

# **Resettlement Policy Framework & Process Framework Conservation of the Big Cats in the Russian Federation**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### *Introduction*

1. This document constitutes a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) and a Process Framework (PF) for the Conservation of Big Cats in the Russian Federation Project (hereinafter: “Project”). This Framework sets out resettlement objectives and principles, organizational arrangements, and funding mechanisms for any resettlement operation that may be necessary during project implementation.<sup>1</sup>
2. This RPF/PF was prepared since it is recognized that activities that will be undertaken under various project components may affect Project Affected Persons’ (PAPs’) assets, economic livelihood sources, or access to natural resources. The Project will seek to avoid or minimize such negative impacts, wherever feasible, by exploring all viable, alternative project designs. Where it is not feasible to avoid adverse social or economic impacts, the Project will ensure that the pre-project sources of livelihood and living standards of PAPs are improved, or at least restored. All PAPs will be meaningfully consulted and will have opportunities to participate in planning, implementing and monitoring of the conservation and resettlement programs. The Project is not expected to involve any land acquisition or physical resettlement at any of the Project sites.
3. A key objective of this RPF / PF is to suggest mitigation measures that could improve or at least restore the socio-economic conditions and livelihood sources of indigenous peoples (IPs) that will be affected by Project activities.<sup>2</sup> This RPF/PF also intends to identify measures that could improve the livelihood sources of women and other vulnerable groups (e.g., unemployed, elderly, disabled, etc.).
4. This Framework was developed in a participatory manner and relied on gender-balanced consultations and meetings with local community members, indigenous people representatives, employees of regional wildlife authorities, and representatives of local authorities in the three Project regions. The consultations are described in details in Annex I.

### *Legal Framework*

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<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this Framework, “resettlement” covers all direct economic and social losses resulting from land taking and restriction of access, together with the consequent compensatory and remedial measures. Resettlement is not restricted to its usual meaning—physical relocation. Resettlement can, depending on the case, include (a) acquisition of land and physical structures on the land, including businesses; (b) physical relocation; and (c) restriction of access to natural resources or other sources of economic livelihood; (d) economic rehabilitation of project affected persons to improve (or at least restore) incomes and living standards.

<sup>2</sup> For the purposes of this RPF / PF, the definition of IPs will be based on the common WWF definition, according to which characteristics of indigenous and tribal peoples include social, cultural and economic ways of life different from other segments of the national population, traditional forms of social organization, political institutions, customs and laws and long-term historical continuity of residence in a certain area, as well as self-identification as indigenous or tribal. The RPF / PF is also informed by the more restrictive definition of the RF legislation. Article 1 of the Law on Guarantees of the Rights of Indigenous Small-Numbered Peoples of the RF recognizes as IPs “ethnic communities with fewer than 50,000 persons who inhabit their ancestral homelands, maintaining traditional ways of life, community organization and economic activities and folk art [handicrafts] and who perceive themselves as belonging to separate ethnic communities”.

5. The WWF's resettlement policy is directed at improving (or at least restoring) incomes and living standards of project affected people, rather than merely compensating them for their expropriated assets. This approach broadens the objective of the policy to include the restoration of income streams and retraining of people unable to continue their old income-generating activities after displacement. The emphasis on incomes and living standards, in contrast to the conventional emphasis on expropriated property, expands the range and number of people recognized as adversely affected.
6. The legislation of the RF is generally compatible with the major provisions of the WWF network Resettlement Policy but a few differences are to be noted. The most significant of these differences are as follows: (i) According to RF legislation, only titled landowners and registered houses or structured are eligible for compensation,<sup>3</sup> while according to the WWF policy, lack of title should not bar compensation or alternative forms of assistance. Non-titled landowners may receive alternative forms of assistance in lieu of formal compensation payments; (ii) According to RF legislation, PAPs can lodge grievances related to resettlement in national courts, while the WWF policy mandates to set up an adequate project-focused grievance redress mechanism, which consists of both formal and informal venues and is made accessible to all PAPs; and (iii) The RF legislation generally does not provide income/livelihood rehabilitation to PAPs, while the WWF policy prescribes to compensate the income loss and other livelihood-related expenses incurred by PAPs during the resettlement process, with special attention to women and vulnerable groups.

### ***Anticipated Project Impacts & Suggested Mitigation Measures***

7. This section provides an assessment of anticipated Project impacts on local communities that reside in areas where Project activities are planned to be implemented and delineates possible mitigation measures. This assessment and the accompanying mitigation measures draw on gender-balanced consultations and meetings with local communities, IPs, representatives of regional wildlife protection organizations, representative of local authorities, and representative of commercial entities that are active in the region. It should be noted, however, that the assessment is limited to the problems and measures that were discussed as part of these specific consultations and does not purport to provide a representative account that is valid for all Project areas.
8. The anticipated Project impacts are closely connected to the current legal regime of forest usage in the RF. All forests in the RF are considered governmental lands. The Forest Code assigns to regional authorities several responsibilities related to forest management and protection. The Code also allows regional authorities to auction off to private parties time-bound usage rights (e.g., logging, hunting, recreation, tourism) on forested land plots. Once hunting or logging rights on assigned land plots in the forest are auctioned, local communities are barred from exercising such rights in these areas, even for subsistence

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<sup>3</sup> However, in the event of major disasters that lead to the loss of housing and property (such as flooding in the Far East in 2013, landslides and mudflows in the Caucasus for several years in the 2000s, fires in the Altai region in 2015, etc.), compensation is provided to all people affected by these emergencies, and not only titled land owners. Such situations are regulated by a special decree of the President of the Russian Federation and the heads of the subjects of the Russian Federation.

purposes. Where there is no lease of forest lands, local communities can freely access and use them pursuant to federal and regional regulation.

Licenses for hunting some game animals are issued by regional authorities, according to a list that is approved by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the RF. These licenses are allocated based on annual quotas, which depend on the size and conditions of the wild animal population. Logging on non-allocated forest also requires licenses, but firewood can be collected free of charge. The collection of non-timber forest products (e.g., pine nuts) is allowed in all forest lands, whether allocated or unoccupied.

**(i) Altai-Sayan**

9. Project activities that are planned in the Altai-Sayan region and may have resettlement implications include the strengthening of the regional and federal protection regime of the Snow Leopard habitat in the Republics of Altai and Tyva, promoting anti-poaching measures, and the development of sustainable livelihood programs for local communities living in the Snow Leopard habitats. The anticipated impacts of these activities, accompanied by possible mitigation measures, are listed below.

Issue	Concern	Mitigation
<b>Herding</b>	<b>Restrictions on herding.</b> The local community depends on herding cattle for its subsistence (men are engaged in herding, while women work in producing milk products), and thus access to grazing areas is critical for the preservation of their livelihood sources.	<b>Avoid restrictions on herding.</b> It is critical to ensure that the herding practices of local communities are not affected by the expansion of the protected areas.
<b>Hunting</b>	<b>Restrictions on hunting.</b> Local communities, and in particular IPs, hunt for subsistence and pursuant to their cultural heritage and traditions (only men are involved in hunting). However, hunting is prohibited in some categories of PAs, and thus the expansion of such areas would prevent the local community from hunting.	<b>Mitigate restrictions on hunting.</b> To the extent possible, appropriate sites in the expanded PAs should be designated as “Traditional Use Zones”—a legal regime that allows PAs free access to hunting areas and does not restrict their hunting rights.  In case such designation is not possible, PAs who lose access to hunting areas due to the expansion of PAs will be compensated through the Project’s small grants program (PAs would have to prove that their livelihood has been affected).  Further, the Project will offer local communities trainings on the development of community-based wildlife management project in the key Snow leopard habitats in the region.

	<i>Allocation of forest usage rights to commercial parties.</i> Local communities are concerned that regional authorities could auction off, at their full discretion, time-bound hunting or logging rights in local forests, thus preventing local residents from accessing their forest-based livelihoods.	<i>Strengthen PAs.</i> The strengthening of the protection level of PAs will mitigate the risk of auctioning off forest usage rights to private parties and will thus protect the access of local communities to forestry resources.
<b>Poaching</b>	<i>Need to reduce poaching.</i> While there is no direct poaching of Snow Leopards in the region, poaching of ungulates (e.g., roe deer, red deer, ibex, musk deer, etc.) is relatively widespread.	<i>Introduce a combination of anti-poaching measures.</i> A combination of improved anti-poaching supervision (by strengthening the legal liability for illegal actions against the big cats and their prey, as well as hiring additional inspectors, and training and equipping them), small grants / loans, financial incentives, and a targeted educational program could be effective in mitigating cases of poaching in the region.
<b>Alternative livelihood sources</b>	<i>Unemployment is the most critical socio-economic problem in the region,</i> and all consultation participants were deeply worried about it.	<i>Prioritize local employment in protected areas and other Project positions.</i> The expansion of PAs as part of the project is likely to positively contribute to the employment opportunities of local communities.
		<i>Provide capacity building activities and small grants and micro loans for tourism development.</i> Consultation participants expressed a high interest in the development of tourism in the Republic of Altai. Some of them are already engaged in the tourism business.

10. **Gender.** Consultations revealed that women in Altai-Sayan predominantly work at home. They are responsible for childcare and also take care of the livestock (e.g., milking cows, dairy production, etc.). A micro grants/loans program could considerably benefit women by allowing them to develop small home-based enterprises. Such a program could focus on the following: ethnic tourism development, accommodation to tourists (e.g., development of a bed & breakfast system), non-timber forest product processing and souvenirs production, purchase of machinery to produce dairy products or engage in felt production, etc.. Any micro grants/loans program should be complemented by trainings that would enhance women's skills and help them find employment or start their own enterprises (e.g., focusing on tourism development, hotel management, farm management, dairy production, agriculture, as well as any other activities related to tourism, with a particular emphasis on ethno-tourism). Priority in access to loans and grants should be given to the most vulnerable women (IP, unemployed, single heads of households, poor, etc.) and to women who belong to households that were negatively affected by project activities (e.g., lost access to hunting areas).
11. **IPs.** IPs that live in Project areas are eligible for various state benefits (e.g., free hunting licenses) and do not seem to suffer discrimination relative to other local communities that



live in the Project areas. Preferential treatment of formally-registered IPs could discriminate against those who were not able to acquire such formal status for various bureaucratic reasons and lead to social tensions. It is, therefore, suggested to apply similar mitigation measures to all local residents, without special treatment of formally-recognized IPs.

**(ii) Far East**

12. Project activities that are planned in the Far East region and may have resettlement implications including (i) the expansion of buffer zones around federal protected areas; (ii) support of the model project of Sidatun Community-Based Game and Forest Management; and (iii) technical assistance to anti-poaching brigades in the tiger range. The anticipated impacts of these activities, accompanied by possible mitigation measures, are listed below.

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Concern</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
<b>Hunting</b>	<i>Lack of access to hunting areas.</i> Local communities depend on hunting for subsistence, but access to hunting areas is restricted since forest areas are often auctioned off to private commercial companies.	<i>Support the allocation of hunting areas to IPs.</i> The Project should work with regional wildlife agencies to allocate to local and IP communities some land plots for sustainable hunting for their subsistence.
<b>Poaching &amp; conflicts with tigers</b>	<i>Need to mitigate poaching and conflicts with tigers.</i> Poaching does not present a major problem in the region, but local communities do encounter some occasional conflicts with tigers that attack hunters or their dogs.	<i>Support anti-poaching brigades.</i> The project intends to provide technical assistance and build the capacity of anti-poaching brigades.
<b>Logging</b>	<i>Lack of access to logging.</i> Local communities reported lack of access to logging (e.g., to collect firewood) because all logging rights in nearby forests have been auctioned to private companies.	Currently there is no legal way to force private parties to allow local communities to collect firewood in forests close to their villages.
<b>Alternative livelihood sources</b>	<i>Unemployment is the main socio-economic concern of the local population.</i>	<i>Prioritize local employment and support “model projects.”</i> The expansion of buffer zones surrounding federal PAs will enable the regional wildlife authorities to hire additional inspectors and help create job opportunities for local men and women. The Project’s planned support of the Sidatun Community-Based Game and Forest Management could also help create new work places for the local community.

13. **Gender.** Women are primarily responsible for childcare and work at home. Only a few of them work as public servants, teachers, or in utility stores. However, some women—especially members of indigenous communities—take an active part in their community life. The Project should support women in the Bikinsky National Park in ethnic tourism development, creation of a bed & breakfast system, non-timber forest product processing, and souvenirs production. This support should include learning and training programs,

creation of new job places, and provision of grants and loans for the development of small businesses. IP women should be specifically targeted and actively engaged in these activities. In other Project areas, the Project should invest efforts in hiring women as part of any new work places that will be created as a result of Project activities, and actively engage them in the organization of Project-related events and annual festivals. These activities should primarily seek to engage the most vulnerable women (IP, unemployed, single heads of households, poor, etc.) and women who belong to households that were negatively affected by project activities (e.g., lost access to hunting areas).

14. **IPs.** Some of the indigenous communities in the region do not have access to hunting areas, cannot hunt for subsistence, and suffer from unemployment. The federal national park “Udegi Legend” intends to allocate to these struggling Udegi communities four land plots for hunting purposes, but the park’s geographic boundaries should be officially confirmed before this will be done. While this measure will only partially solve the unemployment problem, it is recommended that the Project follow up with the park authorities to ensure that such allocation indeed takes place. It is also recommended that the Project prioritizes the employment of qualified IPs in any new work places that will be created.

*(iii) North Caucasus*

15. Project activities that are planned in the North Caucasus region and may have resettlement implications include the strengthening of the regional and federal protection regime of nature reserves, wildlife refuges, and national parks. The anticipated impacts of these activities, accompanied by possible mitigation measures, are listed below. This assessment is based on consultations in Kabardino-Balkariya only and may not be applicable to other areas.

Issue	Concern	Mitigation
<b>Herding</b>	<b>Restriction of herding.</b> Local communities depend on herding for subsistence, and are concerned that an expansion of PAs would restrict their herding practices.	<b>Avoid herding restrictions.</b> The Project should ensure that restrictions on herding are avoided as a result of the expansion of PAs and no land is alienated..
<b>Hunting</b>	Hunting is currently prohibited in the wildlife refuges, and the local community did not express concerns about this restriction.	The Project will not affect these conditions.
<b>Alternative livelihood sources</b>	<b>Unemployment is the main socio-economic concern of the local population.</b> Livestock is currently the main source of income, but the local community would also like to develop tourism, stone-processing, production of mineral water, and more.	<b>Offer training programs.</b> A training program that would help local residents acquire valuable skills (e.g., farm management, small/medium entrepreneurship, agriculture or horticulture best practices, etc.) could be highly attractive for both men and women in the community.

16. **Gender.** Women predominantly take care of children at home, and are also engaged in knitting and dairy farming. Some of them sell their production to local tourists or send it to markets in bigger cities. These women could considerably benefit from a training program,

which would allow them to improve their skills. The Project should actively engage local women in communication programs planned as part of the Project and prioritize their employment (prefer equally or nearly-equally qualified women over men) in any new work places that will be created. The Project will sponsor during the first 3 months of implementation a gender survey that will aim to identify how women in the North Caucasus use natural resources in the region, how their livelihoods can be supported, which types of trainings and activities could be useful for their needs, and how women could be strategically involved in Project-activities in the region.

17. **IPs.** If the socio-economic survey that will be conducted as part of the Project reveals that IP groups do reside in Project areas, it is recommended to apply to them the same mitigation measures that were suggested for women above.

### ***Implementation Arrangements***

18. **Institutional responsibilities.** The Table below summarizes the RPF / PF responsibilities of each of the Project stakeholders.

<b>Entity</b>	<b>RPF / PF Responsibilities</b>
WWF-USA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation of the RPF / PF implementation</li> </ul>
WWF-Russia (Central office of the PMU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Day-to-day implementation of the measures outlined in the RPF / PF at the federal level</li> <li>• Supervision of the RPF implementation in each of the regions</li> <li>• Ensuring that all project activities comply with the principles and provisions outlined in the RPF</li> <li>• Consideration of appeals related to communities' grievances and complaints that could not be satisfactorily resolved by the RPCs</li> <li>• Coordination of resettlement-related activities among the RPCs</li> </ul>
Regional Project Coordinators & regional project teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Day-to-day implementation of the measures outlined in the RPF / PF at the regional level</li> <li>• Holding bi-annual consultations and information sessions to inform local men and women of ongoing Project activities, seek their views, and invite questions and grievances</li> <li>• Management of the regional grievance redress mechanism</li> <li>• Monitoring of the implementation of the RPF in each of the regions according to the indicators specified in the RPF</li> </ul>
Independent M&E specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the RPF in the three regions in accordance with the indicators specified in the RPF</li> </ul>

19. **Grievance redress.** Pursuant to the WWF policy on involuntary resettlement and process framework requirement, the Project should set up and manage a grievance redress mechanism (GRM) that would address PAPs' grievances, complaints, and suggestions. The GRM should be managed by the RPCs in each of the regions and regularly monitored by the PMU.

20. **Monitoring & Evaluation.** No later than three months after the confirmation of the precise Project activities and locations, RPCs in all three regions will be responsible for carrying out a socio-economic survey to spell out the socio-economic conditions of PAPs in each of the Project areas and to identify vulnerable PAPs (including women, IPs and the poor) that would require special livelihood restoration measures. The results of this survey will serve as a benchmark for the subsequent monitoring & evaluation (M&E) activities. The impact of Project activities on PAPs should be monitored and evaluated on an annual basis, throughout the duration of the Project. The purpose of this annual audit will be to verify that the mitigation measures specified in this RPF/PF are undertaken in a satisfactory manner. Suggested M&E indicators are available in section 4.3. of this RPF/ PF.
21. **Budget.** The budget for all measures that are recommended in this RPF / PF is already included in the Project work plan. No additional expenses should be required for the implementation of the suggested mitigation measures. However, additional funds allocation should be planned for the socio-economic survey and the gender survey.
22. **Consultations.** Regional Project Coordinators should hold bi-annual public consultations with PAPs to inform them on ongoing Project activities, seek their views, and discuss any unforeseen project impacts and/or outstanding implementation-related matters.

## DEFINITIONS

Compensation means the payment in kind, cash or other assets given in exchange for the taking of land, or loss of other assets, including fixed assets thereon, in part or whole.

Indigenous People: See definition in section 1.3. below.

Land acquisition means the taking of or alienation of land, buildings or other assets thereon for purposes of the Project.

Process Framework describes the project and how restrictions of access to natural resources and measures to assist affected communities will be determined with the participation of affected communities.

Project affected persons (PAPs) means persons who suffer from a direct economic or social adverse impact of the project, through loss or damage of assets; land expropriation; involuntary displacement; adverse effect on right, title, interest in any house, land (including premises, agricultural and grazing land) or any other fixed or movable asset acquired or possessed (temporarily or permanently); adverse effect on access to productive assets, such as land or natural resources (temporarily or permanently); or adverse effect on business, occupation, work or place of residence or habitat.

Replacement cost for agricultural land means the pre-project or pre-displacement, whichever is higher, value of land of equal productive potential or use located in the vicinity of the affected land, plus the costs of: preparing the land to levels similar to those of the affected land; and any registration, transfer taxes and other associated fees.

Replacement cost for houses and other structures means the prevailing cost of replacing affected structures of the quality similar to or better than that the affected structures, in an area. Such costs shall include: (a) building materials; (b) transporting building materials to the construction site; (c) any labor and contractors' fees; and (d) any registration costs.

Resettlement covers all direct economic and social losses resulting from land taking and restriction of access, together with the consequent compensatory and remedial measures. Resettlement is not restricted to its usual meaning—physical relocation. Resettlement can, depending on the case, include (a) acquisition of land and physical structures on the land, including businesses; (b) physical relocation; and (c) restriction of access to natural resources or other sources of economic livelihood; (d) economic rehabilitation of project affected persons to improve (or at least restore) incomes and living standards.

Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) is a resettlement document that establishes resettlement objectives and principles, organizational arrangements, and funding mechanisms for any resettlement operation that may be necessary during project implementation.

Vulnerable Group refers to people who cannot cope with crisis or shock situations to maintain their wellbeing or livelihood. In practice, these are often single-headed households, or households headed by disabled individuals, elderly, marginalized groups, low income or unemployed individuals. This group is among other things, characterized by low nutrition levels, low or no education, lack of employment or revenues, old age, ethnic minority and/or affected by gender bias.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Project Description<sup>4</sup>

Big cat landscapes of the Northern Caucasus, Altai-Sayan and Russian Far East maintain sustainable populations of Amur Tiger, Far Eastern Leopard, Snow Leopard, and Persian Leopard. They also harbor globally significant biodiversity and provide ecosystem services in an inexhaustible manner, as well as benefits to local communities and sustainable regional development. Against this backdrop, the Conservation of Big Cats in the Russian Federation Project (hereinafter: “Project”) seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- protect integrity of big cat landscapes of the Northern Caucasus, Altai-Sayan and Russian Far East and maintain sustainable populations of Amur Tiger, Far Eastern Leopard, Snow Leopard, and Persian Leopard;
- ensure conservation of globally significant biodiversity and ecosystem processes under umbrella of big cat species; and
- facilitate sustainable livelihoods of local communities and sustainable regional development in the big cat regions.

These objectives will be achieved through the following activities:

1. Strengthened national and regional institutional capacity and regulatory framework for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation at the landscape level;
2. Improved landscape planning and management supports the sustainable use of at least 5 million hectares of big cat habitat in the Russian Far East, the Altai-Sayan, and the Northern Caucasus;
3. Increased public participation in conservation, monitoring and combating illegal wildlife trade, and monitoring of economic development projects in the habitats of big cats;
4. Increased effectiveness of 5 million hectares of existing and newly established Protected Areas for conservation of key populations of big cats and their habitats;
5. Decreased human wildlife conflict and improved local community livelihoods for conservation of big cats;
6. Increased coordination among the transboundary Protected Areas and decreased illegal wildlife trade with neighboring countries.

### 1.2. Rationale

This document constitutes a Resettlement Policy Framework (RFP) and a Process Framework (PF), prepared in compliance with the requirements of WWF-US as stated in the WWF’s Environment and Social Safeguards – Integrated Policies and Procedures (as of March 12, 2015). The RPF & PF are also designed to meet the legal requirements of the Russian Federation (RF). This Framework

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<sup>4</sup> The project description is based on the information available in the WWF – Global Environment Facility Project Document (August 5, 2014).

sets out resettlement objectives and principles, organizational arrangements, and funding mechanisms for any resettlement operation that may be necessary during project implementation.

For the purposes of this Framework, resettlement covers all direct economic and social losses resulting from land taking and restriction of access, together with the consequent compensatory and remedial measures. Resettlement is not restricted to its usual meaning—physical relocation. It can, depending on the case, include (a) acquisition of land and physical structures on the land, including businesses; (b) physical relocation; (c) loss of damage to assets; (d) adverse effect on right, title, interest in any house, land (including premises, agricultural and grazing land) or any other fixed or movable asset acquired or possessed (temporarily or permanently); (e) adverse effect on access to productive assets, such as land or natural resources (temporarily or permanently); or (f) adverse effect on business, occupation, work or place of residence or habitat.

While the Project does not involve any land acquisition or physical resettlement at any of the Project sites, it is recognized that activities that will be undertaken under various project components may affect Project Affected Persons' (PAPs') assets, economic livelihood sources, or access to natural resources. The Project will seek to avoid or minimize such negative impacts, wherever feasible, by exploring all viable, alternative project designs. Where it is not feasible to avoid adverse social or economic impacts, the Project will ensure that the pre-project sources of livelihood and living standards of PAPs are improved, or at least restored. All PAPs will be meaningfully consulted and will have opportunities to participate in planning, implementing and monitoring of the conservation and resettlement programs.

This Framework was prepared in a participatory manner and relied on gender-balanced consultations and meetings with local community members, indigenous people representatives, employees of regional wildlife authorities, and representatives of local authorities in the three Project regions. The consultations are described in details in Annex I.

### **1.3. Indigenous Peoples**

A key objective of this RPF / PF is to suggest mitigation measures that could improve or at least restore the socio-economic conditions and livelihood sources of indigenous communities that will be affected by Project activities. While there is no single globally-recognized definition of indigenous peoples, WWF adopts the statement of coverage contained in International Labour Organization Convention 169 (ILO), which includes both indigenous and tribal peoples. Characteristics of indigenous and tribal peoples include social, cultural and economic ways of life different from other segments of the national population, traditional forms of social organization, political institutions, customs and laws and long-term historical continuity of residence in a certain area. In some regions, the term indigenous also refers to residence prior to conquest or colonization by others. WWF also, in accordance with ILO 169, recognizes self-identification as indigenous or tribal as a key criterion in identifying indigenous peoples. Two other characteristics recognized as important in identifying indigenous peoples are: relative political marginalization and special ties, and relationships with their customary lands and resources, closely connected to their cultural identity.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Larsen, Peter Bille and Jenny Springer 2008. *Mainstreaming WWF Principles on Indigenous Peoples and Conservation in Project and Programme Management*. Gland, Switzerland and Washington, DC: WWF.

The RF is a multinational state, comprising of more than 180 nations that converse in nearly 230 languages. IP rights are protected by the Constitution of the RF and in a number of federal laws. The federal law "On Guarantees of the Rights of Indigenous Small-Numbered Peoples of the RF" (hereinafter: the Law on Guarantees) establishes the legal definition of "small-numbered Indigenous Peoples" as, "ethnic communities with fewer than 50,000 persons who inhabit their ancestral homelands, maintaining traditional ways of life, community organization and economic activities and folk art [handicrafts] and who perceive themselves as belonging to separate ethnic communities" (Article 1). According to this definition, a List of ISNPs of the RF was compiled and approved by the Government of the RF on March 24, 2000 (decision # 255). The list currently consists of 48 ethnic groups—280,000 individuals—that are formally recognized as Indigenous Small-Numbered Peoples (ISNPs). These groups reside in 28 administrative regions and communicate in 40 languages. 40 of these groups belong to the ISNPs of the North, Siberia, and the Far East.

Article 8 of the Law on Guarantees provides that in order to protect ISNPs' native habitats, traditional way of life, livelihoods and crafts, these communities have the right to freely access areas of their traditional residence and carry out traditional economic activities on these lands. Article 7 of the Land Code of the RF allows to establish a special protective regime in places of ISNPs' traditional residence and economic activities. In addition, a separate order of the Government of the RF from February 4, 2009 (# 132-r) approved the Concept of Sustainable Development of ISNPs of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the RF and granted special support for their economic and social development.

## **1.4.Socio-Economic Background of Project Regions**

### **(a) Altai-Sayan<sup>6</sup>**

According to the 2010 census, the population of the Russian Altai-Sayan region consists of 4,900,000 people, with an average population density of 3.7 individuals / km<sup>2</sup>. The population is widely dispersed among villages and small settlements throughout the region. The largest urban centers are Krasnoyarsk, Kemerovo, Abakan, Novokuznetsk and Belovo. As in other parts of the Russian Federation, the demographic trends include a reduction in birth rates and an increase in death rates. Mining, agriculture, forestry, and hunting are the main sources of income in Altai-Sayan.

The Altai-Sayan region has been considerably affected by the recent economic downturn in the RF and the associated social hardships experienced during the past decade. Most of the population is engaged in subsistence agriculture, focusing on livestock and farming. Life quality in the region is considerably worse off compared to other Russian regions in terms of availability of social infrastructure, life expectancy, income, employment, and other indicators. Moreover, the regional income gap between the rural and urban population is very high. For example, rural population in the Altai Republic have, on average, at least two times less income than the people living in the rest of the Altai region.

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<sup>6</sup> This section relies on WWF (2012), *Altai-Sayan Ecoregion Conservation Strategy*, pp. 53-59.



The region is populated by nearly 20 ethnic groups, and 8% of its population is indigenous. Indigenous peoples (IPs) are distributed throughout the region and in some settlements they constitute 100% of the population. The Tuvans comprise the largest IP in the region, with a population of 208,600 as of 2000. There are also 50,000 (25% of the total indigenous population) Altai IPs in the Republic of Altai, and 63,000 (11% of the total population) Khakasians in the Republic of Khakasia. The Telengite, Tubalar, Kumandine, Chelkan, and other Altai indigenous (e.g., Shortsy, Teleut, Todzha Tuva) are smaller in number. Approximately 46,000 people belong to these groups, accounting for less than 1 percent of the total population in the Altai-Sayan region.

The socio-economic conditions of IPs in the region are typically worse than the living conditions of other local communities. On average, the unemployment rate among indigenous people is 1.5 to 2 times higher than the regional average and in some settlements it even reaches 95%. IPs typically live in remote villages with limited job opportunities. For many of them (and, importantly, for the non-indigenous people living in the same villages) individual farms and cattle breeding are the only sources of income. Deterioration of traditional IP culture occurred during the Soviet period when kolkhozes and sovkhozes were established, leading to the loss of the traditional grazing system. Nomadic lifestyle was deteriorated, resulting in the general loss of IP culture.

### **(b) Far East<sup>7</sup>**

Khabarovsk and Primorsky Krai are two large and economically important administrative units of the RF. The total population of these regions accounts for more than 3,000,000 people (1,993,000 in Primorsky Krai and 1,338,000 in Khabarovsk Krai), with about 50% of the population living in the four major cities and industrial centers: Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Ussuriysk and Artem. Population density in Primorsky Krai is 11.74 individuals / km<sup>2</sup> and in Khabarovsk Krai 1.7 individuals / km<sup>2</sup>. Khabarovsk and Primorsky Krai play an important role as a major center of international trade. The main sources of economic production in the regions include commercial fishing, machine and construction, timber and coal industries, and agriculture.

Despite significant economic development of the region many local and indigenous settlements in the habitats of big cats have high levels of unemployment and rely on illegal collection of endangered plant species as a source of income.<sup>8</sup> Moreover, Primorsky Krai has the highest level of poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking from Russia to China.

As of 2010, Primorsky Krai, where project activities will be mostly conducted, is home to 1429 IPs (of which 793 or 0.04% of the Krai's population are Udegi, 383 or 0.01% are Nanay, and 253 or 0.01% are Tazy). Many IPs in the region suffer from unemployment and alcoholism.

### **(c) North Caucasus**

The North Caucasus is a region in the south-west of the RF, which consists of several republics. The North Caucasian Federal District, created by the federal government in 2010, includes 7 republics (the Republic of Dagestan, the Chechen Republic, the Republic of Ingushetia, the Republic of North

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<sup>7</sup> This section relies on the WWF – Global Environment Facility Project Document (August 5, 2014).

<sup>8</sup> WWF 2011. Amur Heilong Ecoregion Complex Strategic Plan 2011-2020

Ossetia-Alania, the Kabardino-Balkaria Republic, the Karachay-Cherkessia Republic and Stavropol Krai) and occupies a total area of 170,700 km<sup>2</sup>.<sup>9</sup> According to the 2010 census,<sup>10</sup> the district had a total population of 9,428,826 people, which accounts for 6.5% of the RF's total population. North Caucasian republics have endured continuous political violence and unrest for the past two decades, and have become home to radical insurgent groups. Additional project areas in the North Caucasus include the territory of Krasnodar Krai and the Republic of Adygea.

The North Caucasus is rich in oil, mineral and metal deposits, valuable timber, and hydropower resources. However, unemployment levels are considerably higher than average across the Russian Federation. Poverty remains high in the mountain regions, with around 50% of the local population below the national poverty line.<sup>11</sup> The North Caucasian republics are more dependent on state subsidies than any other Russian region, with an average 50-70% of their budget derived from subsidies.<sup>12</sup> Lack of viable employment opportunities and the collapse of various production industries (e.g., agriculture and tourism) further worsen the situation in the region. Socially, some North Caucasian republics have the highest birth rates in Russia, but often have to cope with a collapse of state support systems.

The region is one of the most ethnically diverse in the country. In accordance with Article 1 of the Law on Guarantees, the List of the ISNPs of the RF (approved by the Government of the RF on March 24, 2000 № 255) includes two peoples of the North Caucasus: Abaza (Karachay-Cherkess Republic) and Shapsugs (Krasnodar Krai). In addition, according to Article 1 of the Law on Guarantees and given the unique ethnic composition of the Republic of Dagestan, the State Council of the Republic of Dagestan shall determine the features of ISNPs in the republic that will be included in the List of INSPs. This procedure has not yet been completed.

## **2. LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

### **2.1. Principles and objectives governing resettlement preparation and implementation**

The WWF's resettlement policy is directed at improving (or at least restoring) incomes and living standards, rather than merely compensating people for their expropriated assets. This approach broadens the objective of the policy to include the restoration of income streams and retraining of people unable to continue their old income-generating activities after displacement. The emphasis on incomes and living standards, in contrast to the conventional emphasis on expropriated property, expands the range and number of people recognized as adversely affected. Recognition of this broader range of adverse socio-economic impacts leads to a greater appreciation of the issues to be considered in resettlement and consequently requires careful delineation of responsibilities, elaborate risk management, and nuanced resettlement planning.

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<sup>9</sup> <http://www.skfo.gov.ru/skfo/>

<sup>10</sup> [http://www.gks.ru/free\\_doc/new\\_site/perepis2010/croc/perepis\\_itogi1612.htm](http://www.gks.ru/free_doc/new_site/perepis2010/croc/perepis_itogi1612.htm)

<sup>11</sup> WWF Strategic Plan for Caucasus Ecoregion 2012-2016. WWF Caucasus Program Office. 2012

<sup>12</sup> Ilyasov, M. Instability on the Northern Caucasus: reasons, factors and possible consequences. <http://regional-dialogue.com/articles>

The Policy on Involuntary Resettlement is based on the following principles:

- Adverse socio-economic impacts as a result of Project activities are to be avoided or at least minimized.
- All projects requiring resettlement activities by necessity must include active engagement with affected communities and free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC).
- Rehabilitation and mitigation provisions provide PAPs with opportunity to improve, or at least restore, pre-project incomes and living standards.
- PAPs should be fully informed and consulted on land acquisition and resettlement compensation options.
- PAPs' socio-cultural institutions should be supported and protected as much as possible.
- Compensation will be paid at replacement cost to PAPs, without deduction for depreciation or any other purpose.
- Lack of legal title of PAPs should not bar PAPs from compensation or alternative forms of assistance as needed to achieve policy objectives.
- Particular attention should be paid to IPs and households headed by women and other vulnerable groups.
- The costs of resettlement mitigation measures that are set out in this RPF/PF should be included in Project costs and budget.
- Compensation and resettlement subsidies will be fully provided prior to clearance of right of way/ ground leveling and demolition.

## **2.2. Legal Framework for Resettlement**

The issues of land acquisition and resettlement are regulated by the RF Constitution, the RF Civil Code, the RF Town-planning Code, the RF Housing Code and the RF Land Code. The general approach of the RF legislation is that private property may be alienated (expropriated) for state purposes only in exclusive cases of prevailing public interests, in the manner prescribed by law and only if prior and equivalent compensation is paid to the property owner.

According to the RF legislation, all natural and legal persons that hold official legal rights to the alienated land or property are eligible for compensation that amounts to the full costs of the property, as well as any other damage, losses and lost profit. Furthermore, the RF Housing code stipulates that additional assistance can be provided in cases where the expropriated property served for housing purposes.

The legislation of the RF is generally compatible with the major provisions of the WWF network Resettlement Policy but a few differences are to be noted. The most significant of these differences are as follows:

- The RF legislation is typically focused on the definition of formal property rights and on how the acquisition of properties for public purposes is to be implemented and compensated, while in

the case of the WWF policy emphasis is put both on the compensation of rightfully owned affected assets and on the general rehabilitation of the livelihood of PAPs.

- According to the WWF policy, all projects requiring resettlement activities by necessity must include active engagement with affected communities and free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC). In the context of resettlement actions, this includes specific provisions on consultation with PAPs on any resettlement-related impacts. The RF legislation does not require extensive consultations with PAPs as part of project preparation and implementation.
- According to the WWF policy, PAPs with no legal rights (such as people with customary tenure but no land titles, or squatters who occupied or lived on public land for a long time and were not requested by the government to leave) may be eligible for assistance, if not compensation, in case of resettlement. The RF legislation does not recognize the rights of such persons.
- According to the WWF policy, compensation should be determined based on the *replacement* costs of the alienated assets (market value plus any taxes or registration fees that may be levied on the asset owner). The RF legislation typically provides compensation that equals to the market value of the asset only.
- According to the WWF policy, a special grievance redress mechanism (GRM) should be established to respond to all resettlement-related grievances. The RF legislation does not require to set up a special GRM, but rather directs affected persons to approach the judicial system.

A summary of the gaps between RF legislation and the WWF involuntary resettlement policy is available in Table 1 below. **The principles of the WWF’s Policy on Involuntary Resettlement prevail in all cases of conflict.**

***Table 1: Comparison of Russian Laws and WWF Network Resettlement Policy***

<b>RF Laws and Regulations</b>	<b>WWF Involuntary Resettlement Policy</b>
Only titled landowners are eligible for compensation	Lack of title should not bar compensation or alternative forms of assistance. Non-titled landowners may receive alternative forms of assistance in lieu of formal compensation payments.
Only registered houses/buildings are compensated for damages/demolition caused by a project	All affected houses/buildings are compensated for the damages/demolition caused by a project
Crop losses compensation provided only to registered landowners.	Crop losses compensation provided to landowners and sharecrop/lease tenants whether registered or not
Land valuation based on market cost: (i) current market value where active land markets exist; (ii) “reproduction cost“ of an identical plot where no active land markets exist.	Land valuation based on replacement cost.
PAPs can lodge grievances related to resettlement in national courts.	An adequate grievance redress mechanism, which consists of both formal and informal venues, should be set up and made accessible to all PAPs

No formal requirements to organize public consultation to inform PAPs of the project and its anticipated impacts, but requirements to organize general public consultations in local communities exist	All projects requiring resettlement activities by necessity must include active engagement with affected communities and free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC).
No provision for income/livelihood rehabilitation, allowances for severely affected or vulnerable PAPs, or resettlement expenses (aside from special provisions for the expropriation of property that served for housing purposes).	Income loss and other livelihood-related expenses incurred by PAPs during the resettlement process should be compensated, with special attention to women and vulnerable groups.

### 3. ANTICIPATED PROJECT IMPACTS & SUGGESTED MITIGATION MEASURES

This section provides an assessment of anticipated Project impacts on local communities that reside in areas where Project activities are planned to be implemented. It also delineates possible mitigation measures that aim to improve, or at least restore, the livelihoods and standards of living of project affected people. This assessment and the accompanying mitigation measures draw on gender-balanced consultations and meetings with local communities, IPs, representatives of regional wildlife protection organizations, representative of local authorities, and representative of commercial entities that are active in the region. The assessment is also informed by conversations with the staff of regional WWF offices. These meetings were held in the locations outlined in Annex 1. The suggested mitigation measures were thoroughly discussed as part of consultations with local communities and gained the consent of consultation participants. It should be noted, however, that the assessment is limited to the problems and measures that were discussed as part of these specific consultations and does not purport to provide a representative account that is valid for all Project areas.

The anticipated Project impacts are closely connected to the current legal regime of forest usage in the RF. Hence, a general note of clarification is necessary before detailing the specific Project impacts in each of the regions. All forests in the RF are considered governmental lands (Article 19 of the Forestry Code). The Forest Code assigns to regional authorities the responsibility to develop and approve forest management plans and regulations, undertake various forest protection measures, maintain the state forest ledger, and supervise activities in the forest. The RF Forest Code also allows regional authorities to auction off to private parties time-bound usage rights (e.g., logging, hunting, recreation, tourism) on forested land plots. Such auctions are within the full discretion of regional authorities, and usage rights are typically allocated to whoever pays a higher price as part of a public tender. Once hunting or logging rights on assigned land plots in the forest are auctioned, local communities are barred from exercising such rights in these areas, even for subsistence purposes. In the case of logging, for instance, this also includes the collection of firewood.

It should be noted that the allocation of one usage right to a private party does not bar the local community from exercising a different usage right on the same land plot. For instance, if logging rights have been auctioned, the local community cannot log in the allocated area, but can still hunt or herd there, as long as the auctioned logging rights are not impeded. Where there is no lease of forest lands, local communities can freely access them and hunt, log, or herd there pursuant to federal and regional regulation. Licenses for hunting some game animals are issued by regional

authorities, according to a list that is approved by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the RF. These licenses are allocated based on annual quotas, which depend on the size and conditions of the wild animal population.<sup>13</sup> Hunting any game that is registered in the Red Data Book (RDB) of the Russian Federation<sup>14</sup> generally constitutes a criminal and administrative violation, and can only be done in exceptional cases with special licenses that are issued by the Federal Service for Supervision of Natural Resources Use. Logging on non-allocated forest also requires licenses, but firewood can be collected free of charge. The collection of pine nuts—a non-timber forest product important to the Far East economy—is allowed in all forest lands, whether allocated or unoccupied.

This regime naturally creates tensions between local communities and commercial companies or wealthy individuals, who may purchase logging or hunting rights in local forests and prevent local communities from hunting or collecting firewood in these areas. In some cases, the owners of such user rights nonetheless allow local communities to hunt for subsistence or collect firewood on their land. This fully depends on the good will of the legal right holders and cannot be forced upon them. Consultation participants in Altai-Sayan and in the Far East reported concerns about these matters. It should be noted that indigenous communities do not possess their own herding or hunting regimes and fully rely on the governmental (both federal and regional) regulation of hunting and herding.

### **3.1. Altai-Sayan**

Project activities that are planned in the Altai-Sayan region and may have resettlement implications include the strengthening of the regional and federal protection regime of the Snow Leopard habitat in the Republics of Altai and Tyva, promoting anti-poaching measures, and the development of sustainable livelihood programs for local communities living in the Snow Leopard habitats.<sup>15</sup> The anticipated impacts of these activities are listed below, accompanied by possible mitigation measures. This assessment is based on a series of consultation meetings with PAPs, conducted as part of the Framework preparation in February 2015 (see Annex I for details).

#### ***(i) Herding***

**Concern: restrictions on herding.** Livestock is the main source of income for local communities in the region. It is also part of the cultural traditions and heritage of local indigenous communities. The local community depends on herding cattle for its subsistence (men are engaged in herding, while women work in producing milk products), and thus access to grazing areas is critical for the preservation of their livelihood sources. Regional wildlife agencies made it clear during consultations that PA expansion will have no effect on the herding practices of local communities, and that local communities will be able to access all protected areas free of charge. Further,

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<sup>13</sup> Individuals who are interested in hunting are required to obtain the following documents: general hunting permit, a state-issued permit to carry hunting weapons, hunting vouchers sold by regional authorities, and a special license to hunt game animals (as determined by federal and regional regulation).

<sup>14</sup> The Book is a state document established for documenting rare and endangered species of animals plants and fungi, as well as some local subspecies that exist within the territory of the Russian Federation and its continental shelf.

<sup>15</sup> Other planned project activities focus on capacity building and information sharing (Component 3). These activities do not involve any resettlement considerations and thus will not be discussed in this Framework.

shepherds’ “parking places”<sup>16</sup>—open areas, where shepherds establish tents during the grazing period—will not be affected by the designation of these areas as “protected.”

**Mitigation: restrictions on herding should be avoided.** It is critical to ensure that the herding practices of local communities are not affected by the expansion of the protected areas. While regional wildlife agencies assured the consultant that no such impact is envisaged, this matter should be closely monitored during the implementation of the project through regular consultations with the local community, ensuring that both men and women are represented.

### **(ii) Hunting**

**Concern: possible restrictions on hunting.** Local communities, and in particular IPs, hunt for subsistence and pursuant to their cultural heritage and traditions (only men are involved in hunting). However, hunting is prohibited in some categories of PAs, and thus the expansion of such areas would prevent the local community from hunting (either for subsistence or for commercial purposes). This matter was thoroughly discussed during the consultations with local communities in the region, and they emphasized that restrictions on hunting will negatively affect their economic sources of income and livelihood.

**Mitigation: avoid restrictions on hunting, designate appropriate sites in PAs as “Traditional Use Zones”, compensate PAPs that lost access to hunting areas, and introduce trainings on the sustainable development of hunting areas.** Since hunting is an important source of livelihood for local communities (and in particular for IPs) PA expansion should not negatively affect their hunting rights. To the extent possible, appropriate sites in the expanded PAs should be designated as “Traditional Use Zones”, which legally allow PAPs free access to hunting areas and do not restrict their hunting rights. In case such designation is not possible, PAPs who lose access to hunting areas due to the expansion of PAs will be compensated through the Project’s small grants program (PAPs would have to prove that their livelihood has been affected). Further, the Project will offer local communities trainings on the development of community-based wildlife management project in the key Snow leopard habitats in the region. These measures will therefore strengthen the ability of local communities to engage in sustainable and responsible hunting practices.

**Concern: allocation of forest usage rights to commercial parties.** As noted above, regional authorities can auction off, at their full discretion, time-bound hunting or logging rights in local forests. As local communities typically neither control such decisions nor possess the necessary funds to compete in auctions, they are worried that they will increasingly lose access to their forest-based livelihoods.

**Mitigation: expansion of protected areas.** The strengthening of the protection level of PAs as part of the Project will mitigate this concern, since a protected area cannot be auctioned off for the use of private commercial parties. Some of the consultation participants were highly supportive of PA expansion for this reason.

### **(iii) Poaching**

**Concern: need to reduce poaching.** Poaching is a major problem in the region. Expert evaluations made by the Committee of Game Management of the Republic of Altai as well as several NGOs

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<sup>16</sup> There are currently 369 of such parking places in the Republic of Altai.

show that there is no direct poaching of Snow Leopards in the region, but poaching of ungulates (e.g., roe deer, red deer, ibex, musk deer, etc.) is relatively widespread. This can be explained by the incapacity of local authorities to identify and adequately respond to cases of illegal hunting in regional (as opposed to federal) PAs or lands located outside of PAs. The monitoring of protected areas is challenging due to the lack of sufficient budget to employ qualified inspectors and the challenging geographic terrain of the relevant areas, which all prevent an effective centralized monitoring regime. Further, the dire economic situation in the region and the demand for fur makes poaching attractive to the impoverished local population. Illegal commercial or trophy hunting is also practiced by foreigners or Russians arriving from other regions, and illegal hunting from private helicopters has become popular in the past years. A regional program is in place to engage volunteer inspectors who would monitor hunting activities in PAs, but these inspectors are not paid and thus cannot be regarded as fully reliable monitors. These conditions are worrisome given the need to protect the Snow Leopard.

***Mitigation: increase incentives to report violations, expand access to alternative livelihood options & improve the protected area monitoring regime.*** Consultation participants suggested various approaches to mitigate illegal poaching. None of these suggestions could fully resolve the problem, but their combination could be effective in order to strengthen the protection of the Snow Leopard's habitat.

- (i) Monetary prizes could be offered to individuals for reporting cases of poaching to local authorities. Some consultation participants were supportive of this approach, and suggested that a prize of 10,000 rubles or so would be appropriate. Others were skeptical that such a solution would lead local residents to collaborate with authorities by "telling on each other". It seems, however, that local residents will be open to reporting on illegal activities by out-of-region hunters.
- (ii) Satellite communication points could be set up in PAs. In some cases, local shepherds and hunters notice violations, but cannot report these cases to authorities because there is no connectivity in the mountains and traveling back to the village is overly burdensome. The establishment of satellite communication points could mitigate this problem, but this solution would be expensive. Further, it is unclear to what extent such communication points will be used, given the potential reluctance to report violations to authorities.
- (iii) The regional WWF coordinator cited a positive experience from the Argut village in Altai Republic, where the WWF collaborates with former poachers, who used to hunt for the Snow Leopard. These poachers are paid an annual fee for providing evidence (e.g., photos of traces) of the existence of Snow Leopards in protected areas in their vicinity. This approach provided incentives to poachers to avoid engaging in any poaching activities, and also helped collect evidence about the Snow Leopard habitat. However, the viability of this solution depends on the availability of individuals who possess the necessary hunting knowledge and experience and are willing to collaborate with the WWF.
- (iv) Educating the local population regarding the damage of poaching. The Project could certainly support an educational program to local residents understand the negative impacts of poaching on the environment. Such a program could be offered both to school children and to adults.



However, the effectiveness of this program will depend on the availability of alternative sources of livelihood, which will provide local residents with a viable economic alternative to hunting.

- (v) The expansion of PAs as a result of the Project would enhance the budget available to national parks in the region and thus allow them to employ additional inspectors or provide some compensation to volunteer inspectors. This solution will certainly decrease the risk of poaching, but illegal hunting probably will not be fully eradicated due to the challenging geographic terrain of the region. It would be important to take advantage of any new inspector jobs to employ local community members, and in particular IPs. This would both take advantage of their knowledge of the local terrain and provide valuable employment opportunities.
- (vi) The provision of alternative sources of livelihood to the local population will serve as the most systemic solution to poaching, as this approach will reduce the incentives that drive poaching. This solution will not address the problem of illegal trophy hunting or hunting from helicopters, which are predominantly practiced by wealthy out-of-region individuals, but it could be highly attractive for the local population (further details below).

In sum, a combination of improved anti-poaching supervision (by strengthening the legal liability for illegal actions against the big cats and their prey, as well as hiring additional inspectors, and training and equipping them), alternative livelihood options, financial incentives, and a targeted educational program could be effective in mitigating cases of poaching and illegal hunting in the region and helping protect the habitat of the Snow Leopard. The Project indeed plans a range of activities to this extent: (i) providing federal and regional PAs in Republics of Altai and Tyva and southern part of Krasnoyarsky krai with necessary equipment to fight poaching in the Snow leopard habitats; (ii) carrying out trainings on effective anti-poaching and management for PA staff in the habitats of Snow leopard in Republics of Altai and Tyva and southern part of Krasnoyarsky krai; (iii) support of patrol group operational costs for Sailugemsky NP, Sayano-Shushensky NR and Ubsunurskay Kotlovina NP to fight poaching in the key Snow leopard habitats; (iv) development of management plan for Sailugemsky NP; and (v) support of patrol group operational costs for Sailugemsky NP, Sayano-Shushensky NR and Ubsunurskay Kotlovina NP to fight poaching in the key Snow leopard habitats.

#### *(iv) Alternative livelihood sources*

**Concern:** Unemployment is the most critical socio-economic problem in the region, and all consultation participants were deeply worried about it.

**Mitigation:** Consultation participants suggested various approaches to reducing unemployment. None of these suggestions could fully resolve the problem, but the project could contribute to local community and IP development by undertaking the following measures:

(i) ***Prioritize local employment in protected areas and other Project positions.*** The expansion of PAs as part of the project is likely to positively contribute to the employment opportunities of local communities. Since additional budget will be transferred to the management of the newly assigned PAs, new work places will be created. However, no special provisions are currently envisaged to ensure that local community members will benefit from any hiring preferences, and no affirmative action is planned for IPs. In order to improve the living conditions of the local population, it is strongly recommended that the Project prioritizes the employment of the local population, with an

emphasis on employing IPs, the poor and other marginalized groups (e.g., women that are single heads of households, unemployed, etc.), in all new work places. It could be especially promising to employ IPs and other local community members as inspectors in PAs and/or as part of anti-poaching brigades.

(ii) ***Provide capacity building activities and small grants and micro loans for tourism development.*** Consultation participants expressed a high interest in the development of tourism in the Republic of Altai. Some of them are already engaged in the tourism business, working as guides or providing tourists with accommodation and car services. Participants emphasized that they would be interested in all possible forms of support in this area. A small grants or micro loans program could be particularly useful in this respect. Local residents noted that they often lack access to credit due to the absence of an initial capital to provide sufficient financial guarantees. Access to micro loans or small grants could resolve this difficulty and provide local residents with an alternative source of income, which would decrease their dependence on hunting (and potentially poaching). Such program could be complemented with trainings that would build the capacity of local residents to engage in the tourism industry (e.g., financial literacy, computer literacy, hotel and restaurant management, local history and traditions, etc.).

Planned Project activities will indeed involve such support to local communities. Such activities will include the following (i) development of sustainable livelihood programs for local communities living in the Snow Leopard habitats in Republics of Altai and Tyva, and southern part of Krasnoyarsky Krai based on existing economic opportunities and best experience on alternative income generation; (ii) trainings and consultations for local communities living in Snow Leopard habitats in Republics of Altai and Tyva, and southern part of Krasnoyarsky Krai on small business development; (iii) support of small business development in the target local communities via small grants and micro-loans; and (iv) support of community-based Snow Leopard oriented tourism projects in Republics of Altai and Tyva.

#### ***(v) Gender***

Consultations revealed that women in Altai-Sayan predominantly work at home. They are responsible for childcare and also take care of the livestock (e.g., milking cows, dairy production, etc.). Women typically do not hunt and do not herd.

***Small grants / loans program.*** A micro grants/loans program could considerably benefit women by allowing them to develop small home-based enterprises. Such a program could focus on the following: ethnic tourism development, accommodation to tourists (e.g., development of a bed & breakfast system), non-timber forest product processing and souvenirs production, purchase of machinery to produce dairy products or engage in felt production, etc. All female consultation participants expressed enthusiasm about such program.

Priority in access to loans and grants should be given to the most vulnerable women (IP, unemployed, single heads of households, poor, etc.) and to women who belong to households that were negatively affected by project activities (e.g., lost access to hunting areas). ***Trainings.*** Any micro grants/loans program should be complemented by trainings that would enhance women's skills and help them find employment or start their own enterprises. Such trainings could focus on sharing best practices and building capacity on tourism development, hotel & restaurant

management, farm management, dairy production, agriculture, financial literacy, computer literacy, as well as any activities related to tourism, with a particular emphasis on ethno-tourism .

Since the Project already plans to carry out a small grants/loans program coupled with a range of trainings and capacity building events, such programs and trainings should specifically target women and prioritize their interests and needs.

#### *(vi) Indigenous people*

IPs that live in Project areas are eligible for various state benefits (e.g., free hunting licenses) and do not seem to suffer discrimination relative to other local communities that live in the Project areas. IPs and non-indigenous communities live together and in most cases benefit from similar social benefits and rights (for instance, public employees in the regions are eligible to retire at an earlier age compared to the average retirement age in Russia). Furthermore, some community members are of indigenous origin but have not formally registered as such. Preferential treatment of formally-registered IPs could discriminate against those who were not able to acquire such formal status for various bureaucratic reasons and lead to social tensions. Further, the common international definition would recognize as IPs individuals that may not be eligible for recognition under the more restrictive Russian legislation. It is, therefore, suggested to apply similar mitigation measures to all local residents, without special treatment of formally-recognized IPs.

### **3.2.Far East**

Project activities that are planned in the Far East region and may have resettlement implications including (i) the expansion of buffer zones around federal protected areas; (ii) support of the model project of Sidatun Community-Based Game and Forest Management; and (iii) technical assistance to anti-poaching brigades in the tiger range. The anticipated impacts of these activities, accompanied by possible mitigation measures, are listed below. This assessment is based on a series of consultation meetings with PAPs that were conducted as part of the Framework preparation in February 2015 (see Annex I for details).

#### *(i) Hunting*

**Concern: lack of access to hunting areas.** Local communities depend on hunting for subsistence, and primarily hunt for sables and musk-deers. However, access to hunting areas is a major challenge since the majority of forests in the Project areas in Primorski Krai are auctioned off to private commercial companies (e.g., RSOP). These companies refuse to sell hunting licenses to local communities (nor can they be legally obliged to do so). The companies employ inspectors that strictly monitor activities in the forests, effectively barring local communities from subsistence hunting. In some cases, these companies also prevent local communities from collecting nuts, in violation of Article 11 of the Forest Code of the RF.<sup>17</sup>

The indigenous *Udegi* have acquired hunting rights on assigned land plots, but other IPs do not have hunting rights in forests in their vicinity. This problem is not a Project-related impact, since

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<sup>17</sup> Article 11 stipulates that citizens have the right to freely access forests and collect there wild fruits, berries, nuts, mushrooms, and other non-timber forest products .

anticipated Project activities do not intervene in the original allocation of hunting rights. However, this problem presents a major issue for local IPs.

**Mitigation: support the allocation of hunting areas to IPs.** There is little that the Project could do to resolve the problem of IPs' access to hunting areas. The expansion of buffer zones around federal protected areas is not likely to help, as buffer zones do not change the prior legal regime in the area, aside from prohibiting clear-cut logging. Thus, the legal status of lands that are rented by private companies for hunting purposes will not be amended.

The federal national park "Udegi Legend" intends to allocate to local indigenous communities four land plots for hunting purposes once authorities confirm the geographic boundaries of the park. The park does not yet have set boundaries because of a lengthy arbitration process, in which one of the Udegi communities sought to prevent the annexation of their lands to the park. The Udegi community won the arbitration and now uses the land plot for logging and hunting.

However, other communities do not have similar access rights. They cannot hunt in the park until its boundaries are officially determined. The Project does not have considerable impact on this matter, but it could create goodwill among IPs by following up with the park authorities to ensure that they allocate land plots to local IPs for hunting purposes. Additionally, the Project could advocate to amend the federal and regional forestry legislation so that private companies that lease the forests would be obliged to provide a sustainable number of subsistence hunting licenses to local communities. The planned Project activities to support "model nature resources projects", such as the Sidatun Community-Based Game and Forest Management and Bikinskiy National Park, will also be instrumental in helping affected local communities obtain access to hunting areas.

#### ***(ii) Poaching & conflicts with tigers***

**Concerns: poaching & conflicts with tigers.** Based on the findings of consultation with local communities, poaching does not present a major problem in the region—primarily due to its geographic terrain. There are only a few access roads to the taiga (boreal forest in Siberia) in the area and they can be effectively monitored by inspectors. Poaching is also regarded by local communities as overly costly—poachers that are caught can lose their hunting licenses and plots.

Local communities did not report personal experiences of overt conflicts with tigers, but some of those who live in the tiger range recounted unpleasant encounters. Reportedly, tigers commonly attack dogs that accompany hunters in the taiga and, in the end of 2014, a hunter was killed by a tiger.

**Mitigation: support anti-poaching brigades.** The project intends to provide technical assistance and build the capacity of anti-poaching brigades. The operating brigades are expected to promptly respond to any cases of poaching and to conflicts between tigers and local population. Consultation participants had no experience with the anti-poaching brigades and thus their effectiveness cannot be assessed. The Project's contribution would include purchasing equipment and providing trainings to the brigades. While poaching does not seem to be a major issue in the region, this mitigation measure is sound and should proceed, as planned, to mitigate conflicts between tigers and the local population. Specific anti-poaching activities in the region will include: technical support to anti-poaching brigades in the tiger range; development of joint data base on poachers to be used by all law enforcement agencies; installation of the GLONAS monitoring system on all vehicles of anti-

poaching brigades; supporting a system of advanced training for rangers of anti-poaching brigades; and development of a system of public participation in anti-poaching activities.

It could also be important to take advantage of any new work places that are created in anti-poaching brigades in order to employ local community members, and in particular IPs. This would both allow the brigades take advantage of their exquisite knowledge of the local terrain and mitigate the high rates of unemployment among local communities.

### *(iii) Logging*

**Concern: lack of access to firewood.** Despite the abundant forest areas in the region, local communities reported lack of access to logging. Consultation participants complained that they are unable to legally collect firewood because all logging rights in nearby forests have been auctioned to private companies (e.g., Ternei Forest in Primorski Krai). Due to the remote location of some of the local communities, their options of purchasing firewood are limited due to a long transportation distance; they resort to illegal collection of firewood, and thus suffer fines.

**Mitigation: support legislative changes.** As with hunting rights, there is little the Project can do to resolve this problem. The Forestry Code allows regional authorities to initiate auctions and rent out logging rights in forests to commercial companies. Currently there is no legal way to force private parties to allow local communities to collect firewood in forests close to their villages. This situation can only be changed by amending the forestry legislation at the federal level. If deemed likely to be effective, the Project should (to the extent possible) advocate regulatory change in this area.

### *(iv) Alternative livelihood sources*

**Concern:** Unemployment is the main socio-economic concern of the local population. Indigenous communities that do not have access to hunting areas are particularly vulnerable in this respect and large numbers of IPs are reportedly unemployed.

**Mitigation:** Any contribution of the Project to the creation of new work places will be very important for the local community. The expansion of buffer zones surrounding federal PAs will enable the regional wildlife authorities to hire additional inspectors, who will monitor both the PAs and the buffer zones. This could help create job opportunities for local men and women. The Project's planned support of the Sidatun Community-Based Game and Forest Management could also help create new work places for the local community.

### *(v) Gender*

Women are primarily responsible for childcare and work at home. Only a few of them work as public servants, teachers, or in utility stores. However, some women—especially members of indigenous communities—take an active part in their community life. Further, women in communities that are located in close proximity to forests are seasonally engaged in the collection of pine nuts in the forest. They typically sell these pine nuts to local organizations, such as the Sidatun Community-Based Game and Forest Management.

The Project will support women in the Bikinsky National Park in ethnic tourism development, creation of a bed & breakfast system, non-timber forest product processing, and souvenirs production. This support will include learning and training programs, creation of new job places,

and provision of grants and loans for the development of small businesses. IP women should be specifically targeted and actively engaged in these activities.

In other Project areas, Project activities are likely to create new work places (e.g., by expanding PAs, offering support to “model projects” such as Sidatun Community-Based Game and Forest Management and Bikinskiy National Park, establishing training centers, development of information materials, etc.). To the extent possible, the hiring of qualified women (especially indigenous women) should be prioritized and special efforts should be made to identify and attract suitable women to these positions. Further, Project activities will include the organization of an Annual Tiger Day, annual Amur leopard festival. Women (and in particular indigenous women) should also be actively engaged in the organization of these events.

These activities should primarily seek to engage the most vulnerable women (IP, unemployed, single heads of households, poor, etc.) and women who belong to households that were negatively affected by project activities (e.g., lost access to hunting areas)

#### *(vi) Indigenous people*

Indigenous peoples in the region are eligible for a range of social benefits (such as free hunting licenses in forests that have not been leased) and are generally well-represented in local public affairs. In Primorskiy Krai, for instance, there are five associations that represent the interests of the Udegi communities. One of these associations also has assigned land plots for hunting. Other communities lack not only representation but also comparable access to hunting areas and significantly suffer from unemployment. The federal national park “Udegi Legend” intends to allocate to these struggling Udegi communities four land plots for hunting purposes, but the park’s geographic boundaries should be officially confirmed before this will be done. It is recommended that the Project follow up with the park authorities to ensure that such allocation indeed takes place. Local Udegi communities also reported that the national park authorities have imposed fees for their traditional rafting on the river Iman, which flows through the park zone. It is recommended that the Project work with the park to exempt IPs from such fees.

### **3.3. North Caucasus**

In preparation of this RPF/PF, consultations were held in the Republic of Kabardino-Balkaria. In the North Caucasian region of Kabardino-Balkaria the project intends to raise the protection level of the regional-level wildlife refuge Karasou (19,000 ha) and potentially connect it to the federal Kabardino-Balkarian mountain nature reserve, which is located 15 km from the refuge. Another planned Project activity is to expand the area of the nature reserve to the north and connect it with an existing national park. This activity does not have any impact on local communities since no one lives or herds in the affected area. Moreover, this area used to be part of the reserve, but was exempted from it at a later stage for political reasons. It can now be returned to the reserve without causing any difficulties.

Activities in other North Caucasian regions will include the development of proposals for regional PAs plans in the Republics of Karachay-Cherkessia, Kabardino-Balkaria, Dagestan, North Ossetia-Alania, Ingushetia and Adegia; organization of roundtables, meetings with regional authorities, local communities and target groups (hunters, shepherds) in the leopard release site and its habitats;

increasing the effectiveness of the protected area network in the Republic of Karachay-Cherkessia through establishment of the ecological corridor for seasonal and daily migration of Persian leopard; expansion of a nature reserve and establishment of a national park in the Republic of Dagestan; extension of the buffer zone of a nature reserve in the Republic of Ingushetia; and more. Consultations in the Kabardino-Balkariya revealed only one concern associated with anticipated Project activities: herding access restrictions. Hunting is currently prohibited in wildlife refuges and the local community did not express concerns about this restriction. The Project will not affect these conditions. The anticipated Project impact, accompanied by possible mitigation measures, are listed below. This assessment is based on consultation meetings with PAPs that were conducted as part of the Framework preparation in Kabardino-Balkariya in February 2015 (see Annex I for details).

### *(i) Herding*

**Concern: herding access restrictions.** Livestock is the main source of income for the local community. Men are engaged in herding and meat processing, while women are preoccupied in knitting (using the yarn made of sheep wool) and dairy farming. Some of the areas of the Karasou refuge are leased by the local community for herding purposes. While the lease rent is paid by individual members of the community, the whole community benefits from these areas for herding. Reportedly, there are no conflicts between community members with regard to the allocation of grazing areas. Consultation participants were concerned that elevating the protection status of the refuge and expanding its areas will negatively affect the local community's sources of livelihood by restricting its current herding practices (and as a result negatively affecting meat and dairy production and knitting).

**Mitigation: prevention of access restrictions.** Since herding does not have any adverse impact on the refuge habitat and there is a dearth of available land in the region, it is also critical for the local community that any expansion of PAs does not inhibit herding and related economic activities. It is strongly recommended that Project activities avoid any interference into the current herding practices of the local community in Kabardino-Balkariya. This could be achieved by exempting the herding areas from the refuge regime, and permitting local community to keep herding cattle there. The remaining areas of the refuge could then be legally annexed to the nature reserve (without creating a physical link between the two) and/or the protection status of these areas could be elevated from a regional to a federal level. The creation of buffer zones or any other expansion of protected areas should not change the prior legal regime in these areas and avoid any interference with existing community usage.

### *(ii) Alternative livelihood sources*

**Concern:** Unemployment is a considerable issue in the region. Livestock is currently the main source of income, but the local community would also like to develop tourism, stone-processing, production of mineral water, and more. Conditions for the development of small businesses are currently poor, as individual entrepreneurs often lack skills and do not have to effective trainings and capacity building programs. Access to finance is limited and available grant programs are minimal.

**Mitigation: trainings.** A training program that would help local residents acquire valuable skills (e.g., farm management, small/medium entrepreneurship, agriculture or horticulture best practices, etc.) could be highly attractive for both men and women in the community. Such training program

could be carried out as part of a planned Project activity that consists of the “development of alternative income generating sources to poaching for local population residing in Persian leopard habitats.”

***(iii)Gender***

The Project will sponsor during the first 3 months of implementation a gender survey that will aim to identify how women in the North Caucasus use natural resources in the region, how their livelihoods can be supported, which types of trainings and activities could be useful for their needs, and how women could be strategically involved in Project-activities in the region.

Women predominantly take care of children at home, and are also engaged in knitting and dairy farming. Some of them sell their production to local tourists or send it to markets in bigger cities (e.g., in Nalchik). These women could considerably benefit from a training program, which would allow them to improve their skills and enhance their knowledge. Further, planned Project activities in the North Caucasus include an extensive communication program, which consists of the development of print and video products for local communities on cultural, ecological, and economical values of the Persian leopard; environmental awareness raising; organizing events aimed at involving the public in Persian leopard conservation projects; and more. Regional Project Coordinators should actively engage local women in these activities and prioritize their employment in any new work places that will be created.

Since it is often considered inappropriate for women to work outside of home, it could be useful to offer women trainings on the management of small/medium home-based enterprises, as well as any capacity building on dairy farming, agriculture and horticulture, knitting, craft-production, etc. This could be done as part of the abovementioned Project activity on the development of alternative income generating sources.

***(iv)Indigenous people***

It appears that IPs (as defined in the WWF’s definition of IPs or in the Russian legislation) do not reside in Project areas. If the socio-economic survey that will be conducted as part of the Project reveals that IP groups do reside in Project areas, it is recommended to apply to them the same mitigation measures that were suggested for women above.

**3.4.Summary of Anticipated Project Impacts & Suggested Mitigation Measures**

The following Table summarizes for each of the Project’s regions the anticipated impacts (or community concerns), suggested mitigation measures, and the feasibility of the implementation of these measures.

***Table 2. Summary of anticipated impacts and mitigation measures***

<b>Region</b>	<b>Anticipated impact / concern</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>	<b>Feasibility of implementation (easy/medium/difficult)</b>	
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<u>Altai-Sayan</u>	Restrictions on herding in protected areas	RPCs should work closely with regional wildlife authorities to ensure that restrictions on herding are avoided	<i>Easy.</i> Consultations did not reveal difficulties with the implementation of this measure.	
	Restrictions on hunting	<p>To the extent possible, appropriate sites in the expanded PAs should be designated as “Traditional Use Zones”—a legal regime that allows PAPs free access to hunting areas and does not restrict their hunting rights.</p> <p>In case such designation is not possible, PAPs who lose access to hunting areas due to the expansion of PAs will be compensated through the Project’s small grants program (PAPs would have to prove that their livelihood has been affected).</p>	<i>Medium/Difficult.</i> The designation of “Traditional Use Zones” may be politically challenging and not always feasible. The implementation of the small grants program may also be difficult due to the need to prioritize affected PAPs and establish Project’s impact	
	Allocation of forest usage rights to private commercial parties	The expansion of protected areas as part of the Project will prevent the allocation of forest usage rights to commercial parties	<i>Easy.</i> The Project intends to expand the protected areas and will thus exempt these areas from auctions over forest usage rights.	
	Need to reduce poaching	The Project should offer monetary prizes, education programs, and alternative livelihood programs to help reduce poaching. It will also be important to employ local community members, and in particular IPs, as inspectors as part of anti-poaching initiatives.	<i>Medium.</i> A combination of mitigation measures, some of which are costly, is required to reduce the risk of poaching.	

	Unemployment	RPCs should prioritize employment of local community members as part of Project activities & the project should offer a micro-loans program	<i>Medium.</i> The regional WWF office has a positive prior experience with a micro grants/ loans program. Project activities are likely to create new work places and local employment could be prioritized there. However, the project has a limited impact on the activities on regional wildlife authorities.	
	Gender	The Project should offer a micro loans / grants program and trainings to support project-affected women. Priority in access to loans and grants should be given to the most vulnerable women (IP, unemployed, single heads of households, poor, etc.) and to women who belong to households that were negatively affected by project activities (e.g., lost access to hunting areas).	<i>Medium.</i> The regional WWF office has a positive prior experience with such a program.	
	Indigenous peoples	No need for special preferential treatment.		
<u>Far East</u>	Lack of access to hunting areas	The Project should support regional wildlife authorities in allocating of hunting areas to IPs and other local communities.	<i>Difficult.</i> This measure is largely beyond the control of the Project. It is recommended that the Project works with regional wildlife agencies to allocate to local and IP communities some land plots for sustainable hunting for their subsistence.	
	Poaching & conflicts with tigers	The Project should support anti-poaching brigades. It will also be important to employ local community membres, and in particular IPs, as inspectors as part of anti-poaching initiatives.	<i>Easy.</i> The Project intends to offer the brigades technical assistance and equipment.	
	Lack of access to logging and firewood	The Project should support legislative changes.	<i>Difficult.</i> This measure is largely beyond the control of the Project, and the Project's ability to initiate legislative amendments (in the federal Forestry Code) may be limited.	

Unemployment	RPCs should prioritize employment of local community members as part of Project activities	<i>Medium.</i> Project activities should lead to the creation of new work places, and the hiring process should give priority to local communities.	
Gender	<p>The Project will support women in the Bikinsky National Park in ethnic tourism development, creation of a bed &amp; breakfast system, non-timber forest product processing, and souvenirs production. This support will include learning and training programs, creation of new job places, and provision of grants and loans for the development of small businesses. IP women should be specifically targeted and actively engaged in these activities.</p> <p>In other Project areas, the Project should invest efforts in hiring women as part of any new work places that will be created as a result of Project activities, and actively engage them in the organization of Project-related events and annual festivals.</p> <p>These activities should primarily seek to engage the most vulnerable women (IP, unemployed, single heads of households, poor, etc.) and women who belong to households that were negatively affected by project activities (e.g., lost access to hunting areas)</p>	<i>Medium.</i> These activities are already planned as part of the Project work plan, but the prioritization of women as part of the support provided to Bikinsky National Park can be challenging since the Project team does not possess sufficient experience with similar approaches .	
Indigenous peoples	The Project should advocate the allocation of hunting areas to IPs	<i>Difficult.</i> See above challenges for mitigating lack of access to hunting areas.	

<u>North Caucasus</u>	Restrictions on herding	RPCs should ensure that restrictions on herding are avoided as a result of the expansion of PAs and no land is alienated	<i>Medium.</i> The exemption of existing community herding areas from PA restrictions should be feasible, but requires the Project’s attention.	
	Unemployment	The Project should offer a training program and help the local community develop alternative livelihood sources.	<i>Medium.</i> There seem to be no prior experience with such programs, but they could be important due to high community demand. It should be checked whether local partners are available to assist WWF Russia in this endeavor.	
	Gender	The Project should target training programs to women’s needs and also engage women in any Project communication activities. The Project will also sponsor during the first 3 months of implementation a gender survey that will aim to identify how women in the North Caucasus use natural resources in the region, how their livelihoods can be supported, which types of trainings and activities could be useful for their needs, and how women could be strategically involved in Project-activities in the region.	<i>Medium.</i> See above.	
	Indigenous peoples	Mitigation measures that are suggested for women should be applied for IPs in case that the socio-economic survey reveals the presence of indigenous groups in Project areas.		

## 4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

### 4.1. Institutional Framework

The project will be managed by WWF-Russia through a Project Management Unit (PMU), which will be established for these purposes. The central office of the PMU will be located at the WWF-Russia office in Moscow. Regional PMU staff will work at three regional WWF-Russia offices in Krasnodar (Northern Caucasus), Krasnoyarsk (Altai-Sayan) and Vladivostok (Far East). The PMU

will be supervised by the Project Manager, who will be responsible for interactions with the WWF-GEF Agency, MNRE, and other key project partners and co-funders. The Project Manager is accountable to the Conservation Program Director.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation (the federal implementing agency) will appoint an official representative (National Project Director), who will be responsible for implementing the Ministry’s decisions. The Project will also have a Project Steering Committee (PSC), which will be chaired by the National Project Director and will be responsible for decisions regarding the overall project management, based on the PMU’s recommendations. The PSC will also ensure that adequate resources are allocated for the effective implementation of the project. Three Regional Steering Committees (RSC), will be established in the project regions: the Northern Caucasus, Altai-Sayan, and Russian Far East, in addition to the PSC, which will take decisions based on PMU recommendations. Regional Project Coordinators (RPCs) will be responsible for the implementation of Project activities in the project regions. The general responsibility for the implementation of this Framework lies on the central office of the PMU. It will be responsible for the day-to-day organization and implementation of the measures recommended in this RPF/PF at the federal level, as well as oversee the implementation of the different mitigation measures prescribed in this Framework and guide the RPCs to execute Project activities in light of the WWF’s resettlement principles and provisions, as specified in this RPF / PF. The central office of the PMU will also serve as an appeal entity, dealing with any grievances not adequately addressed by regional teams. The RPCs will be responsible for the day-to-day implementation of the measures recommended in this RPF / PF on the regional level, together with other Project activities. They will ensure that the regional PMU team closely coordinates all Project activities with local and indigenous men and women from affected communities and holds bi-annual consultations to inform the community of ongoing Project activities, seek men and women’s views, and respond to questions or grievances. Each RPC will manage a grievance redress channel that will allow community members to lodge complaints or ask questions about any of the Project activities. The RPCs will regularly report on the implementation of the RPF to the Project Manager, in accordance with the indicators suggested in section 4.3.

An independent monitoring and evaluation specialist will oversee the implementation of the Framework and report their findings to WWF-Russia and WWF-USA on an annual basis. The purpose of this annual audit will be to verify that the mitigation measures specified in this RPF/PF are undertaken in a satisfactory manner. The suggested monitoring arrangements are specified in section 4.3.

The Table below summarizes the RPF / PF responsibilities of each of the Project stakeholders.

***Table 3. Institutional framework***

Entity	RPF / PF Responsibilities
WWF-USA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation of the RPF / PF implementation</li> </ul>

<u>WWF-Russia (Central office of the PMU)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Day-to-day implementation of the measures outlined in the RPF / PF at the federal level</li> <li>• Supervision of the RPF implementation in each of the regions</li> <li>• Ensuring that all project activities comply with the principles and provisions outlined in the RPF</li> <li>• Consideration of appeals related to communities' grievances and complaints that could not be satisfactorily resolved by the RPCs</li> <li>• Coordination of resettlement-related activities among the RPCs</li> </ul>
<u>The National Implementation Agency (Minprirody of Russia)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approving expenses from the agreed-upon budget and project workplan</li> <li>• Coordinating financial activities of the project from GEF funds and other sources of co-funding</li> <li>• Control of financial reporting</li> <li>• Adoption of technical specifications and tender documentation</li> <li>• Chairmanship of the Project Steering Committee</li> <li>• Ensure effective project implementation on behalf of the Government</li> </ul>
<u>The Project Steering Committee (PSC)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making decisions on the overall project management based on review and recommendations from the PMU</li> <li>• Ensure that required resources are provided for the effective project implementation</li> </ul>
<u>Regional Project Coordinators &amp; regional project teams</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Day-to-day implementation of the measures outlined in the RPF / PF at the regional level</li> <li>• Holding bi-annual consultations and information sessions to inform local men and women of ongoing Project activities, seek their views, and invite questions and grievances</li> <li>• Management of the regional grievance redress mechanism</li> <li>• Monitoring of the implementation of the RPF in each of the regions according to the indicators specified in the RPF</li> </ul>
<u>Three Regional Steering Committees (RSC)</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making decisions based on PMU recommendations at regional level</li> </ul>
<u>Independent M&amp;E specialist</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the RPF in the three regions in accordance with the indicators specified in the RPF</li> </ul>

## 4.2. Grievance Redress Mechanisms

Pursuant to the WWF policy on involuntary resettlement and process framework requirement, the Project should set up and manage a grievance redress mechanism (GRM) that would address PAPs' grievances, complaints, and suggestions. The GRM should be managed by the RPCs in each of the regions and regularly monitored by the PMU. It should comply with the following requirements.



- a) ***Uptake.*** The GRM should have multiple uptake locations and channels. PAPs should be able to submit complaints or suggestions in person, via mail, email, phone, or complaint boxes located in strategic locations, etc. These channels should be locally-appropriate, widely accessible and publicized in written and verbal forms on all project communication materials, and in public locations (e.g., local stores, community centers, local authorities' offices, etc.).
- b) ***Sort & process.*** All grievances should be registered. All complaints submitted to RPCs should be registered and the complaint should be assigned a unique tracking number upon its submission. Each RPC should maintain a database with full information on all submitted complaints and responses taken. This data is important to assess trends and patterns of grievances across the Project regions and for monitoring & evaluation purposes.
- c) ***Investigate & act.*** Strict complaint resolution procedures should be developed and observed, and personnel should be assigned to handle the grievances. The central PMU and the RPCs in each of the regions should develop clear and strict grievance redress procedures, and assign responsibilities. Dedicated staff with social inclusion and social analysis capacity should be assigned in regional teams to investigate complaints and take appropriate actions. Such procedures should include a requirement to register all complaints, strict allocation of responsibilities, clear timelines for processing and handling complaints (e.g., responses to complaints must be provided within 15 days, or 25 days for particularly complex complaints), and regular communication with beneficiaries regarding the status of their complaints. To the extent possible, complaints should be handled at the lowest decision-making level, as close as possible to the complainant. Hence, complaints should be dealt directly by RPCs, and only brought to the attention of the central PMU if the RPCs are unable to find recourse. Complaints that are beyond the Project scope should be conveyed by RPCs to relevant local or regional authorities.
- d) ***Provide feedback.*** Feedback should be provided in response to all registered grievances. RPCs can provide feedback by contacting the complainant directly (if his/her identity is known), by reporting on actions taken in community consultations and/or by publishing the results of the complaints on community bulletin boards and as part of project materials.
- e) ***Enable appeals.*** Complainants should be notified of their right to appeal the decision taken by the regional Project team. If complainants are not satisfied with RPCs' response to their grievance, they should be able to appeal the RPCs' decision to the central PMU. All appeals should be registered and decisions should be taken within 15 days. PAPs will also have a right to bring their grievance to court if they are not satisfied with the Project's GRM.
- f) ***Monitor & Evaluate.*** The performance of the GRM should be regularly monitored. As all information about the grievances and their resolution is expected to be recorded, the M&E of the grievance redress system in the three regions should not be challenging. This M&E data can be used to conduct in-depth analyses of complaint trends and patterns, identify potential weaknesses in the Project implementation, and consider improvements. It is also recommended that the M&E specialist assigned to the Project follows up with a selection of male, female, indigenous and non-indigenous complainants to assess their satisfaction with the grievance redress process.

The effectiveness of the GRM depends to a large extent on PAPs' awareness and trust of the system. In order to encourage PAPs to actively use the GRM, it is necessary to ensure that they are fully aware of the system's availability and know how to use it. First, various channels could be employed to provide information about the GRM, explain how it works, and specify how it could be contacted. The contact details (name, phone number, mail and email address, etc.) of the person responsible for GRM at the PIU will be disseminated as part of all public hearings and consultations, as well as in the local media, on community bulletins, and in the offices of regional wildlife agencies and local authorities. It is also important to assure that information about the GRM is available in public locations that are frequented by vulnerable groups and IPs (e.g., IP associations or women health centers).

### **4.3. Monitoring & Evaluation**

No later than three months after the confirmation of the precise Project activities and locations, RPCs in all three regions will be responsible for carrying out a socio-economic survey to spell out the socio-economic conditions of PAPs in each of the Project areas and to identify vulnerable PAPs (including women, IPs and the poor) that would require special livelihood restoration measures. The survey could collect information on some of the following aspects: number of individuals per household (disaggregated by sex), sources of income, average monthly income, ethnicity, education, health situation, land ownership, house type and value, etc. This survey will also specify the positive or negative impact of planned Project activities on each of the project affected individuals (e.g., restrictions on herding or hunting, eligibility to trainings or micro-grants, etc.). It should be noted that this survey is different from the gender-focused survey that will be carried out in the North Caucasus.

The results of this survey will serve as a benchmark for the subsequent monitoring & evaluation (M&E) activities. The impact of Project activities on PAPs should be monitored and evaluated on an annual basis, throughout the duration of the Project.

In addition to these M&E activities, RPCs should hold in each of the three regions bi-annual consultations to inform the community (men, women, IPs) of ongoing Project activities, seek their views, and respond to questions or grievances. This could also be an opportunity to follow up on the effectiveness of GRM activities.

An independent monitoring and evaluation specialist will oversee the implementation of the Framework and report their findings to WWF-Russia and WWF-USA on an annual basis. The purpose of this annual audit will be to verify that the mitigation measures specified in this RPF/PF are undertaken in a satisfactory manner.

Table 4 specifies the indicators that could be monitored to assess the impact of Project activities on local communities. This table provides a large range of indicators and it is recommended that the Project teams chooses from these the most appropriate ones for the Project.

***Table 4. Safeguards M&E indicators***



<b>Project impacts</b>	<b>1. Indicators (#, %, or status/condition)</b>	<b>2. Sources of data</b>	<b>3. Methods of data collection</b>	<b>4. Who will collect the data</b>	<b>5. Baseline value (2015)</b>	<b>6. Expected value Mid-term</b>	<b>7. Expected value Final Year</b>
<b>Access to herding</b>	Regular access to project areas for herding purposes for all affected local herdes (Y/N)	Regional wildlife agencies & Local community	Activity reports & annual survey	Regional Project Coordinators	Yes	Yes	Yes
	# of local residents (disaggregated by IP status) who use project areas for herding  a. North Caucasus b. Far East c. Altai-Sayan	Regional wildlife agencies & Local community	Activity reports & annual survey	Regional Project Coordinators	a. XXX b. None c. XXX	a. XXX b. None c. XXX	a. XXX b. None c. XXX
<b>Access to hunting</b>	# of individuals who were allocated hunting plots on project areas (disaggregated by IP status and poverty level)  a. Northern Caucasus b. Altai-Sayan c. Far East	Regional wildlife agencies & local communities	Activity reports & annual survey	Regional Project Coordinators	a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX	a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX	a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX
	Area of territories managed by local communities (ha) in the project areas for game or other nature resources  a. Northern Caucasus b. Altai-Sayan c. Far East	Regional wildlife authorities	Activity reports	RPCs	a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX	a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX	a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX

<b>Project impacts</b>	<b>1. Indicators (#, %, or status/condition)</b>	<b>2. Sources of data</b>	<b>3. Methods of data collection</b>	<b>4. Who will collect the data</b>	<b>5. Baseline value (2015)</b>	<b>6. Expected value Mid-term</b>	<b>7. Expected value Final Year</b>
	# of PAPs who lost access to hunting areas and were compensated by the project (only for Altai-Sayan)	RPCs	Activity Reports	RPCs	0	XXX	XXX
<b>Access to logging</b>	# of logging licenses available to local community members in project areas (disaggregated by IP status) – this indicator will only be used for the Far East	Regional wildlife agencies & local community	Activity reports & annual survey	Regional Project Coordinators	XXX	XXX	XXX
	# of people with regular access to logging areas for subsistence purposes (disaggregated by IP status)  a. Northern Caucasus b. Altai-Sayan c. Far East	Local community	Activity reports & annual survey	Regional Project Coordinators	a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX	a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX	a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX
<b>Alternative livelihood sources</b>	# of new work places created as a result of project activities  a. Northern Caucasus b. Altai-Sayan c. Far East	Regional wildlife agencies & subcontractors	Activity reports & annual survey	Regional Project Coordinators	a. 0 b. 0 c. 0	a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX	a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX

<b>Project impacts</b>	<b>1. Indicators (#, %, or status/ condition)</b>	<b>2. Sources of data</b>	<b>3. Methods of data collection</b>	<b>4. Who will collect the data</b>	<b>5. Baseline value (2015)</b>	<b>6. Expected value Mid-term</b>	<b>7. Expected value Final Year</b>
	<p># of local community members employed as a result of project activities (disaggregated by IP status and gender)</p> <p>a. Northern Caucasus b. Altai-Sayan c. Far East</p>	Regional wildlife agencies	Activity reports & annual survey	Regional Project Coordinators	<p>a. 0 b. 0 c. 0</p>	<p>a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX</p>	<p>a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX</p>
	<p># of small grants and micro-loans provided to local people to develop alternative sources of income (disaggregated by IP status and gender)</p> <p>a. Northern Caucasus b. Altai-Sayan c. Far East</p>	PMU & local community	Analysis of activity reports & annual survey	Regional Project Coordinators	<p>a. 0 b. 0 c. 0</p>	<p>a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX</p>	<p>a. XXX b. XXX c. XXX</p>
	<p># of local people trained in the alternative income development in the project areas (disaggregated by IP status and gender)</p> <p>a. Northern Caucasus b. Altai-Sayan c. Far East</p>	PMU	Analysis of activity reports	Regional Project Coordinators	<p>a. 0 b. 250 c. 0</p>	<p>a. 30 b. 400 c. 50</p>	<p>a. 80 b. 600 c. 100</p>

<b>Project impacts</b>	<b>1. Indicators (#, %, or status/condition)</b>	<b>2. Sources of data</b>	<b>3. Methods of data collection</b>	<b>4. Who will collect the data</b>	<b>5. Baseline value (2015)</b>	<b>6. Expected value Mid-term</b>	<b>7. Expected value Final Year</b>
	<p># of local people involved in conservation of big cats via ex-poacher – donor agreements (disaggregated by IP status)</p> <p>a. Northern Caucasus b. Altai-Sayan c. Far East</p>	PMU	Activity reports	RPCs	<p>a. 0 b. 2 c. 0</p>	<p>a. 0 b. 5 c. 5</p>	<p>a. 0 b. 7 c. 10</p>
<b>Grievance redress mechanisms</b>	<p>% of registered grievances that were resolved according to the stipulated standards (disaggregated by IP status and gender)</p> <p>a. Northern Caucasus b. Altai-Sayan c. Far East</p>	Regional Project Coordinators	Activity reports	Regional Project Coordinators	<p>a. 0 b. 0 c. 0</p>	<p>a. 100% b. 100% c. 100%</p>	<p>a. 100% b. 100% c. 100%</p>
	<p>Locally-appropriate communication through multiple channels of GRM and how issues were resolved on a likert scale of 1 (low) – 4 (high)</p> <p>a. Northern Caucasus b. Altai-Sayan c. Far East</p>	Regional Project Coordinators	Activity reports	Regional Project Coordinators	<p>a. 0 b. 0 c. 0</p>	<p>a. 4 b. 4 c. 4</p>	<p>a. 4 b. 4 c. 4</p>

<b>Project impacts</b>	<b>1. Indicators (#, %, or status/condition)</b>	<b>2. Sources of data</b>	<b>3. Methods of data collection</b>	<b>4. Who will collect the data</b>	<b>5. Baseline value (2015)</b>	<b>6. Expected value Mid-term</b>	<b>7. Expected value Final Year</b>
	Bi-annual consultations held with local communities (Y/N) (data on consultation participants should be disaggregated by gender and IP status)  a. Northern Caucasus b. Altai-Sayan c. Far East	Regional Project Coordinators	Activity reports	Regional Project Coordinators	a. N b. N c. N	a. Y b. Y c. Y	a. Y b. Y c. Y

The ongoing data collection on these indicators will be carried out by the RPCs and monitored by the PMU. It is recommended to complement M&E activities by hiring an independent M&E specialist, who would liaise with the RPCs and PMU and oversee the monitoring of the different indicators and report directly to WWF-US. Such specialist should be fluent in Russian, skilled in social analysis and integration and familiar with the principles and objectives of the WWF Involuntary Resettlement Policy and Process Framework.

#### **4.4. Budgetary Arrangements**

The implementation of this Framework should be fully covered from the Project funds. Indicative costs for each of the suggested measures are outlined in Table 5 below.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Anticipated impact / concern</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>	<b>Budget</b>
	Restrictions on herding in protected areas	RPCs should work closely with regional wildlife authorities to ensure that restrictions on herding are avoided	No additional budgetary costs are needed to implement this measure

<u>Altai-Sayan</u>	Restrictions on hunting	<p>To the extent possible, appropriate sites in the expanded PAs should be designated as “Traditional Use Zones”—a legal regime that allows PAPs free access to hunting areas and does not restrict their hunting rights.</p> <p>In case such designation is not possible, PAPs who lose access to hunting areas due to the expansion of PAs will be compensated through the Project’s small grants program (PAPs would have to prove that their livelihood has been affected).</p>	The Project Work Plan (Output 2.2.2., Activities 1-4) allocates at least \$376,000 to support a small grants and loans program.
	Allocation of forest usage rights to private commercial parties	The expansion of protected areas as part of the Project will prevent the allocation of forest usage rights to commercial parties	No budgetary costs are needed to implement this measure
	Need to reduce poaching	The Project should offer monetary prizes, education programs, and capacity building programs to help reduce poaching. It will also be important to employ local community members, and in particular IPs, as inspectors as part of anti-poaching initiatives.	The Project Work Plan (Output 1.1.2., Activities 4-8 & Output 2.1.2., Activities 1-3) allocates at least \$875,000 to support these measures
	Unemployment	RPCs should prioritize employment of local community members as part of Project activities & the project should offer a micro-loans program	The Project Work Plan (Output 2.2.2., Activities 1-4) allocates at least \$376,000 to support these measures
	Gender	The Project should offer a micro loans / grants program and trainings to support project-affected women. Priority in access to loans and grants should be given to the most vulnerable women (IP, unemployed, single heads of households, poor, etc.) and to women who belong to households that were negatively affected by Project-activities (e.g., through restriction of hunting rights)	The Project Work Plan (Output 2.2.2., Activities 1-4) allocates at least \$376,000 to support these measures. Women will be prioritized in the allocation of these funds.
<u>Far East</u>	Lack of access to hunting areas	The Project should support regional wildlife authorities in allocating of hunting areas to IPs and other local communities.	No additional budgetary costs are needed to implement this measure
	Poaching & conflicts with tigers	The Project should support anti-poaching brigades. It will also be important to employ local community members, and in particular IPs, as inspectors as part of anti-poaching initiatives.	The Project Work Plan (Output 2.2.1., Activity 1) allocates at least \$1,324,484 to support these measures

	Lack of access to logging and firewood	The Project should support legislative changes.	No additional budgetary costs are needed to implement this measure
	Unemployment	RPCs should prioritize employment of local community members as part of Project activities	The Project Work Plan (Output 2.2.2., Activities 1-2) allocates at least \$450,000 to implement these measures as part of the support of “model projects” of Sidatun and Bikinskiy National Park
	Gender	<p>The Project will support women in the Bikinsky National Park in ethnic tourism development, creation of a bed &amp; breakfast system, non-timber forest product processing, and souvenirs production. This support will include learning and training programs, creation of new job places, and provision of grants and loans for the development of small businesses. IP women should be specially targeted and actively engaged in these activities.</p> <p>In other Project areas, the Project should invest efforts in hiring women as part of any new work places that will be created as a result of Project activities, and actively engage them in the organization of Project-related events and annual festivals.</p> <p>These activities should primarily engaged the most vulnerable women (IP, unemployed, single heads of households, poor, etc.) and women who belong to households that were negatively affected by project activities (e.g., lost access to hunting areas).</p>	Women-oriented activities will be supported as part of the budget indicated above (Output 2.2.2., Activities 1-2).
	Indigenous peoples	The Project should advocate the allocation of hunting areas to IPs	No additional budgetary costs are needed to implement this measure
<u>North Caucasus</u>	Restrictions on herding	RPCs should ensure that restrictions on herding are avoided as a result of the expansion of PAs and no land is alienated	No additional budgetary costs are needed to implement this measure
	Unemployment	The Project should offer a training program and help the local community develop alternative livelihood sources.	The Project Work Plan (Output 2.2.2., Activity 1) allocates at least \$100,000 to support these measures

Gender	The Project should target training programs to women’s needs and also engage women in any Project communication activities. The Project will also sponsor during the first 3 months of implementation a gender survey that will aim to identify how women in the North Caucasus use natural resources in the region, how their livelihoods can be supported, which types of trainings and activities could be useful for their needs, and how women could be strategically involved in Project-activities in the region.	Women-oriented activities will be supported as part of the budget indicated above (Output 2.2.2., Activity 1).  The gender-focused survey will be funded by budget that is allocated to Component 4 (Output 4.1.1., Activity 4) and overall consists of \$345,000.
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#### **4.5.Public Consultations and Disclosure**

RPCs should hold bi-annual public consultations with PAPs to inform them on ongoing Project activities, seek their views, and discuss any unforeseen project impacts and/or outstanding implementation-related matters. Such consultations should equitably engage female and male members of affected local and indigenous communities, representative of regional wildlife agencies, and local and regional public officials, as well as any representatives of the private sector. RPCs should record the minutes of these consultations, including a list of participants, disaggregated by gender and IP status, and share them with the PMU and the independent M&E specialist assigned to the Project.

This Framework should be disclosed in English on the WWF-US website and in Russian on the WWF Russia website. A hard-copy, Russian version of the Framework should be available in the participating offices of participating regional WWF, and wildlife agencies and in the relevant local authorities.

#### **4.6.Environmental construction principles**

A new visitors center will be constructed as part of planned Project activities in the Altai Nature Reserve. The construction of this Center should fully follow the provisions of this RPF / PF, avoid any need for land acquisition or physical resettlement, and mitigate any adverse social or economic impacts on local communities. The construction of the Center should fully follow the RF legislation on environmental impact assessment, and also comply with the environmental principles provided in Annex II.

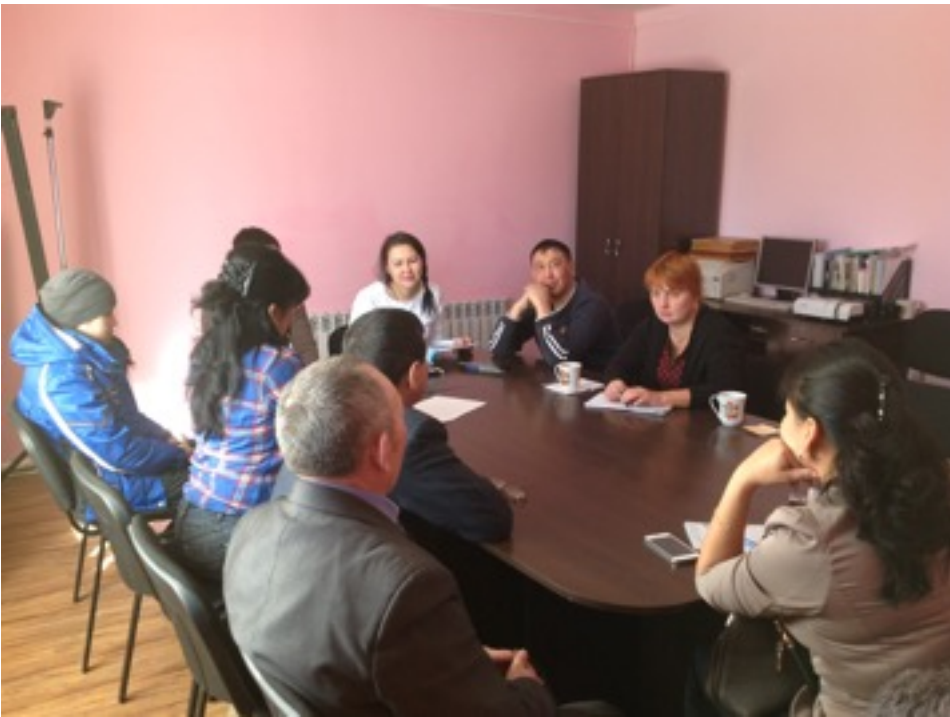


## Annex I. Consultation locations and list of participants

The following meetings and consultations were conducted in preparation of this RPF / PF.

### 1. Altai-Sayan

Date	City / village	Type of meeting	Participants (m/f)
February 9, 2015	Kosh Agach, Republic of Altai	Regional authorities of the Salyugem National Park	Samounov, V.M. (Senior Park Inspector)
February 9, 2015	Kosh Agach, Republic of Altai	Local population (including IPs)	1. Tadyrov R.M. (m) 2. Baramabayev I.B. (m) 3. Takhalov L.L. (m) 4. Balochkenov Y.T. (m) 5. Kerekshbesova O. (f) 6. Samounov V.M. (m) 7. Kiriksibasov A. (m)
February 9, 2015	Kosh Agach, Republic of Altai	Local authorities	Meitkhiev, Sergey Tordibanovich (local representative)
February 9, 2015	Kouray & Kazyltash, Republic of Altai	Local population (including IPs)	1. Sopo, A. (f) 2. Savin, V. (m) 3. Kukpekov, L. (m)
February 10, 2015	Ulagan, Republic of Altai	Regional national park authorities	Maikova, Alyona (park director)
February 10, 2015	Ulagan, Republic of Altai	Local population (including IPs)	1. Sanin, V. (m) 2. Adenayeva, T. (f) 3. Adygyzov, V. (m) 4. Akhchin, M. (m) 5. Tokoyekov, A. (m) 6. Tokoyekova, A. (f) 7. Badykin, V. (m) 8. Askayanova, A. (f) 9. Tadrasheva, Ch. (f) 10. Konugiyev, E. (m) 11. Maikova, A. (f)
February 10, 2015	Saratan, Republic of Altai	Local population (including IPs)	1. Beleshev, V. (m) 2. Manzyrov, S. (m) 3. Akchin, A. (m) 4. Chulonova, V. (f)
February 11, 2015	Gorno-Altaysk, Republic of Altai	Private sector & local population	1. Sailankin, K. (m) 2. Chantyevev, I. (m) 3. Srilankin, I. (m) 4. Sailankin, I. (m) 5. Chasovskikh, S. (m)





## 2. Far East

Date	City / village	Type of meeting	Participants (m/f)
February 18, 2015	Roschino, Primorskiy Krai	Local population (including IPs)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Grigoryev, M. P. (m)</li> <li>2. Grigoryeva, O. P. (f)</li> <li>3. Sulyandziga, E. I. (f)</li> <li>4. Bozhenko, S. Z. (f)</li> <li>5. Kya, S. S. (f)</li> <li>6. Kya, V. A. (m)</li> <li>7. Bochkov, S. O. (m)</li> <li>8. Bochkov, V. O. (m)</li> <li>9. Kyalunziga, K. V. (f)</li> <li>10. Belan, O. V. (f)</li> <li>11. Avas, N. D. (f)</li> </ol>
February 18, 2015	Roschino, Primorskiy Krai	“Udegi Legend” Park Authorities	Litvinov, Boris Ivanovich (Park director); Avas, Natalya Dmitriyevna (researcher)
February 18, 2015	Melnichnoye, Primorskiy Krai	Sidatun Community-Based Game and Forest Management	Yushkin, Oleg (manager)
February 18, 2015	Melnichnoye, Primorskiy Krai	Local population	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lutsuk, V. A. (f)</li> <li>2. Kozachko, N. A. (m)</li> <li>3. Kreyer, V. B. (m)</li> <li>4. Ploutnikova, N. A. (f)</li> <li>5. Tiril, A. A. (m)</li> <li>6. Yushkin, O. A. (m)</li> <li>7. Denisov, V. N. (m)</li> <li>8. Semelyuk, E. V. (m)</li> <li>9. Sharov, V. F. (m)</li> <li>10. Gochulyak, T. V. (f)</li> <li>11. Vdovenko, T. V. (f)</li> </ol>
February 18, 2015	Melnichnoye, Primorskiy Krai	Local women	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lutsuk, V. A. (f)</li> <li>2. Ploutnikova, N. A. (f)</li> <li>3. Gochulyak, T. V. (f)</li> <li>4. Vdovenko, T. V. (f)</li> </ol>





### 3. North Caucasus (Kabardino-Balkariya)

Date	City / village	Type of meeting	Participants
February 26, 2015	Kabardino-Balkariya	Regional wildlife authorities	Pakov, Ruslan (director of wildlife refuges in Kabardino-Balkariya); Rakhayev, Rashid (inspector)

February 26, 2015	Babougent, Kabardino- Balkariya	Local population	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Giumenov, R. K. (m)</li> <li>2. Chattayev, R. B. (m)</li> <li>3. Chattayev, D. R. (m)</li> <li>4. Kadyrov, A. V. (m)</li> <li>5. Cherkesov, T. A. (m)</li> <li>6. Devayev, M. K. (m)</li> <li>7. Uzeyev, M. T. (m)</li> <li>8. Boziyev, A. T. (m)</li> <li>9. Devayev, A. A. (m)</li> <li>10. Toumenov, D. V. (m)</li> <li>11. Ankiyev, T. Sh. (m)</li> <li>12. Aksiyeu, M. I. (m)</li> <li>13. Boziyev, T. A. (m)</li> <li>14. Chechenov, M. M. (m)</li> <li>15. Rakhayev, R. Yu. (m)</li> <li>16. Pakov, R. M.</li> <li>17. Osmanov, M. G. (m) (head of the village)</li> </ol>



## Annex II. Environmental Construction Code of Practice<sup>18</sup>

Contractor is required to mitigate, minimize and reduce adverse socio-environmental impacts and risks associated with construction activities. All appropriate licenses and consents of construction should be obtained on time. The key measures to be implemented are as follows:

<i>Issues/Risks</i>	<i>Mitigation Measures</i>
General Site Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waste must be collected and dumped at approved sites.</li> <li>• Drainage system must be drained regularly.</li> </ul>
Pollution control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any seepage and wastewater arising from the works and camp sites must be collected and discharged via drain network.</li> <li>• Septic tank toilets must be provided on site for construction workers. Wastewater from toilets will not be discharged directly into any waterbody.</li> <li>• At completion of construction works, water collection tanks and septic tanks shall be covered and effectively sealed off</li> <li>• Proper maintenance of construction equipment and vehicles;</li> </ul>
Dust, noise, vibration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inform the residents: Prior to commencement of work at any site, the Contractor will be required to inform the local authority and residents regarding the construction plan and potential noise and vibration that may occur from the construction activities, including measures to reduce noise and vibration.</li> <li>- Dust control: No burning of waste materials on site; dry sweeping of large areas is prohibited; Cover all trucks carrying loose or potentially dusty materials (soil, mud, etc.) to and from construction site; Water or sprinkle the construction areas periodically, especially at site located near residential area; avoid overloaded of trucks; routinely clean public roads and access routes;</li> <li>- Exposed soil and material stockpiles shall be protected against dust spreading, and the location of stockpiles shall take into consideration the prevailing wind directions and locations of sensitive receptors.</li> <li>- When needed, measures to reduce noise to acceptable levels must be implemented and could include silencers, mufflers, acoustically dampened panels or placement of noisy machines in acoustically protected areas.</li> </ul>

<sup>18</sup> Adapted from World Bank environmental assessment documents.



<p>S o l i d w a s t e management</p>	<p>The Contractor is responsible for compliance with the relevant RF legislation relevant to wastewater discharges into watercourses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solid waste such as excavation materials wooden plates for trench works, steel, scaffolding material, site holding, packaging material should be reused/ recycled where possible</li> <li>• Non-reusable/recyclable wastes will be collected and transported to approved dumping sites.</li> <li>• Provide bins/containers for litter and refuse collection. Waste containers shall be covered, tip-proof, weather-proof and scavenger proof.</li> <li>• No burning, on-site burying or dumping of solid waste shall occur.</li> <li>• Portable or constructed toilets must be provided on site for construction workers. Wastewater from toilets as well as kitchens, showers, sinks, etc. shall be discharged into a conservancy tank for removal from the site or discharged into municipal sewerage systems; there should be no direct discharges to any waterbody.</li> <li>• At completion of construction works, water collection tanks and septic tanks shall be covered and effectively sealed off.</li> </ul>
<p>M a n a g e m e n t o f Chemical or hazardous wastes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate communication and training programs should be put in place to prepare workers to recognize and respond to workplace chemical hazards.</li> <li>• Post signs prohibiting smoking, open flames and other ignition sources in areas where flammable materials are stored or used</li> <li>• Store flammable or explosive materials such as gasoline, oil and cleaning agents apart from other materials.</li> <li>• All hazardous substances including oil drums or containers must be properly labeled and stored to ensure that no oil or other contaminants can reach water courses or groundwater.</li> <li>• Dispose of greasy, oily rags and other flammable materials in approved containers. Chemical waste of any kind shall be disposed of at an approved appropriate landfill site and in accordance with local legislative requirements.</li> <li>• Used oil, lubricants, cleaning materials, etc. from the maintenance of machinery shall be collected in holding tanks and removed from site by a specialized oil recycling company for disposal at an approved hazardous waste site. Containers of used oil must be strong enough to avoid leakage, (particularly when the site is less than 10 meters from any waterways). The container must be situated within a secondary containment system (bunded), which will prevent the release of any leaked oil.</li> <li>• Unused or rejected tar or bituminous products shall be returned to the supplier's production plant.</li> </ul>
<p>Social disturbance, disruptions to existing services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inform the residents: Prior to commencement of work at any site, the Contractor shall inform local authorities and residents about construction plan and potential noise and vibration that may occur from the construction activities, and the measures to reduce noise and vibration.</li> <li>• Discuss and negotiate with local community about water cut-off and service disruptions period Place signs around the construction areas to facilitate traffic movement, and provide safety advice and warning.</li> <li>• The Contractor will be responsible for any damage caused by their activities to the roads and public facilities in the vicinity of the worksite.</li> <li>• Avoid activities that generate high level of noise in sensitive time, e.g. before 7am or after 5pm.</li> </ul>

<p>Safety and Occupational Health for Worker and the public at construction sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide training and awareness raising for workers on occupational health and safety. Provide first aid kits at contractor’s office</li> <li>• Provide appropriate safety gears to workers such as clothes, gloves, booths and hard hats and supervise the use</li> <li>• Install fences, barriers, warning restrict access to the construction area which showing potential danger to the public</li> <li>• Place sign boards including safety regulations at the site</li> <li>• Provide adequate lighting at night</li> <li>• Arrange construction materials in a neat and tidy manner. Ensure that materials loading do not obstruct access and exits to the site.</li> <li>• Do not store flammable materials near the construction camps.</li> <li>• During demolition of existing infrastructure, workers and the general public must be protected from falling debris by measures such as chutes, traffic control, and use of restricted access zones.</li> <li>• Employing safe traffic control measures, including road/rivers/canal signs to warn of dangerous conditions.</li> <li>• Ensure access to clean water and latrines by workers and provide mosquito net.</li> <li>• Provide the appropriate fire extinguishers for the materials found on-site.</li> <li>• Keep fire extinguisher stations clear and accessible; etc.</li> <li>• Apply good housekeeping in the construction and/or storage sites: Keep stairways, passageways and ladders free of material, supplies and obstructions; Secure loose or light material that is stores on roofs or open floors; Keep materials at least 2m from openings, roof edges, excavations or trenches; Remove or bend over nails protruding from lumber; Keep hoses, power cords, welding leads, etc from laying in heavily travelled walkways or areas; Ensure structural openings are covered/protected adequately;</li> </ul>
<p>Chance find Procedures</p>	<p>If the Contractor discovers archeological sites, historical sites, remains and objects, or graves during excavation or construction, the Contractor will carry out the following steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stop the construction activities in the area of the chance find;</li> <li>• Delineate the discovered site or area;</li> <li>• Secure the site to prevent any damage or loss of removable objects. In cases of removable antiquities or sensitive remains, a night guard shall be arranged until the responsible local authorities take over;</li> <li>• Notify the RPCs who in turn will notify the responsible local authorities (within 24 hours or less);</li> <li>• Responsible local authorities would be in charge of protecting and preserving the site before deciding on subsequent appropriate procedures.</li> <li>• Decisions on how to handle the finding shall be taken by the responsible authorities of the RF. This could include changes in the layout (such as when finding an irremovable remain of cultural or archeological importance) conservation, preservation, restoration and salvage;</li> <li>• Construction work could resume only after obtaining permission from the responsible local authorities.</li> </ul>

