





196 COUNTRIES BACK TARGETS FOR SWIFT, EQUITABLE AND ADEQUATELY RESOURCED CONSERVATION

The agreement that established the new Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)—an outcome of the U.N.'s Convention on Biological Diversity meeting held in December 2022—seeks to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030.

This isn't the first set of ambitious biodiversity conservation targets for countries around the world. Despite good intentions and significant work, previous efforts have fallen woefully short, including most recently the Aichi Biodiversity Targets that were meant to have been achieved by 2020.

WHAT MAKES THIS AGREEMENT DIFFERENT?

The promise of the GBF lies in part in a greater emphasis on inclusion and strengthening of Indigenous and local communities. Another key is the focus on the delivery of financial resources—most notably the new Global Biodiversity Framework Fund to be operated by the Global Environment Facility (GEF)—to the places where they are most needed and at a scale that makes the path to success much clearer. The new targets also have been designed to be "SMART" (specific, measurable, ambitious, realistic, timebound), making it easier to track and assess conservation progress and adjust actions as needed.

Cover: Crowned lemurs (Eulemur coronatus), Madagascar. © Ken Behrens Top: Julia Marton-Lefèvre. © Julia Marton-Lefèvre

The aspiration of the agreement is clear in Target 3, which has been the subject of many headlines: "ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30% of terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed" while "recognizing and respecting the rights of Indigenous peoples and local communities including over their traditional territories." Currently, 17% of terrestrial and inland water areas and just over 8% of marine areas are officially protected or covered by other effective area-based conservation measures—and in many cases, these protections have not been implemented with the appropriate participation of Indigenous peoples and local communities.

And "30 by '30" is just one of 23 targets of the GBF under four overarching goals:

Reducing threats to biodiversity.

Meeting people's needs through sustainable use.

Ensuring fair and equitable benefit-sharing.

Securing adequate financial resources, capacity, cooperation and access to technology.

(For details on CEPF and the new targets, see page 69-70.)

Reaching these targets in a world facing growing human need and conflicting interests will be an enormous challenge. But nature is a necessity for us all, and the consequences of failure are daunting. The global community must embrace collaboration and partnership among governments, civil society, local communities, Indigenous peoples and the private sector to make the required progress.

CEPF will continue to work with our many committed allies—old and new—as we train our eyes on success. Among our essential collaborators are CEPF's grantees—past, current and future. Their experience in establishing grassroots coalitions fuels lasting conservation and restoration, and provides models for the sort of far-reaching change that can turn this framework into reality.

We ask you to join us in embracing this new chance for biodiversity. When we come together as respectful, focused partners, we have the tools and the momentum to secure a shared future with nature.

FROM CEPF DONORS

"Recognizing and supporting the work of Indigenous peoples and local communities is a moral imperative, and practical policy. These communities steward one-quarter of Earth's land and 80% of global biodiversity, meaning the success of 30x30 hinges on their inclusion and leadership. It's significant—and indeed, no small victory—that the Global Biodiversity Framework makes this explicit, incentivizing governments to recognize Indiaenous rights and land tenure."

Dr. M. Sanjayan, CEO of Conservation International

"Nature is at the heart of our efforts to end poverty. Nature is an engine of jobs and GDP and is the poor's most important food safety net. We can't end poverty until we end the wanton destruction and negligent degradation of nature. This is why we celebrate the Global Biodiversity Framework and we are supporting countries to meet its targets."

Valerie Hickey, Global Director-Environment, Natural Resources and Blue Economy, the World Bank



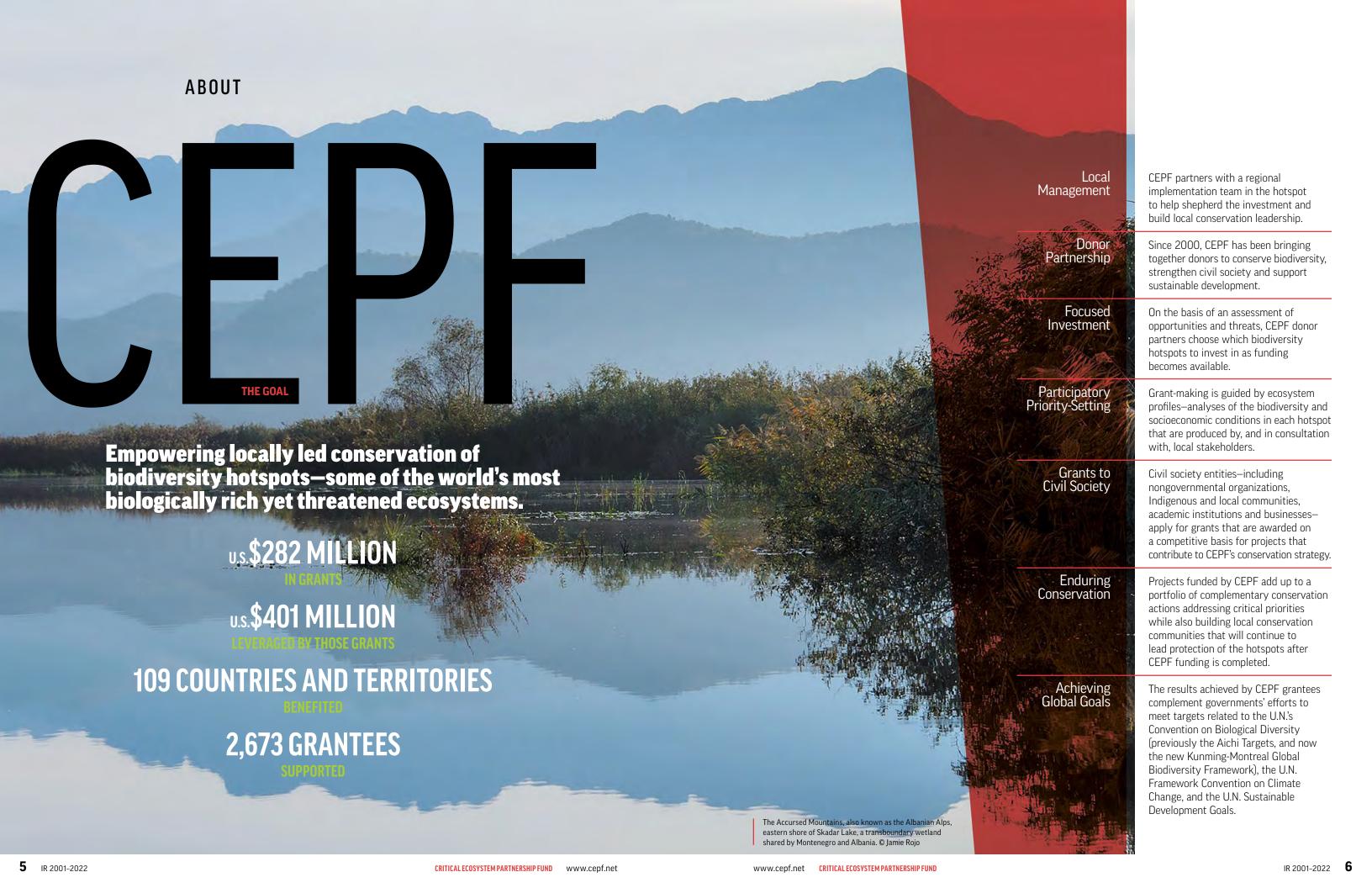
Collaboration

Área de Conservación Regional Q'eros-Kosñipata, Peru. © Michelle Léon/Pronaturaleza

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Michael Ome, a traditional leader in Roga village, Kelimutu National Park.

Flores Island, Indonesia. © Rifky/Rekam Nusantara Foundation





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

CEPF grantees contribute to four categories of impact, known as the pillars of **CEPF**:



This report presents 21 years of results achieved by 2,673 partners that have implemented 2,786 grants. All CEPF grants contribute to one of four categories of impact, known as the pillars of CEPF. The biodiversity pillar is the central focus of CEPF and is supported by and linked to the other pillars. Civil society organizations that are empowered to increase and apply their knowledge and skills are essential to sustainable biodiversity conservation. Human well-being is directly linked to the success of biodiversity conservation efforts because healthy ecosystems are necessary for people's lives and livelihoods, while ecosystems that are unhealthy or devoid of biodiversity cannot deliver the benefits that people need. Enabling conditions, such as sustainable financing and strong laws and policies, are critical for successful conservation. CEPF measures progress in all four of these interlinked pillars.





Report authors: Nina Marshall, CEPF senior director of monitoring, evaluation and outreach; and Julie Shaw, CEPF communications director

Frilled coquette hummingbird (*Lophornis magni icus*), Brazil.
© Conservation International/photo by Jack Tordoff

Zongo Valley, Bolivia. © Trond Larsen



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L'AGENCE FRANÇAISE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

L'Agence Française de Développement (the French Development Agency) is a financial institution that is at the heart of France's Development Assistance Policy. It supports a wide range of economic, social and environmental projects in the French overseas territories and in 115 countries. www.afd.fr



CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

For 35 years, Conservation International has worked to spotlight and secure the critical benefits that nature provides to humanity. Combining fieldwork with innovations in science, policy and finance, we've helped protect more than 6 million square kilometers (2.3 million square miles) of land and sea across more than 70 countries, Today, with offices in more than two dozen countries and a worldwide network of thousands of partners, our reach is truly global. www.conservation.org



THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

Comprising 27 member countries, the European Union is the largest single provider of development aid in the world. The EU development policy recognizes biodiversity as a crucial element for human well-being through the production of food, fish, fuel, fiber and medicines; the regulation of water, air and climate; and the maintenance of land fertility. Through EU International Cooperation and Development, the EU invests in biodiversity and development projects in more than 100 countries. https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/home



THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)

The Global Environment Facility is the world's largest public funder of projects to improve the global environment. The GEF unites 183 member governments together with leading international development institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector in support of a common global environmental agenda. www.thegef.org



THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

The Government of Japan is one of the largest providers of development assistance for the environment. Japan seeks constructive measures and concrete programs to preserve unique ecosystems that provide people with important benefits and help reduce poverty. www.env.go.jp/en

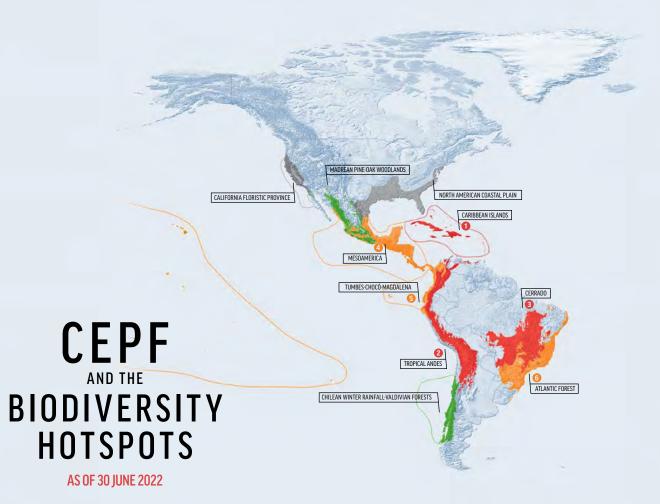


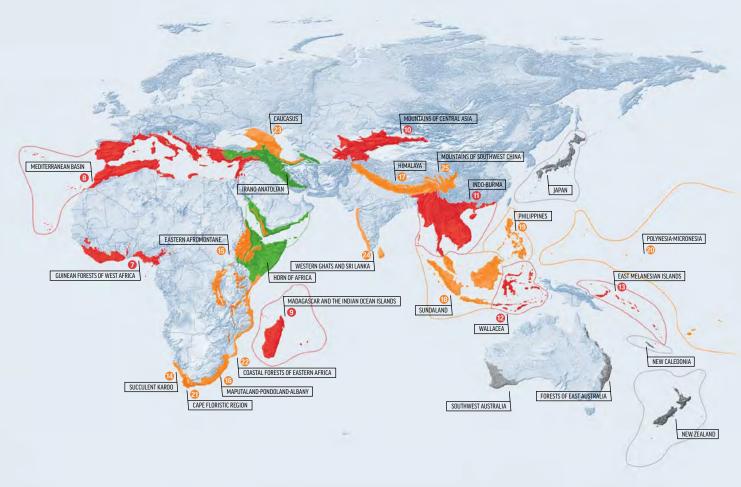
THE WORLD BANK

With 189 member countries, staff from more than 170 countries, and offices in over 130 locations, the World Bank Group is a unique global partnership: five institutions working for sustainable solutions that reduce poverty and build shared prosperity in developing countries. www.worldbank.org/en/who-we-are

Gursky's spectral tarsier (Tarsius spectrumgurskyae), Sulawesi, Indonesia. © O. Langrand

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	Current CEPF Investment	① Caribbean Islands	2 Tropical Andes	3 Cerrado	Guinean Forests of West Africa	③ Mediterranean Basin	Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands	Mountains of Central Asia	① Indo-Burma	12 Wallacea	East Melanesian Islands
		US\$11.8 million 2021-2026 (Cumulative investment: US\$18.7 million)	US\$14 million 2021-2027 (Cumulative investment: US\$32.2 million)	US\$8 million 2016-2022	US\$12 million 2016-2022 (Cumulative investment: US\$20.1 million)	US\$12.5 million 2017-2022 (Cumulative investment: US\$23.2 million)	US\$12.5 million 2015-2022 (Cumulative investment: US\$18.1 million)	US\$8 million 2019-2024	US\$10 million 2020-2025 (Cumulative investment: US\$35.5 million)	US\$2.1 million 2020-2024 (Cumulative investment: US\$8.95 million)	US\$9 million 2013-2021
	Past CEPF Investment	Mesoamerica	⑤ Tumbes-Chocó- Magdalena	6 Atlantic Forest	© Succulent Karoo	(5) Eastern Afromontane	(i) Maputaland- Pondoland-Albany	⑦ Himalaya	(13) Sundaland	(1) Philippines	② Polynesia- Micronesia
	All the second s	US\$14.5 million 2002-2011	US\$6.95 million 2002-2013	US\$10.4 million 2002-2011	US\$9.3 million 2003-2012	US\$12 million 2012-2019	US\$6.65 million 2010-2015	US\$5 million 2005-2010	US\$10 million 2001-2006	US\$7 million 2002-2007	US\$7 million 2008-2013
TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF			EPF IMPACT		(1) Cape Floristic Region	Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa	② Caucasus	Western Ghats and Sri Lanka	Mountains of Southwest Chir	na	
	Tian Shan Mountains, Kyr © Ninara, licensed under O	ns, Kyrgyzstan under CC BY 2.0 https://creativecom	mons.org/licenses/by/2.0/	/	US\$7.65 million 2001-2011	US\$8.75 million 2004-2014	US\$9.5 million 2003-2013	US\$6 million 2008-2015	US\$7.9 million 2002-2013		

Eligible for CEPF investment

Not eligible for CEPF investment

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21 YEARS OF IMPACT



INTRODUCTION

ince 2000, the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) has worked to empower civil society in developing countries and transitional economies to protect the world's biodiversity hotspots, some of the Earth's most biologically rich yet threatened terrestrial ecosystems. To date, CEPF has awarded more than US\$282 million in grants to 2,673 civil society organizations. These grants have been implemented in 25 biodiversity hotspots, covering 109 countries and territories.

CEPF's first grants closed in 2001, and every year since then has been one in which our civil society partners have achieved conservation results despite increasing threats to biodiversity, the growing challenge of climate change, and, over the past few years, a global pandemic. With dedication, commitment and passion, CEPF grantees are protecting critical ecosystems and the species and ecological processes they support, as well as improving the lives of the people who depend on these ecosystems for their well-being and livelihoods. This report presents the results of CEPF grantees' work, from 2001 through 30 June 2022.

CEPF measures its global impact with 16 indicators adopted by CEPF's Donor Council in June 2017. The indicators are designed to yield clear and valuable data that articulate CEPF's impact and demonstrate to donors the efficacy of the CEPF partnership. Each indicator corresponds to one of CEPF's four pillars: biodiversity, civil society, human well-being, and enabling conditions. The biodiversity pillar is the central focus of CEPF and is supported by and linked to the other pillars. A strong, diverse civil society is an essential foundation for sustainable biodiversity conservation. Human well-being



Chapada dos Guimãres, Cerrado Hotspot, Brazil. © O. Langrand



is directly linked to the success of biodiversity conservation efforts because healthy ecosystems are essential for people's lives and livelihoods, while ecosystems that are unhealthy or devoid of biodiversity cannot deliver the benefits that people need. And enabling conditions such as sustainable financing and strong laws and policies are critical for successful conservation. Further details on CEPF's monitoring framework can be found in the Annex.

During fiscal year 2022, CEPF's investment in the East Melanesian Islands was completed, and grant-making wound down in the Cerrado, the Guinean Forests of West Africa and Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands hotspots as a new investment began in the latter hotspot. Active grant-making took place through new or ongoing investments in the Caribbean Islands, Indo-Burma, Mediterranean Basin, Mountains of Central Asia, Tropical Andes and Wallacea hotspots.

By 30 June 2022, CEPF had awarded 50% of its grants, just over US\$140 million, under the biodiversity pillar, demonstrating the priority that CEPF gives to this theme. The enabling conditions pillar, encompassing projects dedicated to awareness-raising, mainstreaming, policy, conservation finance and support to regional implementation teams (RITs), received 31% of the allocation. RITs, which are based in or near hotspots where CEPF is investing, received 16.8% of the enabling conditions allocation to fund the essential role these organizations play in helping to manage grant-making, implement CEPF's strategy, provide direct support to grantees and manage a small-grants program for the hotspot. The civil society pillar, focused on capacity building and support for networks, received 11% of the allocation while human well-being received 8% (Figure 1).

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CEPF has linked all 16 indicators to relevant United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Biodiversity Targets (Table 1). A description of CEPF's monitoring framework and definitions for each indicator are included in the Annex.

TABLE 1: PILLAR AND INDICATORS

TARGET/GOAL

BIODIVERSITY

Number of hectares of protected areas created and/or expanded.

Number of hectares of production landscapes with

Number of protected areas with improved management

(using the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool).

Number of globally threatened species benefiting from

strengthened management of biodiversity.

Number of hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas with improved management.



























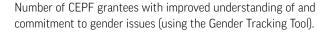




CIVIL SOCIETY

conservation action.

Number of CEPF grantees with improved organizational capacity (using the Civil Society Tracking Tool).



Number of networks and partnerships that have been created and/or strengthened.

HUMAN WELL-BEING

Number of people receiving structured training.

Number of people receiving non-cash benefits other than structured training.

Number of people receiving cash benefits.

Number of projects promoting nature-based solutions to combat climate change.

Amount of CO2e sequestered in CEPF-supported natural habitats.

Number of laws, regulations and policies with conservation provisions that have been enacted or amended.

Number of companies that adopt biodiversity-friendly practices.

Number of sustainable financing mechanisms that are delivering funds for conservation.



































Rhinoceros beetle, Sulawesi, Indonesia. © O. Langrand

Achievement toward these global indicators is measured only once for each grant, at the end of each project. CEPF's results are compiled annually for the program. For some indicators, where relevant, CEPF has reported on results by region. Several hotspots span regions. Each region and the hotspots it includes are listed in **Table 2**.

TABLE 2: BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS BY REGION















AFRICA

Cape Floristic Region; Eastern Afromontane (excluding Yemen); Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests of Kenya and Tanzania; Guinean Forests of West Africa; Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands: Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany: Mediterranean Basin (North Africa): Succulent Karoo.

Caucasus; Himalaya; Indo-Burma; Philippines; Mountains of Central Asia; Mountains of Southwest China: Sundaland: Wallacea: Western Ghats and Sri Lanka.

CARIBBEAN ISLANDS

Caribbean Islands.

CENTRAL AMERICA

Mesoamerica.

EUROPE

Mediterranean Basin (excluding North Africa, Lebanon, Jordan and Palestine).

MIDDLE EAST

Eastern Afromontane (Yemen); Mediterranean Basin (Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine).

PACIFIC ISLANDS

East Melanesian Islands; Polynesia-Micronesia.

SOUTH AMERICA

Atlantic Forest; Cerrado; Tropical Andes; Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena.

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^{*} https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/

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CEPF PILLAR 1 — BIODIVERSITY —

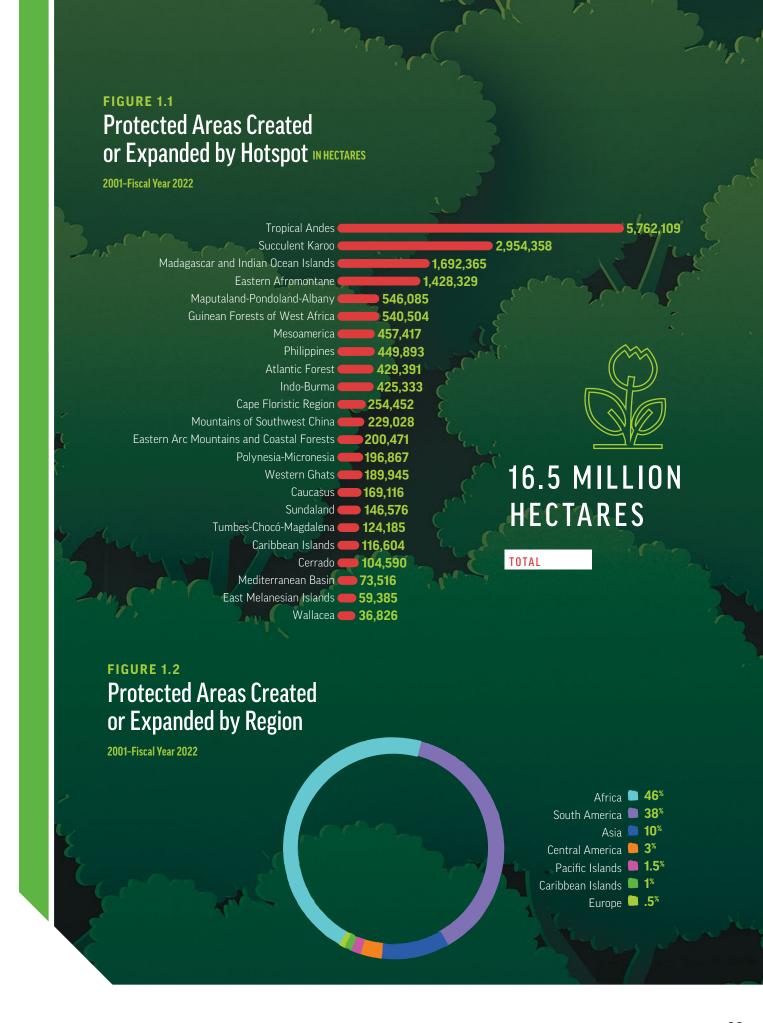


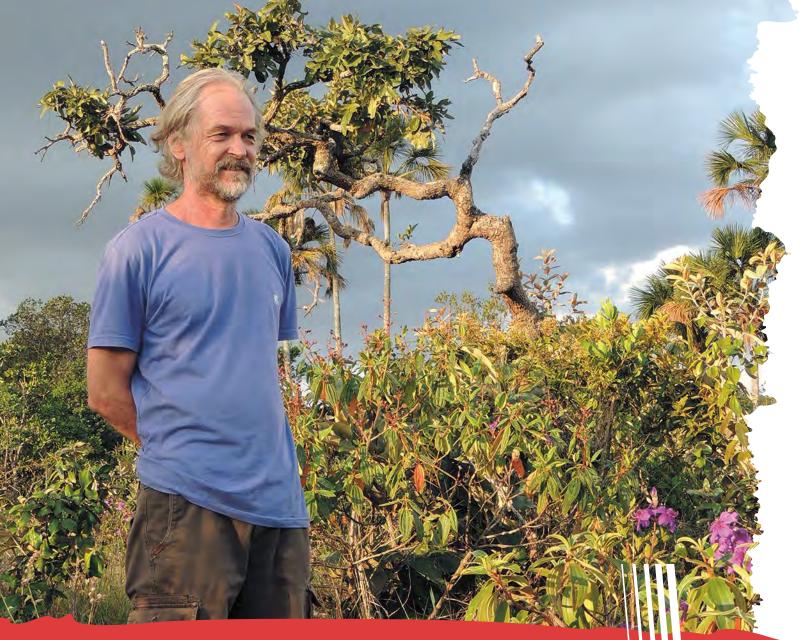
INDICATOR:

Number of hectares of protected areas created and/or expanded.

In fiscal year 2022 (1 July 2021–30 June 2022), CEPF grantees recorded the creation and/or expansion of 463,414 hectares of new protected areas, bringing the overall total since inception to 16,587,345 hectares in 25 biodiversity hotspots. Gains were significant in the Guinean Forests of West Africa, Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands, Cerrado and Mediterranean Basin, all of which were nearing the end of their investment periods. Several hotspots recorded no new hectares as these are in their initial year of investment or reinvestment. Figures 1.1 and 1.2 show the number of hectares newly protected by hotspot and by region since inception of the fund.

Ile Alatau National Park, Kazakhstan. © Andrey Kulagin





Protecting Private Lands in a Deforestation Hotspot



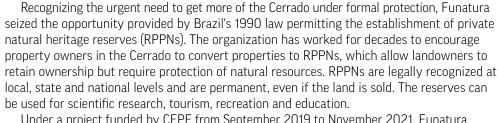
Most of the land in the Cerrado Biodiversity Hotspot—one of the world's biologically richest and most threatened tropical savannas—is privately owned.

These private properties necessarily loom large in strategies to improve the low rates of nature protection in the region, which hosts a unique array of species—including plants adapted to drought and fire—and provides Brazil's people with essential freshwater supplies and carbon storage. The Cerrado's rise as a powerhouse of commercial agriculture and ranching starting in the 1950s and '60s has resulted in the loss of 50% of its natural vegetation.

Only 8.7% of the Cerrado is protected, with 3.2% in strictly protected areas, while the remaining 5.5% are in sustainable-use areas.

"The conservation of water resources is at stake, and the sustainability of agricultural production," said Braulio Diaz, president of CEPF grantee Fundação Pró Natureza (Funatura).

Harmut Oster, owner of the Terra Maria RPPN. © Laercio Machado de Sousa



Under a project funded by CEPF from September 2019 to November 2021, Funatura set an ambitious goal of adding 50 new RPPNs, which would increase the number of such reserves in the Cerrado by 20%. While the goal has not quite been reached yet, Funatura continues its efforts. By March 2023, the organization had helped establish 35 new RPPNs—at a total of more than 4.683 hectares—with 15 more in the process of being finalized.

"We are producing well-being for humanity," said Harmut Oster, owner of the Terra Maria RPPN in Pirenópolis, in the state of Goiás. "Even the water we are preserving, the ${\rm CO_2}$ we are capturing with vegetation, we are doing our part."

In addition to the 50 locations targeted for RPPNs, the project yielded a list of an additional 70 private lands included in key conservation corridors and mosaics for which landowners have express interest in RPPNs. Together these 120 reserves would help reduce fragmentation.

"There is huge potential for the creation of RPPNs, but more work is needed to get potential players and opinion-makers behind this conservation model, which can be combined with production areas to make them more sustainable," said Pedro Bruzzi Leon, executive supervisor of Funatura.



The project team also conducted a preliminary study of the economic potential of the environmental services of the RPPNs in the Cerrado, as well as a study of the public policies associated with environmental assets and conservation. Funatura provided input to the secretary of environment of the municipality of Monte Alto that led to a supplementary bill in August 2021 to improve the process of creating RPPNs. And the team convened representatives of governmental institutions with a focus on RPPNs to discuss ways to support this fast-growing segment of protected areas.

The team created the RPPNAPP application—software that brings together the information applicants need to navigate the process to establish an RPPN. And they are planning an event for 2023 that will gather private and governmental stakeholders to review progress on RPPNs.

"These conservation units ... they are like a bank of nature, a bank of the Cerrado," said Chyslia Fernanda de Santana of the Instituto Biorregional do Cerrado and RPPNs Murundu and Biorregional Alto Paraíso de Goiás. "This is where we'll let the Cerrado be who it is without us interfering."





Hear more from the project team and property owners via Funatura's videos on RPPNs:

https://www.youtube.com/@Funatura-

And learn more at the RPPN website: https://reservasprivadasdocerrado.com.br

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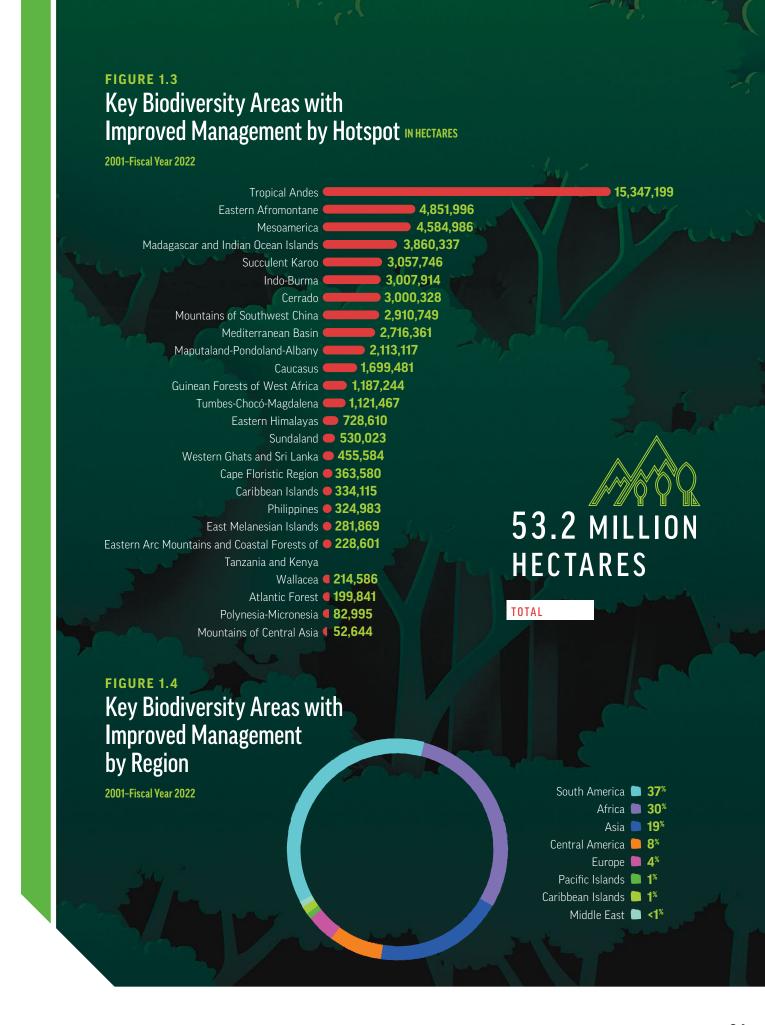


Number of hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas with improved management.

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) are the most important places in the world for species and their habitats, and improving their management and protection is a fundamental objective of CEPF. KBAs are sites contributing significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity in terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems. Sites qualify as global KBAs if they meet one or more of 11 criteria clustered into five categories: threatened biodiversity; geographically restricted biodiversity; ecological integrity; biological processes; and irreplaceability.

At the close of fiscal year 2022, CEPF had strengthened the management and protection of 53,256,356 hectares in 25 hotspots, with the Mountains of Central Asia being the newest hotspot to record hectares in this category. The total reflects an increase of 2,252,970 hectares during the fiscal year, with significant contributions from Cerrado (676,204 hectares), Mediterranean Basin (591,305 hectares), Guinean Forests of West Africa (490,027 hectares) and Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands (361,531 hectares). Figures 1.3 and 1.4 show the number of hectares of KBAs with improved management by hotspot and by region since inception of the fund.

Ambon, Maluku, Indonesia. © Rifky/Rekam Nusantara Foundation



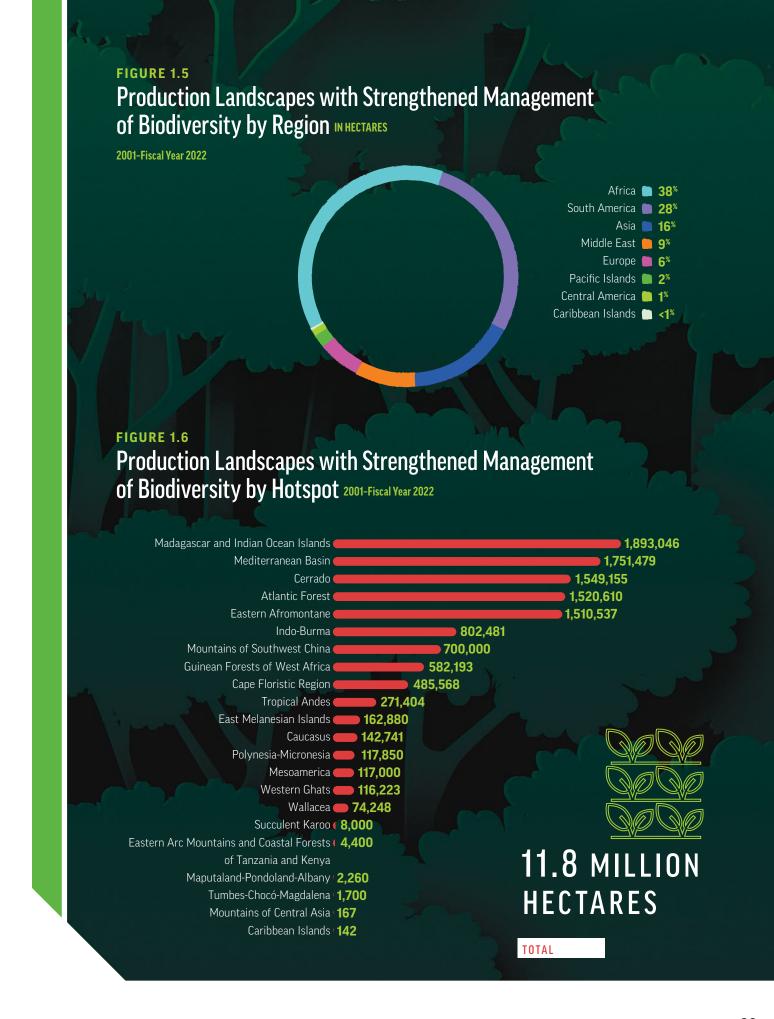




Number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity.

Production landscapes, areas where agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occur, can be very important for biodiversity. CEPF supports grantees to integrate management of biodiversity into these landscapes, and since 2001, grantees have contributed to the strengthened management of biodiversity in 11,814,084 hectares. This is an increase of 1,764,804 hectares in the past fiscal year, with the largest contribution being 779,473 hectares from the Cerrado. Notably, CEPF only began to systematically record achievements in production landscapes in 2008, and therefore hotspots receiving investment prior to this date are underrepresented in global figures.

Biodiversity-friendly rice production, Cambodia. © CIRD



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Building Community-Based Conservation in Madagascar Forests and Wetlands



The Ambato-Boeny and Maevatanana-Ambato-Boeny Wetlands Key Biodiversity Areas comprise unprotected low-elevation dry forests and wetlands that support several threatened mammals—including the Critically Endangered mongoose lemur (*Eulemur mongoz*), the Endangered crowned sifaka (*Propithecus coronatus*) and the Vulnerable Madagascar flying fox (*Pteropus rufus*)—as well as numerous threatened bird and fish species.

Historically, little conservation work has taken place in the area, and most flora and fauna have not yet been inventoried.

Meanwhile, Ambato-Boeny-Maevatanana suffers from forest destruction and degradation, fires, hunting, wetland conversion for rice production, overfishing and, most probably, invasive non-native wetland vegetation and introduced fish species.

Recognizing the need for urgent action, the Aspinall Foundation moved to engage local communities in wetland and forest assessments, and prioritization of species and sites for conservation action.

After identifying priority sites, the foundation supported local communities to create six new community associations with the legal structure to protect and manage local biodiversity. These groups then developed management plans for defined areas of natural resources, leading to the transfer of management responsibility from regional government to the local community associations.

Soon six new community-management agreements were established, covering a total of 37,364 hectares within the project area, including more than 11,000 hectares of dry deciduous forest and over 1,200 hectares of river and gallery forest. Also covered are nearly 4,000 hectares of freshwater lakes designated for improved community-based management, and more than 1,800 hectares targeted

© Tony King/ The Aspinall Foundation

for community-based reforestation. Numerous species will benefit from this new management, including two wetland species, the Critically Endangered Madagascar big-headed turtle (*Erymnochelys madagascariensis*) and the Endangered endemic cichlid fish (*Paretroplus maculatus*). And these activities set the stage for sound conservation work in these KBAs in the future.

Top: Project participants monitor a waterway in Ambato-Boeny-Maevatanana Wetlands Key Biodiversity Area. © Tony King/The Aspinall Foundation Right: Madagascan big-headed turtle (*Erymnochelys madagascariensis*).





Conserving Biodiversity in Morocco by Revitalizing Traditional Grazing Practices



Ifrane National Park in Morocco hosts more than 1,015 species of vascular plants and large numbers of fungi, lichens and mosses. Located in the Atlas Mountains, the site was established as a park in 2004, but it has long been an important sheep farming area and a key source of natural products such as medicinal plants for the local Ait Mhamed and Ait Ben Hcine communities.

Although the park was created with the dual intentions of conserving biodiversity and developing sustainable economic activities, recent changes in grazing practices and rangeland management have led to negative consequences for biodiversity. With the abandonment of traditional practices, CEPF grantee Association Forêt Modèle Ifrane (AFMI) has observed less rotation of herds, less movement of people and breaches of temporary bans on resource use and harvest. The result has been the disappearance of perennial palatable species, an increase in annual and toxic species, over-grazing, over-harvest of shrubs and trees such as cedars and oaks for fuel, and overall loss of ecosystem function and resilience.

AFMI identified a possible solution to the problem: Revitalize traditional sheep-farming practices by supporting local communities to set up a sustainable grazing system and establish cooperatives for traditional medicinal plants with regulations for sustainable harvesting. Efforts focused on raising awareness and training more than 100 people in gardening, pasture management, financial management and marketing, traditional methods such as rotational grazing, and management and restoration of parklands via seed collection, replanting of grasses, and planting of income-generating crops such as lavender. In all, the group strengthened management of biodiversity on 4,127 hectares in the park, a major achievement for the region's endemic species and a clear demonstration of how traditional grazing methods can benefit protected areas in a region where livestock farming is the main socioeconomic activity.

Top: Sheep and goats in a pen inside Ifrane National Park. © O. Langrand Right: Working with the local community on traditional, sustainable land management. © Said Zalmad



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Number of protected areas with improved management.

CEPF uses the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT)—developed to reflect the IUCN World Database on Protected Areas Framework—to track the management effectiveness of protected areas that have received CEPF investment.

To date, CEPF has received 479 METT scorecards from 257 protected areas in 18 biodiversity hotspots (Cape Floristic Region, Caribbean Islands, Caucasus, Cerrado, Eastern Afromontane, Guinean Forests of West Africa, Indo-Burma, Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands, Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany, Mediterranean Basin, Mesoamerica, Mountains of Central Asia, Mountains of Southwest China, Polynesia-Micronesia, Succulent Karoo, Tropical Andes, Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena and Wallacea). As of June 2022, 155 of the 257 protected areas had a baseline and a subsequent METT scorecard. Out of these 155 protected areas, 129 showed an improvement in their management effectiveness. For the nine hotspots with a significant number of completed METT scorecards in fiscal year 2022, there was an increase in management effectiveness of 12 points on average (+31%). As such, CEPF has been contributing to Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 in helping 32 countries increase the percentage of protected areas that have been assessed and managed more effectively.





Divjaka-Karavasta National Park (DKNP) in Albania is a stunningly beautiful wetland complex that is home to about 265 bird species, and at certain times of the year, hosts thousands of resident, breeding and migratory birds. In the winter, waterbirds can number over 80,000.

One of the most important areas for birds in the Southern Balkans Corridor, the approximately 23,000-hectare park has several official designations indicating its global importance as to nature: it is a Ramsar Site, an Important Bird and Plant Area, an Emerald Site and a Natura 2000 Pilot Site. For these reasons and more, the park has been a central focus of the Albanian Ornithological Society (AOS), which has worked tirelessly to preserve and protect the natural integrity of the site.

Confronted by plans to construct a mega-resort in the heart of the park and other proposals for unsustainble development that could degrade or destroy the park's natural heritage, AOS analyzed policies and legislation, conducted national and local consultative meetings, and led and coordinated the NGO Coalition for Protected Areas. AOS also implemented a comprehensive public campaign to raise awareness about the importance and value of DKNP, Albania's protected areas and the threats affecting them.

AOS and partners overcame huge challenges to succeed in halting the plans that threatened the park. Further, they contributed to the strengthening of legislation and policies for Albania's protected areas and the improvement of the park's management.

In 2013, when CEPF first supported grantees to work in DKNP, the site's score on the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) was 44. The score had risen to 65 prior to AOS's intervention. Over the course of CEPF's grant to AOS–January 2019 through June 2021–the group worked closely with the authorities in charge of the park. As a result, the score rose from 65 to 76, with increased scores related to boundary demarcation, existence of a work plan, a sufficient budget, sufficient equipment and maintenance, cooperation with adjacent users and commercial tour operators, and better programs to enhance community welfare.

While these accomplishments are significant, AOS's commitment to scientific research, waterbird monitoring and putting the local community at the center of conservation are also highlights of their project. This work has been instrumental in supporting policy decisions, conservation actions and the people, birds and other species that rely on this natural treasure.

Aerial photo of the Divjaka-Karavasta National Park. © AOS

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Number of globally threatened species benefiting from conservation action.

Since inception, 1,166 globally threatened species have benefited from conservation action by CEPF grantees. Conservation actions have been diverse and range from population surveys to site monitoring to captive breeding. During the past year, 224 species have been added to the list. (Note that species already included have not been recounted. This would be the case if a species in a single hotspot benefited from multiple interventions from one or more grantees, or if the species occurs in more than one hotspot, such as one of the sea turtles.)



Addressing Threats to Migrating Birds in Turkmenistan



The vast plain of the Koytendag foothills in Turkmenistan—part of the Mountains of Central Asia Biodiversity Hotspot—comprises a key section of the Eurasian-African Flyway, one of the world's most important routes for migratory birds.

A project implemented by CEPF grantee Agzybir Hereket monitored threatened bird species in the Koytendag foothills, with a focus on the Tallymergen-Kelif-Zeit priority area and the Endangered steppe eagle (*Aquila nipalensis*). During their project, Agzybir Hereket collected data on threatened migrants during winter and spring periods and devoted special attention to the steppe eagle by searching for and tracking radio-tagged birds. The group also surveyed the area to identify the most important power line sites, as these are a key threat to migrating birds of prey. The country's entire power line system does not yet meet environmental impact assessment requirements and international standards, resulting in power line accidents and mass bird deaths, especially during migration.

The species monitoring yielded valuable data and the regrettable discovery of two steppe eagles deceased near high-voltage electrical lines. The findings strengthened Agzybir Hereket's conviction that further development of power-line safety action plans is necessary, including equipping power lines with bird protection devices.

The project team also conducted awareness-raising amongst the general public and local communities about conservation and ecosystem services; undertook GIS analyses to help with future demarcation of conservation areas; and generated a dossier on the Zeyit-Kelif Wetland that was submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan to lay the groundwork for proposing that the wetland be declared a Ramsar site—a wetland site designated to be of international importance.

Agzybir Hereket plans to continue and expand this important effort to conserve threatened species and the habitats they depend on.

Steppe eagle (Aquila nipalensis) on a power structure. © Atamyrat Veyisov

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Mountains of Central Asia

GENERATING INTEREST AND ENTHUSIASM FOR THE SNOW LEOPARD

• In the mountainous areas surrounding Almaty in southeastern Kazakhstan, Wildlife Without Borders assessed the status of the snow leopard (*Panthera uncia*), which is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List. Monitoring with camera traps revealed that 22 leopards inhabit the area, with five recorded within the city's administrative boundaries. The project team established a basis for further monitoring of the population and a system for assessing the effectiveness of conservation measures. The team worked to engage civil society in the protection of the snow leopard and its habitat through media outreach, videos, print material, souvenirs and interaction with stakeholders. The annual festival, "Week of the Snow Leopard," provided eco-educational activities for the public, and residents of Almaty were given the opportunity to give names to seven snow leopards. The project also conducted activities to increase the conservation and research capacity of the staff of two protected areas—Ile-Alatau National Park and the Almaty Reserve—and to promote snow leopard conservation, in particular by mitigating the impact of recreational pressure.







Mediterranean Basin

RUMEX TUNETANUS. A HERITAGE PLANT IN TUNISIA

• The World Wide Fund for Nature-North Africa and partners have worked to strengthen the management of the unprotected Garâa Sejenane wetland, home of *Rumex tunetanus*, a Critically Endangered Tunisian endemic plant. Efforts have entailed working with local civil society to establish Garâa Sejenane as the first private Ramsar site in Tunisia; developing a long-term monitoring system for globally threatened heritage plants; and supporting land managers and local users to adopt practices beneficial to local flora. The project team also conducted research on propagation and conservation of the species, alongside awareness and training on the importance of ex-situ and in-situ conservation of heritage species.

Rumex tunetanus. © Faculté des Sciences de Tunis, Tunisie / Photo by Amina Daoud-Bouattour

Indo-Burma

RE-ESTABLISHING A WILD POPULATION OF THE SIAMESE CROCODILE IN CAMBODIA

• The organization Rising Phoenix, with technical support from Fauna & Flora International, made a significant contribution to Siem Pang Wildlife Sanctuary by restoring a wetland, discovering a remnant population of Siamese crocodile (*Crocodylus siamensis*), and implementing a pilot population reinforcement effort through the release of 19 adult crocodiles. This work was complemented by community engagement—including awareness raising and recruiting wildlife scouts from among local villages—to cultivate positive attitudes toward crocodiles. The long-term goal is to establish a self-sustaining wild population of at least 100 adult crocodiles, which would align with the government-endorsed Siamese crocodile reintroduction and reinforcement strategy. Re-establishing a viable wild population of Siamese crocodiles is helping to restore the ecological balance at Siem Pang Wildlife Sanctuary and reduce the extinction risk of this Critically Endangered reptile.

Wallacea

TRANSITIONING THE PELAGIC THRESHER SHARK FISHERY IN THE ALOR ISLAND COASTAL WATERS

• The pelagic thresher shark (*Alopias pelagicus*) is an Endangered species found in the coastal waters of Alor Island in Indonesia. A major threat to the species is fishing, as its fins and meat are sold at local markets. Yayasan Teman Laut Indonesia is working with fishing communities of Lewalu and Ampera villages on Alor Island to transition away from thresher shark fishing to yellowfin tuna fishing. This transition model includes raising awareness for the Endangered status of the shark, training on artisanal handline tuna fishing for ex-thresher shark fishermen, and institutional management and other thematic training for women developing fish products. These various trainings have already benefited 100 people in the communities, and population monitoring shows that the annual thresher shark catch has been significantly reduced from 233 individuals in 2021 to just 55 individuals in 2022.

Divers measure a thresher shark (Alopias pelagicus) in Indonesia. © Irwan Hermawan



► SPECIES HIGHLIGHTS ►

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Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands

• Once abundant, the radiated tortoise (Astrochelys radiata) is now Critically Endangered due to the disappearance of the semi-arid spiny forest it depends on in southeastern Madagascar, as well as the growing threat of poaching. Valued locally as a food source and internationally for the pet trade, populations are decreasing drastically. Efforts to curtail the trade have led to confiscations of thousands of tortoises, and in turn the need to house and care for the reptiles. Following large confiscations in 2018, more than 9,000 tortoises were transferred to Tananan'ny sokake, or Le Village des Tortues (the Village of Tortoises), a wildlife rehabilitation facility located north of Toliara in the village of Ifaty, co-managed by French organization Station d'Observation et de Protection des Tortues et de leurs Milieux (SOPTOM) and Malagasy organization Association de Sauvegarde de l'Environnement (ASE). Realizing that the facility would not be able to care for the huge numbers of confiscated tortoises, CEPF grantee SOPTOM worked to conduct research and monitoring on health, relocation and release into the wild. By project close, SOPTOM had released 500 tortoises, raised awareness for the species in local communities and trained local community members to patrol the site of the release. After five months, tortoise survival was recorded at 90%. Although results are preliminary, the prognosis for future releases looks promising.

Radiated tortoise (Astrochelys radiata) at Tananan'ny sokake, Madagascar. © O. Langrand

Caribbean Islands

CONSERVATION OF THE WHISTLING WARBLER

• In April 2021, La Soufrière Volcano on the Caribbean island of St. Vincent began to erupt for the first time in 42 years. These explosive eruptions left the conservation community gravely concerned about impacts to the island's wildlife and vegetation, especially the Endangered whistling warbler (Catharopeza bishopi), found only on St. Vincent. Working together with the forestry department and local nongovernmental organizations, BirdsCaribbean will carry out surveys of the warbler to help determine its status on the island. It will also provide training to forestry staff in standardized bird monitoring methods and establish a long-term monitoring program for the warbler and other forest birds. An education campaign will raise community awareness about the value of the species and the importance of conserving forests. Finally, conservationists and stakeholders will meet to create a conservation action plan for this species.





Guinean Forests of West Africa

NEW DATA HELPS TO CONSERVE THE PRÍNCIPE THRUSH

• The Principe thrush (Turdus xanthorhynchus), endemic to the island of Principe in São Tomé and Príncipe, occurs only within the primary and secondary forest of the Principe Natural Park. The population appeared to have suffered dramatic declines due to habitat loss and disturbance, as well as predation by introduced mammals. Grantees Fauna & Flora International and Fundação Príncipe assessed an existing species action plan, reviewing and implementing its activities. Through the project, a new population estimate and distribution map were produced, confining the Critically Endangered species to a mere 15 to 25 square kilometers and highlighting the need to understand more about it.



The Principe thrush (Turdus xanthorhynchus) is one of eight of Principe's birds that are single island endemics. © Yodiney dos Santos/Fundação Príncipe

Cerrado

RESTORATION AND PROTECTION OF THE FAVEIRO-DE-WILSON TREE IN BRAZIL

• The faveiro-de-Wilson (Dimorphandra wilsonii) is a Critically Endangered Brazilian tree found only in the southeastern state of Minas Gerais. The tree produces clusters of yellow flowers and can grow to 20 meters in height. Discovered only in the 1960s, the species numbers fewer than 500 mature individuals in the wild and is threatened by habitat loss and degradation. The Sociedade de Amigos da Fundação Zoo-Botânica de Belo Horizonte (SAFZB-BH) has been involved in faveiro-de-Wilson conservation since 2003, and CEPF's grant helped them to continue the effort. The organization conducted and promoted research on distribution and status of the species, as well as genetics, propagation and reintroduction. They made field visits to monitor the population, collect data and maintain contact with local collaborators. The team also created a forest firefighters brigade and organized a symposium to bring together researchers and collaborators working on faveiro species. Efforts to germinate seeds led to 157 seedlings suitable for planting, a small but important number for this Critically Endangered species, which is exceedingly difficult to cultivate. The project participants also worked to raise awareness and increase engagement of local communities, and produced a booklet aimed at the general public. Finally, SAFZB-BH worked successfully to revise existing legislation to better protect the species.





IMPLEMENTING A PARTICIPATORY MONITORING PLAN FOR RUIZ'S ROBBER FROG

 Colombia's Paraguas-Munchique/Bosques Montanos del Sur de Antioquia Corridor is home to numerous globally threatened species, including the Ruiz's robber frog (Strabomantis ruizi), an Endangered species that benefited from the work of the Corporación Biodiversa. This CEPF grantee focused on the Bosque de San Antonio and conducted multi-stakeholder management planning and governance strengthening for the San Antonio Key Biodiversity Area in Colombia. Local community members were trained and participated in monitoring and research related to the Ruiz's robber frog, yielding important data that were incorporated into the monitoring action plan and awareness materials. They also worked to raise awareness among landowners and primary school students from three public educational institutions.

Ruiz's robber frog (Strabomantis ruizi). © Oscar Cuellar/Biodiversa



The faveiro-de-Wilson (Dimorphandra wilsonii) tree. © Fernando M. Fernandes

East Melanesian Islands

IN SEARCH OF THE FIJIAN MASTIFF BAT ON VANUATU

• The little-known Fijian mastiff bat (Chaerephon bregullae) is an Endangered microbat species that lives on a handful of islands in Vanuatu and Fiji. Most of the data about the bat have come from Fiji-including that the country has the only confirmed breeding site. So the Vanuatu Environmental Science Society set out to learn more about its status, distribution, habitat requirements and the threats affecting it in Vanuatu, They conducted a comprehensive survey in local communities to gather general perspectives and information on bats and established an extensive acoustic monitoring system to determine presence and distribution of the species. The team also conducted an awareness campaign, trained local biologists in monitoring techniques, and joined a partnership to create a new network for Pacific bat conservationists and academics—PacBat. Their acoustic monitoring yielded 81,659 recordings of ultrasonic sounds in 2021, of which 15,599 (19%) were bat echolocation calls. The data gathered through the project confirm that the Fijian mastiff bat is present on Aore, Malo and Espiritu Santo islands in the Samna Region, and can be used to guide future conservation efforts for this species.

Fijian mastiff at (Chaerephon bregullae). © Dave Waldien / Lubee Bat Conservancy



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CEPF PILLAR 2 — CIVIL SOCIETY —



INDICATOR:

Number of CEPF grantees with improved organizational capacity.

The Civil Society Tracking Tool (CSTT) was launched 2009 in two pilot hotspots and was extended to all active hotspots in 2013. At the close of fiscal year 2022, CEPF had received 631 complete assessment cycles (baseline plus final) from recipients of large grants, small grants (US\$50,000 or less) and subgrants. The 631 organizations that submitted a complete assessment are from 17 hotspots:

Completed investments: Caribbean Islands, Eastern Afromontane, Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany, Mesoamerica, Mountains of Southwest China, Polynesia-Micronesia, Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena, and Western Ghats and Sri Lanka.

Ongoing investments: Cerrado, East Melanesian Islands, Guinean Forests of West Africa, Indo-Burma, Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands, Mountains of Central Asia, Mediterranean Basin, Tropical Andes and Wallacea.

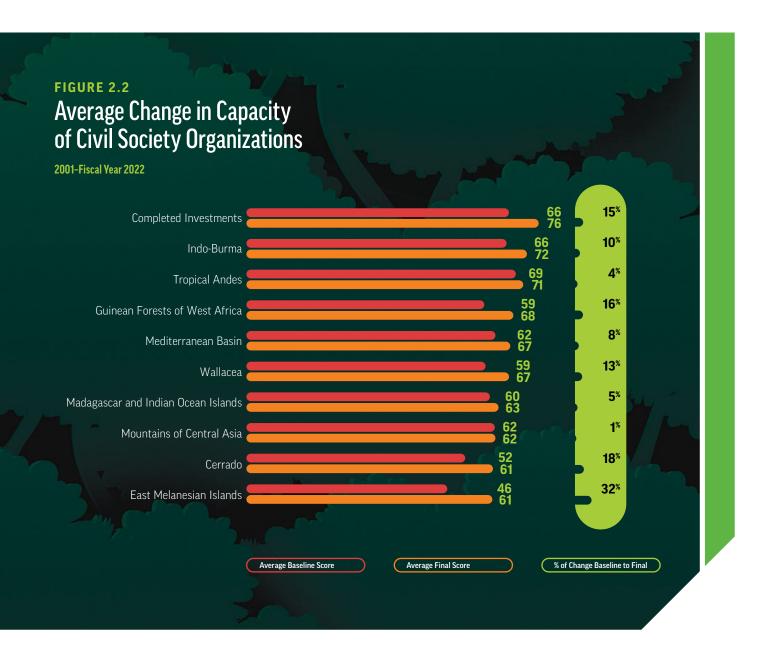
Project team members for Station d'Observation et de Protection des Tortues et de leurs Milieux (SOPTOM) affixing a transmitter to a radiated tortoise (Astrochelys radiata) that was rescued from trafficking prior to releasing it to the wild in Madagascar. © Jean-Marie Ballouard

FIGURE 2.1 Number and Percentage of Civil Society Organizations with Increased Capacities for **Completed and Active Investments** 2001-Fiscal Year 2022 Completed Investments Mediterranean Basi Guinean Forests of West Africa Tropical Andes Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands East Melanesian Island Mountains of Central Asia

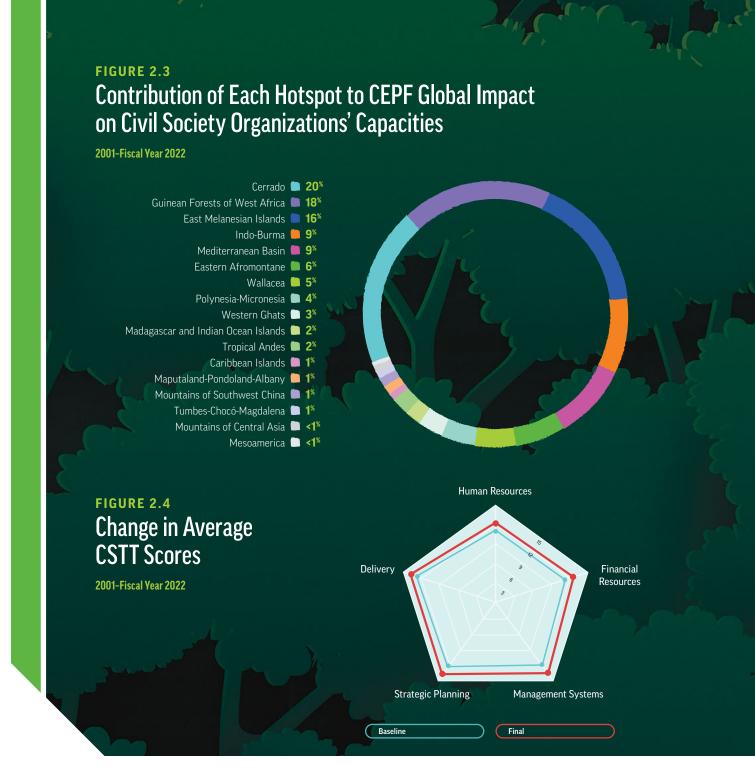
Out of the 631 organizations that completed their reporting cycles, 470 recorded an increase in organizational capacity (74%). **Figure 2.1** presents the results per hotspot with an ongoing investment and the average for the hotspots with a completed investment.

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CEPF PILLAR 2 — CIVIL SOCIETY —



As per **Figure 2.2**, which presents the average baseline and final scores for completed investments and each hotspot with an ongoing investment, there is an overall weighted average increase of 10 points (+12%) in the capacities of civil society organizations. This weighted average is obtained by multiplying the average of each hotspot by the number of civil society organizations with a complete cycle for this hotspot.



In **Figure 2.3**, one can see that three hotspots—Cerrado, East Melanesian Islands and Guinean Forests of West Africa—are making the largest contributions to CEPF's impact on civil society capacity globally. These figures are determined by considering the number of civil society organizations with a baseline and a final assessment in each hotspot; by considering the percentage changes in their CSTT scores; and by relating this to the total number of organizations with a baseline and a final CSTT globally. For example, because 90% of participating grantees from the Guinean Forests of West Africa showed an increase in capacity, and the number of participating grantees is 73, this represents a higher contribution than a hotspot such as the Mediterranean Basin, where 105 grantees participated and 64% of them increased their capacities.

Finally, as per **Figure 2.4**, organizations benefiting from CEPF grants have seen the highest improvements in their management systems and strategic planning, with both categories showing an average increase of 1.5 points. Strengthened management systems allow available resources to be translated into effective actions, while strategic planning ensures that these actions target conservation priorities.

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Mentor Programs BoostWest African Conservation Organizations



As in nature, the ecosystem of civil society-led conservation is stronger when there is thriving diversity.

This principle and the value CEPF places on local knowledge and commitment are behind the fund's emphasis on small organizations in the biodiversity hotspots—helping them maximize their role in the conservation community and realize their growth potential and long-term sustainability.

The focus on capacity building is reflected in the strategy for CEPF's 2016–2022 investment in the Guinean Forests of West Africa Biodiversity Hotspot, which stresses working with local organizations to build on their strengths. Based on lessons learned from previous investment in the region, CEPF and its regional implementation team, BirdLife International, embraced mentorship as a key means to meet capacity-building goals. As a result, the Guinean Forests Mentorship Program was launched in 2019.

The Tropical Biology Association (TBA) led the largest effort under this program, seeking to increase the organizational capacity of 45 civil society organizations in Cameroon, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo, as well as 10 women-led organizations—two each from Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Sierra Leone and Liberia. A similar initiative led by Fauna & Flora International (FFI) provided mentoring and training to 17 organizations in Liberia and São Tomé and Princípe, while the Ghana-based West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) led the mentorships for 17 organizations in Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Sierra Leone.

All three lead organizations administered the Civil Society Tracking Tool (CSTT) and Gender Tracking Tool (GTT) at the start and end of their programs. In total, 198 men and 124 women were mentored and received training.



FOCUS ON ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT

TBA designed and delivered training through tailor-made master classes and mentoring focused on organization management. With support from in-country partners, invited local civil society organizations enrolled as mentees. The organizations' capacities were assessed and, where needed, immediate support was provided in the way of internet connections and software to facilitate online learning. Mentees participated in master classes on project development and fundraising, institutional management and leadership, communicating conservation impacts, and empowering women in conservation. A six-month mentorship opportunity and workshops to share participant experiences complemented the classwork.

"The mentoring helped me to focus on what is important: learning how to write a vision and mission statement, knowing who my target audiences are and the appropriate means of communicating with them. And measuring the impacts of our projects,"

Nyimale Grace Alawa Biodiversity Preservation Center, Nigeria.

The program connected each mentee organization to one of 16 external mentors recruited from among experts and practitioners in the project countries. The menteementor pair defined their goals and timelines guided by protocols developed for the program. Five group sessions were

also held, where multiple mentees and mentors discussed topics such as strategic communications, financial sustainability, strategic networking and partnerships, stakeholder engagement, and effective organizational and team management.

Eight of the participating organizations were later awarded small grants from CEPF. Participants raised more than US\$3.4 million for conservation in the two years following the mentorship and attributed 52% of this success to the program.

EMPOWERING WOMEN LEADERS

TBA also conducted the "Empowering Women in Conservation in Africa" master class, which focused mentees on women's contributions in natural resource management, strategic planning, leadership and management, gender issues in conservation, gender equity and women's empowerment. Twenty-six representatives from women-led organizations based in Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Liberia and Sierra Leone and their affiliate networks participated in the course. Through the support of women mentors, learning hubs in each country allowed participants to learn together. By project completion, five new "women in conservation networks" were established, one in each of the project countries.

"Now I have a clear path to deliver my expected outcomes since this program helped me develop three important institutional strategic documents— a fundraising plan, gender policy and personal leadership development plan,"

Gifty Baaba Asmah
Daasgift Quality Foundation in Ghana.

The mentees also created several social media platforms where they share information and hold virtual meetings. And women leaders joined existing international women's networks.

For example, Nigerian organizations joined the Women in Nature Network (WINN) and established their own local chapter. Meanwhile, a new network called West Africa Women in Conservation Network (WAWiCoN) was formed with participants from Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

TURNING TRAINING INTO ACTION



The FFI-led program provided training and mentoring primarily aimed at organizational strengthening. Activities included preparing gender policies, reviewing vision and mission statements, learning about grant application processes and improving communication skills. Participants also received training on the development of proposals. Fifteen of the resulting proposals were awarded as subgrants via a small-grants program built into the project. The grants covered the costs of goods and services that were deemed essential for improving the effectiveness of the organization but difficult to fund via other grant programs—such as printers, projectors, cameras, laminators, software licenses, laptops and English classes. This also gave all mentees the opportunity to practice applying for another

grant. Further, three mentee organizations subsequently received grants from the CEPF Guinean Forests of West Africa investment, and two mentees submitted successful proposals to other funders after the training.

WACSI's program focused on four components: training; mentoring and coaching; support to apply for small-grant proposals; and documentation of change stories and lessons learned. WACSI's mentorship and coaching process was designed to improve on the participating organizations' operational processes and related policies, taking into consideration the specific context of each organization. The training and technical assistance content was developed based on information gathered from organizations through learning needs assessments conducted prior to each training phase.

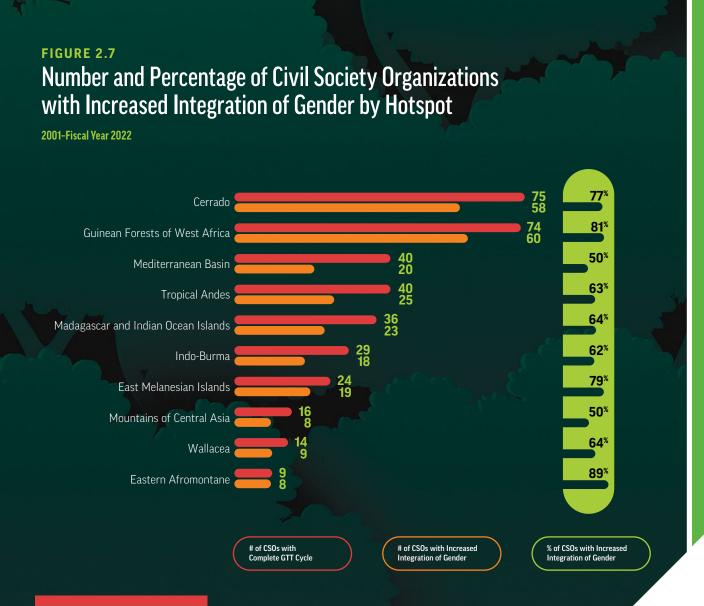
The project participants received post-training action plans that covered development of charters to guide board functioning; strategic plans; institutionalized staff appraisals; strategic communication plans and tools; organizational monitoring and evaluation systems; and sound financial management systems.

As a result, mentees were able to take ideas and activities to heightened levels. For example, in Guinea, STEP-Guinée developed a strategic plan, a procedure manual, a communication plan, a resource mobilization plan and a human resource policy. All the policies developed have been approved by the STEP-Guinée board, which was put in place as a result of the mentorship project. Importantly, WACSI's mentees used their new skills to fundraise, with 42% of them making successful grant applications after the program and one organization raising more than US\$1 million for conservation projects.

Master class participants, Calabar, Nigeria. © @Tropical Biology Association/Fola Babalola

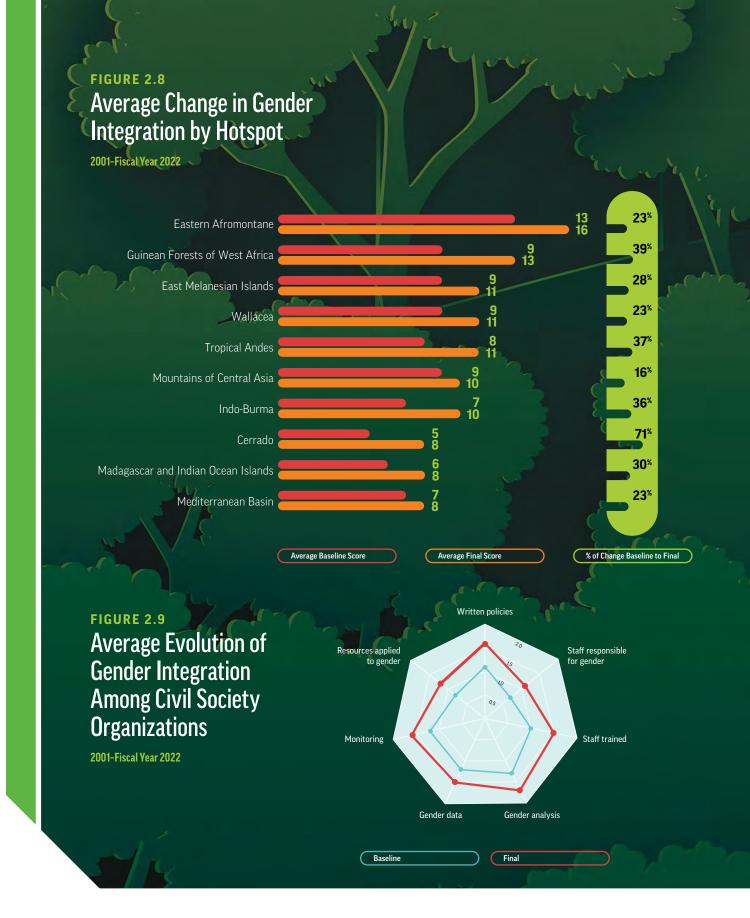
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Number of CEPF grantees with improved understanding of and commitment to gender issues. The Gender Tracking Tool was launched in 2017, and since that time CEPF has approved 1,010 assessments from recipients of large grants, small grants (US\$50,000 or less) and subgrants across 11 hotspots: Caribbean Islands, Cerrado, East Melanesian Islands, Eastern Afromontane, Guinean Forests of West Africa, Indo-Burma, Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands, Mediterranean Basin, Mountains of Central Asia, Tropical Andes and Wallacea. The investment in the Caribbean Islands started in early 2022 and therefore there are no final assessments yet for this hotspot. In total, there are 357 organizations with a baseline and a final assessment from the remaining 10 hotspots.

The CEPF impact on civil society organizations' understanding of and commitment to gender issues is based on the analysis of the baseline and final assessments of these 357 organizations. Of these, 248 recorded an increase in understanding of and commitment to gender issues (69%). **Figures 2.7 and 2.8** present the results by hotspot.



For the 357 organizations, out of a maximum score of 20 points, the overall average baseline score was 7.4 points, and the average final score was 10.2. This represents a global increase of understanding of and commitment to gender issues of 37% since CEPF started promoting gender integration. **Figure 2.9** presents the average evolution of scores.

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CEPF PILLAR 2 — CIVIL SOCIETY —



INDICATOR:

Number of networks and partnerships that have been created and/or strengthened.

CEPF encourages grantees to create and support partnerships and networks. These alliances are especially important as they can make a huge difference in ensuring the sustainability of conservation outcomes. They can secure broad support for conservation actions, promote inclusion among diverse stakeholders, and increase the likelihood that conservation efforts and activities will be sustainable. Since fund inception, CEPF has recorded a total of 864 networks/partnerships, 615 of which were created by grantees. This is an increase of 159 since the close of fiscal year 2022.

Network Supports Local Management of Marine and Coastal Madagascar



Madagascar's marine and coastal ecosystems harbor significant biodiversity and comprise priority conservation areas that underpin livelihoods and food security for more than 500,000 local people.

Over recent decades these critical ecosystems have experienced unprecedented degradation due to overfishing, climate change and other anthropogenic impacts. Efforts to address these threats include the creation of locally managed marine areas (LMMAs)—areas of ocean managed by coastal communities to help protect fisheries and safeguard marine biodiversity.

With support from CEPF, conservation organization Blue Ventures has worked with MIHARI, a network for those managing LMMAs that was created in 2012 during Madagascar's first national LMMA forum. Blue Ventures' efforts have focused on supporting MIHARI to gain the essential pillars of organizational strength and to pursue their goals of strengthening local and national management of marine and coastal resources and increasing the resilience of marine ecosystems and vulnerable coastal communities across Madagascar.

During the project, Blue Ventures supported the MIHARI network to create a steering committee to streamline decision-making; register as a legal entity; finalize internal regulations and financial systems; and gain skills in leadership, communications, report writing and public speaking, among other topics. MIHARI was also supported to host an LMMA Summit and create a Fisherwomen Leadership Programme aimed at strengthening women's participation and capacity, communication skills, and awareness of gender issues and fishing regulations. These activities have enabled MIHARI to build the management and leadership skills of 176 LMMA leaders and raise the national profile of the network. The project also helped establish MIHARI as an autonomous civil society network with independent legal status, with the ultimate goal of conserving biodiversity and securing the rights of small-scale fishers across Madagascar.



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CEPF PILLAR 3 — HUMAN WELL-BEING —

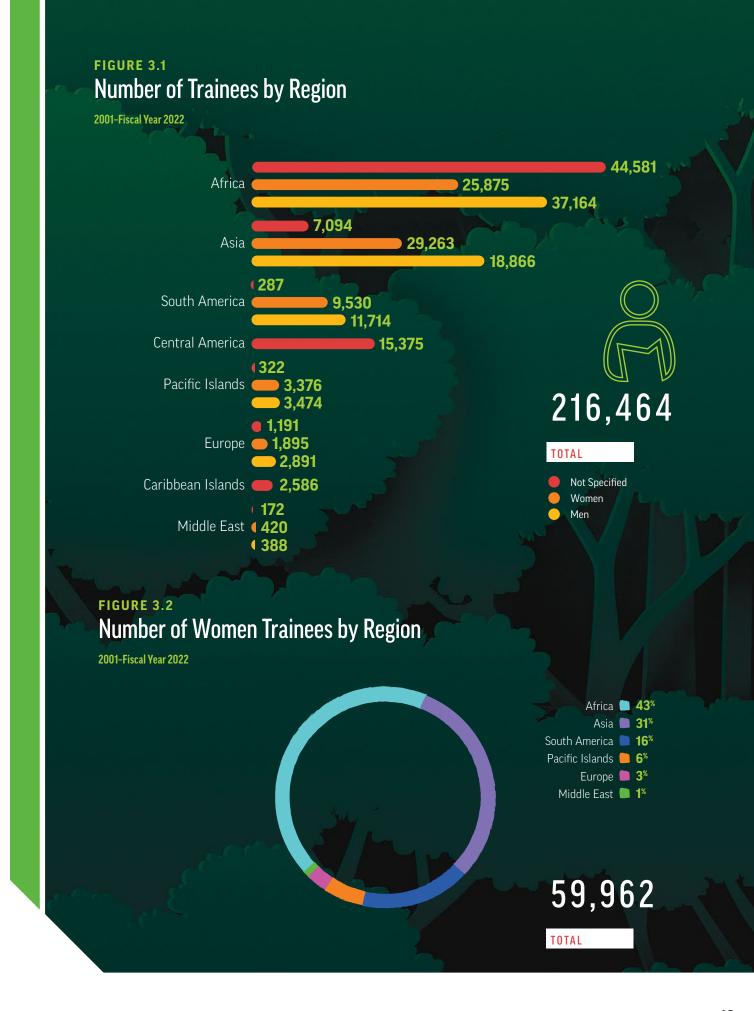


INDICATOR:

Number of people receiving structured training.

This indicator captures the number of men and women who have participated in a structured training opportunity. As with other indicators, sex-disaggregated data are only available since collection started in 2017. To date, 216,464 people have received structured training, including 59,962 women. During the past year, training topics have included agroforestry, organic cocoa cultivation, seagrass monitoring, environmental and social safeguards, gender mainstreaming, communications, organizational development, beekeeping, project design, reef restoration, environmental impact assessment, species monitoring, water quality monitoring, fire management, financial management, leadership skills and countless other topics geared toward helping local organizations to improve their capacity.

Amphibian observation outing in the Morán community, Ecuador, during a workshop at El Ángel Ecological Reserve. © Eduardo Obando





Preparing Bolivian Journalists and Students to Raise Biodiversity Awareness



Bolivia hosts a wealth of threatened species and ecosystems, yet there is very little recognition by Bolivian civil society of the importance of the country's biodiversity. This is due in part to lack of coverage in the media, a problem that the Asociación Boliviana para la Investigación y Conservación de Ecosistemas Andino Amazónicos (ACEAA) addressed with a comprehensive capacity-building program for journalists.

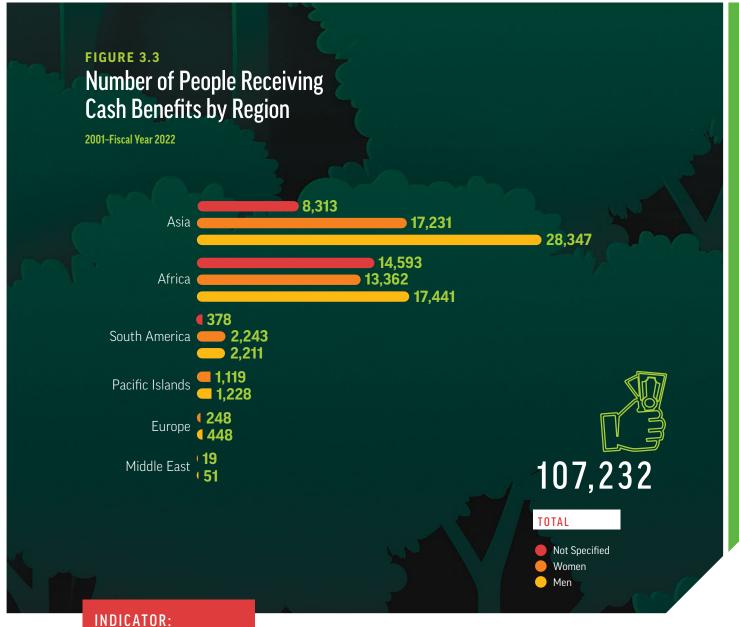
ACEAA started by developing training modules covering fundamental concepts related to biodiversity, endemic species, threatened species, protected areas, ecosystem functions, valuation of biodiversity, communication techniques and journalism. They then conducted a multitude of training workshops and events, leading to a total of 267 people (93 men and 174 women) receiving structured training.

The trainees comprised journalists from urban areas, the Department of La Paz and nine rural towns in the Madidi-Pilón Lajas-Cotapata corridor; social communication students from various universities; and 49 people from 21 partner institutions linked to the implementation of CEPF projects. The project also provided scholarships to six students to develop communication tools and eight urban journalists to produce pieces in written or video format about environmental and biodiversity issues in the corridor.

An unexpected impact was the creation of a network of journalists and communicators in the region, which allows the members to maintain contact, disseminate relevant information, and in the case of rural journalists, report on illegal activities in a timely manner. With new skills and the network in place, these journalists and future journalists are well placed to raise awareness about the importance of biodiversity and encourage conservation.

Workshop with journalists and communicators from Rurrenabaque © Andrea Morales Vargas / Conservación Amazónica - ACEAA.





Number of people receiving cash benefits.

Since 2017, CEPF has systematically collected data from grantees on the number of men and women receiving cash benefits. These benefits are derived from employment opportunities, for example in projects where grantees hire people to work in plant nurseries or work as eco-guides, or from small-scale alternative livelihood projects where beneficiaries are able to generate income. Examples of activities yielding cash benefits include production of wild fruits, coffee, cocoa, medicinal plants, handicrafts, silk, honey, or coconut oil, as well as via sustainable fisheries and ecotourism. To date, CEPF has recorded 107,232 people receiving cash benefits, 34,222 of which are women.

49 IR 2001-2022 IR 2001-2022 **50** CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND www.cepf.net CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND www.cenf.net

Indonesian Fishers Net the Benefits of Sustainable Resource Management





Fishing is the economic lifeblood of Bitung, Indonesia. The primary fishing port of North Sulawesi Province, Bitung produced 48,894 tons of catch from its high-biodiversity waters in 2019, and tuna is the top commodity.

Foreign fishing vessels were banned by Indonesia in 2014, and currently 89% of the fishers in Bitung waters are local small operators. Many do not have proper registration, do not fish sustainably and are not knowledgeable about processing procedures. Their catch is too small to allow them to participate in auctions, so they must sell their fish in small markets or door to door, resulting in lower income and poor quality of product due to lack of knowledge of fish handling.

To support small-scale operators and conserve the vibrant marine life of the area, local organization Manengkel Solidaritas worked with fishers to improve the quality and efficiency of their operations and boost their income while also pursuing protection of a portion of the port's waters.

Tuna meatballs are a new source of income for women in North Sulawesi

Steven Siwu/Manengkel Solidaritas



The project connected tuna fishers in the villages of Mawali and Batu Lubang with members of the Indonesian Pole & Line and Handline Fisheries Association, an organization of fishers and fishing companies. Engaging with association members helped the small-scale operators learn how to meet the requirements to deliver sustainable tuna, reduce inefficiencies in supply chains and connect with domestic markets that value responsibly caught product.

Through the project, 25 fishers received training in fishing techniques and women in the Mawali, Batu Lubang and Atep Oki communities were trained in processing techniques that maximize the economic value of fish products.

"The project has had a big impact: 45 coastal women now have fisheries businesses together. They have income so that school payments and food for their families are no longer an issue. While, for fishers, there are open doors that value their catch," said Sella Runtulalo, program manager for Manengkel Solidaritas.



The company Pertamina Indonesia-Bitung agreed to take part in the project through their social responsibility fund, supporting procurement of equipment to help communities diversify fish products and conduct digital promotion and marketing. Additionally, the project helped multiple women-run small businesses get registered with the Office of Cooperatives, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, and Industry, and aided 114 local fishers to obtain the Ship Nationality Certificate and Registration, which are required to fish legally. Manengkel Solidaritas supported fishers to acquire the necessary documents, including fisher ID cards, proof of ship ownership, lists of equipment, materials and crew, and to prepare descriptions of fishing activities to be undertaken.





Scan this code to watch a brief video of one of the fisher training sessions.

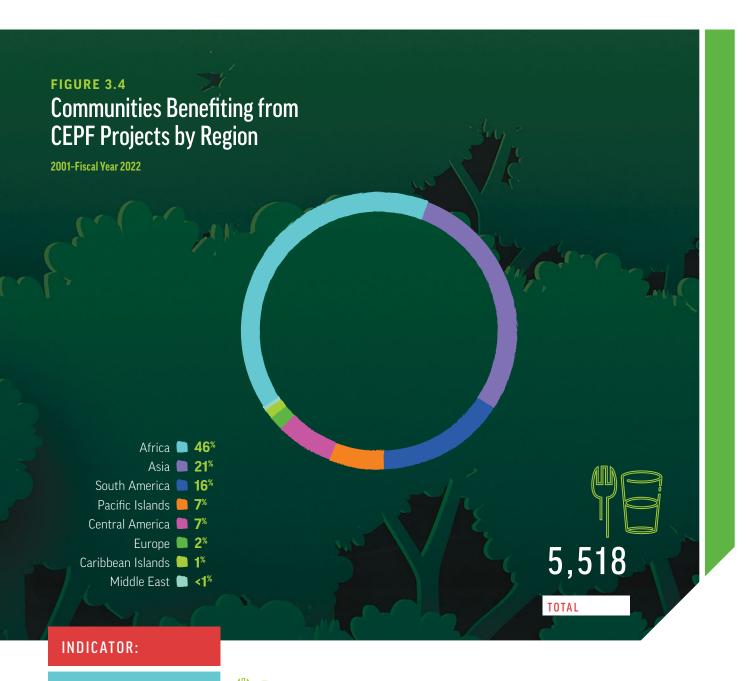
PROTECTING MARINE ECOSYSTEMS THAT SUPPORT PEOPLE

Manengkel Solidaritas also worked with partners such as the North Sulawesi Conservation Working Group, the North Sulawesi Province Marine Affairs and Fisheries Agency, and the University of Samratulangi Manado to provide the necessary ecosystem and socioeconomic data and stakeholder consultations needed to pursue establishment of a new protected area. In 2022 the organization achieved its goal when the governor declared the new 3.6-hectare Bitung City Conservation Area, which is expected to contribute to regeneration of marine life in the area, in turn directly benefiting local fishers.

A next step for the project is to engage more people in marine conservation efforts. And beyond the immediate benefits provided to communities and biodiversity, the project offers a valuable model that could be adapted to help address additional threats to natural resources in an area where mangrove logging and sand mining are threatening coastal ecosystems that are essential to the resilience of people and biodiversity, especially as climate change progresses.

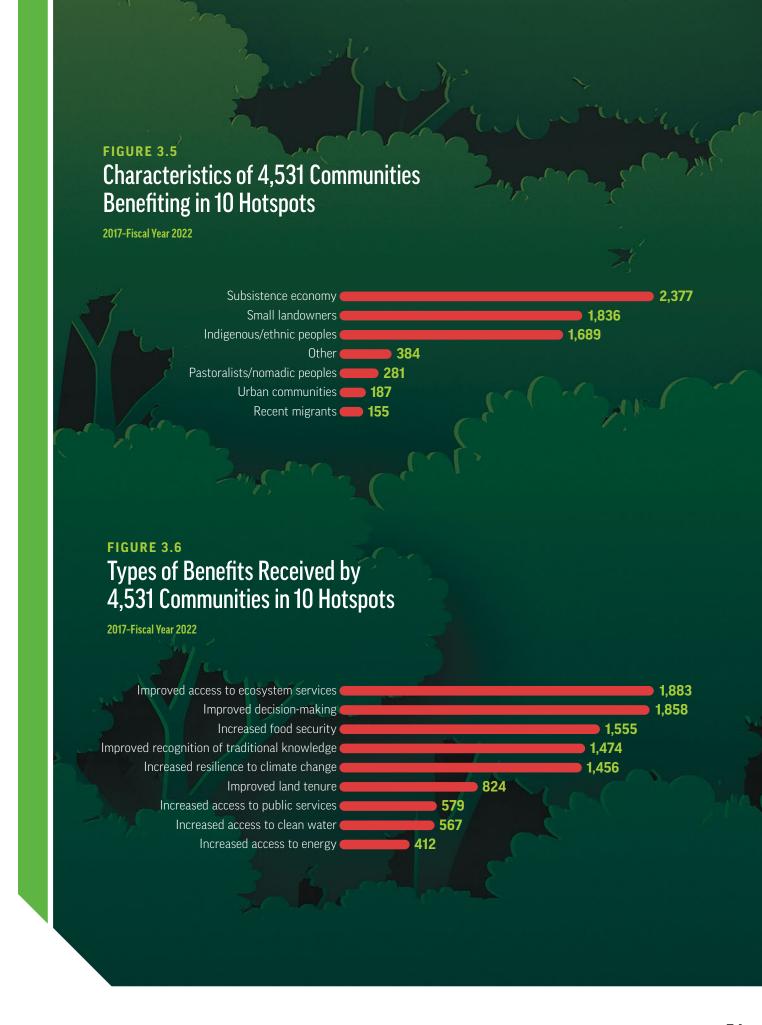
Boats docked at Lembeh Island, Bitung, Indonesia. © O. Langrand

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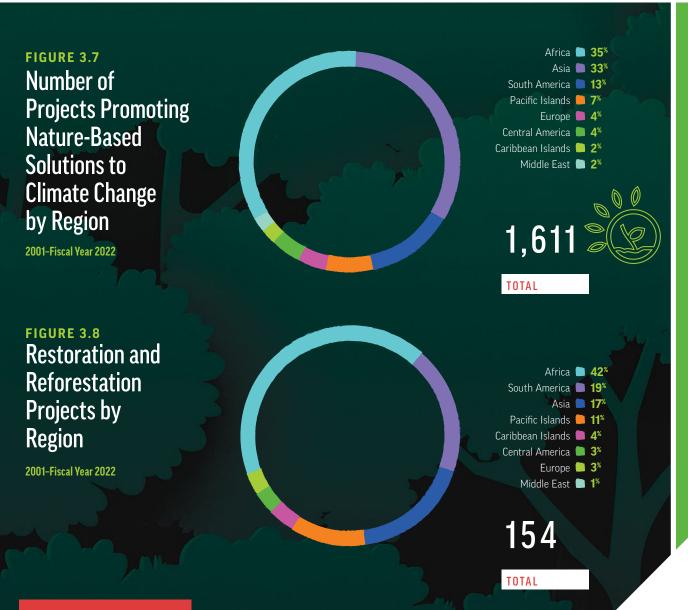


Number of people receiving non-cash benefits other than structured training.

CEPF has collected data on the number of communities benefiting from CEPF projects since 2001, but not until 2017 did monitoring expand to include collection of information about community characteristics, types of benefits received, and number of males and females in each community. Since inception of the fund, a total of 5,518 communities have benefited, and a total of 1,567,221 people (790,238 males and 776,983 females) have been recorded as benefiting from the 4,531 communities counted since 2017. The following charts illustrate the characteristics of the communities CEPF has supported and the types of benefits received.



CEPF PILLAR 3 — HUMAN WELL-BEING —



INDICATOR:

Number of projects promoting nature-based solutions to combat climate change.

All CEPF hotspots are experiencing changes in climate. Species, ecosystems and the people that depend on the hotspots are feeling the impacts. CEPF's grantees are addressing the threat by promoting nature-based solutions such as ecosystem resilience, protected areas creation, reforestation and restoration, soil conservation and watershed management, to name just a few of the possible actions.

From inception through fiscal year 2022, CEPF has supported a total of 1,611 projects, valued at US\$153,269,213, that are implementing nature-based solutions to climate change.

Promoting Community-based Management of a Mountain Ecosystem in Cameroon



Communities facing major threats to a treasured mountain landscape gained the information and planning they needed to drive sustainable use of their resources through a project led by Cameroon-based organization Forêts et Développement Rural (FODER).

The landscape—Cameroon's Tchabal Mbabo Massif—has summits reaching 2,240 meters. The landscape is extremely diverse and includes gallery forests, high-elevation dry forests, grasslands and wooded savannas.

Local communities count on these ecosystems for livestock grazing and harvesting of forest resources. But overuse, poaching, agricultural encroachment and bushfires are taking a toll, threatening livelihoods as well as the site's significant biodiversity. The area hosts 30 species of mammals, 337 species of birds, 77 species of butterflies and 118 plant species, such as understory shrub *Chassalia laikomensis*, which is listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, and African mahogany (*Khaya grandifoliola*), which is listed as Vulnerable on the Red List.

Recognizing the need for conservation and local community engagement, FODER conducted a CEPF-funded project to document the biodiversity of the area and promote participatory management by local communities. In partnership with TRAFFIC Central Africa, FODER also worked with residents to ensure sustainable use of African cherry trees (*Prunus africana*), a species that is harvested for medicinal use—often by nonresidents—and is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.



FODER assisted communities in creating 22 local committees for the management of natural resources, enabling residents to participate in planning and management of the massif. The project provided awareness-raising activities and capacity building to support the committees. FODER also encouraged biodiversity research, and the resulting inventories yielded extensive data on species distribution. Areas were zoned and 18 maps of natural resource use were prepared and used as a basis for agreement with the communities and the Ministry of Forests and Fauna on how to manage the massif.

Overall, 3,803 men and 2,685 women in 46 communities benefited from improved decision-making, recognition of traditional knowledge and land tenure. FODER's focus on *Prunus africana* was also significant, with training provided to 36 people in regulations and harvest techniques that will help communities achieve sustainable use of this valuable resource.

Community members from Baadjara, a village in the Tchabal Mbabo Massif, during a participatory mapping session. © ClovisNzuta / FODER2021

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ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION HIGHLIGHTS



BUFFALO WALLOWS KEY TO WETLAND HABITAT IN CAMBODIA

neasonal ponds in the Northern Plains of Cambodia are essential for the survival of a range of mammals and birds, including two Critically Endangered bird species the giant ibis (Thaumatibis gigantea) and the white-shouldered ibis (Pseudibis davisoni)-as well as Endangered Eld's deer, (Rucervus eldii). During the wet season months of June and July, the ponds become inundated with water and then dry out as the rain subsides. By January the ponds could be limited to dry mud. The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) has found that the presence or absence of water buffalo (Bubalus bubalis) greatly affects the status of these wetlands, with buffalo playing an essential role in increasing the depth of the ponds, controlling vegetation and increasing the moisture in the pond such that in the dry season it maintains a a 50:50 ratio of wet mud to water. Research with control and experiment ponds that monitored water, substrate, and human and wildlife activity revealed that buffalo are key to restoring these valuable wetland ecosystems so that they can host a wealth of biodiversity.

Working with partners, WCS used this research to implement a traditional buffalo "banking" system that provides a buffalo to individuals who sign a contract to take the animals to visit wetland areas selected by the project team. Participants received veterinary support such as deworming and vaccines, as well as husbandry training, and will eventually earn income from sales of meat and milk. By project close, 78 buffalo were distributed in three locations, 42 buffalo were born and a total of 4,118 buffalo and cows received deworming and vaccines. The project team collated a total of 445 ponds in a database, selected 21 for monitoring, and conducted 294 surveys that provided a full year of data on the conditions of the ponds. WCS's research and the success of the buffalo banking are already reaping rewards for local communities and Cambodia's wildlife.

Wildlife Conservation Society researchers record changes to seasonal ponds in Chhaeb Wildlife Sanctuary. © Everland



RESTORING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN THE CERRADO

The Cerrado Mineiro in southeast Brazil is a vast area stretching across 235,000 hectares. It is known for its high-quality coffee and, more recently, for droughts and erratic weather patterns that affect both coffee producers and the water supply for the region's urban centers. To address this crisis, coffee growers, international roasters, nonprofit organizations and researchers came together in 2015 to create the Cerrado das Águas Consortium (CCA). CEPF joined the effort through a grant to the local organization Cerrado Mineiro Development Foundation (FUNDACCER) to support development of a pilot program in the Feio Stream Basin to assist coffee growers in implementing sustainable agriculture methods, monitoring water resources and developing land use strategies that address climate change.

From 2019 to 2022, CCA worked with 57 producers on 73 properties to develop strategies to manage landscapes and the effects of climate change on more than 500 hectares. Efforts included working with property owners to set up plots for research on restoring the land with 22 species of native plants. CCA experimented with organic herbicides, reviewed germination rates and monitored seedling success. The experiments had varied results but yielded valuable lessons about the resilience of the different species, the factors affecting seedling survival, and key threats to native vegetation, which include fire and invasion of the exotic grass Brachiaria. This effort benefited from collaboration with the Cerrado Seeds Network (Rede de Sementes), which developed the "Cerrado Seeds Course: Training of Collectors and Restorers." This activity resulted in eight other partnerships to expand the restoration effort.

The research and the partnerships developed will play an important role in helping coffee producers and natural-resource managers to restore degraded lands and manage water resources. Native vegetation in the Cerrado plays an all-important role in regulating water flows and recharging aquifers, benefiting the region's numerous municipalities as well as biodiversity.

Restoration site on the farm of Rogério Arantes. © consorciocerradodaságuas



BRINGING BACK NATIVE FOREST IN MAURITIUS

The flora of Mauritius is among the world's most threatened, with 89% of its endemic plant species considered at risk of extinction. The organization Ebony Forest Ltd has been working in the country's Chamarel-Le Morne Key Biodiversity Area to reduce the extinction risk and halt degradation of the flora by controlling invasive alien plants, a major threat to the remnant native plant community and endemic fauna.

Ebony Forest's efforts entail the removal of woody exotics such as guava or Tecoma to prepare for planting and reduce competition for native species. Thereafter, maintenance weeding is undertaken 3-5 times per year for the first five years to ensure that slow-growing natives, planted or naturally regenerating, establish and mature. Native plants are grown in a nursery and planted to accelerate the restoration of biodiverse forests.

With CEPF funds, Ebony Forest has made some significant achievements. Capacity building has been a priority, with the project team developing a total of 18 different courses and conducting 27 four-day courses linked to conservation and biodiversity. A total of 175 people received training.

Ebony Forest worked to improve the management of 50 hectares of native forest by propagating and planting native species, including 38 threatened endemics. In total, 7.5 hectares were weeded and 10,026 native plants planted. Forest restoration was complemented by predator control that particularly targeted invasive species such as rats and mongoose, which pose major threats to native bird species. Among the species that have benefited from the project are the Mauritius kestrel (Falco punctatus), which is listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, and the echo parakeet (Psittacula eques) and pink pigeon (Nesoenas mayeri), both of which are listed as Vulnerable.

Chamarel - Le Morne Key Biodiversity Area, Mauritius. © 0. Langrand



REHABILITATING REEFS IN INDONESIA

The Togean-Banggai Marine Corridor off the coast of Central Sulawesi hosts a vast array of animal and plant life. The area is subject to destructive fishing practices that include the use of explosives and poisons, while mangroves and nearshore habitat are threatened by development. Coral reefs and seagrass beds are damaged by port dredging, human settlement and development of commercial fish and shrimp ponds.

With funding from CEPF and support from local government, the Indonesian organization Perkumpulan JAPESDA worked with local communities to improve the conservation and management of resources in the Peleng Banggai Key Biodiversity Area, and specifically in the waters of Uwedikan and Lambangan villages. Efforts entailed building capacity to improve the sustainability of small-scale fisheries, promoting awareness and implementation of zoning and regulations, and providing local communities with legal and business support to boost their income.

JAPESDA also focused on coral reef rehabilitation near the village of Uwedikan, an area identified as having severe damage. JAPESDA based its work on a similar initiative undertaken by the Office of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Central Sulawesi Province. A team represented by JAPESDA, the local community and reef experts installed platforms at three sites in Uwedikan village waters and transplanted coral seedlings. Platforms were made of plastic pipes and were arranged to be able to hold the coral reef seedlings. Following installation, the platforms were monitored regularly every month to gauge the mortality rate and to replace dead seedlings. After six months, 89% of the corals survived and demonstrated healthy growth. The local government and communities will continue to monitor and restore the coral reef habitat.

Coral transplantation © Al Aziz/IAPESDA

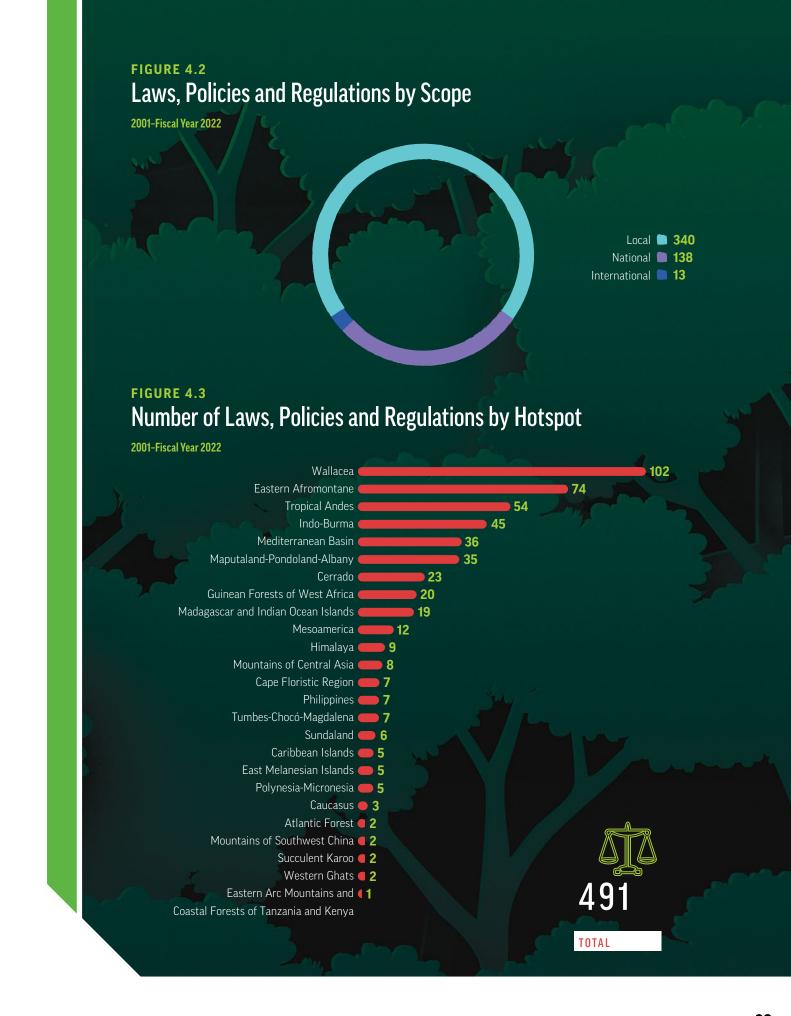
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Number of laws, regulations and policies with conservation provisions that have been enacted or amended.

Effective laws, policies and regulations are an essential underpinning for conservation achievements, contributing to their sustainability. For this reason, CEPF has prioritized the mainstreaming of biodiversity into policy, and since inception has supported the enactment or amendment of 491 laws, policies or regulations categorized into 15 themes: agriculture, climate, ecosystem management, education, energy, fisheries, forestry, mining/quarrying, planning/zoning, pollution, protected areas, species protection, tourism, transportation and wildlife trade. Protected areas is the most prevalent theme with 233 policies addressing this issue, followed closely by ecosystem management with 222, species protection with 197, and planning/zoning with 141. Some policies address more than one theme.



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New Law Bans Use of Plastic in Octopus Traps in Tunisia



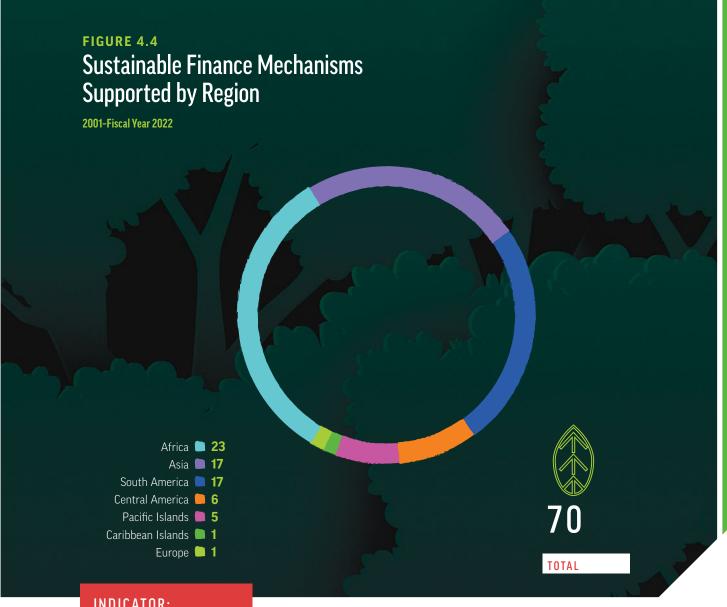
Plastic waste is a menace to marine species and ecosystems around the world, and the Mediterranean Sea is no exception. An estimated 730 tons of plastic waste enter the sea every day.

The Tunisian Association of Taxonomy (ATUTAX) has implemented a plan to conserve the biodiversity and ecosystems of the Kerkennah Archipelago off the southern coast of Tunisia by taking on widespread use of plastic in octopus fishing and promoting traditional practices that are sustainable.

With support from CEPF, ATUTAX contributed to the March 2022 passage of a ban on the use of plastic in octopus traps, promoting the legislation to key decision-makers. The organization also eased communities' transition to better practices by bringing together stakeholders to promote traditional fishing techniques, in particular charfia—a fixed fishery system that uses traps made of local palm fiber. The practice is recognized as national cultural heritage by UNESCO.

Awareness was low in the region regarding the need for biodiversity conservation and the serious threat posed by plastic waste. In response, ATUTAX held numerous workshops and field trips attended by fishing-trap artisans, natural resource managers, students, local civil society organizations, representatives from the municipality and environment ministry, and fishers. Together they developed an action plan to adopt environmentally friendly practices. ATUTAX also held a three-day fair to promote biodiversity conservation and the use of charfia. The fair featured a training program attended by 47 artisans (14 men and 33 women) focused on the making of traditional palm fiber traps, which included visits for students and teachers to learn about this traditional practice. The events generated enthusiasm for traditional fishing techniques.

Kerkennah fisherman making a net. © Nada Abdelkader

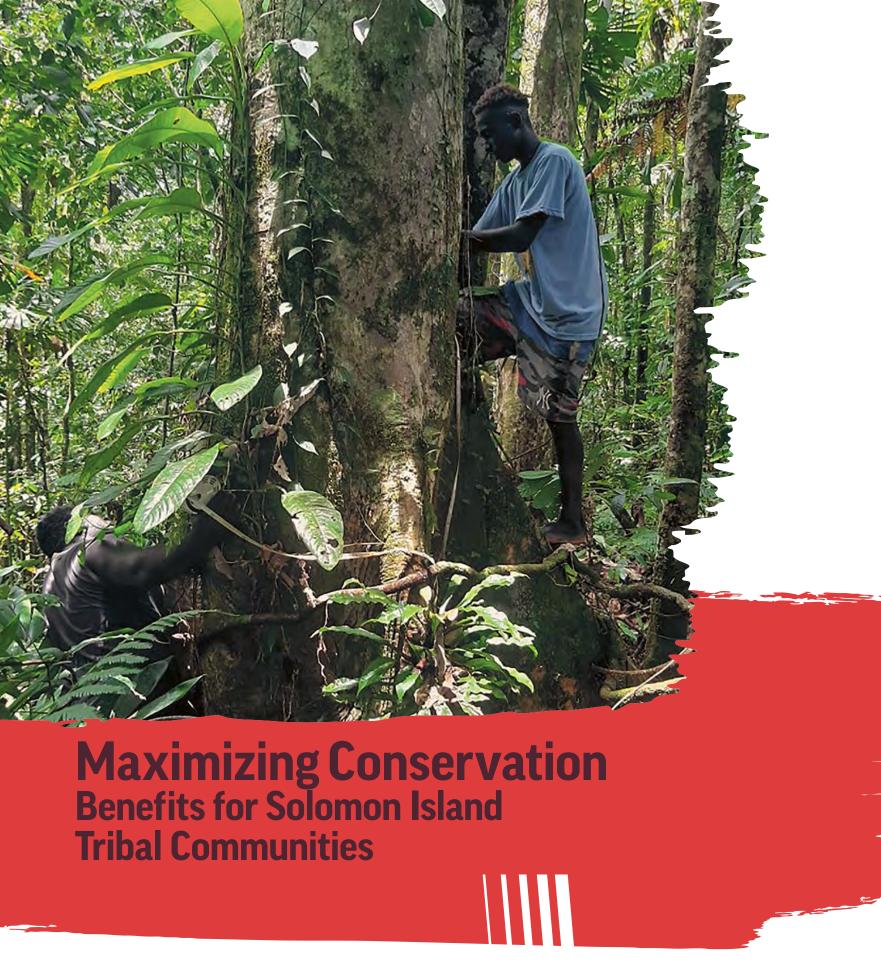


INDICATOR:

Number of sustainable financing mechanisms that are delivering funds for conservation.

Since 2001, CEPF has created and/or supported 70 sustainable financing mechanisms that vary in size, scope and type, and include conservation trust funds, revolving funds and debt swaps, as well as tax, credit or payment for ecosystem service programs. All mechanisms that are counted are functional and delivering funds for conservation. It is not sufficient to simply set up a mechanism without ensuring its ability to operate. For some mechanisms this entails working with potential donors to secure capital, providing funds to define the administrative and governance arrangements, and supporting staff to operate the mechanism. CEPF does not provide the financial capital to create or support any of these mechanisms.

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Measuring trees in the Sirebe Forest Conservation Area. © NRDF



In the Solomon Islands, where poverty is widespread and economic opportunities are slim, it can be difficult for communities to choose their lush rainforests and associated cultural traditions over the short-term income potential of logging or mining.

Natural Resources Development Foundation (NRDF) set about making the choice easier for communities on Choiseul Island—where high levels of biodiversity include 92 bird species, the highest for a single island in the country—while also establishing a model that could be repeated elsewhere.

With funding from CEPF, NRDF first assisted communities in establishing their forests as formally recognized protected areas, a complex process that can be daunting. This step was crucial not only for safeguarding the forests but also for the next step: setting them up for the sale of carbon credits with the aim of providing ongoing financing for both protection of the forests and improved well-being for the people.

NRDF partnered with the Nakau Programme, a rainforest conservation program developed in collaboration with Live & Learn Environmental Education. The Nakau Programme methodology allows more communities to protect their forest through conservation carbon projects that have environmental, social, cultural and climate resilience benefits at the core.

The resulting plan for the participating Choiseul communities earmarked the income from the sales of carbon credits to cover the cost of protecting and managing the forest conservation sites and to provide group benefit activities such as community investments, projects and enterprises for sustainable economic development.

PROTECTING FORESTS AND ESTABLISHING CARBON CREDITS

During the project, three of four targeted tribal forests had been formally declared protected areas under the Protected Areas Act of 2010—Sirebe Forest Conservation Area at 800 hectares, Siporae Tribal Forest Conservation Area at 666 hectares, and Padezaka Tribal Rainforest Conservation Area at 4,823 hectares. These were then grouped together as the Babatana Rainforest Conservation Project for the purposes of establishing carbon credits under the Plan Vivo standard—a set of requirements used to certify smallholder and community projects based on their climate, livelihoods and environmental benefits.

The Sirebe Tribe led the way, being the first tribe to participate in the Babatana Rainforest Conservation Project, the first tribe in the Solomon Islands to establish an official protected area under the Solomon Islands Protected Areas Act, and the first in the country to have their carbon credits verified by an international auditor. The tribe has already sold three years of the annual carbon credits generated from their protected area. They built a team of six Indigenous rangers, formed a women-led savings group and are managing their forest. They also used the income from credit sales to provide financial stability and resilience during COVID-19 and pay for school fees and much-needed sanitation facilities.

"We have only one Sirebe," said Bartholomew Qalo, Sirebe chairman, in a recently produced video for the Babatana project. "Suppose a logging company comes and destroys it. Our grandchildren will not be able to see the land and how we live. So that is why we decided not to allow logging companies into our forest."

"The money we receive from carbon trading really helps our families and community," said Elijah Qalolilio Jr., a Sirebe ranger, in an interview in the same video.

The Siporae tribe will be the next to undergo an audit and start selling their credits. And since the end of the project, another clan, Vuri, gained formal protected status for their forest and is now navigating the path to carbon credit sales.

"We have many other tribes within the Solomons asking for our help," said NRDF Project Manager Wilko Bosma. "Hopefully other organizations can take the model we've developed and replicate it elsewhere."

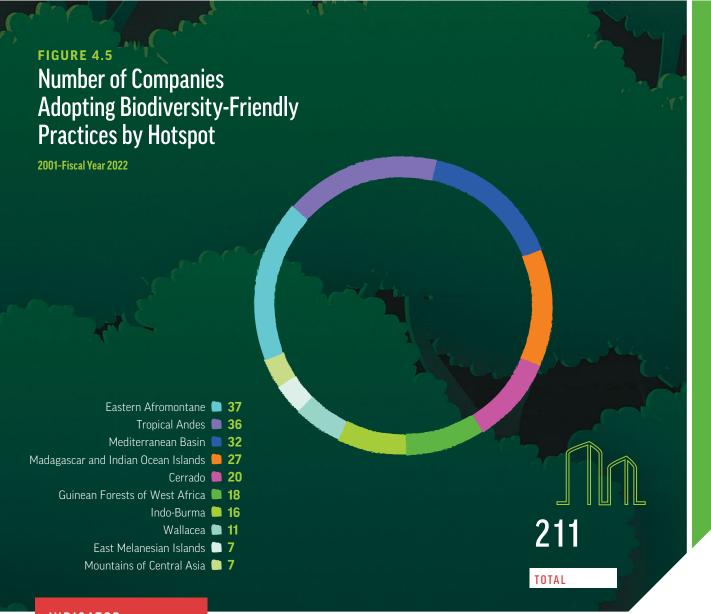
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Scan this

code to watch a

brief video about

the project.



Number of companies that adopt biodiversity-friendly practices.

While CEPF has worked with the private sector throughout much of its existence, only in 2017 did CEPF develop an indicator to measure what we are trying to achieve with our engagement with this group of stakeholders. CEPF's indicator seeks to measure the change in behavior of private sector entities by documenting the specific biodiversity-friendly practice(s) that they adopt and the countries in which they implement these practices. A frequently asked question is whether or not individual farmers are included, as they may aim to make a profit. However, the general guidance is to omit individual farmers, fishers or similar producers because the goal is to record larger-scale change that will have an impact beyond the household. To date, CEPF has documented 211 companies in 10 hotspots that have adopted practices favorable to biodiversity.



Integrating Biodiversity into Hunting Concessions in Tajikistan



Tajikistans's vast Baljuvan Key Biodiversity Area covers 94,000 hectares of sparsely populated mountainous terrain that is renowned for its stunning landscapes and iconic wild sheep and goats such as the urial (*Ovis vignei bocharensis*) and the Asiatic ibex (*Capra sibirica*).

Only 3,800 hectares are formally protected, while the rest is state-owned and managed, primarily as leases for mountain grazing during the summer season. In 2016, the state leased 24,000 hectares to Oxus Holding LLC, a private Tajik company, for the development of sustainable commercial hunting and high-end tourism.

To prevent degradation from poor range management and unsustainable land use, CEPF grantee the Association of Nature Conservation Organizations of Tajikistan (ANCOT) joined with partner organizations to foster a better partnership between Oxus Holding LLC and local people.

At the start of ANCOT's project in 2020, Oxus Holding's operations were still in their infancy, with staff and rangers lacking essential knowledge of conservation and management and having little engagement with the local people living or grazing their animals within Baljuvan. ANCOT collaborated with Oxus to develop a five-year management plan for the area under concession that will ensure engagement with local communities in livelihood activities, sustainable rangeland management within the concession, and improved information and management of wildlife populations. The plan also includes conservation measures for wild fruit trees.

And ANCOT is helping to build trust between Oxus Holding and four nearby settlements by supporting development of sustainable livelihoods, providing conservation education and training the staff of Oxus Holding LLC—enabling all involved to be better stewards of the land. ANCOT has conducted awareness activities and trained community members on beekeeping, which has already resulted in the sale of honey.

Oxus Holding has also expressed interest in expanding its conservation-related activities, such as contributing to research on wildlife populations and participating in patrolling and species surveys.

Urials (Ovis vignei bocharensis), Baljuvan Key Biodiversity Area. © ANCOT

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CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE U.N. CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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	AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGET	CONTRIBUTION TO IMPACT	OPERATIONAL CONTRIBUTION
	Target 1. By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.	At least 216,464 people have benefited from training in biodiversity, conservation, and related topics.	CEPF has supported a total of 553 projects with a primary emphasis on education and awareness and on capacity building, valued at US\$36,706,126.
	Target 2. By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.	CEPF has influenced 491 policies, laws or regulations in 25 biodiversity hotspots.	CEPF has supported a total of 178 projects in 25 hotspots with a primary focus on Mainstreaming Biodiversity, valued at US\$17,921,611.
3	Target 3. By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socioeconomic conditions.	CEPF has created and/or supported 24 positive incentive schemes, including payment for ecosystem service, tax and credit schemes.	CEPF has supported 20 projects valued at US\$5,022,940 that have created or supported positive incentive schemes.
	Target 4. By 2020, at the latest, governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.	11.8 million hectares of production landscape with strengthened biodiversity management, through mechanisms such as organic agriculture, sustainable harvest, and improved land use practices. Enactment or amendment of 491 laws, regulations, and policies with	59 projects located in agricultural/ artificial landscapes, valued at US\$4,774,366, including activities such as such as agroforestry, sustainable production, and improved agricultural practices.
		conservation provisions.	
1 7	Target 7. By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.	CEPF has contributed to improved biodiversity management of 11.8 million hectares of production landscapes in 22 hotspots.	CEPF has supported 327 projects with a primary emphasis on strengthening management outside protected areas, totaling US\$30,120,401.
	Target 9. By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.	CEPF-funded project results have included preparation of biosecurity plans, eradications of invasive alien species, training and restoration of critical habitat.	CEPF has supported 100 projects with a component dedicated to addressing invasive alien species, totaling US\$7,902,298, in 14 biodiversity hotspots.
11	Target 11. By 2020, at least 17 percent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 percent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.	CEPF has supported the creation or expansion of 16,587,345 hectares of new protected areas in 23 biodiversity hotspots. CEPF has strengthened the management and protection of 53,256,356 hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas in 25 hotspots. CEPF has contributed to improved management of biodiversity in 11,814,084 hectares of production landscapes in 22 hotspots	CEPF has supported 734 projects with primary emphases on protected areas creation, and improved management, totaling US\$78,997,106.
12	Target 12. By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.	At least 1,166 IUCN Red List species listed as Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable have benefited from CEPF support.	CEPF has supported 657 projects with a component focusing on species conservation, totaling US\$52,491,265.
20	Target 20. By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.	CEPF has supported 70 sustainable finance mechanisms, ranging from trust funds, debt swaps, payments for ecosystem services, and tax and credit schemes.	CEPF has supported 92 projects with a component focusing on conservation finance, totaling US\$15,122,397.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO U.N. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL	CONTRIBUTION TO IMPACT	OPERATIONAL CONTRIBUTION	
Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	5,518 communities receiving non-cash benefits such as improved food security, access to water, improved land tenure and increased representation in decision-making and governance. Since collection of data start in 2017 for types of benefits communities received, 1,555 communities have reported increased food security. 216,464 people benefiting from structured training, including in topics that lead to improved nutrition, increased income, and increased production. Topics include beekeeping, financial management, horticulture, medicinal plant production, organic farming, poultry farming, salt production, species monitoring, sustainable fishing practices, sustainable harvest of nontimber forest products and tourism. 11.8 million hectares of production landscape with strengthened biodiversity management, through mechanisms such as organic agriculture, sustainable harvest, and improved land use practices.	CEPF has supported 264 projects with a primary focus on human well-being, totaling US\$22,252,979 205 projects totaling US\$19,106,271 with specific components on agroforestry and agriculture.	
Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	216,464 people receiving structured training. Since start of collection of sex-disaggregated data in 2017, 59,962 women reported to have received training. Training topics were diverse, such as handicraft production, sustainable tourism, post-harvest processing, beekeeping, hygiene, environmental education, leadership, financial management and climate-smart agriculture.	CEPF has supported 929 projects with a component/emphasis on capacity building, valued at US\$111,675,364. CEPF has supported 768 projects with a component/emphasis on education and awareness, valued at US\$63,995,170.	_
Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	Since start of collection of sex-disaggregated data in 2017, a total of 776,983 women and girls were recorded as receiving non-cash benefits such as increased access to water, increased food security, and increased resilience to climate change.	Collection of sex-disaggregated data from grantees since 2017. Monitoring of change in grantee understanding of and commitment to gender issues since 2017. Preparation and dissemination of a gender toolkit. Preparation and dissemination of a training kit on empowering women in conservation.	
Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	Since 2017, 567 communities receiving non-cash benefits report increased access to clean water as a benefit.	CEPF has supported 325 projects associated with inland wetland habitats, valued at US\$22,567,249, covering a range of topics such as research and assessment, biodiversity inventories and development of best practices for management. 87 projects with an emphasis on water management, located in various habitats, valued at US\$8,530,126.	_
Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	Since start of collection of number of people receiving cash benefits in 2017, 107,232 people have been reported as receiving cash benefits.	Human well-being projects have taken place in 61 countries and territories.	
Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns	11.8 million hectares of production landscape with strengthened biodiversity management, through mechanisms such as organic agriculture, sustainable harvest and improved land use practices. Enactment or amendment of 491 laws, regulations and policies with conservation provisions.	CEPF has supported 59 projects located in agricultural/artificial landscapes, valued at US\$4,774,366, including activities such as such as agroforestry, sustainable production, and improved agricultural practices	
Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	Multiple actions across hundreds of projects involving Restoration Tree planting Training in forest carbon technical work Preparation of land use plans containing climate change risk assessments Watershed management and restoration Mangrove/coastal zone management Sustainable coastal tourism Climate change modeling Development of strategies for climate change adaptation and mitigation.	CEPF has supported at least 1,611 projects that promote nature-based solutions to address the negative impacts of climate change. These projects are valued at US\$153,269,213. Since 2017, 1,456 communities have been reported as receiving the non-cash benefit resilience to climate change.	
Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development	32 Small Island Developing States receiving CEPF funds.	CEPF has supported 230 projects associated with marine and coastal habitat, valued at US\$16,232,756.	
Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss	CEPF has supported the creation or expansion of 16.5 million hectares of new protected areas in 23 biodiversity hotspots. CEPF has strengthened the management and protection of 53 million hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas in 25 hotspots. CEPF has contributed to improved biodiversity management of 11.8 million hectares of production landscapes in 22 hotspots. At least 1,166 IUCN Red List species listed as Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable have benefited from CEPF support.	CEPF has supported 91 projects with a component focusing on conservation finance, totaling US\$15,002,807.	_
Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels	864 networks/partnerships supported, 615 of which CEPF helped to create. 470 civil society organizations out of the 631 for which two civil society organizational capacity assessments have been completed—74%—report an increase in their organizational capacity.	CEPF has supported 381 projects with an explicit focus on civil society capacity building and networking, valued at US\$29,795,054. All local CEPF grantees self-assess at start and end of grant to measure change in institutional capacity.	

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NEW GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK



The world took a major step toward addressing the interrelated crises of biodiversity loss and climate change with the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework by 196 countries on 19 December 2022. The Framework, which was the culmination of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, sets four overarching goals and 23 action-oriented targets designed to halt and reverse biodiversity loss while respecting the rights of Indigenous peoples and local communities.

The new framework replaces the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and Aichi Biodiversity Targets for the 2011–2020 period, which were adopted at the Conference of the Parties held in 2010.

Sixteen of the targets are relevant to CEPF's work, and CEPF will report on impacts related to the new targets for actions dating from January 2023 forward. Grantee contributions to the targets will be monitored on an annual basis using CEPF's global impact indicators and, for selected targets, portfolio indicators that pertain to selected biodiversity hotspots, Below, each of these 16 targets is listed with an indication of how CEPF grantees will contribute to these targets.

GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGET	CEPF CONTRIBUTION
Target 1 Planning the use of land and sea	CEPF has identified areas of high biodiversity importance in the form of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) and will monitor the integration of KBAs into spatial planning and/or effective management processes.
Target 2 Ecosystem restoration	CEPF will monitor the number of hectares of terrestrial forest, terrestrial non-forest, freshwater and coastal marine areas brought under restoration.
Target 3 Area-based conservation	CEPF has three indicators dedicated to quantifying area-based conservation. This target will be monitored by recording the number of hectares of KBAs with improved management, the number of hectares of protected areas created and/or expanded, and the number of protected areas with improved management.
Target 4 Species recovery and conservation	Many CEPF grantees implement conservation actions for globally threatened species. CEPF will monitor the number of globally threatened species benefiting from conservation action.
Target 5 Harvesting, trade and use of wild species	Many CEPF grantees facilitate the flow of information needed to effectively address unsustainable use and trade of wild plant and animal species. The impacts of these activities will be monitored at the hotspot and global levels.
Target 6 Invasive alien species	Invasive alien species are a particularly severe and pervasive threat to biodiversity in island hotspots where CEPF is active. The impact of these activities will be monitored at the hotspot and global levels.
Target 8 Climate change	Many CEPF grantees implement projects that promote nature-based solutions to climate change. Such projects might address a range of topics including climate adaptation, land use planning, payment for ecosystem services, buffer zones, reforestation, soil conservation and water management, among others. Impacts related to this target will be monitored at the hotspot level and by the following global indicator: number of projects promoting nature-based solutions to combat climate change.
Target 9 Use of wild species	Some CEPF grantees promote sustainable management and use of wild plants and animals. Where relevant, impacts related to this target will be monitored at the hotspot level.
Target 10 Productive systems	Working outside of protected areas and engaging with land managers in production landscapes is a major focus of CEPF grantees. CEPF will monitor the number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity.



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK TARGET

CEPF CONTRIBUTION

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Ecosystem services

The essential contributions that ecosystem services make to the well-being of people and their resilience to the impacts of climate change are a key consideration when designing CEPF investments. CEPF will monitor contributions to this target via five global indicators.

Target 14

Mainstreaming

Mainstreaming biodiversity and its values into other sectors is a focus of CEPF investment in all hotspots. CEPF will monitor contributions to this target via indicators pertaining to enactment of laws, regulations and policies with conservation provisions; sustainable financing mechanisms that deliver funds for conservation; and companies that adopt biodiversity-friendly practices.

Target 19

Resource mobilization

CEPF strives to increase the level of funding available for conservation. CEPF will monitor grantee efforts to establish sustainable financing mechanisms to determine its contribution to this target.

Target 20

Non-monetary resource mobilization

Through grant-making, training and exchanges, CEPF strengthens civil society's capacity for biodiversity conservation and nature-based climate solutions. Impacts related to capacity building will be monitored via indicators pertaining to civil society organizational capacity and the creation and/or strengthening of networks and partnerships.

Target 21

Access to data, information and knowledge

Many CEPF grantees generate data on biodiversity and communicate conservation messages to decision-makers and the general public. Impacts related to communication and awareness raising will be monitored at the hotspot level.

Representation and participation

CEPF pays very specific attention to ensuring full and equitable participation of women, youth, Indigenous peoples and other vulnerable groups in the grants it awards. Impacts related to this target will be monitored by means of portfolio indicators at the hotspot level.

Target 23

Gender equality

Gender issues and considerations are actively incorporated throughout the grantmaking process. CEPF monitors progress on gender-related outcomes at the portfolio level, and grantee understanding of and commitment to gender issues at the global level.

For the full list of the GBF targets, visit the Convention on Biological Diversity website.



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July 2021

Ecosystem Profile Updates Strategy for New Investment in Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands



Supporting civil society organizations to promote ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) is the focus of CEPF's new 10-year engagement in Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands, funded by the Green Climate Fund through l'Agence Française de Développement (AFD) as

the accredited entity. CEPF held four workshops in July and August 2021 to introduce this important program to national designated authorities in each country of the hotspot and other stakeholders.

In September, a consortium led by Conservation International Madagascar and including Biotope, Missouri Botanical Garden and Asity began the regional stakeholder consultations that informed an update to the ecosystem profile of the hotspot. This process was completed in spring 2022, and the resulting ecosystem profile was finalized in December 2022.

CEPF has enlisted a consortium of nongovernmental organizations to be its regional implementation team (RIT) in the hotspot, coordinated by IUCN NL, and including Initiative Développement (ID) for Comoros, SAF/FJKM for Madagascar, Fondation Ressources et Nature (FORENA) for Mauritius and Seychelles Conservation and Climate Adaptation Trust (SeyCCAT) for Seychelles. These organizations are working with

CEPF to implement a five-year conservation strategy for the hotspot and build local civil society capacity based on the updated ecosystem profile.

September 2021

New Marine Protected Area in Montenegro

➤ The Minister of Ecology, Spatial and Urban Planning of Montenegro proclaimed the creation of Katič Nature Park, only the second marine protected area in the country.

Katič is designed to include the seagrass beds of *Posidonia oceanica*—known as the "lungs of the Mediterranean Sea"—as well as corals found near the island of Veliki Katič, the estuary of Vezirovo and Cape Dubovac, and some important marine caves. The total area of this new protected area is 2.745 hectares.

CEPF grantee Green Home, a Montenegrin organization, worked in partnership with the Mediterranean Center for Environmental Monitoring and the Montenegrin Ecologist Society to gather scientific and ecological data, lead negotiations with local fishers and tourism operators, and support the national authorities for the preparation of designation documentation. They are now involved in the management of this protected area.

Validating West African Freshwater Key Biodiversity Areas

▶ West Africa is rich in freshwater biodiversity and regional endemism. Nevertheless, there is a considerable gap in knowledge around freshwater priority species and sites in West Africa, aspects covered by an IUCN project funded by CEPF.

The project team conducted and synthesized Red List assessments of 1,502 species of freshwater fish, mollusks, odonates (dragonflies and damselflies), decapods (crabs and shrimps) and aquatic plants. The conservation status of freshwater species was found to be declining, with 14% of all native freshwater species being globally threatened with extinction. More strikingly, there is a lack of sufficient monitoring data to reveal conservation trends of freshwater species, with many species not having been observed for decades.

The report, published during the World Conservation Congress in Marseilles, identifies key threats to specific species and some 22 subcatchments as irreplaceable sites—the only locations of 39 threatened freshwater species. The report makes recommendations for the conservation of these sites. It also highlights specific sites in urgent need of surveys and recommends conservation actions for each taxonomic group. It is hoped that governments, conservation practitioners and researchers will use these data to conserve the region's unique freshwater biodiversity. The report is available in English and French.







Thank You,
MAVA Foundation!

MAVA FOUNDATION: A LEGACY FOR PEOPLE AND NATURE

The MAVA Foundation, which for nearly 30 years had been a key player in nature conservation, particularly in West Africa and the Mediterranean Basin, ended grant-making in March 2022 and closed its doors in June 2023. Created by late Swiss philanthropist Luc Hoffmann, the foundation provided not only financial support but also expertise and strategic vision for the preservation of biodiversity. CEPF and MAVA Foundation forged close ties through conservation activities in the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot. As early as 2009, the foundation supported CEPF's first ecosystem profile for the hotspot—not only through financial support but also by lending its convening power to ensure active participation of their many regional partners. Subsequently, MAVA was represented on the CEPF Mediterranean Basin Advisory Committee for 10 years, and consultation between CEPF and MAVA grew stronger over the years, particularly through the Mediterranean Donor Roundtable. In light of converging objectives—particularly in regard to building the capacities of local organizations—MAVA decided in 2014 to provide financial support to CEPF. The foundation ultimately contributed more than US\$3.5 million to CEPF over the years, becoming a leading regional donor for the fund.

The conservation community feels the loss of MAVA Foundation deeply, but MAVA lives on through the many organizations it strengthened and the nature protection it nurtured for so many years. CEPF is grateful to Lynda Mansson, MAVA's director general, and Paule Gros, director of MAVA's Mediterranean Basin Programme and head of strategic partnerships, for the excellent collaboration they established with CEPF.

André Hoffmann, president of MAVA, addresses attendees at a celebration of the MAVA Mediterranean Program 27 April at Tour du Valat, Le Sambuc, Arles, France. © O. Langrand

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Grantees Gather to Assess Results of Cerrado Investment

▶ The final assessment of the CEPF investment strategy in the Cerrado Biodiversity Hotspot was held on 25 November 2021. The 97 participants represented grantees, regional and global donors and staff from CEPF and Instituto Internacional de Educação do Brasil (IEB), which serves as the RIT.

The event, which was held remotely due to the pandemic, was an opportunity to celebrate the results achieved during the 2016-2022 implementation of the US\$8 million investment strategy in the Cerrado. The gathering also allowed stakeholders to discuss a joint vision for the future of the Cerrado and lessons learned.

The investment, which funded grants to 62 local and two international organizations, promoted the adoption of best practices in agriculture, supported the creation and effective management of new protected areas, strengthened supply chains of native nontimber products and fostered ecological restoration. Grantees also conserved globally threatened species, created databases and a platform to better inform decision-making, supported women in conservation and collaborated with local organizations to build their capacities. Key results include:

- 3 million hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas under improved management.
- 1.6 million hectares in Indigenous, quilombola (descendants of Afro-Brazilians who escaped slavery) and traditional community lands integrated into planning and strategies for conservation and sustainable development.
- 1.5 million hectares in production landscapes with strengthened biodiversity management.



- 35 new protected areas created, covering 104.590 hectares.
- 2.2 million hectares of protected areas strengthened.
- Nine globally threatened species benefiting from conservation action.
- 89% of local grantees with improved institutional capacity.
- 20 private-sector enterprises adopted biodiversity-friendly practices.
- 23 public policies created/adjusted to promote biodiversity.
- 107.779 people from 450 small and subsistence communities derived non-cash benefits.
- 11,030 people received structured training in topics such as land use planning, climate-smart agriculture and restoration.





Kalunga women spin cotton on a spindle © Associação Quilombo Kalunga (AQK)

IEB continues efforts to build on the CEPF investment. In May 2022. IEB learned it would receive US\$1.8 million in funding from the Global Environment Facility to consolidate results from the CEPF investment in developing a sustainable supply chain for nuts from baru trees (Dipteryx alata).



Read more about the investment in this final report.

December 2021

Focusing on Strong Partnerships in the Caribbean Islands

Nurturing partnerships among stakeholders is a key element of CEPF's new US\$13.9 million investment in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot, which is financed through the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund-Caribbean Hotspot Project of the World Bank, using funds provided by the Government of Japan.

Outreach conducted by Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC) in the Dominican Republic and by Integrated Health Outreach (IHO) in Antigua and Barbuda yielded several important advancements in promoting collaborative social accountability (CSA) frameworks as a way of tackling conservation problems in the hotspot. CSA is a set of methodologies and tools for constructive engagement of citizens and civil society organizations in forging partnerships with government and the private sector. The goal is to support citizens in voicing their concerns and needs while working with others to

address issues. The approach is being piloted in the environmental sector for the first time in the Caribbean Islands through funding from the World Bank.

The CSA team conducted extensive outreach with 23 local civil society and governmental stakeholders to educate and promote environmental stewardship in five Key Biodiversity Areas. These outreach efforts resulted in the Antigua and Barbuda Department of the Environment and the Ministry of Tourism signing memorandums of understanding that formalize their participation in the effort.

Local governmental partners and civil society organizations participated in a series of training sessions. The tools developed and lessons learned are being used as INTEC and IHO set their sights on expanding the CSA approach to Jamacia and Saint Lucia.



© Jorge Brocca



Pristimantis samaniegoi, Abra de Zamora, Ecuador. © UTPL

anuary 2022

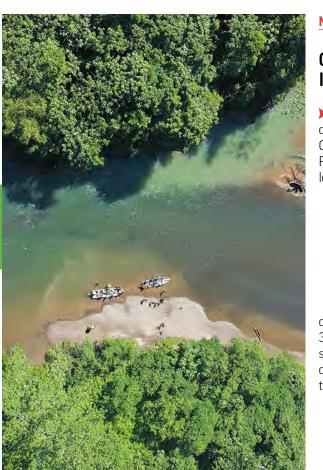
Start of New Tropical Andes Investment and German Government Funding

► CEPF launched a new investment in the Tropical Andes Biodiversity Hotspot, engaging an alliance comprising Profonanpe, Patrimonio Natural, and Asociación Boliviana para la Investigación y Conservación de Ecosistemas Andino Amazónicos (ACEAA) to serve as the Tropical Andes RIT for Peru, Colombia, and Bolivia, respectively.

Meanwhile, in May, an agreement was signed with the German Government via KfW Development Bank for a contribution of 7 million euros to CEPF for biodiversity conservation projects in the Ecuador portion of

the Tropical Andes. The funding is being provided through an agreement with Conservation International.

The funding furthers KfW's overall objectives of securing natural habitats through improved natural resource management and protection, reducing deforestation and degradation, and mitigating climate change. Ecuadorian organization Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano (FFLA) serves as the regional implementation team for the investment in Ecuador.



March and April 2022

Gauging Progress as the East Melanesian Islands **Investment Is Completed**

As CEPF's investment in the East Melanesian Islands Biodiversity Hotspot drew to a close, final assessment workshops took place in the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea in late March and Vanuatu in April, with a regional workshop also held in April. Participants discussed the most important collective CEPF impacts in their countries, lessons learned and ways to ensure the sustainability of the conservation achieved.

CEPF invested US\$8.5 million in the region from 2013 through 2021, emphasizing:

- Support to local communities to conserve key biodiversity areas.
- Integration of conservation into land use and development planning.
- Protection of species by addressing threats and information gaps.
- Strengthening of civil society organizations and facilitating their partnership with each other, government and the private sector.

Forty-one local organizations and 25 international organizations received grants over the investment period. Projects benefited 33 globally threatened species and 34 sites. Although the work was challenging, threats were abated at 10 sites. At the same time, 16 local organizations became demonstrably stronger in terms of capacity of staff members, financial management and project delivery. Networks formed in all three countries also allowed small groups to amplify their impact.

Additional results of the investment include:

- 281.869 hectares of key biodiversity area are under improved management.
- 59,385 hectares of new protected areas were established.
- 7 customary land sites have improved ownership and tenure rights.
- 7,155 people were reached via training on livelihoods or conservation activities.
- 53 species listed on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species benefited from conservation action.

Ranger boats rest on a river beach, Babatana, Solomon Islands, © Babatana Rainforest Conservation Project

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May 2022

Helping Indonesian Island Communities Sustain Their Marine Resources

In the Sangihe Island group near Indonesia's northern ocean boundary with the Philippines, CEPF grantee YAPEKA is helping rural and remote island communities use their marine resources more sustainably. Fishing and products from mariculture are a major source of income to the fewer than 140,000 people living on several islands that are 90 minutes by air and several hours by ferry from Mando, the nearest large city. Fishing effort in the region is becoming increasingly intense and yielding smaller catches, so YAPEKA is promoting alternatives, including cultivation of sea grass and sea cucumbers. Both products have a huge market throughout Asia. In May 2022, a sea cucumber nursery installation was completed in the village of Bulo and a

Nurseries can be seen as three rectangular structures under water in Bulo. © YAPEKA

cooperative was formed to facilitate buying and selling sea cucumbers. In exchange for this support, fishers are committing to more sustainable practices, particularly to avoid harming dugong (*Dugong dugon*) or degrading its habitat. YAPEKA is building on the proven concept that communities that both benefit from and control their natural resources will care for them. Thus, YAPEKA has facilitated the creation of various groups—fishers, people who manage the sea "gardens," and people who process the seagrass and sea cucumber products—that will act as resource stewards. By the close of the project in mid-2023, 60,000 hectares of marine Key Biodiversity Area are expected to be under improved management.

Student intern Gebby Tarimakase checks the growth of a new sea cucumber individual post cutting. © YAPEKA

June 2022

Community Management of Ramsar-Site Fisheries Improves Food Security

▶ Engaging communities in Cambodia's Stung Treng Ramsar Site in the management of fisheries vielded significant results through a CEPF-funded project led by Culture and Environment Preservation Association (CEPA). The project empowered local communities within Stung Treng Ramsar Site in Cambodia to manage fisheries resources sustainably by providing support to the management committees of 17 community fisheries (CFis). By the end of the project, 80% of the CFi committees were actively involved in management of fisheries resources, including patrolling and conducting joint campaigns with government staff. Also, two protection zones for broodstock (reproductively mature fish) were established, covering a combined area of 1,081 hectares. These were functioning well by the end of the project, with the number of cases of electrofishing and floating gillnets reducing by 95% and 100%, respectively, within



these zones during the closed fishing season, compared with the situation before the project.

Through these activities, the project delivered well-being benefits to participating communities, particularly in terms of increased food security. Fish catch monitoring data from a sample of households revealed that annual fish catch per household had increased to 566 kilograms by 2021, compared with 374 kilograms in 2019: an increase of 23% per year. According to a report from the Fisheries Administration Cantonment, more than 7,000 tons of broodfish were protected by the broodstock protection zones and allowed to migrate safely to their spawning grounds.

Patrolling broodstock zone, Stung Treng Ramsar Site, Cambodia.

© Mr. Chheang Piseth. Project Officer of CEPA





June 2022

Looking to the Future as Guinean Forests of West Africa Investment Wraps Up

➤ A Final Assessment and Long-Term Vision Workshop for the Guinean Forests of West Africa Biodiversity Hotspot took place in Accra, Ghana.

From 2016 to 2022, CEPF and regional implementation team BirdLife International disbursed US\$10.1 million through 79 grants to civil society organizations in the hotspot. The funding and associated technical support enabled the mainstreaming of nature conservation into 18 government policies and 21 business practices and supported 384 local communities to receive benefits such as improved food security, improved access to clean water, increased resilience to climate change and improved land tenure.

Fifty-three grantees attended the workshop, as well as donor representatives, journalists and CEPF and regional implementation team staff. The event was organized and facilitated by the Global Initiative for

Logo for Fauna & Flora International's "From Bee-burners to Beekeepers" awareness campaign in Príncipe.

Food Security and Ecosystem Preservation (GIFSEP) and the Tropical Biology Association (TBA). Grantees reflected on successful approaches, lessons learned, future donor engagement and priorities for the hotspot.

Collectively, CEPF grantees had many notable achievements in the hotspot, including:

- 57 local and Indigenous communities trained to advocate for land tenure and forestry reforms.
- 43 local land use plans developed and implemented.
- 25 participatory management plans developed and implemented for protected areas.
- 174 communities engaged in sustainable livelihood activities or benefit-sharing mechanisms.
- 13,998 people received structured training in topics such as project management, accounting, sustainable forest management, beekeeping and climate-smart agriculture.

Working with collected plants at the National Herbarium of São Tomé.
© Jardim Botânico da Universidade de Coimbra

June 2022

Using Existing Laws to Guide Infrastructure Projects in Central Asia

In the face of a boom in infrastructure projects in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan, CEPF grantee Zoï Environment Network strengthened the ability of civil society organizations to apply relevant existing laws and procedures to safeguard against environmental risks.

The project team facilitated networking among civil society groups to share knowledge and to better engage governments, lenders and private companies. More than 20 nongovernmental organizations and community/interest groups participated in training and capacity building. The effort directly informed and involved more than 200 representatives from businesses, nongovernmental and governmental organizations, and local communities. As a result, participants used mass media and social media to raise awareness in the three countries about safeguards for nature. Project activities in 2022 were aligned and integrated with the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development to leverage greater political and public visibility.



The types of infrastructure projects covered included road and pipeline construction, mining and extractive industries and tourism development, with the estimated value of the associated investments exceeding US\$200 million, affecting more than 100,000 hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas and eco-corridors.

Alai Valley, Kyrgysztan
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Read the project's impact report here.

The multifaceted project also included development of illustrated publications, infographics, and animations in local languages; field workshops and themed roundtables targeting specific geographic areas and economic sectors with gender-balanced participation; engagement of local women and youth in conservation and educational actions; and connecting with environmental safeguard teams of the development banks active in the region.

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APPROVED GRANTS

1 JULY 2021-30 JUNE 2022

Grants are reported on the basis of the effective date of the agreement.



Faro Island tree frog (Litoria lutea), Solomon Islands. © Douglas Pikacha

CARIBBEAN ISLANDS

Strategic Direction 1.

Improve the protection and management of 33 priority sites for long-term sustainability.

Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation

US\$388,484

Management Planning and Implementation in the Portland Bight Protected Area, Jamaica

Fundación José Delio Guzmán US\$209.892

Reducing Threats in Valle Nuevo National Park, Dominican Republic

Sociedad Ornitologica de la Hispaniola

US\$434.625

Threat Mitigation in Sierra de Bahoruco and Bahoruco Oriental Key Biodiversity Areas, Dominican Republic

Strategic Direction 4.

Improve the enabling conditions for biodiversity conservation in countries with priority sites.

Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC)

US\$500,000

Promoting Collaborative Social Accountability in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot

Strategic Direction 6.

Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of CEPF investment through a regional implementation team.

Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI)

US\$1,500,000

CEPF Regional Implementation Team for the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot



Adult female San Salvador Iguana (Cyclura rileyi), The Bahamas. © Jenny Daltry

EAST MELANESIAN



Strategic Direction 1.

Empower local communities to protect and manage globally significant biodiversity at priority Key Biodiversity Areas underserved by current conservation efforts

Santo Sunset Environment Network US\$12.000

Protecting Indigenous Forests from Emerging Logging Threats in the Santo Mountain Chain Key Biodiversity Area, Vanuatu

GUINEAN FORESTS OF WEST AFRICA



Strategic Direction 1.

Empower local communities to engage in sustainable management of 40 priority sites and consolidate ecological connectivity at the landscape scale.

Strategic Direction 4.

Support the protection of threatened species in the hotspot.

Instituto Claravis/IUCN SSC Center for Species Survival Brazil

US\$100,908

CFRRADO

An Integrative Approach for Advancing Conservation of Threatened Species of the Brazilian Cerrado

AJEMALEBU Self Help (AJESH) US\$25.000

Enforcing Community-Led Conservation Leadership Around Ebo Forest, Cameroon

Biakwan Light

US\$29,678

Restoring the Degraded Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary in Buanchor, Boki, Nigeria

Community Assistance In Development (COMAID)

US\$25.000

Enhancing Protection of Threatened Wildlife Species in Ebo Forest, Cameroon

Conservation des Espèces Marines (CEM)

US\$20.958

Creation of the Voluntary Nature Reserve Managed by the Local Communities of Grand-Bereby in Ivory Coast

Greening Economies, Environments and Lives in Fifteen States of West Africa-Sierra Leone (GREENLIFE Sierra Leone)

US\$24.996

Improve Livelihoods of Gola Rainforest Communities Using Apiculture, Sierra Leone

Hen Mpoano

US\$24.960

Implementing the Participatory Management Plan for Primate Conservation in Cape Three Points, Ghana

Muloma Women's Development Association

US\$24,775

Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods to Incentivize Conservation of Sierre Leone's Yawri Bay Key Biodiversity Area

Non-Governmental Organization Coalition for Environment (NGOCE)

US\$29,954

Community-Based Participatory Sustainable Forest Management Action in Nigeria

Resourcetrust Network (RTN)

US\$25.000

Income Initiatives for Smallholder Conservation Practices in Ghana

Skills and Agricultural Development Services (SADs)

US\$24.944

Sustainable Development of Non-Timber Forest Products in Wonegizi Proposed Protected Area, Liberia

Strategic Direction 4.

Build the capacity of local civil society organizations, including Indigenous People's, women's and youth groups, to conserve and manage globally important biodiversity.

Associação Programa Tatô

US\$24.898

Muala Kandja (Woman-Light): Promoting Women's Empowerment for the Conservation of the Environment on the Island of São Tomé, São Tomé and Príncipe

Biodiversité—Environnement et Développement Durable (BEDD)

US\$24.998

Women and Sustainable Biodiversity

Management in Tchabal Mbabo, Cameroon

Development Concern (DEVCON)

US\$24.728

Strengthening Communities' Indigenous Coalition for Effective Forest Governance, Nigeria

Développement Pour Tous

US\$24,822

Building the Capacity of Women Salt Producers in Dubreka, Guinea

Forêts de Développement Rural (FODER)

US\$24.998

Promote the Key Biodiversity Area Concept in Cameroon

Fundação Príncipe

US\$29.017

Changing Local Mindsets Through Women's Hands, São Tomé and Príncipe

Global Initiative For Food Security and Ecosystem Preservation (GIFSEP)

US\$50.000

Showcasing CEPF Investments: Project Assessment, Knowledge Sharing and Lessons from the GFWA

Global Initiative For Food Security and Ecosystem Preservation (GIFSEP) US\$50,000

Showcasing CEPF Investments: Strengthening Conservation Knowledge Among Journalists and Civil Society Organizations in the GFWA Hotspot



Obô giant land snail (*Archachatina bicarinata*), Sao Tomé. © Vasco Pissarra

Initiative de Base pour la Gestion des Ressources Naturelles (IBGRN)

US\$24.973

Supporting Organizations in Protecting Natural Resources of Mount Nimba, Guinea

Organization for Positive Sustainability Culture in Nigeria (OPSCN)

US\$36.300

Strengthening Women in Conservation in Akpabuyo Local Government Area, Nigeria

Réseau des Acteurs de la Sauvegarde des Tortues Marines en Afrique Centrale (RASTOMA)

US\$32.993

Structuring National and Regional Networks for the Conservation of Marine Turtles and Their Habitats in Atlantic Africa. Cameroon

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

US\$88.125

Building Networks for Key Biodiversity Area Monitoring and Protection in Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ghana and Nigeria

SOS-Forêts

US\$24.895

Strengthening Local Community Conservation Management of Azagny National Park in Ivory Coast

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INDO-BURMA



Strategic Direction 1.

Safeguard priority globally threatened species by mitigating major threats.



Local communities join the effort to bring buffalo wallows back to the ecosystems of the Northern Plains of Cambodia. © Filip Agoo & Everland

Asian Arks

US\$150.000

Conservation of Annamite Biodiversity through a Social Business Model in Lao PDR

Center for Nature Conservation and Development (CCD)

US\$40.000

Community-based Conservation of Northern White-cheeked Gibbon in Xuan Lien Nature Reserve. Vietnam

Center for People and Nature Reconciliation (PanNature)

US\$25.000

Community-based Actions to Conserve Two Globally Critically Endangered Fish Species in Vietnam

Community Wildlife Conservation (CWC)

US\$33.920

Community-based Conservation of Wild Water Buffalo in Uthai Thani and Kanchanaburi, Thailand

ComNet Mekong

US\$39.694

Community-based Conservation of Jullien's Golder Carp in the Mekong River, Thailand

Fauna & Flora International (FFI)

US\$239,803

Community-based Protected Area Management; Myanmar Primate Conservation, Phase II

FISHBIO

US\$40.000

Conservation Action, Threat Analysis and Participatory Research for Monkey-Eating Fish in Lao PDR

Fishing Cat Ecological Enterprise Co., Ltd.

US\$38.544

Integrated Conservation of Wetland Ecosystems in Cambodia

Indo-Myanmar Conservation

US\$200.060

Protecting Priority Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Populations in Vietnam

Saola Foundation

US\$236.999

Rediscovering Saola: State-of-the-Art Methods to Detect Endangered Annamite Species in Lao PDR

Seub Nakhasatien Foundation

US\$39.856

Participatory Surveys to Support Conservation of Somphong's Rasbora in Thailand

Checking a trap, Lower Mekong River, Cambodia. © Meth Monthary, FISHBIO

Shan Shui Conservation Center US\$99.981

Building Capacity and Networks for Myanmar Snub-nosed Monkey in China

Turtle Survival Alliance

US\$240.000

Back from the Brink: Recovering Two Critically Endangered Turtles in Myanmar

Viet Nature Conservation Centre

US\$40,000

In Search of Vietnam Pheasant in Ke Go Nature Reserve, Ha Tinh Province, Vietnam

Strategic Direction 2.

Develop innovative, locally led approaches to site-based conservation at 28 key biodiversity areas.

Beijing Normal University (BNU)

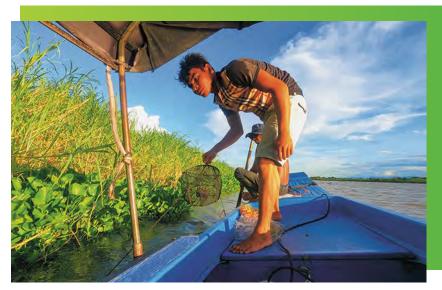
US\$46.167

Strengthening Cooperation to Reduce Illegal Wildlife Trade at the China-Laos Border

China Exploration & Research Society Limited (CERS)

US\$26,240

Changing Attitudes and Behaviors to Reduce Illegal Wildlife Trade Around Namha National Protected Area, Lao PDR



Institute of Biology, Chemistry and Environment, Vinh University

US\$39.975

Using Crime Script Analysis to Understand Wildlife Crime in Annamite Mountains, Vietnam

Rural Development Agency (RDA)

US\$40,000

Empowering Youth to Combat Illegal Wildlife Trade Around Hin Nam No National Park of Lao PDR

TRAFFIC International

US\$225.000

Reducing Wildlife Trafficking Across Logistics Supply Chains and Online Platforms, Vietnam and China

Zoological Society of London

US\$209,827

Strengthening Capacity and Collaboration for Combating Illegal Trade of Pangolin and Other Wildlife in Thailand

Strategic Direction 4.

Empower local communities to engage in conservation and management of priority key biodiversity areas.

China Wild Plant Conservation Association (CWPCA)

US\$40,000

Co-management to Conserve Endangered Magnolia Species in Malipo Key Biodiversity Area. China

Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden Corporation

US\$40.000

Co-management to Support Cao-vit Gibbon Conservation in Bangliang Key Biodiversity Area, China

People Resources and Conservation Foundation (PRCF)

US\$249,995

Strengthening Co-management in the François's Langur Conservation Landscape, Vietnam

Strategic Direction 6.

Demonstrate scalable approaches for integrating biodiversity and ecosystem services into development planning in the priority corridors.

Rising Phoenix Co. Ltd.

US\$62.903

Inundated Forest Conservation Through Wetland Restoration and Disease Reduction in Northeast Cambodia

Rising Phoenix Co. Ltd.

US\$90.231

Organic Livelihoods Conserving Cambodia's "Big Five"

Tropical Biology Association

US\$179,171

Strengthening Civil Society Capacity for Long-term Conservation Impact in Indo-Burma

MADAGASCAR AND THE INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS



Conservation International – Madagascar (CI)

US\$20,000

Update of the Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands Ecosystem Profile

Strategic Direction 1.

Empower local communities to protect and manage biodiversity in priority Key Biodiversity Areas.

Station d'Observation des Tortues et de leurs Milieux (SOPTOM)

US\$74.740

A Future for Radiated Tortoises Confiscated in Madagascar



Seychelles fruit bat (Pteropus seychellensis). © 0. Langrand

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Strategic Direction 2.

Enable civil society to mainstream biodiversity and conservation into political and economic decision-making.

Dahari

US\$119.988

Developing a Conservation Agreement Scheme to Restore Forests on Anjouan Island, Comoros

Strategic Direction 5.

Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of CEPF investment through a regional implementation team.

IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands Foundation

US\$2.299.826

Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands Hotspot Regional Implementation Team

MEDITERRANEAN BASIN

Strategic Direction 1.

Support civil society to engage stakeholders in demonstrating integrated approaches for the conservation of biodiversity in coastal areas.

Association de la Continuité des Générations

US\$117,687

Promoting Co-Management and Sustainable Traditional Fishing in Tunisia's Kneiss Islands

Strategic Direction 2.

Support the sustainable management of water catchments through integrated approaches for the conservation of threatened freshwater biodiversity.

Agency for Sustainable Development Altus Mostar (Altus)

US\$13.358

Enhancing Knowledge on Biodiversity of the Lower Catchments of Neretva River, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Association des Enseignants des Sciences de la Vie et de la Terre - Section Khémisset (AESVT)

US\$15.087

Build Knowledge on Rare and Threatened Species in the Bouregreg Watershed, Morocco

Groupe de Recherche pour la Protection des Oiseaux au Maroc (GREPOM)

US\$140,297

Building a Network of Freshwater Ecosystems Important for Biodiversity in Morocco

Hemaya Company for Environmental Consultancies and Services

US\$11.000

Biodiversity Survey and Assessment of Lake Burullus in the Nile Delta, Egypt

United Agro-Environmental Association Agri-En, Albania

US\$6.811

Bushtrica River: An Important Natural Ecosystem in the Shebenik-Jabllanica National Park, Albania

Strategic Direction 3.

Promote the maintenance of traditional land use practices necessary for the conservation of Mediterranean biodiversity in priority corridors of high cultural and biodiversity value.



ECOVOLIS US\$14.170

Conservation of Pastures Through the Support of Pastoralism and Sustainable Ecotourism in Lura Natural Park. Albania

GO2 (Organizatë për Planifikim të Qëndrueshëm Urban)

US\$24,500

Creating Traditional Alpine Water Ponds for the Benefit of Biodiversity and Livestock Breeders of Shkrel Locality in Malësi e Madhe Area in Albania

Strategic Direction 5.

Strengthen the regional conservation community through the sharing of best practices and knowledge among grantees across the region.

Association for Active Tourism Explorer 2018 Ohrid - Macedonia

US\$12,924

Friends of National Park Galicica, Albania

Cabinet Sami Ben Haj "Thétis-Conseil"

US\$16.322

Development of a Long-term Vision for Civil Society Organizations in Tunisia

Center for Environmental Research and Information (Eko-Svest)

US\$11.767

Citizen Science in Service to Biodiversity Protection, North Macedonia

Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania (CHEAM-MAICH)

US\$24,803

Facilitate Regional Networking and Develop the Technical Capacities of Civil Society Through the Third Mediterranean Plant Conservation Week

Red Cross of the Republic of North Macedonia—Local Branch Ohrid

US\$10.021

Developing Educational Resources for Cave and Bat Protection in the National Park Galichica, North Macedonia

Shoqata AlbNatyra

US\$11.049

Strengthening the Role of Local Community as an Important Stakeholder for Biodiversity Protection, Albania

Une Gruaja

US\$11,430

Crossing Borders for Environmental Protection of the Ohrid-Prespa Region, Albania

MOUNTAINS OF CENTRAL ASIA



Strategic Direction 1.

Address threats to priority species.

Earth Island Institute

US\$249,998

Endangered Raptor Conservation on the Indo-Palearctic Flyway of Kazakhstan

Ganji Tabiat

US\$19,999

Conservation of Threatened Wild Fruit Tree Species in South Tajikistan by Establishing Micro-Nurseries

Kukhoi Pomir

US\$19.588

Protect Wild Relict Endemic Pear Species in Taiikistan

Wildlife Without Borders

US\$20.000

Mountain Landscape Connectivity Measures to Support Snow Leopard Populations, Kazakhstan

Youth Group on Protection of Environment

US\$149.986

Protecting Tugay Forests and Threatened Species of Tajikistan's Kayrakum Wetlands

Strategic Direction 2.

Improve management of priority sites with and without official protection status.

Agzybir Hereket

US\$20.000

Creation of a Sustainable Hunting Farm "Kelif" in Turkmenistan

Biodiversity Conservation Fund of Kazakhstan

US\$100,000

Improving the Management of Protected Areas of the Western Tien Shan, Kazakhstan, Phase II

Bugu-Enye

US\$20.000

Bird and Raptor Conservation and Population Restoration in Kyrgyzstan

ECO Atameken

US\$19.924

Environmental Education in Kentau, Turkestan Province, Kazakhstan

Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan

Ile-Alatau State Reserve, Kazakhstan. © O. Langrand

US\$47.227

Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the Nuratau Ridge Mountain Ecosystem, Uzbekistan

Iktidor

US\$19.752

Endangered Darvaz Hawthorn and Bukhara Almond Conservation in the Republic of Tajikistan

Jonli tabiat

US\$49.717

Innovative Nature Management in the Gissar Nature Reserve Buffer Zone. Uzbekistan

Kyrgyz Association of Forest and Land Users

US\$150.550

Conservation of Wild Apricots and Almonds in the Isfayram-Shakhimardan Region of Kyrgyzstan

Lesik-Yug US\$19.943

Biodiversity Conservation and Restoration of Natural Ecosystems in the Kyzyl-Unkur Key Biodiversity Area, Kyrgyzstan

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Muztor

US\$19.859

Agricultural Practices Informed by Conservation Considerations in Sary-Chelek State Biosphere Reserve, Kyrgyzstan

Olima

US\$20.000

Lake Restoration in Tigrovaya Balka State Nature Reserve, Tajikistan

Obadeskahyzmat

US\$20.000

Preserving Biodiversity Through Conservation and Propogation of Pitstachio Orchards in the Koitendag State Nature Reserve, Turkmenistan

Rural Development Fund

US\$151.924

Improving the Management of the Chychkan Gorge of Kyrgyzstan

UGAM

US\$49.901

Community Engagement in the Preservation of Western Tien Shan Biodiversity, Kasakhstan

Youth Ecological Center

US\$19.918

Involving Communities in Reducing Pressures on Tajikistan's Khojamumin Key Biodiversity Area

Strategic Direction 3.

Support sustainable management and biodiversity conservation within priority corridors.

Aga Khan Agency for Habitat SA in the Republic of Tajikistan, Tajikistan

US\$150,000

Improved Management of the Corridor Connecting Zorkul Natural Reserve and Tajik National Park, Tajikistan

American University of Central Asia

US\$149.913

Improved Pasture Management in Chychkan, Toktogul and Suusamyr, Kyrgyzstan

Strategic Direction 4.

Engage communities of interest and economic sectors, including the private sector, in improved management of production landscapes (i.e., priority sites and corridors that are not formally protected).

Association of Nature Conservation Organizations of Tajikistan

US\$124.779

Supporting Private Sector and Community Conservation Co-Management in Baljuvan Key Biodiversity Area, Tajikistan, Phase II



Desert wheatear (Oenanthe deserti), Kazakhstan. © O. Langrand

Shk Khantagy

US\$19.992

Biodiversity Conservation within the Karatau Nature Reserve and Buffer Zone, Kazakhstan

Society of Soldiers-Internationalists and Invalids of Tyulkubas Region

US\$19.980

Pasture Restoration and Biodiversity Preservation in Kaiyrshakty, Kazakhstan

Tabigat Republican Association of Hunting Communities and Farms

US\$150.006

Sustainable Tourism in the Dzungaria Corridor of Kazakhstan

Union of Photoiournalists (Soyuz Fotozhurnalistov)

US\$133.803

Promotion of Ecotourism to Key Biodiversity Areas in Kyrgyzstan

Wildlife Conservation Society

US\$30,000

Private Sector and Community Conservation Co-Management in Baljuvan Key Biodiversity Area, Phase II, Tajikistan

Strategic Direction 5.

Enhance civil society capacity for effective conservation action.

Global Forest Coalition

US\$150.600

Strengthening Conservation of Key Biodiversity Areas in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan

TROPICAL ANDES



BirdLife International

US\$3,000

Validation and Database Management of Updated Key Biodiversity Areas in the Tropical Andes Hotspot

Strategic Direction 1.

Strengthen protection and management of 52 priority KBAs to foster participatory governance, green recovery from COVID-19, climate change resilience, species conservation. and financial sustainability.

Conseio Regional T'simane Mosetenes Pilon Lajas

US\$126.549

Implementing the Pilón Lajas Management and Indigenous Life Plan, Bolivia

Unidad Indígena del Pueblo Awá (UNIPA)

US\$119.716

Conserving the Territory of the Awa People, Colombia and Ecuador

Strategic Direction 3.

Safeguard priority globally threatened species.

Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Ecología (FUNDECO)

US\$51.127

Action Plan Preparation to Conserve Amphibian Trigger Species in Pilón Lajas Key Biodiversity Area, Bolivia

Strategic Direction 5.

Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of CEPF investment through a regional implementation team (RIT).

Profonance

US\$570.000

Regional Implementation Team in the Hotspot of the Tropical Andes for Bolivia, Colombia and Peru. Phase III

WALLACEA

Strategic Direction 1.

Address threats to high-priority species.

Coral Triangle Center Foundation

US\$131.981

Empowering Communities for Dugong Conservation in the Lease Islands, Indonesia

Yayasan Penyu Indonesia

US\$71.743

Reduce Trade of Turtle Shell Products in Central Sulawesi, Indonesia

Strategic Direction 2.

Improve management of sites (KBAs) with and without official

Sulawesi Community Foundation

US\$32,225

Diversification of Small-Scale Fishery Products in the Sabalana Islands of Indonesia

Yavasan Rekam Jeiak Alam Nusantara

US\$38.264

Improved Fisheries Management in the Pangkajane Islands of Indonesia

Yavasan Romang Celebes Indonesia

US\$18.615

Promoting Sustainable Sea Cucumber Harvest in the Pangkajane Islands, Indonesia

Strategic Direction 3.

Support sustainable natural resource management by communities in priority sites and corridors.

Karsa Institute

US\$32.491

Improved Demersal Fishery Management in Kabalutan, Togean Islands, Indonesia

Lembaga Maritim Nusantara

US\$36.317

Small-Scale Fishery and Reef Management in Banggai Laut, Indonesia

Perkumpulan Sanggar Seni Lokal dan Pengiat Media Rakvat

US\$17,913

Improved Mangrove Management in Peleng Banggai, Indonesia

Yayasan Kompas Peduli Hutan

US\$26.550

Improved Fishery Governance in the Banggai Islands of Indonesia

Yayasan Sauwa Sejahtera

US\$18.307

Indigenous Peoples Engagement in Coastal Resource Management in Negeri Waai, Indonesia

Strategic Direction 4.

Strengthen community-based action to protect marine species and sites.

Baileo

US\$49.975

Building on Traditional Knowledge for Improved Management of Small-Scale Fisheries in Maluku, Indonesia

KKT TOUNA

US\$12.857

Small-Scale Fisheries Management in Taupan Island, Indonesia

Lembaga Partisipasi Pembangunan Masyarakat

US\$69.999

Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries Management on Small Islands in West Seram, Indonesia, Phase II

Manengkel Solidaritas

US\$70.149

Improving Marine Protected Areas and Sustainable Fisheries Management in North Sulawesi, Indonesia, Phase II

Yayasan Ekonomi Keanekaragaman Havati Laut Indonesia

US\$11.466

Zero Bycatch Fishing Promotion and Improved Mangrove Management in the Sabalana Islands, Indonesia

Yavasan Konservasi Laut Indonesia

US\$63.102

Community-based Conservation Program for Octopus Fisheries in South Sulawesi, Indonesia, Phase II

Yavasan Pengembangan dan Pemberdayaan Masyarakat

US\$18.291

Fisheries Value Chain Enhancement on Haruku Island, Maluku, Indonesia

protection status.

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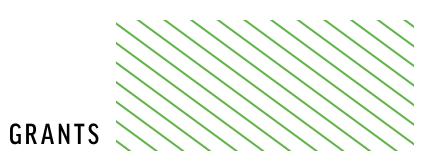
CEPF awarded US\$13.6 million in new grants during the 2022 fiscal year of 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022, bringing the amount it has invested in conserving critical ecosystems since 2000 to US\$282 million.

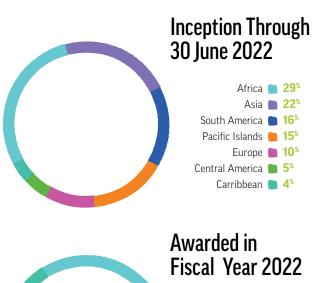
CEPF signed a new grant agreement for US\$13.9 million with the World Bank, using funds provided by the Government of Japan to support civil society organizations involved in the conservation of biodiversity in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot. The fund also received €7 million through a grant agreement with the German Government via KfW Development Bank to protect biodiversity in the Tropical Andes of Ecuador. The funds complement the ongoing US\$7.5 million investment in the Tropical Andes.

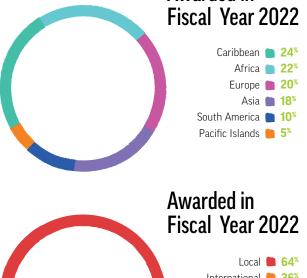
The fund also ramped up activity through its new investment in the Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot, as it began receiving funds from the US\$38 million agreement with l'Agence Française de Développement as the Accredited Entity of the Green Climate Fund for the project titled "Ecosystem-Based Adaptation in the Indian Ocean." Elsewhere, CEPF began a new investment in Wallacea, with the Nimick Forbesway Foundation signing a funding agreement for US\$200,000, and the Bloomberg Vibrant Oceans Initiative increasing its grant award from US\$700,000 to US\$800,000.

Grant-making also continued during the fiscal year in the Cerrado, Guinean Forests of West Africa, Indo-Burma, Mediterranean Basin and Mountains of Central Asia hotspots. The investment in the East Melanesian Islands Biodiversity Hotspot was completed during the fiscal year.

Butterfly, Bantimurung-Bulusaraung National Park, Sulawesi, Indonesia. © 0. Langrand









Rev	enue	FY22	22 Cumulative
	Grants and contributions	59,900,000	415,746,378
	Gain (loss) in foreign exchange	(503,006)	(2,358,959)
	Interest earned	7,689	3,451,154
	TOTAL REVENUE	59 404 682	416 838 572

	Interest earned	7,689	3,451,154
	TOTAL REVENUE	59,404,682	416,838,572
Ехр	enses and Grants Awarded		
	Grants by funding region*	FY21	Cumulative
	Atlantic Forest		10,010,403
	Cape Floristic Region		7,551,147
1	Caribbean Islands		6,873,205
	Caribbean Islands II	3,283,001	3,283,001
	Caucasus		9,288,219
	Cerrado	161,491	8,043,370
	East Melanesian Islands	88,714	8,701,319
	Eastern Afromontane		11,974,727
	Eastern Arc Mountains & Coastal Forests		8,789,550
	Eastern Himalayas		4,882,859
	Guinean Forests of West Africa		8,072,696
	Guinean Forests of West Africa II	554,213	10,196,572
	Indo-Burma		9,656,797
	Indo-Burma II	(2,426)	15,436,022
	Indo-Burma III	2,520,975	8,162,375
	Madagascar		5,555,602
	Madagascar & the Indian Ocean Islands	195,672	12,278,655
	Madagascar & the Indian Ocean Islands II	2,299,826	2,299,826
	Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany		6,646,749
	Mediterranean Basin		10,600,744
	Mediterranean Basin II	683,671	12,241,523
	Mountains of Central Asia	1,987,404	5,388,699
	Mountains of Southwest China		7,886,147
	Multiple Hotspots	(16,844)	482,720
	Northern Mesoamerica		7,079,430
	Philippines		6,970,399
	Polynesia-Micronesia		6,828,576
	Southern Mesoamerica		7,046,928
	Succulent Karoo		9,220,999
	Sundaland		9,901,465
	Tropical Andes		8,287,386
	Tropical Andes II	(218,200)	9,404,673
	Tropical Andes III	1,443,869	1,443,869
	Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena	., ,	6,797,978
	Wallacea		6,689,843
	Wallacea II	639,088	1,931,724
	Western Ghats & Sri Lanka	000,000	6,055,069
_	TOTAL GRANTS	13,620,454	281,961,266
	Ecosystem profile preparation	202,499	12,086,510
	Use of interest: External evaluations, audit and special projects	32,678	3,341,225
	Operations	3,503,861	57,538,131
_	TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	3,739,039	72,965,866
	TOTAL EXPENSES AND GRANTS AWARDED	17,359,493	354,927,133
	Revenue less expenses	42,045,190	61,911,440
			01,911,440
	Fund balance at beginning of period Fund balance at end of period	18,488,746 60,533,936	
Eus	nd Balance at End of Period Consisted of:	00,333,330	
rui			14.000 105
	Cash and interest accrued, net of amount due to/from CI		14,880,199
	Accounts receivable		64,033,273
	Grants payable		(18,379,535)
	Fund balance at end of period (fully earmarked for investments)		60,533,936
	rand balance at the or period (rany tarmarked for investments)		,,

^{*}Grant expenses include new grant awards in the current fiscal year. Negative amounts represent deobligations. Adjustment may be included in current fiscal year from prior-year cumulative.

87 AR 2001–2022 AR 2001-2022 **88** CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND www.cepf.net www.cepf.net CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND

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Indian Ocean

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dangered Wildlife Trust

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ducation for Nature-Vietnam

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ndskloof Community Association

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!Khwa Ttu "Gakhir" Charitable Organization 3S Rivers Protection Network

Rocha Ghana A. P. Leventis Ornithological Research Institute Aaranyak Acção para o Desenvolvimento Agropecuário e Protecção do Ambiente (ADAPPA) Acharya, Pushpa Raj ACT India Foundation Action Ceinture Verte pour

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Alicat Tours Alisei All Out Africa Allan, Tamry Alliance of Rural Communities Almeida, Afrânio Silva Al-Shouf Cedar Society AMAN Maluku Utara AMAN Sinjai Amani Nature Reserve

Amar Caparó Amauri Range Post Level FECOFUN Amazon Conservation Association Ambiental 44 Informação e Projetos em Biodiversidade Ltda American Bird Conservancy American College of Traditional

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Uso Sostenible v Ecoturismi

Asociación de Practicantes de

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Association des Footballeurs

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Raivu Monastery

Balang Institute Balkan Foundation for

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Sustainable Development

Barbary Macaque Conservation in the Rif Mountains

Barboza, Enoc dos Reis Baricho Youth Group Barkinkhney Boris Barkinkhoeva, Lousa

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Community Development Action nunity Development ource Association Community Economic Development Community Observer Association unity Organisation

Community Resource Improvement for Development
Community Wildlife Conservation (CWC)
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Iris haynei, Faqou'a-Jenin, Palestine. © Ahmed ALomary

CEPF'S MONITORING FRAMEWORK

CEPF measures results on three levels: project, hotspot portfolio and global.

On the project level, grantees report on project-specific targets and deliverables. Grantees provide periodic updates via progress reports, followed by a final report on overall project accomplishments at the end of the project. All grantee reports are reviewed thoroughly by CEPF and/or regional implementation team staff to ensure accurate and valid reporting of achievements. When feasible, grantees receive site visits during their projects.

The second level is the hotspot portfolio level. Each hotspot investment has a logframe and targets associated with the hotspot's specific investment strategy. At the end of their projects, grantees are requested to record their contributions to portfolio targets. Progress toward achievement of portfolio targets is assessed annually, with aggregated results reported on in an annual portfolio overview. Assessment workshops are held at the mid-term and final stages of each hotspot investment, and at these points a thorough review of progress in implementing the investment strategy is undertaken.

The third level at which CEPF measures results is the global level. Contributions to the global indicators are recorded by grantees in their final reports at the end of their project as well as by regional implementation teams who report on collective portfolio achievements that go beyond individual project accomplishments. Progress toward CEPF global indicators is assessed annually, with aggregated results reported on in the CEPF Impact/Annual Report.

Definitions for CEPF's 16 global indicators Number of hectares of protected areas created and/or expanded

To be counted, a new protected area must demonstrate formal legal declaration, and biodiversity conservation must be an official management goal. If a protected area is expanded due to CEPF grantee efforts, the area of expansion may be counted but must also demonstrate formal legal declaration. New protected areas include national or local parks and reserves, private protected areas, marine parks and reserves, community protected areas, such as fish conservation zones and lands protected under stewardship and community agreements. Areas that do not have an official formal declaration may be included insofar as their protected status is legally binding.

Number of hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas with improved management

To be counted, an area must be a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA), must benefit directly from CEPF funding, and there must be a substantive and meaningful positive change in the management/protection of the KBA. There must be a reasonable attribution between CEPF grantee action and the strengthening of management in the KBA. For an area to be considered as having "improved management," it can benefit from a wide range of actions. Examples include increased patrolling, reduced intensity of snaring, invasive species eradication, reduced incidence of fire, and introduction of sustainable agricultural/fisheries practices.

Number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity

A production landscape is defined as a site outside a protected area where commercial and/or community-based agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs.

- For an area to be considered as having "strengthened management of biodiversity," it can benefit from a wide range of interventions, such as best practices and guidelines implemented, incentive schemes introduced, sites/products certified, and sustainable harvesting regulations introduced.
- Areas that are protected are not included under this indicator because their hectares are counted elsewhere.
- A production landscape can include part or all of an unprotected KBA.

4 Number of protected areas with improved management

CEPF strives to track the improved management of protected areas that have received CEPF investment. The tool that CEPF uses to collect this information is the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT). The METT is a scorecard that provides an assessment of protected area management effectiveness. Changes in score are determined by comparing a baseline scorecard to a final scorecard completed at the end of the project. To be counted under this global indicator, a protected area must demonstrate an increase in score from baseline to final.

5 Number of globally threatened species benefiting from conservation action

To be counted, a species must benefit from an intervention that has direct conservation action. Examples include preparation or implementation of a conservation action plan; captive breeding programs; habitat protection; species monitoring; patrolling to halt wildlife trafficking; and removal of invasive species.

6 Number of CEPF grantees with improved organizational capacity

CEPF measures change in organizational capacity with a self-assessment tool, the Civil Society Tracking Tool (CSTT), that aims to monitor a civil society organization's capacity to effectively plan, implement and evaluate actions for biodiversity conservation. This is determined by five major factors: (i) its available human resources; (ii) its financial resources; (iii) its management systems, which ensure that available resources are translated into effective actions; (iv) its strategic planning, which ensures that these actions target conservation priorities; and (v) its delivery, which ensures that these actions effect change. The tool has a total possible score of 100. It should be completed twice: at the start and at the end of the project. Local and national grantees are required to complete the CSTT.

Number of CEPF grantees with improved understanding of and commitment to gender issues

CEPF measures change in understanding of and commitment to gender issues with the Gender Tracking Tool (GTT). It is a self-assessment tool that can be used by an organization to understand if and to what extent gender considerations have been integrated into its program and operations. It consists of seven questions for a total possible score of 20. The tool should be completed twice: at the start and at the end of the project. Local and national grantees are required to complete the GTT.

Number of networks and partnerships that have been created and/or strengthened

Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable even if they do not have a Memorandum of Understanding or other type of validation. Examples of networks/partnerships include an alliance of fisherfolk to promote sustainable fisheries practices; a network of environmental journalists; a partnership between one or more NGOs with one or more private sector partners to improve biodiversity management on private lands; and a working group focusing on reptile conservation.

9 Number of people receiving structured training

Structured training is defined as any organized or formal training opportunity, such as a workshop, classroom activity, university program, formal site visit or exchange program. Data are sex-disaggregated. This number is not to be combined with the indicator recording beneficiaries receiving non-cash benefits; this indicator is specific to training, a key element of CEPF's work.

10 Number of people receiving cash benefits

Cash benefits include those derived from employment and increased income due to livelihood programs. Project employees are excluded. Data are sex-disaggregated.

Number of people receiving non-cash benefits other than structured training

Non-cash benefits are increased access to clean water; increased food security; increased access to energy; increased access to public services; increased resilience to climate change; improved land tenure; improved recognition of traditional knowledge; improved decision-making and governance and improved access to ecosystem services. Data are sex-disaggregated.

12 Number of projects promoting nature-based solutions to combat climate change

Projects have been tagged with one or more of the following keywords: buffer zones, carbon offsets, climate adaptation, climate mitigation, community-based conservation, conservation planning, ecosystem resilience,

habitat conservation and management, land use planning, payment for ecosystem services, private reserves, protected areas, reforestation, restoration, soil conservation and water management.

Amount of CO2e sequestered in CEPF-supported natural habitats

The methodology for measuring this indicator is under development and as such no definition is yet available for it.

Number of laws, regulations and policies with conservation provisions that have been enacted or amended

"Laws and regulations" pertain to official rules or orders prescribed by authority. Any law, regulation, decree or order with conservation provisions that has been enacted or amended as a result of CEPF investment is eligible to be included. "Policies" that are adopted or pursued by a government—including a sector or faction of government—and provide for biodiversity conservation thanks to CEPF investment are eligible.

15 Number of sustainable financing mechanisms that are delivering funds for conservation

The purpose of this indicator is to track the number of functioning financing mechanisms created by or receiving support from CEPF and delivering funds for conservation. Sustainable financing mechanisms are secured to help ensure long-term financing for project or program conservation objectives beyond the project's or program's lifespan. They aim to generate sustaining financial resources over five or more years. Sustainable finance goes beyond traditional government or donor funding by introducing innovative market-based approaches, such as debt-for-nature swaps, environmental funds and payment for ecosystem services.

16 Number of companies that adopt biodiversity-friendly practices

A company is a legal entity made up of an association of people—be they natural, legal, or a mixture of both—for carrying on a commercial or industrial enterprise. Company members share a common purpose and unite in order to focus their various talents and organize their collectively available skills or resources to achieve specific, declared goals. While companies take various forms, for the purposes of CEPF, a company is defined as a for-profit business entity. For a company to be counted, it must have adopted biodiversity-friendly practices as a result of CEPF investment. A biodiversity-friendly practice is one that conserves or uses natural resources in a sustainable manner.

Data collection and reporting processes

Each of CEPF's grantees makes an important contribution to CEPF's global impact. CEPF's monitoring system has evolved from a simplistic effort focused on rudimentary data collection and an emphasis on stories to a complex framework applicable to grants of all sizes and scope,

Participants identify insects during Ebony Forest Ltd course on invertebrate surveys. © Adisha Sewdyal

capable of articulating global impact and contributions to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and CBD Aichi Biodiversity targets in quantitative and qualitative ways. CEPF's reporting system is fully electronic, allowing for aggregation of results and production of reports that can present portfolio and global results for all projects.

CEPF's monitoring framework allows for reporting on the fund's operational contribution as well as on impact. During the application process, prior to project approval, each grant is assigned to one of CEPF's four pillars (biodiversity, civil society, human well-being or enabling conditions); a project category (a subset of the pillar); a habitat; one or more taxa if relevant; and applicable keywords. These assignments allow the fund to ascertain the amount of funds spent in certain categories and for various themes and facilitate analysis of data by hotspot and region. The ability to quantify how much money has been spent on selected themes helps to frame results in terms of what CEPF grantees have been able to do with the funds that have been allocated.

Impact reporting is undertaken via comprehensive reporting tools and templates, available in multiple languages. Each grantee is responsible for completing selected monitoring tools, including regular programmatic progress reports and a final report, as well as tracking tools pertaining to gender, capacity and protected area management. Upon submission of monitoring reports and tracking tools, data are reviewed and validated by the respective regional implementation team and/or CEPF grant director responsible for that grant.

While CEPF has established procedures for data collection and compilation, it is not without its challenges. Below are some of the main issues encountered in preparing CEPF's impact numbers.

Interpretation

- Misunderstanding about what an indicator means: Despite translation of CEPF's reporting formats into multiple languages, cultural differences can lead to varying interpretations of the indictors.
- Different interpretations of what an indicator means, irrespective of language: Each indicator has a definition, but even so, people's understanding and experiences can lead to different interpretations.

Overreporting

Over-ambitious reporting: This can occur when a grantee may have only partially achieved a result but reports it as achieved. For example, a new protected area must be officially declared to be counted. A grantee may report that an area has been declared because official declaration is imminent. Back cover: Ricaniid planthopper (Ricania sp.), Masoala, Madagascar. © Ken Behrens

However, such an accomplishment should not be counted until it actually occurs.

Creative reporting

Grantees are proud of their accomplishments, as is CEPF. However, sometimes a grantee will alter or expand the results reported for a specific indicator such that it is not possible to aggregate the results with those from other projects.

Lack of focus on reporting during implementation

Although grantees receive training at the start of their project about reporting requirements and content, this focus can be sidelined in the enthusiasm to implement the project. If attention to monitoring is not a priority during the project, grantees may not be able to report accurately. For example, CEPF requires sex-disaggregated data for some indicators. If grantees do not record such data during the project, they may not be able to supply the required information in their final report.

Validation of grantee results

- All grantee reports are thoroughly reviewed by a CEPF grant director or the regional implementation team, or both when relevant. These efforts are supplemented by reviews of supporting documentation, correspondence with grantees, or site visits. If it is not possible to visit a grantee during or at the end of their project because some are in remote areas, other methods may be considered, including third party observation, photo/video evidence or frequent electronic contact during the project.
- CEPF's Monitoring, Evaluation and Outreach Unit (MEOU) also reviews grantee reports when compiling overall results, thereby providing an additional avenue of communication with the grantee to verify and clarify results, as well as to gather qualitative information to better present grantee results in CEPF's various communications products.

Post-project contact to ensure comprehensive reporting

CEPF's grants are often awarded for initiatives that may require a significant amount of time to see a result, such as creation of a protected area. A grant may come to an end before a result is achieved. In such instances, CEPF strives to maintain contact with grantees post-project so that when the result is achieved, it can be recorded as part of CEPF's impact. Grantees are usually so enthusiastic about a result eventually being achieved that they communicate with CEPF. However, they are under no obligation to do so, and therefore CEPF may be underreporting for some indicators.

These challenges are a constant focus for CEPF MEOU, and its staff are dedicated to addressing these so that reporting procedures are better understood and implemented, with the overall aim of ensuring that CEPF's results are as accurate and relevant as possible.

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