

OVERVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ACTIVITIES IN 2022

SABUKO – SOCIETY FOR NATURE CONSERVATION



Partnership for
nature and people



SABUKO is represented with a permanent environmental education team.

The organization has three main target groups: families with young children, schools (including school classes and teachers), and the members of the society who follow the organization's progress and are interested in conservation.

Different activities are developed and offered to each target group.

There are three main directions in developing education program:

- Regular activities – The events happening regularly, annually or monthly. The audience usually consists of people who are already familiar with the organization and wait for the specific event.
- Irregular activities – The events happening spontaneously, when the opportunity arises. For example, switching to online learning in schools during the pandemic gave us the opportunity to adjust to new schedule and offer outdoor course “Birdwatching for beginners” in 2021.
- Working with schools – consists of working with teachers and educators who invite SABUKO in their co-working space. According to school program theme, we plan events, meetings, games and excursions, or help the teachers with resources and new ideas.

Since 2018, we actively work for strengthening eco-clubs in school. SABUKO creates, modifies and offers resources for eco-club teachers with the help of BirdLife partners and independently.

The resources can be handbooks, guides, work sheets, games and modules, information posters, trails and even movies. These resources are free and can be used by the teachers independently. As of June 2022, SABUKO has two permanent team members in environmental education program – education manager and education officer.

We were able to temporarily recruit two bird guides, as well as a consultant from teacher's education and capacity building center, who will help us develop long-term strategy for working with schools more effectively.

CCBC Materials and resources

SABUKO was able to modify and reprint the information posters that were the most popular amongst our visitors and schools: *Owls of Georgia; Vultures of Georgia*.

The information posters are taken happily by children and adults alike. They help us raise motivation and interest. Usually, after seeing the posters, people express desire to visit Chachuna Managed Reserve or Vashlovani National Park to see the vultures. More questions are asked about the owls, the nesting sites for each species etc. We were able to successfully link these topics to migration and other projects.

The list of meetings by SABUKO in 2022:

- April 5 – meeting at St. George private school in Tbilisi – 20 students.
- April 14 – meeting in National Museum of Georgia – 15 students from primary school.
- April 15 - meeting in National Museum of Georgia – 16 students, grade 4.
- April 16 – meeting in National Museum of Georgia – 21 students, parents.
- April 20 - meeting in National Museum of Georgia - 18 students, parents.
- May 6 – meeting in National Museum of Georgia - 15 students.
- May 10 – meeting with school – 18 students.
- June 7 - Meeting with 3 Armenian school administrations and eco-club teachers in Javakheti region (Gorelovka and Ninotsminda settlements), distribution of information leaflets and posters as gifts to local eco-clubs.

Tours:

- April 9 – Tour on Kumisi lake – Birdwatching, information about migration, threats, importance of site – conservation and legislation.
- April 10 – Tour in Botanical garden of Tbilisi – Urban birds, garden birds, characteristics.
- May 14 - Tour in Botanical garden of Tbilisi – Urban birds, garden birds, characteristics.
- May 15 - Tour on Kumisi lake – Birdwatching, information about migration, threats, importance of site – conservation and legislation.
- June 4 – Tour in Krtsanisi forest - Birdwatching, information about migration, threats, importance of site – conservation and legislation.
- June 5 - Tour in Krtsanisi forest - Birdwatching, information about migration, threats, importance of the site – conservation and legislation.

Imperial Eagle Handbook

The handbook was developed by Susanne W. Schwarz. The publication was initiated in frame of SABUKO's project to protect the Eastern Imperial Eagle. The handbook is a collection of activities, games and information around raptors and the Imperial Eagle.

In previous years two workshops were offered to teachers, where SABUKO presented the handbook and activities. The limited amount of books were distributed to schools and teachers. With the help of Cape Cod Bird Club, SABUKO will be able to reprint the handbook and distribute it again.

SABUKO aimed to carry out Imperial Eagle awareness raising activities within its project from April 2022 as mentioned in proposal to CCBC. The campaign was delayed for September due to other needs for conservation activities. It was decided to wait for the distribution of handbook for that period, because we think it will be more effective to include teachers in other activities in parallel.

In this moment, education team decided to use this time to improve the layout of the handbook with SABUKO's funds, add the new images of activities, improve the old photos of raptors and prepare it for printing as a new, improved edition.

The final report is due to December 20, 2022.

