



2017 Annual Report



# **ABOUT CEPF**

Biodiversity—the rich array of life on Earth—is fundamental to human survival, but under tremendous and growing threat.

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) was founded in 2000 to take on this challenge by empowering civil society in developing countries and transitional economies to protect the world's biodiversity hotspots, which are some of Earth's most biologically rich yet threatened terrestrial ecosystems.

<b>92</b>	<b>2,215</b>	
countries and	GRANTEES	
territories impacted	SUPPORTED	
US\$217M	US\$371M	
grants	LEVERAGED BY	
committed	THOSE GRANTS	
<b>14.7M</b> HECTARES	<b>45.7M</b> HECTARES	
PROTECTED AREAS	KEY BIODIVERSITY AREAS WITH	
CREATED	IMPROVED MANAGEMENT	
<b>1,250</b>	cies <b>2,804</b>	
globally threatened spe	communities directly	
supported	benefited	

Figures for 2000 – June 30, 2017

# WHAT MAKES CEPF UNIQUE

CEPF supports the development of conservation strategies that are driven by local input, and provides grants to civil society—nongovernmental organizations, communities, indigenous groups, the private sector and academic institutions—to implement those strategies. By these means, CEPF seeks to protect biodiversity, build long-term local conservation leadership and nurture sustainable development.

The conservation strategies also are designed to be valuable to other entities working to conserve the biodiversity hotspots, and often lead to collaboration and coordination with other organizations and governments.

CEPF's investments are especially important because the biodiversity hotspots are home to more than 1 billion people, millions of whom are impoverished and highly dependent on nature for survival.



### **OUR GRANTS**

- Are guided by ecosystem profiles—analyses of the biodiversity and socio-economic conditions in biodiversity hotspots—that are produced by, and in consultation with, local stakeholders and serve as regional conservation strategies.
- Go directly to civil society groups in the biodiversity hotspots to build this vital constituency for conservation alongside governmental partners.
- Are awarded on a competitive basis.
- Complement governments' efforts to meet targets related to the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity (the Aichi Targets), the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Create working alliances among diverse groups, combining unique capacities and eliminating duplication of efforts.
- Achieve long-term results through an ever-expanding network of partners working together toward shared goals and enduring conservation leadership.

### **OUR DONOR PARTNERS**

CEPF is a joint program of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan, the MacArthur Foundation and the World Bank.

For more information, please visit www.cepf.net.

Cover photo: A man navigates the Irrawaddy River, Myanmar. © Olivier Langrand Young woman with baby in Nzérékoré, Guinea. © Olivier Langrand



## **HOW CEPF WORKS**







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# CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM

# **CEPF YEAR IN REVIEW**

### **AUGUST 2016**

**Grantees share lessons in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands** Civil society organizations came together in Port Vila, Vanuatu, and Honiara, Solomon Islands, to discuss progress made by CEPF-funded projects in each country through CEPF's investment in the East Melanesian Islands Biodiversity Hotspot. Recipients of CEPF grants shared experiences, achievements and lessons learned since the investment began in 2013. Networking and partnership building were an important part of the meetings, as well as national priorities for biodiversity conservation.

Cerrado and Guinean Forests grant making moves ahead

new RITs also issued the first calls for proposals for each hotspot.



© IUCN Oceania

© Jaime Rojo



© Michael Becker

### **SEPTEMBER 2016**

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2016

#### Partnership for Key Biodiversity Areas launched

Twelve international conservation organizations, including CEPF, launched the KBA Partnership during the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Honolulu, Hawaii. The partnership was established to enhance global conservation efforts by systematically mapping globally important sites and ensuring that financial resources are directed to these most important areas for biodiversity.





© Olivier Langrand

### **OCTOBER 2016**

#### Western Ghats final assessment report published

Following seven years of grant-making in the Western Ghats of India, part of the Western Ghats and Sri Lanka Biodiversity Hotspot, CEPF and its regional implementation team, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment (ATREE), published the final assessment report for the investment. The report provides an overview of the US\$6.1 million investment, distributed via more than 100 grants to civil society groups in the hotspot. Results include:

CEPF staff traveled to Brasilia, Brazil, and to Accra, Ghana, to train two new regional implementation teams (RITs): Institute for Education in Brazil (*Instituto Internacional de Educação do Brasil* – IEB) for the Cerrado Biodiversity Hotspot, and BirdLife International for the Guinean Forests of West Africa Biodiversity Hotspot. The RITs work on the ground directly with CEPF's grantees, helping to build local capacity and implement CEPF's strategy in the biodiversity hotspot. CEPF and the

- Global threat assessments completed for 1,394 species, and management plans implemented for 14 priority species.
- Biodiversity conservation strengthened for more than 220,000 hectares within protected areas and more than 110,000 hectares in production landscapes.
- Sustainable agricultural practices adopted by 34 tea and coffee estates, covering more than 19,000 hectares.
- Community Forests Rights of tribal communities officially recognized across a cumulative area of 80,700 hectares.
- Four new conservation reserves created, covering more than 41,000 hectares and piloting a model that acknowledges the inextricable link between conservation and human well-being.



© Olivier Langrand

### NOVEMBER 2016

#### Caribbean Islands ecosystem profile update launched

Following an initial five-year investment in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot that was completed in late 2015, CEPF contracted a team to lead the updating of the hotspot's ecosystem profile—the stakeholder-driven assessment that guides CEPF grant making. Led by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), planning for the update began in November 2016. By the end of the fiscal year, the profiling team had engaged more than 125 people as participants in national consultations in the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica. Participants represented a broad cross section of the conservation community. Building resilience to climate change received considerable attention in the national consultations and will be reflected in the CEPF investment strategy.

#### **FEBRUARY 2017**

#### Indo-Burma team organizes coordination among regional donors, grantees

CEPF collaborated with other funders active in the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot to support a regional meeting of civil society groups and their donors aimed at a new approach to coordination at the regional scale. CEPF's regional implementation team for the hotspot organized the meeting, which was held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Participants discussed the development of a networked model linking implementers, intermediaries and funders working on ecosystem conservation in the Lower Mekong Region. A vision statement for the network was developed and a range of collaborative projects identified.



© Cl/photo by David Emmett



### **APRIL 2017**

#### Mountains of Central Asia Ecosystem Profile draft completed

In April, the team developing the ecosystem profile for the Mountains of Central Asia Biodiversity Hotspot—led by Zoï Environment Network, a Switzerland-based NGO with extensive experience in Central Asia—completed a draft of the profile, which was then reviewed by the CEPF Donor Working Group and subsequently approved in August 2017 by the CEPF Donor Council.

© Olivier Langrand

#### MAY 2017

#### Regional implementation teams exchange ideas and experiences

CEPF held a Regional Implementation Team Exchange in Athens, Greece. Twenty-eight members of CEPF's regional implementation teams (RIT) from the nine biodiversity hotspots where CEPF currently is making grants came together for three days to share ideas, challenges and solutions. Three former RIT leaders from previous investments also attended to provide insight and perspective. Sessions included building grantee capacity, incorporating gender into CEPF's work and finding ways to engage with the private sector.



© Thomais Vlachogianni

#### **JUNE 2017**

#### Newly discovered frog species named after CEPF

Five years of extensive field studies in the Western Ghats and Sri Lanka Biodiversity Hotspot by Sonali Garg, a Ph.D. student of former CEPF grantee and University of Delhi professor S.D. Biju, led to the discovery of four new species of burrowing frogs in the Western Ghats Region of India. In recognition of CEPF's investment in the hotspot from 2008 through 2015, one of the species was named in the honor of CEPF. The world of biodiversity is welcoming the CEPF burrowing frog (*Fejervarya cepfi*).

#### Mediterranean Basin Hotspot ecosystem profile finalized

As CEPF's first five-year, US\$11 million investment in the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot approached completion, CEPF finalized an update of the ecosystem profile for the hotspot in June, laying the groundwork for a second investment. Produced by a consortium of organizations led by BirdLife International and IUCN, the updated profile represents the input from consultations with more than 500 people representing local governments, communities, businesses and civil society organizations in the hotspot. The resulting analysis of the hotspot and its biodiversity sets out a conservation strategy that will guide CEPF's planned investment of an additional US\$10 million over the next five years.



© SD Biju

# CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM

# **CEPF AND THE BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS**

CEPF supports civil society-led conservation projects in developing and transitional countries and territories within Earth's 36 biodiversity hotspots.

These hotspots hold especially high numbers of unique species and provide services that are vital to human well-being, such as clean air and water; flood and climate control; soil regeneration; and food, medicines and raw materials.

The biodiversity hotspots face extreme threats. Each hotspot has lost at least 70 percent of its original natural vegetation, and the remaining areas of natural habitat within the biodiversity hotspots cover only 2.3 percent of the planet's land surface. But this relatively small area harbors 77 percent of the planet's terrestrial vertebrate species, many of which can only be found in the biodiversity hotspots.

From its inception in 2000 through fiscal year 2017, CEPF has awarded grants to civil society partners in 24 biodiversity hotspots to implement its stakeholder-driven strategies—known as ecosystem profiles—for protecting the most critical ecosystems in the biodiversity hotspots.

During the 2017 fiscal year, CEPF was active in grant making in nine biodiversity hotspots: Cerrado, East Melanesian Islands, Eastern Afromontane, Guinean Forests of West Africa, Indo-Burma, Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands, Mediterranean Basin, Tropical Andes, and Wallacea. CEPF launched development of a new ecosystem profile for the Caribbean Islands, following completion of five years of grant making in the hotspot in late 2015. Once completed, the new profile will provide the framework for future biodiversity conservation funding in the Caribbean Islands. Also, during fiscal year 2017, CEPF completed ecosystem profiles for a planned first-time investment in the Mountains of Central Asia Hotspot and a reinvestment in the Mediterranean Basin Hotspot.

Note: The Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests of Tanzania and Kenya Hotspot was divided in 2005; a portion of it is now part of the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot, and the remainder is part of the Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa Hotspot. Before the separation, CEPF had initiated an investment in the original Eastern Arc Hotspot and, through that investment, awarded grants in portions of the hotspots that are now known as the Eastern Afromontane and the Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa.





Other Hotspots

Inception through fiscal year 2017



# **BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS WHERE CEPF HAS INVESTED**

- 1. Atlantic Forest
- 2. Cape Floristic Region
- 3. Caribbean Islands
- 4. Caucasus
- 5. Cerrado
- 6. Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa
- 7. East Melanesian Islands
- 8. Eastern Afromontane
- 9. Guinean Forests of West Africa
- 10. Himalaya
- 11. Indo-Burma
- 12. Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands

- 13. Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany
- 14. Mediterranean Basin
- 15. Mesoamerica
- 16. Mountains of Southwest China
- 17. Philippines
- 18. Polynesia-Micronesia
- 19. Succulent Karoo
- 20. Sundaland
- 21. Tropical Andes
- 22. Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena
- 23. Western Ghats and Sri Lanka
- 24. Wallacea

## ELIGIBLE FOR CEPF INVESTMENT

- 25. Irano-Anatolian
- 26. Chilean Winter Rainfall–Valdivian Forests
- 27. Horn of Africa
- 28. Madrean Pine-Oak Woodlands
- 29. Mountains of Central Asia





## **MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

# CEPF GRANTEES BUILD LOCAL CAPACITY, COLLABORATION AND A FUTURE FOR THE GREAT GREEN MACAW

Even people who do not have the faintest interest in birds are likely to be impressed by the great green macaw (*Ara ambiguus*)—its 85-90 cm green-and-blue body is highlighted by bright red patches on the forehead and tail. Its beauty has contributed to the macaw's unfortunate popularity in the illegal pet trade. But a bigger problem for the species, which is categorized as Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Endangered Species, has been the loss of its natural habitat.

This spectacular bird species is part of the vibrant ecosystems of lowland tropical rainforests in Central and South America. But logging and clearance for agriculture and ranching has reduced the macaw's distribution range. The great green macaw particularly relies on mountain almond trees (*Dipteryx panamensis*) for nesting and food, but these unique trees are disappearing due to their high value as commercial hardwood.

### **TAKING ACTION**

In Costa Rica, the organization Tropical Science Center (TSC) was launched in 1994 to study the conservation biology of the great green macaw. Preliminary results provided evidence that the nesting range of this species in Costa Rica had been reduced by 90 percent since the early 20th century. TSC studied the macaw and its habitat, about which little was known, and used radio-telemetry to compile basic data on its territory requirements.

In 1998, after receiving a request from the Ministry of Environment and working with local and national stakeholders, TSC proposed a plan to protect enough habitat to maintain a viable breeding population in Costa Rica. The plan included the creation of the Maquenque National Wildlife Refuge, 54,000 hectares of natural ecosystems that provide an ad hoc breeding habitat for the great green macaw.

This is where CEPF stepped in. Through CEPF's investment in the Mesoamerica Biodiversity Hotspot, which began in 2002, it sought to protect Maquenque as part of the conservation strategy CEPF developed with local stakeholders and with the support of the Costa Rican government. CEPF provided funds to TSC and the San Juan-La Selva Council, a consortium of organizations including TSC, to take the necessary steps toward establishing the reserve. Those steps included a land tenure study, development of a management plan and an education campaign. In doing this, not only were local organizations able to collaborate with government officials to eventually reach their goal of formal protection for this area in 2005, but they also strengthened their own organizations and partnerships.

### LASTING BENEFITS FOR PEOPLE AND NATURE

Today, the legacy of these achievements is evident. Maquenque National Wildlife Refuge is the core of the San Juan-La Selva Biological Corridor and conserves biologically diverse forest and wetland ecosystems that host more than 6,000 species of vascular plants, as well as 139 mammal, 515 bird, 135 reptile and 80 amphibian species. Among the residents of the area is a growing population of great green macaws. Recent studies by TSC show that the population has increased from 210 in 1994 to more than 350 individuals, including 50 breeding pairs—a number that it is steadily climbing.

"This is one of the most successful wildlife conservation efforts ever done in Costa Rica," said Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, Minister of Environment of Costa Rica. "We feel proud in bringing from the brink of extinction this beautiful species."

"Thanks in great part to the support of CEPF, Costa Rica has succeeded in restricting timber activities in the critical nesting area of the great green macaw as well as halting the unsustainable harvest of the mountain almond tree on which this species heavily depends," said Olivier Chassot, former executive director of TSC, who is now executive director and CEO of the organization MigraMar.

Communities are also benefiting from these conservation efforts. To promote sustainable development and conservation in the northern part of Costa Rica, the Costa Rican government provided incentives to local farmers and communities to encourage their support for reforestation with native tree species that are both commercially important and of benefit to the great green macaw. Consequently, a high percentage of Maquenque and of the biological corridor is conserved through environmental service payments to private landowners.

The San Juan-La Selva Council also has worked to generate employment opportunities in the area, which was previously economically depressed. A shift from limited forestry and agricultural activities to a more integrative socio-economic vision based on small-scale, nature-based tourism has fostered more long-term and sustainable employment.

Years of environmental education, capacity-building, information campaigns and cultural events have led communities to an empathy for the plight of the great green macaw, according to Chassot. Additionally, the direct and active participation of the communities

in research and conservation has further encouraged residents to get their voices heard on matters affecting their environment.

"This is one of the most successful wildlife conservation efforts ever done in Costa Rica," said Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, Minister of Environment of Costa Rica. "We feel proud in bringing from the brink of extinction this beautiful species."

The amount of money CEPF provided for projects related to Maquenque was modest—US\$217,000 in total. But what CEPF grantees have been able to achieve with that support is testimony to the power that lies in a strong local civil society. CEPF's funding served as a catalytic contribution to the efforts of local conservation leaders, who have successfully demonstrated that nature in all its magnificent diversity can thrive while supporting communities.

- Olivier Langrand, CEPF executive director



Olivier Langrand. © Nicholas Karlin

A great green macaw takes flight in Costa Rica. © Ralph Earlandson/Flickr Creative Commons





## **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON**

# RESULTS SHOW IMPORTANCE OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

CEPF began making grants to civil society organizations to conserve biodiversity in 2001, as species and the ecosystems that support them were under tremendous strain. Since then the world has changed a lot in a relatively short time—consider the rise of social media, proliferation of smart phones, adoption of the euro, the "War on Terror," and the Arab Spring, for a few examples.

And threats to biodiversity and natural ecosystems have continued to grow. The rising human population and its accompanying needs; ever-evolving organized crime and terrorism and their links to poaching; the steady acceleration of climate change: These challenges and more have made the diversity of life on Earth increasingly precarious.

Nonetheless, with optimism and determination, the more than 2,200 CEPF grantees have chipped away at the biodiversity crisis as part of networks of local conservation projects in the world's biodiversity hotspots, each project contributing to the implementation of larger hotspot strategies that in turn advance global conservation and sustainable development goals. These efforts have been designed to complement the environmental and sustainable development activities of governments and the private sector.

CEPF demonstrates the vital role of civil society, giving individuals, indigenous peoples, communities, nongovernmental organizations and even small business operators the means to conserve biodiversity and promote sustainable development through projects that augment the efforts of other sectors.

### **CEPF GRANTEES ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

CEPF's approach to measuring the impact of its grantees has also evolved over time. To date, here's some of what we know:

- CEPF-funded projects have benefited more than **1,250 species on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species**.
- Projects receiving CEPF support have contributed to the **creation or expansion of 14.7 million hectares of protected areas**, roughly the size of Nepal, and **have strengthened the management of 45.7 million hectares** of Key Biodiversity Areas, an area larger than Sweden.
- Of the grant funds CEPF has awarded since 2007, **67 percent have gone to local or national organizations** working in developing and transitional countries of the biodiversity hotspots. And funding to international organizations is often designed to allow such organizations to mentor and strengthen smaller local and national groups, or to respond to an urgent conservation need that cannot yet be addressed by a local organization.
- Reflecting CEPF's mission to strengthen civil society in the biodiversity hotspots, tools that track organizational capacity of CEPF grantees show that in the eight hotspots where a significant number of the tool scorecards have been completed, **grantees report an average increase of 13 percent in capacity** during their CEPF-funded projects.

What CEPF and its grantees have accomplished is the provision of ample evidence that strategic, locally-driven conservation and sustainable development are effective not only in implementing immediate conservation action, but also in building a thriving local civil society equipped to take conservation into the future.

- CEPF supported the establishment of **161 networks or partnerships** designed to strengthen civil society organizations around the globe.
- Recognizing the importance of helping communities sustainably benefit from their natural ecosystems, CEPF-funded projects have resulted in cash benefits to 42,992 people, and 56,265 people have received non-cash benefits, for example, increased access to ecosystem services (such as fresh water) and improved land tenure.
- More than **100,000 people have received training through CEPF-funded projects**. Training topics have included ecology, plant collection, resource management, GPS, ranger training and financial management.



Biodiversity loss is an enormous issue that must be met with a range of tactics and higher levels of funding. The CEPF model anticipates this, delivering conservation strategies that engage governments and many partner organizations that are also confronting the challenge via their own unique approaches and resources, allowing CEPF's grantees to complement and coordinate with the work of governments and the private sector.

What CEPF and its grantees have accomplished is the provision of ample evidence that strategic, locally-driven conservation and sustainable development are effective not only in implementing immediate conservation action, but also in building a thriving local civil society equipped to take conservation into the future.

Scaling up this model is an essential and cost-effective element of a successful global effort to save our biodiversity and critical ecosystems. CEPF's grantees have shown themselves to be up to the challenge, and we are proud to support them.

– Julia Marton-Lefèvre, CEPF Donor Council Chairperson, executive fellow, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University, and former director of IUCN

Learn more by reading CEPF's Impact Report, cepf.net/impact/2017-impact-report, or the Impact Report Highlights, cepf.net/impact/2017-impact-report-highlights.

Julia Marton-Lefèvre © Julia Marton-Lefèvre | People of Talae Village, Cambodia, participate in land use planning.

© Non Timber Forests Products (NTFP) Organization

### 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 more than 74 countries. www.afd.fr

### **CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL**

Through cutting-edge science, innovative policy and global reach, Conservation International empowers people to protect the nature that we rely on for food, fresh water and livelihoods. With offices in more than 30 countries around the world, the organization works directly with the people who live closest to the forests, oceans and grasslands that benefit us all.

www.conservation.org

### THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU)

Comprising 28 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 maintenance of land fertility. Through EuropeAid, the EU invests in biodiversity and development projects in more than 100 countries.

www.europa.eu

#### 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 JOHN D. AND CATHERINE T. MACARTHUR FOUNDATION

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation supports creative people, effective institutions, and influential networks building a more just, verdant, and peaceful world. MacArthur is placing a few big bets that truly significant progress is possible on some of the world's most pressing social challenges, including over-incarceration, global climate change, nuclear risk, and significantly increasing financial capital for the social sector. www.macfound.org

#### THE WORLD BANK

The World Bank is the world's largest source of development assistance. It works in more than 100 developing economies to fight poverty and to help people help themselves and their environment.

www.worldbank.org

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# Message from AFD coming for this page.

Bossou, Guinea, at the foothills of Mount Nimba. © Olivier Langrand



# **2017 PROGRESS REPORT**

Since its inception in 2000, CEPF has strived to safeguard some of the world's most biologically rich ecosystems by supporting civil society in implementing stakeholder-informed conservation strategies in biodiversity hotspots. The following data demonstrate the impact CEPF has had on a global scale through the projects implemented by its grantees within four impact categories: **biodiversity, civil society, human well-being and enabling conditions**.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS BY PILLAR**

# **TOTAL: US\$217 MILLION**

<b>47</b> %	BIODIVERSITY
11%	CIVIL SOCIETY
17%	ENABLING CONDITIONS Regional implementation team
<b>17</b> %	ENABLING CONDITIONS OTHER
8%	HUMAN WELL-BEING

Insect found along the Nu River, China. © Li Xiaolong



### **BIODIVERSITY**

Biodiversity, the amazing variety of life on the planet, is fundamental to thriving ecosystems and communities. Plants, animals, fungi and even micro-organisms have important roles to play in maintaining a planet that supports 7.6 billion people. CEPF's primary focus is on conserving biodiversity.

**CEPF's goal:** Improve the status of globally endangered species and the critical ecosystems that support those species.

**1,250** Globally Threatened Species Benefiting from CEPF-Funded Projects



### PROTECTED AREAS

### **KEY BIODIVERSITY AREAS WITH STRENGTHENED MANAGEMENT**



### PRODUCTION LANDSCAPES WITH STRENGTHENED BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT





### **CIVIL SOCIETY**

CEPF was established to conserve biodiversity by delivering financial resources and technical assistance to civil society—nongovernmental organizations, communities, indigenous peoples organizations, academic institutions and private companies—to empower local people to take the lead.

**CEPF's goal:** Strengthen the capacity of civil society to be effective as environmental stewards and leaders in the long-term conservation of biodiversity.

### PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN CIVIL SOCIETY CAPACITY OF CEPF-SUPPORTED ORGANIZATIONS

Overall average increase: 13 percent 2010–2017



\* Note: CEPF gathers this data via the Civil Society Tracking Tool, which CEPF began using in 2010. The chart includes data for the 198 grantees who had completed assessments by the end of fiscal year 2017.

### NUMBER OF PARTNERSHIPS CEPF HAS HELPED CREATE Total: 161

2001-2017



Note: CEPF defines "networks/partnerships" as a connection (alliance, network, partnership) among civil society groups and possibly other sectors. The relationship can be either formal or informal, but it must have a lasting benefit beyond the immediate project. Examples include an alliance of fishermen to promote sustainable fisheries practices; a network of environmental journalists; a partnership between an NGO and a private sector partner to improve biodiversity management on private lands; and a working group focusing on reptile conservation.

### HUMAN WELL-BEING

Through its support to organizations and communities in developing and transitional countries in the biodiversity hotspots, CEPF seeks to help the people of the biodiversity hotspots find ways to support themselves now and in the future by conserving the biodiversity and ecosystems they rely on for food, water, soil fertility, medicines, commercial products and cultural integrity.

**CEPF's goal:** Improve the well-being of people living in and dependent on critical ecosystems within the world's biodiversity hotspots.

### **COMMUNITIES DIRECTLY BENEFITING**



Communities have received non-cash livelihood benefits such as improved access to clean water, strengthened land tenure and increased representation in decision-making processes. Since data collection commenced in 2017 to calculate the number people in these communities, **56,265 people have been recorded as receiving non-cash benefits, 27,745 of whom are women and girls.** 

Additionally, since CEPF began grant making in 2001, **more than 100,000 people have received training** in natural resource management, alternative livelihoods such as beekeeping, financial management, community leadership and a range of other topics. Where the sex of the trainee was reported, 41.9 percent were women.

In 2017, CEPF started to record the number of individuals receiving cash benefits, such as increased income or employment. Within this short period of time, **42,992 people were recorded as receiving cash benefits**, and where the sex of the beneficiary was reported, 33.2 percent were women.

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## **ENABLING CONDITIONS**

Certain conditions are necessary for establishing and maintaining biodiversity conservation. Among the most important are policies that promote conservation action; availability of financial resources and the development of biodiversity-friendly practices in the private sector.

CEPF's goal: Establish the conditions needed for the conservation of biodiversity.

#### NUMBER OF LAWS, POLICIES AND REGULATIONS ENACTED OR AMENDED, BY THEME AND REGION





### NUMBER OF SUSTAINABLE FINANCE MECHANISMS SUPPORTED BY CEPF. BY REGION Total: 25

2001-2017



### **REGIONAL RESULTS**

Through its support to organizations and communities in developing and transitional countries, CEPF and its grantees engaged in implementing conservation strategies in nine biodiversity hotspots during fiscal year 2017. The following charts show the approximate progress made in each hotspot in terms of grant making and conservation targets.

#### MEDITERRANEAN BASIN US\$11.2 million 2012–2017



#### EASTERN AFROMONTANE US\$9.8 million 2012–2019









**INDO-BURMA** 



EAST MELANESIAN ISLANDS

US\$9 million 2013-2021



### MADAGASCAR AND THE INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS

US\$7.5 million 2015-2020



### **TROPICAL ANDES**

US\$10 million 2015-2020

70% 60% 50% 40% Percent of Allocation Granted
Progress Toward Target 30% 20% 10% 0% Strategic Direction 4 Fostering private sector approaches for biodiversity conservation Strategic Direction 2 Mainstreaming Strategic Direction 5 Safeguarding globally threatened species Strategic Direction 1 Improving protection Strategic Direction 3 Promoting stakeholder Strategic Direction 6 Strengthening civil and management of biodiversity into engagement in society capacity and priority Key Biodiversity Areas infrastructure, mining and agriculture policies and alliances development projects

WALLACEA

US\$6 million 2014-2019





### **CERRADO**

US\$8 million 2016-2021



### **GUINEAN FORESTS OF WEST AFRICA**

US\$9 million 2016-2021



The Morača River, Montenegro, © CZIP

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# HIGHLIGHTS

Matasha, a Maasai guide who works with the Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust, in the cloud forest of Chyulu Hills, Kenya. © Charlie Shoemaker





### UN Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Targets



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.

### UN Sustainable Development Goals



#### Goal 15

Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems; sustainably manage forests; combat desertification; halt and reverse land degradation; and halt biodiversity loss.

### **CONSERVING SPECIES**

Biodiversity conservation is the core of CEPF's work. The amazing array of species in the world's biodiversity hotspots is critical to maintaining healthy ecosystems that people rely on for food, fresh water, fuel, medicines, climate change mitigation and more. Biodiversity also is important to communities for its spiritual, aesthetic and recreational values. The efforts of CEPF grantees to protect and learn more about species benefit us all.



#### **MEDITERRANEAN BASIN BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT**

The Dalmatian pelican (*Pelecanus crispus*), one of the largest living bird species at 160 to 183 cm in length with a wingspan of almost 3 meters, has faced a number of challenges. Populations in Central and East Asia as well as Southeast Europe have been hard hit by threats such as wetland alteration and destruction, hunting and disturbance by fishers and tourists.

But the pelican's fortunes have taken a substantial turn for the better, a change that CEPF grantees have contributed to. The species' Red List status was recently "downlisted" from "Vulnerable" to "Near Threatened," meaning that its conservation status is improving globally—an all too rare, and much welcomed, occurrence.

This change in status is due to a four-fold increase in southeast Europe's Dalmatian pelican population since the 1990s. The increase can be attributed to implementation of a Species Action Plan, and the protection provided by the European Union's Birds and Habitats Directives, which helped conserve key breeding sites in Greece, Romania and Bulgaria. Actions taken by CEPF grantees at an important breeding site, Skadar Lake on the Montenegro and Albania border, are also part of the equation.

**Noé**, a France-based conservation organization, is working with partner organizations in the area of Skadar Lake to construct and maintain nesting rafts that help the pelicans stay on top of changing water levels, said Bjanka Prakljačić, project coordinator for Noé. They also have installed video surveillance to monitor the lake's colony.

"This program has dramatically helped the stability of the pelican population," Prakljačić said. "We have seen record increases over four years." In the recent past, National Parks of Montenegro put the number of active nesting pairs of Dalmatian pelicans at less than a dozen. In 2017, there was a record number: 48 nesting pairs, which produced 58 chicks.

The group of CEPF grantees also worked with the neighboring communities to establish a noapproach zone and ranger patrols during nesting season, efforts bolstered by implementation of a "pelican hotline" where violations can be reported. Grantees are also developing ecotourism projects to allow local communities to benefit from the growing colony.

"Without CEPF, this success wouldn't have been possible," Prakljačić said. "At the beginning, a number of organizations and institutions proposed different activities. CEPF recommended that we work together on this project."

The collaborative approach paid off, with complementary conservation actions taken by **National Parks Montenegro, the Natural History Museum of Montenegro, the Centre for Protection and Research of Birds in Montenegro (CZIP), EuroNatur, Tour du Valat, and Institute of Nature Conservation in Albania (INCA)**. "This program has dramatically helped the stability of the pelican population. We have seen record increases over four years." – Bjanka Prakljačić, project coordinator, Noé

### **INDO-BURMA BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT**

The Endangered Burmese roofed turtle (*Batagur trivittata*) is one of the rarest turtle species in existence. This once-plentiful terrapin has dwindled to just a handful of mature individuals in the wild in Myanmar. It lays its eggs out of the water, putting them at risk of interference from humans and animals. In addition, electro-fishing, incidental loss in fishing gear and habitat loss due to gold mining led to a population collapse.

The **Turtle Survival Alliance (TSA)** in Myanmar is working to reverse a downward population trend.

With support from CEPF, TSA—along with the Wildlife Conservation Society—has mobilized a cadre of community volunteers to "head start" turtles, moving eggs to a secure location where they can hatch in safe, fenced-off areas. Here they receive around-the-clock protection for up to two years, after which they can be released into the wild with vastly improved chances for survival.

From a starting point of just one fertile wild turtle egg in 2015, the individuals head-started in captivity seem to be helping the local population turn a corner.

"The latest count included five nests with a few eggs each, including two believed to be from headstarted females," says TSA's Steven Platt. "That's a significant percentage increase."

### EAST MELANESIAN ISLANDS BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

In Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands, the **French Ichthyological Society** has been adding to the understanding of freshwater fishes and crustaceans inhabiting the islands by conducting an inventory. CEPF funding is at the heart of this work, enabling terrestrial biodiversity studies and building local capacity for species study and protection.

Through work with local organizations, the society has provided research support, trained landowners, and even discovered three new species of fish, four freshwater prawn species, and one new species of freshwater crab.

CEPF grantee David Boseto of **Ecological Solutions, Solomon Islands (ESSI)**, who was named a CEPF "Hotspot Hero" in 2016 for his work in the Solomon Islands, received the additional honor of having one of the new fish (*Eleotris bosetoi*) named after him. ESSI partnered with the French Ichthyological Society on the inventory; an additional new fish species was named *Schismatogobius essi* in recognition of the organization's conservation efforts.

"Our species and protection work in the Solomons has benefited significantly from CEPF investment," Boseto said. "Their funding is accelerating the pace of discovery."

Dalmatian pelican on Lake Skadar. © Jaime Rojo |

Steve Platt of the Turtle Survival Alliance holds a Burmese roofed turtle at a project site in Myanmar. © Conservation International/photo by Jack Tordoff

The Eleotris bosetoi fish, a new species discovered in the Solomon Islands. © P. Keith (MNHN)











### UN Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Targets



Target 19 By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.

#### UN Sustainable Development Goals



Goal 4

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

# STRENGTHENING LOCAL CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP

CEPF supports projects that strengthen local and national organizations and communities that are contributing to biodiversity conservation in the hotspots, enabling these groups to take the lead in future conservation efforts.

### INDO-BURMA BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM

PARTNERSHIP FUND



The **Hong Kong Birdwatching Society** is working to bolster networks among civil society organizations—and between those organizations and government agencies—to reduce illegal waterbird hunting at key intertidal wetlands in China's Guangdong and Guangxi provinces.

The wetlands, which stretch from Hong Kong to the border with Vietnam, are part of an important bird migration route. As birds stop to feed on invertebrates in the mudflats, thousands every year are killed as a result of illegal mist net hunting. Waterbird populations have been collapsing, with many once-common birds added to the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

CEPF grantee the Hong Kong Birdwatching Society has worked to engage public groups, training them to monitor bird populations and use satellite images to locate mist nets. Armed with this proof of the nets' locations, they hoped the authorities could no longer turn a blind eye to the illegal killing of birds.

Their efforts paid off, with monitors helping to confiscate and eliminate nearly 200 illegal mist nets, as much as 90 percent of the total in the region just five years ago.

Vivian Fu, the project manager, said that, in addition to training volunteers to monitor hunting activity, the organization built relationships with the local forestry department, which is responsible for law enforcement within the Zhanjiang and Leizhou coastal wetland areas.

"Most of our work was building capacity within the local community," Fu said. "Now that we have a volunteer team, even though the project has ended, they are continuing to monitor and patrol—as well as recruit and build capacity—on their own."

The project also is proving to be scalable, with volunteers from other regional NGOs traveling to attend workshops and training. What's more, Leizhou now attracts more threatened species, such as the Critically Endangered spoon-billed sandpiper (*Calidris pygmaea*); this is a strong indicator that the environment is becoming more habitable for these vulnerable birds.

"This way they are able to do the same work in their own cities and provinces," Fu said.

"For most of their lives, the indigenous people have seen the reserve as something not part of their own lives or territory. Being involved in the development of this plan has been an important step toward empowering them to manage the reserve." – Miguel Caicedo, director of Reserva Natural La Planada

### **TROPICAL ANDES BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT**

In the Pialapí Pueblo Viejo Indigenous Reserve in southwestern Colombia, the ancestral homeland of the InkalAwa ("People of the Mountain," also known as the Awa people), La Planada Nature Reserve was established in 1982. Control of the 3,200-hectare reserve, which is home to species such as the tanager finch (*Oreothraupis arremonops*), the cloudforest pygmy-owl (*Glaucidium nubicola*) and the spectacled bear (*Tremarctos ornatus*), was given to the town council of Pialapí Pueblo Viejo in 2010.

With funding from CEPF, local indigenous organization **Resguardo Pialapí Pueblo Viejo** is developing a management plan for the reserve, seizing the opportunity to not only better connect the reserve to the local indigenous community and its needs, but also to build and display the organization's capacity to employ sound financial and organizational practices.

Strengthening the organization and the reserve can provide a boost to communities that struggle with poverty, are recovering from years of armed conflict and must deal with the influence of coca production for the illegal drug trade.

According to Miguel Caicedo, director of Reserva Natural La Planada, Resguardo Pialapí Pueblo Viejo, the Awa people are embracing this chance to define the road ahead in hopes of generating additional funding to maintain the reserve in ways that protect the ecosystems and benefit local people. CEPF-funded training has strengthened the organization's administrative capacity and enhanced budgetary and accounting processes, helping the organization demonstrate its financial capacity to other potential donors. The reserve has already secured funding from the GEF Small Grants Program.

"The indigenous people had no experience in the management of a natural reserve," Caicedo said. "This project has shown them how to administer and create a plan for the reserve, so they can develop other projects and acquire the funding they need for implementation."

Perhaps the most important outcome for the project, though, is the way it has affected how the Awa view the land.

"For most of their lives, the indigenous people have seen the reserve as something not part of their own lives or territory," Caicedo added. "Being involved in the development of this plan has been an important step toward empowering them to manage the reserve."

Activities through late 2017 include hosting workshops in the communities of Pialapí and Curcuel, (including the Casa Grande and Dos Quebradas communities) to train participants in the key elements of management plan development.

The project has also helped Resguardo Pialapí Pueblo Viejo to establish relationships with other NGOs that are influencing and advising indigenous reserves in the area on the management of protected areas in their respective territories.



Spoon-billed sandpiper. © Ken/Flickr Creative Commons | Hong Kong Bird Watching Society volunteers help eradicate an invasive cordgrass and remove rubbish on the mudflat in Leizhou, Guangdong, China. © Ye Zhi-ying | Members of the Curcuel community, Colombia. © Guillermo Cantillo Figueroa







### UN Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Targets



#### Target 12

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.

### UN Sustainable Development Goals



#### 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.

### **BRINGING CONSERVATION INTO DEVELOPMENT DECISION-MAKING**

Helping governments and industries to factor biodiversity-relevant data into development decisionmaking is an important component of the CEPF approach. Our strategies support grantees' work with government and the private sector to establish policies that incorporate conservation concerns into project planning.

### **TROPICAL ANDES BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT**



In Bolivia, the forests of the Apolobamba, Madidi, and Pilon Lajas protected areas are threatened by the presence of numerous gold mines, some authorized by the Bolivian government, and some illegal. The mines represent an important source of economic output, but there are uncertainties regarding mining rights and difficulties in enforcing regulations, in particular because of the remote location and sprawling geography involved. The result has been significant destruction to the landscape, water and biodiversity.

Included in the areas affected by mining are high-mountain forests of

evergreen *Polylepis* trees, which have already been drastically reduced by deforestation. Bird species such as the Critically Endangered royal cinclodes (*Cinclodes aricomae*) rely on these forests, which also are important for water management due to their ability to store large amounts of water and release it during dry season.

In response, CEPF funded a project to establish a baseline count of mining operations, monitor legal and illegal mining activity, train stakeholders to improve awareness of mining activity, and ensure that those miners operating legally within the protected areas know how to improve their practices to reduce their environmental impact.

The baseline study was an important first step. "Before the project started, authorities didn't have a clear idea of how many mining cooperatives were in operation," said Oscar Loayza, project director with CEPF grantee the **Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)**. "Estimates put the number at 30 to 50, but our baseline study determined there were closer to 200."

With that knowledge, authorities are working to register all legal mining co-ops and identify their illegal counterparts in the service of better enforcement.

WCS also made contact with Alianza por una Minería Responsable (Colombia), Fundación MEDMIN (Bolivia) and the Better Gold Initiative (Switzerland). Together, these organizations oversee the *Fairmined* and *Fairtrade* gold certifications, which support price premiums for gold that meets specific environmental and other criteria. They are now working with miners to help them improve their practices towards a possible future certification. WCS also is working with a legal mining cooperative on a pilot project to integrate environmental best practices into mining.

"CEPF funding has made all of this work possible," Loayza said. "The training of more than 650 people, the baseline [study], and reporting for monitoring programs in protected areas."

The resulting improved understanding of environmental issues related to mining and the potential financial incentives for adhering to sustainable mining practices lay a foundation for better management and community engagement.
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# **CARIBBEAN ISLANDS BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT**

In Beijing, on August 22, 2013, Jamaica's Minister of Land, Water, Environment and Climate Change, the Hon. Robert Pickersgill, stated that the Goat Islands were "under very serious consideration" as the site for a planned transshipment port to be built by the Chinese state-owned China Harbour Engineering Company at a cost of US\$1.5 billion. At the time, some Jamaicans considered it an important step toward creating jobs and establishing the nation as a key player in the global logistics sector.

The Goat Islands, however, are at the heart of the Portland Bight Protected Area (PBPA), site of the largest mangrove system in Jamaica and a large nursery for fish and shellfish. The PBPA also encompasses 20,978 hectares of dry limestone forests and 8,287 hectares of wetlands, not to mention the primary habitat for many vulnerable and endemic species, including the Critically Endangered Jamaican iguana (*Cyclura collei*).

CEPF grantees the **Jamaica Environment Trust (JET) and the Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation (C-CAM)**, along with stakeholders of the PBPA, mobilized to launch a "Save Goat Islands" campaign—changing the minds of government decision-makers and the fate of the islands. The central feature of this campaign was a coordinated outreach effort, comprised of professional lectures, presentations, community meetings and seminars.

C-CAM, the organization responsible for management of the protected areas since 2003, continued to co-manage with stakeholders such as the government, community groups, fishers and donors, and to improve development planning in light of the proposed port. The organization engaged the Conservation Strategy Fund (CSF) to conduct an economic comparison of alternative sites for the port and study environmental impacts. In the end, the study determined that an equivalent facility at an alternative site would cost US\$200 million less than the Goat Islands plan, while causing far less environmental damage.

"Building [on the proposed alternative site of Maccary Bay] poses little risk to endangered species and threatens a much smaller area of important ecosystems," said Ingrid Parchment, executive director of C-CAM. "Conversely, economic losses at Goat Islands in terms of lost tourism potential and contribution to fisheries productivity are estimated to be three times higher."

The Prime Minister announced in November 2016 that the port would not be built at the Goat Islands site due to the potential environmental damage. One year later, the Urban Development Corporation announced that it would establish the Goat Islands as a wildlife sanctuary for endemic and endangered species—a direct result and distinct win for JET, C-CAM and their partners, as well as the vulnerable species that call the islands home.







Two miners outside a shed used for handling hazardous materials at the site of a legal mine in Apolobamba National Park, Bolivia. © Conservation International/photo by Michele Zador | Jamaican iguana. © Robin Moore/GWC | Goat Islands, Jamaica. © Jamaica Environment Trust/Jeremy Francis





# UN Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Targets



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 socio economic conditions.

## UN Sustainable Development Goals



**Goal 2** End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.

# ENHANCING COMMUNITY BENEFITS FROM BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

CEPF conservation strategies are driven in part by the concerns of local communities, and many projects funded by CEPF pursue opportunities to meet the immediate needs of these communities while ensuring a healthier future for them and their ecosystems.

## WALLACEA BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT



The Indonesian island of Karakalang, in the northern part of the Celebes Sea, faces a unique problem. Its clear waters and beautiful white sands are well known in the region, yet the island is too remote to sustain an economy through ecotourism.

Karakalang hosts rich ecosystems that are home to threatened biodiversity, including bird species such as the Endangered Talaud rail (*Gymnocrex talaudensis*), the blue-naped parrot (*Tanygnathus lucionensis*) and the Endangerd red-and-blue lory (*Eos histrio*).

One solution to the island's economic

challenge that is also friendly to its biodiversity is permaculture—sustainable, self-sufficient agricultural systems.

With support from CEPF grants, Indonesian nongovernmental organization **Yayasan Idep Selaras Alam (known as IDEP)** is promoting permaculture among Karakalang's population. A grant in 2015 helped the organization create a five-zone permaculture system in Rae, Bengel and Ambela villages: Zone 1 for homes and household gardens, Zone 2 for household cash crops, Zone 3 for community farms or gardens, Zone 4 for a protective buffer, and Zone 5 for conservation of wildlife.

Through a second CEPF grant in 2016, the project expanded to Ensem and Tuabatu villages.

These villages face such challenges as soil erosion, pests like the sexava grasshopper, and degraded watersheds resulting from forest clearing for farming. The permaculture approach helps address these problems by more carefully managing the land and avoiding the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides.

IDEP is encouraging collaboration among the villages, building local capacity for sustainable natural resources management, and working with government agencies to adopt, acknowledge and replicate project successes.

"CEPF made it possible for IDEP to reach communities in the Talaud Archipelago so that they know, understand, and are able to convert to sustainable livelihood practices and do conservation work at the same time," said Sri Handavani, support coordinator for Yayasan IDEP Selaras Alam. Men, women, youths and school children from the villages have all gotten involved in the project.

It's a win-win. Talaud's resources are being more effectively managed while the economy gets a boost from the export of responsibly sourced commodities produced via permaculture, such as clove, nutmeg, vegetable chips and virgin coconut oil.

At least 15 hectares per village have been converted to organic farming practices, with more than 50 families in each village cultivating home gardens to provide nutritious food for their families.

"The pilot model is promising and has been warmly welcomed by both communities and local authorities.
Payments are substantial and provide an opportunity that the community would not have otherwise."
– David Lety, WCS technical director for the Bolikhamxay landscape

### INDO-BURMA BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

In Lao PDR, 54 percent of the country's wealth is estimated to come from natural resources, particularly via hydropower, making conservation crucial to both the country's natural and economic health.

Over the past two decades, conservation efforts in the Lower Mekong Basin, which includes some of world's most biodiverse ecosystems, have produced positive results. To build on these efforts, however, while ensuring that development is sustainable and benefits communities, additional funding and tools are required.

One potential solution is payment for ecosystem services (PES) agreements. Such agreements tap users of "services" resulting from ecosystems—such as the provision of fresh water for hydropower—to pay those who own and/or manage the ecosystems that deliver those services. Recent regulations and legislative action from the Lao PDR government provided an opportunity for developing national standards for PES agreements. CEPF grantee **Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)** took action, piloting a PES model with communities living upstream of the Nam Gnouang dam in Bolikhamxay Province. The goals of the project include conserving and restoring key forest areas—which provide habitat for many species, including the Critically Endangered saola (*Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*)—and influencing the developing national policy on PES to emphasize proper valuation of ecosystems, community empowerment and private sector best practices.

WCS identified two communities, Nacheng and Khamkhuna villages, that were interested in participating in a PES agreement and had forest areas that met the project criteria. WCS, local authorities and the villagers mapped out the forest plots and developed management plans. In 2018, the communities and the project signed pilot agreements to protect and restore 1,870 hectares of forest in exchange for payments that can be used for activities selected by the community. The overall goal of the management plan is to facilitate natural regeneration of secondary forests and fallows through the reduction, and where appropriate, banning, of activities such as logging, livestock raising and swidden agriculture, which typically involves using fire to clear land. Endorsement by local authorities validates the creation of village protection forests and aligns with the national strategy to protect watersheds and forest cover.

The hope is that, if these pilot agreements prove to be effective, they can be sustained or expanded to other villages by the Theun-Hinboun Power Company, which operates the dam, or by the government.

In an area that struggles with poverty, this source of additional income can make a significant difference.

"The pilot model is promising and has been warmly welcomed by both communities and local authorities," said David Lety, WCS technical director for the Bolikhamxay landscape. "Payments are substantial and provide an opportunity that the community would not have otherwise."

The villagers have, for example, decided to finance improvement and expansion of their water supply system and to set up revolving funds to develop improved cattle raising systems.





Permaculture project participant Lisa Manembu tends a garden on Karakalang Island. © IDEP Foundation/ Image by Gede Sugiarta | Rice paddy outside Khamkhuna Village, Lao PDR. © Olivier Langrand



# UN Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Targets



Target 15 By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 percent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.

## UN Sustainable Development Goals



**Goal 13** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

# NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE

Protection and restoration of tropical forests and other natural ecosystems could make up 30 percent of the greenhouse gas emission reductions necessary to avoid climate-related disasters that would disproportionately affect the poor, according to climate experts. CEPF supports projects that conserve or rehabilitate natural forests, wetlands and coastal ecosystems as cost-effective means for mitigating the potentially devastating effects of climate change and extreme weather events.

# EASTERN AFROMONTANE BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM

PARTNERSHIP FUND



The Chyulu Hills of Kenya are quintessential East Africa—lush green cloud forests overlooking savannah grasslands populated by iconic African wildlife such as elephants, giraffes, and lions, and communities of Maasai people clad in traditional red and plaid fabrics.

The Kenya-based **Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust (MWCT)** has been working for years to protect this unique environment for the benefit of the local communities and wildlife through activities focusing on ecotourism, land conservancy agreements, employment of local scouts and rangers, and by establishing a REDD+ project. (REDD, or Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation,

plus the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks.)

The REDD+ project is designed to pay the residents of the area for maintaining the forest, which stores carbon that could contribute to climate change if the forest were destroyed. Payments to the community result from the sale of carbon credits on the international voluntary market. Safeguarding the forest also has the added benefits of protecting the source of vital fresh water and maintaining habitat for a multitude of species.

To bring the project, which was more than six years in the making, to fruition, MWCT needed to verify the carbon credits generated by the forest by completing the necessary greenhouse gas emissions reduction quantification, verification, and social and biological monitoring. This is where CEPF stepped in. A grant of US\$100,000 from CEPF helped cover the cost of verification and enabled the project's first carbon credit sale. In September 2017, the sale of 19,800 credits was made to Tiffany and Co., providing US\$237,600 of revenue for the community.

The revenue from the project contributes to the local economy and supports additional conservation activities, such as ranger recruitment and training, anti-poaching operations, and human-wildlife conflict monitoring, resolution and prevention. The funds also address community needs, particularly in education and healthcare, with initial funds being used to hire new teachers and provide basic school supplies.

"Community members and leaders have been delighted to see the first funds being made available and to be able to direct those funds towards supporting their priorities. The carbon sales help to demonstrate that conservation can contribute to community well-being and the local economy," said Samson Parashina, community leader and chairman of MWCT. "Community members and leaders have been delighted to see the first funds being made available and to be able to direct those funds towards supporting their priorities. The carbon sales help to demonstrate that conservation can contribute to community wellbeing and the local economy," – Samson Parashina, community leader and chairman of MWCT.

# MADAGASCAR AND INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

Though its name may sound less than sheltering, Southwest Madagascar's Bay of Assassins has a lot to offer the people and other forms of life that call it home. Its mangrove forests, which are part of the Velondriake Locally Managed Marine Area, are habitat for shellfish, serve as breeding grounds for fish species that are commercially important, and constitute a source of wood for fuel and construction. The mangroves also have a particularly high capacity for storing carbon, as well as serving as a buffer from storms and tsunamis.

Overharvesting of wood for building and for commercial use, however, has severely degraded the mangroves. The **Velondriake Association**, a community-based organization, seeks to protect and restore the mangroves, in part through a CEPF grant.

United through a mangrove carbon project known as Tahiry Honko ("Preserving Mangroves" in the Vezo local language), 10 villages in the Bay of Assassins began replanting seedlings in 2017. Nearly 78,000 mangrove seedlings were planted that year by 100 volunteers, and more than 19,000 were planted in the first quarter of 2018.

"Communities in the Bay of Assassins depend on mangroves for their daily needs," said Lalao Aigrette, deputy national lead for the Blue Forests Program of Blue Ventures, which co-manages the Velondriake Locally Managed Marine Area with the Velondriake Association. "The CEPF grant has

helped local villages in Bay of Assassins not only to restore their degraded mangroves by replanting, but also to ensure protection of the forests by supporting regular mangrove forest patrols."

To strengthen community ties, meals were served to volunteers and plantings organized around celebrations for Mangrove International Day and International Women's Day.

Restoring the mangroves requires time and ongoing effort, both through the development of local laws and conservation plans and through recurring plantings. The seedlings planted through the project so far have an average annual survival rate of 80 percent.

In addition to reforestation zones, Tahiry Honko also established sustainable management zones and permanent mangrove reserve zones that prohibit the harvesting of mangrove wood. Communities worked with the Fisheries and Forestry Department, local authorities, and non-governmental organizations to establish guidelines for mangrove use and management.



Giraffes, Chyulu Hills, Kenya. © Charlie Shoemaker | Women planting mangrove trees, Bay of Assassins, Madagascar. © Velondriake



# APPROVED GRANTS

July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

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

# Cerrado

Strategic Direction 2. Support the creation/expansion and effective management of protected areas in the priority corridors. Strengthening the Integrated Territorial Management for

Protected Areas of the Mosaic Sertão Veredas Peruaçu, Brazil

### US\$187,000

World Wide Fund for Nature-Brazil

Strategic Direction 3. Promote and strengthen supply chains associated with the sustainable use of natural resources and ecological restoration in the hotspot.

Cerrado Supply-Chain Innovation through Municipal-Scale Planning, Policy and Capacity Building

#### US\$288,793

World Wide Fund for Nature-Brazil

Cerrado Waters Consortium: A Network for Ecosystem Services Provisioning and Agricultural Sustainability

#### US\$193,035

IMAFLORA – Instituto de Manejo e Certificação Florestal e Agrícola

# East Melanesian Islands

Strategic Direction 1. Empower local communities to protect and manage globally significant biodiversity at priority Key Biodiversity Areas underserved by current conservation efforts. Empowering the People of Pobuma to Design Conservation Actions on Manus Island, Papua New Guinea

#### **US\$19,750**

Tawi-Asi Resource Network

Forest Conservation Through Payment for Environmental Services (PES) on three Sites in Choiseul, Solomon Islands

#### **US\$19,550**

Natural Resources Development Foundation Trust Board Inc.

Strengthen Local Conservation Networks to Respond to Threats within the Santo Mountain Chain in Vanuatu

## US\$19,990

The Edenhope Foundation

Strengthening Community Conservation Governance of Mount Tabuwamasana in Vanuatu

## US\$86,222

Live & Learn Vanuatu

Supporting Innovative Financing for Biodiversity Conservation through Piloting Eco-Certification for Tourism in Vanuatu

#### US\$169,903

Nakau Programme Ltd.

#### Strategic Direction 2. Integrate biodiversity conservation into local land-use and development planning.

Scoping Legal Training Needs in Priority Sites to Promote the Establishment of Protected Areas - Baining Mountains and Central Manus, Papua New Guinea

#### US\$15,289

Centre for Environmental Law and Community Inc.

#### Strategic Direction 3. Safeguard priority globally threatened species by addressing major threats and information gaps. Building Capacity in Monitoring and Management of the Leatherback Turtles in Are 'are, Solomon Islands

#### **US\$19,885**

Wai-Hau Conservation Foundation Registered Trust Board Inc.

Conservation of the Endemic Flying Foxes of Torba and Temotu in Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands US\$85.625

Vanuatu Environmental Science Society

Strategic Direction 4. Increase local, national and regional capacity to conserve biodiversity through catalyzing civil society partnerships.

Building the Capacity of Kwaio Communities in the Solomon Islands to Strengthen Indigenous Knowledge and Conservation Management

#### US\$19,987

James Cook University

Organization and Management of the Papua New Guinea Grantee Exchange

#### **US\$20,000**

World Wide Fund for Nature-Pacific

Promoting Gender Equity for Conservation Initiatives Through Catalyzing a Women's Environmental Network Across CEPF Priority Sites in Vanuatu

#### US\$19,960

Island Reach Committee Inc.

Strengthening the Governance and Capacity of Kahua Association for Biodiversity Conservation in the Solomon Islands

#### US\$19,927

Kahua Association Trust Board Inc.

# Eastern Afromontane

Strategic Direction 1. Mainstream biodiversity into wider development policies, plans and projects to deliver the co-benefits of biodiversity conservation, improved local livelihoods and economic development in priority corridors. Conservation and Forest Management in the Mafinga Hills Priority Key Biodiversity Area of Zambia

#### US\$130,000

Wildlife and Environmental Conservation Society of Zambia Discovering the Hidden Treasure of Itombwe Natural Reserve in Democratic Republic of Congo

#### **US\$20,000**

World Wide Fund for Nature— Democratic Republic of Congo

Empowering Youth While Raising Awareness for Sustainable Conservation of Gishwati Key Biodiversity Area in Rwanda

#### US\$9,514

Nature Rwanda

Ensuring Long-Term Sustainability of Zambia's Nsumbu National Park and Tondwa Game Management Area Key Biodiversity Area Through Strengthening the Role of Village Action Groups

# US\$20.000

Conservation Lake Tanganyika

Fish Inventory in Chimanimani Mountains Key Biodiversity Area, Mozambique

#### US\$20,000

Museu de Historia Natural de Maputo

Implementing Adaptive Conservation Strategies at Mount Chiperone Key Biodiversity Area, Mozambique

## US\$15,664

Verde Azul Lda

Misuku Hills Art Challenge in Malawi

#### **US\$20,000**

Sustainable Rural Growth and Development Initiative

Producing Communication Materials on Project Impacts, Sheka Zone, Southern National, Nationalities and Peoples' Region, Ethiopia

#### US\$13,612

God for People Relief and Development Organisation

Rapid Faunal Assessment (Amphibians, Reptiles, Birds and Mammals) in the Nono-Sale and Garba-Dima Forest Priority Areas, Ilu-Ababor Zone, Southwestern Ethiopia

### US\$18,901

Mettu University, Ethiopia

Telling Pictures for the Eastern Afromontane Key Biodiversity Areas

## US\$20,000

Pixels on Screen

'Touchwood' – Raising Global Awareness of the Value of Tanzania's Southern Key Biodiversity Areas

#### **US\$19,888**

Wildlife Conservation Society

Strategic Direction 2. Improve the protection and management of the Key Biodiversity Area network throughout the hotspot. Biological Surveys of the Gishwati Forest in Rwanda

#### **US\$14,880**

The Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International

Enhancing Environmental Regulations in Safeguarding Lake Ol Bolossat Key Biodiversity Area in Kenya

# US\$10,000

East African Wildlife Society

Enhancing the Understanding of the Gishwati Natural Forest Ecosystem and Local Support to its Conservation in Rwanda

US\$20,000 Forest of Hope Association

Identify New Eastern Afromontane Key Biodiversity Area on the Njesi Plateau in Mozambique

US\$19,721 Biodiversity Inventory for Conservation Identifying a New Eastern Afromontane Key Biodiversity Area at Nou National Forest Reserve in Tanzania

#### US\$19,983

Missouri Botanical Garden

Promoting Energy-Efficient Stoves for Sustainable Conservation of Rwanda's Cyamudongo Forest, Phase Two

#### **US\$40,000**

Association Rwandaise des Ecologistes

Strengthening the Capacity of District Multi-Stakeholder Teams for Sustainability in Conservation of the Malagarasi River System in Tanzania

#### **US\$10,000**

Nyakitonto Youth for Development Tanzania

Threatened Mammal and Bird Species of Key Biodiversity Areas in the Central Highlands of Ethiopia: Biological Survey on distribution and conservation status in 3 CEPF Priority Key Biodiversity Areas (Aliyu-Amba, Ankober-Debresina and Guassa Plateau)

#### **US\$19,877**

Bees for Development Ethiopia

Threatened Mammal and Bird Species of Key Biodiversity Areas in the Central Highlands of Ethiopia: Biological Survey on Distribution and Conservation Status in three CEPF Priority Key Biodiversity Areas (Aliyu-Amba, Ankober-Debresina and Guassa Plateau)

#### **US\$19,710**

University of Gondar

Updating Information on Trigger Species for Stapleford Forest Biodiversity Area in Zimbabwe

## US\$20,000

BirdLife Zimbabwe

# **APPROVED GRANTS**

Identify New Eastern Afromontane Key Biodiversity Areas (Ribáuè and Inago) and Update Priority Status of Mount Chiperone Key Biodiversity Area in Mozambique

# US\$19,927

SANBI

Upgrade Biodiversity Importance Status of Dedza Forest Reserve Key Biodiversity Area in Malawi

#### US\$18,779

Wildlife Action Group

Upgrade Biodiversity Importance Status of Sof Omar Key Biodiversity Area in Ethiopia

#### US\$16,178

Botanic Gardens Conservation International

Upgrade Biodiversity Importance Status of Zomba Mountains Key Biodiversity Area in Malawi

#### US\$20,000

National Herbarium and Botanic Gardens

Using Biodiversity Surveys, Website and Film to Promote the Value of the Kabobo Massif for Conservation Support in Democratic Republic of Congo

#### **US\$19,790**

Museo delle Scienze di Trento (The Science Museum of Trento)

Strategic Direction 3. Initiate and support sustainable financing and related actions for the conservation of priority Key Biodiversity Areas and corridors. Capacity-Building Workshops in Ethiopia for CEPF Grantees

US\$12,793 ZESMAN Consultancy

# 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. From Bee-Burners to Beekeepers: Supporting Community Beekeeping Organization in Príncipe

#### US\$199,249

Fauna & Flora International

Mobilization of Local Communities for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Touguissoury, Guinea

# US\$41,800

Guinée Ecologie

Ukpom-Okom Community Mangrove Restoration and Tree Planting Project, Nigeria

#### US\$24,630

Society for Women and Vulnerable Groups Empowerment

Strategic Direction 2. Mainstream biodiversity conservation into public policy and private sector practice in the nine conservation corridors, at local, sub-national and national levels. Mainstreaming Site-Scale Ecosystem Values into Local Decision-Making in Ghana US\$96,324

Ghana Wildlife Society

#### Strategic Direction 3. Safeguard priority globally threatened species by identifying and addressing major threats and information gaps.

Creation of First Marine Protected Area in Côte d'Ivoire

#### US\$44,819

Conservation des Espèces Marines

Determining Distribution, Density and Connectivity of Threatened Tortoises in Nigeria

#### US\$32,362

Biodiversity Preservation Centre

National Herbarium of São Tomé: Establishing a Reference for the Study and Conservation of Plants of São Tomé and Principe

#### US\$45,460

University of Coimbra

#### Promoting Endangered Primate Conservation in Three Forest Reserves in Ghana

#### US\$44,259

Presbyterian University College Ghana

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.

Strengthening Capacity of Local Communities to Sustainably Manage Mount Nimba's Natural Resources in Guinea

#### US\$24,968

Initiative de Base pour la Gestion des Ressources Naturelles

# Indo-Burma

Strategic Direction 4. Empower local communities to engage in conservation and management of priority Key Biodiversity Areas. Conserving the Biodiversity of the Smaller Indaw Lake, Sagaing Region, Myanmar

#### US\$19,999

Kadu Youth Development Association (KYDA)

Environmental Education Program in Floating Villages Around the Prek Tonle Core Area of Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve, Cambodia

#### US\$19,981

OSMOSE

Phase II: Building Sustainability for the Mekong Turtle Conservation Project in Kratie, Cambodia

### US\$44,584

Wildlife Conservation Society

Pilot Dissemination of the Lao Biodiversity Conservation Law to four Communities at Priority Site Pakxan Wetland

#### US\$17,286

Association for Community Training and Development Piloting Community-Based Initiatives for Conservation of Hoolock Gibbon in the Indawgyi Watershed, Myanmar

#### **US\$55,970**

The Northern Green Lights

Securing Local Participation in Conservation of River Turtles in Myanmar

#### **US\$95,368**

**Turtle Survival Alliance** 

Strategic Direction 6. Engage key actors in mainstreaming biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into development planning in the priority corridors. Demonstration Project on the Eco-Farming of Hele-Crab in Mangrove Forest in China

#### **US\$19,940**

Hainan Hele-crab Conservation Center

Empowering Civil Society and Governmental Agencies to Mainstream Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service Values into Development Plans for the Chindwin River Basin, Myanmar

#### **US\$350,000**

Stockholm Environment Institute

Ensuring Better Biodiversity and Community Outcomes in the Nam Ou, Lao PDR

#### **US\$20,000**

International Rivers Network

Facilitating Civil Society Participation in the Implementation of Cambodia's Environmental Code

#### US\$120,000

Vishnu Law Group

Mainstreaming Effective Conservation Models into Cambodia's Environmental Code

#### US\$79,997

Wildlife Conservation Society

Mainstreaming Karst Biodiversity Conservation Into Policies, Plans and Business Practices in the Ayeyarwady Basin, Myanmar US\$190.000

#### 039130,000

Fauna & Flora International

Providing Incentives for Conservation in Cambodia's Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve, and Stung Seng and Boeung Tonle Chhmar Core Zones through Sustainable Livelihoods in Responsible Tourism

US\$19,916 Wild Cambodia Organisation

Strategic Direction 8. Strengthen the capacity of civil society to work on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods at regional, national, local and grassroots levels.

Capacity Building on Integrated Development Project for Nongovernmental Organizations in the Indo-Burma Hotspot

#### US\$19,934

Yunnan Synetics Partnership for Civil Organization Development

Enhancing Community Participation in Watershed Management and Biodiversity Conservation in 4 River Basins, Phang Nga Province, Thailand

## US\$20,000

Andaman Organization for Participatory Restoration of National Resources

Hou Niao Volunteer Program – Promoting a Coastal Wetland Volunteer Network in Guangxi, China

#### **US\$19,923**

Guangxi Biodiversity Research and Conservation Association

Indigenous Community Media in Cambodia

#### US\$19,968

Conserve Indigenous Peoples Languages Network Building for Community-Based Approaches to Natural Resources Management in Trat Province, Thailand

#### **US\$20,000**

Sustainable Development Foundation

Strengthening the Capacity of Save Vietnam's Wildlife

# US\$19,986

Save Vietnam's Wildlife

Strengthening Women Networks and Community for Biodiversity Conservation in Thailand's Trang Province

#### US\$20,000

Save Andaman Network Foundation

# Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands

Strategic Direction 1. Empower local communities to protect and manage biodiversity in priority Key Biodiversity Areas. "My Lake Tseny, I Protect the Damba," Local Development and

Protection of Endemic Fish in Madagascar's Lake Tseny

# US\$17,553

Madagasikara Voakajy

Conservation and Integrated Development Towards Sustainable Valorization of Endemic Fish in the Complex of Wetlands of North-West Madagascar

#### US\$19,427

Association des Producteurs Privés d'Alevins (APPA)

Conserving Biodiversity of Anjouan through a Landscape Development Model

**US\$140,000** Dahari

Developing Community-Based Conservation in Madagascar's Ambato-Boeny-Maevatanana Forests and Wetlands

#### US\$218,090

The Aspinall Foundation

# **APPROVED GRANTS**

Enhancing Local Management and Biodiversity Conservation in Madagascar's Tsimembo-Manambolomaty Protected Area

#### US\$180,600

The Peregrine Fund

Mauritian Fruit Bat – A Tool for Forest Regeneration

#### US\$143,630

Ecosystem Restoration Alliance Indian Ocean

Preserving Fragile Ecosystems Through Community-Based Fire Management and Education Program in Ankarafantsika National Park, North-West Madagascar

US\$140,756 Planet Madagascar

Program of Action for a Sustainable Ylang-Ylang Industry in Comoros **US\$208,010** 

Association 2 Mains

Starting Ecotourism for the Ibity New Protected Area in Madagascar

#### US\$19,947

Missouri Botanical Garden

Structuring and Strengthening the Fikambanana Bongolava Maitso Association for the Effective Management of the New Protected Area of Bongolava in Madagascar

#### US\$185,843

Fikambanana Bongolava Maitso

Supporting Association Fikambanana Sakaizan-Ravelobe for the Protection of Madagascar's Lake Ravelobe

#### US\$18,889.07

Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust

Supporting Local Communities for the Fight Against Deforestation of the Tsimembo Forest, Madagascar

#### US\$19,569

The Peregrine Fund

Sustainable, Locally-Led Mangrove Management and Restoration in Madagascar's Bay of Assassins

#### **US\$19,583**

Velondriake Association

Sustainable Management of Lake Ihotry Natural Resources, Part of the Mangoky-Ihotry Complex New Protected Area, Madagascar

## US\$19,718

Asity Madagascar

Traditional Knowledge Valorization and Restoration of Heritage Species in the Classified Forest of Vohibola in Madagascar

#### US\$19,427

Groupe des Spécialistes des Plantes de Madagascar

#### Strategic Direction 2. Enable civil society to mainstream biodiversity and conservation into political and economic

decision-making. Advancing Ecosystem Restoration, Ecotourism and Threatened Species Recovery Through Nongovernmental Organization, University and Private Sector Partnerships in Seychelles

#### US\$113,000

Island Biodiversity & Conservation

Baseline Mapping of Plant Diversity, Land Use and Fire History, for Effective Management of Biodiversity in Itremo Massif and Ambatofinandrahana, Central Highlands, Madagascar

#### US\$19,404

Kew Madagascar Conservation Centre

Green Accounting for the Sustainable Management of Madagascar's Protected Areas and Parks

#### US\$19,866

Institut et Observatoire de Géophysique d'Antananarivo (IOGA)

Setting up an Information System for the Madagascar Biodiversity Hotspot

#### US\$19,465

Association du Réseau des Systèmes d'Information (ARSIE) Strengthening the System of Environmental Indicators for Monitoring the Environment in Madagascar and Updating the Environmental Dashboard of Menabe Region

#### US\$19,982

Office National pour l'Environnement

Testing Drone for High Resolution, 3D Mapping of Silhouette Island, Seychelles

#### US\$19,985

TFC International

Strategic Direction 3. Strengthen civil society capacity at local and regional levels through training, exchanges and regional cooperation. Strengthening Civil Society

Organizations' Capacity for Improved Conservation and Sustainability in the Hotspot

#### US\$231,676

Tropical Biology Association

# Tropical Andes

Strategic Direction 1. Improve protection and management of 36 priority Key Biodiversity Areas to create and maintain local support for conservation and to mitigate key threats.

Community Forest Conservation in the Northeast Biodiversity Corridor in Peru

#### US\$50,000

Yunkawasi

Earthquake Reconstruction Planning for Three Chachi Indigenous Communities in the Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve of Ecuador

#### US\$23,000

Fundación para el Desarrollo de Alternativas Comunitarias de Conservación del Trópico

Fostering Altitudinal Connectivity and Conservation in the Cotacachi – Awa Conservation Corridor of Ecuador

#### US\$140.900

**Fundacion Altropico** 

Management and Species Recovery Planning in the Serranía del Pinche Key Biodiversity Area of Colombia

#### **US\$55.600**

Fundacion Ecohabitats

Management Planning and Protection for Biodiversity Conservation and Watershed Management of Cotapata Key Biodiversity Area in Bolivia

#### US\$140,000

Mancomunidad de Municipios del Norte Paceño Tropical

Multi-Stakeholder Management Planning and Governance Strengthening for the San Antonio Key Biodiversity Area in Colombia

#### US\$75,000

Corporación para la Gestión Ambiental Biodiversa

Preparation of a Management Plan for the Planada Nature Reserve in the Pialapi Pueblo Indigenous Reserve, Colombia

#### US\$111,318

Resguardo Pialapí Pueblo Viejo

Preparation of a Participatory Management Plan for Río Ñambí Nature Reserve, Colombia

#### **US\$98,000**

Fundación Ecológica los Colibríes de Altaquer

Promoting the Protection of Water Ecosystem Services in San Lorenzo Municipality As a Vehicle to Strengthen Legal Protection and Multisectorial Collaboration to Conserve Awacachi Key Biodiversity Area in Ecuador

US\$140,824 Fauna & Flora International

Securing Legal Protection of Alto Nangaritza Forest Reserve in Ecuador

#### US\$113,254

Naturaleza y Cultura Internacional

Strengthening Community Management for the Sustainable Development and Conservation of Intag Toisan Key Biodiversity Area of Ecuador

# US\$107,015

Fundacion Prodeci a Favor de los Derechos Ciudadanos

Strengthening Community Management of Yunguilla -Santa Lucia Conservation and Sustainable Use Area in Ecuador

#### **US\$44,999**

Corporación Microempresarial Yunguilla

Strengthening Legal Protection and Connectivity for Paramo del Duende Key Biodiversity Area in Colombia – Phase I

#### **US\$35,683**

Fundación Ecológica Fenicia Defensa Natural

Strengthening Management and Participatory Planning in Three Key Biodiversity Areas within the Quito Metropolitan District in Ecuador

#### US\$120,454

Consorcio para el Desarrollo Sostenible de la Ecorregion Andina-Condesan

Strengthening Protection and Improving Management in Shuar Arutam Territory in Cordillera del Cóndor, Ecuador

# US\$142,814

Corporacion Ecopar

Strategic Direction 2. Mainstream biodiversity conservation into public policies and development plans in seven corridors to support sustainable development, with a focus on sub-national governments. Promoting Reciprocal Watershed Agreements for Biodiversity Conservation in 27 Communities of the Madidi-Pilón Lajas-Cotapata Conservation Corridor of Bolivia

### US\$170,074

Fundación Natura Bolivia

Strategic Direction 3. Promote local stakeholder engagement and the integration of social and environmental safeguards into infrastructure, mining and agriculture projects to mitigate potential threats to the Key Biodiversity Areas in the seven priority corridors.

Mainstreaming Conservation Strategies Into Municipal Planning for the Kosñipata-Carabaya Key Biodiversity Area in Peru

#### US\$131,493

Fundación Peruana para la Conservación de la Naturaleza (PRONATURALEZA)

Mitigating Pressure on Natural Resources and Biodiversity in Earthquake Reconstruction in Muisne, Ecuador

#### **US\$77,000**

Ecociencia Ecuador

Strategic Direction 4. Promote and scale up opportunities to foster private sector approaches for biodiversity conservation to benefit priority Key Biodiversity Areas in the seven corridors. Promoting Nature-Based Tourism in Kosñipata – Carabaya Key Biodiversity Area of Peru

#### US\$92,234

Ayuda para la Vida Silvestre Amenazada Sociedad Zoológica de Fráncfort Perú (AVISA SZF PERU)

# Strategic Direction 5. Safeguard globally threatened species.

Assessing the Risk of Extinction of Plants and Updating Key Biodiversity Areas in the Tropical Andes

#### US\$249,955

International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Conservation Assessment and Planning to Safeguard Globally Threatened Birds in San José de Lourdes Key Biodiversity Area of Peru

#### US\$25,445

Practical Actions - Regional Office for Latin America

# **APPROVED GRANTS**

# Wallacea

Strategic Direction 1. Address threats to high priority species. Photographs of Endemic and Threatened Species to Improve Awareness of the Wallacea Hotspot

**US\$7,399.76** Marlon, Riza

Protection of Halmahera Birds Through Nature Campaign and Law Enforcement in Indonesia

#### US\$94,684

**PROFAUNA** Indonesia

Red-and-Blue Lory Conservation in Sampiri, Indonesia

**US\$8,498** Yayasan IDEP Selaras Alam

Strategic Direction 2. Improve management of sites (Key Biodiversity Areas) with and without official protection status. Community Awareness for Biodiversity Conservation around the Togean Islands in Indonesia

#### US\$10,634

Aliansi Jurnalis Independen (AJI) kota Gorontalo

Community-Based Forest Management in Ilo Wengot, Flores, Indonesia

# US\$19,202.84

Yayasan Ayu Tani Mandiri

Community-Based Natural Resource Management and Spatial Planning in the Malili Lakes Complex of Sulawesi

#### US\$62,557.65

Perkumpulan Wahana Lingkungan Lestari Celebes Area (Wallacea) Kota Palopo

Ensuring Conservation Attention to Limestone-Specific Biodiversity in South Sulawesi, Indonesia

#### **US\$100,000**

Fauna & Flora International

Expansion of Community-Based Protection of Habitat Project in Talaud, Indonesia

#### US\$114,282

Yayasan IDEP Selaras Alam

Implementing Collaborative Management in Key Biodiversity Area Danau Poso, Indonesia

## US\$49,952

Perkumpulan Inovasi Komunitas

Improved Management of the Sahendarumang Forest in Sangihe, North Sulawesi, Indonesia

#### US\$15,125

Perkumpulan Sampiri Kepulauan Sangihe

Species and Site Conservation in the Malili Lakes Complex of Sulawesi, Indonesia

#### **US\$15,905**

Universitas Andi Jemma Fakultas Kehutanan

Sustainable Forest Management in Western Flores, Indonesia

#### US\$16,275.76

Forum Peduli Kawasan Mbeliling

Village Development Planning for Sustainable Key Biodiversity Area Management in Central Sulawesi, Indonesia

#### US\$6,569.73

Perkumpulan Sanggar Seni Lokal dan Pengiat Media Rakyat (Salanggar)

Strategic Direction 3. Alternative Livelihood Promotion and Sustainable Resource Use in the Bantimurung-Bulusaraung Key Biodiversity Area of Indonesia. Alternative Livelihood Promotion and Sustainable Resource Use in the Bantimurung-Bulusaraung Key Biodiversity Area of Indonesia

### US\$80,842

Perkumpulan PAYO-PAYO

Capacity Building for Communities Surrounding Indonesia's Manusela National Park

#### US\$15,886.36

Yayasan Pengembangan dan Pemberdayaan Masyarakat (YPPM) Maluku

Collaborative Management of the Bantimurung-Bulusaraung Key Biodiversity Area in Indonesia

#### US\$14,636.92

Perkumpulan Jurnalis Advokasi Lingkungan Celebes

Community-Based Protection of Endemic Fisheries in Lake Towuti, Sulawesi, Indonesia

US\$14,406.21

Universitas Andi Jemma Fakultas Perikanan

Community Engagement for Better Management of Aketajawe National Park, Indonesia

## US\$13,194

Bidadari Halmahera

Conservation, Agriculture and Reforestation Training in Mundo Perdido Key Biodiversity Area of Timor-Leste

#### US\$40,747

Centro de Desenvolvimento Comunitario

Maleo Bird Habitat Conservation in North Maluku, Indonesia

## US\$5,498

Yayasan Mia Wola

Parrot Conservation and Community Awareness Surrounding Indonesia's Manusela National Park

#### US\$14,158

Perkumpulan Konservasi Kakatua Indonesia

Strengthening Biodiversity Conservation in Coffee and Cocoa Production Systems in Bantaeng Regency, Indonesia

#### US\$105,329

**Rainforest Alliance** 

Strengthening Ridge-to-Reef Natural Resource Management in Seram-Buru Corridor in Indonesia

#### US\$151,200

Yayasan Tanah Air Beta

Strengthening the Role of Indigenous Peoples in Support of Sustainable Natural Resource Management in the Manusela National Park Buffer Area, Maluku, Indonesia

#### **US\$17,786**

Yayasan Sauwa Sejahtera

Sustainable Management of the Lake Poso Basin in Indonesia **US\$10,646** 

Yayasan Panorama Alam Lestari

(YPAL) Poso

Village-Level Capacity Building for Biodiversity Conservation in Ruteng, Flores, Indonesia

## US\$11,912

Yayasan Tunas Jaya

Strategic Direction 4. Strengthen community-based action to protect marine species and sites. Community-Based Mangrove and Coastal Resource Management in the Guruapin Village

#### US\$12,630

Lembaga Pesisir dan Lautan Kie Raha (eLSiL Kie Raha)

Community-Based Marine Protected Area Management in Banggai Laut, Sulawesi, Indonesia

#### **US\$16,532**

SIKAP Institute

Community-Based Protection of the Balantak Coast, Sulawesi, Indonesia

#### **US\$17,189**

Perkumpulan Relawan untuk Orang dan Alam (ROA)

Establish and Scale-Up Atauro Island Marine Protected Area, Timor-Leste

#### US\$170,410

Coral Triangle Center Foundation

Revitalization of Local Wisdom for Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in Buano Island, Indonesia

#### US\$58,407

Lembaga Partisipasi Pembangunan Masyarakat (LPPM)

Sea Turtle Habitat Conservation in North Sulawesi, Indonesia

#### **US\$16,667**

Yayasan Rumah Ganeca, Sulawesi Utara

Strengthening Community-Based Coastal and Marine Resources Management in Minahasa, North Minahasa, and Talaud Districts of North Sulawesi Province, Indonesia

#### **US\$49,257**

Manengkel Solidaritas

Strengthening the Protection of a Site: Key Biodiversity Area Economic Empowerment Through Regulations and Coastal Communities, Indonesia

## US\$42,644

Lembaga pengembangan Masyarakat Lembata (BARAKAT)

Sustainable Mangrove Forest Management in North Maluku, Indonesia

#### US\$16,667

Yayasan Studi Etnologi Masyarakat Nelayan Kecil

The Preparation of the Community to Manage Mangrove and Coastal Resources Sustainably in Central Sulawesi, Indonesia

#### US\$57,884 JAPESDA Gorontalo

Traditional Marine Protected Area Management in Maluku, Indonesia

US\$73,271 Baileo Maluku Foundation Strategic Direction 5. Engage the private sector in conservation of priority sites and corridors, in production landscapes, and throughout the hotspot. Private Sector's Guideline for Ecosystem Conservation and Natural Infrastructure Protection in Indonesia

## US\$101,413

Indonesia Business Council for Sustainable Development

Strategic Direction 6. Enhance civil society capacity for effective conservation action in Wallacea. Revision of Conservation Law and Regulations in Indonesia

#### US\$159,034

Yayasan Kehutanan Masyarakat Indonesia

Strengthening the Capacity of Civil Society Organizations for Effective Conservation Action in Indonesia

# US\$320,000

Penabulu Foundation

Workshop on Coastal and Marine Conservation in North Sulawesi, Indonesia

**US\$5,043** УАРЕКА

# **Multiple Hotspots**

Collective Learning Toward Achieving Shared Nature Conservation Goals

#### **US\$79,380**

Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development

Saving Asia's Bustards Through Sharing Knowledge Across Borders

US\$19,994.79 Wildlife Conservation Society



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Tonkean Macaque (*Macaca tonkeana*), Sulawesi, Indonesia. © Riza Marlon



# **FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

During the 2017 fiscal year of July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017, CEPF awarded US\$10.3 million in new grants, bringing the amount it has invested in conserving critical ecosystems since 2000 to more than US\$217.1 million. By the end of the fiscal year, 2,215 grantees had received support from the fund since its inception.

The fund continued active granting in the East Melanesian Islands, Eastern Afromontane, Indo-Burma, Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands, Mediterranean Basin, Tropical Andes, and Wallacea biodiversity hotspots. CEPF also began new investments in the Guinean Forests of West Africa and Cerrado biodiversity hotspots.

A team led by BirdLife International and IUCN completed an update of the ecosystem profile—the stakeholder-informed analysis of a biodiversity hotspot that includes development of our funding strategy—for the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot, laying the foundation for a reinvestment in the hotspot. Zoï Environment Network, a Switzerland-based NGO, also finalized a draft of the ecosystem profile for the Mountains of Central Asia Biodiversity Hotspot, and work began on an update of the profile for the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot, led by Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI).



# **CEPF STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

REVENUE	FY17	CUMULATIVE
Grants and Contributions	2,602,098	286,073,763
Gain (Loss) in Foreign Exchange	54,111	(1,496,687)
Interest Earned	147,465	3,237,335
TOTAL REVENUE	(US\$2,803,674)	US\$287,814,411
EXPENSES AND GRANTS AWARDED (Grants by funding region*)		
Atlantic Forest	0	10,010,403
Cape Floristic Region	0	7,551,147
Caribbean Islands	(24,673)	6,879,511
Caucasus	0	9,288,219
Cerrado	668,828	1,968,828
East Melanesian Islands	609,696	5,963,032
Eastern Afromontane	760,621	10,362,975
Eastern Arc Mountains & Coastal Forests	0	8,789,550
Eastern Himalayas	0	4,882,859
Guinean Forests of West Africa	0	8,072,696
Guinean Forests of West Africa Reinvestment	295,572	2,095,572
Indo-Burma	0	9,656,797
Indo-Burma Reinvestment	1,992,085	14,264,369
Madagascar	0	5,555,602
Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands	2,011,103	6,937,389
Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany	0	6,647,323
Mediterranean Basin	(159,684)	10,981,504
Mountains of Southwest China	0	7,886,147
Mulitple Hotspots	79,380	79,380
Northern Mesoamerica	0	7,079,430
The Philippines	0	6,970,399
Polynesia-Micronesia	0	6,828,576
Southern Mesoamerica	0	7,046,928
Succulent Karoo	0	9,220,999
Sundaland	0	9,901,465
Tropical Andes	0	8,287,386
Tropical Andes Reinvestment	2,145,119	5,748,391
Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena	0	6,797,978
Wallacea	2,032,396	5,376,381
Western Ghats & Sri Lanka	(27,496)	6,027,573
TOTAL GRANTS	US\$10,382,947	US\$217,158,809
Ecosystem Profile Preparation	621,798	11,445,518
Use of Interest: External Evaluations, Audit and Special Projects	274,921	2,703,363
Donor-Funded Non-Recurring Activities (GEF-PPG)	0	200,000
Operations	3,223,674	40,649,334
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	US\$4,120,393	US\$54,998,216
TOTAL EXPENSES AND GRANTS AWARDED	US\$14,503,340	US\$272,157,025
Revenue Less Expenses	(11,699,666)	15,657,386
Fund Balance at Beginning of Period	27,397,626	-,,
Fund Balance at End of Period	15,697,960	
FUND BALANCE AT END OF PERIOD CONSISTED OF:		
	n International	07 910 607
Cash & Interest Accrued, Net of Amount Due to or from Conservation International		27,319,607
Accounts Receivable		9,909,147
Grants Payable		(21,530,794)
Fund Balance at End of the Period (Fully Earmarked for Investments)		15,697,960

\*The grant expenses include new grants awarded in FY17. Negative amounts represent deobligations.

# **GRANTEE PARTNERS**

### Aaranvak

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