



Identification of High Nature Value farmland (HNVF): support to EECCA countries, project supported by the Norwegian Government

High Nature Value Farmlands in EECCA region

**Vision of experts of the European
ECO-Forum from countries of the
subregion**

For implementing the Kyiv
Resolution on Biodiversity

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Definition for High Nature Value Farmlands (HNVF)

HNVF - lands and territorial-aquatic formations within the lands of predominately agricultural destination where the **high biodiversity** is conserved and/or formed as it is testified by assessment **criteria** and/or by **features** of a particularly valuable or unique *landscape*, forming special conditions for existence of ecosystems, communities and species.

Ecosystem Classification of HNVF comprises 4 types and 23 subtypes;

Classification of special land use (social-ecological economy):

- areas under agri-environment schemes;
- less favoured areas.

Principles and features of ecosystem classification

Principles:

- ✓ ***selection of minimally disturbed ecosystems;***
- ✓ ***significant contribution into maintenance of biodiversity.***
- ✓ ***assessment of input into landscape diversity;***
- ✓ ***assessment of uniqueness and potential role in publicity;***
- ✓ ***assessment of the land development perspectives.***

Features :

- ✓ ***of biological values (7),***
- ✓ ***of landscape value (6)***
- ✓ ***of social attractiveness (4)***
- ✓ ***favorable perspectives for territory development (3)***
- ✓ ***for social- economic HNMF classes (8)***

System of HN VF assessment

Criteria of ecosystem classification:

- Important Plant Areas;
- Important Bird Areas;
- Criteria of the core areas of national and local ecological networks.

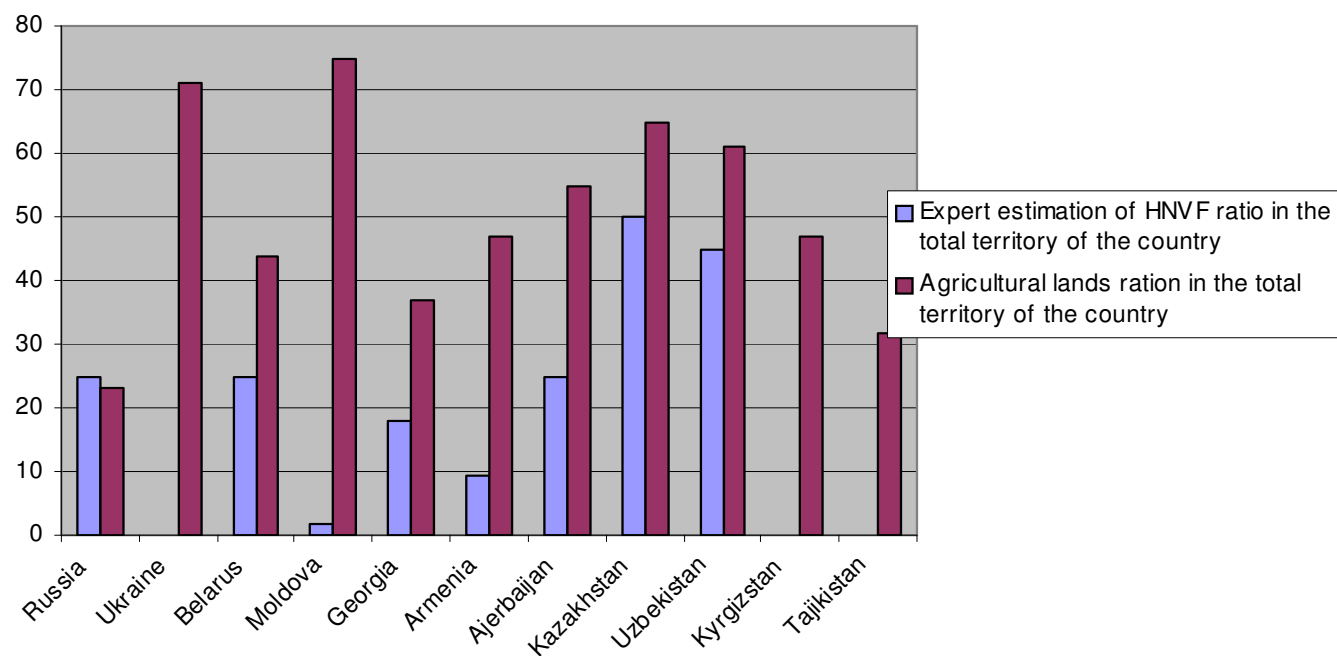
Indicators of social-ecological classes of HN VF:

Positive indicators: -4

Negative indicators -3

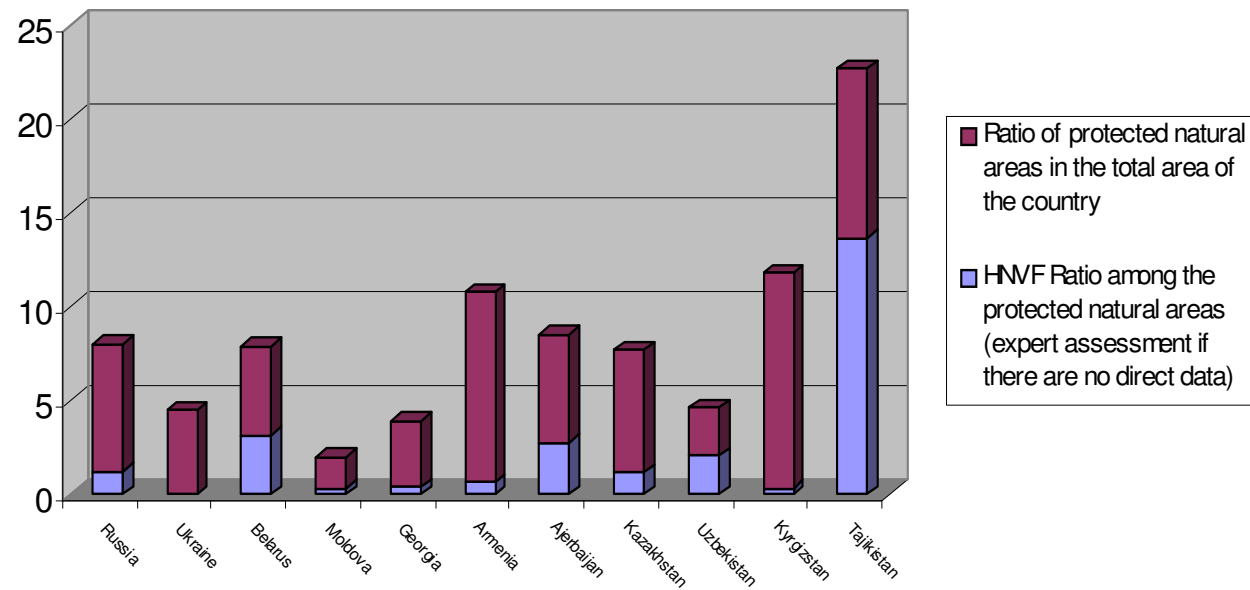
Main results of the evaluation

Fig.1. Share of agricultural lands and HNPF according to the expert estimation (per cents)



Main results of the evaluation

Fig. 2. Evaluation of HNMF share among the protected natural areas (per cents)



Specific lessons

- HNVF provide living space for tremendous number of globally and regionally endangered species.
- HNVF have a great importance for national food security and rural wellbeing
- Their assessment requires information that is little available or missing.
- Abandonment and intensification as directions of agriculture are not recognized as serious problems in the sub-region for the moment.
- If States are not implementing Kyiv Resolution, then there are no HNVF in the sub-region, and if there are HNVF...

- Principles and criteria link HNVF and ecological network.
- Universality of principles of HNVF attribution connects EECCA sub-region and Pan Europe as much as Governments are ready to conserve natural national and Pan-European heritage.
- HNVF are resources, and efficiency of their management is the indicator of the wish and capacity to finish the transition period.

Recommendations for governments and donor-organisations:

- recognize legally the concept of agricultural lands' multifunction, removing arable land priority and introducing provisions for grassland wise use;
- recognize officially, create registration and introduce HNMF in land use planning;
- recognize true HNMF management as priority and speed up the creation of relevant protected areas and ecological networks;
- elaborate the common for EECCA methodical basis and fulfill programs on identification of HNMF in each country;
- draw special attention to the Kyiv Resolution, development of common HNMF identification procedure for Pan-Europe, in collaboration with UNEP, UNDP, FAO, ECO-Forum and IUCN;
- include a special section in the Environment Strategy for EECCA countries.