

Improving Policy, Institutions, Legislation and Practices for Sustainable Use and Conservation of Wildlife Resources

**Prague/Zidlochovice, Czech Republic
23-27 March 2009**

The Russian Federation

Current Sectoral Management

1. The Federal Law #258, which was enforced at January 1 of 2008, transmitted the main hunt concerned state authorities and responsibilities from federal level to provincial one. This transmission has resulted to a cardinal reformation of all system of hunting management, control on use and quotation of harvest the hunting resources and hunting inspectorate structure as well.
2. New federal hunting regulations were enforced in January of this year an immediately these regulations became the target of lobby activity to change them. As a result now we have contradictory document and it's not clear what will happen further.

Policy and Legislation

1. The absence of the concept of national policy and strategy of the development of hunting in country scale led to slow renewing of hunting legislation.
2. Hunting law is in long term preparation and current legislation *de-facto* doesn't regulate hunting tourism and trophy issues in adequate manner.
3. The new hunting regulation, enforced in the beginning of this year is non-adequate and contradicts itself and to some other federal laws.

Socio-economic problems

1. The role of professional hunting is mostly social than economical. I.e. in Khabarovsk province annual incomes of trapping consist less then 0.04% of provincial budget, but about 13% of families pointed hunting as the main or significant source of family budgets. Although hunting play a big role in life of local communities they still be out of management of wildlife resources on the surrounding territory.
2. In European part of Russia amateur and trophy hunting plays leading role. And in this case again local communities and just all other hunters are not involved in management of hunting resources. Hunters associations don't follow hunters interest, but mostly follow business interest of their leadership

Inter-sectoral management

1. Hunting managing agencies are still in permanent reformation during the last 15 years. This non-sustainable situation has led to lost of high professional staff of agencies. The governmental staff is weak and poorly competent in field of hunting and game management.
2. The main inter-sectoral conflict of interests is between hunting and forestry. Large scale and weakly managed logging is leading to massive transformation of hunting territories.

Benefits of workshops in Prague and Antalya for you country

No benefits because government stil be out of Prague Process

Current most important and expected problems for sustainable use and wildlife conservation in your country

1. Absence of state policy for hunt.
2. Too slow and contradictory process of legislation renewing.
3. Hunters and local communities are not involved in management of hunting resources and don't share in profits from hunting tourism.

Existing conflicts between hunting, environment and wider public (if any)

Not significant

**Problems for which help of international experts
is needed most in your country**

“To change brains” of officials???