

Report on conservation analysis, training of
local actors and communication on the
Albanian Saddle Bush-cricket
(*Uromenus dyrrhachiacus*)
Project number 220529928

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1. The global target of the project 220529928

This project covers only the urgent actions to save the species in 2023. When completed, we will have a better vision of the situation and threats and how to mitigate these threats with identified stakeholders, and we will ask for a next step project after.

Urgent actions are:

- 1- Get an accurate status of remaining populations in its restricted distribution area.
- 2 - Start an ex-situ breeding to save the species from extinction because habitat destruction are currently running fast in this area and we must have enough individuals to repopulate habitat when recovered.
- 3 - Find motivated local actors from environmental NGO of Durres and train them to find the species, the laid eggs and to be able to displace individuals/eggs in case of urgency. They will have to find and contact the appropriate stakeholders to avoid or mitigate the threats.

This report concerns the point 3 (training of local actors, conservation analysis and communication)



2. The goal of the action 3 of this phase of the project

No conservation plan can be implemented if no well-informed and if possible well trained local people are involved. The results of the scientific field-studies are a necessary input, and have afterwards to be relayed by motivated people who will contribute to gather the stakeholders, to analyse the conservation issues and to find with them sustainable solutions to protect the insect without negative effect on the development of the economy of the country.

The goal of the third action of this project is:

- To have Albanian young scientists well trained, at least on this species and share with them the status of the populations for each locality studied in order to obtain a global vision.
- To identify threats, as a basis for future discussions with stakeholders
- To prepare a communication tool for stakeholders (short video film) to raise awareness and share it widely this year.

The next years will depend on the feedback from stakeholders. If some of them have understood the importance of conservation actions for this species and are willing to participate in meetings to build, with all partners, a conservation plan, we will ask for project grant for the next years.



3. Training of local actors

The aim is to carry out on-the-job training with the young scientists and take this opportunity to confirm or correct their identifications, to practice to note in real time all the necessary information associated to observed data, to see and learn what the best approach to assess the habitat is, to know how to optimize the researches in a locality, etc. By doing the on-the-job training with experienced orthopterists, the objective is to learn faster.

The training has been carried out during one week of study in June 2023.



4. First analysis of threats

This first overview is aimed to be used as a basis to initialize discussions among stakeholders.

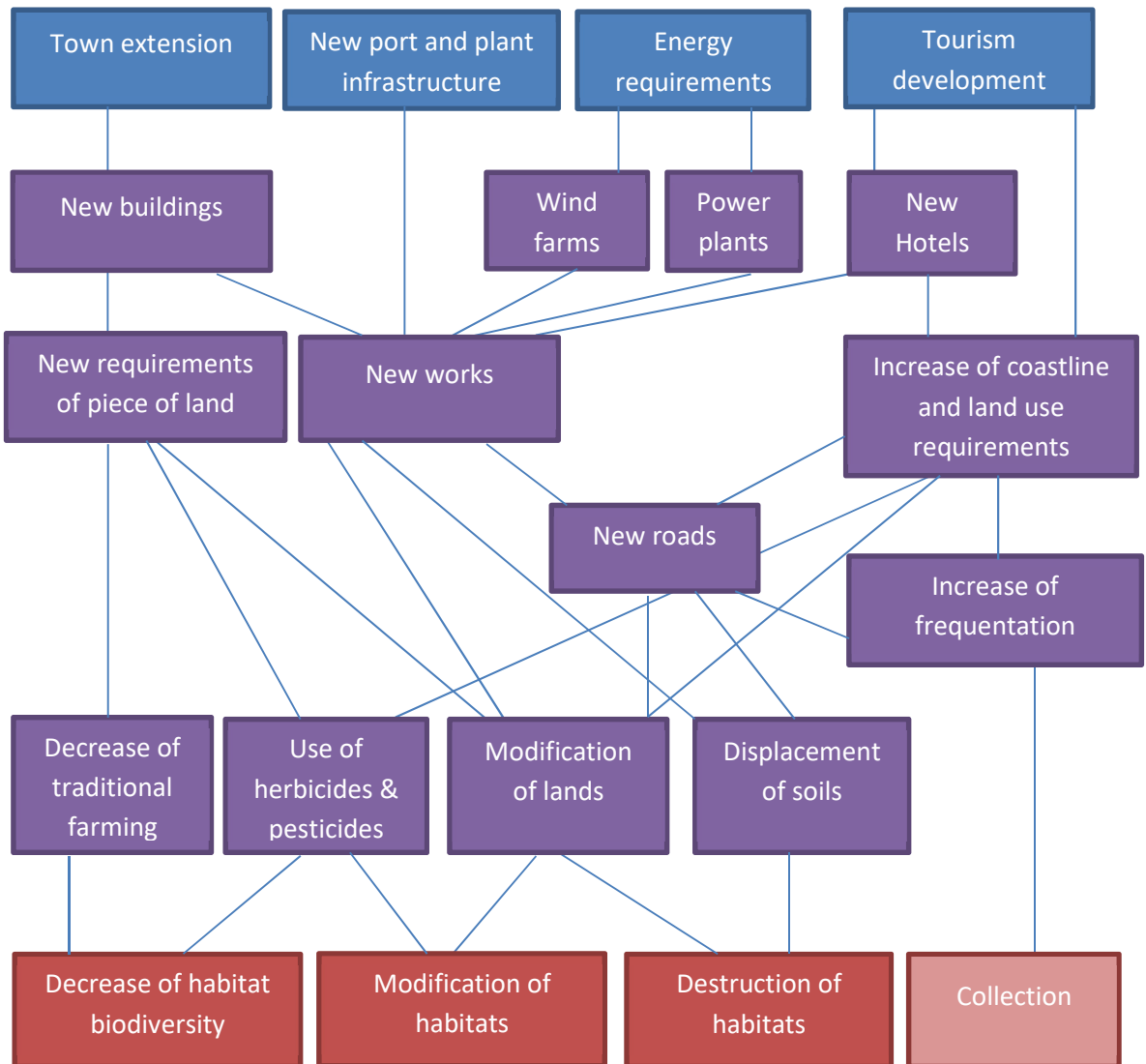
Wording definition:

- Threats
 - A Threat to a species is any factor that causes a detrimental impact on population abundance.
- Driver
 - Drivers of Threats are the causes that sit behind direct Threats, and can be regarded as the root cause of a direct Threat to a population. Drivers can be identified by asking, 'What causes this Threat?'
 - Some drivers can act in both directions. For example a new dust road access can be positive to facilitate the work of firemen; however, without restrictions, it can increase the risk of over-frequentation of the area.
- Constraint
 - A Constraint is a major factor (such as human demography) which cannot be reversed

The main identified threats are:

- Habitat decrease and/or changes (high risk)
 - Decrease of habitat availability by destruction of areas linked to works. The decrease of habitat availability can lead to a fragmentation and isolation of sub-populations, increasing the threatened status of the species. This is already the case for the northern and southern populations, now isolated and with high risk of extinction (the area between these two populations and the central one, are definitively urbanized or destroyed and cannot become suitable for the species).
 - Decrease of habitat quality (through a change in grazing system for instance, such as future introduction of large flocks of cows).The decrease of habitat quality will cause a slow decline of the population size, leading to extinction. However, the trend can be measured on a regular basis in order to adjust conservation actions in case of negative results.
- Collection (low risk)
 - So far, collection by local fishermen does not seem to have any visible effect because it is very limited to a few people. In the case of this emblematic species becomes better known, it could be attractive for some collectors. This risk is considered low (low impact)

Blue = Constraint, Purple = Driver, Red = Threat



5. Information tool for stakeholders

The main threat to this species is that its existence and its status are generally unknown to people who works in its habitat.

To address this issue, we have prepared a short video film for them

<https://youtu.be/AF0pl-y2ChU>

We have also the .mp4 version (huge file) with a better video quality, available for any organization who will ask for it.



The challenge is to find, address and convince the right people to consider and implement a conservation plan.

Beyond the direct stakeholders, the video film has been widely shared with the following structures (Agency, Institutes, Organizations, etc.):

Name of the Organisation/Agency/Foundation... in Albanian language	Translation in English language
Fondacioni "Agrinas"	"Agrinas" Foundation
Shoqata Mjedisore "ALPIN" - Tropojë	"ALPIN" Environmental Association - Tropoja
Shoqata "Ruajtja e Pyjeve dhe Mjedisit Gjellbër"	"Forest Protection and Green Environment" Association
Shoqatae Mjedisit "Morava"	"Morava" Environmental Association
Shoqata Ambientaliste "Zharrza"	"Zharrza" Environmental Association
Agjencia e Zhvillimit Ekonomik të Qëndrueshëm, Tiranë	Agency for Sustainable Economic Development, Tirana
Këshilli i Agrobiznesit Shqiptar (KASH)	Albanian Agribusiness Council
Shoqata Shqipëtare e Speleologjisë	Albanian Association of Speleology
Shoqata Shqiptare e të Rinjve Studentë të Shkencave të Tokës dhe Mjedisit (AAYSGE)	Albanian Association of Young Students of Earth and Environmental Sciences
Qendra Shqiptare për Qeverisje Mjedisore (ACEG)	Albanian Center for Environmental Governance
Shoqatae Inxhinierisë Ekologjike Shqiptare, Tiranë	Albanian Ecological Engineering Association, Tirana
Klubi Studentor Ambientalist Shqiptar	Albanian Environmentalist Student Club

Shoqata Ornitologjike e Shqipërisë / Albanian Ornithological Society (AOS)	Albanian Ornithological Society
Shoqata "Divjaka-Ekoturizëm"	Association "Divjaka-Ecotourism"
Shoqata "Mjedisi dhe Minierat"	Association "Environment and Mining"
Shoqata "Mjedisi në Fokus", Tiranë	Association "Environment in Focus", Tirana
Shoqata "Juristët për Mbrojtjen e Mjedisit", Tiranë	Association "Lawyers for Environmental Protection", Tirana
Shoqata "Masmedia dhe Mjedisi"	Association "Masmedia and Environment"
Shoqata "Përdoruesit e pyjeve dhe kullotave komunale"	Association "Users of municipal forests and pastures"
Shoqata për Politika të Reja të Mbrojtjes së Mjedisit dhe Zhvillimit Rajonal (ANEP)	Association for New Environmental Protection and Regional Development Policies
Shoqata për Ruajtjen e Shpendëve dhe Gjitarëve të Shqipërisë	Association for the Preservation of Birds and Mammals of Albania
Shoqata për Ruajtjen e Shpendëve dhe Kafshëve të Egra të Shqipërisë	Association for the Preservation of Birds and Wild Animals of Albania
Shoqata e Mbrojtjes së Trashëgimisë Natyrore	Association for the Protection of Natural Heritage
Shoqata e Higjienistëve të Shqipërisë	Association of Hygienists of Albania
Shoqata e Përdoruesëve të Pyjeve e Kullotave Komunale "PRESPA"	Association of Users of Forests and Municipal Pastures "PRESPA"
Shoqata e Ruajtjes dhe Mbrojtjes së Mjedisit Natyror në Shqipëri	Associations for the Conservation and Protection of the Natural Environment in Albania
Shoqata e Natyrës dhe Turizmit Bulqizë (SHNTB)	Bulqiza Nature and Tourism Association (SHNTB)
Qendra "Për zhvillimin social, mjedisor, ekonomik dhe kulturor" (SMEK)	Center "For social, environmental, economic and cultural development"
Qendra "Agjencia Joniane e Mjedisit, Medias dhe Informacionit" (AJMMI)	Center "Ionian Environment, Media and Information Agency"
Qendra për menaxhimin agro-mjedisor & ekonomik (AEEM-CENTER)	Center for agro-environmental & economic management
Qendra për Zhvillim të Qëndrueshëm (QZHQ)	Center for Sustainable Development
Qendra e Zhvillimit të Shoqërisë Civile, Durres (QZSHC - CSDC)	Civil Society Development Center, Durres
Shoqata Kulturore - Mjedisore BORSHI	Cultural - Environmental Association BORSHI
Klubi Ekologjik Dibër	Dibër Ecological Club
ECO - Partners for Sustainable Development	ECO - Partners for Sustainable Development
EKO Mendje	ECO Mind
Klubi Ekologjik - Zyra në Tiranë	Ecological Club - Office in Tirana
Klubi Ekologjik (Ecodibra) - Zyra në Dibër	Ecological Club (Ecodibra) - Office in Dibër
Klubi Ekologjik	Ecological Club,
Qendra EDEN	EDEN Center
Ekolëvizja	EKOLEVIZJA
Mjedisi dhe Bujqësia	Environment and Agriculture
Mjedisi dhe Shoqëria në Zhvillim (ESDA)	Environment and Society in Development
Mjedisi, Ujëra, Pyje	Environment, Water, Forests
Shoqata Mjedisore "Për një Zhvillim të Qëndrueshëm e Racional" (ShMZhQR)	Environmental Association "For a Sustainable and Rational Development"
Instituti i Politikave Mjedisore	Environmental Policy Institute
Klubi Rinor Mjedisor "Perla"	Environmental Youth Club "Perla"
Klubi Rinor Mjedisor "PNL"	Environmental Youth Club "PNL"
Për Mirëqenie Sociale dhe Mjedisore	For Social and Environmental Welfare
Green Centre Albania	Green Center Albania
Instituti i Gjelbër	Green Institute
Green Line Albania	Green Line Albania

Vizioni i Gjelbër (Green Vision)	Green Vision
Gjelbërimi 2000	Greening 2000
Qendra e Informacionit Aarhus - Vlorë	Information Center Aarhus - Vlora
Instituti për Zhvillimin e Qendrueshëm, Mjedisin dhe Turizmin (InSET)	Institute for Sustainable Development, Environment and Tourism
Instituti Për Studimin e Natyrës dhe Edukimin Ambiental në Shqipëri	Institute for the Study of Nature and Environmental Education in Albania
Instituti Menaxhimit & Integritimit Mjedisor (IMIM)	Institute of Environmental Management & Integration
Instituti i Studimeve Ambientale	Institute of Environmental Studies
Instituti i Menaxhimit të Fermave & Agrobiznesit (IMFA)	Institute of Farm & Agribusiness Management
Natyrë Ndërkufitare Korçë	Korça Cross-Border Nature
LIVE GREEN	LIVE GREEN
Milieukontakt Albania	Milieukontakt Albania
Qendra Kombëtare e Lëvizjes Ambientaliste (QKLA)	National Center of the Environmentalist Movement
Agjencia Kombëtare e Zonave të Mbrojtura	National Agency of Protected Areas
Resurset natyrore në zhvillim	Natural resources in development
Natyrë për Njeriun	Nature for Man
Shoqata e Bujqësisë Organike - Organic Agriculture Association (OAA)	Organic Agriculture Association
Shoqata Zhvillimit të Burimeve Natyrore Papër - Elbasan	Paper Natural Resources Development Association - Elbasan
Shoqata Atdhetare, Kulturore, Mjedisore "Mati" - Zyra në Dibër	Patriotic, Cultural, Environmental Association "Mati" - Office in Dibër
Prospective Habitat	Prospective Habitat
Shoqata Eko - Turistike Pukë	Puke Eco-Tourist Association
Shoqata Rajonale e Pyjeve dhe Kullotave Komunale - Qarku Elbasan	Regional Association of Municipal Forests and Pastures - Elbasan District
Shtëpia e Gjelbër	The Green House
Together in Community for Development Society	Together in Community for Development Society
Ekspertët e Rinj Mjedisor (SHERM)	Young Environmental Experts (SHERM)