



Greater Caspian
FOUNDATION

PROJECTS DESCRIPTION AND FRAMEWORK

MISSION AND PURPOSE

The mission of the Greater Caspian Foundation is to support the Greater Caspian region* by supporting the development of the human capital of the region, overcoming the digital divide between people from the developed countries and the population of the Greater Caspian states, improving the environmental situation of the Caspian Sea basin as the planet's largest land-locked body of water, at the time of the Fourth World Industrial Revolution.

* The expanded interpretation including the South Caucasus and Central Asia.

OBJECTIVES

The Foundation see the following objectives, to be implemented through the nonprofit promotion of institutions, organizations, projects, activities and efforts:

- Providing opportunities for the Greater Caspian Region's population in receiving advanced education,
- Generating ideas, developing and supporting projects related to the health and longevity of the population
- Stimulating the development of small and medium-sized businesses in the field of digital and advanced technologies and supporting their integration into the global division of labor;
- Supporting non-profit organizations and citizens of the region in environmental issues: reducing CO2 emissions and preserving the fragile biological diversity of the Caspian Sea, which directly affects the overall ecological balance of the planet.
- Participating and bringing expertise to existing forums on the Greater Caspian region, including the new mechanisms of the Convention on the Legal status of the Caspian Sea.

PROJECTS

The foundation aims to develop the following projects in the near future:

1. Stakeholders Engagement *in collaboration with the UN Environment*

Stakeholder engagement and stakeholder management are arguably the most important ingredients for any successful project. The main objective of the Project is to ensure necessary involvement of different actors operating in the Caspian region in the Tehran Convention Process as well as other processes fostering sustainable development of the region. It will be achieved by establishing of the network of stakeholders on the support to the Tehran Convention, including the public, to ensure effective interaction. Moreover, setting up “Friends of Caspian” program, including an annual competition for the local, national and international companies that have achieved the most concrete gains in protection of the Caspian environment in the previous year, in at least two levels (national and international).

PROJECTS

The foundation aims to develop the following projects in the near future:

2. Communications and Information Sharing *in collaboration with the UN Environment*

Both internal and external communication are key for any projects, including sustainable development and environmental protection. The Project, therefore, seeks to strengthen awareness of sustainable development and environmental issues in the Caspian Sea through partnerships with national and international media. In doing so regular trainings to journalists in order to strengthen environmental journalism and improving media coverage of environmental issues will be organized.

3. Caspian Seal Conservation *in collaboration with the UN Environment, and University of Leeds UK*

The Caspian seal is a flagship conservation species, being a migratory, transboundary marine mammal, listed as Endangered by IUCN. The main goal of this project is to enhance and develop capacity among the Caspian littoral states to conserve and protect the Caspian seal, and its habitat. Addressing the conservation threats to the Caspian seal will have ecosystem wide impacts, making the overall Caspian marine ecosystem more resilient, and will promote sustainable livelihoods for the communities' dependent on those ecosystems. The project is expected to support the establishment of the Caspian Seal marine protected area.

PROJECTS

The foundation aims to develop the following projects in the near future:

4. Aquatic ecosystems and water preservation in the Region *in collaboration with Institute for Environmental Sciences- UNIGE and UNESCO*

For researchers, this means looking at the interactions between human activities and the resource system.

The use of water resources has increased exponentially over the last century, in line with rising population. At the same time, human activities – agricultural and industrial ones in particular – have had a significant adverse effect on the quality of fresh water and have degraded aquatic environments. Therefore, maintaining the quantity and quality of water in order to meet human consumption needs and ensure that ecosystems can function is now a serious challenge.

PROJECTS

The foundation aims to develop the following projects in the near future:

5. Education for the generation Z

Education is the foundation of a generation's successful future. Regardless of the existing, outdated education system in schools and other institutions, the transformation of the system into one that can adapt to the future is imminent. With new educational concepts and technology, the revamping of the education system is crucial in the talent development of the future changemakers. The foundation, together with local educational institutions will support the novel educational programs.

PROJECTS

The foundation aims to develop the following projects in the near future:

6. Caspian Week and Caspian Ambassador

Caspian
week Platform
for global ideas

Caspian
Ambassador