

## Country Report of the Kyrgyz Republic on Central Asian Flyway Review

### A. Introduction

Kyrgyzstan is a mountainous country with complex billowy relief, and 90 percent of 199,000 km<sup>2</sup> of total area is occupied by mountains with altitude from 500 to 7314 m above sea level. About 40% of area is almost unsuitable for living activities. These are the ice streams, rocks, slide-rocks, alpine rubbly deserts, and other. Cultivated landscape occupies about 7 % of the total area: fields and settlements, roads and industrial projects. Highly productive farming is possibly only in irrigated areas, which is 2/3 of whole agricultural land.

Farness from nearest ocean (about 3 thousands km) is identified general aridity and climate continentality. The mountainous relief set up conditions for various local climates formation: due to the heat surplus and lack of moisture in mountains. About 3,5-4 thousands m there are eternal ice and ice streams.

Kyrgyzstan among Central Asian republics has high concentration of flora and fauna and also good preservation of natural landscapes and ecosystems. There are about 2% of wide flora and more than 3% of wide fauna in Kyrgyzstan. It's quite enough, if take into account, that total area of the country occupies only 0,03 % of dry area.

There are a lot of various natural communities as nuciferous, firry, hardwood, bushes, highherbal, middle and low mountainous meadows, steppes and deserts, wetlands (Issuk-Kul lake, including mountainous lakes: Son-Kul, Chatyr-Kul and others, which also can present positive interest) on the territory of Kyrgyzstan.

Due to economical problems, having experienced during transition period, as well as inefficient protection, ecotype changes and habitat pollution most fauna species are reducing in number and natural habitat spread. Some of them are endangered and registered in Red Data Book.

So, Kyrgyzstan in view of its geographical location at the turn of the unique mountainous ecosystems: Pamiro-Alay, Inland and West Tien-Shan, Fergana and Chatkal mountain ridges, and also with enough positive preservation of natural landscapes, as well as established institutional and administrative background, legislative and normative base give sufficient opportunity for opening of the Center on Monitoring and Water Bird Registration in Central Asian Region under the Central Asian Flyway review, as well as migratory species of fauna with direct support of Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species.

This report is tentative and final point of view on the Action Plan, and particularly regarding Agreement on Central Asian Flyway will be presented by Kyrgyzstan's delegation at the forthcoming meeting in New Delhi. These issues are strenuously studied by our experts.

### B. National administrative structures for migratory waterbirds and wetlands

The State Forest Service of the Kyrgyz Republic is responsible authority for liabilities implementation under the international conventions such as Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Ramsar Convention and also Convention on Migratory Species. The State Forest Service of the Kyrgyz Republic is National Administrative structure was established by the Decree of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic #342 dated November 25, 2001, for purpose of development of the national strategy and ensuring of the ecologically safety, conservation of biodiversity,

development of the specially protected areas. The State Forest Service is carry out executive, control, permissive, regulating and other functions in the domain of :

- Use, guarding and protection and reproduction of flora,
- Development of the specially protected natural areas and conservation of biodiversity;
- Guarding, protection, reproduction, control and regulating of use of wild animals and birds and their habitat.

Department of Protected Areas and Conservation of Biodiversity of the State Forest Service is responsible for water birds and wetlands activities coordination. And also organization departments (protected areas, state reserves, national parks and others), Department on biological resources protection and regulation, including hunting resources, biosphere “Issyk-Kul”, which fully involving to biodiversity protection process, as well as water birds and wetlands belong to the State Forest Service of the Kyrgyz Republic.

National Strategy and Action Plan on Biodiversity Protection of the Kyrgyz Republic was developed by the State Forest Service of the Kyrgyz Republic and adopted by the Kyrgyz Republic’s Government. Moreover, Kyrgyzstan is participating in cooperation with international organizations in implementation of number international projects. So, in 2004 “Ecological Assessment of Son-Kul and Chatyr-Kul mountainous lakes for guideline development for their sustainable management” project was successfully implemented under the financial support of Ramsar Convention Small Grants Fund. In the same year workshop on water birds registration on the Issyk-Kul lake was organized under the financial support of Wetland International Russian Branch (includes into Ramsar List)

**Table 1: National administrative structures responsible for managing migratory waterbirds and wetlands**

| <b>Name of Agency (with contact details)</b>   | <b>Geographic scope</b>  | <b>Thematic Focus</b>   | <b>Principle outputs on waterbirds and wetlands</b>   |
|--|--|---|---|
| The State Forest Service of the Kyrgyz Republic<br>Chairman - Mr. Aitkul Burhanov,<br>228, Toktogul str. Bishkek, 720001, Kyrgyz Republic<br>ph:996312611834<br>fax:996312611396<br>email:<br><a href="mailto:aburhanov@mail.ru">aburhanov@mail.ru</a> ;<br><a href="mailto:surappaeva@hotmail.ru">surappaeva@hotmail.ru</a><br><a href="mailto:reia2000@mail.ru">reia2000@mail.ru</a> | State authority for environmental protection in biodiversity conservation and forest ecosystems, flora, fauna protection and hunting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- legislative base development</li> <li>- single policy conducting of biodiversity conservation and forest ecosystems</li> <li>- protected areas network development</li> <li>- Kyrgyz Republic’s Red Data Book conducting</li> <li>- carrying out practical and methodical assistance for subdivisions</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- proposal on ratification of the Ramsar Convention;</li> <li>- close relations with CMS Secretariat an Ramsar Bureau as well as with international organizations;</li> <li>- carrying out activity with scientists on monitoring and registration of waterbirds and wetlands on Issyk-Kul, Son-Kul and Chatyr-Kul lakes.</li> </ul> |

### **C. National policy and legislation relating to migratory waterbirds and wetlands**

The State Forest Service of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Kyrgyz Government developed and adopted the Conception on forestry development and National Forestry Policy, which to date doesn't have analogues in other Central Asian countries. There are clear cut Kyrgyz Governmental policy as well as state authorities, local administrations in biodiversity conservation and environmental protection issues in the following standard acts. Moreover, at the present National Programme on Comprehensive Development Framework to 2010 and National Strategy on Poverty Reduction, where sustainable development's principal priorities are practical nature management and environmental protection.

There were adopted number of Laws, which is regulating issues concerning protection of rational using of flora and fauna species, their habitats, related to migratory species, waterbirds and wetlands. These are as follows:

- “Law on environmental protection” (1999)
- “Law on Wildlife ”(1999)
- “Law on fauna protection ” (2001)
- “Law on Bioreserves in Kyrgyz Republic” (1999)
- “Law on Ecological Expertise” (1999)

At present “Law on Specially Protected Areas” (1994), which currently in force is developed and harmonized with the environmental legislation and submitting for adoption to the Kyrgyz Parliament. The new draft law has the Transboundary and international aspects, legal status of ecological corridors and networks, civil society and international organizations participation in environmental protection, wetlands, nesting and wintering issues and others.

By special parts of the Administrative and Criminal Code was strengthened the liability for illegal hunting, eggs taking away out of nests, nests destruction, illegal enterprise in ecology field, wetlands and habitats pollution.

### **D. National government institutions involved in migratory waterbirds and wetlands research/management**

The State Forest Service of the Kyrgyz Republic close cooperates with the Kyrgyz National Academy of Sciences in collaborate activities implementation of waterbirds and wetlands monitoring and it gives proximate possibility on the wildlife cadastre compilation, including birds. Of course, due to the financial insufficiency, material and technical basis of National Academy of Sciences has become out of date, and because of the economic crisis in our republic, number of local scientists obliged to leave their place of work.

**Table 2: National government institutions involved in migratory waterbirds and wetlands research/management**

| Название института<br>Name of the Institute   | Geographic scope                    | Thematic Focus or programmes  | Principle outputs on waterbirds and wetlands   |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Kyrgyz National Academy of Sciences, Biological-Soil Institute, Mr. Askar Davletbakov 265, Chui avenue, Bishkek<br>e-mail: <a href="mailto:askar_davl@mail.ru">askar_davl@mail.ru</a><br>Phone: +996 (312) 243369, +996 (312) 622698. | State Scientific-Research Institute | - Research engineering in zoology, biology, geochemistry, biochemistry, flora, fauna, ecology, soil science and other fields. | - in 2004 participation in implementation of “Ecological Assessment of Son-Kul and Chatyr-Kul mountainous lakes for guidance developing for their sustainable management ” supported by the Small Grants Fund of Ramsar Convention<br>- in the same year workshop on registration of waterbirds on Issyk-Kul lake was conducting with financial support of Wetland International Russian Branch (Issyk-Kul lake is including in Ramsar Convention) |

**E. Main non-government organizations and academic institutions involved in migratory waterbirds and wetlands research/management**

In accordance with Kyrgyz Republic’s Law on Public Associations there are more than 50 NGOs implementing in environmental protection and ecology field in Kyrgyzstan as well as number of academic institutes of higher education and universities. However, only some of them have professional experience on civil society modernization and their participation in the governmental structures activities on environmental protection and practical nature management issues, as indicated in the following table (table # 3):

**Table 3: Main non-government organizations and academic institutions involved in migratory waterbirds and wetlands research/management**

| Name of non-government organization/University (with contact details)  | Geographic scope   | Thematic Focus or programmes  | Principle outputs on waterbirds and wetlands   |
|--|--|---|--|
| Youth Ecological Movement “Biom”<br>Mr. Vladimir Korotenko<br>E.: <a href="mailto:biom@infotel.kg">biom@infotel.kg</a><br>Ph: + 996 (312) 655338 | In the Kyrgyz Republic, also has close contacts with European and CIS NGOs | Ecological activities on the various environmental themes             | Organizing of actions among institutes of higher education and secondary schools dedicated to the 2 <sup>nd</sup> February – Ramsar Convention Day |
| Public Association «Independent Ecological Expertise»,   | In the Kyrgyz Republic, also has close contacts with                       | Carrying out public ecological expertise of standard acts, ecological | Raise question on monitoring and management and illegal  |

|   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| Mr. Oleg Pechenuk<br>Ph: +996 (312) 457616,<br>+996 (312) 478372.   | European and CIS<br>NGOs.   | regulations and acts on<br>building and industrial<br>projects   | transfer of Issyk-Kul and<br>Chatyr-Kul lakes water<br>area functions<br>duplication     |
| Bishkek Humanitarian<br>University, Ecology and<br>Management Faculty<br>Mr. Temirbek Choduraev<br>Ph :+ 996 (312) 530294 | In the Kyrgyz<br>Republic, also has<br>close contacts with<br>the institutes of higher<br>education and NGOs<br>of CIS. | Organizing of actions,<br>round tables dedicated to<br>the ecological events<br>among students and<br>youth. | Round table on<br>conservation problems<br>of the mountainous<br>goose and Son-Kul lake. |

## F. International Instruments

Since independence, Kyrgyzstan has become Parties of the Global Environmental Conventions such as CBD, Ramsar Convention, Aarhus Convention, Convention on Combat Desertification, EIA Convention and others.

**Table 4: Main International Instruments (Treaties/Agreements) that are relevant to the migratory waterbirds and wetlands of the country**

| <b>Instruments – formal Name</b>                  | <b>Geographic scope</b> | <b>Thematic Focus</b>  | <b>Strategy and Action Plan Realization</b>   |
|---|-------------------------|--|---|
| Convention on Biological Diversity (1996)         | UN Convention           | Biodiversity and sustainable use of its components<br>conservation and getting the justified and equal benefits          | Biodiversity conservation strategy in the Kyrgyz Republic, adopted by the Kyrgyz Republic Government 3.08.2002 № 524. |
| Ramsar Convention (since 2002)                    | UN Convention           | Water birds and Wetlands protection and conservation   | Kyrgyzstan is needed in the assisting Strategy and Action Plan Development  |
| Convention on Combat Desertification (since 1999) | UN Convention           | Protection and Practical use of land resources.  | Strategy and Action Plan Development is finishing in the support of international experts.                            |
| Forest Industry Development Conception            | National document       | Long-term development of forest industry in the Kyrgyz Republic in the light of the administrative and economic reforms. | Action Plan on sustainable society development in the context of economic reforms.                                    |

## G. Interantional programmes and activity

As newly joined to Ramsar Convention Kyrgyzstan suffers from some difficulties in financial support and realization of common international programmes. As it was mentioned above, in 2004 by the support of the Fund of Small Grants of Ramsar Convention implemented the project “Ecological Assessment of mountainous lakes Son-Kul and Chatyr-Kul for guidance development on their sustainable management”, the same year workshop on waterbirds registration on Issyk-Kul lake was organized by financial support of the Wetland International Russian Branch.

**Table 5: International activities involving the countries migratory waterbirds  
(initiated in or since 2000, earlier programmes may also be included)**

| <b>Activity</b>  | <b>Waterbird Group</b> | <b>International partners</b>                                      | <b>Principle outputs</b>   |
|--|------------------------|--|--|
| Project Implementation<br>“Ecological Assessment of mountainous lakes Son-Kul and Chatyr-Kul for guidance development on their sustainable management” |                        | Financial support of Small Grants Fund of Ramsar convention Bureau | Analyses on wetlands and waterbirds, submitted to Ramsar convention Bureau |

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