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**CONSERVATION STRATEGY AND NATIONAL ACTION  
PLANS FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE CRITICALLY  
ENDANGERED BALKAN LYNX**

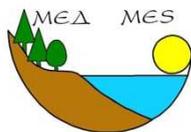


*Document presented  
by KORA, Switzerland*

# Conservation Strategy and National Action Plans for the conservation of the Critically Endangered Balkan Lynx



Lynx “Marko”, pictured by a camera-trap in Mavrovo NP, Macedonia - ©BLRP/SCOPEs



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## **CONSERVATION STRATEGY AND NATIONAL ACTION PLANS FOR THE CRITICALLY ENDANGERED BALKAN LYNX**

### **A summary report on behalf of the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention:**

A range-wide **Balkan Lynx Conservation Strategy** was developed on 3-4 June 2008 in Peshtani, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” in a participative process involving around 50 experts from Albania (AL) and “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” (MK) working in the field of nature conservation and management. Participants were from governmental agencies (ministries, national parks), universities and other important interest groups (hunting associations, veterinary services, nature conservation NGOs etc.). During the two day workshop, the involved parties agreed on a long-term *vision*: “**The southwest Balkans will be a region committed to sustainable development and the conservation of its natural and cultural heritage**”. The mid-term *goal* has been defined as “**Secure a viable population of the Balkan lynx living in a matrix of protected and sustainably managed habitat in coexistence with the rural population.**” The most important *threats* facing the Balkan lynx, as revealed during the problem analysis of the workshop, are poaching of lynx despite its legal protection, the small size and isolation of its population and habitat degradation caused by non-sustainable land use practices.

To achieve the above-mentioned goal of a viable population, eleven objectives were identified each with 1-5 targets and 1-9 activities proposed to direct the achievement of each objective.

The workshop was organised under the auspices of the Bern Convention, Council of Europe and the results were therefore presented at the annual meeting of the Standing Committee in Strasbourg on 24.11.2008.

The draft version of the Strategy was sent to all participants and no reservations were received so far. We wait for the Strategy to be officially endorsed by the authorities in Albania and “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”.

To implement the Strategy, more detailed **Action Plans** were subsequently designed in the two countries. The Action Plans were developed in a participative workshop each on 22 June 2009 in Skopje, MK (House of the Parliament), and on 23 June 2009 in Tirana, AL (Library Hall of the Academy of Sciences). The aim of these workshops was to assess the targets and activities defined in the range-wide Strategy and to define the priority, indicators, actors and timeline for each activity. Where it was needed, new activities were added or existing ones modified. The Action Plans define the tasks, responsibilities and timelines for the implementation of measures towards the recovery of the Balkan lynx. The outcomes of the workshops are attached to this report (AL pages 4-18, MK pages 19-35).

The Strategy and the more concrete Action Plans will provide a road map for the recovery and long-term conservation of the Balkan lynx – if the national authorities in charge for wildlife are willing to endorse them and take the responsibility to support implementing the actions defined. The group of international and national NGOs involved in the Balkan Lynx Recovery Programme (BLRP) are offering their support and collaboration to the relevant national institutions.

The BLRP group is furthermore aiming to expand its activities to Kosovo and Montenegro as they might have a share of the Balkan lynx range. The knowledge of lynx in these regions is however scarce. Therefore, the respective authorities responsible for wildlife conservation and management in Kosovo and Montenegro are invited to participate in the engagement to save the Balkan lynx from extinction.

## Targets & Activities – Albania

The workshop for the development of the National Action Plan took place on 23 June 2009 in the Library Hall of the Academy of Science in Tirana. For the list of participants see page 17.

The activities as defined in the Conservation Strategy were taken as basis and discussed on the national level following this procedure:

1. **Is the activity needed on the country level (yes/no)?**
2. **Is any additional activity needed under the respective Target?**
3. **Add priorities to the activities (comparison within the Objective):**  
1= less important, 2= medium important, 3= very important.
4. **Add Indicators, Actors, Timelines (start/duration) to each activity**

(Changes in regard to the wording in the Strategy as well as activities added are highlighted in yellow.)

<b>Objective 1. To conduct research on the biology, ecology and conservation of Balkan lynx and its prey.</b>					
<b>Target 1.1. Knowledge of the ecology of the Balkan lynx is improved within 5 years.</b>					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<i>1.1.1. Publications on the findings of the first phase of the Balkan Lynx Recovery Programme to be published in scientific journals are prepared by the end of 2009.</i>	Yes	3	Publications	Lynx Group, scientific researchers	1 year
<i>1.1.2. Draft a proposal for an extended ecological field study using radio telemetry, camera trapping, diet analyses, etc. on the specific ecology of Balkan lynx.</i>	Yes	3	Project-Proposal	Lynx Group, International Partners	Done in 2009
<b>Target 1.2. The status of prey populations throughout the present and the potential Balkan lynx range is assessed within 5 years.</b>					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<i>1.2.1. Conduct an inventory and assessment of all available data on the prey base (e.g. hunting statistics).</i>	Yes	2	Database, inventory, reporting from Hunting associations	Lynx Group, Ministry of Environment, Hunting associations	2-5 years
<i>1.2.2. Conduct field surveys (e.g. sign transects, camera trapping) on the abundance of the most important prey species (roe deer, chamois, brown hare) in reference areas in the occupied and potential expansion range of lynx.</i>	Yes	3	Database, reports, scientific publications	Lynx Group, Forestry service, students	5 years
<b>Target 1.3. Taxonomic status of the Balkan lynx is defined within 2-5 years.</b>					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<i>1.3.1. Conduct a genetic analysis to clarify taxonomic status and publish it in an international scientific journal.</i>	No	2	Publication on the subspecies status	KORA	2-5 years
<b>Target 1.4. Appropriate research on human-dimensions and on conflicts with lynx or other large carnivores will be conducted within 2 years</b>					

Activity	yes/no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
1.4.1. Continue studies of local attitudes towards wildlife with a view to more carefully targeting information.	Yes	3	Reports, published articles	Lynx Group, students	2 years
1.4.2. Conduct a multi-disciplinary study of the potential impacts of rural–urban migration on wildlife conservation.	Yes	2	Scientific articles, study reports	Lynx group, international partners, PhD students	4-5 years
<b>Objective 2. To establish and enforce appropriate wildlife management practices to reverse the decline of lynx and their prey</b> (see also Objective 9).					
<b>Target 2.1.</b> Established and improved wildlife management practices in forest management planning.					
Activity	yes/no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
2.1.1. Support development of a law that will allow concessions for hunting grounds to be awarded (AL).	Yes	1	Creation of the law	Ministry of Environment, Government	2 years
2.1.2. Support the establishing of a wildlife management agency in order to improve the concession system for hunting grounds (MK; see also Target 5.1).	-	-	-	-	-
2.1.3. Evaluate the need and alternatives for establishment (AL), and for improvement of procedures (MK) of compensation systems for carnivore damage.	Yes	2	Study report on the need of a compensation system	Lynx group, Veterinary Institute, Msc/diploma students	2 years
<b>Objective 3. To maintain and restore the structure, function and connectivity of the landscape for wildlife.</b>					
<b>Target 3.1.</b> A landscape management plan for existing and potential lynx range is developed.					
Activity	yes/no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
3.1.1. Produce GIS maps of forest distribution and forest quality based on existing data sets, remote sensing data and ground truthing.	Yes	2	Maps	Lynx group, GIS experts, Forestry Directorate (MoE)	1 year
3.1.2. Analyse maps from 3.1.1 with respect to habitat connectivity and identification of bio-corridors.	Yes	2	Study reports, scientific publications	Lynx group, Universities	2 years
3.1.3. Develop a proposal for a zoning / land-use / spatial planning / ecological network map considering the needs of lynx and other wildlife and bring it to the attention of relevant decision makers and ministries.	Yes	2	Project proposal on the zoning	Lynx group, Ministry of Environment	4 years
3.1.4. Assessment of the existing plans on zoning / land use	Yes	3	Study report	Lynx group	1 year

<b>Target 3.2.</b> Traditional livestock breeding and other traditional land-use practices important for the maintenance of landscape diversity are preserved or re-established.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
3.2.1. Develop an outreach campaign with the local inhabitants to emphasise the importance and methods of traditional husbandry and other land-use practices.	Yes	1	Information materials, meetings, reports	Directorates of Forestry Service, Regional agricultural directorates, stockbreeders, communes	1 year
3.2.2. Improve incentives allowing local livestock herders to maintain their traditional husbandry practices.	Yes	2	Preservation of traditional races and local products; fairs; competitions; prizes	Farmers, stockbreeders, communes	3 years
3.2.3. Encourage mechanisms to effectively market traditional mountain products, e.g. organise fairs and promotional events to improve market access.	Yes	2	Fairs, information material, reports	Local people (stockbreeders, farmers), Directorates of Forestry Service, Regional agricultural directorates	2 years (periodically)
3.2.4. Assess the potential of using the lynx as flagship for ecotourism/sustainable forms of tourism and for traditional food production.	Yes	1	Creation of market brands, symbols, logos, study report on the potential of lynx as a symbol	Local companies, tourist agencies, Lynx group	1 year
<b>Objective 4. To develop the capacity and knowledge and raise awareness on local and individual levels about lynx, wildlife and nature conservation.</b>					
<b>Target 4.1.</b> Local people and land users in the lynx area have improved knowledge on lynx, wildlife, nature conservation and sustainable use (promoting Targets under Objective 3).					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
4.1.1. Organize two workshops and training programmes per year for the exchange of information between experts, local land users (livestock breeders, farmers, hunters) and landscape managers (foresters, wildlife authorities, park managers).	Yes	1	Meetings, reports	Lynx group in cooperation with local NGOs, stockbreeders, farmers, hunters, foresters, hunting authorities, parks' managers	3 years (6 meetings)
<b>Target 4.2.</b> Exchange of experience between experts and local people between and within the two countries are established.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
4.2.1. Arrange study tours and meetings for the forestry and landscape management	Yes	1	Study tours	Lynx group, stockbreeders,	3 years (1 tour/year)

sector, local administrators and other stakeholders relevant for lynx conservation (one excursion in each country per year) to exchange ideas and information.				farmers, hunters, foresters, hunting authorities, parks' managers	
<b>Target 4.3.</b> The public is aware of lynx and nature conservation issues.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
4.3.1. Establish cooperation between the lynx monitoring centres of the Balkan Lynx Recovery Programme and the natural history museums in Skopje and Tirana to create lynx information centres closely collaborating with other educational institutions (national park information centres, zoos, schools, etc.).	Yes	2	Cooperation agreements, reports	Lynx group, respective museums, respective departments in universities	3 years
4.3.2. Prepare and distribute information material on lynx: leaflets, booklets, posters, travelling exhibition, media releases, etc.	Yes	3	Leaflets, brochures, posters, travelling exhibitions, press releases	Lynx group, televisions, news agencies, schools and universities	5 years
<b>Target 4.4.</b> The rural population in the lynx range is involved in nature conservation and rural sustainable development activities.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
4.4.1. Select and implement model projects for generating money through alternative sources of income.	Yes	3	Project proposals, no. of projects, no. of people involved, income generation	Lynx group, local communes, local NGOs	5 years
4.4.2. Implement selected model projects for nature conservation.	Yes	3	No. of projects, no. of people involved, no. of followers	Lynx group, local communes, local NGOs, local schools	5 years
<b>Objective 5. To develop the capacity of governmental, non-governmental and scientific institutions.</b>					
<b>Target 5.1.</b> Institutions dealing with wildlife conservation and management are reinforced.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
5.1.1. Propose the creation of national wildlife agencies under the auspices of the responsible ministries (environment; see also Activity 2.1.2).	Yes	3	Proposal for the creation of the agency	Museum of Natural Sciences, Botanical garden, Universities, Hunting associations, NGOs	2 years
5.1.2. Strengthen the existing structures (or develop if absent) at the regional and local governmental level to be aware of wildlife conservation issues (priority in lynx range).	Yes	3	Creation of wildlife sectors under the frame of local government	Experts, MNS, Hunting associations, NGOs, communes	3 years
5.1.3. Establish lynx rescue centres in the	Yes	1	Creation of the	Tirana zoo, private	3 years

national zoos in Skopje and Tirana.			centre	zoos in Fier, Rrushkull, etc.	
<b>Target 5.2.</b> Wildlife research in scientific communities is promoted.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
5.2.1. Elaborate a plan for the establishment of a scientific institution (or department in the existing institutions) for wildlife research and monitoring.	Yes	2	Planning for the creation of the Department or research groups within existing departments	Academy of Sciences, Tirana University, Agricultural University of Tirana	1 year
<b>Target 5.3.</b> Scientific cooperation between the countries in the lynx range is secured.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
5.3.1. Organise and attend joint conferences, symposiums and workshops.	Yes	3	Organization of activities	Experts from central government, local governments, universities, Academy of Sciences, NGOs	1-5 years
5.3.2. Initiate cooperation between organisations and institutions involved in wildlife research and sign appropriate Memorandum for Cooperation.	Yes	3	Signing of memorandum	Respective ministries, universities, Academy of Sciences, NGOs	2 years
<b>Target 5.4.</b> Improvement of conservation content in the educational system (special module for lynx; see also Target 4.3).					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
5.4.1. Develop and promote educational lectures for lynx conservation in schools and universities in both countries.	Yes	2	Inclusion of modules into curricula and lectures for nature and wildlife conservation	Agricultural University of Tirana, Faculty of Natural Sciences – University of Tirana	1 year
5.4.2. Organise “summer schools” for wildlife research and conservation with students from both countries.	Yes	2	Organization of summer schools	Universities and NGOs	2 years
<b>Target 5.5.</b> National and international NGOs support the recovery of the Balkan lynx.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
5.5.1. Inform the national and international conservation community regularly on the Balkan Lynx Recovery Programme.	Yes	3	Web page, flyers, meetings, presentations, publications	Lynx group, NGOs, Universities, Academy of Sciences, Donors	1-3 years
5.5.2. Organise a range-wide and international conference on the conservation	Yes	2	Organization of the conference	Lynx group, NGOs,	3 years

of Balkan lynx.				Universities, Academy of Sciences, Donors	
<b>Objective 6. To improve the coverage and management of the protected area system.</b>					
<b>Target 6.1.</b> New protected areas are established in accordance with the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, Emerald Network, Natura 2000 and the Green Belt Initiative, with special emphasis on the needs of a viable Balkan lynx metapopulation (see Objective 3).					
Activity	yes/no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
6.1.1. Establish Jablanica National Park (IUCN II) – Macedonia	No	-	-	-	-
6.1.2. Establish Nidze-Kozhuf protected area – Macedonia	No	-	-	-	-
6.1.3. Establish Shar Planina protected area – Macedonia	No	-	-	-	-
6.1.4. Establish Jakupica National Park (IUCN II) – Macedonia	No	-	-	-	-
6.1.5. Establish Korabi Protected Landscape (IUCN V) – Albania	Yes	3	Decision for the proclamation	Lynx group, Council of Ministers (the decision)	2 years
6.1.6. Establish Albanian Alps National Park (IUCN II) – Albania	Yes	3	Decision for the proclamation	Lynx group, Council of Ministers (the decision)	2 years
6.1.7. Establish Shpat-Polis-Valamarë Protected Landscape (IUCN V)– Albania	Yes	3	Decision for the proclamation	Lynx group, Council of Ministers (the decision)	3 years
6.1.8. Establish Lura-Balgjaj National Park (IUCN II) (enlargement and merging of existing protected areas into one National Park) – Albania	Yes	3	Decision for the proclamation	Lynx group, Council of Ministers (the decision)	3 years
6.1.9. Establish Withkuq-Ostrovicë Protected Landscape (IUCN V)– Albania	Yes	3	Decision for the proclamation	Lynx group, Council of Ministers (the decision)	4 years
<b>Target 6.2.</b> Bio-corridors are established through the creation of new protected areas to mitigate the effects of fragmentation (see Objective 3).					
Activity	yes/no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
6.2.1. Establish Ilinska-Plakenska Planina Protected Landscape or Managed Resource Protected Area (IUCN V or VI) – Macedonia	No	-	-	-	-
6.2.2. Establish Pashtrik-Morine Managed	Yes	3	Decision for the	Lynx group,	3 years

Resource Protected Area (IUCN VI) – Albania			proclamation	Council of Ministers (the decision)	
<b>Target 6.3.</b> Management practices in existing and proposed protected areas (PA) are improved.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
6.3.1. Elaborate management plans for all protected areas in lynx range.	Yes	3	Preparation and approval of plans (also an obligation within the BSAP)	NGO experts, private consultant companies, Ministry of Environment	1-5 years
6.3.2. Improve capacities in PA administrations (for management of lynx, prey and their habitats).	Yes	3	PA administration creates an unit and increase capacities for lynx, prey and habitat management	Ministry of Environment, Lynx group, Museum of Natural Sciences	3 years
<b>Target 6.4.</b> Establish a monitoring system for protected areas and corridors in the Balkan lynx range.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
6.4.1. Prepare a list of bioindicators for the evaluation of the status of forest habitats in the lynx range.	Yes	2	Preparation of the list	Lynx group, NGO experts, universities, private specialized companies	2 years
6.4.2. Elaborate methods for the monitoring of lynx habitats in protected and non-protected areas in the Balkan lynx range.	Yes	2	Preparation of methodology	Lynx group, NGO experts, universities, Academy of Sciences, private specialized companies	2 years
<b>Objective 7. To establish a monitoring system for wildlife.</b>					
<b>Target 7.1.</b> Establish a Balkan lynx monitoring system in the frame of the Balkan Lynx Recovery Programme (to serve as a model project for further monitoring projects; see also Target 4.3).					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
7.1.1. Establish adequate methods (e.g. collection of observations, snow tracking, camera trapping) for the monitoring of the Balkan lynx across its range.	Yes	3	Methods adapted to the country conditions	Lynx group, NGO experts, universities	2-3 years
7.1.2. Establish a network of local informants for the monitoring of the Balkan lynx.	Yes	2	Creation of the network of informants	Lynx group, NGO experts, hunting associations, volunteers	3 years
7.1.3. Standardise the data analyses and regular reporting to the governmental agencies, the stakeholders and the public	Yes	2	Regular analysis and reporting	Lynx group, NGOs, Universities,	3 years

about the monitoring results and the status of the Balkan lynx.				hunting associations	
<b>Target 7.2.</b> Promote an institutionalised, long-term monitoring system for wildlife species in the two countries.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
7.2.1. Establish cooperation between government, non-governmental and hunter organizations to develop a practical and viable system for wildlife monitoring and reporting.	Yes	2	Signature of cooperation agreements	Lynx group, central government bodies, local NGOs, hunting associations	3 years
7.2.2. Fund experts to develop, coordinate and supervise the system	Yes	2	Ensuring the funds	Ministry of Environment, international organizations	3 years
7.2.3. Provide infrastructure and logistical support for the monitoring team and a central data administration.	Yes	2	Ensuring the funds for the logistics, database set at the Ministry of Environment	Lynx group, Ministry of Environment, donors	3 years
<b>Objective 8. To secure long-term funds for lynx conservation within a wider nature conservation funding strategy.</b>					
<b>Target 8.1.</b> National funds for nature (or environment) conservation are available. <i>(Editors' alternative proposal: "National funds for the long-term conservation of the Balkan lynx are made available.")</i>					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
8.1.1. Support the initiative for the establishment of national Funds for Nature and comment on the proposal for its structure <i>(Editors' alternative proposal: "Explore the possibilities to establish national Funds for Nature Conservation to secure the long-term funding of lynx conservation and other wildlife conservation activities.")</i>	Yes	3	Decision of Council of Ministers (or parliamentary resolution for the creation of Environment fund)  Yearly state budget  Documents for the fund management	Government/Parliament  Ministry of Finances  Ministry of Environment	3 years
8.1.2. Evaluate the possibilities for establishing a voluntary eco-tax for lynx through different mechanisms with the assistance of an economy expert. For example, establish the Balkan lynx as a green brand / marketing tool for eco-tourism and traditional / organic agricultural / forest products from lynx range (see also Activity 3.2.4.).	No	-	-	-	-

<b>Target 8.2.</b> Funds from foreign sources and donors for the conservation of Balkan lynx are available.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
8.2.1. Increase efficiency at accessing foreign funding sources from donors and foundations.	Yes	2	No. of projects (IPA, Life, etc)	Ministry of Environment, scientific institutions, NGOs	5 years
8.2.2. Organise workshops for national park and NGOs on how to find, obtain and manage foreign funding.	Yes	2	No. of meetings  No. of trained staff  No. of projects applied	Ministry of Environment  PPNEA, international partners (Euronatur/KORA), National Parks	3 years
<b>Objective 9. To adapt secondary legislation and improve law enforcement.</b>					
<b>Target 9.1.</b> New hunting laws are properly adapted to the needs of Balkan lynx conservation.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
9.1.1. Contact and inform the ministry and administration in charge about the specific needs of Balkan lynx conservation in regard to the new hunting law. (informing about the meaning and implementation of the relevant legislation)	Yes	1	No. of meetings with the administration, legal and practical documents	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Internal Affairs, NGOs	1-5 years
9.1.2. Ensure appropriate bylaws and regulations are developed to meet the needs of Balkan lynx conservation.	Yes	2	Reports	Ministry of Environment, NGOs	1-5 years
<b>Target 9.2.</b> Appropriate control powers are delegated to (game) wardens					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
9.2.1. Adapt the law / bylaws / regulations to secure the appropriate police power of wardens.	Yes	3	Bylaws, correspondence tables	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Internal Affairs	5 years
9.2.2. Train the wardens in regard to their police powers and control procedures.	Yes	3	No. of trainings, no. of trained staff	Regional Environmental Agencies, Directories of Forestry Service, NGOs	5 years
<b>Target 9.3.</b> Examine and tackle wildlife crime including possible corruption in wardens, police and administrations.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
9.3.1. Prepare an overview of known cases of poaching and illegal trade with reference	Yes	3	Reports	NGOs	1 year

to potential corruption.					
9.3.2. Draw attention of state corruption investigators to the issue of wildlife crimes.	Yes	3	No. of crime reports, field trainings with wardens	General public, NGOs, ombudsman	1-5 years
9.3.3. Change public attitudes towards poaching and illegal wildlife trade through information campaigns.	Yes	3	No. of campaigns, no. of participants	Ministry of Environment, NGOs	1-5 years
<b>Objective 10. To establish and organise transboundary cooperation.</b>					
<b>Target 10.1.</b> Increase the number and the area of transboundary protected areas between range countries.					
<i>Activities already covered under Target 6.1. and 6.2.</i>					
<b>Target 10.2.</b> The draft Memorandum of Understanding on lynx conservation between the two countries is ratified.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
10.2.1. Lobby activity on responsible ministries for the signature of the MoU and organise an appropriate media event.	Yes	3	MoU signed	Lynx group, media	2 years
<b>Target 10.3.</b> Transboundary local development projects on municipality levels are promoted.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
10.3.1. Establish pilot projects in Debar-Peshkopi / Struga-Librazhd / Resen-Korça (see also Activity 3.2.3. and activities under Objective 4).	Yes	2	No. of projects, reports	Local government, NGOs	5 years
<b>Target 10.4.</b> Transboundary coordination of lynx conservation is secured (see also Target 5.3.).					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
10.4.1. Submit a proposal to both ministries for a Balkan Lynx Coordination Committee.	Yes	3	Proposal document, no. of meetings, no. of reports	Lynx group, Ministry of Environment (AL & MK)	1 year
10.4.2. Establish and manage the Coordination Committee and its work and meetings.	Yes	3	Respective decisions of Council of Ministers (AL & MK)	Respective governments (AL & MK)	2 years
<b>Target 10.5.</b> Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Kosovo and Greece are included in future Balkan lynx conservation activities.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
10.5.1. Organise a South-western Balkan workshop on large carnivore conservation and management with special emphasis on urgent measures for the survival of the	Yes	2	Conference, no. of countries, no. of institutions	Lynx group & partners	3 years

Balkan lynx.					
<b>Objective 11. To integrate Balkan lynx conservation into Sectorial Coordination and EU Harmonisation.</b>					
<b>Target 11.1.</b> Lynx conservation issues are integrated into strategic development documents (biodiversity strategy, forestry strategy, rural development strategy, etc.).					
Activity	yes/no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
<i>11.1.1.</i> Create a working group for the evaluation of all existing and proposed legal documents relevant for lynx conservation and coordinate activities among different departments within institutions in both countries.	Yes	3	Evaluation report	Ministry of Environment, NGOs, Regional Environmental Centre	1 year
<i>11.1.2.</i> Develop a National Action Plan for Lynx Conservation (within the frame of this range-wide Conservation Strategy) that explicitly specifies the responsibility of the different sectors.	Yes	3	Action Plan	Lynx group, universities, hunting associations, Ministry of Environment, NGOs	1 year
<b>Target 11.2.</b> National Action Plans of the Biodiversity Strategies and for the Balkan Lynx are implemented.					
Activity	yes/no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
<i>11.2.1.</i> Promote the implementation of the existing frameworks and action plans.	Yes	2	Adoption from the ministries	Lynx group, Ministry of Environment	2 years
<b>Target 11.3.</b> Balkan lynx conservation issues are considered in the EU harmonisation process.					
Activity	yes/no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
<i>11.3.1.</i> Establish a task force (e.g. within the Balkan Lynx Coordination Committee) to write a document that explores the issues associated with EU harmonisation and evaluates the potential ways in which EU harmonisation processes can influence lynx conservation using a scenario process.	Yes	2	Evaluation document	Coordination committee, Ministry of Integration	2 years

**List of participants:**

A representative of Themi Perri, Albanian Hunters' Federation

A representative of Mihallaq Qirjo, Regional Environmental Centre (REC Albania)

Erjola Keçi, Kristal University

Kastriot Korro, Agricultural University of Tirana

Anesti Postoli, Agricultural University of Tirana

Spase Shumka, Protection and Preservation of Natural Environments in Albania (PPNEA)

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Urs Breitenmoser, KORA (facilitator)

Gabriel Schwaderer, EuroNatur (facilitator)



## Targets & Activities – “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”

The workshop for the development of the National Action Plan took place on 22 June 2009 in the House of the Parliament in Skopje. For the list of participants see page 34.

The activities as defined in the Conservation Strategy were taken as basis and discussed on the national level following this procedure:

1. Is the activity needed on the country level (yes/no)?
2. Is any additional activity needed under the respective Target?
3. Add priorities to the activities (comparison within the Objective): 1= less important, 2= medium important, 3= very important.
4. Add Indicators, Actors, Timelines (start/duration) to each activity

(Changes in regard to the wording in the Strategy as well as activities added are highlighted in yellow.)

<b>Objective 1. To conduct research on the biology, ecology and conservation of Balkan lynx and its prey.</b>					
<b>Target 1.1. Knowledge of the ecology of the Balkan lynx is improved within 5 years.</b>					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<i>1.1.1.</i> Publications on the findings of the first phase of the Balkan Lynx Recovery Programme to be published in scientific journals are prepared by the end of 2009.	Yes	2	Published papers in scientific journals	BLRP team	End of 2009
<i>1.1.2.</i> Draft a proposal for an extended ecological field study using radio telemetry, camera trapping, diet analyses, etc. on the specific ecology of Balkan lynx.	Yes	3	Prepared project proposal and submitted to the foundation. Accepted proposal is.	BLRP team, together with KORA and EuroNatur representatives.	End of 2009
<b>Target 1.2. The status of prey populations throughout the present and the potential Balkan lynx range is assessed within 5 years.</b>					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<i>1.2.1.</i> Conduct an inventory and assessment of all available data on the prey base (e.g. hunting statistics).	Yes	3	Gathered data from the State institute, management plans for the hunting grounds, written report for the lynx prey	BLRP team, Ministry of agriculture, forestry and water management (MAFW), hunting societies (HS), PE Macedonian Forests-management sector	2010, as for the prey statistics – yearly counts
<i>1.2.2.</i> Conduct field surveys (e.g. sign transects, camera trapping) on the	yes	3	Camera-trapping report and	BLRP team, local people,	Camera-trapping

abundance of the most important prey species (roe deer, chamois, brown hare) in reference areas in the occupied and potential expansion range of lynx.			transect report	NPs, experts/correspondents from the HS	session according to the SCOPS will be in 2010; transects – every winter
<b>Target 1.3.</b> Taxonomic status of the Balkan lynx is defined within 2-5 years.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<i>1.3.1.</i> Conduct a genetic analysis to clarify taxonomic status and publish it in an international scientific journal.	yes	3	Genetic profile of the Balkan lynx; published scientific paper	BLRP team together with KORA experts	In the next period 2014-2015
<b>Target 1.4.</b> Appropriate research on human-dimensions and on conflicts with lynx or other large carnivores will be conducted within 2 years					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<i>1.4.1.</i> Continue studies of local attitudes towards wildlife with a view to more carefully targeting information.	Yes	2	Report on the conducted activities from the questionnaire survey	BLRP team	2010-2011
<i>1.4.2.</i> Conduct a multi-disciplinary study of the potential impacts of rural–urban migration on wildlife conservation.	Yes	2	Prepared study	BLRP team, Statistics institute	2010-2011
<b>Objective 2.</b> To establish and enforce appropriate wildlife management practices to reverse the decline of lynx and their prey (see also Objective 9).					
<b>Target 2.1.</b> Established and improved wildlife management practices in forest management planning.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<i>2.1.1.</i> Support development of a law that will allow concessions for hunting grounds to be awarded (AL).	No	-	-	-	-
<i>2.1.2.</i> Support the establishing of a wildlife management agency in order to improve the concession system for hunting grounds (MK; see also Target 5.1).	No				
<i>2.1.2.1</i> Increase the capacity of the State inspectorate for hunting and forestry	Yes	3	Number of new employed inspectors;	MAFW – hunting sector	2010???

			number of performed trainings		
2.1.3. Evaluate the need and alternatives for establishment (AL), and for improvement of procedures (MK) of compensation systems for carnivore damage.	No				
2.1.3.1. Education of the stakeholders for realization of their rights during the compensation of the damaged caused by protected animals.					
2.1.3.2. Training of the personal for the damage identification					
<b>Objective 3. To maintain and restore the structure, function and connectivity of the landscape for wildlife.</b>					
<b>Target 3.1.</b> A landscape management plan for existing and potential lynx range is developed.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
3.1.1. Produce GIS maps of forest distribution and forest quality based on existing data sets, remote sensing data and ground truthing.	Yes	3	Prepared GIS maps	BLRP team, PE Macedonian Forests	2010-2013
3.1.2. Analyse maps from 3.1.1 with respect to habitat connectivity and identification of bio-corridors.	Yes	2	Identified biocorridors	BLRP team	2011-2013
3.1.3. Develop a proposal for a zoning / land-use / spatial planning / ecological network map considering the needs of lynx and other wildlife and bring it to the attention of relevant decision makers and ministries.	yes	2	Zoning maps prepared	BLRP team, PE Macedonian Forests	2012-2015
<b>Target 3.2.</b> Traditional livestock breeding and other traditional land-use practices important for the maintenance of landscape diversity are preserved or re-established.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
3.2.1. Develop an outreach campaign with the local inhabitants to emphasise the importance and methods of traditional husbandry and other land-use practices.	Yes	3	Completed campaign and renewed livestock breeding practices (methods)	Mediums, BLRP team, local people, MAFW	2011-2012

3.2.2. Improve incentives allowing local livestock herders to maintain their traditional husbandry practices.	Yes	3(?)	Approved subventions	BLRP team (?), agency for agriculture, MAFW, farmer federation	2010 (?)
3.2.3. Encourage mechanisms to effectively market traditional mountain products, e.g. organise fairs and promotional events to improve market access.	Yes	2	Organized fairs and promotions	Local people, tourist agencies, Agency for Development of Individual Agriculture	2010-ongoing
3.2.4. Assess the potential of using the lynx as flagship for ecotourism/sustainable forms of tourism and for traditional food production.	yes	2		BLRP team, local people, Agency for tourism, Agency for Development of Individual Agriculture, MAFW, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning MEPP	2010-ongoing

**Objective 4. To develop the capacity and knowledge and raise awareness on local and individual levels about lynx, wildlife and nature conservation.**

**Target 4.1.** Local people and land users in the lynx area have improved knowledge on lynx, wildlife, nature conservation and sustainable use (promoting Targets under Objective 3).

Activity	yes/ no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
4.1.1. Organize two workshops and training programmes per year for the exchange of information between experts, local land users (livestock breeders, farmers, hunters) and landscape managers (foresters, wildlife authorities, park managers).	Yes	3	Organized workshop	MAFW, MEPP, BLRP team, local people, hunters, livestock breeders, farmers	2010-2015

**Target 4.2.** Exchange of experience between experts and local people between and within the two countries are established.

Activity	yes/ no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
4.2.1. Arrange study tours and meetings for the forestry and landscape management sector, local administrators and other stakeholders relevant for lynx conservation (one excursion in each country per year) to exchange ideas and	Yes	2	Organized scientific visits	BLRP team, stakeholders from relevant institutions (PE Mac. Forests, Hunting	2010-2015

information.				Federation, MAFW etc.)	
<b>Target 4.3.</b> The public is aware of lynx and nature conservation issues.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
4.3.1. Establish cooperation between the lynx monitoring centres of the Balkan Lynx Recovery Programme and the natural history museums in Skopje and Tirana to create lynx information centres closely collaborating with other educational institutions (national park information centres, zoos, schools, etc.).	Yes	3	Established cooperation, organized meetings	BLRP team, museums and other educational institutions, NPs, ZOO.	2010-2012
4.3.2. Prepare and distribute information material on lynx: leaflets, booklets, posters, travelling exhibition, media releases, etc.	Yes	3	Brochures, posters, travelling exhibition, TV programs	BLRP team	2010-2015
<b>Target 4.4.</b> The rural population in the lynx range is involved in nature conservation and rural sustainable development activities.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
4.4.1. Select and implement model projects for generating money through alternative sources of income.	Yes	2	Realized projects	Local people	2010-2012 (ongoing)
4.4.2. Implement selected model projects for nature conservation.	Yes	2	Realized projects	Local people, BLRP team	2010-2012 (ongoing)
<b>Objective 5. To develop the capacity of governmental, non-governmental and scientific institutions.</b>					
<b>Target 5.1.</b> Institutions dealing with wildlife conservation and management are reinforced.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
5.1.1. Propose the creation of national wildlife agencies under the auspices of the responsible ministries (environment; see also Activity 2.1.2).	Yes	3	The Law of Nature protection is amended	MoEPP	2010
5.1.2. Strengthen the existing structures (or develop if absent) at the regional and local governmental level to be aware of wildlife conservation issues (priority in lynx range).	Yes	3	Existing and newly formed sectors for nature protection (trainings for the employees)	AULG, MEPP, Municipalities	2012
5.1.3. Establish lynx rescue centres in the national zoos in Skopje and Tirana.	Yes	2	Quarantine and rescue centers	ZOO, Skopje City,	2011-2013

			organizing within the Skopje ZOO	MEPP, State Veterinary Service, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine	
<b>Target 5.2.</b> Wildlife research in scientific communities is promoted.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
5.2.1. Elaborate a plan for the establishment of a scientific institution (or department in the existing institutions) for wildlife research and monitoring.	Yes	2	A plan is made	MoES, NSM, MoEPP, UKIM, MES	2010-2011
<b>Target 5.3.</b> Scientific cooperation between the countries in the lynx range is secured.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
5.3.1. Organise and attend joint conferences, symposiums and workshops.	Yes	3	A number of held Conferences	Excited sides	Continuou s
5.3.2. Initiate cooperation between organisations and institutions involved in wildlife research and sign appropriate Memorandum for Cooperation.	Yes	3	Signed memorandums	Corresponding Ministries of the Countries participants NGOs	2010
<b>Target 5.4.</b> Improvement of conservation content in the educational system (special module for lynx; see also Target 4.3).					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
5.4.1. Develop and promote educational lectures for lynx conservation in schools and universities in both countries.	Yes	3	A number of Audits in the most of the Institutions	MoEPP, MES, Schools, Ministry of education and science	Continuou s
5.4.2. Organise “summer schools” for wildlife research and conservation with students from both countries.	Yes	3	A number of held Summer schools	Schools, MoES, MoEPP, MES, NP	Continuou s
<b>Target 5.5.</b> National and international NGOs support the recovery of the Balkan lynx.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
5.5.1. Inform the national and international conservation community regularly on the Balkan Lynx Recovery Programme.	Yes	3	A number of publications, scientific papers	MES and other stakeholders	Continuou s

5.5.2. Organise a range-wide and international conference on the conservation of Balkan lynx.	Yes	3	A Symposium was held	MES, KORA, EURONATUR, UKIM, NINA, MoES, MoEPP, and other relevant organization, WWF, IUCN	2010-2012
<b>Objective 6. To improve the coverage and management of the protected area system.</b>					
<b>Target 6.1.</b> New protected areas are established in accordance with the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, Emerald Network, Natura 2000 and the Green Belt Initiative, with special emphasis on the needs of a viable Balkan lynx metapopulation (see Objective 3).					
Activity	yes/ no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
6.1.1. Establish Jablanica National Park (IUCN II) – Macedonia	Yes	3	Law on proclamation of PA	MES, MoEPP, Municipalities, PE	2009
6.1.2. Establish Nidze-Kozhuf protected area – Macedonia	Yes	3	Study of valorisation the region, proposal for PA proclamation	MES, MoEPP, Local authorities	2010-2015
6.1.3. Establish Shar Planina protected area – Macedonia	Yes	3	Act and Law on proclamation	MES, MoEPP, Municipalities	2010-2011
6.1.4. Establish Jakupica National Park (IUCN II) – Macedonia	No				
6.1.5. Establish Korabi Protected Landscape (IUCN V) – Albania	No	-	-	-	-
6.1.6. Establish Albanian Alps National Park (IUCN II) – Albania	No	-	-	-	-
6.1.7. Establish Shpat-Polis-Valamarë Protected Landscape (IUCN V)– Albania	No	-	-	-	-
6.1.8. Establish Lura-Balgjaj National Park (IUCN II) (enlargement and merging of existing protected areas into one National Park) – Albania	No	-	-	-	-
6.1.9. Establish Vithkuq-Ostrovicë Protected Landscape (IUCN V)– Albania	Mo	-	-	-	-

<b>Target 6.2.</b> Bio-corridors are established through the creation of new protected areas to mitigate the effects of fragmentation (see Objective 3).					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
6.2.1. Establish Ilinska-Plakenska Planina Protected Landscape or Managed Resource Protected Area (IUCN V or VI) – Macedonia	Yes	2	Act on PA proclamation	MES, MoEPP, Municipalities, PE	2010-2011
6.2.2. Establish Pashtrik-Morine Managed Resource Protected Area (IUCN VI) – Albania	No	-	-	-	-
<b>Target 6.3.</b> Management practices in existing and proposed protected areas (PA) are improved.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
6.3.1. Elaborate management plans for all protected areas in lynx range.	Yes	3	Adopted Management plans	Protected Areas (managements), MES, MoEPP	2010-2015
6.3.2. Improve capacities in PA administrations (for management of lynx, prey and their habitats).	Yes	3	Provided Trainings, new employments, provided infrastructure	MoEPP, MES, Ministry of Finance, PA	2010-2015
<b>Target 6.4.</b> Establish a monitoring system for protected areas and corridors in the Balkan lynx range.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
6.4.1. Prepare a list of bioindicators for the evaluation of the status of forest habitats in the lynx range.	Yes	3	List of bioindicators and reports on the status of the forests	MES, UKIM	2010-2012
6.4.2. Elaborate methods for the monitoring of lynx habitats in protected and non-protected areas in the Balkan lynx range.	Yes	3	Adopted methods for monitoring and their implementation	MES, UKIM, MoEPP	2010-2015
<b>Objective 7. To establish a monitoring system for wildlife.</b>					
<b>Target 7.1.</b> Establish a Balkan lynx monitoring system in the frame of the Balkan Lynx Recovery Programme (to serve as a model project for further monitoring projects; see also Target 4.3).					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
7.1.1. Establish adequate methods (e.g. collection of observations, snow	Yes	3	Realized terrains, photo sessions,	MES, Hunting Societies, PE,	Continuous

tracking, camera trapping) for the monitoring of the Balkan lynx across its range.			amount of proceeded data	NP, enthusiasts	
7.1.2. Establish a network of local informants for the monitoring of the Balkan lynx.	Yes	3	A number of new members, held meetings	MES, Hunting Societies, PE, NP, enthusiasts	Continuous
7.1.3. Prepare, adopt a guideline for monitoring of game species.	Yes	3	Adopted rulebook	MoEPP MES	2010-2011
7.1.4. Standardise the data analyses and regular reporting to the governmental agencies, the stakeholders and the public about the monitoring results and the status of the Balkan lynx.	Yes	3	Established standard procedure, Link (connection)	Monitoring network	2010-2011
<b>Target 7.2.</b> Promote an institutionalised, long-term monitoring system for wildlife species in the two countries.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
7.2.1. Establish cooperation between government, non-governmental and hunter organizations to develop a practical and viable system for wildlife monitoring and reporting.	Yes	3	Agreed system for monitoring and acknowledgment	MoEPP, MAFWM, MES (NGO), UKIM	2010-2011
7.2.2. Fund experts to develop, coordinate and supervise the system					
7.2.3. Provide infrastructure and logistical support for the monitoring team and a central data administration.	Yes	2	Regularly database updating and maintenance	MoEPP, MES	Continuous
<b>Objective 8. To secure long-term funds for lynx conservation within a wider nature conservation funding strategy.</b>					
<b>Target 8.1.</b> National funds for nature (or environment) conservation are available. <i>(Editors' alternative proposal: "National funds for the long-term conservation of the Balkan lynx are made available.")</i>					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
8.1.1. Support the initiative for the establishment of national Funds for Nature and comment on the proposal for its structure <i>(Editors' alternative proposal: "Explore the possibilities to establish national Funds for Nature Conservation to secure the long-term funding of lynx conservation and other wildlife conservation activities.")</i>	Yes	3	Fund for nature is established.  Number of projects funded per year.	MoEPP	2010-2011

<p>8.1.2. Evaluate the possibilities for establishing a voluntary eco-tax for lynx through different mechanisms with the assistance of an economy expert. For example, establish the Balkan lynx as a green brand / marketing tool for eco-tourism and traditional / organic agricultural / forest products from lynx range (see also Activity 3.2.4.).</p> <p>8.1.2. Establishment of a voluntary eco-tax for lynx through different mechanisms with the assistance of an economy expert. For example, establish the Balkan lynx as a green brand / marketing tool for eco-tourism and traditional / organic agricultural / forest products from lynx range (see also Activity 3.2.4.).</p>	Yes	1	<p>Evaluation is completed.</p> <p>Amount of collected money</p> <p>Number of companies that voluntarily patronize</p>	<p>NGO/MES</p> <p>NP and other PA</p> <p>Tourist organizations</p>	2011
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**Target 8.2.** Funds from foreign sources and donors for the conservation of Balkan lynx are available.

Activity	yes/ no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
<p>8.2.1. Increase efficiency at accessing foreign funding sources from donors and foundations.</p> <p>8.2.1. Organise workshops for national park and NGOs on how to find, obtain and manage foreign funding.</p>	Yes	3	<p>Number of organized workshops.</p> <p>Number of participants.</p> <p>Number of organizations</p>	<p>NGOs – MES (ecological societies, hunting societies), local authorities, NP and PA, PE Macedonian Forests</p>	2010
<p>8.2.2. Organise workshops for national park and NGOs on how to find, obtain and manage foreign funding.</p>	Yes	2	<p>Number of organizations that use donations</p>	<p>NGOs – MES (ecological societies, hunting societies), local authorities, NP and PA, PE Macedonian Forests</p>	2011-2015
<p>8.2.3. Organizing international campaign to draw attention on the problems with Balkan lynx conservation</p>	Yes	2	<p>Number of included donors</p>	<p>Partners of the BLRP</p>	2010-2011

**Objective 9. To adapt secondary legislation and improve law enforcement.**

**Target 9.1.** New hunting laws are properly adapted to the needs of Balkan lynx conservation.

Activity	yes/ no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
	No				

9.1.1. Contact and inform the ministry and administration in charge about the specific needs of Balkan lynx conservation in regard to the new hunting law.					
9.1.2. Ensure appropriate bylaws and regulations are developed to meet the needs of Balkan lynx conservation.	Yes	2	Number of bylaws and regulations for lynx protection are developed (directly and indirectly).	MEPP MAFWM Hunting Federation	2010-2012
<b>Target 9.2.</b> Appropriate control powers are delegated to (game) wardens					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
9.2.1. Adapt the law / bylaws / regulations to secure the appropriate police power of wardens.  9.2.1. Adapt the law / bylaws / regulations to increase the authorization of the wardens.	Yes	3	Appropriate authorization.  Number of solved cases of poaching.  Adapted bylaws and regulations	MEPP MAFWM Hunting Societies NP and PA PE Macedonian Forests	2010-2015
9.2.2. Train the wardens in regard to their police powers and control procedures.	Yes	3	Number of trained foresters and rangers.	MEPP MAFWM Hunting Societies NP and PA PE Macedonian Forests	2 years after the regulation are adopted
<b>Target 9.3.</b> Examine and tackle wildlife crime including possible corruption in wardens, police and administrations.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
9.3.1. Prepare an overview of known cases of poaching and illegal trade with reference to potential corruption.	Yes	2	Number of comprised cases of poaching and illegal trade	MIA MAFWM MEPP Ministry of Justice	2010-2011

9.3.2. Draw attention of state corruption investigators to the issue of wildlife crimes.	Yes	3	Number of discovered and solved cases	MIA MAFWM MEPP Ministry of Justice	2010-2015
9.3.3. Change public attitudes towards poaching and illegal wildlife trade through information campaigns.	Yes	3	Organized campaigns.  Number of published brochures.  Number of given presentations.  Number of educated hunters and other stakeholders.	MAFWM MEPP NP and PA NGOs Local authorities.	2010-2013

**Objective 10. To establish and organise transboundary cooperation.**

**Target 10.1.** Increase the number and the area of transboundary protected areas between range countries.

*Activities already covered under Target 6.1. and 6.2.*

**Target 10.2.** The draft Memorandum of Understanding on lynx conservation between the two countries is ratified.

Activity	yes/ no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
10.2.1. Lobby activity on responsible ministries for the signature of the MoU and organise an appropriate media event.	Yes	3	Signed MoU.	MAFWM	2010

**Target 10.3.** Transboundary local development projects on municipality levels are promoted.

Activity	yes/ no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
10.3.1. Establish pilot projects in Debar-Peshkopi / Struga-Librazhd / Resen-Korça (see also Activity 3.2.3. and activities under Objective 4). <b>Group's Note: list the other transboundary areas with indications of lynx presence!</b>	Yes	2	Number of pilot projects.	NGOs Local authorities	2010-2015

**Target 10.4.** Transboundary coordination of lynx conservation is secured (see also Target 5.3.).

Activity	yes/ no	Priority 1-3	Indicators	Actors	Timeline
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10.4.1. Submit a proposal to both ministries for a Balkan Lynx Coordination Committee.	Yes	2	Submitted proposal.	BLRP team MEPP MAFWM NP and PA Universities	2010-2011
10.4.2. Establish and manage the Coordination Committee and its work and meetings.  Group's Note: These two activities should be merged into one!	Yes	2	Established Committee.  Number of meetings, decisions, conclusions	Coordination Committee	2012-2015
<b>Target 10.5.</b> Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Kosovo and Greece are included in future Balkan lynx conservation activities.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
10.5.1. Organise a South-western Balkan workshop on large carnivore conservation and management with special emphasis on urgent measures for the survival of the Balkan lynx.	Yes	2	Organized workshop.  Number of involved partners.	BLRP partners  Appropriate Ministries	2010
<b>Objective 11. To integrate Balkan lynx conservation into Sectorial Coordination and EU Harmonisation.</b>					
<b>Target 11.1.</b> Lynx conservation issues are integrated into strategic development documents (biodiversity strategy, forestry strategy, rural development strategy, etc.).					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
11.1.1. Create a working group for the evaluation of all existing and proposed legal documents relevant for lynx conservation and coordinate activities among different departments within institutions in both countries.	Yes	1	Created working group.  Prepared document for the involvement of regulations for the lynx conservation in the Laws and other Strategic documents.	BLRP team  MAFWM  MEPP  Academic sector	2011
11.1.2. Adopt a National Action Plan for Lynx Conservation (within the frame of this range-wide Conservation Strategy)	Yes	3	Adopted National Action Plan	MAFWM	2009

that explicitly specifies the responsibility of the different sectors.					
<b>Target 11.2.</b> National Action Plans of the Biodiversity Strategies and for the Balkan Lynx are implemented.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<i>11.2.1.</i> Promote the implementation of the existing frameworks and action plans.					
<i>11.2.2.</i> Incorporation of the Action Plan for Balkan lynx in the new Strategy on Biodiversity.	Yes	3	Incorporate Action Plan for Balkan lynx in the new Strategy on Biodiversity.	MAFWM	2010
<b>Target 11.3.</b> Balkan lynx conservation issues are considered in the EU harmonisation process.					
<b>Activity</b>	<b>yes/ no</b>	<b>Priority 1-3</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Actors</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
<i>11.3.1.</i> Establish a task force (e.g. within the Balkan Lynx Coordination Committee) to write a document that explores the issues associated with EU harmonisation and evaluates the potential ways in which EU harmonisation processes can influence lynx conservation using a scenario process. <i>11.3.1.</i> Prepare a document for incorporation of the Balkan lynx conservation in EU legislation in the process of EU harmonization and EU membership.	Yes	1	Prepared document.	Appropriate Ministries	2012

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