

# Communicating Biodiversity Offsets with Local Communities



**IAIA26**  
QUÉBEC CITY, CANADA



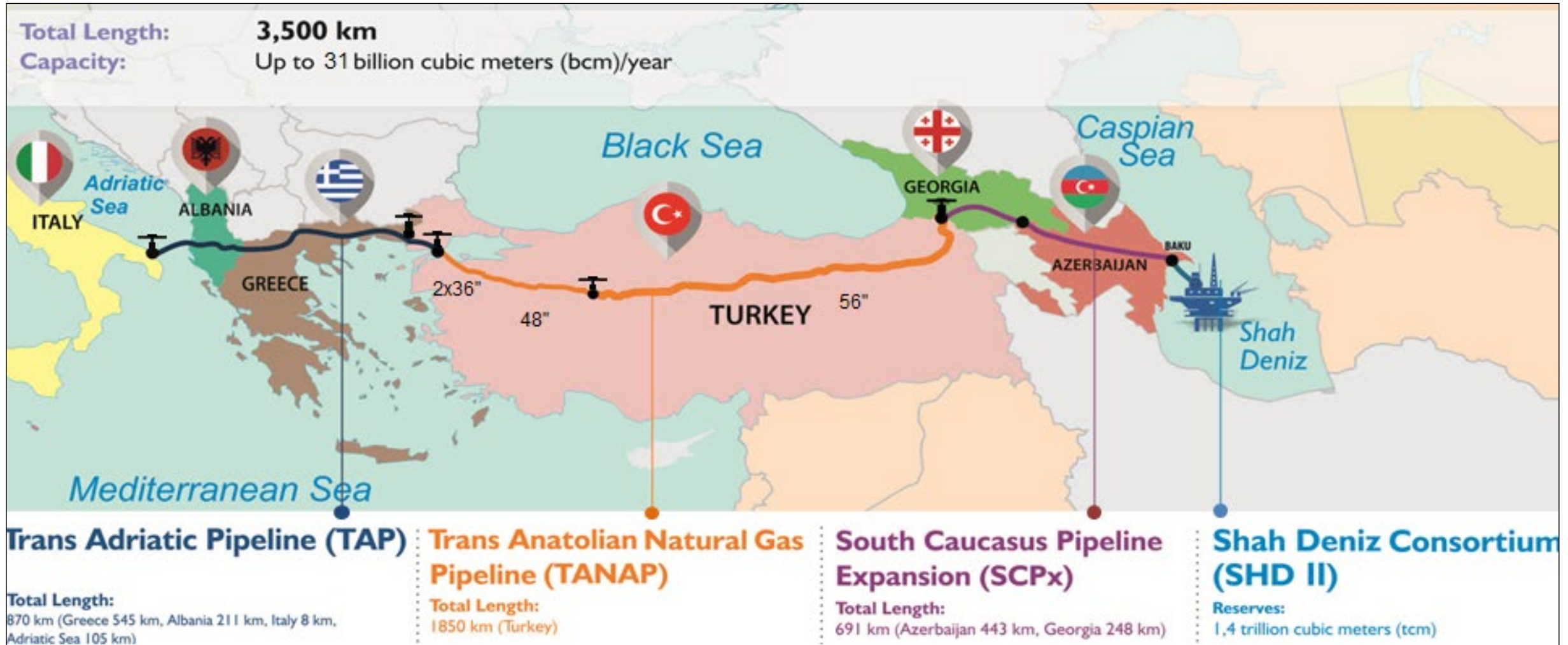
*Deputy Director General / Nature Conservation Centre*  
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# The Southern Gas Corridor (SGC) & TANAP



Total length in Türkiye: 1811.7 km – longest part of SGC  
 20 provinces in Türkiye

# Biodiversity Offset Program



# Biodiversity Offset Projects

## Resilient Steppe Offset Sites:

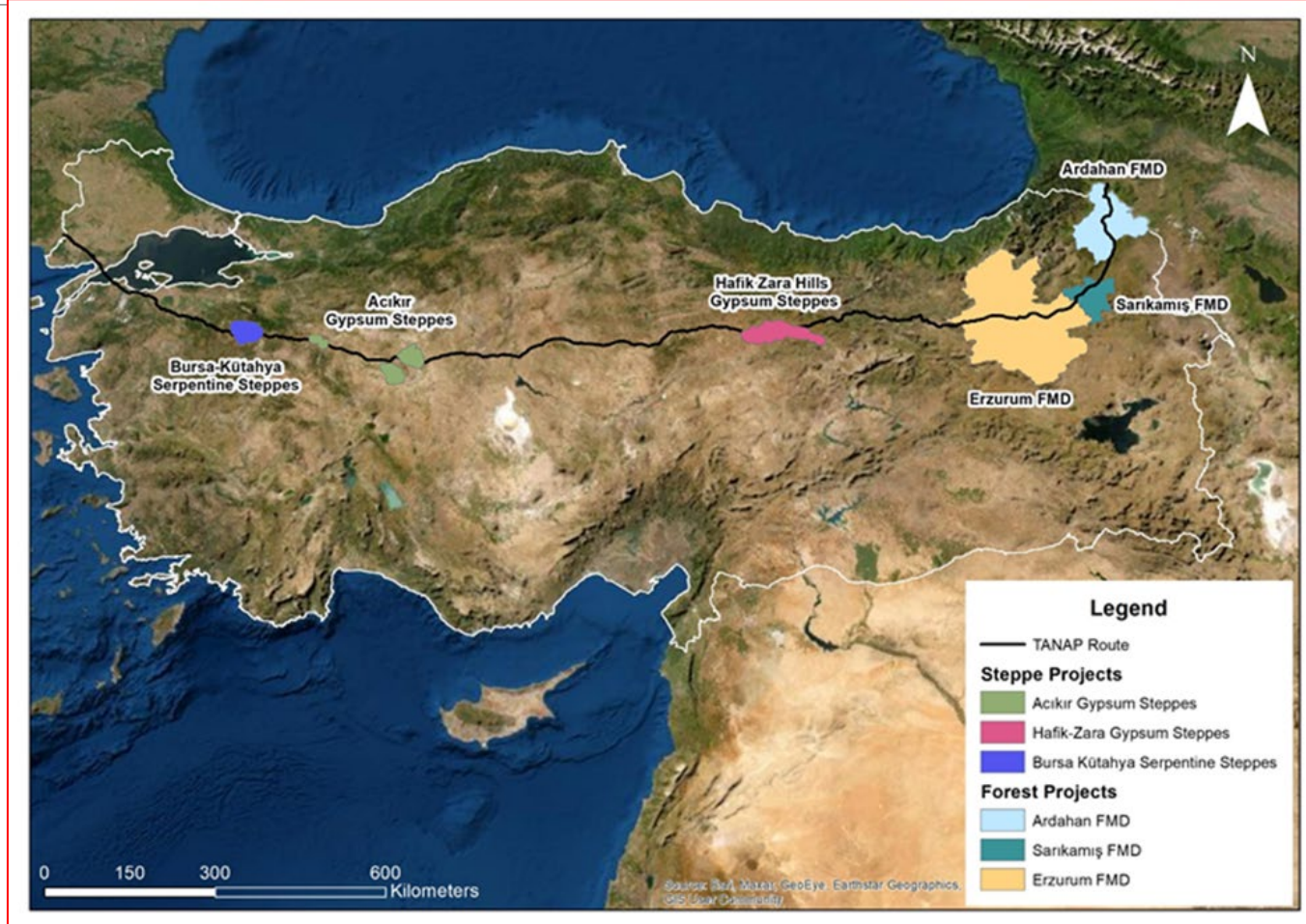
- Bursa-Kütahya Serpentine Steppes
- Acıkır Gypsum Steppes
- Hafik-Zara Hills Gypsum Steppes

*«Increase the resilience of the socio-ecological system for steppes within the changing social, ecological, economic and climatic conditions»*

## Forest Biodiversity Conservation Offset Sites:

- Erzurum Forest Management Directorate
- Sarıkamış Forest Management Directorate
- Ardahan Forest Management Directorate

*«Enhance sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation in three Forest Management Directorates within the Erzurum Regional Directorate of Forestry»*



# Holistic Grazing Management Planning Process

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- Defining the main problems of natural resource management in biodiversity-rich steppe ecosystems
- Needs assessment and finding solutions at site level
- Deciding and acting together in the implementation of holistic grazing management plans.

**Long-term stakeholder support in biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource management.**

# Creating enabling environment and building trust

## Working on the ground

- A local staff at each offset site
- Regular visits and meetings
- Monitoring



# Creating enabling environment and building trust

## Capacity building

- Field trainings: 259 participants
- Trainings (introductory and advanced trainings): 210 participants
- A technical visit to a pilot site: 45 participants



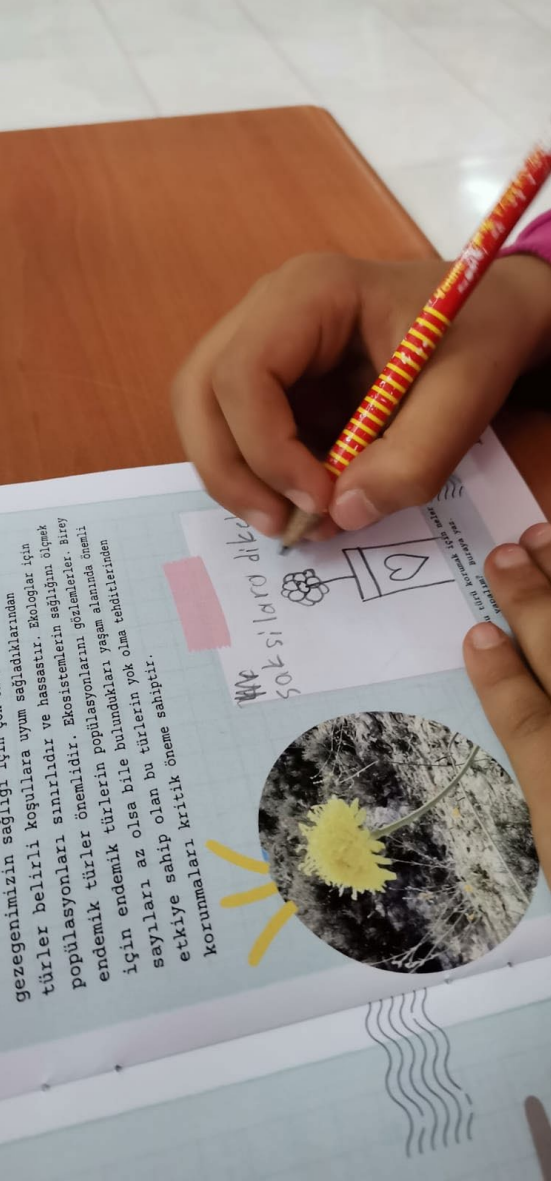
## Endorsement and support of local government authorities

# Creating enabling environment and building trust

Working with school children

2022: 199 students

2023: 154 students



# Adaptive Management

## Participatory mapping and needs assesment



# Adaptive Management

## Supporting local communities

- Water throughs and piping
- Solar panels for water pumping
- Trailers as shepherd shelters
- Mobile water tanks
- Fencing systems as overnight herd shelters
- Portable electric fencing systems for temporary paddock division



# Monitoring

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- Target species and habitat monitoring
- Ecological Outcome Verification (EOV)
- Grazing plan & implementation satisfaction

by villagers in the offset sites:

**Average: 4.18 / 5 (satisfied)**



# Lessons Learnt

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For strong local ownership and effective implementation of the holistic grazing management plans

- Involve people early
- Communicate (two-way)
- Provide information and education
- Allow adequate time
- Adaptive management



# Multiplier Effect

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- Creating a **good practice** can encourage decision-makers to adopt and effectively implement it **at regional or national levels**.
- A model for GEF project on **nature-based solutions in agriculture** (Türkiye).



# Conclusion

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**'Behaviour change requires building trust, good communication and that really takes time.'**



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# Let's continue the conversation!

Message me your questions or comments in the IAIA26 app.



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