

Karen Aghababyan, PhD
5/1 Vratsakan, apt 27, Yerevan 0051, Armenia
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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- PhD in Biology (specialization Zoology), theoretical and practical knowledge of ecology of terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems, population and habitat modelling, biodiversity assessment with particular emphasis on birds and butterflies, skills in writing articles and giving presentations at scientific meetings;
- Broad experience in coordinating projects with budgets of up to 110,000 USD, duration of up to 3 years, and teams of up to 12 people;
- Broad experience in building and maintaining environmental networks in rural communities and among non-governmental organizations;
- Broad experience in fundraising that includes analysis of donors, maintenance of communication with them, and development of project proposals;
- Broad experience in designing and conduction of environmental courses, as well as supervising Master's and PhD theses;
- Experience in public communications including public talks (such as TEDx talk) and developing of video clips;
- Experience in developing mission, vision, strategy, and policy of organization or functional unit;
- Experience in transfer of technologies from developed industry to developing.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Executive Director, TSE – Towards Sustainable Ecosystems NGO, 2015 up to present

- Development of vision, strategic directions, long-term goals, and policy of the organization;
- Development of long and short-term partnership of organization with universities and research institutions, local governmental agencies, international organizations, and NGOs;
- Overseeing of all the projects implemented by the organization;
- Development of marketing strategy and policy of the organization;
- Development of two brands of the organization: Butterfly Conservation Armenia and Armenian Bird Census Council
- Organization of fundraising related works of the organization
- Report to the Board of organization

Assistant Research Professor, Acopian Center for the Environment, American University of Armenia, 2015 up to present

- Teach for graduate and undergraduate students, supervise capstone projects of graduate students

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

Chief Scientist and Head of Environmental Lab, Assistant Professor, Acopian Center for the Environment, American University of Armenia, 2013 - 2015

Director, Assistant Professor, Acopian Center for the Environment, American University of Armenia, 2009-2012

Senior Researcher, Lecturer, Environmental Conservation and Research Center, American University of Armenia, 2004-2009

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Researcher (part time), Laboratory of Vertebrate Animals, Institute of Zoology Armenian National Academy of Sciences, 2000-2009

Post Graduate Student (full time), Laboratory of Vertebrate Animals, Institute of Zoology Armenian National Academy of Sciences, 1996-1999

Research Assistant (full time), International Birds of Armenia Project (Armenia – USA), American University of Armenia, 1995-1996.

RELATED EXPERIENCE

National Coordinator of Armenia in “European Breeding Bird Atlas 2”, since 2012

Expert of Species Survival Commission of IUCN, since 2014

Expert of Wetlands International / IUCN SSC Threatened Waterfowl Specialist Group, since 2017

Expert of Ministry of Nature Protection of RA on Ornithology in the program “Development of Emerald Network in Armenia”, since 2014

Expert of National Foundation of Science and Advanced Technologies, since 2006

Expert of State Committee of Science, since 2009

Board Member of Batumi Raptor Count NGO, since 2018

National Validator of Observation.org platform, since 2017

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Intensive training in Sustainable Aquaculture, Denmark Technical University, Division “Aqua”, 2015.
- Conservation Science Intern, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary (PA, USA), 2003
- PhD in Biology (specialization Zoology); thesis “Some peculiarities of the vertical distribution, breeding biology and ecology of birds in Meghry region of Armenia”, 2001
- Master in Biology, Yerevan State University, Department of Biology, 1994.

GRANTS, AWARDS, and SCHOLARSHIPS (20 in total, 5 presented)

- Whitley Award donated by Whitley Fund for Nature. “Armenia’s White Stork: Using nest-neighbors for species and habitat conservation”, 2007-2009. Principal Investigator
- DAAD post-doctoral scholarship: Human Influence on White Storks population in Armenia, 2008.
- Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund. 2016. Assessment of global conservation status of *Polyommatus myrrha cinyrea* – endemic of Middle East and Southern Caucasus. Principal Investigator.
- UNDP/GEF Grant: Development of butterfly-watching in Gnishik community-managed protected area. 2016-2018. Principal Investigator.
- GIZ German Organization for International Cooperation Grant: Atlas “The State of Butterflies of Armenia”. 2017-2018. Principal Investigator.

TEACHING (12 courses in total, 3 presented)

- Environmental Field Study (ES360) since 2009. American University of Armenia
- Environmental Projects (ENV300), since 2014. American University of Armenia

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- Biodiversity, Conservation and Restoration (ENV 250), since 2016. American University of Armenia

SUPERVISING (24 in total, five presented)

- Tatevik Tamazyan “Habitat preferences of Lesser Spotted Eagle (*Aquila pomarina*) in Armenia” Yerevan State University. 2006-2007. MSc in Biology.
- Heghine Torosyan “Distribution and abundance of White Storks (*Ciconia ciconia*) in Armenia” Armenian State Pedagogical University. 2007-2008. MSc in Biology.
- Armine Movsesyan “The role of macrophytes in the life of water birds at Lake Sevan” American University of Armenia. 2008-2009. MSc in Industrial Engineering.
- Viktoria Varzhapetyan “Opportunities for non-timber forest production in the villages surrounding Tsaghkounyats Mountains of Armenia”. 2015-2016. MSc in Industrial Engineering.
- Viktoria Gevorgyan “Analysis of environmental monitoring data, based on the case of breeding birds”. 2016-2017. MSc in Industrial Engineering.

MEMBERSHIP (7 in total, 3 presented)

- Delegate of European Bird Census Council in Armenia since 2013
- Partner of Butterfly Conservation Europe in Armenia since 2011
- Member of the “British Ornithologists’ Union”, UK, since 2017

PUBLICATIONS (over 60 scientific and popular papers, 10 presented)

- 36 chapters on birds in: M.Kalashyan and A.Aghasyan, eds. 2010. Red Book of Animals of the Republic of Armenia.
- Khanamiryan G. & Aghababian K. 2011. Contribution to the fauna of Butterflies (Lepidoptera: Rhopalocera) of Meghri region of Armenia. Caucasian Entomological Bulletin. 7(1): 69-77.
- Danchenko A., Ivshin N., Andreev S., and Aghababian K. 2011. The Hawkmoth fauna of Armenia (Lepidoptera: Sphingidae). // Proceedings of the International Conference “Biological Diversity and Conservation Problems of the Fauna of the Caucasus”. September 26-29, Yerevan, Asoghik: 128-129.
- Khanamiryan G., Danchenko A., Aghababian K., and Andreev S. 2011. To the fauna of butterflies of Armenia. // Proceedings of the International Conference “Biological Diversity and Conservation Problems of the Fauna of the Caucasus”. September 26-29, Yerevan, Asoghik: 123-127.
- Khanamiryan G. and Aghababian K. 2012. Habitat distribution of Butterflies (Lepidoptera: Rhopalocera) of Meghri region of Armenia. Caucasian Entomological Bulletin. 8(1): 145-148.
- Khanamiryan G.G., Aghababian K.E., Warren M.S., van Swaay C.A.M. 2014. Identification of Prime Butterfly Areas in Meghri District of Armenia. Proceedings of International Conference “Biological diversity and conservation problems of the fauna of the Caucasus - 2”, September 23-26, 2014, Yerevan, Armenia, 202-205.

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- Fayvush, G., Kalashyan, M., Aghababyan, K., Sahakyan, L., Kandaryan, A., Hovsepyan, A. 2014. The Emerald Book of Republic of Armenia. Ministry of Nature protection of RA, Van Aryan, 116 pp. ISBN: 978-9939-70-114-1.
- Van Swaay, C.A.M., Van Strien, A.J., Aghababyan, K., Åström, S., Botham, M., Brereton, T., Carlisle, B., Chambers, P., Collins, S., Dopagne, C., Escobés, R., Feldmann, R., Fernández-García, J.M., Fontaine, B., Goloshchapova, S., Gracianteparaluceta, A., Harpke, A., Heliölä, J., Khanamirian, G., Komac, B., Kühn, E., Lang, A., Leopold, P., Maes, D., Mestdag, X., Monasterio, Y., Munguira, M.L., Murray, T., Musche, M., Öunap, E., Pettersson, L.B., Piqueray, J., Popoff, S., Prokofev, I., Roth, T., Roy, D.B., Schmucki, R., Settele, J., Stefanescu, C., Švitra, G., Teixeira, S.M., Tiitsaar, A., Verovnik, R., Warren, M.S. (2016). The European Butterfly Indicator for Grassland species 1990-2015. Report VS2016.019, De Vlinderstichting, Wageningen, 42 pp.
- Fayvush, G., Arakelyan, M., Aghababyan, K., Aleksanyan, A., Aslanyan, A., Ghazaryan, A., Oganessian, M., Kalashyan, M., Nahapetyan, S. 2016. The Emerald Network in the Republic of Armenia. Ministry of Nature protection of RA, Van Aryan, Editor: Samvel Baloyan, 114 pp. ISBN: 978-9939-70-203-2.
- Aghababyan K., Khanamirian G. 2018. State of *Polyommatus myrrha cinyraea* in Armenia. Electronic Journal of Natural Sciences, National Academy of Sciences of RA. 1(30): 27-29.

SEE ALSO

- Website of Butterfly Conservation Armenia: <http://www.butterfly-conservation-armenia.org/>
- Website of Armenian Bird Census Council: <http://www.abcc-am.org/>
- Profile at LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/karen-aghababyan-5431baab?trk=nav_responsive_tab_profile_pic
- Profile at Research Gate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Karen_Aghababyan