The Caucasus is a region of extraordinary richness. Many threats and challenges to its biodiversity can only be
Transboundary cooperation plays a key role in promoting sustainable development in the Caucasus, and can contribute to peace and understanding. Ecologic Institute supported the organisation of a conference that aimed to strengthen the dialogue between governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. It brought together the Ministers of Environment from the Caucasus countries and representatives of international conservation and donor organisations. The conference took place in Berlin from 9 until 11 March 2006.

**Aim of the conference**

The conference provided a high-level political platform for governments and international organisations to present activities and to announce commitments towards the implementation of an Ecoregional Conservation Plan (ECP) as a contribution to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). CBD was ratified by all six Caucasus countries (Armenia 1993, Georgia 1994, Russia 1995, Iran 1996, Turkey 1997 and Azerbaijan 2000).

**Ecoregional Conservation Plan**

The Ecoregional Conservation Plan (ECP) was developed in order to address overarching challenges and threats to the extraordinary biodiversity of the Caucasus. It is a blueprint for biodiversity conservation and regional development - a comprehensive strategy for action to conserve and restore the biodiversity of the ecoregion over the span of several decades. It is a guiding document for governments, aid agencies and donor organisations, and is an effective planning instrument for the implementation of the CBD.

The development of the ECP was coordinated by WWF [3] together with more than 160 regional stakeholders from governments, universities and NGOs. This effort was supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development [4] (BMZ) and KfW Development Bank [5] in the framework of the BMZ Caucasus Initiative, by the MacArthur Foundation [6] and by the Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund [7] (CEPF).

9 March 2006 to 11 March 2006

Berlin

Main Link
Event Website: Caucasus Conference [English, Russian]

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**Organizer**

Ecologic Institute, Germany

**Team**

Melanie Kemper  
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