

*CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION
REPORT*

Project Title:

*Building Capacity for
Conservation in Liberia*

Submitted By: CI Liberia

Table of Contents:

1. Basic Data
2. Opening remarks
3. Achievement of Project Purpose
4. Project Outputs
5. Safe Guard Policy Assessment
6. Lessons Learned from the Project
7. Additional Funding
8. Additional Comments and Recommendations
9. Information Sharing

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Legal Name: Conservation International – West Africa Program

Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement): Building Capacity for Conservation in Liberia

Implementation Partners for this Project: Fauna and Flora International, the Environmental Foundation for Africa and the Forestry Development Authority

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement): September 15, 2004 – June 30, 2007

Date of Report (month/year): August 31, 2007

II. OPENING REMARKS

This project, Building Capacity for Conservation in Liberia, has been one of CI Liberia's most successful projects to date. This project was most successful in building the capacity of local organizations for conservation, specifically in areas such as, research, community outreach, natural resource management (NRM), fundraising, internet usage, etc. This project has also helped in educating the public about the importance of conserving Liberia's biodiversity and updating them on the progress of the forest reform in the country. Based on the success of this project and the significant interest we have seen from our local partners, CI plans to develop a second phase for the Liberia Conservation Action Fund (LCAF).

LCAF goal is to achieve conservation outcomes while building the capacity of Liberian civil society organizations. LCAF channels financial support for targeted conservation outcomes directly to Liberian non-governmental organizations (LNGOs) to stimulate civil society organizations and build partnerships and strengthen coordination between international organizations, governmental agencies, and LNGOs. Through LCAF, civil society organizations are empowered to take on conservation issues ranging from establishment and management of protected areas, natural resource management, species research, community engagement, ecotourism, amongst others. LCAF is a joint effort of Conservation International (CI), the Forestry Development Authority (FDA), Fauna and Flora International (FFI), Environmental Foundation for Africa (EFA) with the CEPF through this project being the sole supporter.

III. ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of this project it to change the way in which international and local conservation organizations and donors collaborate and to improve the capacity of local organizations to effectively implement conservation projects in Liberia through the creation of the Liberia Conservation Action Fund (LCAF) providing direct financial support to Liberian organizations.

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
Purpose-level:	

1. Key Liberian NGOs self-sufficient in fundraising and conservation investments better coordinated.	4 LNGOs(Skills and Agricultural Development Services (SADS), Environmental Foundation International (EFI), Sustainable Development Institute (SDI) and Save My Future Foundation (SAMFU)self sufficient in fundraising and conservation investments better coordinated
2. Internet connectivity and awareness of NGOs through the radio program established and internet access made available to ACL partners.	Internet café established and available to various local partners and radio programs aired to educate both the NGO community and the public about issues unfolding in the forest sector.
3. Coordination and communication improved between international NGOs, international and Liberian NGOs, and NGOs and the government.	Regular quarterly meetings between LCAF recipients and partners resulted in a joint activity matrix combining the efforts of local and international NGOs through the Alliance for Conservation in Liberia. However, the ACL has not been too active as most of its members, including CI has been exerting its efforts in working with more strategic partnership such as the Liberia Forest Initiative, Liberia's Protected Areas working group, Sapu working group, etc. ACL members are playing leading role and the aspirations of this association are well articulated and incorporated in the products of these collaborations.
4. Core accounting and administration best-business practices established in key Liberian NGOs	4 LNGOs (SAMFU, SDI, Green Advocates and SCNL) capacity improved in core accounting and administration best practices, as demonstrated through the improvement in their financial report and management of funds

Describe the success of the project in terms of achieving its intended impact objective and performance indicators.

The project continues to yield positive results and has great potential for improving the long term sustainability of CI's efforts in Liberia. Liberian NGOs are strengthening their ability to achieve conservation through the LCAF funding. Before LCAF, most Liberian NGOs saw conservation as a wasted effort and of less interest to the donor community. With the education and awareness gained through the project, LNGOs now realize the global importance of conservation. Because of LCAF, LNGOs such as Skills and Agriculture Development Services (SADS) which was originally established to intervene in areas such as Watsan and Agriculture have now developed an interest and is committed to ensuring that Liberia's remaining forest is conserved along with its inhabitants. Other examples are Sustainable Development Institute (SDI) which is now fully involved in engaging the government and donors on land use and forestry laws and Environmental Foundation International (EFI) which is engaged in programs aimed at lessening the pressure on the forest and promoting best practices. Thess LNGOs are now working along with the government and other conservation organizations in the country.

Major Achievements of LCAF in Liberia
1. Internet Café established and functioning with internet access for all CI local partners.
2. 6 LNGOs received and implemented 8 small grants projects focusing on one or more of LCAF's 4 objectives.
3. Capacity Building trainings conducted for LNGO partners in areas such as Financial Management, Administration, Proposal Writing, Donor report writing, Organizational planning etc.
4. LCAF review council established and functioning
5. \$134,902.57 in subgrants disbursed to Liberian NGOs.
6. Weekly radio program established and ongoing

CI Liberia provided training for its local partners in areas such as financial management,

QuickBooks, proposal writing and development, donor reporting, as well as project monitoring and evaluation. These trainings were done through regular coaching and mentoring of key partner staff and also by organizing trainings in specific areas. Some of the trainings started out with a one day intensive training course, followed by monthly refresher courses. Because of the ongoing technical support provided by CI Liberia to its local partners, their capacities in financial, administrative and programmatic management have greatly improved. One example is SADS, which originally started out as a development NGO specializing in water and sanitation and the delivery of agricultural extension services. Yet now, due to the level of support and capacity building provided through the LCAF project, SADS is recognized today among the conservation NGOs in Liberia as one of the most effective and result oriented local partners for conservation in Liberia. Another example is SDI, which is known for advocacy and community engagement conservation activities in Liberia. It is currently engaged actively in community land tenure and Property Rights issues in the Liberian setting. Its Executive Director, Silas Siakor was recently awarded the Goldman Prize.

Most of the LNGOs started out with very poor proposals, financial management and reporting skills. However, today their capacities are improved to the extent that they are now actively securing funding from donors like IUCN, CEPF, World Bank, United Nations etc. on their own.

The internet café at CI Liberia's office is providing our NGO partners with ongoing access for email and research. A total of four desktop computers, a printer and UPS have been installed and are functioning. Due to the high connectivity and availability the café provides, the internet is highly valuable to the LNGOs. Training on internet research is also provided by CI Liberia Information Technology Officer for both the LNGOs and environmental journalist both of which are frequent users of the café.

CI also improved its management capacity by realigning its organizational structure. This included the hiring of a Director of Operations to assist the Country Director in managing the Operations team including Finance and a Project Manager/Partnerships & Livelihood to oversee the day to day management of CI Liberia's partnership with local and international partners and the community engagement component of all CI Liberia's programs.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

The high level of interest expressed in the LNGO community in conservation was unexpected. CI is constantly approached by LNGOs in the country expressing their interest in capacity building in the area of conservation. This includes interest in species research, natural resource management, biomonitoring, protected area management, etc. Most of the LNGOs express interest in the LCAF project because it provides capacity building focused directly on conservation, which is the first of its kind in the country. The Forestry Development Authority (FDA) also sees the benefit in the capacity building the project provided, as they now have local partners to work with. They see this as a major achievement towards the long term sustainability of their conservation efforts in the country. With the extension of LCAF, CI Liberia envisions a very strong coalition of LNGOs in Liberia specialized in all aspects of conservation.

Another impact the project has achieved is the change in attitude towards conservation in the LNGO community in Liberia. Before LCAF, Conservation was seen as a wasted

effort by LNGOs, in that it was not of high importance in the donor community and its global importance was not well understood. With the exposure through the internet and education on the importance of conservation by CI, LNGOs are now aware of the global importance of conservation and donor interest in achieving conservation.

IV. PROJECT OUTPUTS

Project Outputs:

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
<p>Output 1: Project proposal development and review committee established and operational in Liberia to advise CEPF on \$200,000 that CEPF has earmarked for conservation in Liberia. The project will also include discussions with NC - IUCN to integrate their collaboration with EFA to coordinate investments in conservation.</p>	<p>A project review committee was established, encompassing Fauna and Flora International, the Environmental Foundation for Africa, the Forest Development Authority and CI. Throughout the project there have been ongoing discussions to integrate the work of NC-IUCN with the LCAF. One example of this cooperation was the trainings conducted with funding for the NC-IUCN which provided vital capacity building to LCAF partners in proposal development. This collaboration has strengthened LNGOs capacity for conservation and has ensured coordination rather than competition among donors and implementers in Liberia.</p>
<p>1.1 Project proposals to CEPF coordinated and focused on priority biodiversity conservation programs.</p>	<p>Initially a Review Committee was established to provide guidance to CEPF on funding. However during the project lifespan the committee decided that it would be more efficient to do the granting locally. Therefore CI was given full control over the small grants fund. During this phase, the Review committee met monthly to review proposals submitted to CI and provide recommendations and feedback to CI and LNGOs applying on the merit of the proposal and their technical approach to biodiversity conservation.</p>
<p>1.2 Improved capacity of at least 4 local NGOs to develop project plans, write proposals, and report on activities.</p>	<p>4 LNGOs (SADS, EFI, SDI, and SAMFU) have improved their capacity in proposal writing and reporting. CI continues to work with partners to strengthen capacity in these areas. Due to this, the LCAF partners are now securing funding from IUCN, UNICEF, CEPF etc.</p>
<p>Output 2: Awareness of conservation activities inside and outside of Liberia increased through establishment of internet connectivity and radio programming</p>	<p>The internet Café was established and hands on trainings provided for the LNGO partners. This Café has helped to educate these local groups in the areas of conservation. CI Liberia, through an agreement with Radio Veritas, produced and aired weekly radio programs focusing on conservation issues in the country.</p>
<p>2.1 Internet cafe established in CI office with 3 computers and 3 internet access jacks connecting through CI's satellite internet connection.</p>	<p>The internet café was established in CI's office. This comprises, 3 computers, internet access jacks connecting through CI's satellite connection, and providing internet access to CI's local partners. The Internet Café provides internet access to more than 10 LNGOs. Local partners were also educated on the global importance of conservation and had an opportunity to learn from other conservation partners around the world via the internet. Local partners were able to contact other partners via internet and email provided by the café to share experiences and lessons learned.</p>
<p>2.2</p>	<p>CI Liberia through Radio Veritas, produced and</p>

Weekly radio program on conservation in Liberia established.	aired weekly radio programs from November 2005 – January 2007. This station is heard both locally and internationally. This program provided regular updates regarding events in the Forest Sector. This program was appreciated by the listening public who found it educational and informative. This program also engaged key stakeholders by inviting them for live interviews and also allowed listeners to call in and ask questions or make comments regarding issues related to Liberia’s biodiversity conservation.
Output 3: Communications coordinator hired and established in CI office to improve communication of CI and partner conservation activities, design and implement awareness campaigns, and provide technical assistance to local partners in project implementation relating to communications strategies and awareness.	A Communications Coordinator was hired who has been implementing awareness activities and providing technical support to local partners in the area of communications.
3.1 Monthly meetings among international and local NGOs held and meeting reports completed.	The ACL was organized but has not been as active as anticipated. Other partnerships such as the Liberia Forest Initiative have proven to be more effective. All of the members of the Alliance are a part of the LFI and keep each other informed of their various activities. With the assistance of CI, the Alliance has succeeded in contributing to the establishment of the Liberia Environmental NGO Coalition. More recently CI has been working with its NGO partners to form a capacity building forum which will extend beyond the life of this existing LCAF project and will focus on providing LNGOs with the vital organizational and programmatic skills for managing biodiversity conservation projects.
Output 4: Technical finance and administrative skills strengthened in at least 4 local civil society organizations to improve capacity to effectively and responsibly implement projects. CI and partners will seek to develop core capacity of conservation organizations focusing on priority activities and areas in Liberia.	CI through a local management and accounting firm organized a one day training in financial management and provided ongoing support to finance managers of 4 LNGOs. CI continues to provide on going support to the management of these LNGOs.
4.1 Financial and administrative management improved and secured for at least 4 Liberian NGOs.	4 LNGOs (Society for the Conservation of Nature, Sustainable Development Institute, Green Advocates and Save My Future Foundation) received training in financial management focusing on areas like basic QuickBooks, petty cash control, bookkeeping, compilation of financial reports etc. In order to ensure capacity for financial management was enhanced, CI provided salaries for financial managers for one year 2005 -2006. 4 FDA staff also attended this training, 2 from the Finance department and 2 from the Admin Department.
4.2 Group training courses in proposal writing, budgeting and reporting, offered for all conservation NGOs submitting proposals to the small grants fund.	CI provided training for a total of 20 NGOs submitting proposals to the small grants fund. The training focused on the LCAF proposal template. Each section of the template was discussed to explain what information the donor is looking for and how that information should be articulated.
Output 5: Ensure effective CI office operation to ensure coordination with partner organizations and long-sustainability of Conservation International operations in Liberia.	CI office is fully restructured and coordination with partner organizations has been improved.
5.1 CI financial and administrative management	CI Liberia has been restructured to bring about greater transparency in the management of

improved.	finances and resources.. The emphasis of the restructuring exercise was to ensure that there are appropriate checks and balance in the system. Two positions were created due to the restructuring exercise, The Director of Operations and a Project Manager/partnerships and Livelihoods. Additionally CI Liberia brought on a Program Director who is part of the Senior Management Team.
5.2 CI mission, objectives in Liberia and long-term plan to achieve these goals clearly communicate to partner organizations.	During the life of this project CI has clarified its mission and objectives as seen through its annual workplans. CI has communicated this information in Liberia, by establishing strong partnerships with other conservation partners (FFI, FDA and EPA), synthesizing implementation plans, and holding regular meetings to provide update on programs under implementation or future implementation plans.
Output 6: Coordinate the Liberia Conservation Action Fund Decision Council and administer and manage \$140,000 worth of subgrants to Liberian NGOs.	The review committee was established and held monthly meetings to review proposals submitted to CI and provided feedback to CI and applicants on proposals.
6.1 LCAF Decision Council functioning transparently and accountably.	The LCAF decision council comprising of CI, FFI, EFA and the FDA held meetings on a monthly basis and provided technical inputs to CI staff as we worked to improve the quality of proposals submitted. As a result of this, CI committed \$134,902.57in small grants to LNGOs.
6.2 \$140,000 in subgrants disbursed to Liberian NGOs.	Based on the recommendations made by the review committee, CI provided small grants to 6 LNGOs totaling \$134,902.57. Based on a discussion and approval from CEPF, CI secured additional computers, UPS and a printer to upgrade the internet Café with the balance funds. Please see chart below for grant details.
6.3 Liberian NGOs implementing LCAF subgrants.	CI continues to monitor and review reports of LCAF subgrants. Regular monitoring visits are paid to each project site to verify information provided in the mid term report and ensure program quality. Up to now, there are two grants that are still ongoing; they are establishment of Conservations Clubs in Universities implemented by SEED and Establishment of a Sea turtle Sanctuary in Barfu Bay implemented by SAMFU.

Describe the success of the project in terms of delivering the intended outputs.

Key Liberian NGOs self-sufficient in fundraising and conservation investments better coordinated:

After a series of trainings in proposal writing, financial management, and donor reporting, participating LNGOs are now approaching donors and fundraising on their own. Unlike before, these LNGOs now have the capacity to develop proposals and approach potential donors to begin discussions about conservation programs in the country. Examples include The Skills and Agricultural Development Services (SADS), Environmental Foundation International (EFI) and Save My Future Foundation (SAMFU). These LNGOs are now competing with International NGOs for funding. They are also approaching other donors such as IUCN, CEPF, UNICEF, LCIP etc. All of these LNGOs now have offices, staffing and logistics due to the increase in funding provided through this CEPF project among others.

Example of funding secured outside of LCAF by LNGO partners:

SADS:

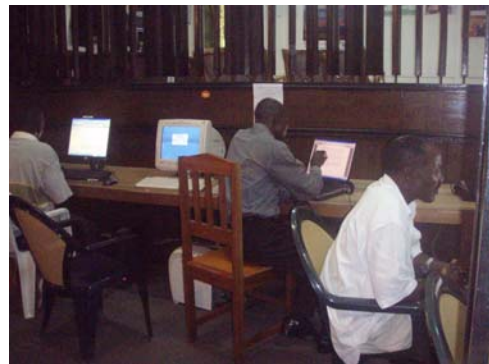
Project title	Amount	Donor
Community Livelihood Support and Income Generation Project	USD\$ 11,696.21	CI Liberia through the CCC project
Campaign Against Destructive Mining, Chain Sawing and Hunting in East Nimba Nature Reserve (Liberia)	USD\$2500.00	Global Green grant
East Nimba Nature Reserve Great Apes (Western Chimpanzees Outreach Program	USD \$ 4,949.00	Conservation International and the IUCN/SSC Primate Specialist Group.

SAMFU:

Project Title	Amount	Donor
Borgor point Sea Turtle Conservation and educational project	\$ USD 25,000	United States Fish and wildlife service
Human right and Environmental inquiry in Firestone	30,000 Euro	Trocaire Ireland

Internet connectivity and awareness of NGOs improved through the radio program and internet access for ACL partners:

The internet access available through the internet café at CI Liberia’s office is a valuable asset for CI’s local partners. They are now engaging other conservation partners via internet, conducting research on species and projects via internet and also communicating with other partners and donors. Before the internet café was established, these partners had almost no access to the internet and were completely out of touch with the rest of the world. They now have an opportunity to keep abreast of happenings around and also to keep in touch with their conservation partners.



Partners at CI internet Cafe

Two additional computers, one UPS and a printer were purchased for the Café. This was to help address the high demand by partners for internet access to enable them conduct research, submit reports, contact donors etc.

The radio program organized by CI Liberia was informative and educational. Presently, there is still a high demand to continue the program by the listening public and other conservation partners in Liberia. This program brought the public up to date with issues relating to Liberia’s biodiversity. Key stakeholders were engaged though talk shows



CI Liberia Comm. Coordinator editing programs before they are aired

during this program, that provided detailed and accurate information to the public on the forest reform and the work of the FDA. Listeners also had the opportunity to call in and voice out their opinions/views and seek answers to questions they had.

CI Liberia is currently seeking funding for the upkeep of the internet café and the continuation of the weekly radio show on conservation in Liberia. .

Quarterly meetings drive a joint activity matrix combining the efforts of local and international NGOs through the Alliance for Conservation in Liberia:

The initial coordinating mechanism, the Alliance for Conservation in Liberia, has been replaced by other institutional coordination groups such as the Liberia Forest Initiative, the Protected Areas Working group, the Sapu Working group among others. Each of these bodies meets on a regular basis to compare notes and to seek areas of collaboration as well as to identify gaps. Additionally out of ACL group, the Coalition of Environmental NGOs was formed and has been holding meetings to discuss fundraising needs and collaboration efforts. The Coalition is made up of local civil society organizations that preferred to speak with an independent voice. CI Liberia is providing technical support to the Coalition and will continue to do so as the Coalition is critical to ensuring grass roots participation in conservation. CI Liberia sees the Coalition as a driving force behind sustaining conservation efforts in Liberia. Building the capacity of this coalition will ensure the long term sustainability of our efforts.

Capacity of at least 4 local NGOs to develop project plans, write proposals, and report on activities improved:

This has been one of the major successes of the project due to the ongoing support and capacity building provided by CI Liberia and its partners. LNGOs received trainings in proposal development/writing, donor reporting and financial management. This has been an ongoing process throughout the project, however it has been scaled up with the addition of a Project Manager for Partnerships and Livelihoods who dedicated much of her time to hands-on training of the LCAF partners. LNGOs such as SADS, EFI, SDI, and SAMFU are now self reliant and are in a better position to fundraise. These LNGOs are now competing with INGOs for funding in Liberia with donors such as UNDP, UNICEF, LCIP etc. They are also securing funding from other donors outside Liberia such as the IUCN and other foundations.

CI Liberia is currently coordinating with our international partners to ensure that these capacity building efforts are sustained in the long run and that additional LNGOs can benefit from such training opportunities.

Financial and administrative management strengthened and secured for at least 4 Liberian NGOs:

Training was provided for 4 LNGOs (Society for the Conservation of Nature, Sustainable Development Institute, Green Advocates and Save My Future Foundation) through a local firm called



CI Liberia IT officer installing Quick Books and other software on partners computers

VOSCOM. VOSCOM provided training in financial management (QuickBooks, petty cash control, financial reporting etc). Additionally, CI Liberia covered salaries for Financial Managers of the 4 LNGOs for one year (from 2005 – 2006) through this CEPF support.

LCAF Decision Council functioning transparently and accountably:

The Review Committee was formed encompassing FFI, FDA, EFA and CI. This committee held monthly meetings to review proposals submitted to CI for LCAF small grants fund. The work of the Committee was to provide feedback and recommendations to CI and applicants on proposals submitted. Based on the review committee’s comments and recommendations, CI was able to work with LNGOs to improve proposals and ensure that they were in line with one or more LCAF objectives. During the project a total of 8 proposals were recommended for approval by the committee. Please see comments from the review committee in Annex A.

\$140,000 in sub grants disbursed to Liberian NGOs:

A total of One Hundred Thirty Four Thousand, Nine Hundred Two USD (\$134,902.57) was disbursed by CI to 6 LNGOs to implement 8 projects throughout the project. Seven Thousand One Hundred Forty USD (\$7,140.00) was disbursed to the review committee as honorarium. Final reports on these grants can be made available upon request. Please see Annex A for grant details.

Ensure effective CI office operation to ensure coordination with partner organizations and long-sustainability of Conservation International operations in Liberia:

CI Liberia has been fully restructured to ensure coordination with partner organizations and the long term sustainability of our conservation efforts in Liberia. This was achieved by creating a Director of Operations position and a Project Manager/Partnerships & Livelihood. The Director of Operations will assist the Country Director in managing the Finance department, Admin/HR and Logistics staff. This position will ensure a check and balance system for CI Liberia. The Project Manager/Partnerships & Livelihoods will manage CI Liberia partnerships with both local and international Partners and manage CI community engagement programs. Additionally CI Liberia recruited for a Program Director who, with the Director of Operations and the Country Director participates in the Senior Management Team. Please see Annex B for CI Liberia Org Chart.

Were any outputs unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?

With the exception of the Alliance for Conservation in Liberia which experienced some setbacks due to the establishment of other partnerships in Liberia, all project outputs were realized. Notwithstanding, as stated in previous sections of this report, ACL objectives are being achieved since its members participate in other partnerships that deal with high priority conservation issues. CI and other ACL partners are pleased with these partnerships since all of the objectives of the ACL are still being met through these efforts.

V. SAFEGUARD POLICY ASSESSMENTS

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

All activities implemented under this project did not have any negative environmental impacts. All projects were intended to lessen the pressure on the forest and promote good practices. Additionally whenever possible the small grants were carried out in collaboration with community members and therefore did not have negative social impacts.

VI. LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PROJECT

Describe any lessons learned during the various phases of the project. Consider lessons both for future projects, as well as for CEPF's future performance.

One of the major lessons learned during the implementation of this project was that partnership is a very important factor to achieving our conservation goals in Liberia. By partnering with other conservation partners such as FDA, FFI, EFA etc., CI is in a better position to leverage funding and avoid duplication of efforts. Without partnerships and strong collaboration, conservation organizations working in Liberia will continue to duplicate efforts and not achieve our individual conservation outcomes.

Another important lesson is that capacity building efforts take time. While much has been accomplished under this project it has been a learning experience for CI and its local and international partners. We believe there is a strong need for this project to be continued in the future to allow for greater scope and breadth in our capacity building efforts.

Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/failure)

The Building Capacity for Conservation in Liberia project helped CI form strong partnerships with FDA, FFI and EFA and built local capacity in the area of conservation. This project provided a unique opportunity for CI to better understand the needs of its local partners, both through their own requests and those identified through shortcomings in their proposals and reports.

Project Execution: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/failure)

By combining trainings with a small grants program, CI and its partners had an excellent hands-on opportunity to cross reference our capacity building efforts to ensure that they were achieving their desired results. This also allowed us to identify weaknesses in the capacity building program and to design additional modules to meet those capacity needs.

The flexibility of the project to respond to partners' needs, both in terms of upgrading the internet café and in supporting the new institutional collaborations such as the LFI and the Coalition of Environmental NGOs, was critical in its success and to gaining the full

support and buy in of the projects beneficiaries. After all the success of any capacity building effort lies on its ability to deliver on the beneficiaries own needs.

VII. ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
McEnvoy Foundation	C	\$26,000	Targeted at small grants for local level species conservation efforts, this is new funding which will help extend the life of the LCAF.
US Dept of State to the Liberia Forest Initiative	B	\$\$682,000.	Capacity building for FDA

***Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:**

- A** Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)
- B** Complementary funding (Other donors contribute to partner organizations that are working on a project linked with this CEPF project)
- C** Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)
- D** Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)

Provide details of whether this project will continue in the future and if so, how any additional funding already secured or fundraising plans will help ensure its sustainability.

CI Liberia is currently seeking funding for the continuation of the LCAF project in that it was most successful. CI Liberia sees these efforts as paramount to ensuring long term sustainability of its conservation efforts in the country.

CI Liberia has developed concept paper on the LCAF model for discussion with potential donors and has been pursuing discussions with the NC-IUCN. However, to date we have not secured funding for the expansion of LCAF. CI Liberia will continue to fundraise for the sustainability of this project.

VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

One comment/recommendation that CI Liberia has is that in the future, capacity building grants include travel to other countries to learn from other conservation partners and also within CI. This should also consider training courses for local partners and staff in the area of conservation.

VIII. INFORMATION SHARING

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. One way we do this is by making programmatic project documents available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and by marketing these in our newsletter and other communications.

These documents are accessed frequently by other CEPF grantees, potential partners, and the wider conservation community.

Please include your full contact details below:

Name: Veronica Maximore

Organization name: Conservation International

Mailing address: Old Road, Monrovia, Liberia

E-mail: vmaximore@conservation.org

Annex A:

Legal Name	Project duration	Project Title	Funds received	Project status
Support for Educational Empowerment and Development(SEED)	June 1, 2007 – July 31, 2007	Demarcation of the East Nimba Nature Reserve	\$4,928.18	Seed is currently implementing the awareness component of the demarcation exercise in Nimba. They are also requesting a no cost extension of the project which will allow them to continue sensitizing and mobilizing communities for the demarcation exercise until the demarcation can begin in November.
Skills and Agricultural Development Services	June 25 – August 24, 2007	Demarcation of the East Nimba Natural Reserve Boundary	\$10,999.74	This project is still ongoing due to the present Timber Sales Contract process that is ongoing in the Country by FDA. The TSC process will last until October 2007. SADS has requested a no cost extension on this project to allow FDA technicians/surveyors complete the TSC process and partake in the demarcation exercise. The no cost extension runs from November – December 2007.
Save My Future Foundation(SAMFU)	Oct 15, 2006 – July 15, 2007	Establishment of a Sea Turtle Sanctuary and Research center in Bafu Bay	\$19,527.25	This project is still ongoing and will be completed by September 2007.
Skills and Agricultural Development Services(SADS)	Oct 15, 2006 – February 15, 2007	The Empowerment of rural communities around the East Nimba Nature Reserve in Sanniquellie, Nimba County	\$19,944.00	This project has been completed with two hand pumps installed in Geipa Community and one hand pump in Zortapa community. Five community members each from the two communities were trained in basic maintenance and repairs by SADS. The Hand Pumps are still operating perfectly in these communities.
Support for Educational Empowerment and Development(SEED)	Oct 15, 2006 – April 15, 2007	University-Based Conservation Clubs	\$19,785.65	This project is ongoing due to the constant closure of the universities because of student/faculty members demonstrations or strikes. CI is working with SEED to ensure that this project is completed by the end of November 2007.
Community Aid for Rehabilitation and Development	Sept 1, 2006 – April 30, 2007	Sustainable Economic Empowerment	\$19,791.00	This project is completed. A fish pond was established for the three project communities and the fish pond is now being utilized and managed by project communities.
Enviromental Foundation International	Sept 1, 2006 – May 30, 2007	Enviromental Awareness Programs, Energy Conservation and Sustainable Agro-Forestry Training Link to Improve Livelihood	\$19,929.00	This project is completed. Agro Forestry sites were established in each of the three project communities, each community received training and produced ecostoves and an environmental day was established in the community school on a monthly basis.
Sustainable Development Institute	May 15 – Dec 15, 2006	Understanding Communities Needs and perspectives on Conservation of Biodiversity in Proposed Protected Areas to Inform Conservation and Management Planning in Liberia	\$19,997.75	This project was completed and the assessment report can be made available upon request.

Note: Final Reports for these projects can be made available upon request.

Pictures of some projects implemented through the small grants:



Hand Pump in Zortapa by SADS under LCAF



Agroforestry project by EFI in Yolowee under LCAF



Ecostove by EFI in Zortapa under LCAF



Tree nursery by EFI in Yekepa under LCAF

Annex B:

