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"Annual Progress Report 2008"

«طرح حفاظت از تالاب های ایران»



۲۰۰۸



سازمان حفاظت محیط زیست



Conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project

Annual Progress Report 2008



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Conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project

Project ID: 38436

Introduction

Department of Environment of Iran directs several activities in order to protect wetland habitats and to mitigate the threats they are facing. Conservation of Iranian Wetlands Project is an example of one of these joint initiatives among the Government of Islamic republic of Iran, GEF and UNDP.

Following the signing ceremony in 2005, the project moved into the Inception Phase in 2006, when the Inception workshop was held. The total GEF budget of this project is 3.287 Million dollars, with 9.19 million co-financing from the government of IRI and 0.6 million dollars from government of Netherlands and the duration of the project is 7 years.

1. Project's Approach and objectives

The project seeks to analyze the root causes of degradation of Iranian Wetlands on an ecosystem based approach at three Local, Site and National Levels:

“Decision-makers and local communities will only support the sustainable management and restoration of wetlands if they are aware of (and benefit from) the multiple values of these areas, and if they are involved in their management.”

According to this approach, project's Goal and Objective are as followed:

Goal: *To catalyse the sustainability of Iran's system of wetland protected areas, thereby enhancing its effectiveness as a tool for conserving globally significant biodiversity*

Objective: *To systematically remove or substantially mitigate threats facing globally significant biodiversity and sustainability at two demonstration sites, while ensuring that the lessons learned through these demonstrations are absorbed within wetland protected area management systems throughout Iran and most particularly at a set of target replication sites.*

In order to move in line with its Goal and Objective and according to Project document and Inception Report, CIWP seeks to reach these 3 main outcomes¹:

A. Local WPA management structures (e.g., National Park offices, DoE Provincial offices) possess and use enhanced capacities to effectively manage WPA sites, including dealing with most 'internally arising' threats to globally significant biodiversity

B. Inter-sectoral co-ordination structures, established at provincial and basin level, enhance the sustainability of the WPA system by, inter alia, helping to address threats arising at ecosystem level

C. National-level WPA management and inter-sectoral co-ordination structures

possess and utilise enhanced capacities to strengthen WPA management, inter

alia, by supporting the exchange of knowledge and lessons learned through

Outcomes 1&2 above

The project will also seek to meet these goals, objectives and outcomes through the application of good project management, quality control and a strong commitment to the process of adaptive management – learning by doing. CIWP works at national and LU and LP site levels and will expand its activities throughout the country by adding replication sites.

¹ According to the recent trend of drought in the country and its negative impacts on the ecosystem of Lake Urmiya and lives of local communities who live near wetlands and following a visit by UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Iran to the lake, in the end of 2008 a new drought component was added to the project outcomes, with a total budget of 200000\$ from UNDP TRACK budget, which will be especially targeted for mitigating impacts of drought on wetlands and developing a management system for dealing with these impacts throughout the country.

2. Project Activities and Progress, based on 2008 annual work plan (At Parishan, Urmiya and National level):

For each main outcome of the project, there are several sub-outcomes based on which the project main activities are planned. Project activities mirror Project Document and decisions of Project Steering Committee.

Table 1-2- Project Activities in 2008 at Parishan Site Level

Activity	Tasks	Progress
Outcome 1: Local WPA management structures (e.g., National Park offices, DoE Provincial offices) possess and use enhanced capacities to effectively manage WPA sites, including dealing with most 'internally arising' threats to globally significant biodiversity		
1.1 DoE and other agency staff trained on integrated ecosystem management planning, implementation and monitoring		
1.1.1 Introductory inter-sectoral training course on integrated wetlands management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two “hands on” integrated management planning training workshops were conducted during 2007 <p>No further training courses planned on this subject. For Management Plans, see 1.4.1. For further specific training courses see 1.1.2</p>	
1.1.2 Develop and implement specific thematic training courses based on training plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder Analysis completed in 2006 Training plan drafted in 2007 Training course on wetland mapping was held in 2006 Training course on MedWet Database was held in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete Training Plan 2. Hold course on wetland monitoring (Wim Giesen) 3. Hold training course on community engagement for DOE staff (Ounsted/Kananian) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project training plan has been finalised and updated and available for stakeholders on project website Training workshop on environmental monitoring of wetlands has been held on May 2008 in Shiraz for 50 managers and experts from different organizations. The main emphasise of the workshop was on environmental monitoring procedure and preparing plan and protocols for monitoring LP A participatory training workshop on wetland Zoning was held in May 2008 in Kazeroun by project national and international consultants. In this workshop that has been held for 40 managers and experts from relevant organizations, participants prepared maps of different wetland uses around the lake and sensitive biodiversity areas and prepared guidelines for each usage Wetland participatory management workshop has been held in Oct. 2008 in Kazeroun with participation of project socio-economic national and international advisors, 25 DoE

Activity	Tasks	Progress
		experts from project demonstration and replication sites, DoE experts from head quarter and Fars, local communities and NGOs. The aim of the workshop was introduce project experiences in settlement of ecosystem-based management and preparing participatory management plans to DoE experts
1.2 Baseline studies and monitoring implemented, and integrated information system established		
1.2.1 Identify, review and compile existing baseline data, and hold workshop to review conclusions and identify gaps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing data were collected by national consultants in 2007 • Contract was let in 2007 to DOE-Fars to produce the baseline data report (with consultants) • Wetland habitat map prepared and validated in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold workshop on baseline data report 2. Publish report Define further baseline study needs 3. Disseminate database of existing studies 4. Publish/Distribute wetland map, report and mapping guidelines 5. Prepare map of baseline human, cultural and biodiversity features 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRA report was prepared and finalized by project national consultant following field visits, several meetings with local communities and after producing basins human map • Finalizing baseline data and identifying LP study gaps: these studies have been developed by Fars province DoE and now are being revised by project experts and consultants • LP zoning and mapping studies: Studies have been done completely and delineation map and ecological zoning of the lake has been prepared
1.2.2 Conduct baseline studies to fill gaps identified in above	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Study of pollutants/sources 2. Publish pollution report 3. Assessment study of economic value of LP 4. Publish report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National budget and TOR has been prepared and sent to Fars DoE. Study is going to be started (with delay)
1.2.3 Identify framework for monitoring changes to baseline conditions and publish guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority indicators and Targets were identified in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disseminate national monitoring guidelines 2. Publish LP monitoring plan/protocol and reporting system 3. Define equipment needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During monitoring training workshop, national guidelines for monitoring have been distributed between participants. • Draft protocols and portfolios for LP monitoring were been prepared and are going to be completed • Fars DoE needs for monitoring equipments were identified
1.2.4 Implement monitoring programme and publish results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Begin implementation of monitoring 2. Improve equipment (for biodiversity and water monitoring) 3. Incorporate data into wetland database 4. Publish annual site condition report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested monitoring equipment from Fars DoE are purchased by CIWP and will be delivered in 2009 • Some parts of monitoring studies has been done with existing equipments • A report on 2008 monitoring results for demonstration sites

Activity	Tasks	Progress
1.2.5 Establish integrated information system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MedWet database system was introduced (and training provided) in 2007. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adapt MedWet database for Iran 2. Put baseline information on system 	<p>will be prepared in 2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following MEDWET database workshop, information sheets were sent to provincial DoEs and existing information was collected. This activity will be continued in 2009
1.3.1 Develop and implement a Communications Plan including review mechanism for raising public awareness particularly in cooperation with NGOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder analysis was completed in 2006 Communications Plan was drafted in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finalise and publish Communications Plan 2. World Wetlands Day activities 3. Support LP Festival with NGOs 4. Evaluate/review LP festival 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communication plan has been finalized in 2008 and put on project website. This plan will be revised and updated annually based on assessments. The Communication plan is already being implemented. World Wetlands Day was held; the 1st wetland champion was selected and honoured by presents and special symbol of wetlands. Cooperation with Parishan Local NGO (Tabiat va Salamat Kazeroun) Hold Iran's 1st wetland festival on April 28th and 29th <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cooperation with and support from NGOs to hold the festival - publish post cards, posters, brochures, etc - help local communities to hold photo and painting exhibitions, medicinal herbs booth and make LP model Hold some training courses for local communities such as: team working, tourist guide, handy crafts, etc Make some banners from LP festival procedure to install in DoE headquarter, Fars DoE and Kazeroun governor office Produce a report and make a film from the festival Hold a meeting with local communities to evaluate the festival Hold a thanks giving meeting to local communities for holding the festival Planning for equipping schools libraries of villages around the lake
1.3.2 Publish / distribute information and awareness materials including quarterly bulletins on	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bulletin was issued in 2006 and 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Distribute bulletin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project's bilingual brochure were published and distributed Some thematic posters were published and distributed A brochure about LP villages was produced

Activity	Tasks	Progress
project developments	2. Prepare/publish LP brochure 3. Prepare Information boards for DOE Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare and publish a report entitled " Lake Parishan and 18 villages" to introduce villages around the lake with participation of local communities and NGOs
1.3.3 Establish and maintain mechanism for consultation and communication with local communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local community consultation meetings on management plan in 2007 Local community engagement in management plan workshops 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish local Community Committee for Management Plan Provide training and hold meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish local communities committee for lake Parishan management Establish LP socio- economic working group with participation of local communities and NGOs Communicating with different governmental organizations to connect and build capacity for local communities especially local NGO Hold several meetings to build capacity and activate local communities and NGOs
1.3.4 Conduct participatory rural appraisal to identify options for resolutions of threats inc. alternative livelihoods (particularly eco-tourism), and implement selected options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRA was undertaken at selected villages in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Publish PRA report and recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRA report was completed in 2008 and translated to Farsi and will be distributed in 2009
1.4 Conservation activities planned and enforced		
1.4.1 Prepare and implement integrated management plan (including review of that already prepared by DoE) inc. delineation of wetland and development of zonation planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 management planning workshops held in 2007 + consultations Management plan 2nd draft prepared in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Final consultations on plan Approval by Technical Committee Approval by Coordination Committee Signing by Governor, DOE etc Action Plan project portfolio finalised Secure Budget Implement priority activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LP management plan has been prepared in 3 steps with participation of all stakeholders All versions of management plan has been sent to all stakeholders for review and suggestion and their comments have been included in the plan Zoning workshop was held and draft zoning map were prepared This management plan has been finalised and now is given to project provincial coordination committee (Province water and agriculture working group) for approval. Approval of the management plan has been postponed to 2009
1.4.2 Wetland delineation visible on the ground, land disputes resolved, and conversion of natural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wetland map prepared and validated in 2007 Historical information on land ownership collated in 2007 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications and discussions with Fars DoE, local conflict resolution council and local communities to solve land conflicts around the lake have been taken. Ecological and habitat zoning map of the lake has been

Activity	Tasks	Progress
habitats halted.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish wetland map 2. Overlay land ownership on wetland map and agree data with DOE and farmers 3. Mark wetland boundaries 4. Design conflict resolution mechanisms and provide training 5. Stop encroachment (enforce) 	<p>produced and sent to stakeholders within lake management plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication with Fars DoE to get land conflict documents • Allocate budget to Fars DoE for benchmarking of LP boundaries
1.4.3 Develop and implement / enforce zonation mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetland map prepared and validated in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare baseline map of human activities 2. Develop land use planning zonation map around wetland to manage human activities/impacts 3. Prepare codes of conduct 4. Approve the codes of conduct 5. Awareness programme 6. Enforce the zoning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold a participatory training workshop on zoning of activities in LP with participation of CIWP SIPA, international consultant for protected areas and institutional arrangements and all stakeholders in Kazeroun (May 2008) • In this workshop, LP land use map has been prepared by stakeholders. On the base of this map, a guideline for zoning will be produced. • Prepare guideline for mentioned uses in zoning map • Prepare a map for land use around the lake
1.4.4 Develop and enforce regulations for sustainable use of wetland products	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold workshop on fishery 2. Develop fishery guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This activity has been postponed to 2009 work plan
1.4.5 Review adequacy of environmental legislation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish legislation baseline & recommendations 2. Contribute to national legislative review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A draft report on reviewing legislation has been prepared in 2007 • The report has been published and distributed among stakeholders • Results of reviews have been discussed in WPA workshop. The prepared report have been published and sent to participants for their comments (representatives from Fars province have participated in the workshop)
1.4.6 Specific measures for globally significant biodiversity (new activity added 2008)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1. Species identified as targets in the Management Plan <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish brief status report / review for each species (6) 1. Design, print and distribute poster 2. Prepare management guidelines 3. Initiate research studies of <i>Cyprinodon tenuiradiatus</i> and <i>Lutra lutra</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bird counts were done • Initial reviews and negotiations with some NGOs to study the situation of important mammals has been done but related studies is postponed to 2009 • Start to publish IUCN guideline on alien species and start publishing process • According to postpone time of fishery workshop, studies on barbus luteus have been postponed.

Activity	Tasks	Progress
1.4.7 Develop alternative livelihoods for local communities to reduce threats to biodiversity	Hold workshop on tourism / recreation and prepare plan Publish draft plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding a training course on tour guide for representatives from 18 villages around the lake to build their capacity to establish alternative livelihoods. Ecotourism and livelihood workshop has not been held in this year and has been postponed to the next year.
1.5 Destruction of wetland habitats halted and restoration measures implemented		
1.5.1 Enforce existing legislation to ensure no further conversion of wetland habitats	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor development plans and ensure EIA Stop encroachment by farmers and allow encroached habitats to restore. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The wetlands monitoring plan has been prepared and is being finalized and will be executed in the next step.
1.6.1 Conduct habitat restoration measures (new activity added 2008)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish 2 X 15 hectare fenced areas to exclude grazing from <i>Phragmites</i> reedbed Establish monitoring plots inside and outside exclusion area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocating national budget to Fars DoE for establishing fenced areas in LP to exclude grazing of wetland plans Visits and studies of different parts of LP for fencing have been done by project national consultant after consultation with CIWP international consultants and Fars DoE experts. Implementation of fencing has been postponed to 2009
Outcome 2: Inter-sectoral co-ordination structures, established at provincial and basin level, enhance the sustainability of the WPA system by, <i>inter alia</i>, helping to address threats arising at ecosystem level		
2.1 Coordination mechanisms have been developed at the provincial level		
2.1.1 Establish intersectoral Technical Committee, and hold quarterly meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical Committee was established in 2006, and TOR agreed. Meetings held in 2006 and 2007 3 working groups established in 2007 and meetings held Governance arrangements for management plan agreed in 2006 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hold meetings of Technical Committee Hold meetings of WGs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold 2 meetings of project technical committee (province water and agriculture working group) Hold 4 meetings of biodiversity working group in Shiraz Hold 2 meetings of socio-economic and participation working group Hold 1 meeting of water and agriculture working group
2.1.2 Establish Lake Parishan Coordination Committee and hold biannual meetings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> First briefings occurred in 2006 Briefing in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hold biannual briefing meetings Approve management plan Review management plan progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After holding LP working groups and project technical committee in governors office level (water and agriculture working group), meetings of this committee has been merged with mentioned working groups (2008) but in 2009 considering final steps of approval of management plan and preparing to implementation of the plan, it's necessary to re-establish this committee
2.1.3 Organize seminar on the ecosystem approach for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key persons invited to Tehran workshop on Ecosystem 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information about ecosystem-based management is disseminated through workshops, seminars and meetings

Activity	Tasks	Progress
Coordination Committee and Governor's inter-sectoral planning Committee, inc. a field study tour	Approach in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold field visit and seminar for Coordination Committee members 2. Maintain information flow and follow-up events 	frequently <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The national committee on ecosystem-based management has been established and ecosystem-based management planning for important wetland ecosystems in the country will be developed through the committee. 1st meeting of the committee has been held with participation of related managers from DoE and other governmental bodies and CIWP experiences has been introduced there as a successful case study.
2.2 Develop measures to ensure sustainable allocation of water for Lake Parishan		
2.2.1 Prepare water budget for Lake Parishan and scenarios for Integrated Water Resources Management over the next 25 years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydrology report drafted in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hire consultant to define environmental water requirement of Lake 2. Publish hydrology report (WG) 3. Publish water management recommendations (WG) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LP hydrology report has been prepared by senior national project advisor and has been sent to the stakeholders
2.2.2 Conduct Strategic EIA on planned water resources developments in the basin, and follow up with sustainable water policy planning.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undertake SEA of existing water policies and plans 2. Publish report and recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is being revised by SIPA
2.2.3 Demonstrate options for water use efficiency in irrigated agriculture, and promote adoption of improved techniques through water user associations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Design programme with water and agriculture agencies 2. Prepare information materials 3. Select demonstration sites 4. Conduct demonstrations 5. Monitor uptake 6. Explore and test economic tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiative discussions with ministry of agriculture's environment office to implement action plan • Implementations will be done after LP management plan approval
2.3 Integrated pollution control practices developed		
2.3.1 Prepare and implement a strategy for reducing aquatic pollution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Launch 6 month study of pollutants, to identify main problems and sources 2. Develop strategy for reduction of pollutants 3. Approve strategy 4. Publish strategy 5. Implement strategy 6. Monitor implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocate national budget for studies to Fars DoE • Prepare and send TOR for studies • Consultation and coordination with water and land pollution office of DoE for optimal studies • Necessary administrative process to select appropriate consultant is being taken by Fars DoE • Studies will be undertaken in 2009

Activity	Tasks	Progress
2.3.2 Demonstrate options for efficient use of fertilizers and pesticides and implement selected options	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Design programme 2. Develop codes of practice for use and management of buffer area 3. Conduct demonstration and training activities 4. Monitor implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principles and guidelines for buffer zones and guideline for wetland use has been prepared
2.3.3 Review and implement options for waste water and garbage treatment in villages around the Lake	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify pollution sources 2. Propose solutions in report 3. Implement solutions 4. Monitor results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will be done in LP pollutants studies
2.3.4 Develop and implement options for control of noise pollution and disturbance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Study on disturbance sources 2. Propose solutions in report 3. Implement solutions 4. Monitor results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has been postponed to 2009
2.4 Enhanced measures for preventing land degradation introduced		
2.4.1 Develop and implement strategy for preventing land degradation in basin	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare draft Master Plan for watershed conservation and restoration around Lake 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is being consulted with SIPA for revising. Result will be added to 2009 action plan.
2.5 Best practices in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) demonstrated and implemented		
2.5.1 Apply best practices of EIA and SEA to development proposals for the Lake e.g. water resource developments, tourism strategy, fishery.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Key individuals to attend national workshop on SEA and EIA 2. Distribute report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has not been implemented
2.5.2 Prepare environmental management plans for villages	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Select 2 pilot villages 2. Prepare village environmental management plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiative planning and negotiations for capacity assessment has been done by national consultant and local communities and planning for implementation will be done in 2009
2.6 Best practices concerning alien species introduction and control planned and implemented		
2.6.1 International best practices on alien invasive species control transferred to provincial and local authorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International guidelines published in 2007 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Necessary actions to publish IUCN guidelines for alien species are being taken
2.6.2 Best practices of alien invasive species control implemented (particularly for fish and aquatic plants)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess status of alien invasives in baseline report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning to hold fishery workshop has been postponed to 2009
4.1 Management of the project at Lake Parishan		

Activity	Tasks	Progress
4.1.1 Prepare annual work plans and budgets for adoption by Project Steering Committee following consideration by the Coordination Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work plans have been produced annually <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare draft plan for 2008 2. Approval by Project Steering Committee 3. Plan published 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2008 work plan has been developed • The PSC has approved the work plan and is being implemented • The work plan has been put on project website for stakeholders
4.1.2 Support all aspects of project implementation at Lake Parishan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Site coordinator appointed in 2006 ➤ Provide secretariat for Coordination Committee <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide secretariat for Technical Committee and WGs 2. Support consultants 3. Support workshops etc 4. Implement communications 5. Ensure good stakeholder relations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fars province site coordinator left the project from mid 2008 • Advertisement for recruiting new site coordinator were published through local newspapers and UNDP website • According to inappropriate applicants, new advertisement will be published in 2009
4.1.3 Prepare annual reports of the project results at Lake Parishan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare annual report 2. Publish annual report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project annual report has been prepared and sent to PSC members • PIR has been prepared and sent to UNDP • Integrated annual report for 2007 has been prepared • All project reports has been put on project website
4.1.4 Establish Offices in Shiraz and Kazeroun and adopt working practices according to the national project standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office was established in Shiraz in 2006 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Produce quarterly reports 2. Annual staff performance assessment 3. SC to attend quarterly meeting of management team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project assistant is settled in Kazeroun governor office and is working

Table 2-2- Project Activities in 2008 at Urmiya site level

Activity	Tasks	Progress
Outcome 1: Local WPA management structures (e.g., National Park offices, DoE Provincial offices) possess and use enhanced capacities to effectively manage WPA sites, including dealing with most 'internally arising' threats to globally significant biodiversity		
1.1 DoE and other agency staff trained on integrated ecosystem management planning & implementation and monitoring		
1.1.1 Hold introductory inter-sectoral training course on integrated wetlands management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two “hands on” integrated management planning training workshops were conducted during 2007 <p>No further training courses planned on this subject. For Management Plans, see 1.4.1. For further specific training courses see 1.1.2</p>	
1.1.2 Develop and implement specific thematic training courses based on training strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder Analysis completed in 2006 Training plan drafted in 2007 Training course on wetland mapping was held in 2006 Training course on MedWet Database was held in 2007 Training course on participatory watershed planning was held in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Complete Training Plan Hold course on wetland monitoring (Wim Giesen) Hold training course on community engagement for DOE staff (Ounsted/Kananian) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training plan has been updated and completed Wetland monitoring workshop was held in Urmia in May for 50 managers and experts of relevant basin stakeholders. The main object of the workshop was procedure of environmental monitoring and preparing plan and protocols for monitoring LU basin wetlands. LU basin participatory management workshop has been held by project national and international consultants in East Azerbaijan DoE in Oct. 2008 for EA DoE experts. The main discussion was on Quri Gol lake basin management and as a result, a structure to prepare a management plan for the lake on the base of project approach in preparing LU management plan has been developed. It has been agreed that a management plan for Quri Gol lake is prepared by EA DoE with facilitation of CIWP A participatory training workshop on wetland use zoning has been held in May 2008 in Urmia. 40 participants from different sections prepared a map for land uses and critical areas around the lake and also prepared codes of conduct for this uses.
1.2 Baseline studies and monitoring implemented, and integrated information system established		
1.2.1 Review existing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TOR for data review were drafted in 2006 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare LU hydrology synthesis baseline studies

Activity	Tasks	Progress
baseline information concerning Lake Uromiye and the satellite wetlands and hold a workshop to discuss findings and identify gaps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some existing data were reviewed by national consultants in 2007 Contract was let in 2007 to DOE-WA and EA to produce the baseline data report (with consultants) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold workshop to review report 2. Publish report 3. Define further baseline study needs 4. Disseminate database of existing studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare a summary from the hydrology report and send to stakeholders for comments Submit hydrology report to LU IWRM workshop (has been held in Tabriz in Nov. 2008 with participation of 40 experts from the LU basin) LU biodiversity studies Submit biodiversity studies to LU basin biodiversity working group for revising and finalising
1.2.2 Conduct baseline studies to fill gaps identified in above	<p>1. Baseline studies/management reports were completed for 6 satellite wetlands in WA in 2005-6 (Dutch co-financing)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Undertake/Publish assessment of economic value of LU and satellite wetlands 6. Undertake/publish baseline study for Ghara Geshlaq wetland (DOE-EA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare LU basin biodiversity report Prepare LU basin water resources and hydrology report Qara Qeghlaq wetland studies budget has been allocated and is being done by EA DoE Budget for economic evaluation of LU has been allocated to WA DoE
1.2.3 Identify framework for monitoring changes to baseline conditions and publish guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring guidelines for LU were published in 2005 Priority indicators and Targets were identified in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish LU monitoring plan/protocol and reporting system 2. Define equipment needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National monitoring guidelines has been distributed among participants of the workshop Prepare monitoring workshop report Develop LU monitoring plan Develop LU monitoring protocols Monitoring equipment Needs assessment from the provincial DoE offices
1.2.4 Implement monitoring programme and publish results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Begin implementation of monitoring 6. Improve equipment (for biodiversity and water monitoring) 7. Incorporate data into wetland database 8. Publish annual site condition report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring equipments were purchased and will be delivered to the Provincial DoEs in 2009 Preparation of a data bank and implementation of monitoring plan will be done in 2009
1.2.5 Establish integrated information system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MedWet database system was introduced (and training provided) in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Put LU baseline information on system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After MedWet wetland data bank workshop, info sheets were sent to the basin DoEs and existing information were received Data bank proposal has been received and is being reviewed These actions will be continued in 2009
1.3 Public awareness and local community participation enhanced		

Activity	Tasks	Progress
1.3.1 Develop and implement a Communications Plan including review mechanism for raising public awareness particularly in cooperation with NGOs	<p>B</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder analysis was completed in 2006 • Communications Plan was drafted in 2007 • Several TV broadcasts in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finalise / publish Communications Plan 2. Maintain strong profile through media / TV 3. Plan 2009 World Wetlands Day for LU 4. Explore options for a festival to celebrate LU and prepare feasibility report (Implement the Festival Summer 08?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project communication plan has been finalised and put on project website in 2008. This plan will be reviewed and updated annually • The communication plan is under implementation • World Wetlands Day was held, the 1st wetlands champion was selected and honoured with presents and special wetland symbol • after advertisement and selection process, 1st Iran's wetlands champion (Mr. Entekhabi on behalf of Souldouz NGO) has been selected and a wetland symbol and other presents were provided to him • Media coverage of project's activities in newspapers, national and local TVs • The 1st LU festival was held in Oct. 2008 with cooperation of East and West Azerbaijan's DoEs, Governors offices and NGOs to emphasize on critical situation of the lake jointly in both provinces (Tabriz, Urmia, Naghadeh, Shabestar and Mahabad cities). This activity included a family promenade, bicycle tour around the lake, photo, painting and caricature exhibitions, especial ceremonies for children. In final day as conclusion ceremony, minutes of agreement for conservation and management of LU basin was signed with presence of head of DoE, ministers of agriculture and energy, governors of 3 provinces in the basin, members of managing council and other Members of the Parliament and several managers from 3 provinces. • A pictorial report of the festival was prepared .
1.3.2 Publish quarterly bulletin on project developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulletin was issued in 2006 and 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Distribute bulletin 5. Prepare/publish LU brochure and for Gori Gol and Kaniberazan 6. Prepare Information boards for DOE Centres, Gorigol and Kalantary Highway 7. Explore options for environmental information centre(s) at up to 2 wetland locations / prepare plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project's bilingual brochure was published and distributed • Some thematic posters were published and distributed • Prepare brochure for LU and its environmental aspects and distributed in LU festival • Project bulletin has been prepared quarterly and has been distributed. • A book on wetlands drought was prepared.

Activity	Tasks	Progress
	8. Disseminate book and poster on lake drying out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A poster on wetland drought was published
1.3.3 Establish and maintain mechanism for consultation and communication with local communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Group on Public Awareness and Participation established in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold meetings of the working group. 2. Establish local Community Committees for Yadergarloo and Gori Gol Management Plans 3. Provide training and hold meetings 	This meeting has been held in LU basin participatory management workshop by project national and international consultants in East Azerbaijan DoE in Oct. 2008 for EA DoE experts. The main discussions were on Quri Gol lake basin management and as a result, a structure to prepare a management plan for the lake based on project approach in preparing LU management plan has been developed. It has been agreed that a management plan for Quri Gol lake is prepared by EA DoE with facilitation of CIWP
1.3.4 Conduct participatory rural appraisal to identify options for resolutions of threats inc. alternative livelihoods (particularly eco-tourism), and implement selected options.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct PRA for study for Gorigol and Yadergarloo 2. Produce report and recommendations 	This task Has not been implemented in 2008
1.4 Conservation activities planned and enforced		
1.4.1 Prepare and implement a management plan for Lake Uromiyeh in consultation with government partners and local communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 management planning workshops held in 2007 + consultations • Management plan 2nd draft prepared in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Final consultations on plan 9. Approval by Technical Committee 10. Approval by Coordination Committees 11. Signing by Governors, DOE, MOE etc 12. Action Plan project portfolio finalised 13. Secure Budget 14. Implement priority activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All suggestions and comments from stakeholders have been included in the plan. The 4th version of the plan has been prepared • The Management Plan was reviewed and approved by project technical committee and Water high council • Integrated management plan of LU basin was signed as an annex of the LU minutes of agreement, by head of DoE, ministers of Agriculture and Energy and 3 governors of provinces in the LU basin • The official letter for mentioned minutes of agreement has been prepared and will be sent to relevant ministries and governors offices by head of DoE • Wetland use zoning has been done in a workshop and relevant maps and reports are prepared. Regarding the agreements, these materials will be the 1st attachment of LU basin management plan • Detailed action plans are being prepared as executive proposals

Activity	Tasks	Progress
1.4.2 Prepare and implement management plans for the most important satellite wetlands around the Lake, in consultation with government partners and local communities.	<p>3. 1st draft plan for Dorgeh Sanghi prepared in 2005 (Dutch co-financing)</p> <p>For Gori Gol and Yadegarlu:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish local community Committees Review existing management proposals Provide training Prepare Participatory (Watershed) management plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holding Quri Gol Lake participatory management workshop (as described in 1,3,3)
1.4.3 Wetland delineation visible on the ground, land disputes resolved, and conversion of natural habitats halted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary maps of 6 satellite wetlands were produced in 2005 (Dutch co-financing) Training was given in 2006 TOR were prepared in 2006 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare draft map, including by remote sensing Ground truth the map Technical Committee to approve maps Publish map(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ecological delineation studies for LU is being done by West Azerbaijan DoE About 140 kilometres of western coasts of LU were benchmarked by WA DoE
1.4.4 Develop and enforce zonation mechanisms for Lake Uromiyeh and satellite wetlands	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare baseline map of human activities and prepare zonation map in and around wetland (using local knowledge/participation) to manage human activities/impacts Prepare codes of conduct Approve the map and codes of conduct Awareness programme Enforce the zoning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold participatory training workshop on zoning of activities in LU by SIPA, project international consultant for institutional arrangements and protected areas with participation of all stakeholders in Urmia in May 2008 Zoning maps of activities in LU has been prepared by stakeholders in this workshop Preliminary codes of conduct for zoning map uses has been prepared Preliminary map of land use by human has been prepared in mentioned maps
1.4.5 Develop and enforce regulations for sustainable use of wetland products	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct study on salt harvest options (Min. Industry & Mines) 	<p>These studies are being undertaken by WA DoE after budget allocation</p>
1.4.6 Review adequacy of legislation for wetland protected areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Publish legislation baseline & recommendations Contribute to national legislative review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A draft Report on laws and legislations was prepared in 2007 <p>Results of studies were presented in WPA workshop and have been sent to participants for their comment. (representatives from East and West Azerbaijans participated in the workshop)</p>

Activity	Tasks	Progress
1.4.7 Specific measures for globally significant biodiversity (new activity added 2008)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Species identified as targets in the Management Plan <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Publish brief status report / review / management guidelines for each species (4) 5. Design, print and distribute posters 6. Conduct and publish study on Artemia salinity tolerance 	Translate IUCN guideline on alien species and necessary actions for publishing it
1.4.8 Develop alternative livelihoods for local communities to reduce threats to biodiversity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold workshop on (eco)tourism / recreation and prepare plan 2. Publish draft plan 3. Identify sites for pilot ecotourism projects to start in 2009 	Ecotourism and alternative livelihood workshop has not been held in 2008 because project international consultant was not able to visit Iran and has been postponed to 2009
1.5 Destruction of wetland habitats halted and restoration measures implemented		
1.5.1 Enforce existing legislation to ensure no further conversion of natural habitats in wetland protected areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitor development plans and ensure EIA 	Wetland monitoring plan was prepared and is being finalised. Approval and implementation of plan has been postponed to 2009
1.5.2 Designate important satellite wetlands as protected areas and enforce the legislation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify list of wetlands to be protected 1. Prepare designation documents 2. Inform local communities 3. Protection approved 4. Review Ramsar and UNESCO designations 5. Implement changes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary studies have been done and Kaniborazan and Qara Qeshlaq Wetlands have been identified primarily. • To complete information about Qara Qeshlaq wetland to designate the wetland in Ramsar convention and feasibility assessment of conservation classification, some national budget has been allocated to EA DoE and TOR for studies has been prepared. The studies are being done.
1.5.3 Implement plans to restore damaged satellite wetlands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yadergarloo and Gherde Gheet identified as priorities, and budget secured • Restoration study undertaken for Yadergarloo (Dutch co-financing) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consult local communities 2. Complete restoration plans 3. Implement short-term restoration measures for Yadergarloo 4. Implement short-term restoration measures for Gherde 	Negotiate with local communities and NGOs: preliminary feasibility assessment has been done but implementation has been postponed to 2009

Activity	Tasks	Progress
	Gheet	
Outcome 2: Inter-sectoral co-ordination structures, established at provincial and basin level, enhance the sustainability of the WPA system by, <i>inter alia</i>, helping to address threats arising at ecosystem level		
2.1 Coordination mechanisms have been developed at the provincial and Uromiyeh Basin level		
2.1.1 Establish intersectoral Technical Committees for Lake Uromiyeh and satellite wetlands, and hold quarterly meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Committees were established in 2006 • Four working groups were established in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold provincial meetings 2. Hold Joint WA/EA meetings 3. Hold Working Group meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water and agriculture working groups in provinces were held and summary report of project activities were submitted <p>Thematic working groups meeting has been held and several issues especially issues related to water and biodiversity has been revised</p>
2.1.2 Establish provincial wetland Coordination Committees, and joint Lake Uromiyeh Coordination Committee, determine rules of procedures and hold biannual meetings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committees were established in 2006 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold meetings 2. Hold Joint Meeting 3. Approve Management Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold working groups meetings • LU basin integrated management plan has been signed in highest administrative levels by ministers of Energy and Agriculture, head of DoE and 3 governors of provinces in the basin <p>Agreement and approval of establishment of LU basin management council in 3 provinces</p>
2.1.3 Promote the ecosystem approach for members the Coordination Committees and Governor's inter-sectoral planning Committee inc. field study tours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key persons invited to Tehran workshop on Ecosystem Approach in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold field visit and seminar for Coordination Committee members/senior decision-makers 2. Maintain information flow and follow-up events 	Field visit and study tours were not done in 2008
2.1.4 Explore legal, financial and institutional options for establishment of a Lake Uromiyeh Basin Management Authority, propose to HCEC, and implement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder discussions have so far not supported options for a LUBMA <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss needs for more formal governance structure at 1st meeting of Joint Coordination Committee 2. Implement selected options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on minutes of agreement for integrated management of LU, establishment of LU basin management council has been approved <p>On the basis of these minutes of agreement, establishment of LU national management committee has been predicted.</p>
2.2 Develop measures to ensure sustainable allocation of water for Lake Uromiyeh and satellite wetlands		
2.2.1 Review previous IWRM studies for the Basin, draw high level conclusions and disseminate information. Identify gaps and way forward, and implement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International consultant was hired in 2006 and TOR for study prepared • Water Working Group established in 2007 • National consultant hired end of 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare review report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of LU hydrology synthesis report • Sending LU hydrology synthesis and LU water resources reports to stakeholders • Holding LU basin IWRM workshop in October 2008 by project national and international consultants and discuss and review options for incorporate basin IWRM

Activity	Tasks	Progress
	2. Hold review workshop 3. Produce and disseminate conclusions/recommendations	in LU basin integrated management plan Preparing workshop report and agreement with all stakeholders on next steps to achieve IWRM in the basin
2.2.2 Conduct Strategic EIA on planned water resources developments (and irrigation networks) in the basin, and follow up with sustainable water policy planning and implementation.	1. Following results of 2.2.1, start work on an integrated water resources plan for the basin 2. Conduct SEA for existing and proposed water development plans including EIA for inter-basin water transfers	The technical framework for IWRM review and strategic planning was done in IWRM Workshop, by defining the water share of each province and the amount of water they can use/should allocate to the Lake
2.2.3 Ensure minimum environmental flows to maintain the ecological character of Lake Uromiye and satellite wetlands	1. Water requirements for 7 satellite wetlands identified (Dutch co-financing) 1. Determine minimum environmental flows to Lake as part of 2.2.1 2. Prepare strategy for environmental water allocations 3. Prepare drought risk management plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum ecological level of water and environmental water demand for LU has been calculated by experts in technical meetings. This amount has been approved by high council of Water. In the basin level this amount has been agreed by all stakeholders and has been included in LU management plan as a management goal. After receiving comments of project national and international consultants, some urgent activities for drought and LU critical situation has been added to the management plan <p>Regarding the continuous drought of LU, the deputy resident of UNDP office and a technical team visited Lake Urmia in July and met some managers and NGOs in the basin. As a result of this mission, UNDP office promised to allocate 200000 USD from UNDP budget for LU drought through CIWP. After communications with ministry of foreign affairs this budget was approved and relevant workplan was prepared by CIWP consultants with cooperation of UNDP office for 2009.</p>
2.2.4 Demonstrate options for water use efficiency in irrigated agriculture, and promote adoption of improved techniques through water user associations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water efficiency mechanisms demonstrated in 2005/6 (Dutch co-financing) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Include water efficiency demonstrations in agricultural extension activities Conduct (6 month) study on options for water pricing and water metering for irrigation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were Discussion and negotiations about pilot projects and options of increasing water efficiency in the basin in IWRM workshop <p>According to plans, it has been agreed that one national and one international consultant will be hired. Details will be discussed in 2009</p>
2.3 Integrated pollution control practices developed		
2.3.1 Prepare and implement a strategy for	7. Launch 6 month study of pollutants, to identify main problems (baseline study of water and sediments at lake)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The budget has been allocated and the TOR has been sent to WA DoE

Activity	Tasks	Progress
reducing aquatic pollution	8. Identification of main pollution sources at basin level and estimation of pollution load in the basin 9. Develop strategy for reduction of pollutants 10. Approve and publish strategy	Results will be achieved in 2009
2.3.2 Demonstrate options for efficient use of fertilizers and pesticides and implement selected options	1. Design plans for optimised used of agrochemicals 2. Develop codes of practice for use and management of buffer areas 3. Conduct extension activities 4. Monitor implementation	This task has not been implemented in 2008
2.3.3 Review and implement options for waste water and garbage treatment in villages and industries surrounding the Lake and satellite wetlands	1. Identify pollution sources at two pilot villages 2. Propose solutions in report 3. Implement solutions 4. Monitor results	The budget has been allocated to WA DoE and report is being prepared
2.3.4 Develop and implement options for control of noise pollution and disturbance	1. Identify baseline disturbance and noise levels and sources at flamingo/pelican colony 2. Propose solutions in management plan/codes of practice 3. Awareness programme 4. Monitor results	This task has not been implemented in 2008
2.4 Enhanced measures for preventing land degradation introduced		
2.4.1 Develop and implement strategy for preventing land degradation in basin	1. Review and complete existing studies of land degradation 2. Prepare draft Master Plan for watershed conservation and restoration around Lake, starting with workshop on zonation	In consultation with SIPA, this section was removed from project program
2.5 Best practices in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) demonstrated and implemented		
2.5.1 Apply best practices of EIA and SEA to development proposals for the Lake e.g. water resource developments, tourism strategy, fishery.	1. Key individuals to attend national workshop on SEA and EIA 2. Distribute report	This task has been postponed to 2009
2.6 Best practices concerning alien species control planned and implemented		
2.6.1 International best practices on alien invasive species control transferred to provincial and local authorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International guidelines published in 2007 1. Publish, disseminate and promote the guidelines as a book	Necessary actions taken to publish IUCN guideline for alien species

Activity	Tasks	Progress
2.6.2 Best practices of alien invasive species control implemented (particularly for fish and aquatic plants)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess status of alien invasives in baseline reports 2. Monitor alien invasives 	Planning to hold training workshop on fisheries has been postponed to 2009
4.2 Management of the project at Lake Uromiyeh		
4.2.1 Prepare annual work plans and budgets for adoption by Project Steering Committee following consideration by the Coordination Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work plans have been produced annually <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approval 2008 plan by Project Steering Committee 2. Plan published 3. Prepare draft plan for 2009 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project 2008 workplan has been prepared • The workplan has been submitted to PSC meeting and approved by the committee and now is being implemented <p>Project work plan has been put on the website and has been sent to stakeholders via email.</p>
4.2.2 Support all aspects of project implementation at Lake Uromiyeh	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Site coordinators appointed 2006 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide secretariat for Coordination Committees 2. Provide secretariat for Technical Committees and working groups 3. Supervise national consultants 4. Organise workshops etc 5. Implement communications 6. Ensure good stakeholder relations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project activities is implementing • WA site coordinator left project from mid 2008 • WA office assistant left project in June 2008 • WA office assistant substituted site coordinator • Advertisement to recruit an assistant for Urmia office was published in national newspapers and UNDP website But because of inappropriate applicants the advertisement will be republished in 2009 • Permanent communication with stakeholders • Cooperation and coordination in planning and holding workshops, field visits and project consultants missions • Administrative coordination for working groups and provinces DoEs about project activities
4.2.3 Prepare annual reports of the project	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish annual report 2007 2. Prepare annual report 2008 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project annual report has been prepared and sent to PSC members • PIR has been prepared and sent to UNDP • Integrated report of project activities in 2007 has been prepared
4.2.4 Establish Offices in Tabriz and Uromiyeh and adopt working practices according to the national project standards	<p>Tabriz and Uromiyeh offices established in 2006</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Produce monthly and quarterly reports 2. Review staff performance annually 3. SC to attend quarterly meeting of management team 	Project staff are evaluated annually and provincial offices are running.

Table 2-3- Project Activities in 2008 at National Level

Activity	Tasks	Progress
Outcome 3: National-level WPA management and inter-sectoral co-ordination structures possess and utilise enhanced capacities to strengthen WPA management, <i>inter alia</i>, by supporting the exchange of knowledge and lessons learned through Outcomes 1&2 above		
3.1 Capacity for WPA management developed, following review of institutional structures, mechanisms, training etc		
3.1.1 Conduct baseline review of tools, legislation and capacity within DOE and hold workshop to discuss findings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline review undertaken in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organise review workshop 2. Publish report / recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline report on institutional Laws and legislations for WPAs has been prepared by project consultant and has been sent to stakeholders for commenting. <p>In WPA workshop (Tehran May 2008) experts discussed about the report. The workshop report was sent to the participants and their suggestions and comments were received and will be incorporated in the baseline legislation report.</p> <p>Also a report about legislations conclusion has been prepared and sent to stakeholders for commenting.</p>
3.1.2 Develop and implement plan for enhancing capacity for WPA management	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Include recommendations in Training Plan 1. Training course on environmental monitoring of wetlands, including national reporting and targets 2. Training workshop on implementation of Iran wetlands data bank 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A training workshop on MedWet wetlands data bank has been held in 2007 • Project training plans are revised annually <p>Training course on environmental monitoring of wetlands has been held in LP and LU (Refer to LU and LP tables: 1,1,3)</p>
3.1.3 Implement system for integrated information management for WPAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training course on MedWet Database in 2007 • Decision to adapt MedWet Database for Iran wetlands in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adapt software 2. Populate with baseline data for LP and LU 3. Plan launch of national wetland inventory for 2009 	After holding workshop in 2007 and preparing and sending MedWet based info sheets to provincial DoEs and getting feedbacks and information, planning for establishment of data bank for Iran's wetlands were done and suggestions from stakeholders were received. This activity will be continued in 2009
3.2 Awareness and capacity enhanced among government agencies (& national coordination structures) in wetland protected area management		
3.2.1 Prepare a stakeholder analysis and training / communications plan to influence behaviour of key stakeholders regarding WPAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder Analysis was completed in 2006 • Communications and Training Plans were drafted in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finalise and publish Communications Plan 2. Finalise and publish Training Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare project stakeholder analyses report and revise it annually • Prepare project training and communication plan and implement and revise it annually • Project training and communication plans are available for stakeholders on project website

Activity	Tasks	Progress
3.2.2 Organise thematic workshops and training courses with sectoral ministries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Workshop on the Ecosystem Approach was held in 2007 2. Training course on MedWet Database was held in 2007 <p>1. Training workshop on risk assessment and management planning for wetlands, with emphasis on management of buffer areas (agriculture)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold WPA workshop (June 2008). (Explanation in 3.1.1 of this table) • Cooperation and coordination in holding Environmental Risk Assessment workshop <p>Hold zoning workshop and discuss on land use around CIWP sites and regulations and guidelines of agriculture land use around wetlands</p>
3.2.3 Disseminate information materials including project quarterly bulletin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bulletin launched in 2007 • 1st poster published in 2007 <p>1. Publish bulletin 2. Publish project brochure etc 3. Publish posters 4. Project Calendar</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish 4 project quarterly bulletins • Publish a bilingual brochure to introduce the project • Thematic posters were sent to stakeholders in 2008 on especial events • Studies for collecting information for project calendar have been done. According to NPD's point of view it was agreed that one calendar will be published for all 4 biodiversity projects
3.2.4 Prepare and disseminate best practice and policy documents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidelines on alien invasive species published in 2007 <p>1. Publish national wetland monitoring guidelines 2. Publish PRA manual 3. Publish Participatory Watershed Planning manual 4. Publish booklet on functions of wetlands and impacts of drying out of wetlands</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a booklet on drought effects (ready for publishing) • National guideline on wetlands monitoring has been prepared and published. This guidelines are available on project website • Draft guide for PRA has been developed in Farsi and English • The booklet on drought effects will be published in 2009
3.2.5 Enhance the capacity of national coordinating structures to achieve integrated management of WPAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCW engaged strongly for the management of LU in 2007 <p>1. Engage with Ramsar committee 2. Disseminate information to HCEC 3. Disseminate information to HCW 4. Disseminate information to National sustainable development committee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in periodical meetings with Ramsar Convention regional centre • Take part in Ramsar Convention sub- committee meetings • Communications with Water High Council and taking part in relevant meetings of the committee • Take part in relevant meetings of Sustainable Development National Committee • Hold meetings with JICA on Anzali wetland and share experiences
3.3 Raise public awareness of wetland values and threats		
3.3.1 Enhance coverage of wetland issues in the printed media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensive contacts with national media established in 2007 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media coverage of project activities in national news agencies, national and local newspapers (average 10

Activity	Tasks	Progress
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Issue press releases for each major project event 	<p>case per month)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publishing environmental articles in newspapers
3.3.2 Build capacity and support NGOs for public awareness raising	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Organise national NGO forum Develop action plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity building and help to establish Parshan Local NGO (Salamat va Tabiat Kazeroun) Cooperation with Yashil Mishow NGO in EA to hold training courses for women. Cooperation with Plan4 land NGO to hold wetlands training courses Build capacity and coordinate with LU basin NGOs
3.3.3 Enhance coverage of wetland issues on TV and radio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong contacts with TV and radio reps.. established in 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Invite TV/radio to major project events Support production of one film on wetlands 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Several radio Interviews about project activities and wetlands situation in Iran Produce some radio programs (each one is in 10 minutes) about project activities with EA radio. Invite reporters to project important activities especially LU festival Produce Tab e Ab documentary about Iran's wetlands for broadcasting from National TV channel 1
3.3.4 Student Challenge Fund	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Announce Fund and call for proposals Allocate grants 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewing received applications and relevant thesis
3.3.5 Enhance the impact of World Wetland's Day in Iran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project actively participated in WWD 2006 and 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2008 WWD event to be hosted by Fars (LP) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperation for holding World Wetlands Day in Gilan province (more explanation in LU and LP tables: 1,3,3) Planning and participating in coordination meetings for WWD 2009 in Khuzestan province.
3.4 Lessons learned disseminated to WPA managers, project replication sites established, and project sustainability assured		
3.4.1 Establish electronic networks and project web site for technical awareness raising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-mail network was established in 2006 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain regular mailings to e-group Establish and maintain project web site Disseminate Project monthly reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redesign of project website in 2 languages Electronic network of wetlands experts is active and project reports are sent to them through this
3.4.2 Establish National Wetlands Awards to be announced on World Wetlands Day	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Awards system agreed at WWD 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Identify Year 1 recipients Hold award ceremony Publicise recipients in media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertisement and selection of 1st Iranian wetland champion with coordination of British council and Ramsar Convention Regional Centre Design and make symbol of wetlands
3.4.3 Organise study tours for WPA managers to project demonstration sites	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Organise study tour to demonstration sites (15 persons) 	Has not been implemented in 2008

Activity	Tasks	Progress
3.4.4 Establish 3-5 replication sites by end of the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shadegan agreed to be the 1st replication site <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with DOE-Khuzestan to agree roadmap / strategy Inception Workshop for new replication site Management planning workshop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select Shadegan Wetland as project 1st replication site in PSC meeting Meeting with Khuzestan province DoE to coordinate and cooperate starting project activities in Shadegan Hold meeting with Khuzestan province Governor to introduce project goals and activities in Shadegan <p>Shadegan Wetland Inception Workshop has been held in December 2008 with participation of project national and international consultants and with strong support from Khuzestan DoE. 50 managers and experts from relevant organizations have participated in this workshop. Project experiences and activities in 2 demonstration sites were shared with all the participants. Then procedure of preparing management plan and establishment of inter-sectoral structures for implementing management plan has been dedicated. In the next step participant visited the wetland and a meeting with local communities and local managers has been held. In a meeting with the province governor he promised to support project activities in the province.</p>
3.4.5 Initiate the development and adoption of a National Wetlands Strategy and Action Plan, to embed the project into the planning and operations of the main partner agencies, and to set targets for long-term achievement after the end of the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concept of NWSAP was agreed in 2006 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss with Ramsar Committee Develop contents list and roadmap for preparation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CIWP communicates with Ramsar convention and other organizations and necessary coordination is done Preliminary negotiations have been done through WPA workshop and preliminary draft has been prepared.
4.3 Management of the project at National level		
4.3.1 Prepare annual work plans and budgets for adoption by Project Steering Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work plans produced for 2006 and 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare draft plan for 2008 Approval Project Steering Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project 2008 work plan has been prepared and approved by PSC and is implementing Prepare draft work plan for 2009 (in UNDP's new format) Revise project log frame regarding experiences from previous years Revise in project indicators and define new indicators considering gained knowledge and experiences Approve 2009 work plan, log frame and revised indicators in PSC and TPR

Activity	Tasks	Progress
4.3.2 Support all aspects of project implementation at national level	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PSC meeting in July 2007 2. 4 national consultants appointed 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide secretariat for PSC 2. Provide secretariat for Technical Committee 3. Supervise national consultants 4. Organise workshops etc 5. Implement communications 6. Ensure good stakeholder relations 7. Hire Sustainable Agriculture specialist 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 meetings of PSC were held in 2008 (in June and December) and all project reports and products have been distributed among members. • TPR has been held in December 2008 • Administrative coordination for PSC and project technical committee and secretariat • Governance and monitoring project consultants' activities • Hold project workshops and undertake other activities • Following consultation with SIPA and conclusion with UNDP it has been agreed that firstly one national consultant on agriculture should be hired and then if needed an international counterpart consultant will be hired (2009)
4.3.3 Prepare annual reports of the project	1. Publish 2007 annual report	Project 2007 report has been prepared and published
4.3.4 Establish Project Central Office in Tehran and adopt working practices according to the national project standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tehran office (PCO) established in 2006 • Monthly and quarterly reports produced 2006, 2007 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Produce quarterly reports 2. Review staff performance annually 3. Establish ISO office standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project quarterly and monthly reports have been developed regularly and have been sent to stakeholders. Reports are available on project website. • DNPM left project in June • Recruit new DNPM and assistant for project in late 2008 after advertisement and selection procedure • Necessary actions and get Performa from appropriate companies to settle ISO in PCO has been taken but as per consultation with UNDP and considering that the project will be finished in 2012 and due to high expenses for remained years, this activity has been omitted from project work plan

3. Challenges:

1. Establishment of Lake Urmiya Regional Council and involve high-level authorities in implementation of LU Integrated Management Plan (Following signature of a joint MOU)
2. Lead the project further into implementation phase, ensure national and international budget from different stakeholders.
3. Obtain Regional and inter-sectoral agreement on water right of each province at Lake Urmiya basin, especially the amount of water each province can use/should dedicate to the basin.
4. Revision of LU Basin provinces development plans, according to the maximum water available and each provinces share of water.
5. Continuing drought and lack of water at project sites and related problems.
6. For some months Project was running without some key staff (Dnpm, Site Coordinators and Assistant site coordinator)
7. National budget is not allocated based on project timing and planning
8. Contracts of national project staff are not secured.
9. National and International consultants in IWRM and Sustainable Agriculture were not recruited although the advertisements were published.
10. The difference between Iranian and UNDP calendar takes lots of time and energy from the project, because it has to report (To DOE and UNDP/GEF) on different time lines which are sometimes problematic. Agreement on one time line for reporting will help solving this problem.
11. Strengthening inter-sectoral coordination and Participatory decision-making, has always been the main approach of the project. More emphasis on these issues will fasten the processes.

4. Lessons Learnt:

1. Involving all the stakeholders and increasing their sensitivity about issues will ensure success of the plans.
2. Awareness raising activities should be a permanent and continuous process.
3. Before and during doing any activities with local communities, there should be an assessment of the conflict causing potentials and negotiations must be done to avoid further conflicts.
4. Project should avoid complicated discussions while working with local communities. Agreements should be reached on general issues and then on detailed issues.
5. The process of ecosystem-based management is a long-term and time taking process, so all the stakeholders should have enough time to involve in the activities and their role should be clarified.
6. External factors could sometimes threaten the project. With on-time planning we can turn these threats into opportunities to move in line with project objectives.
7. Since one of the project's main objectives is improving capacity among governmental organizations, capacity-building of DOE experts should be a priority.
8. There should be continuous awareness raising meetings with several stakeholders.
9. Establishing a local NGO will improve activities at site level and with increase sensitivity of local communities.
10. Governors offices of site provinces should be informed about all the project activities at their sites.

5. Project Financial Report:

A summary of project financial report in 2008 (National and International Budget):

Table 5-1- Project Expenditure (National co-financing), approximate us. Dollars

	Fars		West Azerbaijan		East Azerbaijan	
	Title	Amount	Title	Amount	Title	Amount
In-Kind	Delineation and mapping Lake Parishan	10000\$	Mapping Studies	20000\$	Gharageshla gh Wetland Baseline Studies	25000\$
	Environmental Monitoring	14000\$	LU & Satellite Wetlands Environmental Monitoring	18000\$		
	Study of LP Economical Values	30000\$	Assessment of LU Salt Sources and possibility of salt abstraction	15000\$		
	Study of Wetland Pollution Sources	40000\$	Prepare Bilingual atlas of Lake Urmia	18000\$	Holding LU Festival	10000\$
	Holding LP Festival	2200\$	Study of LU Economical Values	35000\$		
	LP Land Marking	20000\$	Study of Pollution Sources	15000\$		
	Fencing a part of wetland to restore vegetaton	20000\$	Holding LU Festival	10000\$		
			Land marking LU Boundaries	25000\$		
	Total Expenditure	156000\$		156000\$		35000\$
	World Wetlands Day			10000\$		
	Total (cash)			357000\$		
	Total (In-Kind)			212200\$		
	Total Government co-financing in 2008			569200\$		

The following table indicates project expenditure based on main outcomes:

Table 5-2- Project Expenditure (international Budget) in us.dollars

Outcome	Title	Budget
1	Local WPA management structures (e.g., National Park offices, DoE Provincial offices) possess and use enhanced capacities to effectively manage WPA sites, including dealing with most 'internally arising' threats to globally significant biodiversity	245860
2	Inter-sectoral co-ordination structures, established at provincial and basin level, enhance the sustainability of the WPA system by, <i>inter alia</i>, helping to address threats arising at ecosystem level	51124
3	National-level WPA management and inter-sectoral co-ordination structures possess and utilise enhanced capacities to strengthen WPA management, <i>inter alia</i>, by supporting the exchange of knowledge and lessons learned through Outcomes 1&2	266828
	Total	563812