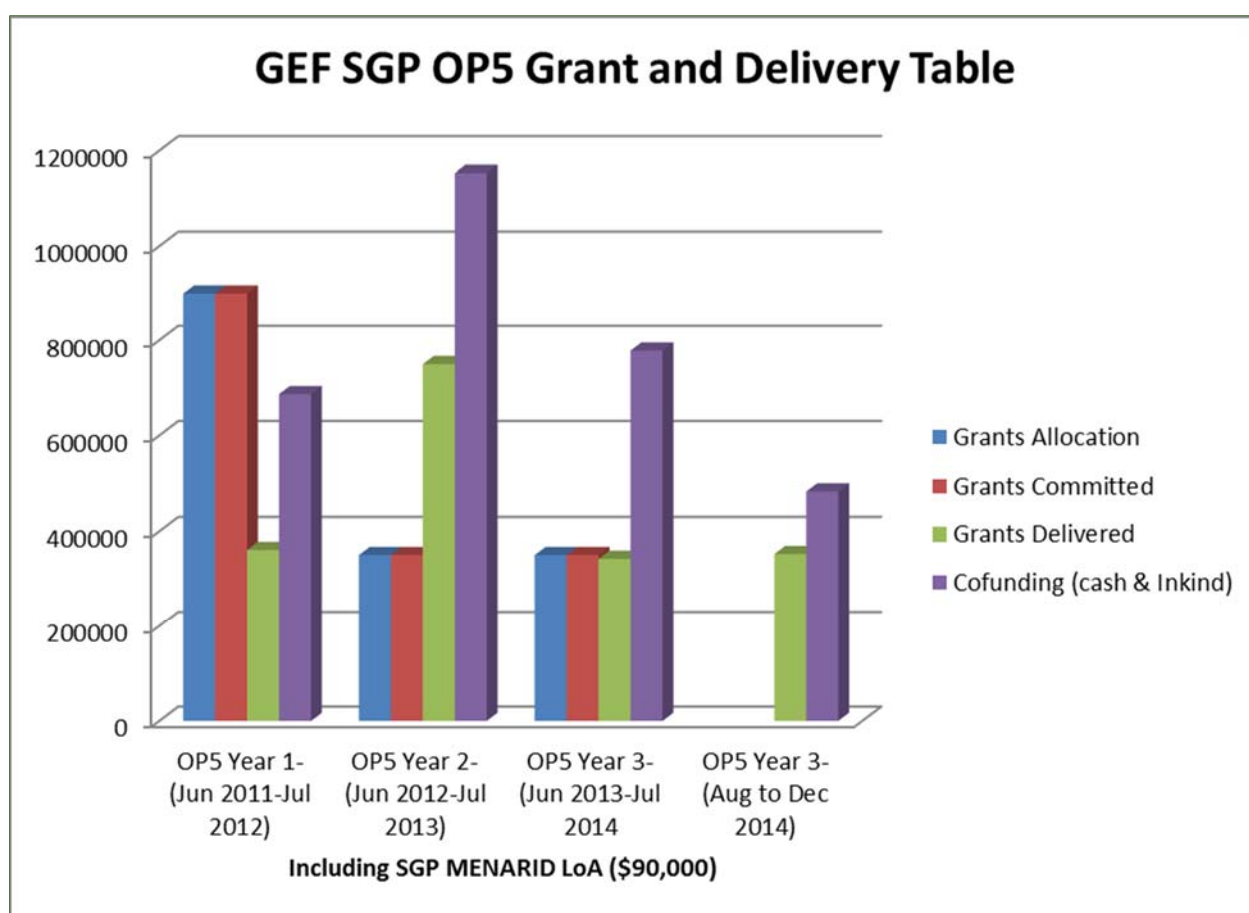
While in a conventional development project, the approach is supply-driven (projects and budgets are approved in advance and at government level), projects are sectoral (promoting only one sector of economy such as agriculture, fisheries, forestry, etc.), top-down (communities are not involved in decision-making), with a short and discontinued impact.

## Collective View of NSC Members

	Conventional Methods	SGP Methods
Entry point	Weaknesses	Existing capacities
Objectives	Problem solving	Capacity development
Who trains?	Expert	Facilitator
Who decides?	Plan	Local community
Why?	Standards implementation	Situation improvement
Where?	Class room	Field
What kind of knowledge?	Academic knowledge	Traditional knowledge, existing experiences, and science
How?	Positivistic	Participatory research action
Results	Solving problems	Trust and capacity increase (Sustainable)

# Thematic Clustering







Members of GEF SGP/UNDP National Steering Committee



Volunteers, Young Professionals and Team Members





# Knowledge Networking

Eight Thematic Clusters have been formed in SGP Iran which have resulted in thematic networks among grantees and stakeholders on similar topics to help with building synergy, sharing resources, partnerships, emerging solutions, as well as helping communities accessing national forums on related topics.

- The green technologies CSO Group promotes eco-friendly technologies and have members in national committees on energy savings, as well as clean energies..
- The Farmer's IPM network and newly developed Selfuse Seed Bank on climatic friendly varieties have grown to be a farmer led volunteer and organically grown network with farmers in many provinces.
- The network of Tribal people as the Union of Nomadic People on ICCAs is also another active network, while keeping the traditional structure have been registered as modern organizations as well.
- A national network of women entrepreneurs' have been formed, including SGP grantees, active in and participate in seminars, workshops and exhibitions.
- A waste management network has been developed with help of SGP grantees, which has developed into a decentralized network growing all over and active in various localities.
- A network of Women Wildlife trainers have been formed for bringing together the youth, parents and officials in joint forums and developing new learning experiences and material, as well as providing a service to kindergartens for alternative learning programmes.
- Emerging networks also happen in certain projects, like the Persian Leopard Network as members of a national portal formed based with CSO and governmental members in Persian Leopard Habitats.
- CSO network on linking the environment and poverty has been formed amongst CSOs, with the bulk being SGP grantees as well as health volunteer network members.
- The cross cutting networks on Youth, Women, Green Technologies, Art and Conservation, Participatory Tools and Learning Material and Livelihoods and Local funds.



Art for Conservation –  
Qeshm Local Women in Tehran  
Exhibition



Forest & Rangeland Project  
Network



Union of Nomadic People  
(Uninomad)



Wildlife Project Network

# Access to Market



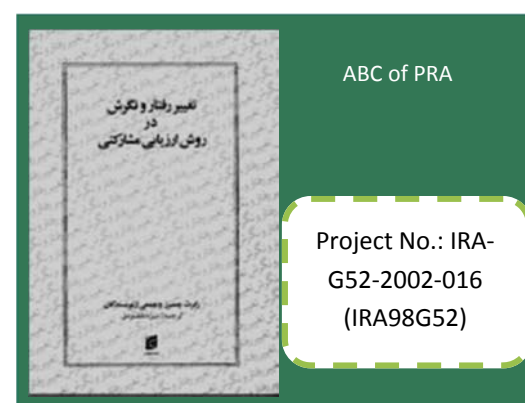


# Knowledge Products

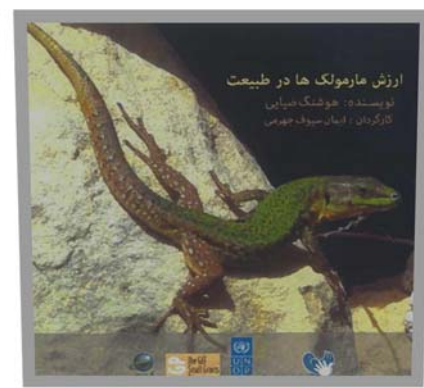
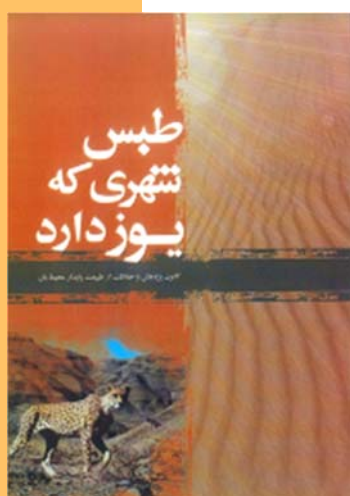
## • Participatory Approaches (From All Phases)



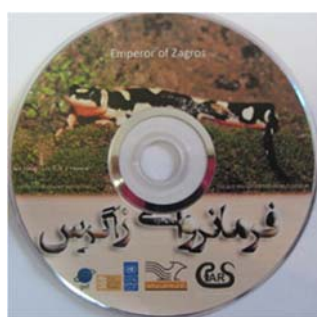
Project No.: IRA-G52-2001&2004-006  
(IRA98G52)



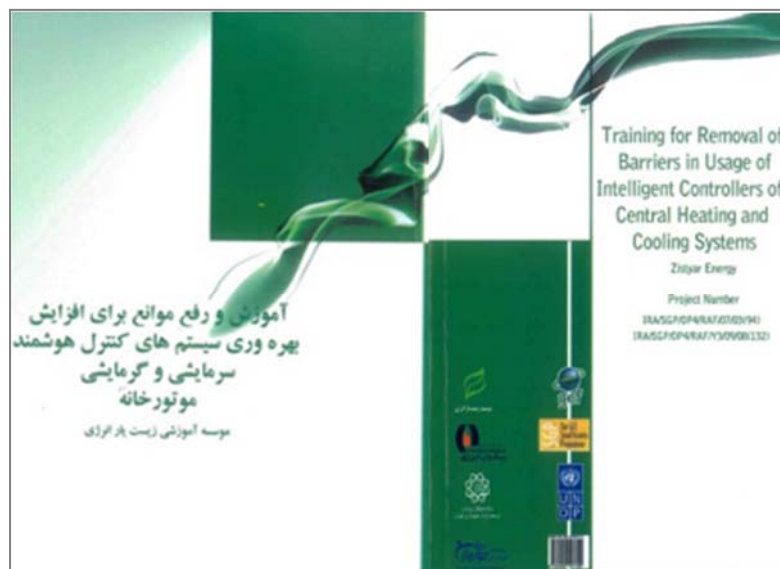
## • Participatory Wildlife Conservation





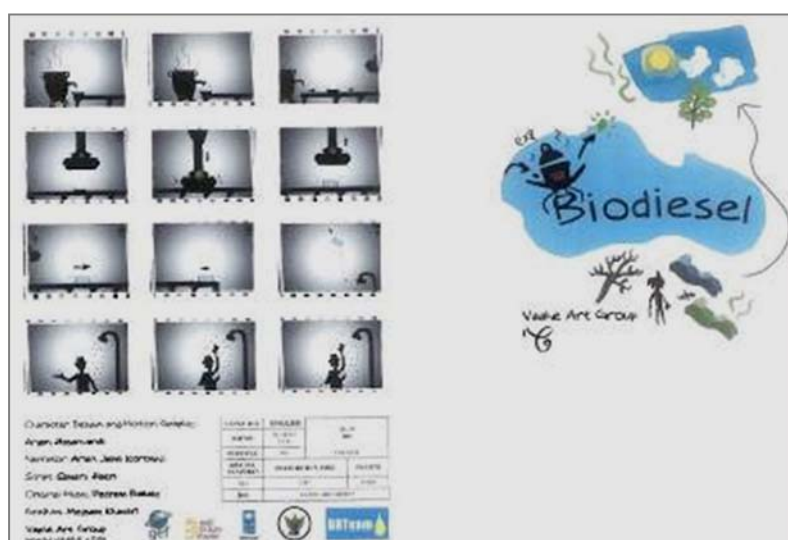


## • Energy Efficiency



Project No.: IRA/SGP/OP4/RAF/Y3/09/08 (132)

## • Renewable Energies



Project No.: IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/CC/12/04 (170)

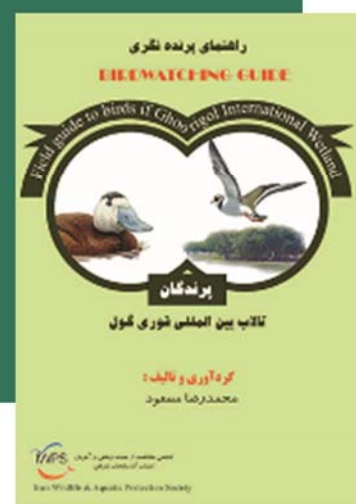
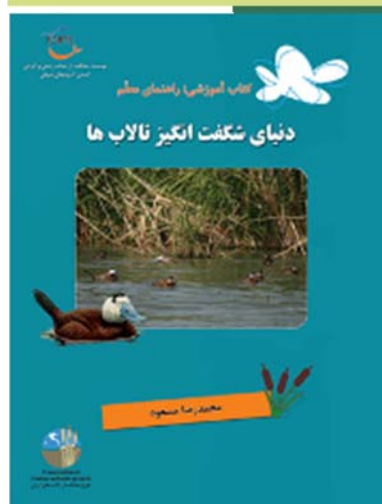


## • Wetlands and Water Management

Project No.: IRA/SGP/OP4/RAF/Y3/10/11 (135)

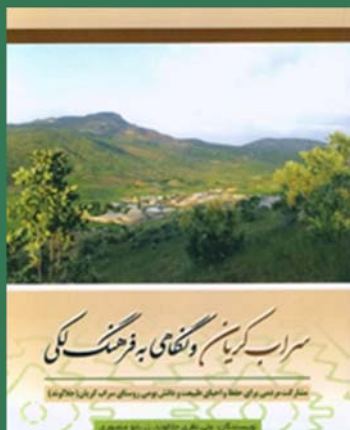


Project No.: IRA/SGP/OP4/RAF/  
Y2/09/09 (118)



## • Forest and Rangeland

Sarab Kryan and an  
Insight into Lakish  
Culture



Project No.: IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/CC/11/02A&B(141A&B)

Ranchland Manage-  
ment in Qashqai  
Tribe



Project No.: IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/LD/13/10(176)

The Secret of Creation of  
the Mountains



Green Paths



Forest and Forestry

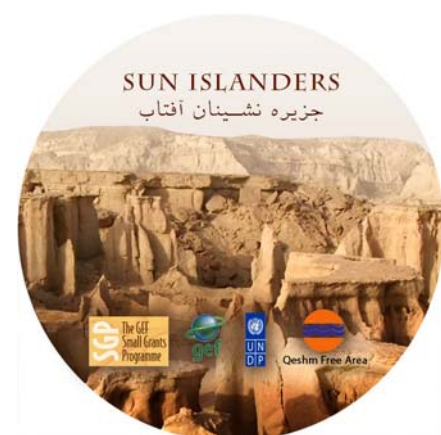
Plant Species of Green  
Paths Of Taffe Kochikine



Climbing Routes in  
Kermanshah  
Mountains

Project No.: IRA/SGP/OP4/RAF/Y2/09/11 (120)

## • Marine and Coastline

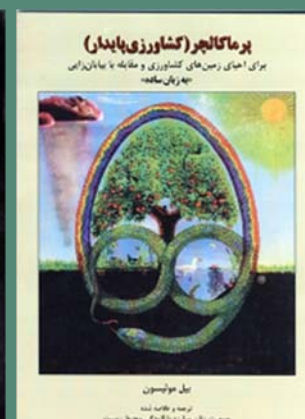


Project No.:  
IRA / SGP / OP5 / Y2 / STAR / BD / 12 / 05 (171)

## • Eco— Agriculture, IPM & IPCM

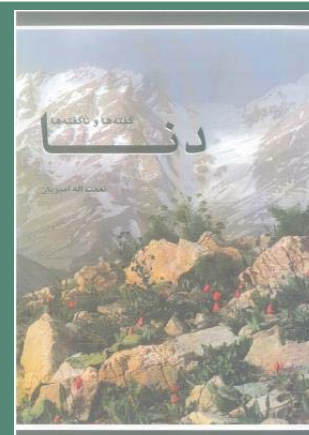
### Permaculture

Project No.: IRA/SGP/OP4/RAF/Y3/10/14 (138)



## • Community Based Eco-tourism

Project No.: IRA-G52-2002, 2004 & 2007-012(IRA98G52) & IRA/05/06 (54th)







## Chapter 2

# Sample Projects in Focal Areas of GEF5

# Climate Change Projects in GEF 5

## Climate Change



**FUTURE OF URMIA LAKE, POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE INTERVENTIONS**  
IRA/SGP/OP5/Y3/STAR/CC/13/03(179)

Produce environment friendly bags through empowerment of marginalized children and women headed households  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/CC/12/27(166)



Local seeds (Wheat and Barley) Revival by Farmers through Participatory Evolutionary Plant Breeding in the field for Conservation of Genetic Resources and Biodiversity, in Garmsar of main crops for resilience to climate change  
IRA/SGP/OP4/RAF/Y3/10/15 (139)  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/BD/12/19(158)



Empowerment of Local Communities and NGOs in project formulation related to Climate Change and Biodiversity based on standard criteria, documentation and developing lessons learned for uploading on website and other SGP documents.  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/CC/11/06(145)

Collaboration with NGOs for PRA Hands on Training and material production for practitioners and policy makers for up scaling  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/CC/11/03(142)

Participatory Rehabilitation of Natural Resources of Sarab Keryan, Jalaband Kermanshah  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/CC/11/02A(141A)  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/CC/11/02B(141B)



Improving the condition of Sahz Koush protected area through local community participation and environment awareness raising for Char Tigh and Chah Gab Villages  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/CC/12/07(146)



**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REGIONAL SITE FOR PRACTICAL TRAINING OF SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WASTE COOKING OIL FOR THE PRODUCTION OF BIODIESEL AS A MODEL IN MEGACITIES**  
IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/CC/12/04(170)



**UPSCALLING TO REDUCE WASTE IN CASPIAN FOREST**  
IRA/SGP/OP5/Y3/STAR/CC/13/06(182)



**CASPIAN FOREST REGION -A PARTIAL RURAL PILOT SITE FOR PRODUCING COMPOST FROM ORGANIC WASTE AS A MODEL FOR THE STAKEHOLDER INVOLVED IN THE PARTICIPATORY FOREST CLEANUP PROGRAMME.**  
IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/CC/12/06(172)



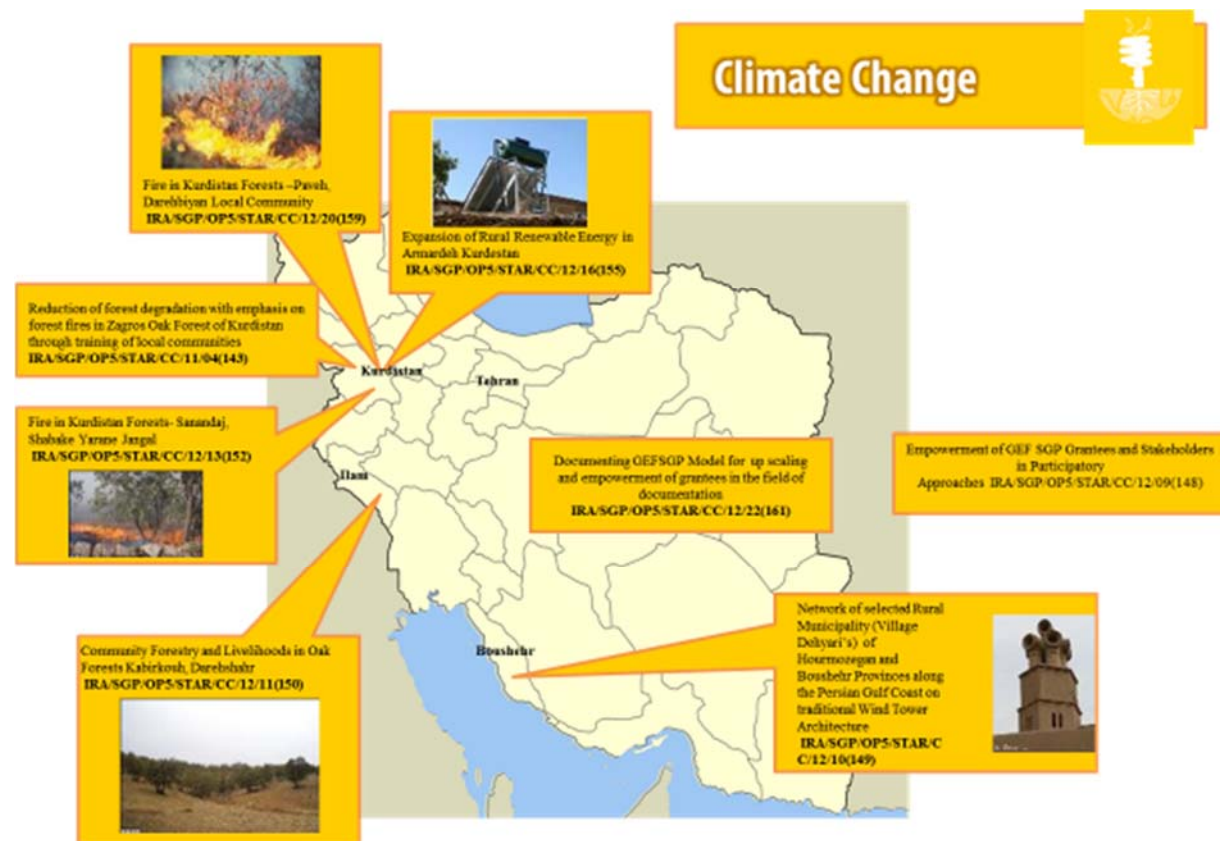
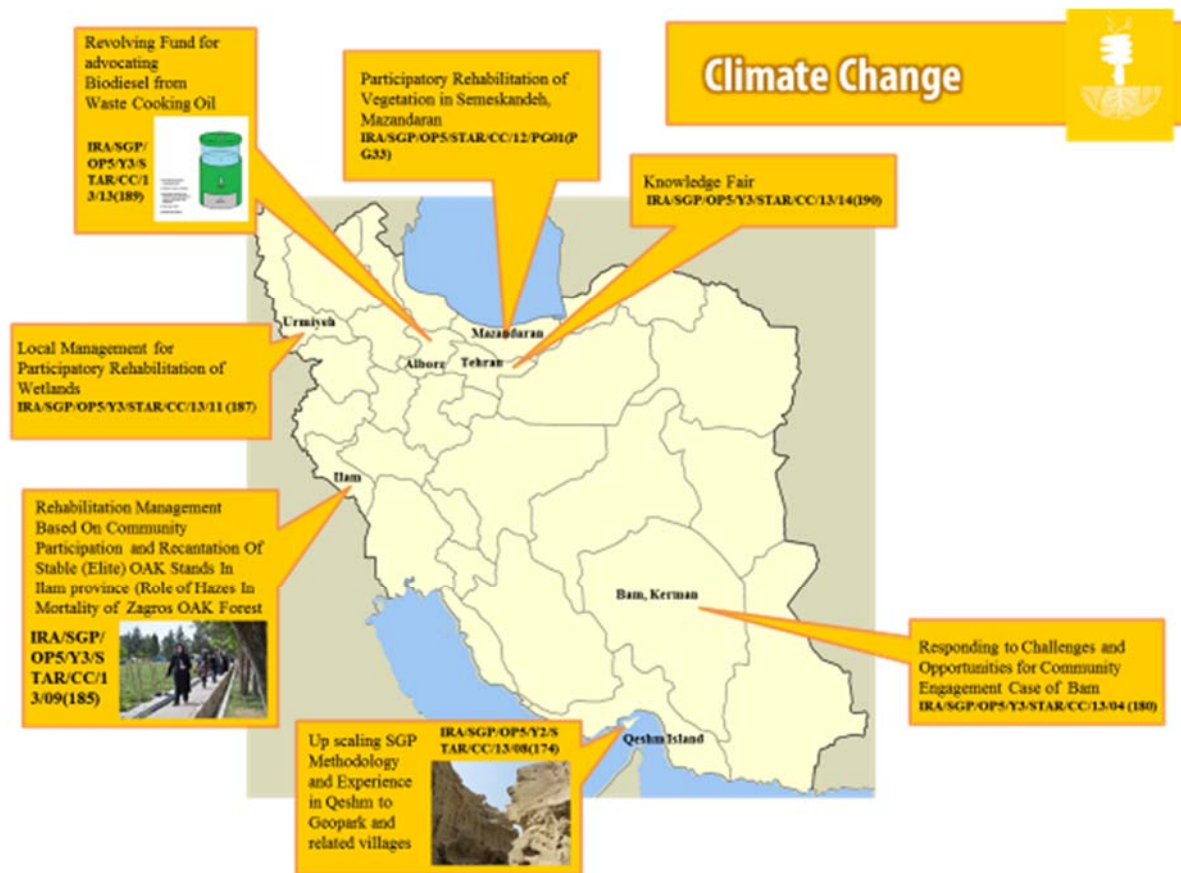
**UPSCALLING ENERGY SAVING IN BUILDINGS**  
IRA/SGP/OP5/Y3/STAR/CC/13/02(178)

**TOWARDS MAIN STREAMING SGP HANDS ON TRAINING TOOLS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING THROUGH LOCAL AND INDIGENOUS GAMES**  
IRA/SGP/OP5/Y3/STAR/BD/13/05(181)



**SHARING PRACTICES AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS WITH STAKEHOLDERS IN THE CONTEXT OF GEF FOCAL AREAS**  
IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/CC/13/07(173)

**UP SCALING OF FIELD SCALE TO SOCIETY SCALE INTEGRATE PEST MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE**  
IRA/SGP/OP5/Y3/STAR/CH/13/08(184)





# GEF SGP Energy Saving Project

IRA/SGP/OP5/Y3/STAR/CC/13/02(178)



More than 40% of the energy usage (gas and electricity) in Iran is used in the building sector, which is on average 4 to 5 times the global average. Studies have shown that about 85% of the gas consumption in buildings equipped with a central heating system occurs in the central engine-room and around 50% of the electricity is consumed through the central cooling system. Therefore, for buildings with a central engine-room and/or cooling system, the building utility is the main bottleneck and the most important part of the building for controlling the loss in energy (Pishrun Energy and the Ministry of Energy). As in the last decade energy prices have gone up in Iran (due to a levy on government subsidies and international sanctions), heavy economic pressure has been put on public and private sectors, besides emissions affecting human health and environmental quality (eg. for consumption of each cubic meter of gas, 2 Kg of pollutant (GHG) is released into the environment).

Automated Intelligent Control Systems were presented as an innovative approach by Pishrun Energy (2002) to increase energy efficiency in the heating engine-rooms. However, installation and maintenance of Automated Intelligent Control Systems could not succeed without collaboration of utility servicemen. Therefore, in since 2007, Zistyar Energy with SGP Iran support provided the necessary training in Tehran (600 servicemen and technicians received training) and some other provinces (Kurdistan, Kermanshah, West Azerbaijan and Qazvin). To date more than 17000 engine-rooms throughout the country in more than 500 locations in 10 different cities have been equipped with these devices. According to IFCO, approximately 40% energy saving in public buildings and 15% saving in residential buildings has occurred.

With new government policies in place (Article 19 of the "National Building Regulations"; Article 134 of the 5th National Development Plan; Budget Law Section Q, Amendment 2), Energy Service Provider companies could sign Energy Service Contracts based on ESCO scheme which guarantees a certain level of energy efficiency and compensation of the costs through energy saving plans. During GEF5 and in continuation of the previous work, Zistyar Energy in partnership with SGP provided a new series of training workshops to the network of Energy Service Provider companies in preparing Business Models to participate in the ESCO scheme, as well as raising awareness on energy consumption and its sustainable management within the Municipality of Tehran and the Ministry of Education.

Member of the Working Group on Management of Fuel and Reduction of Air Pollution from Residential and Commercial sectors hosted by Department of Environment





Consultative meeting with the officials responsible for environment at various districts of the Municipality of Tehran in collaboration with the Environment and Sustainable Development Section of the Municipality of Tehran



Collaboration with the Skill Building and Training Organization to prepare the Standards for Skill Training in the Energy sector

## Results

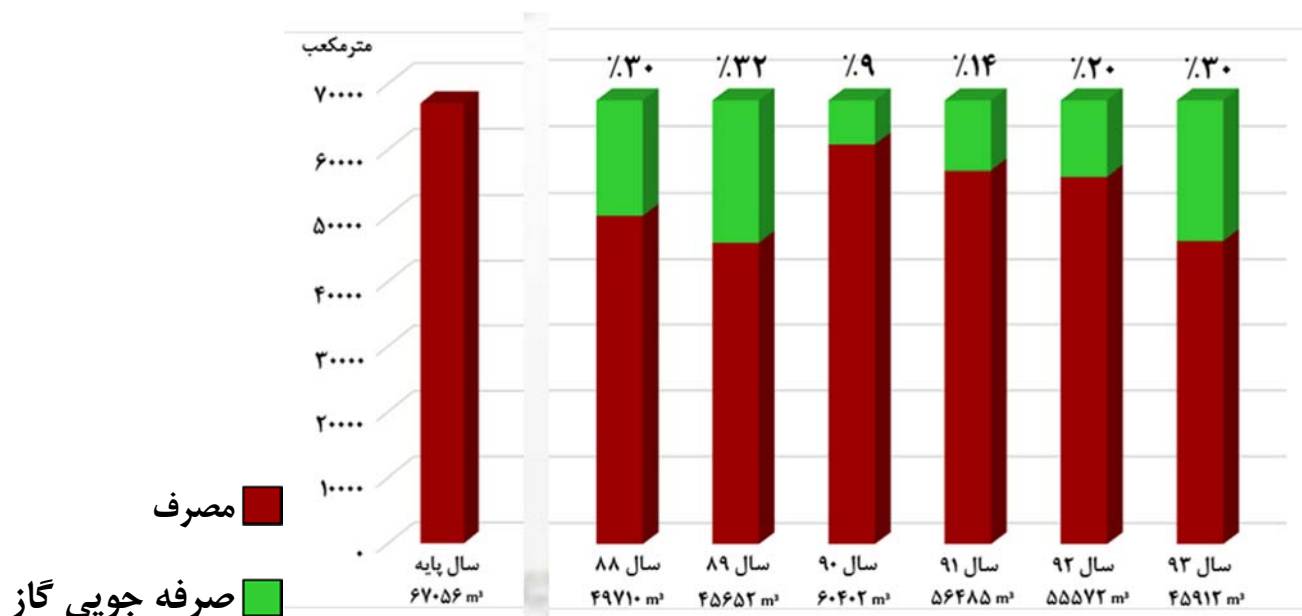
1. Helped the Municipality of Tehran to implement energy efficient strategies in its buildings (introducing the Municipality of Tehran as a successful model for energy saving - presenting the results to the Shorayaris)
2. Helped with the implementation of energy saving strategies in the Ministry of Education in Tehran city and related schools (introducing the Ministry of Education Tehran Office as a successful example in saving energy)
3. Helped form the ESCO group and related service providers /cooperatives (preparing a business model to promote activities of the service providers in the Energy sector)
4. Helped build capacity of Engineering Organization in the Building Sector and the Cooperative for Thermal and Cooling systems (to identify and organize the service providers of engine rooms and related companies)



## Energy Audit to measure performance and impacts of using an intelligent controller in the engine room

Case study of UN Building in Tehran (1 Feb. 2008)

### Performance and impacts



### Results of Energy Efficient activities in the Engine Room

#### of the UN Building in Tehran

متوسط مصرف ۲ سال قبل از بهینه سازی	=	۶۷۰۵۶ مترمکعب
متوسط مصرف سالانه ۶ سال گذشته	=	۵۱۶۴۷ مترمکعب
مجموع صرفه جویی تجمعی طی ۶ سال ۸۸ الی ۹۳	=	۸۹۴۲۵ مترمکعب
کاهش آلاینده ها و گازهای گلخانه ای	=	۱۸۸ تن
ارزش FOB گاز صرفه جویی شده	=	۲۸۶۰۰ دلار
معادل ۹۲۰/۰۰۰/۰۰۰ ریال		

Also an audit study during the reporting period reflected that after installation of the energy saving unit in the UN premises in Tehran, within 6 years (2008 to 2014), 188 tons of reduction in emission of GHG has occurred.

# GEF SGP Fighting Fire in Zagros Oak Forests Project

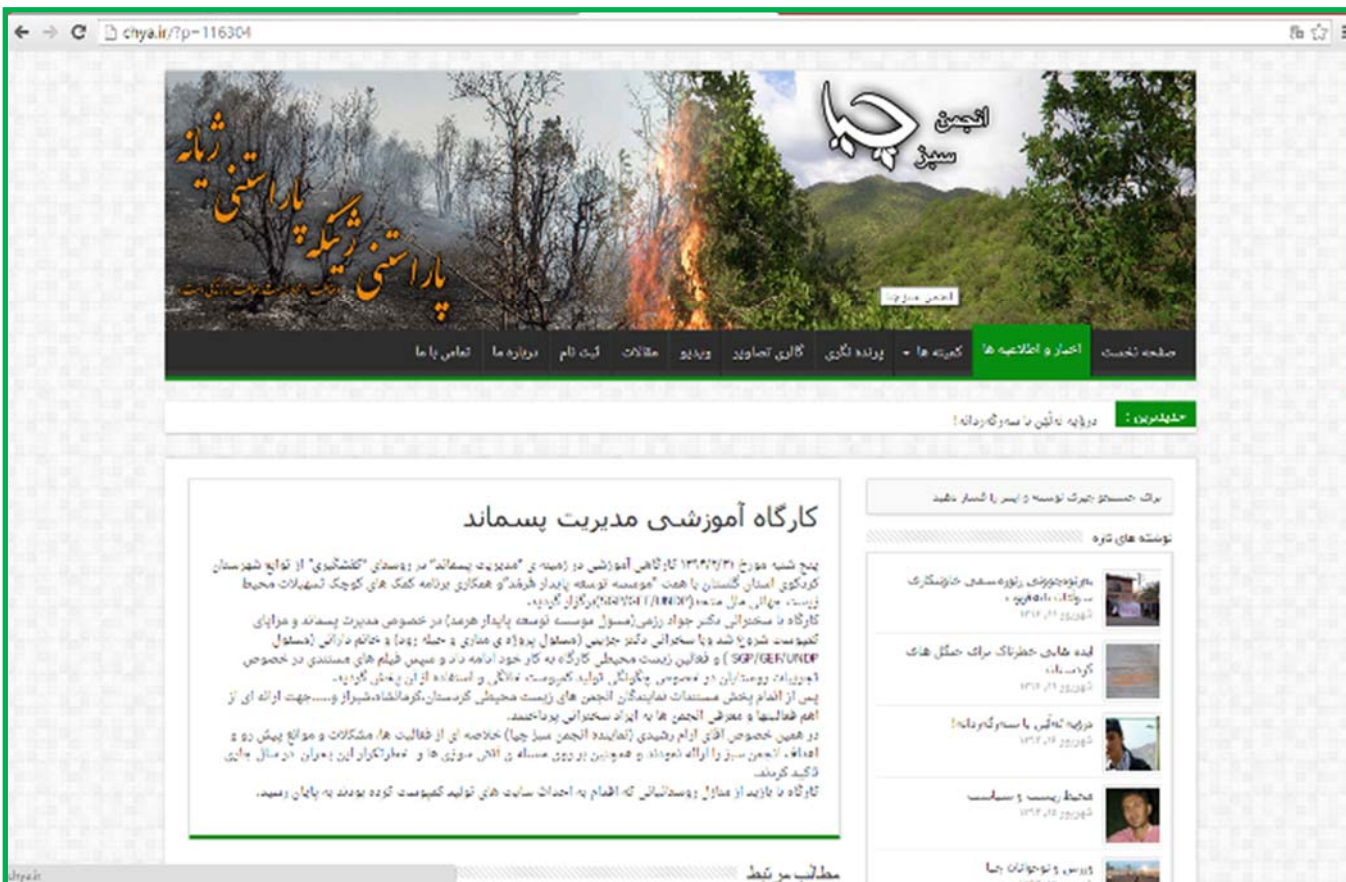
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/CC/11/04(143)

One of the projects that were particularly successful was an initiative that was undertaken by the Chya Green Group. This is a group of young environmentalists in Kurdistan province (Marivan) who became very sensitive about forest fires in Oak forest of northern Zagros (an area of about 123000ha). With grant from SGP, they were able to reduce the number of fires from 849 (35000ha) in 2009 to 174 (less than 5000ha) in 2012. They achieved this outcome by communicating with local communities (60

target villages) and raising their awareness about the value of Oak forests and how to prevent fires, as well as helping them establish greener villages. Apart from raised awareness among local communities and reduced number of fires, the project showed the potential of locals in reducing forest fires and thereafter the local governors office designated the Rural Municipalities as the counterparts for such work, with support from Natural Resources office.







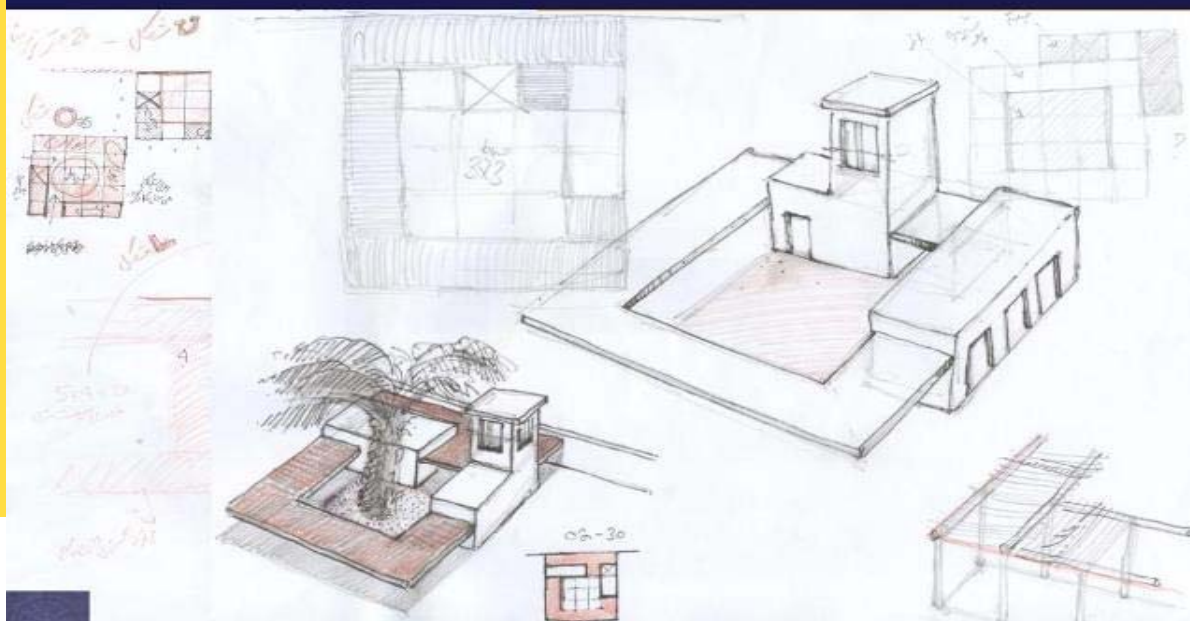
# Energy Saving Traditional Green Architecture As Playgrounds & Family Parks

for the First Time In the Country - Qeshm Island



The GEF  
Small Grants  
Programme

فضای بازی بچه ها







# Evolutionary Plant Breeding Project

## Supported by GEF SGP

IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/CC/12/19(158)



This work could be well categorized under Climate-Smart Agro-Ecology Practices. With the climatic change, warm winters and cold springs and increased periods of drought, eco-agriculture, deep local knowledge and resilience are key for sustaining livelihoods at local levels and promoting food security at national level.

SGP Iran funded 3 community projects of UNDP Land and Water pilot sites in 2002. In Garmsar Plain (Semnan Province), SGP supported an IPM project and helped the formation of a group of farmers called Garmsar Plain Farmers later developed into Farmers for Sustainable Development of Garmsar Plain. Since 2006 with technical assistance from ICARDA, Garmsar Farmers with support from SGP and facilitation of Maryam Rahmani (Center for Sustainable Development) started new research in Participatory Plant breeding (PPB) and Evolutionary Plant Breeding (EPB). In EPB, farmers exchange small amount of seed and plant and harvest 4-5 kg sample of seed in the first year, yielding to 40 kg seed in the 2nd year and about 110 kg in the third year. With that expanding the cultivation. The frequency of genotypes with adaptation to local conditions gradually increases and farmers gradually collect the best seeds and establish their own seed bank, which later on they share among themselves. According to Ceccarelli, Garmsar Farmers are a good example proving that farmers can engage in monitoring.



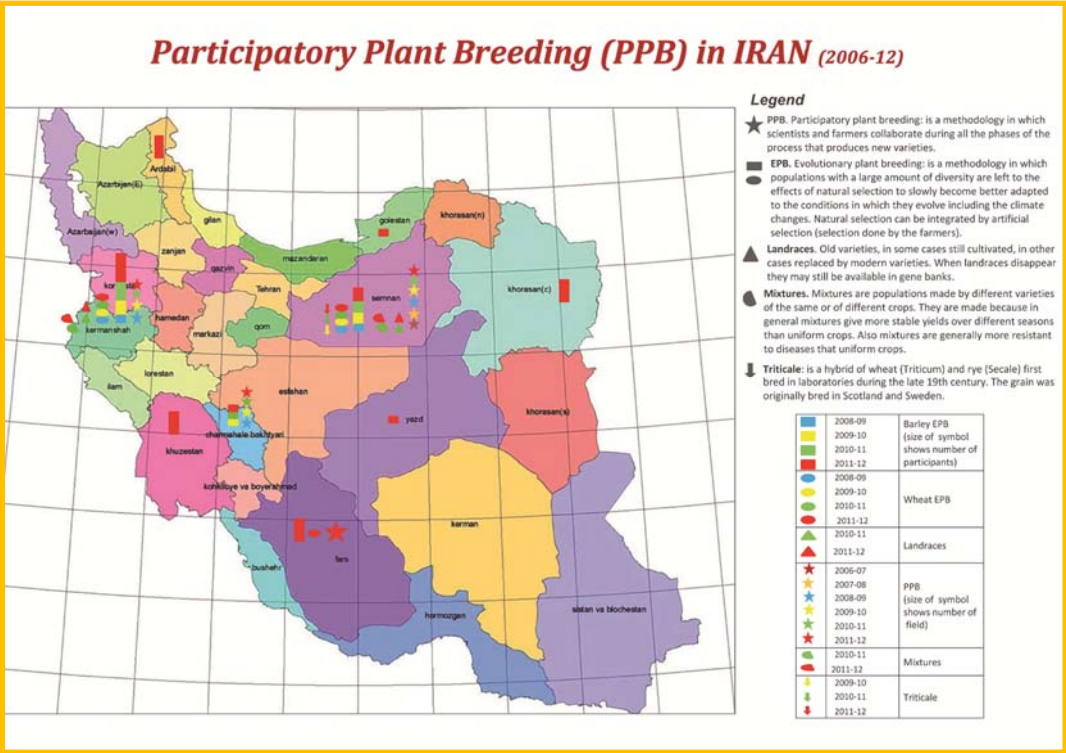
Today the evolutionary populations of wheat and barley both in irrigated and rain fed continue to spread throughout Iran through farmer to farmer exchange and a network that has formed with the support of this project. At present about 100 ha are piloted under EPB and PPB programs through farmers and "evolutionary populations" of various crops are cultivated through mixtures of mega-diversity which are more resilient to drought, pests and diseases (as map published in Evolutionary Plant Breeding by Center of Sustainable Development, 2013)

This year, for the first time in the country, Farmers Self-use Bank Seed has been established by this group. This initiative has received recognition from the related government organization. As part of the sharing SGP Iran's good practices with UNDP GEF FSP MENARID, the rain fed project was shared and visited in Kermanshah and it was requested by the provincial sites of MENARID to be expanded to those areas.



**Farmers formed a “Self-Use Seed Bank”  
for the first time in the country**





**Site Visit of GEF MENARID Project to EPB Project in Ravansar, Kermanshah**

## Inauguration of the first Trust Fund for providing seeds that are needed by farmers in Garmsar

افتتاح اولین صندوق حمایت از بذر خود مصرفی کشور در گرمسار

گرمسار - خبرنگار روزنامه پیام استان سمنان

مدیرعامل تشکل توسعه پایدار دشت گرمسار گفت: اولین صندوق حمایت از بذر خود مصرفی کشاورزان در کشور با هدف حمایت از توسعه کیفی این بذرها و همچنین پایش و رصد بذرهای خود مصرفی در اراضی کشاورزان و حفاظت از تنوع زیستی، ذخایر ژنتیکی و ارقام بومی و محلی با تکیه بر توان و پتانسیل های بهره برداران همگام با سیاستهای اقتصاد مقاومتی و سازگار با کشاورزی بوم شناختی (اگروکولوژیکی) با کمک دفتر کمک های کوچک عمران ملل سازمان ملل متحد SGP، موسسه توسعه پایدار محیط زیست CENESTA و تشکل توسعه پایدار دشت گرمسار، افتتاح شد.

احمد طاهری تصریح کرد: از آنجا که تولید بیش از هفتاد درصد غذا در جهان و از جمله کشورما در گرو فعالیت کشاورزان خرد می باشد و تنها کمتر از سی درصد آن به کشاورزی صنعتی اختصاص دارد، و با توجه به اینکه بازتولید بذر از مهمترین شاخص های تامین امن و مداوم غذای مورد نیاز، مدیریت تولید و به خصوص حفظ ذخایر ژنتیکی می باشد، حمایت از این قابلیت موجود متکی بر تجارب و دانش بومی کشاورزان امری لازم و ضروری به نظر میرسد. وی به اهداف این صندوق اشاره کرد و افزود: از جمله اهداف مشخص این صندوق، جلب مشارکت مالی و فکری ملی و بین المللی برای مدیریت هدفمند، تسهیل و ساماندهی بذور تولیدی کشاورزان (بذرهای خودمصرفی) از زمان برداشت تا کشت بعدی (تهیه، بوجاری، ضدعفونی، کیسه گیری، انبارداری، برپایی کارگاه های آموزشی برای تهیه بذرهای کیفی خودمصرفی) در قالب بهنژادی مشارکتی می باشد.

وی در پایان تاکید کرد: از کلیه علاقمندان، صاحب نظران شخصیت های حقیقی و حقوقی، مسئولان درد آشنای این حوزه در سطوح مختلف دعوت به همکاری نموده و دست یاری به سوی همه عزیزان دراز می کنیم.



# GEF SGP Caspian Forest Waste Management Project

IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/CC/12/06(172)



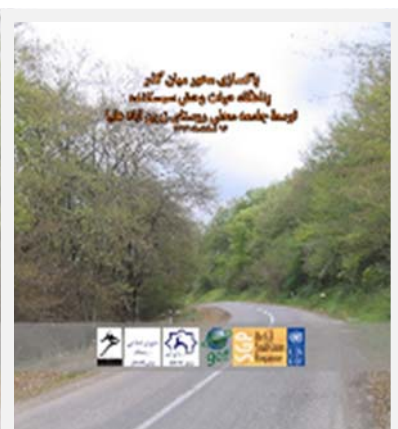
In recent years, waste production in urban, rural and tourist settlements, within and near the Hyrcanian Forest have become a serious challenge, which threatens the biodiversity of this valuable ecosystem. The project aims to reduce the volume of organic waste to "Zero Waste". For achieving this goal the project has conducted several training workshops on producing compost from organic waste in Esbookola Village and Kafshgiri Village in Safarud area of the Mazandaran Province. Also a network of stakeholders regarding Waste Management was formed with emphasis on household and agriculture waste from which several models were introduced such as vermi-compost. In addition, a booklet was published with SGP support in collaboration with Ministry of Jihad Agriculture. This project succeeded in bringing together over 100 governmental and non-governmental, local community and international stakeholders in a network with a shared goal of preserving Hyrcanian forest of Iran from waste. Through this network, the Safarud Project along with this project were linked to the UNDP GEF Project "Building a Multiple-Use Forest Management Framework to Conserve Biodiversity in the Caspian Hyrcanian Forest Landscape" for sharing knowledge and best practices on waste management.







<http://www.doe.ir/Portal/home/?news/196210/196226/sima> تلاش زنان روستایی شمال در کاهش انتشار متان روی آنتن شبکه یک سیما



# GEF SGP Biodiesel from Waste Cooking Oil Project

IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/CC/12/04(170)

Yearly, Iranians produce 500,000 tons of WCO and carcinogenic WCO is being disposed in the municipal sewerage system, or illegally used in the cosmetics industry mainly for the production of soap or reuse by fast foods or confectionaries posing serious health concerns. Biofuel from waste cooking oil (WCO) is an alternative fuel which could replace petroleum diesel fuel at blending ratio as high as 20% without any need for modification in conventional diesel engines and filling stations.

This project focused on design and fabrication of 50-L biodiesel processors (BD-Pro 50L™) using Waste Cooking Oil (WCO) for the first time in Iran with innovation in technology nationally registered and granted. As a result of the project, the first training site in Iran for WCO man-

agement and biodiesel production was inaugurated and training was provided to over 1000 individuals directly and during conferences. In addition, awareness raising activities such as production and broadcast of an animation and a 30-min documentary on Iran's National TV and of numerous radio programs on Iran's National Radio Channels were followed. More importantly, demonstration and advocacy in restaurants was conducted which could lead to reduction of 125,000 Liter WCO with equivalence of 100,000 liters production of biodiesel (300,000 kg CO<sub>2</sub> reduction). Also for the first time a school bus ran on biodiesel produced from waste cooking oil, where students themselves were exposed to training as well as designing the simplified versions of home reactors.



Figure 1  
Demonstration  
Reactor



Figure 2  
BDPRO-50  
Reactor



Figure 3  
BD-Expert  
Reactor

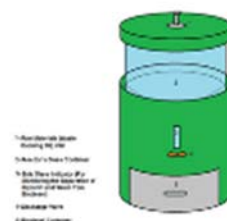


Figure 4  
Household scale  
Reactor

Figure 5  
Outlook

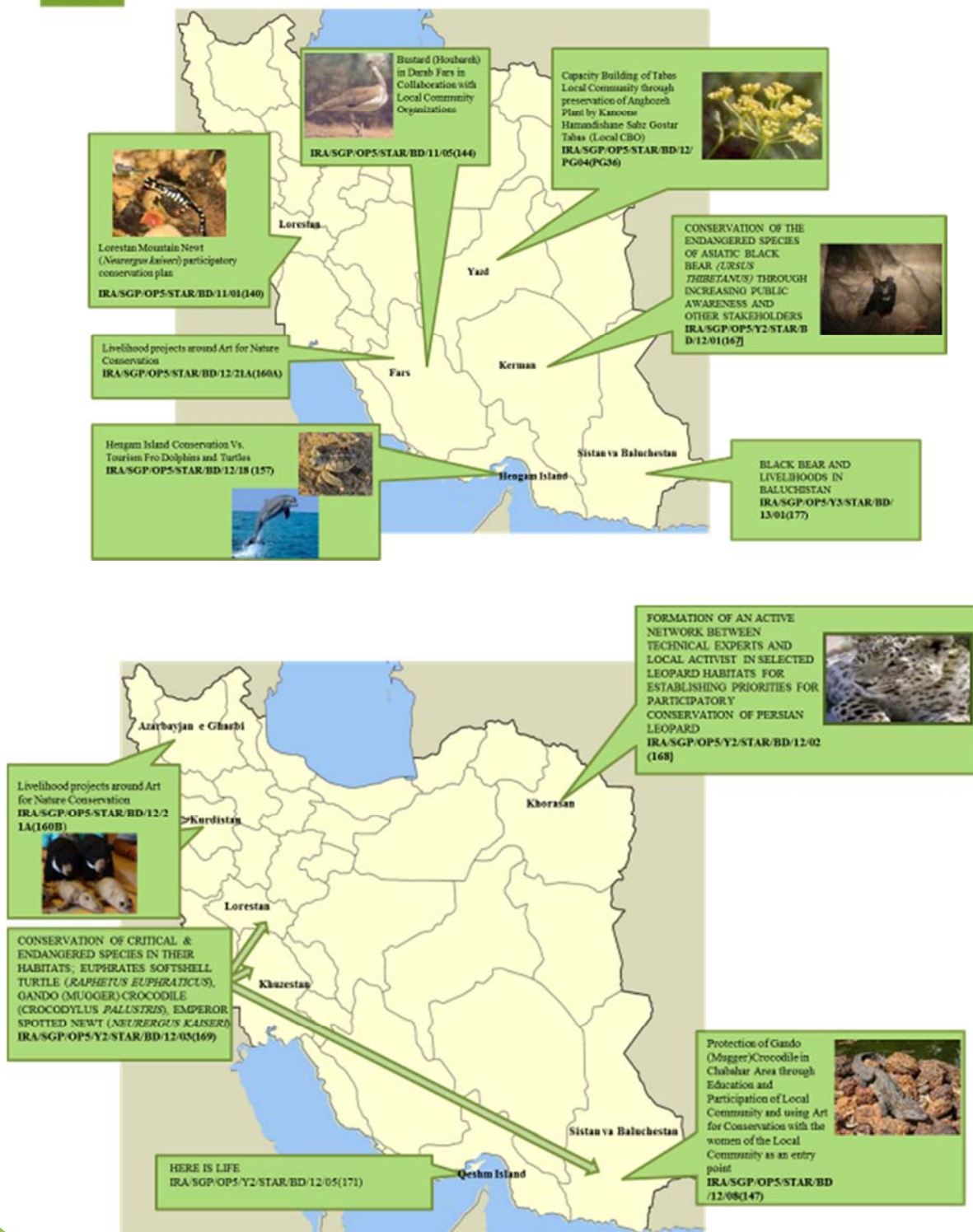




# Biodiversity Conservation Projects in GEF 5



## Biodiversity







## Biodiversity

INTEGRATED PEST  
MANAGEMENT (IPM) ON  
WETLAND PROJECTS IN  
UROMIYEH LAKE-  
GHORUGHOL WETLAND and  
SIRANGOLI WETLAND  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/IW/12/1  
4(153)

EMPOWERMENT OF PERSIAN  
LEOPARD NATIONAL NETWORK  
FOR PARTICIPATORY  
CONSERVATION OF PERSIAN  
LEOPARD  
IRA/SGP/OP5-Y3-STAR/BD/13/07(183)

LIVELIHOOD PROJECT AROUND ART  
FOR NATURE CONSERVATION- PART B  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/BD/12/21B(160B)



SEA SNAKES UNDER THREAT FROM FISHING  
AND MILKING  
IRA/SGP/OP5-Y3/STAR/BD/13/12(188)

Qeshm Island



## International Waters

IPM on wetland projects  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/IW/12/14(153)



Urmieh

## Target Animal Species in GEF5:



Mugger Crocodile



Persian Leopard



Bustard



Flamingo







Hadi Fahimi @ Mohitban society



Asiatic Black Bear



Emperor Spotted Newt

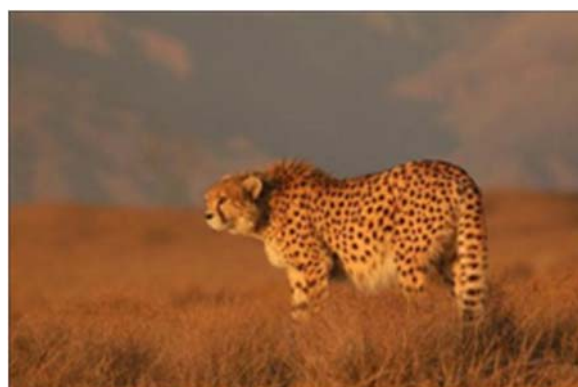


Bottlenose Dolphin

# Target Animal Species in previous GEF Phases



Siberian Crane



Asiatic Cheetah



White Head Duck





Euphrates Soft Shell Turtle



Hawksbill Turtle



Caspian Seal



Black Lip  
Oyster



# Target Plant Species in GEF5:



لاله واژگون



بلوط



گل گاوزبان



گون



برنج



گون مرتعی





گندم و جو



کرفس کوهی



موسیر

## Target Plant Species in previous GEF Phases



ماشک گل خوشه ای



ریواس



# GEF SGP Persian Leopard Project

IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/BD/12/02(168)



This project started since November 2011, lead by Arezoo Sanei (Asian Leopard Specialist Society) and supported by GEF SGP and DoE. The main goal of the project was to establish an active network of local activists, experts and related people

for participatory conservation, research and status monitoring of the endangered Persian leopard in Iran. In late 2012, the project officially started, to identify the conservation needs and priorities for protecting the leopards of Iran while using a participatory approach. The project focused on habitat aspects and community-based training programs which aimed to identify the root causes of a targeted conservation program in the country.

These main problems were: 1) lack of knowledge regarding the existing situation; 2) weaknesses in research and lack of a systematic approach in wildlife studies; 3) lack of awareness about community-based programs and irrelevant sensitization of local communities; 4) lack of a data gathering and storage system on leopards in Iran; 5) Lack of an appropriate monitoring system for this species in the country. One of the main problems at the initial phase of the project was that the existing situation of the leopards in the country was unknown which made target setting and planning for effective conservation impossible. Main objectives of the project included establishment of the Persian Leopard Online Portal, Regional Workshops, and assessing conservation priorities of the leopards in Iran. At the initial

phase of the project, there was a hypothesis that the distribution of leopards in Iran was being divided into two sections (north and south) according to previous studies \*Saneie et al., under publication). As the leopard population in Iran is the main leopard population in the Middle East, this was an important matter for conservation of this species in Iran and in the region.

## Persian Leopard Regional Workshops

To implement the participatory approach and involve all stakeholders, all 31 provinces of Iran with (with potential habitats) were classified into a total of 5 regions on the basis of both social and ecosystem similarities in the neighboring provinces. Subsequently, 4 regional workshops were held each of them covering all provinces in a particular region while two regions were combined as one group. Discussing the same subjects, 4 regional workshops provided the opportunity for a total of 140 leopard related people from various provinces across the country to participate in the activities of the workshops. Each workshop was designed for 3 days while 2 days were to train participants about skills and techniques of awareness raising programs and facilitating practices in community-based projects. Another day was to train participants about scientific research, study design, sampling techniques, distribution modeling and in Particular MaxEnt software. The workshops were designed in response to the needs assessed during the Felid workshops held by the Department of Environment of Iran, the Environment University, Sari provincial DoE office and IUCN Cat Specialist Group during 2011 and 2012.



## Persian Leopard Online Portal

### An Innovative Online Recording System

An innovative online recording system was established to bring all the people related to the Persian leopard conservation and research in various regions of Iran together to conduct periodical status assessment of the leopards across its entire range in Iran and participatory research and conservation activities ([www.Persian-leopard.com](http://www.Persian-leopard.com)). Registration on the portal is up-on invitation; however, everyone interested to join the group can fill up the form available on the portal. Membership will yet remain to acceptance of the requests on the basis of individuals' knowledge/influence/skills and expertise to participate in leopard research and conservation in a region. The portal is already endorsed by the Department of Environment and is included in the Conservation Road Map of Cats of Iran. So far, more than 750 persons has invited or requested to register in the Persian Leopard Online Portal, while more than 500 persons are nominated to have related background and are registered. Members are from all provinces of the country with a wide range of expertise and local knowledge from various regions which all provide a great capacity for conducting participatory research and conservation programs. The portal provides opportunity to record all leopard information such as mortalities, observations and indirect signs, area-specific studies, habitat data, prey status and records, threats in each habitat and other related information. Recorded information will be then classified into various levels of certainty.



**Participatory preparation of the Persian Leopard Habitat Map**

Finally, during this project the potential leopard habitats were identified and the potential distribution map of leopard habitats in Iran was produced for the first time. This map helped significantly in identifying the conservation priorities and showed that the distribution of leopards in Iran is being divided into two distinct sections (north and south). The habitats in north-western Iran are very isolated and dispersed, due to existence of residential areas, agricultural lands, roads and other development related infrastructures. However, some corridors were also identified and some potentially favorable habitats were identified (based on certain criteria). Using a participatory approach in identifying the needs and priorities for leopard conservation in Iran, raising awareness of officials and NGOs about community-based projects and a systematic study of wildlife while modeling distribution as well as recognition of 6 key local community members who helped in leopard conservation were among activities of the project. Also one of the main outcomes of the project was that the Tarem area which was a potential corridor between the leopard habitats in the north and leopard habitats in the north-west was agreed to be upgraded by the DoE office in Qazvin province. The project was also important in raising awareness of stakeholders at various levels of decision-making with the process of priority setting and related conservation measures and they were informed about the most urgent needs for conservation action. Publication of a bilingual booklet on lessons learned to be used at national, regional and international levels is under way with support from an international publisher.



### Lessons learned from the Leopard project:

In this project, the participatory approach was combined with conservation approach which was well received because leopards were important for the public. As a result of the project, the public could access information on leopards by becoming a member of the “Leopard Portal”.

Local community members were compensated for their contribution to leopard conservation.

Using a modeling tool and providing the relevant training was a useful exercise (eg. Lorestan Prov.).

Using community-based awareness raising and training programs is recommended (eg. Markazi Province)

Regional workshops are a good idea (which was recommended to DoE)

### Sustainability of project results:

- Recorded the results of the project in the Conservation Strategy document for the Cats of Iran (recently prepared and published)
- Establishment of a mechanism for recording and storing data as well as regular monitoring of leopards in the country (Leopard Portal)
- Making recommendations to DoE for holding regional level workshops (as Training Course) and include it in DoE calendar
- Making recommendations for upgrading some corridor areas as PA (such as Tarom)
- Using the results for making relevant policy recommendations
- Preparing for the 2nd phase of the project (based on the network that has been formed for participatory conservation of leopards in Iran)
- Modeling tools that were used in this project and tested, were later used in other projects too (with support from the same team of experts)

# GEF SGP Emperor Spotted Newt Project

IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/BD/11/01(140)



It was in August 2011 that the Pars Herpetologists approached SGP for funding to

protect a critically endangered species that is the Emperor Newt (*Neurergus kaiseri*). The habitat of this species is freshwater springs in mountainous areas of Zagros (distributed in Khuzestan and Lorestan provinces). The main threat was identified as lack of awareness which has contributed to smuggling of this species from the wild to be sold in pet shops in larger cities. The project had three main components: 1) Awareness raising; 2) Poli-

cy impacts; and 3) Identification of new habitats and mapping. As the result of the project, DoE guards, mountaineers, railway personnel and policemen were trained. In addition, posters were published and distributed in pet shops throughout the capital. The project has been particularly successful in raising public awareness about the importance of this species. In fact, the project was able to add the main habitats of the Emperor newt (Shevi Waterfall and Mohammad Ali Khan Bakhtiari Dej) to the list of Protected Area's under jurisdiction of the Department of Environment. In addition, during the project 430 Emperor newts were captured from smugglers and returned to the wild, while long-term impacts of the project are much larger. A documentary on the project was prepared under another project

## سمندر امپراطور

**Emperor Spotted Newt**  
(*Neurergus kaiseri*)

سمندر امپراطور یکی از گونه‌های بسیار کمیاب و در معرض خطر انقراض است. این گونه در مناطق کوهستانی و جنگلی ایران، به ویژه در استان‌های خوزستان و لرستان، زندگی می‌کند. این گونه به دلیل زیاده‌روی در شکار و تخریب زیستگاه‌ها، در معرض خطر انقراض قرار دارد. پروژه حفاظت از سمندر امپراطور با هدف افزایش آگاهی عمومی، حفاظت از زیستگاه‌ها و جلوگیری از شکار غیرقانونی طراحی شده است.

**ویژگی‌های سمندر امپراطور:**

- بدن سیاه با لکه‌های سفید و زرد.
- پوست صاف و براق.
- طول بدن تا ۱۰ سانتی‌متر.
- حیوان آبزی.

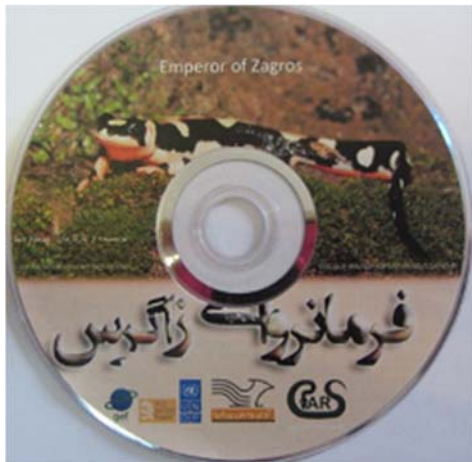
**تهدیدها:**

- شکار غیرقانونی.
- تخریب زیستگاه‌ها.
- آلودگی آب.

**اقدامات حفاظتی:**

- ایجاد مناطق حفاظت شده.
- آموزش و آگاهی‌رسانی.
- کنترل و نظارت بر شکار.

پروژه حفاظت از سمندر امپراطور با همکاری سازمان محیط زیست و سایر نهادهای مسئول اجرا می‌شود.



**اکران فیلم**  
**فرمانروای زاگرس**  
**Emperor of Zagros**  
 نویسنده و کارگردان: پرهام دیباج  
**جمعه ۲۳ مرداد. ساعت ۱۸:۱۵**  
**پردیس سینمایی قلهک** • ورود برای عموم آزاد است  
 تمامی درآمدها حاصل از پخش این فیلم صرف کمک به همیاران سمندر در استان خوزستان خواهد شد.

**IRNA**  
 Islamic Republic News Agency

خبرگزاری جمهوری اسلامی

صفحه اصلی

کد خبر: 80563351 | (3179298) | تاریخ انتشار: 09/12/1391 - 20:11

**430 قنچه سمندر امپراتور توسط پلیس راه آهن امدیشت کشف شد**

دزفول - رئیس اداره حفاظت محیط زیست شهرستان دزفول گفت: 430 قنچه گونه در حال انقراض سمندر امپراتور در ایستگاه راه آهن تله رنگ امدیشت از یک قاچاقچی حیوانات کشف شد.

فرهاد قلی نژاد، روز چهارشنبه به خبرنگار ایرنا گفت: پلیس راه آهن امدیشتک این تعداد سمندر را در محدوده ایستگاه راه آهن تله رنگ کشف و با انجام هماهنگی های لازم به اداره حفاظت محیط زیست دزفول تحویل داد.

وی گفت: قاچاقچی مذکور با دیدن پلیس، محموله سمندر را در ایستگاه راه آهن رها کرده و فرار کرد که تحت تعقیب می باشد.

قلی نژاد افزود: سمندر امپراتور (سمندر لرستانی) در فهرست گونه های در حال انقراض اتحادیه جهانی حفاظت از طبیعت (IUCN) قرار دارد و هر ساله در آستانه سایل جدید، افراد سود جو صادرات به رنده گیری و خروج این نوع سمندر از زیستگاه آن و عرضه در



Collection of captive newts and retuning them to their natural habitat





Distribution of pamphlets and other awareness raising materials in Nature and Darabad museums during

Nowruz holidays in 2015



Face to face teaching to school children



Participation in Environment Exhibition (February 2015):

Visit of Dr Ebtekar, Dr Heidarzadeh, and Mr Darvish

## Identification of illegal centers for selling the Emperor newt with presence of the DoE Guard (Tehran Province) Identification



## Distribution of posters and pamphlets in pet shops



## Publishing articles in Soroush Magazine for Children 2013





# Land Degradation Projects in GEF5



## Land Degradation



Art & Conservation, Taghboostan Kermanshah  
IRA/SGP/OP 5/STAR/LD/12 /12(151)



Pilot project of tribal conservation of pastureland forest in Qashqai territories and enhancing the women productions role through culture based livelihood work  
IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/LD/13/10(176)

Integrated Management for Natural Resource  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/LD/12/26(165)

Establish a hands on training site for IPM  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/CC/12/15(154)



Nardain Kalpoush Women for Participatory Rehabilitation of Forests and Promoting Livelihoods in the Highlands of Qolestan Forests  
IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/LD/13/09(175)

Provide basis to work on desertification and presence in Loot Desert  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/CC/12/17(156)





# GEF SGP Oak Plantation and Nursery through Qashghai Nomads

IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/LD/13/10 (176)



Forest forms only a small percentage of the land cover in Iran, however it plays a critical role in alleviating the impacts of Climate Change. In an effort to revive the natural forest habitats in Zagros region, an environmental group was formed by some members of the Qashqai tribe. Tribal communities in Iran have historically lived off natural resources and have been most affected from its degradation. Unfortunately indigenous knowledge of tribal communities is rapidly in decline (due to settlements and modernization efforts by the government since 1960s), and other threats such as rapid conversion of land-use due to large development projects. In an effort to revive the tribal identity, revitalize forest habitat and to generate income for tribal communities, a pilot project was initiated (28 ha) in an area that had natural potential for revitalization. During the reporting period, 14000 seeds and saplings of oak and wild almond were planted by local community of Qashqai tribe origin who were previously marginalized. Wild almond and Oak have low water requirements and may be considered as two species that are well adapted to the climatic conditions of the Zagros region. Qashqai women's role in this project was critical in using their know-how in collecting the necessary seeds and saplings for the restoration project which a year later proved to be successful. As a follow measure, the planted area was fenced and protected by the local community from livestock grazing. In addition, a plant nursery was established and seedlings were sold for income generation. To help further with generation of income for Qashqai women, the project encouraged indigenous art work and for the first time a book was published on indigenous motifs used in Qashqai tribe handicrafts.



# GEF SGP Abolhassani Nomads ICCA

## Project and the Formation of the Green Wheel

IRA/SGP/OP4/RAF/Y2/09/15 (124)



The Abolhassani Indigenous Nomadic Tribal Confederacy have lived and migrated seasonally in a peri-Central-Desert area known as Touran, one of nine UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in Iran. This small tribal grouping is about 200 households (“tentholds”) amounting to some 800-850 souls, organised in twelve tribes. Their ancestral domain—a nomadic tribal ICCA— covers about 61,000 hectares within the Reserve, which has a variety of types of protected areas, including wildlife refuge, national park, “protected zone” and ICCA. In recent years, they have witnessed and suffered from significant increasing frequency and severity of droughts. Testimonies of nearly total outmigration of the population are contained in the oral poetry and lore of

the Abolhassani. However, this small Tribal Confederacy has learnt, on its own, to live with droughts. They found and implemented land degradation and climate adaptation strategies both through strengthening customary laws and practices and many innovative initiatives. They also observed wildlife which are considered sacred by the elders: their presence brings blessings to the land. Despite unprecedented droughts, the Abolhassani have managed to cope with the lack of water, mainly by reinventing agriculture and elaborating a thorough plan called the “Coping with the Drought Cycle”. They have secured a project called “Drops for Life” (Qatrehay Abadi) from a government rural development agency that has given them resources for repairing qanats and building water storage systems.

Nomadic peoples’ traditional subsistence farming is typically limited to some rain-fed wheat and barley. However, this community have learned to use agriculture as a supplement to their migratory herding of sheep, goats and draft animals—thereby reducing grazing pressure on natural rangelands. They have reintroduced drought resistant indigenous breeds of animals, and, in the past dozen years, they have undertaken to cultivate several new crops or have reallocated them to animal feeding. They have implemented the most successful Iranian micro-credit programme and have also reinstituted the traditional intertribal mutual aid and solidarity agreements for sharing rangelands among drought affected tribes—a practice that has been forbidden by the government agency.

### Livelihoods and incomes

The remarkable agricultural innovations have meant increased cash crops as well as improved income from the livestock with access to fodder from the new crops. Pistachios are a high value cash crop in Iran. Some 7 hectares are planted to about 1000 trees yielding around 1.5 to 3 kg per tree, with a net income of some US\$6,000 per year. Cotton is grown on 4-5 ha (2-3 ha in drought years) and produces about 7-12 quintals per ha (1 quintal (kharvar) = 100 mans = 300

kg) of cotton worth some US\$3,000 to US\$12,000 per year (gross). Watermelon is planted on 3-5 ha. The seeds amount to some 2-3 quintals and bring in about US\$2,250 (gross) per year. Sunflower seeds take up 2.5-4 ha, and produce 1-2 tons per hectare (about US\$1,500 to US\$3,000 gross in total). Barley is of even greater value for livestock as high energy feed. It is planted to 12-15 hectares producing some 10-15 quintals/ha at US\$0.30/kg or a total of US\$13,000 to US\$20,000 if it were sold at market value, but it is used entirely for livestock as supplemental, and in drought years principle—feed. Animals that are fed the fodder, especially barley, weigh about twice as much as those who are not, and they have more chance of twin births and less chance of losing their foetus. Thus the most important livelihood and income value of these crops is in terms of improved livestock that brings in better income and secure livelihoods.

Another feature of their innovations is a completely community-owned and -controlled micro-credit programme sponsored by the UNDP/GEF/SGP, and facilitated by the Iranian NGO CENESTA. The experience has also helped revive the customary governance system of this nomadic tribal ICCA.

#### **Environmental conservation, sustainable natural resource management and local self-sufficiency**

The innovations by the Abolhassani have meant a substantial improvement in the situation of natural resources in this precarious desert environment. A look at the “Coping with the drought cycle” shows that at all the crucial times when the rangelands are recovering and the cover plants flowering, the livestock are hand fed with agricultural products and residues, giving rangelands a much needed rest. Even in good years dependence on the natural vegetation is reduced. This gives wildlife in the area a chance to have better access to the same resources. The territory of Abolhassani confederacy is a high endemism centre with remarkably high animal and plant biodiversity. An estimated 800 plant species have been identified, with more than 20% endemic and some still unknown species. There is an exceptional diversity of wildlife including the endangered Asiatic cheetah, Asiatic wild ass (onager), Iranian leopard, Houbara bustard, gazelles, and others. Wildlife is considered as a general indicator: when it is present, the weather is mild. This is a component of the reasons why the Abolhassani rarely hunt animals and respect the daily division of their water sources between wildlife and livestock—facilitated by the improvement of water supply and management system. They have reinstituted a pastoralist tradition called hanar—watering the animals once every two days instead of everyday during the cooler autumn and winter seasons. It saves water and allows the animals to go twice as far without needing to be watered, thereby relieving pressure on natural range due to better distribution of grazing. The revival of the hanar sys-

tem has also facilitated sharing available water sources effectively between livestock and wildlife, as the former are watered around mid-day, while wildlife get to these watering points at daybreak and sunset. In their newly learned agriculture, they are keen to eliminate use of agrochemicals as most of the parts of the plants is now used for feeding animals.

Despite the worsened drought situation, their population has remained stable. First, since the depopulation phenomenon has been witnessed in this area, the adaptability of the tribe is no longer to be proven. It has been accomplished by a mix of traditional and innovative approaches. For example, the hanar system, evoked earlier, is also an effective and important way to promote livestock adaptation to water shortage. Other enhanced traditional approaches are, among others, the strengthened customary grazing system, which is organized by the tribes’ elders or the selection of migratory routes according to the assessment of plant coverage. Innovative and contemporary approaches, which have resulted from indigenous research and population consultation, have been enhanced such as reducing the sheep/goat ratio as goats take more benefits from desert pastures and allow appropriate grassland development before grazing, or the respect of the traditional ‘Borderless Grazing’ (the herd can graze from April to mid-May wherever they want regardless of pasture ownership). Moreover the diversification of their crops (pistachios, cotton, watermelon, fodder barley, sunflower, garden crops) has proved to be a good way to diversify reliance on different solutions in case one of them is endangered by pests. These practices also yield vital forage for the animals to keep them away from natural rangelands at critical times of stress, which allow more access to these resources by wildlife. Those who do not have much access to irrigation for farming usually rent farmlands and carry out a similar pattern of supplementary farming or use the stubble and crop residues where available.

Ecologically, the natural resource management systems have improved including rangelands that are more in balance and recuperating through the reduction of exclusive reliance on natural grazing. The Qataar Baneh forests in the mountainous areas are also under an Abolhassani sustainable management regime as the fruits of the wild pistachio (“baneh”) and wild almond (*Pistacia atlantica* and *Amygdalus scoparia*) trees and some medicinal plants are collected without damaging the plant cover. Finally, the existence of a community investment fund (sandug) enables both community-owned wealth-generating enterprises and emergency support through the community run micro-credit system. We can conclude that the



Abolhassani are able to sustain their livelihoods better than before. The added community self-confidence has enabled them to find additional support for their projects, such as the “Drops for Life” grant they received from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to develop their qanat and water systems and the government funding they have secured for setting up a solar power system for the one community that used to be deprived of any power supply.

This initiative, including the SGP/CENESTA project, has proved to be a critical opportunity for the empowerment of Abolhassani women. At this time, they are now at the origin and at the head of new initiatives, such as, for example, undertaking credit, which was not conceivable before. They are also engaged in income-generation and livelihood diversification activities, which include handicraft and dairy production, and the important task of collecting non-timber products from forests and rangelands sustainably, especially during droughts. Moreover, their role is guaranteed through the inclusion of the Women’s Committee in the community’s structures for decision-making. They were involved in participatory methods such as staking out the territory of the tribe as the first, and most essential step of PGIS (Participatory Geography Information Systems), and in the realization of participatory video products.

#### **Involvement of indigenous and/or economically marginalized segments of the community in its governance**

The entire Abolhassani confederacy is composed of indigenous nomadic pastoralists, all of whom are marginalised as a) rural, b) tribal, c) mobile and migratory peoples. Their whole territory, like that of other indigenous nomadic tribes, was confiscated in 1963 in the guise of nationalisation. They are involved in the governance of the initiative and all tribal affairs, through their system of tribal governance, consisting of 12 tribes each being repre-

sented by two trusted community elders in the tribal Council of Elders.

#### **Community empowerment**

The restoration, strengthening and registration of their tribal system is one of the main elements in their community empowerment. The Council of Elders and its constituent Women’s Committee are accepted as the main instruments that give all parts of the tribal confederacy accepted voice. The Council’s representatives have been participating regularly in relevant policy forums.

#### **Community co-ownership**

The Council of Elders has a tribal investment and sustainable livelihoods fund (sandug). This is the mechanism for collective community ownership of tribal assets and initiatives.

#### **Participatory decision-making**

All decisions are discussed in the Council of Elders, and after consultation with each of the 12 tribes, are approved by the Council. This setup makes for participatory and deliberative democracy in the tribes.

#### **UNINOMAD and ICCA Consortium**

Once a significant number of territory-based ICCAs were formed, their leaders came together to form the National Union of Indigenous Nomadic Tribes (UNINOMAD), which is now in the process of being registered. The Abolhassani are a founding member of UNINOMAD. UNINOMAD has been having good influence in changing policies and practices on natural resources and the rights of nomadic tribes. UNINOMAD (of which Abolhassani is a member) is a member of the ICCA Consortium. This serves as a two way channel for exchange of experiences. Another partnership has been developing with farmers of other GEFSGP projects on autonomy of seed for staples like barley.

The Abolhassani have encouraged and helped many other tribes in the region to organise, join

UNINOMAD and take control of their own affairs. This has been a win-win strategy, empowering the other tribes, while enabling the extension of the migratory routes, grazing lands and creating concrete mutual support systems, as well as strengthening the negotiating power for the tribes in the region, and the mutual sharing of experiences.

This model has been promoted nationally by UNINOMAD and among many other communities by organizing tribal leaders' gatherings, and documentary videos, photo-stories, PowerPoint presentations and articles for both Iranian and international forums. The participatory video and other multimedia products have helped impact policy dialogues including a tribal summit meeting that was organised in December 2013 to bring tribal customary laws and views to bear on a new comprehensive law of natural resources. The Abolhassani participatory video became a pilot

project, in partnership with SGP, Insight Share and an IIED project, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock. The Abolhassani elder met the Minister and participated in a national TV programme. Also, presentations have been made of this experience in CBD, UNCCD and other forums

## Women Pastoralists: Summary Report

2011-2013

**FOCAL POINT FOR LOCAL ACTION: MAKE SURE YOUR ACTIONS GET NOTICED**

Appendix 1 is a template that can be completed and sent to WISP ([wisp@iucn.org](mailto:wisp@iucn.org)) every time an action is taken to support the Action Plan from the Global Gathering of Women Pastoralists.

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**Pastoralist Profile 2: Fatemah Talebi, Abul Hasseni, Iran**



*Fatemah Talebi is from the Abul Hasseni tribal confederacy, which dwells in the central desert of Iran. Her people practice seasonal migration, spending winters in lowland villages and summers in tent camps up in the mountains with their herds of sheep and goats. The most immediate problems facing the Abul Hasseni are land and water rights, as well as a lack of economic opportunities.*

*Water is always a precious commodity in Iran's deserts, but for the last eight years, the Abul Hasseni have suffered under severe drought. Traditionally in times like these they've had the right to range farther and wider than usual in search of water and pasture, but today they find their movements confined. Much of the terrain they once were permitted to roam is now a national park, where grazing is forbidden. Other areas have been taken over for industrial uses. The Abul Hasseni are struggling with their government for the right to access their traditional territories, but they find themselves completely marginalized.*

*Fatemah came to the Gathering hoping that if women from pastoral communities around the world united with each other, that they might be able to solve some of their collective problems. She insists that pastoralists have the right to retain their nomadic livelihoods - they need not get rich, but have enough to survive. At the Gathering, she found comfort in understanding that her people are not alone with their problems, and was stunned to find that other tribes in other places face even greater struggles than hers does. Fatemah wants to share with the world the valuable knowledge that her people have acquired from living on the fringes of habitable terrain forever - primarily, the sustainable use of ecological resources, but also the secrets to making 36 different types of dairy products from goats' milk!*

## Chapter 3

# Special Target Groups in GEF5



## Women, Youth & Children

Livelihood projects around Art for Nature Conservation  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/BD/12/2 1A(160B)



Art & Conservation,  
Taghboostan  
Kermanshah  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/L  
D/12/12(151)

Livelihood projects around Art for Nature Conservation  
IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/BD/12/21A(160A)

Pilot project of tribal conservation of  
pastureland/forest in Qashqai territories  
and enhancing the women productions  
role through culture based livelihood  
work  
IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/LD/13/10(176)

Up scaling SGP  
Methodology  
and Experience  
in Qeshm to  
Geopark and  
related villages

IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/S  
TAR/CC/13/08(174)



Caspian Forest Region-A Practical  
Rural Pilot Site for Producing  
Compost From Organic Waste as a  
Model for The Stakeholder  
Involved in the Participatory Forest  
Cleanup Program  
IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/CC/12/06(172)



Up scaling to  
reduce waste  
in Caspian  
Forest  
IRA/SGP/OP5/  
Y3/STAR/CC/13  
/06 (182)



Nardain Kalpoush Women for  
Participatory Rehabilitation of Forests  
and Promoting Livelihoods in the  
Highlands of Golestan Forests  
IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/LD/13/09(175)

Produce environment  
friendly bags through  
empowerment of  
marginalized  
children and women  
headed households  
IRA/SGP/OP5/ST  
AR/CC/12/27(166)





CHAPTER 3





# Art for Conservation

## Qeshm Island's Handicrafts

Around 2010, for the first time a store was built and managed by rural women in Qeshm Island (Berke khalaf Village) in order to empower women by increasing their livelihood options. Handicrafts that were produced (mainly needlework) was inspired by nature and environment (Art for Conservation) and was sold right at the entrance of the Qeshm Geopark. These handicrafts were not only very attractive for tourists visiting Qeshm Island, but also helped promote conservation and introduce endangered species of the area such as Hawksbill Turtle and Dolphins in addition to introducing to the public the art and indigenous designs of Qeshm Island, which were almost being forgotten due to the establishment of the Qeshm Free Trade Zone and import of goods from China and other countries. As a result of GEF SGP support, not only additional income was generated but also Qeshmi women are now more prone to participate in exhibitions and other socio-cultural activities.

Every season these women produce some new products with their creativity and release them to their small market. The pictures below are released some month ago as their new collection.





# Qashqai Handicrafts

## Diversified Livelihoods in Zagros Mountains in Iran



**Newly designed  
Qashqai Handicrafts**

Qashqai designs are categorized into Mythical, Paisley, Janavar (animal creatures), Margin and Bergamot Patterns. These patterns are all created by Qashqai women's observing and perceiving things from inside open tents, learning from one another, weaving, and evolving the art of weaving based on living in nature.

Prior to each New Year, before the long migration from winter to summer quarters started, the leaders and elders from various tribal groups gathered in the illustrious quarters of the head of the family in colorful decorated tents with hand-woven tapestries. These occasions were accompanied with large exhibition of horses and horse-back riding performances.

Such gatherings have not been repeated in recent decades while they were common incidents taken place a few times a year in the past.

Nowadays most of Qashqai tribes have migrated to big cities, while their own lifestyle is being undermined. Often, they live in a very bad economic and environmental situation after migrating to big cities. Because of facing such difficulties, Parvin Darehshouri the author of "Qashqai Designs" book, who's is originally from Qashqai tribes, decided to gather a Qashqai women group and encourage them

to start producing handicrafts designed by those significant patterns in order to generate additional income that could be positively effective on their family's livelihood. By doing such an impressive activity among local communities, young girls were encouraged to learn about their cultural past, not only for better livelihood but also for conserving these worthy patterns that are unfortunately being forgotten.

In 2014, these women have released some of their work as a new collection to the market as shown below.



**Leather bags produced by  
Qashqai women based on  
traditional Qashqai designs**



**Qashqai Design book, by  
Parvin Darehsouri**

**"Goushvareh"**

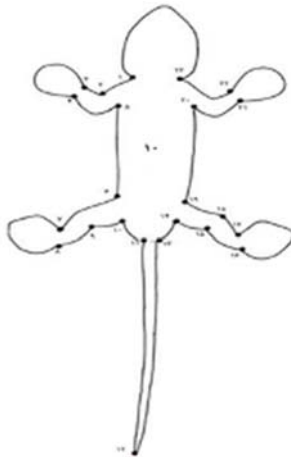


**Right:  
"Shakholi  
Qoush"**



**Left:  
"Janavar"**

# Design, patterns and sewing technique to support endangered species





## Youth & Children







Infographics related to species worked by GEF SGP Projects

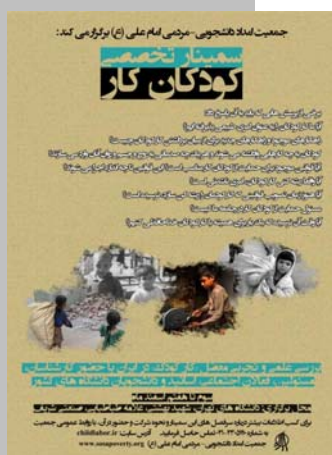
# GEF SGP Green Bag Project with Street Kids

IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/CC/12/27(166)



Imam Ali Foundation is an NGO that works with street children to allow them earn additional livelihoods and to learn. In 2012, SGP provided a grant to this group for their efforts in trying to replace plastic bags with green bags. These became re-usable cloth bags that have schematic pictures of Iran's endangered wildlife species. While making these bags, children got also familiar with endangered wildlife of Iran. The project was also an opportunity to connect to new organizations that are interested in these bags for reducing impacts on the environment, but also to support a socio-cultural

cause. The group helps the street children, their mothers and women headed households to get trained in order to leave the street jobs. Environment friendly bags are being produced to advocate climate change and endangered animals themes which not only would help consume less plastic bags but will also help empower the marginalized children and women headed households, and build awareness among consumers (mainly in the capital city, Tehran) about environmental values and the need for citizens to play to consume responsibly.



Imam Ali Student-People Relief Society presents:

## StreeSeminar 22-26 Feb 2014

In this 5 day seminar, that was held in February 2014, in some of the key universities in Tehran (Sharif Univ., Allameh Tabatabaie Univ., Beheshti Univ. and Tehran university) some key questions were asked:

Is child labor an ordinary affair?

What are the existing and new solutions to eliminate child labor?

What kind of jobs with what type of physical and psychological harms are being forced on children?

Are the existing regulations appropriate to support child laboring rights? How much are they implemented?

Is it really impossible to eradicate child laboring?

Isn't it time to pass some regulations in order to eradicate child laboring?

Who is responsible to support children of work in our society?

Isn't it time to say goodbye to child laboring once forever?

Is image of child labor in national media well reflected/accurate?

Therefore, this seminar/workshop was a great opportunity to gather some of the scientific and experimental studies on the issue of "child labor" with the participation of experts, administrators, social workers, teachers and stu-

# Games and Toys Exhibition Held Simultaneously with Tehran International Book Exhibition - 30 April-10 May 2014

To date, GEF SGP Iran has supported innovative ideas for saving nature and helped produce some interesting educational tools grantees (such as books, films, maps, puzzles, art for conservation with local communities, endangered and important cloth animals). "Chaharbagh" organization (IRA/SGP/OP5/Y3/STAR/CC/13/05(181)) which participated the Games and Toys Exhibition held simultaneously with Tehran International Book Exhibition (with 50 booths presenting toy producers, sellers and shops, and 5 showcase play grounds) actively presented its gardening packages for children. Also this team introduced relevant educational games, toys and other activities. Some of the activities by this group were:

Call and introduce the 3rd professional seminar on "Toy Designing and Educational Tools" organized by the "Kanoone Parvaresh Fekri" in late June 2015.

Introduce seminar on Health and Education of pre-school children at Behzisti University.

Introduce "Kanoone Parvaresh Fekri" museum

Introduce Monitoring Council of Toy and Services for toy registration.

Introduce Gardening Packages for children in the name of "Parchin" (in collaboration with GEF SGP at UNDP Iran)

Introduce kites with different designs (supported by GEF SGP at UNDP Iran).



International Games and Toys Seminar - June 2014



THE 27th TEHRAN  
INTERNATIONAL  
BOOK FAIR  
بیست و هفتمین نمایشگاه  
بین المللی کتاب تهران  
۱۰ تا ۲۰ اردیبهشت ۱۳۹۳  
30 April-10MAY 2014

The Poster of  
Exhibition







Ms. Daraie, Ms. Keyhani & Mr. Karimi  
Photo by: GEF/SGP@UNDP, SGP booth

## The International Games and Toys Seminar & Toys and Educational Tools Designing Seminar held on 10-11 June 2014

was a very good opportunity for related SGP projects to be known by governmental and non-governmental organizations around the country working in this field. The National Coordinator of GEF SGP at UNDP Iran in her presentation, explained about Artificial Reefs project, Qashqai designs project and endangered species motifs that are used in Kilim weaving by Qashqai women for raising awareness about nature conservation.

In these two days seminar Mr. Farjou, Secretary of the Supervisory Council of Toys, Ms. Laleh Daraie, SGP National Coordinator,

# International Games and Toys Seminar & Toys and Educational Tools Designing Seminar - 10-11 June 2014

Attended SGP Grantees

Mr. Mohammadreza Haeri, Naghshe Olgooye Sarzamin Director, Ms. Maryam Keyhani, Expert in Visual Arts from Sorbonne University and Art and Creativity Teacher of children, and Mr. Mostafa Karimi, Director of Education Publications had speeches and held a roundtable in this regard and provided comments on preparing joint reports from different activists about traditional games and toys.

In the first day of the seminar, Mr. Hajiyanzadeh, General Manager of Kanoon, also pointed that it is necessary to have joint projects with SGP, since environment is one of our most important heritages. In addition, other organizations were present like Ministry of Education and some other organizations active in Education and Development programmes related to environmental topics.

Ms. Laleh Daraie also mentioned that Kanoon and other organizations should support SGP's Art for Conservation projects such as making cloth animals and puzzles in order to increase their production lines and availability around the country for children and adults.

In general, all speakers and participants attempted to use traditional games and toys or reproduce new ones inspired by traditional ones. Since all traditional games and toys have an important role in preserving indigenous culture, traditions, and our environment.



Left: KANOONE ASHNAIYIE BA HAYATE VAHSH



Right: JASTAR BAZI VA TARAHI ASBAB BAZI



MOASSESE  
HAFEZANE  
TABIYATE  
PAYDAR



MOASSESE  
AVAYE  
TABIYATE  
PAYDAR



MOASSESE  
NAGHSHE  
OLGOOYE  
SARZAMIN



# GEF SGP Traditional Toys and Learning Materials Project

IRA/SGP/OP5/Y3/STAR/BD/13/05(181)

Since 2013 SGP Iran has supported projects on producing indigenous toys and games. This initiative aims at raising awareness of youth about local cultures and natural ecosystems and wildlife of Iran. By engaging rural women in this process, not only indigenous art and culture is revived but also awareness about endangered species increases and income is generated. Most of these toys are accompanied by a manual which explains how to make them, allowing everyone to participate in the process. In fact indigenous toys reflect natural forces. For example, in “Gherghereh” one can learn about gravity and in “Ferferreh” one can learn about the force of wind. Therefore, local-

ly made toys and games could be used in promoting local and indigenous cultures and beliefs, and enhance learning about cultural diversity, creating a sense of respect and self-esteem, as opposed to imported toys and games. Through the project, also a book was published on “Games of the children of Qeshm” which reflected close relationship between children and the sea. In fact, the Centre for Growth of Children (Kanoone Parvaresh Fekri Koodakan) has welcomed joint initiative with SGP Iran in the future design and preparation of games and toys, and has invited SGP Iran to its First National Festival on Indigenous Toys in Tehran (2015).





Nowadays, there are lots of various and affordable toys produced and made available for children in different ages. Toys and games have a very important role in children's learning process. Although there are many modern toys produced, but those that were used in the past, allowed children to be more innovative in their games. They were produced based on traditional games played by last generations with simple available tools. By playing with these kinds of toys and games, children used to be closer to their environment and traditions in their society.

The Chaharbagh Institute, one of SGP's grantees, started to produce some of old toys and games based on traditional ones in Iran for new generation (including instructions and patterns to be user friendly).

Gig or "Ferferreh" is a toy designed to be spun rapidly by wind on a wooden handhold, the motion of which causes it to remain precisely balanced on its tip, because of inertia. In old days, children used to find different kinds of papers in different sizes and different small pieces of woods from their surrounding in order to make gigs. These gigs looked so nice and amazing for children especially while they were moving in wind.

"Ye Ghol Doghol" is a traditional game played by stones which in past children used to find (little stones in the same shape from gardens or any other natural places around them). In this game, children decide to concen-

trate on tossing up a stone and catch another one from the ground. Numbers of stones are changing in different stages with the same action.



**"Ye Ghol, Doghol"**  
Innovative packaging including a numbers of industrial rocks in same shape with the game's instruction

The Chaharbagh Institute in collaboration and support with GEF SGP at UNDP Iran has been trying to revive some of these old games and toys by making them attractive to children of today.



# GEF SGP CCA Projects in GEF 5



## GEF SGP/UNDP Iran: CCAs and ICCAs



### Contents

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## DOE Workshop: Sharing participatory patterns of the protected areas management- international necessities and achievements - March 2015

In this workshop, policies and practices consistency and the classification of protected areas in Iran by international necessities and commitments to Biodiversity Convention and International Union, for the preservation of Nature with purpose of presentation in World Parks Congress were reviewed by Mr. Farvar with the participation of NGOs, CBOs, Governmental Organization and DOE staff and implementation of national and international commitments to the Biodiversity Convention in achieving 20-fold goals of Aichi (from 10 year Convention on Biodiversity Strategy Paper 2020-2010), particularly target number 11 of Aichi: ((Promoting protected areas minimum to 17% of internal, 10% of marine and coastal areas of the country till 2020)). Mr. Balasubramaniam Murali, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, was very grateful to join this very important gathering. He wished to spend few minutes sharing some of his thoughts and some gained experiences of Iran in last 18 months. One of the very first trips that he had took apart and seen was a visit to Touran National Park to see UNDP Asiatic Cheetah conservation project, He was very impressed to see for the first time the concept of developing and managing the protected area without really fencing it off. Because he came from India, where since the 70's the protected areas were fenced off and prevented anyone from entering it, this was a very unique experience for him.



Mr. Balasubramaniam Murali,  
UNDP Deputy Resident Representative

He also emphasized on the point of the discussion of the workshop, how critical participatory processes are and how successfully manage large protected areas in the country, and very happy to see civil society groups, NGOs and indigenous nomadic groups working closely with the government and participating in workshops. That was the exact reason why UNDP in Iran attaches such great importance to the work that has been carried out by SGP. The key element of the work of SGP revolves around engaging the wide range of stakeholders at local levels and engaging directly in various geographical areas. He ended his statement by sharing a very interesting piece of news. The Yale University has put up an annual performance report which looks at over 170 countries in the world and assists them with an environment performance. Out of over 178 countries that have been reported in environmental activities, Iran was ranked 114 but in the past 2 years Iran ranked 83.

Ms. Laleh Daraie, GEF/SGP National Coordinator in Iran, started her speech about SGP thematic, methodology and keys to success. She mentioned that SGP in Iran is one of the founding programmes around the globe.

She appreciated CENESTA's support to Iranian nomads; they could form their own federation in the country, as well as DOE and CSOs that participated in such important event. She stated that there are about 240 projects in SGP 150 of them are not completed yet. In all these years SGP decided to find these models based on cooperative approach and sustainable management of CSOs that are not easy to reach, So the emphasis should be more on organizing meetings and gatherings in order to share these gained experiences. Ms. Daraie also introduced the book "Qashqai's Designs" that is collected and published by Ms. Parvin Darehshoori one of SGP grantees.



Ms. Laleh Daraie,  
National Coordinator  
GEF/SGP Iran

This book is about different designs that Qashqai women use in their handicrafts like weaving kilims and carpets. Unfortunately elders are going to be gone and we will lose this opportunity to talk with them and use their indigenous knowledge. As a conclusion she added, "All of us should be responsible for these happenings around elders in nomads and indigenous people, day by day they are leaving us. They have a very important role in forming community based organizations and environmental and non-environmental cooperative activities are important."



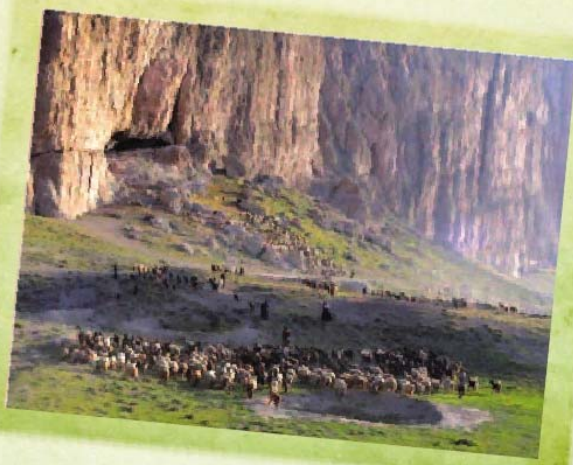
They have a very important role in forming community based organizations and environmental and non-environmental cooperative activities are important."

Dr. Taghi Farvar, ICCA Consortium,  
Head of Board of Director of CENESTA

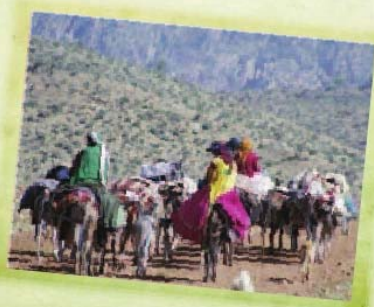


## A toolkit to support conservation by indigenous peoples and local communities:

Building capacity and sharing knowledge for Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCAs)



Qashqai migration. Photo credit: CENESTA, Iran



Qashqai women. Photo credit: CENESTA, Iran

## CASE STUDY 14

### Using tribal investment funds in Iran to benefit people and nature

In the last decade, Iran's more than 700 indigenous tribes have seen the revival of their councils of elders and the registration of *sandugs* (tribal investment funds) run by the indigenous tribes themselves. The Iranian NGO CENESTA, which is a member of the 'Council of Elders of the Union of Indigenous Nomadic Tribes of Iran' (UNINOMAD) has helped institute a process of participatory action research to assist the tribes with analysis of their current predicament, future visions of their ICCAs, and a 'roadmap' for the future. For example, the *Bakhtiari* tribe *Farrokhvand* has revived endangered plants such as wild celery by assigning "field guards" to protect these valuable plants, as well as re-seeding the range where possible. When they harvest economically significant crops like celery, the collective structure of their *sandug* benefits all tent-holds and nomadic camps of the tribe.



# GEF SGP Community Based Ecotourism, Heybatlu Nomads Project

IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/BD/12/23(162)

Concern about the settlement of nomads forced by income and water shortages, and the decline of tribal lifestyle, made an elder of Heybatlu sub-tribe of Qashqai nomads look for solutions. Previous efforts by SGP Iran in promoting ICCAs provided the basis for a project on community-based ecotourism, in support of territorial integrity and biodiversity conservation in summering grounds of Heybatlu subtribe of Qashqai Tribe. The bottom-up approach of this project involved local community from very early stages, conducting a participatory feasibility study. Through close collaboration of ecotourism experts and local community, baseline information was gathered and relevant advocacy materials were produced. Also necessary training was provided to local community members. As a result, the community gained

recognition by visitors and government for implementing the first tribal ecotourism site in Iran as well as conservation of 8000 ha of Heybatlu summering ground of pasture. As a result of the project and the protection of the rangelands, In the Abbasabbad Qanat and in Chavoush, by tribal standards, the grass reached the “knee height”, which is the highest expected level of grass in this area. In addition, the quality of pasture improved over 4 years of “Ghorogh” (grazing is possible for four months rather than 3, which increased pasture by 25%). This project helped develop a Masters thesis report in Allameh Tabatabaie University. The Cultural Heritage Organization also introduced the site as “good practice” for inclusion in UNWTO top stories database. Advocacy materials were produced (brochure, web-site and news articles). Recently, an article in the “Travel Book” introduced this site as one of the 100 top tourism destination, and won the Kinari International Prize for tourism.







Selection of Nomads Ecotourism Project by Heritage, Cultural, Handicraft and Tourism Organization to United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) as a best practice case for Community-based Ecotourism in Iran



## Project Summary & Main Objectives:

The territory of the migratory sub-tribe of Heybatlu (Seshboluki) from the Qashqai Tribe consists of attractive natural and cultural components which allows them to develop ecotourism. The biodiversity aspects as well as lifestyle of the tribal communities is very attractive for tourists. However, to date this potential had not been explored. In the meanwhile, the cultural aspects of tribal life are being lost. Therefore, a project on developing community-based ecotourism was proposed to avoid large scale infrastructural changes, and heavy investments, to keep it small and manageable by the local communities, which could also build a model for other tribal communities

In this project, which has focused on Sustainable Livelihoods Council's Trust for Heybatlu sub-tribe and training for implementation of community-based ecotourism, revival of ICCAs actualizes the potential of local communities in preservation of natural resources and biodiversity, and its impacts on the community livelihoods. It is clear that with successful implementation of this project and development of alternative/additional livelihoods, the pressure on natural resources will be reduced. The results of this project then could be up-scaled to national and regional levels.

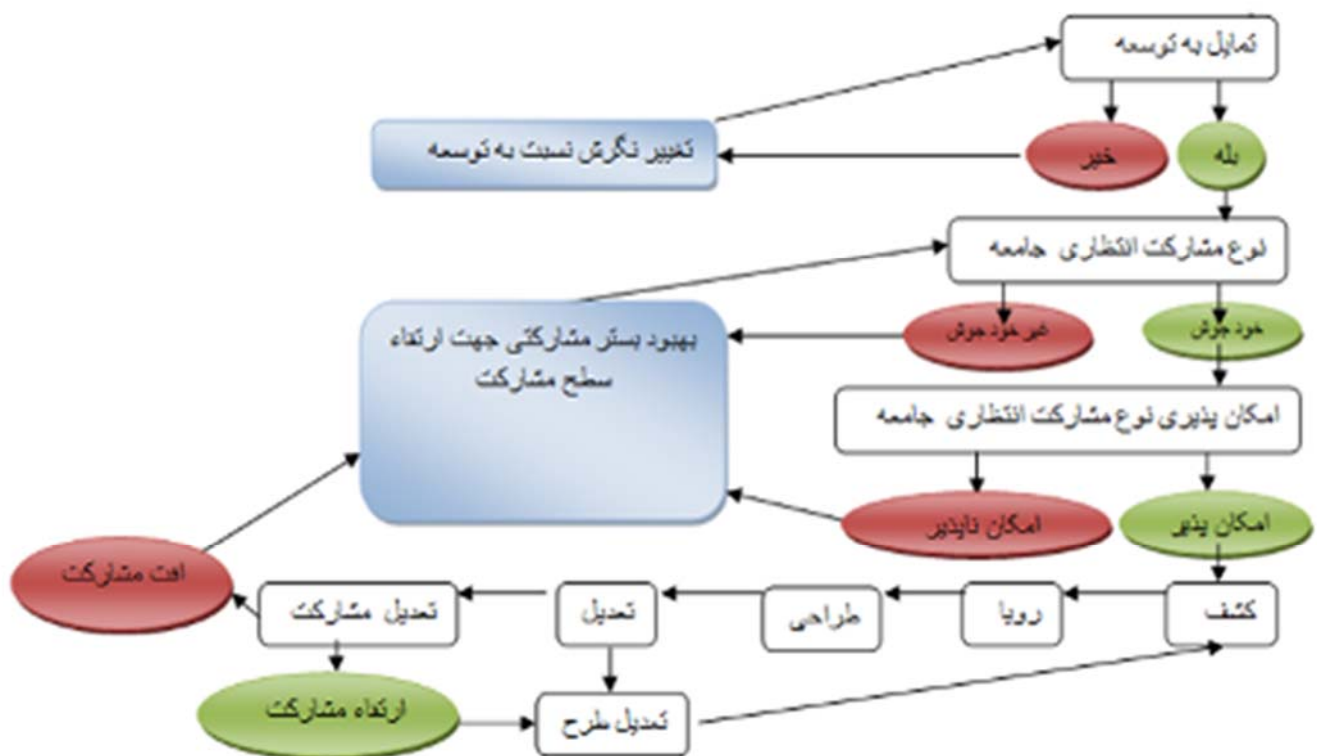
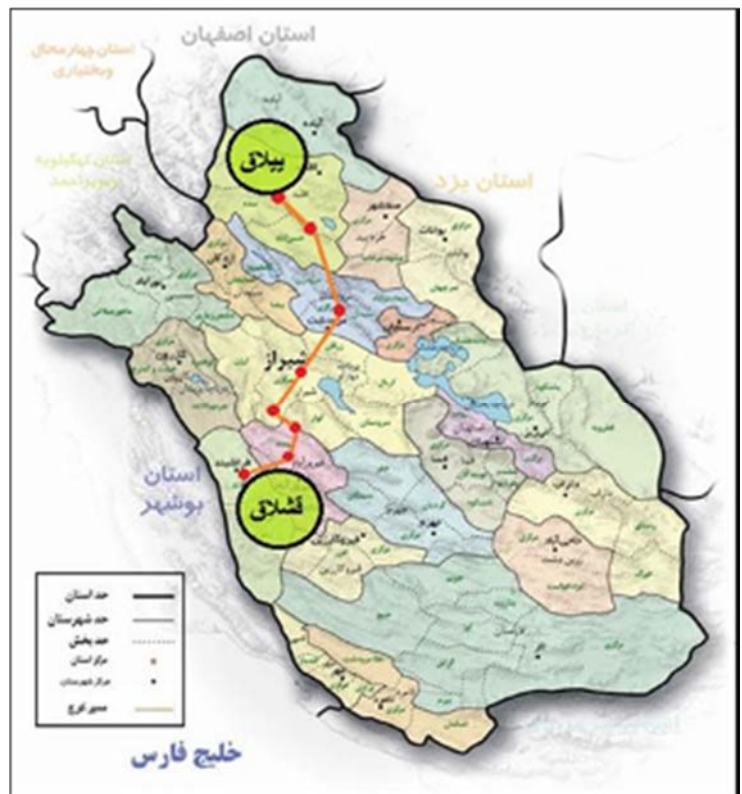
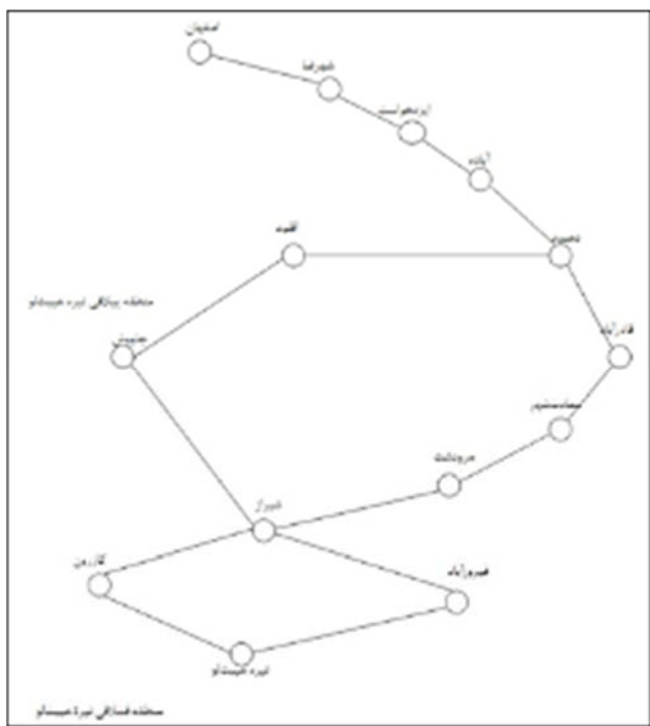
Such a project is a good example of an integrated development which would generate income and employment as well as helping build capacities. In addition, it would help promote nature conservation and ICCAs, reverse the willingness to migrate to cities, and generate interest within the local community for conservation, management and sustainable use of natural resources in tribal territories. In addition, the project aimed to:

- help promote ICCAs as part of the PA system of the country
- Introduce the cultural and natural values of the tribal communities
- Propose sustainable use and management in tribal territories (with nature conservation)



<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B551Ct-8CCdqM2NDMVpjbTNRrm8/view>

## Migration Route of Heybatlu Sub-tribe





# GEF SGP Nomads Takle Trout ICCA

## Project

IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/BD/12/25(164)

Taklé, one of the 32 tribes of the Shahsevan tribal confederacy in the Azerbaijan region of Iran extends from Mount Savalán as summering grounds to Mughan Plain as wintering grounds. The social structure of this tribal community includes 5 sub-tribes, 12 clans and 57 nomadic camps.

Since the Decree of Natural Resources Nationalization (early 60s), parts of the ancestral tribal territory have been allocated to outsiders and government or private projects, and parts of the tribal migratory routes have been completely occupied making it nearly impossible for seasonal migration. This has forced parts of the tribe to adopt mechanized transportation for their flocks and for their belongings, in place of using the uniquely well-

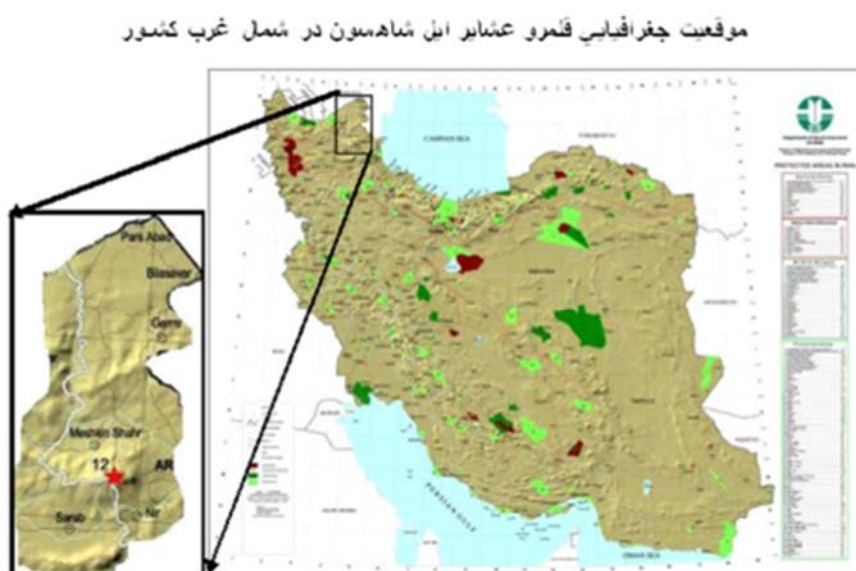


adapted endemic Bactrian camels.

On the other hand, the imposed land-uses are not well adapted to the nature of the region therefore the degradation of nature and its resources has been accelerated. One specific consequence of this degradation was disastrous floods which destroyed the main riverbed and the habitat of the rainbow trout which is the main native fish species, and the main food source of brown bear. Rainbow trout was also a source of livelihood for the indigenous community.

This project aims to conserve and restore the Taklé ICCA and improve sustainable livelihoods in their ancestral territory. This will entail the restoration and rehabilitation of key

elements of the ecosystem including rainbow trout, brown bear, Bactrian camel, as well as important endangered medicinal plants and rangeland species such as an indigenous variety of camomille. A return to the customary management practices, the revival of traditional knowledge and their re-application are the main objectives of the project to restore the balance of the ecosystem so that endangered species are restored and the risk of environmental disasters such as uncontrolled floods are averted.



## GEF SGP Qurt Nomads ICCA Project

IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/LD/12/24(163)

Qurt is a sub-tribe of Qashqai tribal confederacy in Southwest Iran. Climate change and following successive droughts during past years have degraded the pastures in some parts of their summering and wintering grounds, consequently they confront shortage of forage for livestock, and to find new resources of food, they have to make changes to the migration time (by arriving earlier to the summer grounds) which also leads to excessive grazing and rangeland degradation. To address this problem, Qurts began to think of forage crops to compensate for the shortage of animal feed and also to prevent the advance of degradation. However, considering the water shortage in this area, the traditional water management (Qanat dredging and earth dam construction) were suggested by the Council of Elders. Therefore, the project focused on these solutions, with support from an NGO (CENESTA) and SGP Iran, trying to revive this ICCA. There were about 10 Qanats in the summering grounds of this community all of which needed to be rehabilitated by dredging. In addition, a proper location for dam construction and agricultural lands in wintering resorts were identified through community support. One of the main goals of this project along with the restoration of water resources, is to provide better rangeland management by avoiding overgrazing. It is hoped that the project will help in the restoration and improvement of other biodiversity and natural resources, and promote more sustainable livelihoods.





## Chapter-4

# Linkage with GEF UNDP Projects (FSPs & MSPs)







# GEF SGP IPCM Wetland Project in Urmia

IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/IW/12/14(153)

Lake Urmia has been one of the world's largest salt lakes (approx. 5000 km<sup>2</sup>), located in north-western Iran and registered as a Biosphere Reserve and a Ramsar Site. Although, it is an important National Park, within the last decades, it has been rapidly shrinking due to management approaches, excessive dam constructions and recent droughts. GEF SGP projects in Satellite wetlands of Urmia Lake during the last decade helped to form a local management group among Community Groups and local environmental Coops and selected NGOs for revitalization of Sirangoli, Hassanlou, Dorna Kani-borazan wetlands for dryness and in Gori Gol for working on better management of white headed duck habitat.

Based on the previous linkages with the communities and the needs of UNDP GEF CIWP project in Urmia Lake, in 2012 this project was initiated in Sirangoli and Gori Gol on eco agriculture and local community engagement in sustainable agriculture practices drawing on the knowledge thematic clusters of SGP Iran agricultural and IPM projects. Through this project and following the principles of Integrated Participatory Crop Management (IPCM)

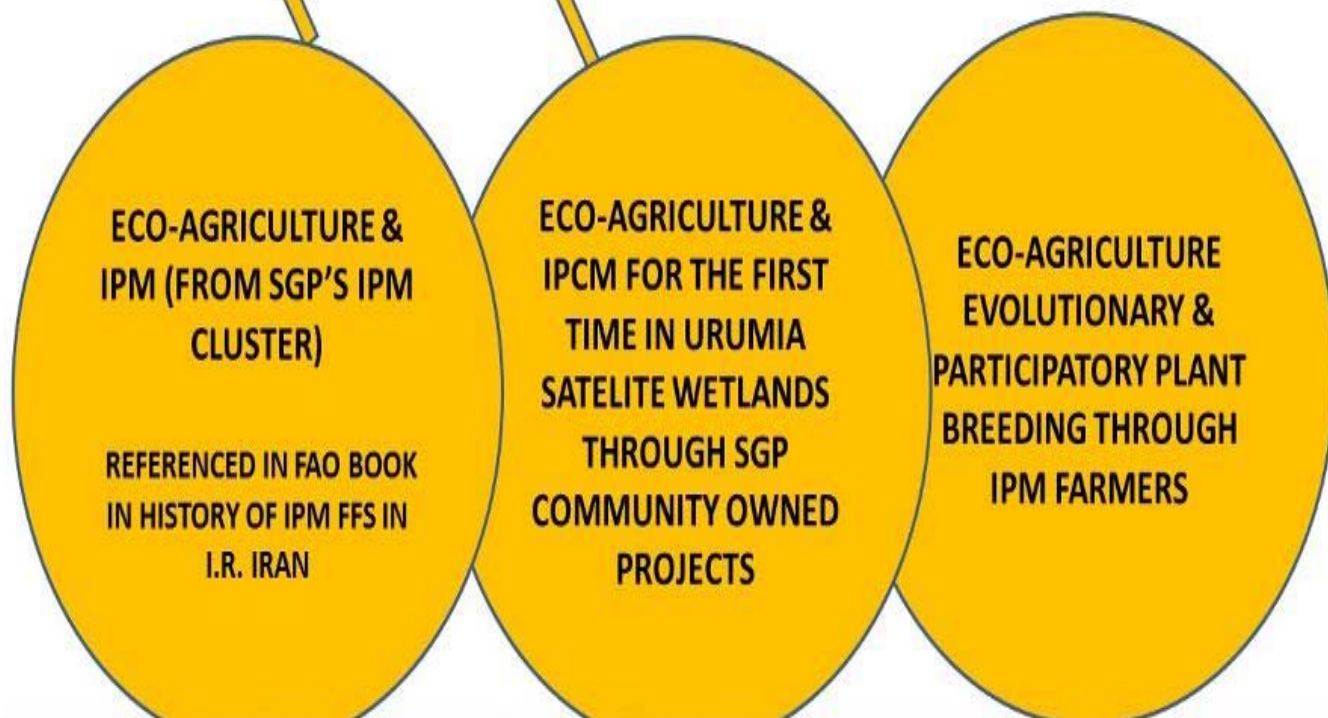
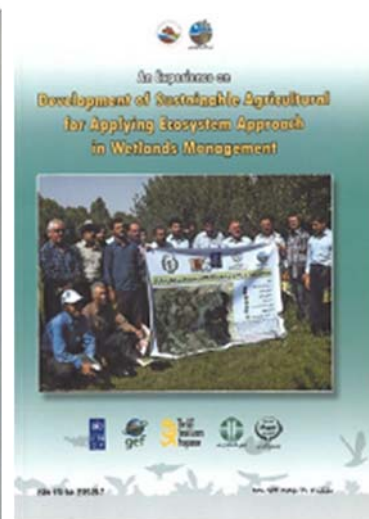
Quote from Ex-NPM of Conservation of Iranian Wetland Project (CIWP) in DOE and now a member of UNDP Env. Cluster: "Now at the up-scaling phase with UNDP CIWP, where the project is expanding results of first phase into a number of new wetlands, IPCM approach which has been implemented in cooperation with SGP using SGP's earlier experiences is being up-scaled into a number of new villages. Thanks to the initial cooperation with SGP CIWP mobilized USD 1,000,000 from government of Japan for implementing IPCM into 41 villages covering 30,000 ha farmlands in Lake Urmia basin in 2014. This has been successfully implemented and this year another USD 1,000,000 has been allocated from Japanese to further expand it in the basin. This year IPCM is being implemented in more than 75 villages covering 53,000 ha agriculture lands."

training and capacity building was provided to farmers in implementing more sustainable practices in agriculture.

On average 40% chemical inputs (pesticides, herbicides, fungicides and fertilizers) were eliminated and reduced in consumption, agricultural water consumption was saved about 35 to 50% (equivalent to about 3,500 cubic meter per hectare). In addition, through SGP and CIWP collaboration a book was published entitled "Development of Sustainable Agriculture for applying Ecosystem Approach in Wetlands Management". Given the successful implementation of sustainable agriculture pilot project supported by SGP, a new grant was allocated in 2014 through UNDP Iran (as a new component under CIWP) co-financed by the Japanese Government (\$1m) to expand and upscale sustainable agriculture practices to 40 villages in Lake Urmia basin.



**UNDP/GEF & UNDP  
Conservation of Iranian  
Wetlands Project (CIWP)  
(In Parishan and Urumia  
Lakes)**



**SGP projects had a leading role in building the IPM & IPCM projects on the ground for various crops**





شده در این راهبرد برای مشارکت ذینفعان در برنامه های حفاظت و حمایت اکوسیستم تالابی است.

به منظور عملیاتی کردن این قوانین در قالب برنامه مدیریت جامع حوضه آبریز تالاب ها اهداف زیر برای رسیدن به چشم انداز و خروجی مورد نظر در بخش کشاورزی پیگیری گردید:

**هدف ۱:** افزایش آگاهی ها درمورد ارزش های تالاب و تقویت مشارکت های مردمی در مدیریت آن ها؛

**هدف ۲:** مدیریت پایدار منابع آب و بهره برداری از اراضی کشاورزی؛

**هدف ۳:** حفاظت از تنوع زیستی و بهره برداری پایدار از منابع تالاب.

#### روش ها و سایت های منتخب

در طرح حفاظت از تالاب های ایران، برنامه توسعه کشاورزی پایدار در شرایط کم آبی از سال ۲۰۱۱ با پشتیبانی تسهیلات کمپنیک محیط زیست جهانی و مشارکت جهاد کشاورزی، کشاورزان مرجع و تشکل های غیر دولتی در حوضه های تالابی منتخب در حال اجرا و توسعه است. آرایه الگوی مدیریت سیستمی برای حفاظت از تنوع زیستی در حوضه تالاب های ایران از طریق پیاده سازی مدل توسعه کشاورزی پایدار با اجرای سه پایلوت در حوضه دریاچه ارومیه (روستای گل و یوسف آباد) و تالاب پریشان (روستای قلعه نارنجی) نتایج و اثر بخشی چشمگیری را به همراه داشته است. این برنامه از ابعاد اقتصادی، زیست محیطی و اجتماعی نشان از کارایی بالای این راهبرد برای توسعه کشاورزی سازگار با محیط زیست در سطح کشاورزان خرد و جوامع محلی دارد که ضمن افزایش بهره وری اقتصادی و معیشت پایدار، بر حفظ معیارهای اصلی محیط زیست منطبق بر شرایط اجتماعی تاکید دارد. این مینا باعث شده که این برنامه در سطح محلی، ملی و بین المللی، به عنوان یکی از راهبردهای کلیدی پذیرفته شود و به عنوان یک مدل عملیاتی کارا، کم هزینه و پایدار برای حفاظت و حمایت از تنوع زیستی تالاب های ایران مورد تاکید قرار گیرد.

**اقدام در این برنامه شامل چهار مرحله مشخص زیر است:**

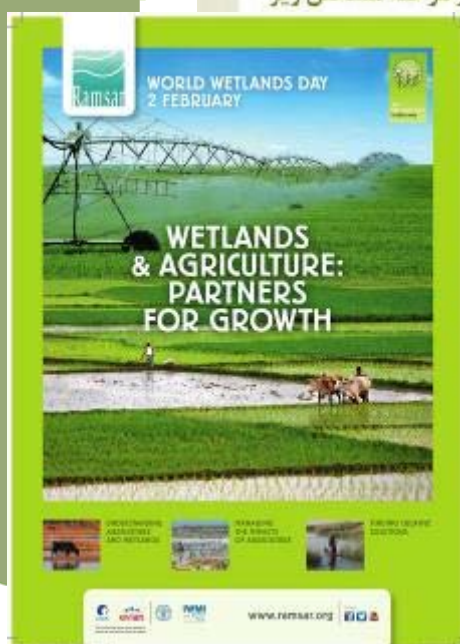
۱. تحلیل شرایط، ساختار و کشت دامنه های همسان اکولوژیک در تجارب و دانش بومی
۲. انتخاب روش های مدیریت تلفیقی سناریو های آستانه اقتصادی - زی
۳. اقدام بر اساس توانمند سازی و ذینفعان
۴. توانمندسازی جوامع محلی در تاد مدیریت مزرعه در کشاورزی پایدار راهبرد اجرایی این پروژه، توسعه ک بهره وری مصرف آب در کشاورزی مه شرایط اجتماعی است که از طریق مشارکتی سیستمی اجرای کشاورزی می گیرد. هدف اصلی در این برنامه بر کشاورز در کنار مدیریت منابع تولید است.

#### در راستای

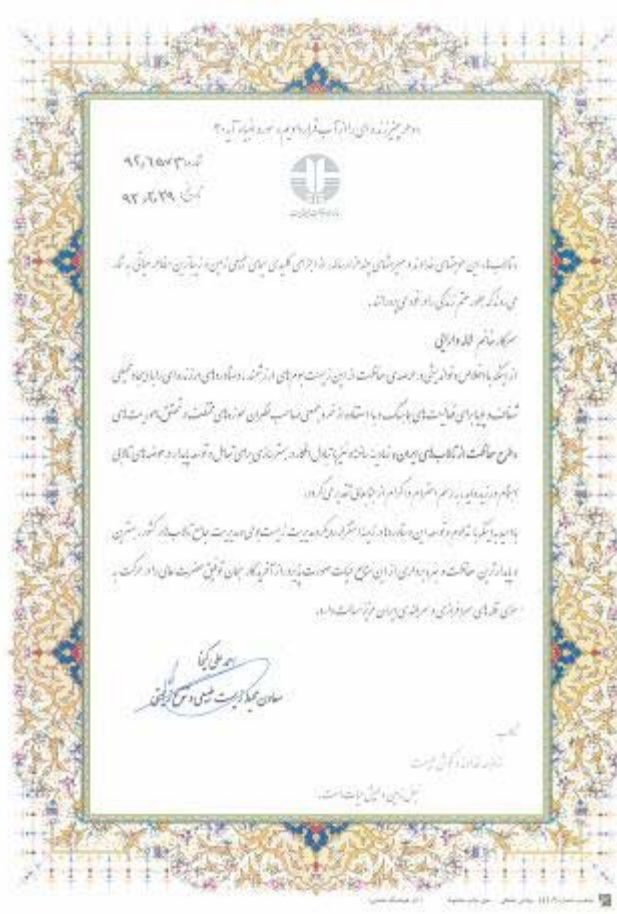
جوامع بشری به توسعه، این قرار گرفته اند و بوب کنواسیون برای حفاظت و ای جهان، تالابها افزون تخریب می

شوند. با شکل گیری تقاضای جدی در سطوح سیاسی و اجتماعی برای حفاظت از تالابها و در مواجهه با وسعت این بحران و آسیب هایی که امروزه تالابهای ایران متحمل شده اند، مشخص کردن علل ریشه ای تخریب و نابودی آنها امری ضروری است. تنوع فعالیت های انسانی در حوضه های آبخیز تالابی به قدری زیاد و از نظر تأثیرگذاری پیچیده است که شاید نتوان با شفافیت سهم هر کدام را در سرنوشت تالاب مشخص ساخت اما این توافق در بین کارشناسان وجود دارد که حرکت به سوی کشاورزی پایدار و بهینه کردن مصرف منابع در این بخش تأثیر بسزایی در مدیریت و حفاظت از تالاب ها خواهد داشت.

بسیاری از تالابهای کشور ایران از جمله دریاچه ارومیه، تالاب های شادگان و پریشان توسط باغ ها و مزارع کشاورزی احاطه شده اند و به صورت مستقیم و غیر مستقیم تحت تأثیر چالش های عدم پایداری در نظام کشاورزی فعلی (کشاورزی فشرده) قرار دارند. نامناسب بودن برنامه ها و عدم جامعیت مدل های متعارف توسعه کشاورزی رایج را می توان به عنوان یکی از عوامل اصلی مداخله گر انسانی در به هم خوردن تعادل محیط زیست تالابها برشمرد. از جمله مشکلات موجود در بخش کشاورزی که اثر مستقیم در ناپایداری تالابها دارند عبارتند از رقابت آبی و در نتیجه کم آبی و خشک شدن تالابها ناشی از مصرف بی رویه آب در بخش کشاورزی، تخریب و فرسایش خاک و بهره برداری های غیر اصولی از اراضی محدوده تالاب که منجر به تشدید فرایند به هم خوردن شرایط پایدار اکوسیستم تالابی می شود و در نتیجه سبب از بین رفتن تدریجی و مرگ تالابها خواهد شد. برای حل این مشکل کلیدی و مدیریت اصلاحی این فرایند، راهبرد نوینی با هدف تغییر در نظام توسعه کشاورزی فعلی و استقرار و توسعه کشاورزی پایدار در راستای اهداف طرح حفاظت از تالابهای ایران و برنامه های جامع مدیریت تالاب های منتخب انتخاب شده است؛ مدیریت و توسعه اهداف این فرایند، از طریق ظرفیت سازی ذینفعان و توانمندسازی کشاورزان در منطقه هدف صورت می گیرد. شاخص اصلی اقدام در این راهبرد، اعمال مدیریت مشارکتی سیستمی بر اساس تجزیه و تحلیل کشت بوم های زراعی با هدف تعیین آستانه اقتصادی روش های کنترل در محدوده اکولوژیک تالاب است. محاسبه ارزش اقتصادی فعالیت های انسانی در بخش کشاورزی بر اساس مولفه های زیست محیطی با تعریف شاخص "تسهیم اقتصاد - محیط زیست"، مهمترین مبنای تعریف







**Laleh Daraie**

From: M. Reza Khorasani [khorasani\_mr@yahoo.com]  
Sent: Thursday, April 07, 2006 3:27 PM  
To: Laleh Daraie  
Cc: Yasamine Shahrabadi  
Subject: Dorjegang Wetland

Dear Laleh,

As discussed, Ministry of Energy through Water Research Institute (WRI) and getting assistance from Dutch Government is developing a set hydrological model in Uromiyeh Basin in North West of Iran. One of modules under this project namely "Water for Ecosystems" tries to provide guidance for allocation of water for wetland ecosystems i.e. Uromiyeh Lake itself and the satellite wetlands south of the Lake. This is also trying to demonstrate options for wetland management and restoration. A training course on "Integrated Wetland Management" will be held from 10 to 14 April 2005 in which participants will be trained on the concepts of the wetland ecosystem management and restoration. During the course participants will also learn about participatory planning and management of the wetland ecosystems for which Seran Goli (Dorje Sang) wetland has been selected as a demonstration site.

As you know very well a local NGO with your programme (UNDP/SGP's assistance has been trying to restore this Internationally Important Wetland (Ramsar Site). The initiative has been recognized as a good practice to be introduced since it could bring some 80% of the total water capacity of the wetland and brought the life back to it.

Pandam Consulting Engineers for which I'm serving as biodiversity and land degradation consultant is WRI's subcontractor responsible for holding the aforementioned training course. It would be appreciated if UNDP/SGP could provide us with documentary films taken from the initiative from its very first stages of planning and implementation.

Thank you in advance and best regards,  
Reza

**M. Reza KHORASANI**  
Biodiversity and Land Degradation Consultant

Tel: +98-21) 824 1655  
Fax: +98-21) 826 9912  
Mobile: +98-912) 198 7445  
Environmental Research Center, Parslian Eco-park, Hamzan Highway, Tehran, Iran.  
E-mail: khorasani\_mr@yahoo.com





# Professor Richard Bawden

Professor Bawden was invited as the key note speaker of The First International Conference of the APRIAS and the Fifth Congress of Extension and Education in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management held in Zanjan, Iran. During his visit he was also invited by SGP to give a speech on Transforming Higher Education in UN Common Premises. In this gathering Mr. Gary Lewis , UNDP Resident Representative, NSC members, SGP grantees and other UN staff agencies were present.



**Right: Gary Lewis, Resident Representative of UNDP Iran**  
**Left: Laleh Daraie, National Coordinator GEF SGP/UNDP Iran**



**Participants from different UN agencies, NSC members and SGP grantees**



مجله

شماره ۱۱۲۴

۲۰۰۰

# سفیران جهانی یک روستا

فرهنگهای بومی مردم خراسان جنوبی در فهرست میراث ناملموس ثبت شده است

شماره ۱۱۲۴

۲۰۰۰

## خام راجان نمادی از همبودی انسان و جانور

در سال ۱۳۹۱، طرح انجمن جهانی میراث ناملموس (UNESCO) در تهران برگزار شد. در این مراسم، «خام راجان» به عنوان یکی از نمادهای همبودی انسان و جانور در ایران معرفی شد. خام راجان، نوعی کوزه سفالی است که در استان خراسان جنوبی، به ویژه در روستای «خام راجان» در شهرستان جغتو، به وفور یافت می‌شود. این کوزه‌ها معمولاً به شکل یک انسان و یک جانور (مانند گاو یا گوسفند) در یک کوزه واحد گنجانده می‌شوند. این نماد، بیانگر رابطه تنگاتنگ و همزیستی بین انسان و طبیعت در این منطقه است.



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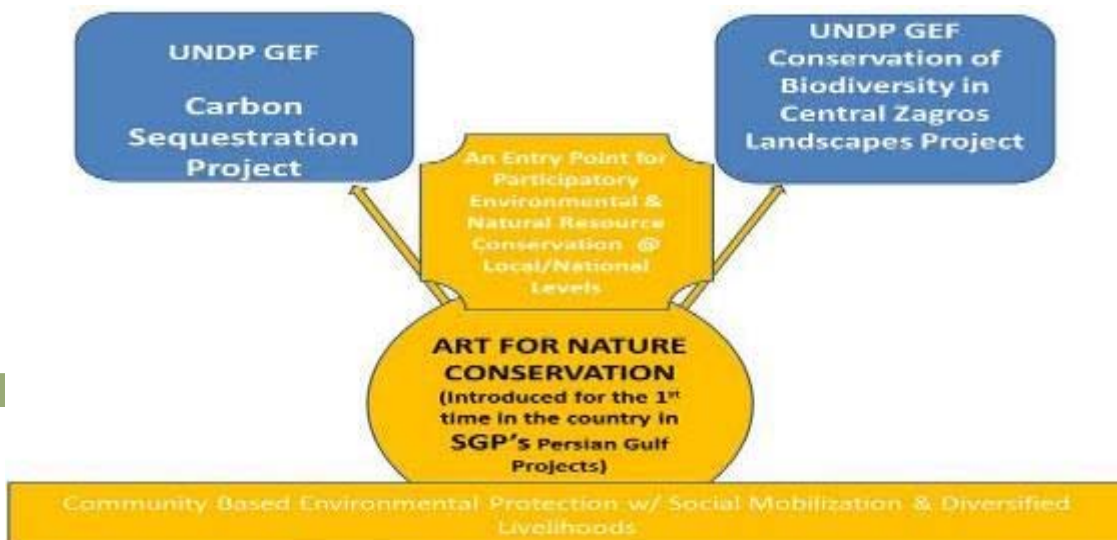
## فرهنگهای بومی مردم خراسان جنوبی در فهرست میراث ناملموس ثبت شده است

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[http://un.org.ir/images/All\\_Stories/UNDP/30\\_Dec\\_2014\\_-\\_UNDP\\_Dolls\\_registered.pdf](http://un.org.ir/images/All_Stories/UNDP/30_Dec_2014_-_UNDP_Dolls_registered.pdf)







Workshop held in Saliman Abad Village, January 2013

## The art of nomadic women at the service of wildlife conservation

► Afshaneh Ehsani  
Senior Researcher

Following the implementation of the project "Raising the Livelihoods of the Local Community by Promoting Handicrafts for Ecotourists", that was supported by the SGP of the Global Environmental Facilities of the UNDP Avenue Tabriz-Paydel, with the assistance of Tehran Province Nomadic Affairs Bureau and the Middle East Women Group for Regional Cooperation, has designed and started a similar program in Tehran Province. The objective of this project is to lower the negative impact of livestock grazing in Tehran Province pastures, particularly in the Lar Valley, by means of developing supplementary livelihoods for pastoralist women on the basis of their skills in production of marketable handicrafts. After consulting with experts from Tehran Province Nomadic Affairs Bureau and a representative of the provincial union of the pastoralists, focal townships for the project were determined. Then, after holding several meetings with the representatives of the township unions, the target villages were specified. The representatives of the township unions identified two pastoralist families who were still active in producing handicrafts and made arrangements for our fieldworkers to go to know them and establish a presence in the area.

In the first phase of this project, handmade textiles and other handicrafts of 27 villages in the pastoralists' summer grazing lands were photographed and published in a book entitled "A Look at the Handicrafts of the Nomads of Tehran Province." Our study revealed and documented 43 types of handicrafts. According to the local women, it is no longer possible to revive the production of many of these handicrafts and perhaps they have become museum items by now. Lack of proper tools and facilities, feebleness of the elderly women who still know these arts but are unable to transfer their skills to the next generation, and lack of enough motivation to revive these handicrafts were the main reasons that they mentioned.

In the second phase of the project, after we studied and compared the potentials of women in different villages and consulted with experts from the Nomadic Affairs Bureau, Saliman Abad

men site. We then organized various workshops to introduce to the local women the kind of small products that they could make from natural material at their disposal that could satisfy different tastes and be marketable. At the present our work group in the area is involved in raising the quality of the products and their marketing as well as finding effective means of strengthening the ties between nature conservation and nomadic culture through art of handicrafts production.

The main domicile of the pastoralist nomads is not Tehran Province and they only come here during part of the year. Some of the problems they face create challenges for our project too. Seasonally low rainfall, sensibilities of the Lar National Park (the larger area of which is open to grazing), improper



[A handicraft sample made by nomads]

routes to move the livestock herds, and livestock theft are among difficulties that these communities encounter every year. Conflicts inherent in making animal husbandry sustainable and yet profitable have made decision-making difficult for the nomads. In the past the nomadic women's role in producing livestock derivatives, handicrafts, and contributing to the general sustenance of the nomads was quite considerable, but vast changes in lifestyles have also affected nomadic communities. As an example, although inhabitants

are only a few who experience anything that resembles nomadic life. Remembering the values of indigenous nomadic life and strengthening the belief in the values of nomadic identity is a time-consuming and challenging work. When we began our work there we thought that the presence of livestock meant ample primary resources for the women to produce various handicrafts, but we soon realized that the herders relied on Afghans to have their sheep sheared, and there were very few women who had any skill in spinning yarn or dyeing wool. In the initial days of the project women did not show much enthusiasm in participating in such activities and their presence in our meetings was less than active and eventual. They also found it unconventional that we were trying to persuade them to use their own indigenous arts and skills to innovate products that could sell and help them out. As a result, it took us a rather long time to gain their trust and to ensure their participation in our project. Given the fact that Saliman Abad lacks tourist attractions, direct sales of local products to visitors are not possible and they can only be sold at handicraft fairs and other similar outlets. Therefore, making the new practices sustainable would require double effort.

In spite of all challenges, the following are some of the accomplishments we have made:

- ◉ Revival and preservation of some local arts such as "trichi style" in weaving a sack that is used in the summer pastures to hold salt
- ◉ Motivating women and raising their hopes that they could contribute to family incomes
- ◉ Recalling authentic nomadic lifestyles and reviving a sense of pride in them
- ◉ Job creation and income generation
- ◉ Creating a sense of enthusiasm in women for group activities and creation of indigenous arts
- ◉ Providing opportunities for women to discuss and exchange views on topics valued in the local culture including attention to indigenous nomadic identity along with conservation of natural resources
- ◉ Transfer of skills and experiences from the older generation to the younger one
- ◉ Empowering women and raising their spirits
- ◉ Creating change and diversity in their routine lives.

Persian Wildlife Heritage Foundation Newsletter / Spring/Summer 2013

6

UNDP in Iran

Our Work Millennium Development Goals About Iran

Home > Press Center > Articles > 2014 > 12 > 30 >

### Articles

### Speeches

UNDP in the News

## Jam-e-Jam Newspaper cites UNDP's work

30 Dec 2014

On its December 30th issue - Jam-e-Jam Newspaper - featured work of UNDP Iran.

In 2003, the Iranian Forest, Range and Watershed Organization (FRWO) sought the experience and expertise of the UNDP to help "green" the land and sustainably develop large tracts of the Iranian rangeland plains. This culminated in a project called the "Carbon Sequestration Project" (CSP) - an initiative which has been in perpetual evolution since it was initiated.

Related Projects: Environment and Sustainable Development

Carbon Sequestration Project

VIEW ALL

<http://www.ir.undp.org/content/iran/en/home/presscenter/articles/2014/12/30/jam-e-jam-newspaper-cites-undp-work.html>



**WOMEN FOR  
PARTICIPATORY  
REHABILITATION  
OF FORESTS AND  
PROMOTING IN  
THE HIGHLANDS**

**COMMUNITY  
CONSERVATION &  
OWNERSHIP  
IN MARINE AREAS  
(CASES OF  
QESHM)**

**LE  
MAT**

**ECO-AGRICULTURE  
EVOLUTIONARY &  
PARTICIPATORY PLANT  
BREEDING THROUGH  
IPM FARMERS  
WHEAT & BARLEY**

**ICCAS DEALING  
W/ CC EFFECTS  
& DEFINING A  
LIFE CYCLE FOR  
AGRICULTURE  
AND PASTURE  
MNGT**

**REHABILITATION  
MANAGEMENT  
ON COMMUNITY  
PARTICIPATORY  
RECOGNITION  
STABLE OAK  
SILAM FOR  
(ROLE OF H  
MORTALITY OF  
OAK FOR**

**ECO-  
AGRICULTURE &  
IPCM FROM  
SATELLITE  
WETLANDS OF  
URMIA LAKE**

Sharing Good Practices





Places of SGP with MENARID Stakeholders & Sites

# GEF SGP Sabzkouh Project

IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/CC/12/07(146)

The project is being implemented in Sabzkouh Protected Area (about 60,000 hectares). The major output of the project is to reduce the unsustainable harvest of herbal medicine and producing charcoal from Oak Zagros Forest. The grantee has been able to discuss and sensitize the local communities regarding this issues. The locals have initiated community conserved area and a guideline has also been developed for the sustainable management of the community conserved area. This project has also been linked to the UNDP GEF Zagros Project.

خبرنامه زاگرس

فعالیت های طرح در سطح استان چهارمحال و بختیاری

## طرح زاگرس میزبان ششمین نشست مشورتی پروژه های بین المللی حفاظت محیط زیست و منابع طبیعی

آنهارا خواستار شدند در این نشست مواردی همچون تبیین فرصت ها و چالش های موجود در پروژه های بین المللی، هم افزایی پروژه های بین المللی و الزامات مرتبط با آن، گردشگری و بازاریابی و فروش محصولات مردم محلی و تشکل های مردمی و مستند سازی تجارب مصور آقای بیژن دره شوری به عنوان یکی از اساتید پژوهشگر حوزه محیط زیست به بحث و بررسی گذاشته شد.

برگزاری جلسات مشترک دو یا سه جانبه به منظور بررسی نحوه همکاری پروژه ها در ایجاد ساختارهای جدید، مرکز اطلاع رسانی تنوع زیستی کوهستان زاگرس مرکزی، ظرفیت سازی و ... تبادل دستورالعمل ها و برنامه های تهیه شده توسط پروژه های بین المللی مختلف، تهیه خلاصه گزارش و برگزاری کارگاه در ارائه تجربیات از سفرها و بازدیدهای مشابه خارجی و گردشگری پایدار و بازاریابی و ... از جمله مصوبات این نشست بود. همچنین مقرر گشت پروژه حفاظت از یوزپلنگ آسیایی میزبان آینده هفتمین نشست باشد.



ششمین نشست مشورتی پروژه های بین المللی سازمان حفاظت محیط زیست و سازمان جنگل ها، مراتع و آبخیزداری کشور، به میزبانی طرح حفاظت از تنوع زیستی زاگرس مرکزی و با حضور مدیران ملی این پروژه ها روز یکشنبه مورخ ۱۳۹۴/۰۱/۳۰، در سالن جلسات اداره کل حفاظت محیط زیست استان، برگزار شد. در این نشست مدیران پروژه های طرح حفاظت از تنوع زیستی زاگرس مرکزی، پروژه های منارید و حبله رود، پروژه حفاظت از تالاب های ایران، پروژه ترسیب کربن، پروژه حفاظت از یوزپلنگ آسیایی، پروژه مدیریت مشارکتی جنگل و مرتع جایکا و مدیران کل حفاظت محیط زیست و منابع طبیعی استان حضور داشتند.

جناب آقای مهندس احمدی مدیر کل حفاظت محیط زیست استان، شمن خوشامدگویی به معرفی استان، پتانسیل ها و چالش های آن پرداختند و با اشاره به محدوده های پایلوت چهار پروژه بین المللی تنوع زیستی زاگرس مرکزی، منارید، تالاب و جایکا در استان چهارمحال و بختیاری و هم پوشانی حوزه فعالیتی آنها، هم افزایی و همکاری بیشتر

## حضور طرح زاگرس در نشست هم اندیشی قرق مشارکتی بهاره سبزکوه در سال ۹۴

انجام برخی اصلاحات: زمان پندی قرق ۹۴، نحوه انتخاب قرق بانان، تقسیم پول و ... توافق کردند. هرچند برخی مسائل چون نبود پشتوانه قانونی برای قرق بانان و رسمیت قرق های محلی نیازمند برنامه ریزی در سطح کلان است.

با توجه به اهمیت حفاظت مشارکتی، به عنوان پایدارترین نوع حفاظت، در تداوم طرح "بهبود تنوع زیستی گیاهی با مشارکت مردمی در منطقه سبزکوه"، که توسط دفتر تسهیلات خرد سازمان ملل در منطقه اجرا شد، طرح زاگرس بدنبال ارتقاء بهتر این قرق مشارکتی می باشد.

گفتنی است ایده قرق خودجوش محلی سبزکوه، از سال ۱۳۸۸ توسط یکی از اهالی منطقه مطرح و هدف اولیه آن جلوگیری از ورود زودهنگام دام به منطقه و نیز جلوگیری از برداشت گیاهان کوهی-غلف چینی- به منظور فروش است.



هم اندیشی بررسی مشکلات و راه حل های ارتقا قرق بهاره مشارکتی سبزکوه به ریاست بخشدار ناغان در محل بخششاری برگزار شد. بزرگان و معتمدین حدود ۱۰ روستا که در سبزکوه مرتع بیلاقی دارند، به همراه

روسای ادارات محیط زیست، منابع طبیعی و نیروی انتظامی شهرستان کیار در این نشست حضور داشتند. در این جلسه آسیب شناسی تجربه قرق در سال ۹۳، از جمله: زمان شروع و اتمام قرق، وظایف دستگاه های مختلف، قرق بانان، بهره برداران و ... انجام شد. سپس میناق نامه ای که توسط اهالی در سال ۹۳ تهیه شده بود (شامل: نحوه انتخاب شش نفر قرق بان، دستمزد آن ها، میزان پول دریافتی از دامداران به ازای هر گوسفند، اسامی ناظران مالی و ...) مرور شد.

همه اعضا با تداوم کلیات این میناق نامه برای قرق سال ۹۴ همراه با



# Transferring good practices and lessons learned of GEF/SGP to MENARID project

local projects to the provincial stakeholders of GEF MENARID project in Yazd site - Yazd, 29-30 January 2014

In GEF5, a series of workshops were conducted to transfer the selected good practices and lessons learned of SGP local projects to provincial stakeholders of GEF MENARID in its pilot sites (Yazd, Kermanshah, Sistan and Baluchestan as well as Tehran

provinces).

These workshops were held with participation of provincial MENARID teams and conducted by SGP's grantees who shared their knowledge and lessons learned from various projects which were of interest

in the target sites. Implementation Committees, Township Technical Committee and members from the local development groups were involved and a range of stakeholders were invited.



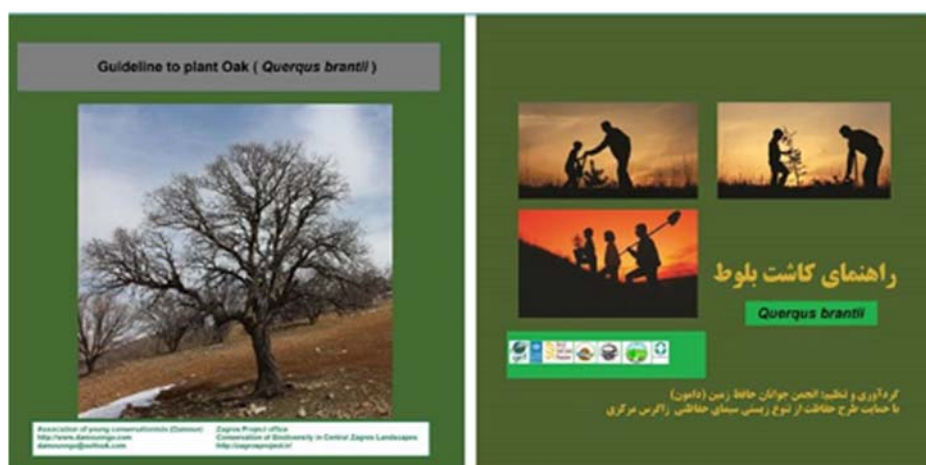
Photo by: Boompajuhan Society and the House of Culture and Sustainable Development





# Joint Publications

## Forest & Rangelands (Zagros)



## Eco— Agriculture, IPM & IPCM



## Evolutionary Participatory Plant Breeding (EPPB)



The experiences mentioned in these publications are from farmers involved in GEF SGP EPPB Garmsar project



## Waste Management



# Awards and Appreciation Letters in GEF5:

## 2015:

Equator Initiative Prize 2015 for Urumia Lake Satellite Wetland to Umbrella Group of Naghadeh NGOs.

## 2014:

A World of Solidarity is Possible by Paul K. Feyerabend Foundation

Project No. IRA/SGP/OP4/RAF/Y2/09/15 (124)

Fighting Fires in Oak Forest of Zagros and Developing Local Network by Department of Environment

Project No. IRA/SGP/OP5/STAR/CC/11/04(143)

Activities on Waste Management and Training Workshops to Local Women by Department of Environment, Bureau of Public Participation and Education

Project No. IRA/SGP/OP5/Y2/STAR/CC/12/06(172)

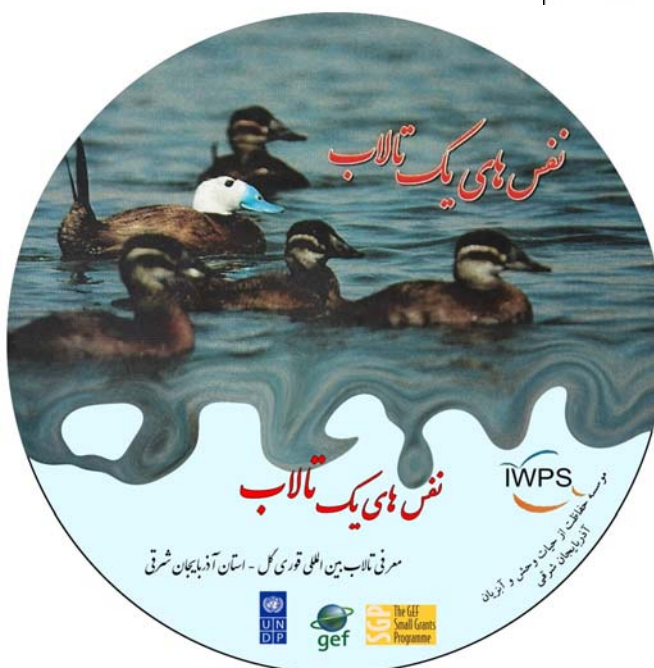
Women Day for Art for Conservation by Department of Environment

Project No. IRA/05/19 (67th) and IRA-G52-2004-047(IRA98G52)

National Forest, Rangeland and Watershed Organization Award for Bee-keeping

Project No. IRA-G52-2002-020(IRA98G52)





## The Breath's of a Wetland Documentary Film

Winner of Best Documentary Film in Tabriz Short Film Festival in 2014

Winner of Best Documentary Film in Razavi Teachings for Environment in 2014

Appreciation Certificate for Best Documentary in 3rd Sun Independent Short Film Festival in 2013

Rank Holder in Iran Documentary Film Festival—Haghighat Cinema in 2012

# Awards and Appreciation Letters in GEF5:

## Equator Prize 2015

Lake Urmia is one of the world's largest hypersaline lakes, which has been suffering from shrinkage in the past decades, mainly due to water mismanagement and partially due to Climate Change. As this large lake is declining, the surrounding freshwater wetlands (known as satellite wetlands) are gaining more and more importance both for wildlife and for sustaining livelihoods of local communities. In 1996, Sirangoli wetland (south of Urmia Lake) completely dried out. However, some local community members still remembered Naghadeh Plain used to be a "Green Belt", lush with vegetation and rich in wildlife. In 2004, they decided to take action and formed the Soldouz Friends of the Environment Cooperative (a local NGO formed by teachers and ex-hunters) who decided to revive the Sirangoli wetland despite general consensus about its desperate situation. During field surveys they found out that the degradation of the wetland was the result of various factors including drought, unsustainable water irrigation, digging of too many water wells by farmers and lastly but most importantly, neglect and sedimentation in upstream traditional canals which stopped water from flowing into the wetland which were replaced by deep wells. After forming an alliance with three other NGOs Shanli Solduz Mountaineers Group, Naghadeh Mountaineers Group & Yashil Dagh Mountaineers Group), and with support from SGP Iran, 18 km of traditional canals from Godar River were dredged to maintain flow of unused farming water during the winter season to Sirangoli Wetland. After three years Sirangoli was filled with water again and local livelihoods such as herding and livestock breeding as well as agriculture were improved. This project in fact demonstrated that through community efforts and knowledge, wetlands could be restored and it has been used as a model for five other satellite wetlands south of Urmia Lake incl. Hassanloo, Dorna and Zinevar wetlands.

In 2007, the local representative of the Umbrella Group of Naghadeh NGOs was recognized as National Wetland Champion and in 2015, this project won the UNDP Equator Prize.



Mr. Sirous Entekhabi and Ms. Manizheh Hajjighasemi from Umbrella Group of Naghadeh NGOs receiving the Equator Prize from Ms. Helen Clark, UNDP Administrator (right) and Mr. Magdy Martinez-Soliman, UN Assistant Secretary General, Assistant Administrator & Director of the Bureau for Policy & Programme Support (left)

The Equator Prize is the flagship programme of the Equator Initiative, a partnership bringing together the UN, governments, civil society, businesses, and grassroots organizations to advance sustainable development solutions. This international award recognizes outstanding community efforts to reduce poverty, protect nature and strengthen resilience in the face of climate change.

This is the first time an organization from Iran receives this prestigious award. Over 1,400 communities from all over the world were considered.

The Equator Prize, which aims to recognize collective action, commended the innovative and collaborative approach taken by the seven community NGOs connected to Naghadeh. These community initiatives cooperated to restore and conserve satellite wetlands surrounding Lake Urmia. The effort succeeded in restoring over 1,600 hectares of valuable wetland areas.

At the 2015 Paris Climate Conference also known as COP21 – the Umbrella Group of Naghadeh NGOs from Iran was awarded the United Nations Equator Prize.

The Umbrella Group of Naghadeh NGOs has worked to support the recovery of the satellite wetlands of Lake Urmia, situated in north-west Iran. Their contribution has revitalized a number of Urmia Lake satellite wetlands.

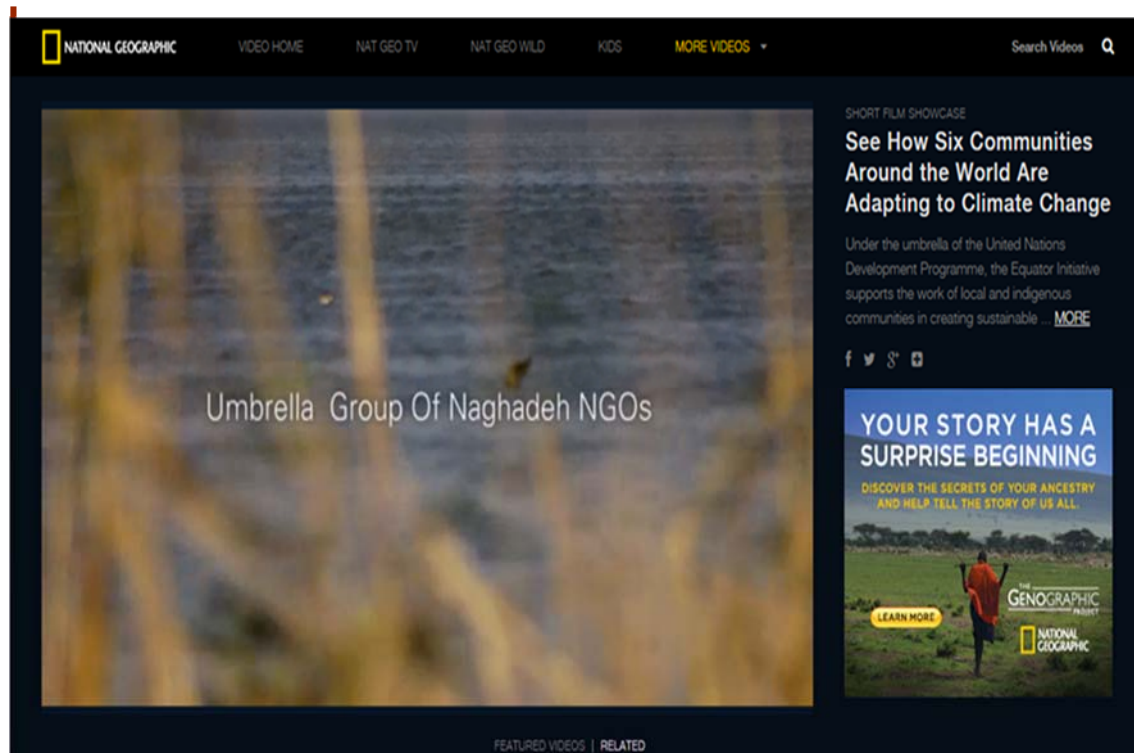


# Awards in and Appreciation Letters GEF5:

Equator Prize 2015 -

short clip produced by National Geographic

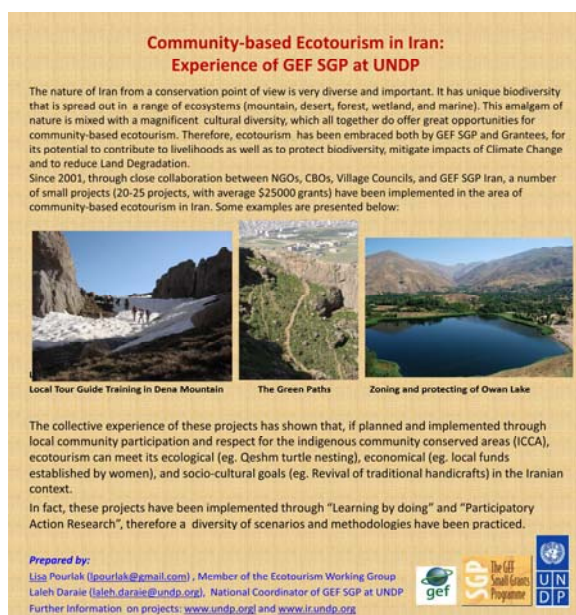
“See How Six Communities Around the World Are Adapting to Climate Change”- National Geographic



<http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/short-film-showcase/see-how-six-communities-around-the-world-are-adapting-to-climate-change?source=searchvideo>



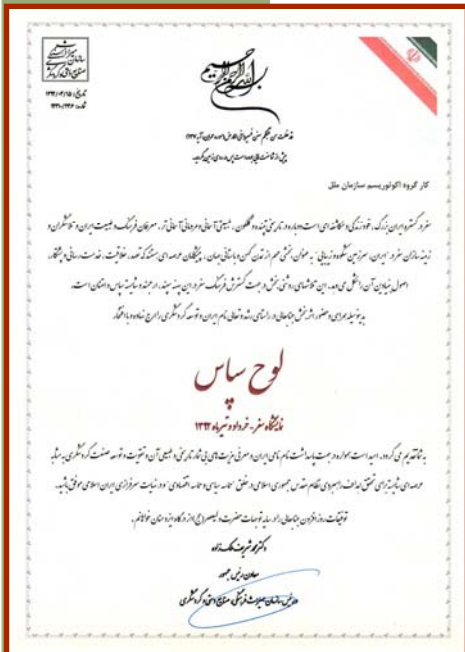
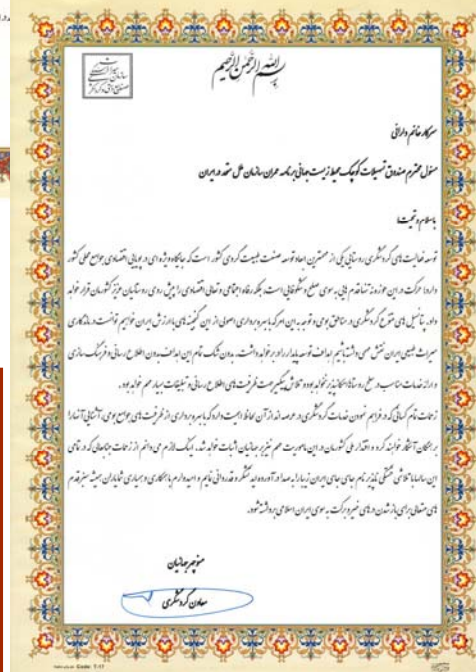
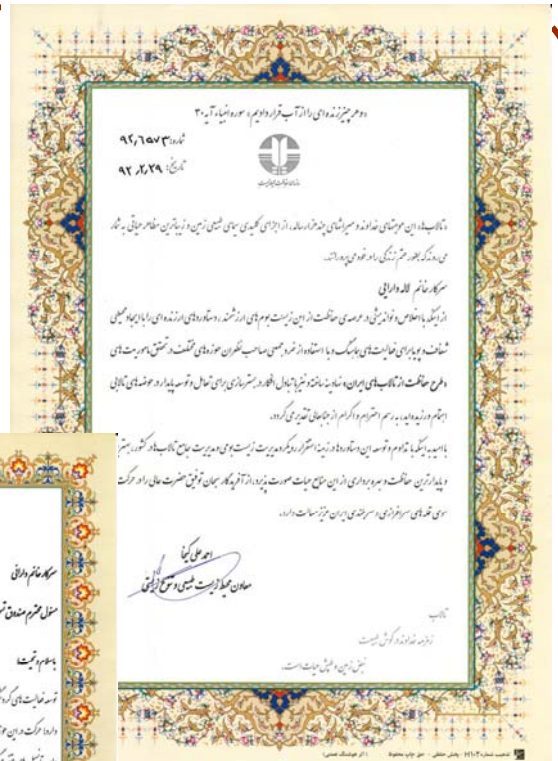
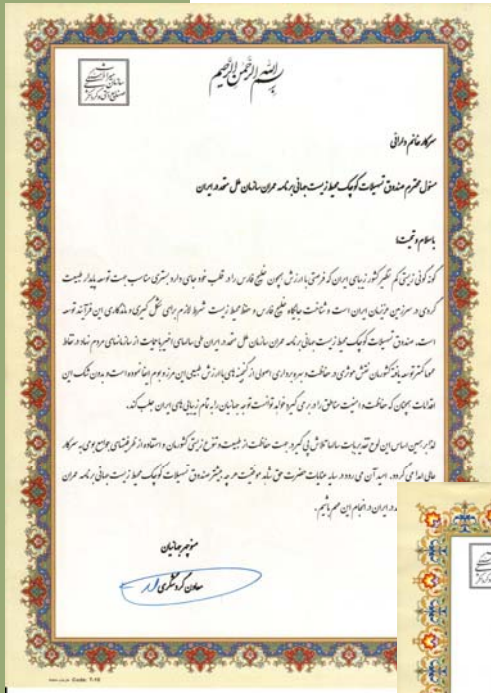
## Certificates and Appreciation Letters to Representative of Berkeh Khalaf Local Women Village Organization



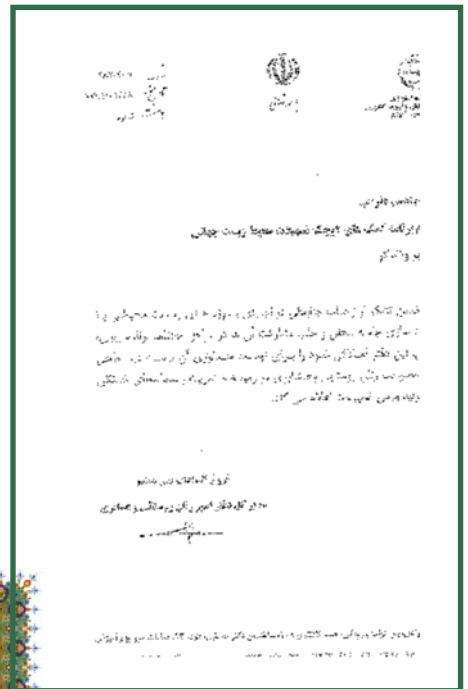
## Poster Presented in International Ecotourism Conference Nairobi— Kenya, 2013

# Awards and Appreciation Letters in GEF5:

## CHAPTER 4

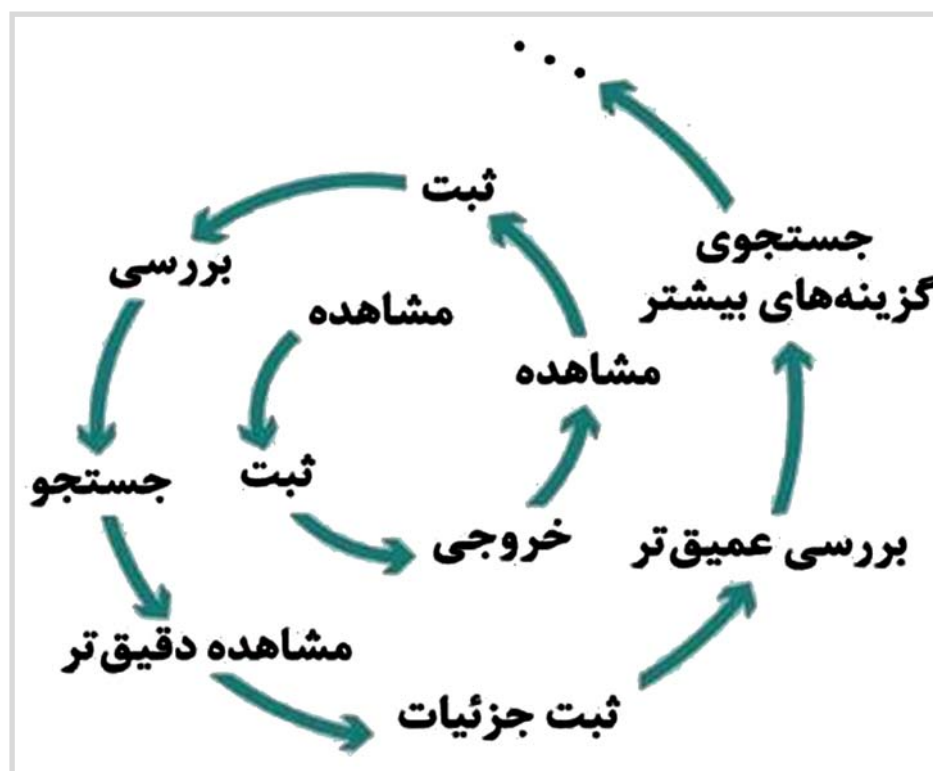


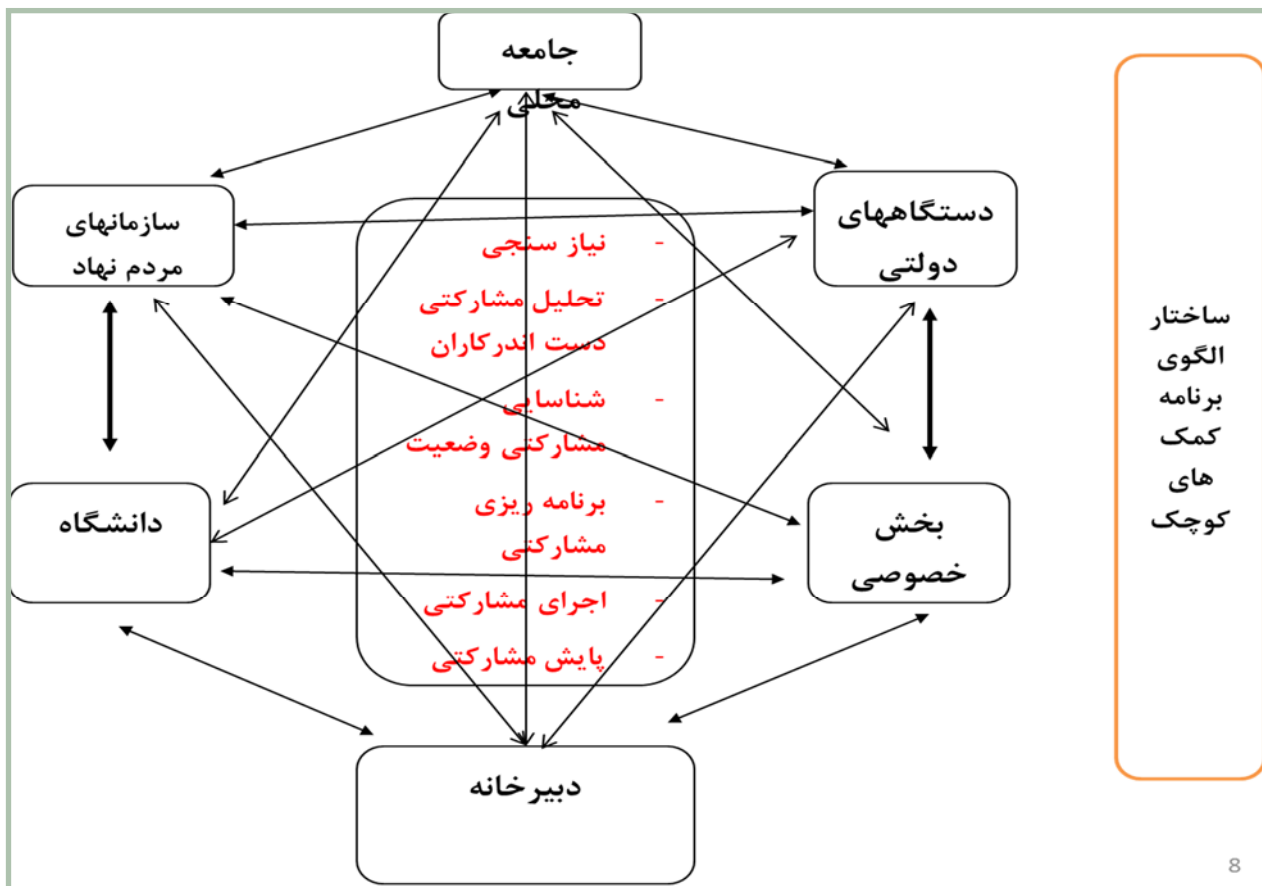




# SGP Approach & Methodology

روش های مرسوم	روش SGP GEF	
نقطه شروع	کمبود های موجود	ظرفیت های موجود
اهداف ...	حل مسئله	توانمندسازی
چه کسی آموزش می دهد؟	کارشناس	تسهیلگر
چه کسی تصمیم می گیرد؟	برنامه	جامعه محلی
چرا؟	برای اجرای استانداردها	برای بهبود وضع موجود
کجا؟	کلاس درس	میدان (عرصه عمل)
چه دانشی؟	دانش مدون کلاسی	دانش بومی و تجارب موجود
نتایج	حل مسئله	ایجاد و افزایش ظرفیت و اعتماد و حل مسئله







برنامه کمک های کوچک تسهیلات محیط زیست جهانی

برنامه کمک های کوچک به عنوان بخشی از تسهیلات محیط زیست جهانی در دفتر عمران سازمان ملل مستقر است. حفظ محیط زیست همراه با مردم و اشتغال زایی مبتنی بر توان محیطی از ارکان اصلی این برنامه هستند. زمینه چنین اقدامات عملی، حمایت از سازماندهی و ایجاد تشکل ها، سهولت دسترسی به منابع طبیعی و بهره مندی از اطلاعات و دانش می باشد تا شرایط بهبود اجتماعی - اقتصادی و مدیریت بلند مدت و در خور فراهم شود. این برنامه با کمک جوامع محلی و سازمان های غیر دولتی در پی آن است تا راه حل های موثری را شناسایی و ارائه نماید، راه حل هایی که با حفظ محیط زیست در سطح محلی به حفظ محیط زیست جهانی می انجامد. (با اقتباس از کتاب پرماکالچر)

این برنامه از سال ۱۳۷۲ در ۱۲۰ کشور جهان فعال است و در ایران فعالیت خود را از سال ۱۳۸۱ آغاز نمود. هم اکنون ۲۴۰ طرح در مناطق مختلف ایران با مشارکت مستقیم جوامع محلی و سازمان های مردم نهاد به انجام رسیده و یا در حال انجام می باشند. در اینجا خلاصه ای از فعالیت های انجام شده (به خصوص در سه سال اخیر (۱۳۹۱ تا ۱۳۹۴) ارائه شده است.



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.