

CEPF'S GOAL:

Protect biodiversity by strengthening civil society in the world's biodiversity hotspots—places with high levels of biological diversity that are under extreme threat.



CEPF'S APPROACH

- **Donor partnership:** Since 2000, CEPF has been bringing together global and regional donors to conserve biodiversity, strengthen civil society and support sustainable development.
- Focused investment: Based on an assessment of opportunities and threats, CEPF donor partners choose which biodiversity hotspots to invest in as funding becomes available.
- Participatory priority-setting: Grant making is guided by ecosystem profiles, analyses of the biodiversity and socio-economic conditions in each hotspot that are produced by, and in consultation with, local stakeholders. The result is a regional conservation strategy tailored to the most urgent needs, using practical solutions.
- **Local management:** CEPF partners with a regional implementation team in the hotspot to help shepherd the investment and build local conservation leadership.

- **Grants to civil society:** Civil society entities—including nongovernmental organizations, communities, indigenous peoples groups, universities and small businesses—apply for grants that are awarded on a competitive basis for projects that contribute to CEPF's conservation strategy.
- Enduring conservation: Projects funded by CEPF add up to a portfolio of complementary conservation actions addressing critical priorities while also building local conservation communities that will continue to lead protection of the hotspots after CEPF funding is completed.
- Achieving global goals: The results achieved by CEPF grantees complement governments' efforts to meet targets related to the U.N.'s Convention on Biological Diversity (the Aichi Targets), Framework Convention on Climate Change, and Sustainable Development Goals.

Cover: Linda's treefrog (Hyloscirtus lindae), Ecuador. © Lucas Bustamante

RESULTS

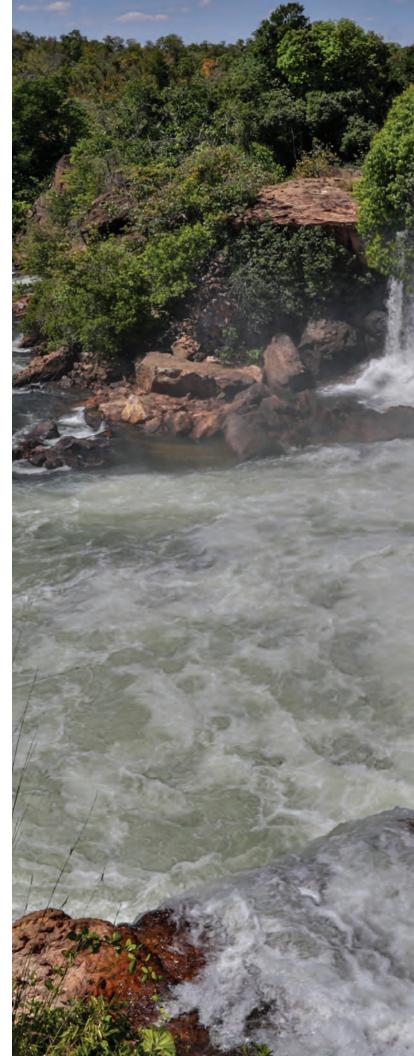
2001 to 30 June 2018

countries and territories benefited
2,305 grantees supported
million grants committed
million leveraged by those grants
million hectares protected areas created
million hectares key biodiversity areas with improved management
million hectares of production landscape with improved management
Red Listed globally threatened species supported
communities directly benefited

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

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



Julia Marton-Lefèvre, CEPF Donor Council Chairperson



PARTNERING FOR STRONGER CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP

Civil society organizations in the biodiversity hotspots are the heart of the CEPF model of conservation. CEPF supports them to both deliver biodiversity conservation and strengthen their organizations, as they represent the future of healthy biodiversity, ecosystems and communities in their regions.

The way civil society groups organize themselves—including CEPF itself—is essential to their ability to deliver conservation results on the ground. One of the reasons I accepted to take on the role of chairperson of CEPF's Donor Council was my strong support of CEPF's commitment to identify and engage with local civil society organizations and give them the means to protect the world's biodiversity hotspots.

CEPF takes governance issues very seriously as it evaluates potential grantee organizations, seeking to ensure that they have the appropriate capacity to carry out their agreed tasks, and helping them build needed abilities. Keys to strong organizations include hiring the highest level of technical staff members and choosing individuals for boards of directors who are willing and able to play an appropriate strategic role that helps ensure the agreed work program is carried out. These elements enable organizations to deliver results in a high quality, transparent, robust and timely manner. If the organizations working with CEPF have challenges with any governance issues, CEPF is ready to come to their assistance to improve matters and achieve the desired outcomes.

AN EXAMPLE FROM MADAGASCAR

In June of 2018, I was pleased to participate in such a mission to Madagascar-based Tany Meva, the organization selected to be the regional implementation team working with CEPF to oversee the investment in the Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot. We had fruitful conversations with the newly appointed

The energy, knowledge and commitment these organizations can bring to the cause is powerful, and it is important to take the steps necessary to make the most of this resource."

— Julia Marton-Lefèvre, CEPF Donor Council Chairperson

Executive Director Claude Fanohiza as well as the members of the Tany Meva Board. We reviewed the different responsibilities of the board, the director and the staff in order to achieve complementarity, empower the executive branch of the organization and avoid duplications. These are challenges that all organizations face, and Tany Meva's courage in addressing them with us is, in my view, admirable.

The trip to Madagascar also gave me a chance to meet with several of CEPF's partners in the country and gain a better understanding of the importance of the conservation challenge that Madagascar is facing. I came away impressed by their work and their collaboration with each other to resolve common problems.

TAPPING THE POTENTIAL OF LOCAL CIVIL SOCIETY

There is, of course, risk inherent in CEPF's choice to work with local civil society organizations in the countries of the biodiversity hotspots. Many CEPF grantee organizations are in the early stages of development or are experiencing growing pains as they seek to take on a larger role in conservation. But this is also where the greatest opportunity lies for those seeking to improve biodiversity conservation around the globe. The energy, knowledge and commitment these organizations can bring to the cause is powerful, and it is important to take the steps necessary to make the most of this resource. Empowered and capable local organizations are also essential in the context of successful implementation of the long-term conservation vision pursued by CEPF in every biodiversity hotspot where it invests.

The CEPF partnership of grantees, regional implementation teams, donors and staff is building the future of the biodiversity hotspots. All the partners are putting their resources, time and talents on the line to achieve a vision that we agree is wonderful, challenging and urgently needed.

— Julia Marton-Lefèvre, CEPF Donor Council Chairperson



Julia Marton-Lefèvre © Julia Marton-Lefèvre | The Tany Meva team and CEPF staff pictured with Julia Marton-Lefèvre. © O. Langrand | Scientists with Madagascar-based organization Association Vahatra working on a biological inventory at Masoala National Park. © Association Vahatra/Image by Voahangy Soarimalala

DONOR MESSAGE: CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL



Jennifer Morris, Conservation International President

CLIMATE: THE SOLUTION IS IN OUR NATURE

The need for urgent action on climate change has never been clearer. The October 2018 special report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change clearly outlined the importance of limiting temperature rise to below 1.5 degrees Celsius, and what is at stake if we fail. The report documented the deadly climate impacts already in motion, including wildfires, hurricanes and ecosystem loss—consequences that will only worsen without concerted action.

To truly address the problem at scale, the report shows that rapid decarbonization, carbon removal and deployment of natural climate solutions will all be necessary.

In fact, at least 30 percent of cost-effective climate change mitigation potential can be delivered through natural climate solutions. Reducing carbon dioxide emissions makes up about half of this figure, achieved primarily by decreasing or eliminating loss of natural, carbon-rich ecosystems. Restoration of natural ecosystems and other natural $\rm CO_2$ removal actions comprise the other half.

THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY AND BIODIVERSITY

Not only does nature offer immediate opportunities to direct its power to addressing climate change, but it also does so with multiple other benefits.

For instance, protecting nature also secures the rich biodiversity of natural ecosystems, which promotes ecosystem resilience to climate transitions; bolsters the productivity of our fisheries; and helps ensure that our grasslands and forests continue to supply fresh water, feed people and buffer communities from extreme weather. Employing

**CEPF grantees are rising to the need for their skills, knowledge and commitment to help communities and governments protect and leverage nature."

- Jennifer Morris, Conservation International President

sustainable practices at the landscape level can boost both climate mitigation and adaptation while also supporting broader development strategies and national plans.

Given the vast, yet unrealized potential of nature as a climate solution, CI is working to rapidly scale the protection and restoration of natural ecosystems as an essential part of meeting the climate challenge. And it follows that we enthusiastically support the efforts being made by CEPF's grantees and other civil society groups working to protect the world's biodiversity hotspots, thereby contributing to the climate solution in several ways:

- By supporting the recovery of globally threatened species, they are securing the resilience of natural systems.
- By conserving intact, carbon-rich natural ecosystems such as mangroves, peatlands, forests and coastal areas, they are preventing the release of large amounts of CO₂ into the atmosphere.
- Through the protection and restoration of Key Biodiversity Areas, they are taking steps to ensure the future of ecosystems that are key to addressing climate change.

- By engaging communities in improved land, freshwater and coastal zone management, and sustainable economic activities, they are empowering local people to make certain they have the resources they need to thrive as they experience the stresses of a changing climate.
- In strengthening the capacities of their organizations, CEPF grantees are rising to the need for their skills, knowledge and commitment to helping communities and governments protect and leverage nature.

These are precisely the kinds of efforts the we should support and scale up to make the most effective use of nature's potential for addressing climate change.

Conservation International is proud to be a founding donor of CEPF. We have long known that civil society organizations working at the grassroots level to protect their ecosystems are supporting a global need for biodiversity, but never has their work been more important to all of us than right now. Tapping their skills and knowledge to help governments achieve their goals while also helping local communities thrive is the most practical choice the global community can make as we respond to our changing climate. And it is clear that the time to act is now.

— Jennifer Morris, Conservation International President



Jennifer Morris © Conservation
International | Climate change and
conservation workshop in Santo Province,
Vanuatu, part of a grant to Edenhope
Foundation. © GIZ – Coen Bosboom |
Mangroves in Los Haitises National Park,
Dominican Republic. © O. Langrand

THE PARTNERSHIP

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 27 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.

THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)

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

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

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

THE WORLD BANK

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



YEAR IN REVIEW

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017 **NEW SPECIES DISCOVERED**

Two CEPF-funded projects announced high-profile species discoveries.

- Fauna & Flora International (FFI) discovered 15 gecko species new to science in Myanmar. Three of the species were described in the Journal of Natural History and 12 in the Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society. FFI has worked with Myanmar's Mining and Environment Departments to develop environmental best-practice guidelines for limestone quarries to reduce the negative impact on biodiver-sity linked to extractive
- Hikuna Judge, a ranger at the Zaira Resource Management Area on Vangunu Island, Solomon Islands, and ecologist Tyrone Lavery of University of Queensland reported the discovery of the Vangunu giant rat (*Uromys vika*). It's the first new rat species discovered on the islands in about 80 years. It can weigh more



than 0.9 kilograms (2 pounds) and stretch to about 0.45 m from nose to tip of tail. Because its habitat is threatened by industrial logging, the rat is likely to be designated as Critically Endangered once it is assessed for the

IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

OCTOBER 2017

NEW INVESTMENT IN MEDITERRANEAN BASIN BEGINS



CEPF's second investment in conserving the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot began, with BirdLife International serving as the regional implementation team (RIT). The new investment of US\$10 million is building on progress made in the first CEPF investment of

US\$10.7 million from 2012-2017. For results of the first investment, see pages 28 and 29.

Eligible countries for the new investment include Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cabo Verde, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, FYR of Macedonia, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia.

Despite the efforts of the CEPF Secretariat, the government of Turkey did not provide the endorsement that is required for CEPF to make grants available to the civil society of a given country. This was a great disappointment for CEPF and the RIT as well as for the conservation community of Turkey.

DECEMBER 2017

DALMATIAN PELICAN STATUS IMPROVES

The status of the Dalmatian pelican (Pelecanus crispus) on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species was "downlisted" from "Vulnerable" to "Near Threatened," marking a global improvement of its conservation status.

A four-fold increase in southeast Europe's Dalmatian pelican population since the 1990s brought about the change in status. This progress 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. The organizations Noé, 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) collaborated to increase Skadar's Dalmatian pelican population. Where previously breeding pairs had been counted at fewer than a dozen, in 2017, 48 nesting pairs produced 58 chicks.



Vangunu giant rat (Uromys vika). Illustration by Velizar Simeonovski/The Field Museum | A community researcher with CEPF grantee Global Diversity Foundation interviews a local elder in Morocco, in the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot. © Inanc Tekguc, for Global Diversity Foundation | Dalmatian pelicans, Skadar Lake, Montenegro. © Andrej Vizi

KENYA PROTECTS LAKE OL BOLOSSAT

Following a campaign by CEPF grantee East African Wildlife Society, the Kenyan government declared Lake Ol Bolossat a 4,000-hectare protected area. The small lake in central Kenya features open water, marshes, grassland and forests. It is home to hippopotamuses and a way station for migrating birds. The lake also provides food and water for people, livestock and wildlife downstream. But human activity has decreased the water body and action was needed to ensure its future.



NEW CEPF WEBSITE

CEPF launched its new website, www.cepf.net, featuring a responsive design that accommodates viewing on a variety of devices. New and improved content includes a "Learning" section, a searchable project database, updated biodiversity hotspots content, a simplified "Grants" section, and a new "Stories" page featuring articles on biodiversity, grantee stories, grantee results, lessons learned, tips and tools, and news.

APRIL 2018

PRESENCE OF WORLD'S RAREST TURTLE CONFIRMED BY eDNA

The world's most endangered turtle species, Swinhoe's softshell turtle (*Rafetus swinhoei*), received a boost when the Asian Turtle Program, with support from a CEPF grant, used the collection of environmental DNA, or eDNA, to identify a new individual at a lake on the outskirts of Hanoi, Vietnam.

Now believed to be almost extinct in the wild, Swinhoe's softshell turtle's total population previously numbered only three individuals as of 2016. This finding offers new hope, with the possibility of bringing wild individuals together in a controlled environment for captive breeding.

JUNE 2018

CARIBBEAN ECOSYSTEM PROFILE DRAFTED



CEPF engaged a team led by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) to draft a new ecosystem profile—a blueprint for conservation—for the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot. The participatory assessment CANARI conducted

of the hotspot looked at progress made during and since CEPF's 2010-2015 investment of US\$6.9 million in conserving the biodiversity of this hotspot, and identified the most urgent conservation needs. More than 175 stakeholders from 94 organizations participated in the profile development, including civil society, government, the private sector and the donor community active in the hotspot. Once finalized, the profile will provide the foundation for future conservation investment in the hotspot.

NINE INDONESIAN AGENCIES SIGN COOPERATION AGREEMENTS



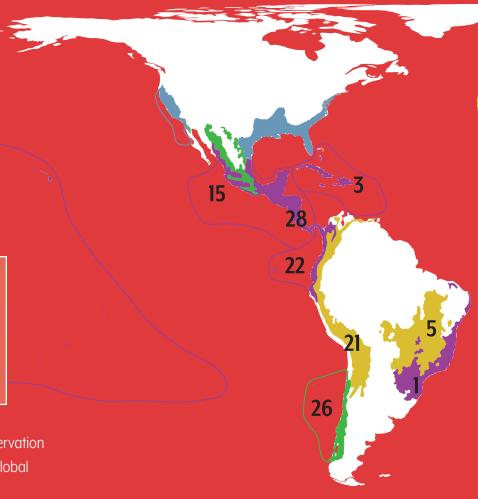
Burung Indonesia, the organization serving as CEPF's regional implementation team for the Wallacea Biodiversity Hotspot, signed cooperation agreements with nine agencies of the Indonesian Ministry of Environment and Forestry. The achievement is

an important milestone that helps bring Wallacea's biodiversity into the national spotlight and signifies the government's recognition that civil society organizations play an important role in protecting that biodiversity.

ECUADOR MUNICIPALITY ESTABLISHES CONSERVATION AREA SYSTEM

With help from CEPF grantee Flora & Fauna International, the municipality of San Lorenzo in Ecuador approved an ordinance establishing a system of conservation and sustainable-use areas that resulted in protection of 54,539 hectares of land important for water resources and biodiversity in the Awacachi Corridor Key Biodiversity Area.

CEPF AND THE BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS



BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS =

EARTH'S MOST BIOLOGICALLY

RICH — YET THREATENED —

TERRESTRIAL REGIONS.

CEPF awards grants to civil society working on conservation in developing and transitional countries within the global biodiversity hotspots.

To qualify as a biodiversity hotspot, an area must meet two strict criteria:

- Contain at least 1,500 species of vascular plants found nowhere else on Earth (known as "endemic" species).
- Have lost at least 70 percent of its primary native vegetation.

There are 36 hotspots around the globe. Some are contained in a single country, such as Japan. Others include parts of several countries, such as the Mediterranean Basin Hotspot, which encompasses portions of 34 countries and territories.

BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS

Current CEPF Investment

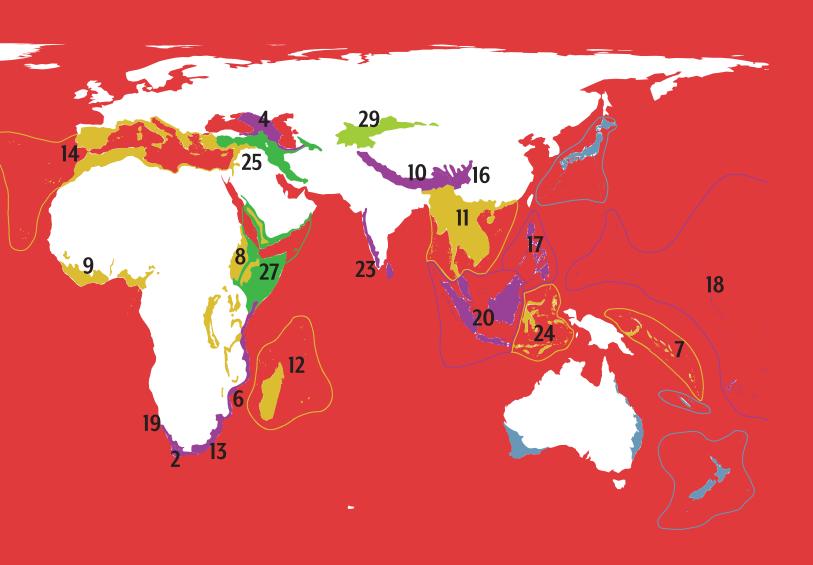
Past CEPF Investment

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Eligible for CEPF Investment

Other Hotspots

Planned Future Investment



BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOTS WHERE CEPF HAS INVESTED

- Atlantic Forest
- 2. Cape Floristic Region
- 3. Caribbean Islands
- 4 Caucasus
- Cerrado
- 6. Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa
- 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
- Succulent Karoo
- 20. Sundaland
- 21. Tropical Andes
- 22. Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena
- 23. Western Ghats and Sri Lanko
- 24. Wallaced

ELIGIBLE FOR CEPF INVESTMENT

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

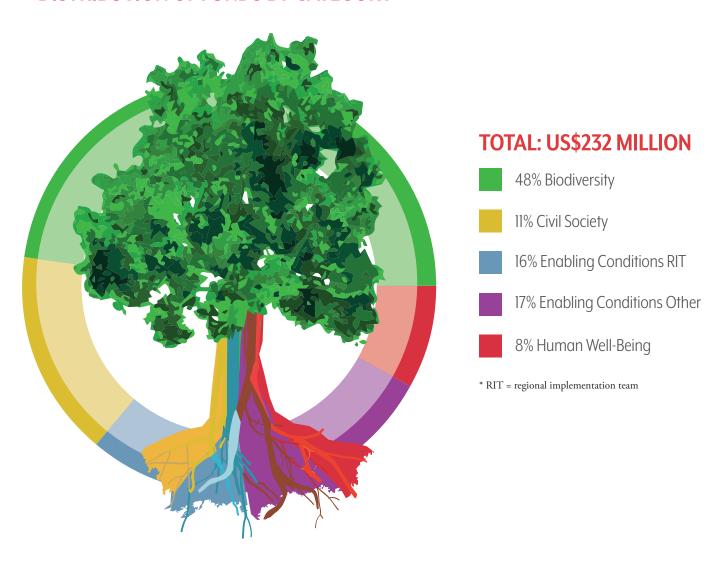
PLANNED FUTURE CEPF INVESTMENT

29. Mountains of Central Asia



PROGRESS REPORT

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS BY CATEGORY



Since it began making grants in 2001, 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.

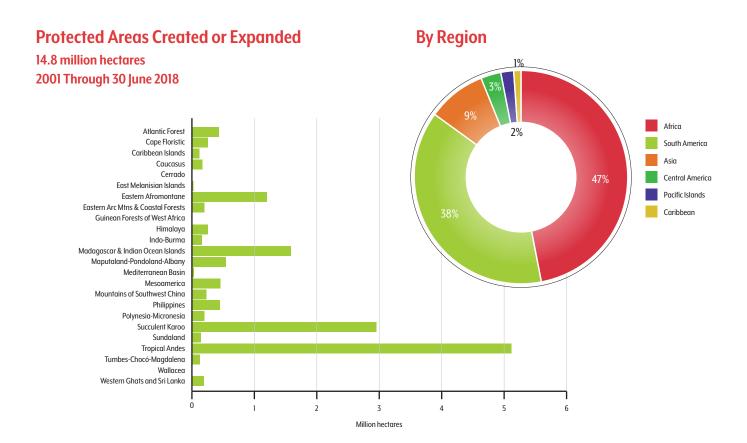
BIODIVERSITY

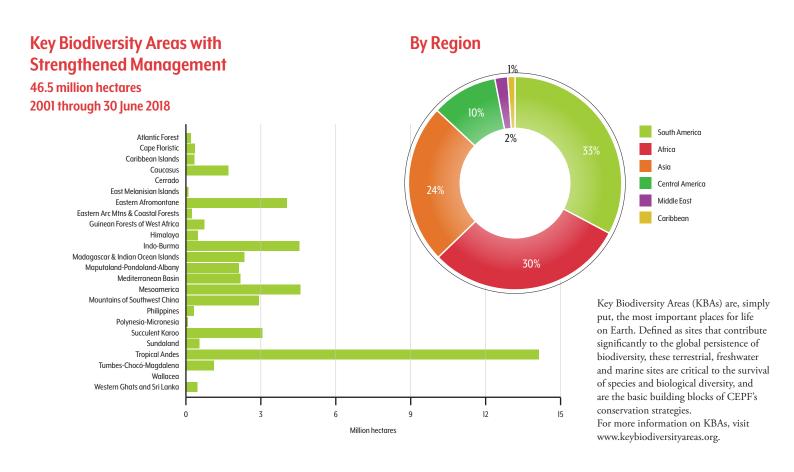
Biodiversity, the amazing variety of life on the planet, is fundamental to thriving ecosystems and communities. Plants, animals, fungi and even micro-organisms have important roles to play in maintaining a planet that supports 7.6 billion people. CEPF's primary focus is on conserving biodiversity.

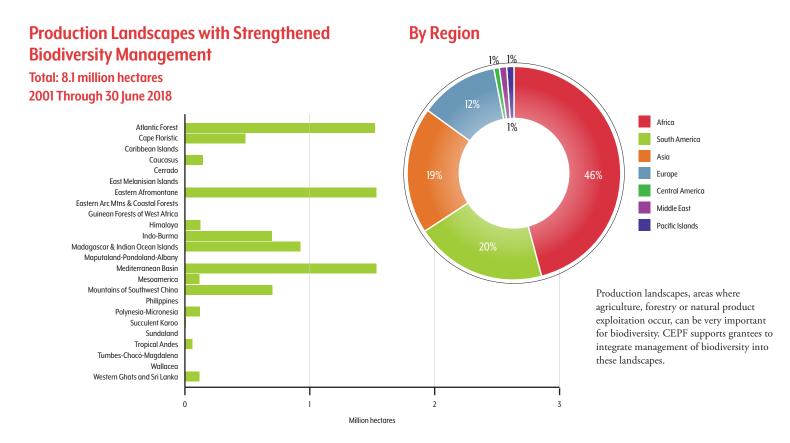
CEPF's goal: Improve the status of globally endangered species and the critical ecosystems that support those species.

Species Protection

1,250 listed as Vulnerable, Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species benefited from CEPF-funded projects







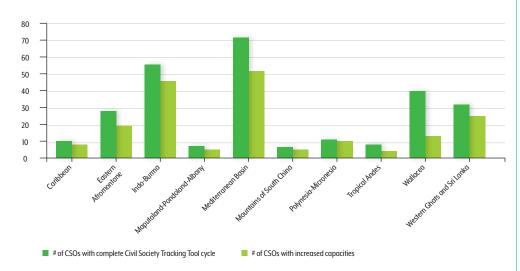
CIVIL SOCIETY

CEPF was established to conserve biodiversity by delivering financial resources and technical assistance to civil society—nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), 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.

Number of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) with Increased Capacities per Hotspot*

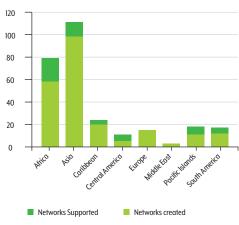
Completed Civil Society Tracking Tool scorecards: 270 Scorecards with increased scores: 187 2010 through 30 June 2018



^{*} Note: CEPF gathers this data via the Civil Society Tracking Tool, which CEPF began using in 2010. The chart includes data for the 270 grantees who had completed assessments by the end of fiscal year 2018.

Number of Networks and Partnerships CEPF Grantees Have Created and/or Supported

Total = 278 2001 through 30 June 2018



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.

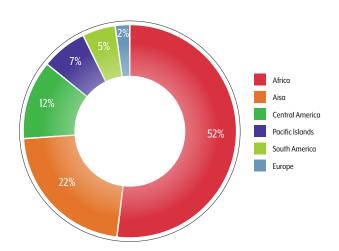
HUMAN WELL-BEING

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.

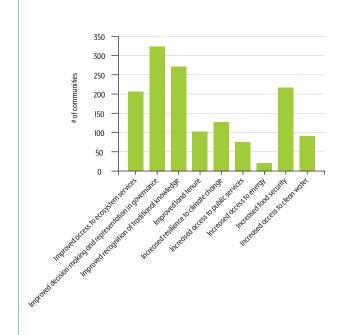
Communities Directly Benefiting, by Region

Total: 3,067 2001 through 30 June 2018



Types of Non-Cash Benefits Received

Data for 553 communities in seven hotspots Fiscal years 2017–2018



Note: Communities can have more than one type of benefit.

Communities have received noncash livelihood benefits such as improved access to clean water, strengthened land tenure and increased representation in decision-making processes. Since data collection to calculate the number of people in these communities commenced in 2017, more than 99,582 people have been recorded as receiving non-cash benefits. Additionally, since 2017, 55,488 people have been recorded as receiving cash benefits, such as income generated from alternative livelihood projects.

Since CEPF began grant making in 2001, more than **149,000 people have received training** in natural resource management, alternative livelihoods such as beekeeping, financial management, community leadership and a range of other topics.

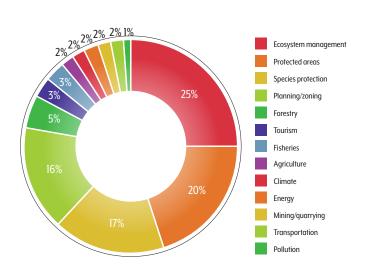
ENABLING CONDITIONS

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.

Percent of Policies, Laws or Regulations that Address Specific Themes

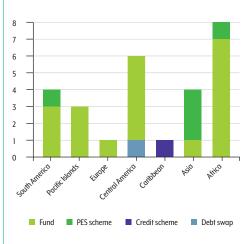
Total: 249 polices, laws or regulations enacted or amended 2001 through 30 June 2018



Note: Polices/laws may cover more than one theme.

Number of Sustainable Finance Mechanisms Supported by CEPF, by Region

Total: 27 2001 through 30 June 2018

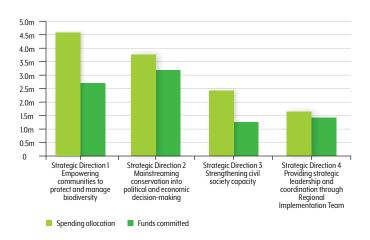


REGIONAL RESULTS

Through its support to organizations and communities in the developing and transitional countries of the biodiversity hotspots, CEPF empowered its grantees to implement conservation strategies in nine biodiversity hotspots during fiscal year 2018. The following charts show the progress made in each hotspot in terms of grant making.

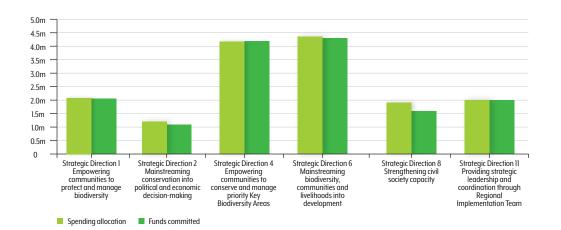
Progress through 30 June 2018





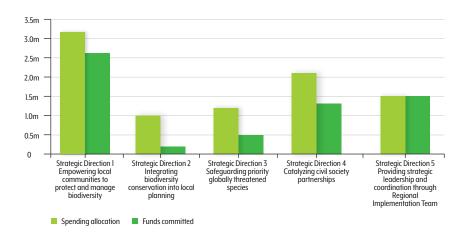




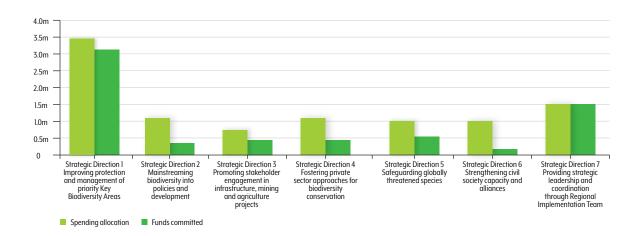


Note: For the Indo-Burma Hotspot, there are a total of 11 strategic directions, but donor partners outside of CEPF are addressing strategic directions 3, 5, 7, 9 and 10.

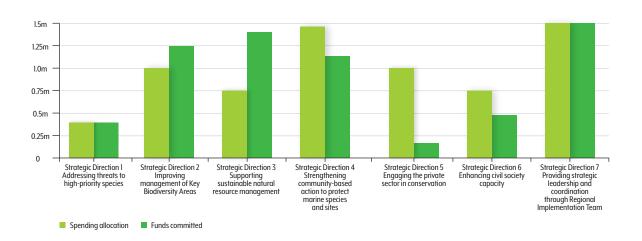




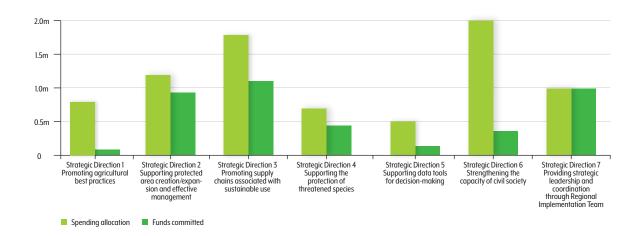




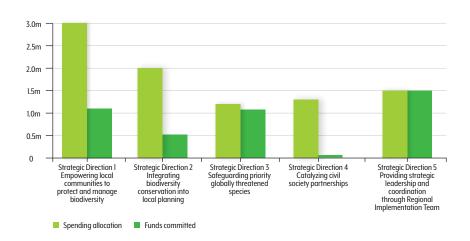




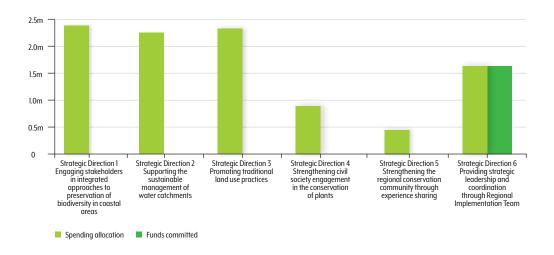










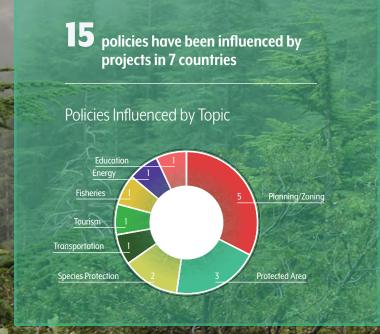


REGIONAL RESULTS IN FOCUS: MEDITERRANEAN BASIN BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

2012-2017

In September 2017, CEPF completed its first five-year investment in conserving the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot. CEPF and its regional implementation team led by BirdLife International awarded **108 grants** to **93 organizations** for a total investment of **US\$10.7** million in Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cabo Verde, Croatia, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Morocco and Tunisia.





Background photo: Lebanon cedar (Cedrus libani), Lebanon. © O. Langrand | Bottom right photo: Ulcinj, Montenegro. © CZIP

of CEPF grantees in the hotspot were local or national organizations



species on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species benefited from CEPF-funded projects

Grantee in Focus: Biosfera I in Cape Verde took actions to conserve the Critically

Endangered Razo lark (Alauda razae), including the reintroduction of the species to Santa Luzia island through translocation of 30 birds.

130+ communities in the hotspot benefited from



(measured by Civil Society Tracking Tool)

increased capacity

new protected areas covering 27,651 hectares established with the help of CEPF grantees



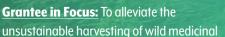
Solution Key Biodiversity Areas benefited from CEPF grantee actions

Key Biodiversity Areas covering 2,177,809 hectares had management strengthened by CEPF grantees

of CEPF grantee organizations reported

12,000 people with increased revenues through projects that developed sustainable livelihood activities

CEPF-funded projects



and aromatic plants in the Atlas Mountains of Morocco, and provide alternative income for local people, Global Diversity Foundation helped communities establish two plant nurseries, producing 20,000 almonds and walnuts per year, and a new water pipeline also improved drinking water for 50 families.



1,485,000 hectares of productive landscapes with improved management

Grantee in Focus: Overgrazing in a biosphere reserve in Jordan has been tackled by United Society for Developing Water Resources and Environment by offering local villages a water-efficient hydroponic system to grow green fodder to feed livestock without degrading the soil or undermining native plants.

networks involving civil society organizations created



Thanks to the MAVA Foundation for additional support to the investment.

CEPF's second five-year investment in the region is currently underway and will build on the progress made by grantees during the first investment.

Left column: Discovering nest of loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) at Farwa, Libya, in the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot. © CEPF Med | Ehmej Plant Micro-Reserve, Lebanon. © O. Langrand. Right column Raso lark (Alauda razae), Cape Verde. © Awatef Abiadh | Planting lavender as part of a project promoting sustainable livelihoods, Atlas Mountains, Morocco. © Inanc Tekguc, for Global Diversity Foundation | On the shore of Lake Ohrid, Albania, the Act4Drin project brought together 28 representatives from 18 environmental organizations in the southwest Balkans. © Thomais Vlachogianni





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.

Iris sofarana grown in the lab. © O. Langrand

MEDITERRANEAN BASIN BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

Though a small country of 10,000 square kilometers, Lebanon has numerous microclimates that shelter almost 2,600 different species of plants, many found nowhere else on Earth.

Pressure from urban development, along with a general lack of awareness, have put these fragile ecosystems at risk. A CEPF-funded project completed by the University of Saint Joseph (USJ) in 2016 made tremendous headway in protecting some of Lebanon's rare flowers: two plant micro-reserves were established, and work began on building the first national red list for threatened species.

Professor Magda Bou Dagher Kharrat, project lead, and her team continued their work after the CEPF grant and achieved an important breakthrough in 2018: They determined how to successfully germinate three of Lebanon's most endangered flowers in a laboratory setting.

"It's taken us four years of working on the germination protocol in our laboratory for seed germination and conservation. Initially, less than 3 percent of the seeds would germinate after six or seven months," said Bou Dagher Kharrat.

In the wild, the seeds are naturally dispersed by ants who hide them underground and eat a small portion. "We found a way to imitate this process and now, in two weeks, we have germination," Bou Dagher Kharrat said.

USJ has taken Iris *bismarckiana* germinated in the lab and successfully planted them in the Sarada micro-reserve. "When there are two flowers found far away from each other, we plant others between them, to create a corridor," Bou Dagher Kharrat explained. This process has been applied to other endangered iris species, too.

Now USJ is using a new grant from CEPF to expand their efforts on behalf of Lebanon's plants, including integrating plants into the site management of three existing reserves, strengthening the management of Sarada, and testing conservation approaches at some archeological sites.

UN CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AICHI TARGETS

12

Target 12

By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.

UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Goal 15

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

WALLACEA BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

On the islands of North Maluku Province, Indonesia, the white cockatoo (*Cacatua alba*) and chattering lory (*Lorius garrulus*) are long-suffering victims of a thriving illicit bird trade.

College students and others in the distant East Java Province enjoy the birds as pets, creating a persistent and unsustainable demand. CEPF grantee PROFAUNA, however, is working with Maluku communities to protect the birds.

Initial research showed that during high season—November to March—more than 3,000 birds were being captured every month. PROFAUNA staff traveled to 58 villages around North Maluku to promote parrot protection to local people, including poachers.

Recognizing the need to address the demand side of the equation, the project team conducted university outreach to confront the problem at its source. Project staff talked to more than 2,300 school and university students in East Java, urging them not to buy parrots.

"Most people did not know the birds were endangered," said Swasti Prawidya Mukti, PROFAUNA's campaign officer. "They see them as all being the same and don't think about which ones come from where, let alone the threats those species face."

PROFAUNA informed students about the species and explained what is happening in their natural habitat, including the disappearance of the white cockatoo from some parts of the islands. The project team also campaigned to raise awareness among the general public.

In North Maluku, PROFAUNA convened the first-ever meeting of parties involved in the parrot protection effort, including the Nature Conservation Agency, the police and the army, traditional and governmental leaders, NGOs and youth groups. The result has been several joint activities, including field patrols, follow-up meetings and education activities.

"As indicated by our second investigation/survey at end of the project, parrot poaching has declined by more than 70 percent," Mukti said. "We are hopeful that with more education, the local people may stop poaching and trading parrots altogether."

PROFAUNA continues to expand its work, planning to eventually cover the whole of North Maluku Province.

GUINEAN FORESTS OF WEST AFRICA BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

In southeastern Nigeria, the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) is taking a multifaceted approach to saving the Critical-

ly Endangered Cross River gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla diehli*), a subspecies of the western gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla*). The wild population of Cross River gorillas is estimated at only 300.

"Although it is the most endangered of all four gorilla subspecies, there is growing optimism that the Cross River gorilla can be saved though a landscape approach that strengthens the management of existing protected areas and works with local communities to protect important habitat corridors," said Andrew Dunn of WCS.

Hunting and habitat loss are key threats. A grant from CEPF is funding longer, more frequent patrols by rangers, and generating data to inform future patrol strategies. Rangers and guards use an app-enabled monitoring tool to identify and record signs of human activity, as well as the presence of gorillas and other noteworthy species.

Representatives from the local community are teaming up with guards working in protected areas to monitor habitat where the Cross River gorillas exist but are not specifically protected. In some cases, agricultural land separates protected areas and unprotected gorilla habitat. To reconnect these habitats, WCS is helping communities co-manage important land corridors and encouraging cocoa producers to plant in the shade. Shade-grown crops are more productive and command a higher price while minimizing the physical barriers that separate gorilla populations. It is a rare opportunity for increased yields and profits, as well as benefits for the gorillas.

The project team is also conducting outreach to change local attitudes and practices related to watershed conservation and to encourage sustainable livelihood activities such as cultivating bush mangos.



PARTNERING WITH INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Indigenous peoples and local communities whose lives are closely intertwined with nature are among conservation's strongest allies. By partnering with, and learning from, those who live in and around the biodiversity hotspots, CEPF supports the development of conservation practices that deliver lasting benefits for people and biodiversity.



Meeting of the Akio Kary (tiger shark) monitoring, control and surveillance group in Ampandikoara in the Barren Isles. © Blue Ventures

MADAGASCAR AND INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

Though it is one of the most isolated and least-developed regions of Madagascar, the 4,300-square-kilometer Barren Isles marine protected area faces many of the same threats seen across the western Indian Ocean: destructive fishing practices; conflicts between small-scale and industrial fishers; mining, oil and gas exploration; and climate change.

CEPF grantee Blue Ventures Conservation is working to counteract those pressures by forming a local fisher's organization, Vezo Miray Nosy Barren Association (VMNB), and expanding the capacity of VMNB's members through training and mentoring in fisheries management. The goal is to move the Barren Isles, the largest marine protected area in the country, from its current temporary protected status to permanent protection as a locally managed marine area co-managed by the VMNB.

"We made substantial progress toward securing protected status for the Barren Isles Marine Protected Area (MPA), which supports the livelihoods of thousands of local fishers," said Cécile Fattebert, the Barren Isles project manager. "The MPA will also serve as a pilot site for the regional fisheries management plan."

The local management approach, including participatory selection of areas where fishing is prohibited, is already making a difference. "Octopus fishers from Nosy Maroantaly have never caught such a big quantity," said Robustin, vice president of the Management Committee of the Association Vezo Miray Nosy Barren. "We are convinced now that this technique of making octopus grow big is good for us. We have also observed that some species of fish have grown as well and multiplied, such as the mullet."

Nearly all of the fishers in most villages are now registered VMNB members—no mean feat given the size of the protected area.

Blue Ventures has developed a community monitoring, control and surveillance system, and helped obtain a ministerial decree for adoption of the regional fisheries management plan.

UN CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AICHI TARGETS



Target 18

By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated

and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.

UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Goal 16

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

TROPICAL ANDES HOTSPOT

A peace accord signed in 2016 is allowing Colombia to emerge from more than 50 years of internal armed conflict. In Serranía del Pinche—a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) and protected area in the country's southwest—CEPF grantee Fundación Ecohabitats is engaging former combatants, as well as other residents, in mapping out a sustainable future.

Fundación Ecohabitats and its partner Agroenvironmental Association Santa Clara Serranía del Pinche are supporting a planning process involving local stakeholders, including community members who are former members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia. Participants are updating the KBA's management plan, undertaking ecological studies to identify priorities to expand the protected area, and developing a conservation plan to safeguard a Critically Endangered bird species found nowhere else: the gorgeted puffleg (*Eriocnemis isabellae*). Some former fighters are even being trained in bird monitoring.

"Conservation provides examples of sustainable development and ways for communities to overcome a long and tragic history of armed conflict, to come together and agree on the conservation of their lands," said Fundacion Ecohabitats' Executive Director Liliana Patricia Paz Betancourt. "It is not only an opportunity to save wildlife; it is a chance for those who seek to change their lives."

CEPF support has enabled Fundacion Ecohabitats to hire local staff and fund the work of a representative of the Agroenvironmental Association Santa Clara Serranía del Pinche for 10 months. It has also made it possible to hire the services of approximately 20 local community members for food preparation, bird and plant inventories, and protected area monitoring. These individuals also coordinate economic and technical resources with the environmental authority and local government, and they have leveraged funding from the GEF Small Grants Program to carry out community territorial planning processes to define conservation areas.

EASTERN AFROMONTANE HOTSPOT

Along the southern border of Uganda's Bwindi National Park, home to almost half of the world's mountain gorillas (Gorilla beringei beringei), a unique partnership has taken

hold between CEPF grantee Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) and the indigenous Batwa people. Together, they are creating a means for the Batwa people to participate in park management committees, helping them negotiate natural resource usage rights, and improving the "Batwa Forest Experience," an ecotourism venture at the edge of the national park.

When Bwindi National Park was created in 1991, the Batwa were forced to leave, creating a difficult social dynamic, pitting the rights of historically marginalized people against broader conservation goals.

"Uganda is now looking for answers to the Batwa plight," said MUST's Medard Twinamatsiko Katonera. "We hope their culture will be celebrated through the Batwa Forest Experience as they reconnect to their natural world and conserve this great forest."

"We are training 20 Batwa tour guides, 20 Batwa dancers and about 22 Batwa in enterprise development, financial management, negotiation and basic research skills," Twinamatsiko said. The project brought the Batwa together under the Bwindi Batwa Community Development Association (BBCDA), and has enabled them to voice their concerns to the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), local government and other stakeholders.

In 2018, the project also helped place two Batwa representatives on the Revenue Sharing Project Management Committee and two Batwa representatives on the Problem Animal Management Committee. UWA recruited one of its first Batwa rangers, John Kaheru, who can now participate in decision-making about protecting Bwindi's forest.

MUST's efforts come at a time of conservation success for the flagship species of the region. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species downlisted the mountain gorillas from Critically Endangered to Endangered due to population growth resulting from effective conservation. Empowering the Batwa to conserve their culture and get their voices heard will build on that success and allow these former inhabitants of Bwindi to thrive with it.



CONSERVING NATURE IN PRODUCTION LANDSCAPES

Land used to produce food and other agricultural commodities—or production landscape—is often adjacent to natural areas and has an important role to play in conservation, in particular in promoting connectivity in habitat corridors designed to conserve biodiversity. Managing such areas sustainably and in harmony with nature helps not only ensure their abundance for the long term, but also protects nearby resources that are essential to humans and biodiversity.



Giant ibis (Thaumatibis gigantea), Cambodia. © Allan Michaud



incentives to protect their environment.

In the wildlife sanctuaries of northern Cambodia, rice farmers and waterbirds have something in common:

they need the area's rich natural ecosystems to thrive. Rice cultivation is a vital economic activity and source of food for local communities. However, agricultural expansion and pollution threaten grasslands and forests that provide important ecosystem services

communities also need, such as soil fertility, as well as habitat for globally threatened species and other wildlife. CEPF grantee Sansom Mlup Prey

(SMP) seeks to improve farmers' livelihoods in a way that provides

Through SMP's Ibis Rice project, which celebrates 10 years of activity in 2019, SMP is increasing market access for the high-quality, organic, wildlife-friendly rice produced in remote communities within the wildlife sanctuaries. As a result, participating farmers are earning more for their rice, and in exchange they agree to employ organic farming methods and controls over agricultural expansion, as well as refrain from poaching and logging. SMP monitors for compliance.

Ibis Rice takes its name from the giant ibis (Thaumatibis gigantea), Cambodia's national bird. With an estimated population of 194 individuals primarily in northern Cambodia, the giant ibis is listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

The Ibis Rice program now includes 700 households from which it purchased 950 metric tons of paddy following the 2018 harvest, at a price that was 40 percent higher than the market price for conventional rice.

"Local people are starting to understand the real benefit that they can see from respecting the Ibis Rice standard," said Socheat Keo, SMP program manager. "We can see in general that participating families did not clear new land illegally, hunt wild animals or use chemicals in their rice

The growth in household participation has been facilitated by finding new international markets that require USDA and organic certification, according to Nick Spencer, SMP's business manager. "Now all our farmers are certified to export to Canada, the EU and Singapore," he said.

SMP has recently developed a new project aimed at farmers around Tonle Sap Lake, particularly the areas important for the Bengal florican (Houbaropsis bengalensis), another bird species listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List. SMP is pioneering a new global sustainability standard for rice through the Sustainable Rice Platform, implementing Cambodia's first pilot project under the standard. Their efforts have led

UN CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AICHI TARGETS



Target 7

By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.

UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Goal 15

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

to establishment of a national chapter for the platform in Cambodia involving cooperation with Mars Foods and a number of rice producers to change the way rice is farmed in the Tonle Sap.

In addition, SMP's capacity has grown through changes in the organization's vision and its partnership with CEPF and other supporters. While SMP counted just four staff members in January 2015, their local staff now totals 26, with Cambodian management, GIS officers and community staff.



Brazil produces one-third of the world's coffee, and much of it is cultivated in the Cerrado Biodiversity Hotspot, one of the biologically richest tropical savanna regions in the world. This industry takes a big toll on the region's

nature and its water resources.

The Cerrado Waters Consortium is pursuing a sustainable approach that conserves the region's biodiversity and its water supplies. The Instituto de Manejo e Certificação Florestal e Agrícola (IMAFLORA), a CEPF grantee, founded the consortium along with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the Ecological Research Institute (IPÊ). They are collaborating with the Cerrado Coffee Growers Federation and Cooxupé (a coffee cooperative), as well as Nespresso, to influence the creation of a pilot payment for ecosystem services (PES) scheme in the municipality of Patrocínio in the heart of one of Brazil's primary coffee regions. In addition to Nespresso, coffee roasters Illy, Lavazza and Nestlé have committed to finance the fixed costs associated with the consortium management team.

"We are working to ensure future environmental services payments, as well as creating various maps of the consortium farms," said Eduardo Trevisan Gonçalves of IMAFLORA. "The maps will support restoration of the areas that need to augment forest cover."

According to Brazilian law, farmers need to maintain 20 percent of their properties as natural ecosystems, yet not everyone does. The project is helping coffee producers determine whether they are fully compliant with the law. Gonçalves said that increasing the number of coffee producers reaching that goal creates a corresponding increase in biodiversity conservation.

IMAFLORA is also producing technical materials, including a Cerrado restoration handbook, and best practices for agriculture. These materials

have a specific focus on preserving biodiversity and environmental services such as fresh water, soil fertility and pollination.

"At the same time," Gonçalves added, "we are working to get more partners—coffee companies, local governments—to help with the restoration and ecosystem service payments." Today that work includes conservation efforts with the farmers around the Corrego Feio River, which provides water for Patrocinio and enables irrigation for some of the producers involved in the project. "CEPF support is creating conditions for the consortium to expand into larger regions to involve more growers and conserve more biodiversity," Gonçalves said.

IMAFLORA ultimately plans to engage the 4,500 members of the Cerrado Coffee Federation, the area's leading coffee consortium, on 230,000 hectares of land. They hope that involving the private sector will enable them to maximize the number of growers who are taking steps to support biodiversity and protect water resources.



CEPF is a member of the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative, which promotes collaboration in the conservation and restoration of sustainable human-influenced natural environments (Socio-Ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes: SEPLS) through broader global recognition of their value. www. Satoyama-initiative.org

Patrocinio coffee plantation, Brazil. © Conservation International/photo by Peggy Poncelet

HELPING ISLAND COMMUNITIES ADDRESS CONSERVATION CHALLENGES

The world's small island developing states are reservoirs of unique biodiversity. These nations are also highly vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change and over-exploitation of limited remaining natural areas. CEPF grantees work with these communities to protect biodiversity, livelihoods and ecosystems that provide food, fresh water and a buffer from extreme weather events.

EAST MELANESIAN ISLANDS BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

In the village of Kerepua, in the foothills of Mount
Tabwemasana in the Santo Mountain Chain, CEPF grantee
Live & Learn Vanuatu facilitated the creation of the Tabwemasana
Community Conservation Area (CCA), the largest registered conservation
area in Vanuatu.

The effort—undertaken along with the Department of Environmental Protection and other government agencies and donor partners—was both ambitious and far-reaching. Live & Learn Vanuatu assessed and promoted awareness of biodiversity, developed a management and land-use plan, and established a local CCA management committee. The project also sought to identify conservation-based livelihood projects and raise funding for plan implementation.

"To date, through collaboration with partners, the CCA has registered 4,849 hectares of land under Vanuatu's Environment Protection Act," said Live & Learn Vanuatu's Glarinda Andre. "The CCA has also produced a management action plan to manage and monitor threatened species within the area."

The plan has received official signoff from Vanuatu's Director of Environment Reedly Tari.

A land-use planning workshop, meanwhile, resulted in the mapping of the CCA to define the various uses—such as resource harvesting, hunting, and untouched forest areas—to aid future management of the Tabwemasana CCA. Live & Learn Vanuatu's efforts also helped to create an eight-member local CCA management committee, and resulted in the printing and circulation of a booklet on the plants and animals of the Mount Tabwemasana CCA.

The work is not over, though. With CEPF financial support, the grantee will soon begin to train project participants to conduct species monitoring, develop a data reporting system and implement a financing model. In addition, Live & Learn Vanuatu-supported field activities aim to enhance ecotourism opportunities at Mount Tabwemasana.



Director of Environment Reedly Tari officially handing registration certificate to the Tabwemasana CCA chairman at Kerepua Village, Vanuatu. © Rolenas Tavue Baereleo/Ecolifelihood Development Association

UN CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AICHI TARGETS

14

Target 14

By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.

UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Goal 15

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

MADAGASCAR AND THE INDIAN OCEAN ISLANDS BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

In the island nation of Comoros, CEPF grantee Dahari is working to identify conservation priorities on Anjouan Island. The government of Comoros has declared new protected areas across Anjouan and other islands, and Dahari aims to inform conservation practice in these areas through research targeted at endemic fauna and flora.

Because the Comoros lacks proper identification of conservation priorities and detailed species research, Dahari has performed multiple species distribution analyses and animal ecology studies, important first steps toward developing species conservation plans and actions.

"This project aims to fill the gaps in that understanding," said Hugh Doulton, Dahari's strategic advisor. "Our previous research in the Comoros led to the Livingstone's flying fox being upgraded from Endangered to Critically Endangered [on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species]."

Dahari's five-member local ecology team is using research on the flying fox as the basis for a conservation agreement scheme to protect roost sites. The conservation agreements offer incentives to local landowners to reforest and protect these sites. "I have agreed not to cut trees in the parcel around the roost site and to reforest. Dahari provides me with materials and seeds in exchange," said Abdouroihamane, a local landowner and one of the first to sign the agreement. "The situation is good for me."

Data on other species' distribution levels is also helping to identify key areas for conservation efforts.

At the village level, another of Dahari's aims was to have a local participatory monitoring program of biodiversity and ecosystem health. That was established in mid-2018, and Dahari is training local representatives to take over that monitoring.

Dahari is also mapping the remaining forests of the Comoros and studying deforestation drivers to help improve efforts to reduce habitat loss—work that CEPF is supporting through a second grant focused on watershed reforestation and management.





Dahari project participants meet on Anjouan Island, Comoros. © Dahari | Gold dust day gecko (*Phelsuma laticauda*) found in Anjouan Island. © Dahari

REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION TEAMS: MAKING CONNECTIONS THAT BUILD LASTING CONSERVATION

In every biodiversity hotspot where CEPF invests, it establishes a regional implementation team (RIT). These groups of experienced conservationists play a crucial role, providing strategic local leadership and working with CEPF staff to convert the strategy in each hotspot's ecosystem profile into a cohesive portfolio of grants that conserves biodiversity and strengthens local civil society.

Each RIT is tailored to the needs of the hotspot and can be made up of one or more civil society organizations that are active in conservation in the region. For the duration of the CEPF investment, these teams represent CEPF in the hotspot, providing local knowledge and building a broad constituency of civil society groups working across institutional and political boundaries toward achieving the objectives described in the ecosystem profiles.



MEDITERRANEAN BASIN BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT

One example of a regional implementation team that's helping CEPF build lasting conservation is CEPF's Mediterranean Basin team, which is made up of staff from BirdLife International and its national partners Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux (LPO)/BirdLife France and Društvo za opazovanje in proučevanje ptic Slovenije (DOPPS)/BirdLife Slovenia. The team includes a manager and program officers in three subregions: the Balkans, the Middle East and North Africa.

The RIT was in place for CEPF's first investment in the hotspot—US\$10.7 million in grants awarded in 12 countries from 2012 to 2017—and has continued in the role for CEPF's second investment of US\$10 million, which continues through 2022.

"The structure of the Mediterranean RIT reflects the complexity of the hotspot—many different cultures and countries. It is important for this team to understand the languages, politics and cultural issues of the hotspot," said Pierre Carret, who oversees the RIT as the CEPF grant director for the Mediterranean Basin.

Like all RITs, the Mediterranean Basin team works closely with its CEPF grant director to issue calls for proposals, review proposals and help grantees adjust their projects to meet the requirements for CEPF grant funds. Those funds may take the form of "large" grants that are administered by CEPF, or small grants which, for the Mediterranean Basin, are currently capped at US\$20,000. The RITs are in charge of administering the small grants.

The Mediterranean Basin team also gets help from its advisory committee, which includes scientists and representatives of donors and nongovernmental organizations working in the region.

Mediterranean Basin RIT team members, from left, RIT Manager Liz Smith, Program Officer for North Africa Awatef Abiadh, Program Officer for the Balkans Borut Rubinic, Program Officer for Cabo Verde Mariana Carvalho, Senior Conservation Advisor Iván Ramírez, Program Officer for the Middle East Sharif Jbour, and Small-Grants Administrator Serena Loh-Cornell. © Conservation International/photo by Pierre Carret

UN CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AICHI TARGETS

Target

By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.

UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Goal 16

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

EMPOWERING LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Once grants are awarded, the RIT works with the CEPF grant director to make sure the funded projects are on track.

"During the whole life of a grant, the RIT is there for the grantees. The program officers will go out of their way to go and see them, visit the sites, and they're very much there to be a sounding board as well," said Liz Smith, the Mediterranean Basin RIT manager.

Borut Rubinic, program officer for the Balkans, describes working closely with grantees as the best part of the job, and he said he appreciates the opportunity the small-grants program gives the RITs to build up local organizations. "We can be more supportive to small, local grassroots organizations that know these areas well but need some push in terms of administrative, technical or organizational capacities," he said.

Another key role for the RIT is making connections. Linking small grants with large grants is very important to the success of the investment, according to the team.

"We will connect grantees with one another. We've had partners in projects teaming up in lots of collaborations, in transboundary projects. There have been grantee exchanges," said Smith. "We're looking over a lot of different countries, a lot of different themes. We're in a very unique place to be able to put people together, and that's really important." One example is a new partnership between Libyan and Jordanian grantees that was facilitated through an exchange visit funded by CEPF. The newly established organizations Libyan Wildlife Trust and Oxygen visited Jordanian organization Sweimeh Association Charity and other groups to learn about their experience in nature conservation and ecotourism. The participants remain in contact, exchanging views and seeking guidance on conservation actions.

Providing a bridge between government and civil society is also important, setting the stage for a mutually beneficial, long-term relationship that can help countries achieve commitments to international agreements such as the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity. "Reaching their national targets is a real challenge for many countries and civil society can help solve this through innovative approaches and specialized expertise," Smith said.

In turn, civil society is given the opportunity to prove to the local and national government that they have the experience and ability to carry out the work.

"During the first investment, we found that CEPF being in the region gave the grantees a voice," Smith said. "We were visiting quite high-level

people in the government, in the ministries, and so when we were there, we would be talking about the projects and the organizations."

Building on what they learned during the first investment phase, and the networks and connections they established, the Mediterranean Basin RIT will continue to support and grow civil society's capacity in order to protect the region's biodiversity.

"I strongly believe that civil society organizations are the key in delivering the ambitious global biodiversity goals," said Smith. "This is how we will ensure we leave a legacy."

Learn more about what CEPF grantees achieved in the Mediterranean Basin during CEPF's first investment on pages 28 and 29.



CEPF's Ecosystem Profiles

When CEPF's Donor Council approves investment in a biodiversity hotspot, CEPF commissions the development of an ecosystem profile: An analysis of the biodiversity and socio-economic conditions in the hotspot and a regional conservation strategy, which is produced by, and in consultation with, local stakeholders. This document guides CEPF's investment in the hotspot. Find the Mediterranean Basin Ecosystem Profile at www.cepf.net/MediterraneanBasin.

North Africa Program Officer Awatef Abiadh, third from right, meets with civil society representatives in Libya. © CEPF Med

APPROVED GRANTS

Approved Grants 1 July 2017 – 30 June 2018

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

Cerrado

Strategic Direction 1. Promote the adoption of best practices in agriculture in the priority corridors.

Cooperativa Agropecuária dos Produtores Familiares de Niquelândia

US\$78,950

Food Products From the Forests in the Cerrado, Brazil

Strategic Direction 2. Support the creation/ expansion and effective management of protected areas in the priority corridors.

Associação Quilombo Kalunga

US\$192,635

Use Geoprocessing in the Management of the Kalunga Historic and Cultural Heritage Site in Brazil

Fundação Pró Natureza - Funatura

US\$202,488

Mosaic of Conservation Units in Brazil's Sertão Veredas-Peruaçu

Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amazônia (IPAM)

US\$300,000

Mapping "Invisible" Traditional Communities to Support Cerrado Conservation in Brazil

Instituto Oca Brasil

US\$208

Coordinate and Elaborate the Integrated Working Plan Between Oca Institute and Conservation International-Brazil

Pesquisa e Conservação do Cerrado (PEQUI)

US\$19,964

Knowledge Dialogue About Fire Management in Brazil's Jalapão State Park

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

Associação Hanaiti Yomomo

US\$19,169

Nursery for Agroforestry Production at Brejão Indigenous Land

Associação Rede Rio São Bartolomeu de Mútua Cooperação

US\$182,021

Agroforestry Providing Ecosystem Services in Jardim Botânico Ecological Station, Brazil

Centro de Desenvolvimento Agroecológico do Cerrado

US\$118,741

Strengthen Socio-Bioproduction Chains in Network Based on the Sustainable Use of the Cerrado, Brazil

Conservação Estratégica

US\$104,103

Environmental Reserve Quotas Implementation in Maranhão and Opportunities in Goiás and Tocantins Brazilian States

Cooperativa de Agricultura Familiar Sustentável com Base na Economia Solidária

US\$153,625

Sustainable Agroextractivist Production Practices as Incentive for Biodiversity Conservation in the Urucuaia River Basin, Brazil

Cooperativa de Trabalho e Serviços Técnicos (COOSERT)

US\$20,357

Strengthen the Cerrado Biodiversity in Land Reform Settlement Areas

Cooperativa dos Agricultores Familiares e Agroextrativistas Grande Sertão Ltda

\$\$20,373

Buriti: A Palm Tree to Generate Income for Youth and Women as Incentive to Conserve Cerrado

Ecologia e Ação (ECOA)

US\$20,127

Miranda-Bodoquena Corridor in Brazil: Filling Socioenvironmental Gaps

Rede de Sementes do Cerrado

US\$20,447

Capacity Building in Ecological Restoration in the Cerrado: Diagnosis, Methodologies and Monitoring

US\$135,987

Seed and Restoration Market in Cerrado, Brazil

Strategic Direction 4. Support the protection of threatened species in the hotspot

Associação para a Conservação das Aves do Brasil

US\$122,133

Saving the Blue-Eyed Ground-Dove and its Unique Cerrado Habitat

Instituto Amada Terra de Inclusão Social

US\$213,39

Avoid Extinction of Brazilian Merganser Within the Veadeiros Pouso Alto Kalunga Corridor, Brazil

Instituto Ariramba de Conservação da Natureza (ARIRAMBA)

US\$20,767

Reintroducing the Bicudo in Key Areas for Conservation in the Cerrado, Brazil

Sociedade de Amigos da Fundação Zoo-Botânica de Belo Horizonte (SAFZB-BH)

US\$20,644

Management and Protection of the Faveiro-de-Wilson Tree in Brazil

Strategic Direction 5. Support the implementation of tools to integrate and to share data on monitoring to better inform decision-making processes in the hotspot.

Fundação de Apoio à Pesquisa da Universidade Federal de Goiás

US\$138,001

Cerrado Knowledge Platform, Brazil

Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amazônia (IPAM)

US\$5,032

Developing a Working Plan to Integrate Spatial Information and Monitoring Tools for Cerrado Sociobiodiversity to Promote Stakeholder Engagement in the Landscape Management Process

Strategic Direction 6. Strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to promote better management of territories and of natural resources and to support other investment priorities in the hotspot.

Fundação Neotrópica do Brasil

US\$113,975

Union of the Municipal Councils of the Environment (COMDEMAs): Mobilize Actors in Miranda-Bodoquena Corridor, Brazil

Instituto Terra em Desenvolvimento

US\$4,792

Strategic Communication for the Seminar "Strategy to Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use of the Cerrado Biome Natural Resources"

Rede Cerrado

US\$249,770

A Strengthened Network for the Conservation of the Cerrado, Brazil

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.

Forest of Hope Association

US\$104,200

Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into Mining in Gishwati Area, Rwanda

Tanzania Botanical Exploration Consultants Limited

US\$19,990

Engage Tanzanian Civil Society in Revising the Eastern Arc Mountains Overarching Strategic Plan

Tanzania Forest Conservation Group

US\$100,000

Reducing Charcoal's Threat to Biodiversity: Government Mainstreaming of Sustainable Charcoal Production in Energy-Sector Policy Tools

Wetlands International Kenya

US\$102,400

Creating Shared Value Over Water Resources in Upper Tana, Kenya

Wildlife Conservation Society

US\$104,999

Building National Capacity to Mitigate Industry Impacts in Uganda's Murchison Falls National Park

Strategic Direction 2. Improve the protection and management of the Key Biodiversity Area network throughout the hotspot. African Wildlife Foundation

US\$99,999

Protecting Murchison Falls National Park's Buffer Zone through Conservancy Management in Uganda

BirdWatch Zambia

US\$19,995

Mafinga Biodiversity Survey: Assessment of Avian and Other Vertebrate Populations

East African Wild Life Society

US\$100,000

Promoting Co-Management of Lake Ol Bolossat, Kenya

Horizon Nature

US\$20,000

Consolidation of a Civil Society Advocacy Platform for Biodiversity Protection and Environmental Enforcement in Mining Sites in South Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo

Mbarara University of Science and Technology

US\$110,738

Promoting Batwa Community Development and Park Co-Management in Bwindi National Park, Uganda

Wildlife Conservation Society

US\$99,976

Reducing External Pressure and Improving Management of Nyungwe National Park, Rwanda

Strategic Direction 3. Initiate and support sustainable financing and related actions for the conservation of priority Key Biodiversity Areas and corridors.

Chimpanzee Sanctuary & Wildlife Conservation Trust

US\$102,900

Piloting a Scalable Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) Model to Conserve Bugoma Forest Ecosystem in Uganda

Kijabe Environment Volunteers

US\$102,900

Bolstering Payment for Water Ecosystem Services at Kikuyu Escarpment Ecosystem in Kenya

Nature Kenya

US\$104,222

Partnering with Business for Mount Kenya Water Ecosystem Services Restoration

East Melanesian Islands

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

BirdLife International

US\$20,000

Exploring the Removal of Threats on East Rennell, Solomon Islands, as a Local Response to a World Heritage Area in Danger

BirdLife International

US\$97,611

Management Planning and Assessment for Three Key Biodiversity Areas in Vanuatu

Ecological Solutions

US\$166,000

Strengthening Protection and Improving Food Security in the Mount Maetambe-Kolombangara River Key Biodiversity Area in the Solomon Islands

Natural Resources Development Foundation

US\$120.30

Forest Conservation Through Payment for Ecosystem Services in Protected Rainforest Areas in the Mount Maetambe to Kolombangara River Corridor, Solomon Islands

University of Miami

US\$79,167

Establishing a Protected Area in the Solomon Islands' East Makira Key Biodiversity Area

The University of Queensland

US\$64,976

Biodiversity Assessment and Awareness Building in the Kunua Plains and Mount Balbi Key Biodiversity Area of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea

Wildlife Conservation Society

US\$216,322

Protecting the Upland Forests of Kolombangara in Solomon Islands

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

Forests for Certain; Forests for Life! (FORCERT)

US\$17,237

Community Conservation Through Sustainable Land Use for the Cape Saint George Area, Papua New Guinea

OceansWatch

US\$19,504

Raising Legal Awareness in Nendo, Solomon Islands

Rotokas Ecotourism

US\$15,000

Clanship and Resource Mapping Within Customary Lands of the Kunua Plains and Mount Balbi Key Biodiversity Area, Papua New Guinea

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

Vanuatu Environmental Science Society

US\$92,550

Strengthening Monitoring, Community Management, and Policies for Dugong Conservation in Vanuatu

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

Ecological Solutions

US\$20,000

Convene the Solomon Islands Species Forum at the Solomon Islands National Symposium

Live & Learn Vanuatu

US\$100,456

Strengthening the Capacity of Vanuatu's Ranger Corp Network for Biodiversity Management and Monitoring

Papua New Guinea Environmental Law Association

US\$16,480

Building Papua New Guinea Environmental Law Association's Capacity to Empower the Country's Local Communities to Protect Biodiversity

Solomon Islands National University

US\$61,724

Strengthening Research and Teaching Capacity for Biodiversity Conservation

Vanuatu Environment Advocacy Network (VEAN)

US\$18,321

Enhance the Ability of the Vanuatu Environment Advocacy Network to Deliver Effective Conservation Action Through the Development of a Strategic Plan

Vanuatu Environmental Law Association Committee, Inc.

US\$19,268

Build the Capacity of the Vanuatu Environmental Law Association to Promote the Protection of Vanuatu's Environment Through the Law

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.

Centre d'Etudes, Formation, Conseils et Audits

US\$154,036

Strengthen Ivorian Cocoa Stakeholder Landscape Management Capacity to Foster Conservation

RSET – Associação Técnico-Científica para o Desenvolvimento

US\$296,000

Participatory Management for Community-Based Avoided Deforestation in São Tomé Obô Natural Park

Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia

US\$329,553

Communities as Environmental Stewards of the Largest Guinea Rainforest Block, Liberia

United Purpose

US\$260,005

Integrated Mangrove Forest Management and Livelihoods in Nigeria

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.

Man and Nature

US\$218,000

Demonstrate How Economic Development Can Boost Community-Based Trans-Border Conservation in Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana

Rainforest Alliance, Inc.

US\$55,006

Provide Technical Assistance to Strengthen Ivorian Cocoa Stakeholder Landscape Management Capacity to Foster Conservation

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

Fauna & Flora International

US\$259,907

Developing Liberia's Capacity for Effective Conservation of the Pygmy Hippopotamus

US\$99.999

Implementing the Action Plan for the Critically Endangered Principe Thrush in São Tomé and Príncipe

International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

US\$21,970

Identification and Validation of West African Freshwater Key Biodiversity Areas

Wildlife Conservation Society

US\$349,997

Saving Cross River Gorillas From Extinction in Nigeria

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.

Conservation Society of Sierra Leone

US\$4,500

Planning and Partnership Consolidation for Biodiversity Conservation in the Western Area Peninsula Non-Hunting Forest National Park, Sierra Leone

Indo-Burma

Strategic Direction 4. Empower local communities to engage in conservation and management of priority Key Biodiversity Areas. Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association

US\$19,138

Involving Communities in Myanmar's Southern Tanintharyi Region in Conservation of Gurney's Pitta

Centre for Plant Conservation

US\$19,581

Enhancing the Role of Local Communities in Conserving Threatened Plant Species in Bat Dai Son, Ha Giang Province, Vietnam

Community Development Action

US\$82,337

Using Community-Based Forestry Programs to Promote Conservation in Myanmar's Moyingyi Watershed

Community Resource Improvement for Development

US\$19,999

Strengthening Conservation of Beoung Rom Per Biodiversity Area to Improve Livelihoods of Taing Krasaing Community Members, Santuk District, Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia

Ecosystem Conservation and Community Development Initiative

US\$82,498

Ecosystem Conservation and Community Development Around Inle Lake, Myanmar

Fauna & Flora International

US\$20,000

Community-Based Fish Conservation in the Upper Ayeyarwady Basin, Myanmar

US\$179,998

Participatory Gazettement of Key Biodiversity Areas for Primate Conservation in Myanmar

US\$200,000

Transitioning to Sustainable and Equitable Protected Areas for Vietnam's Primates

FISHBIO Lao Sole Co., Ltd

US\$99,999

Strengthening Community Co-Management of a Mekong River Fish Conservation Zone Network in Lao PDR

FISHBIO Lao Sole Co., Ltd

US\$20,000

Strengthening Sustainable Community Management of Fish Conservation Zones for Endangered Probarbus Fishes at Kengmai Rapids, Lao PDR

Myanmar Bird and Nature Society

US\$19,996

Identifying Priorities for Wetland Conservation in the Dry Zone, Upper Myanmar

Myanmar Environment Institute

US\$82,208

Ecological Conservation and Community Development Around Alaungdaw Kathapha National Park, Myanmar

Myanmar Forest Association

US\$82,294

Community-Based Conservation and Development in Khanti and Pyin Bu Nge Islands, Tanintharyi Region, Myanmar

People Resources and Conservation Foundation

US\$123,050

Reinforced Community-Based Conservation Initiatives in the Lam Binh Landscape, Vietnam

US\$19,978

Strengthen Co-Management Measures at Nam Xuan Lac Species and Habitat Conservation Area and Establish Forest Benefit-Sharing in its Ban Thi Extension

Sansom Mlup Prey

US\$199,431

Conservation Livelihoods in the Tonle Sap, Cambodia

Strategic Direction 6. Engage key actors in mainstreaming biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into development planning in the priority corridors.

East West Management Institute, Inc.

US\$20,000

Myanmar Biodiversity Open Data Network

Trans-Boundary Journalists and Communicators Association

US\$32,654

Empowering Thai Journalists for Accountable Transboundary Investment – Phase 2

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

Bring the Elephant Home Foundation

US\$19,825

Conservation Leadership Program in Thailand – Phase 2

Centre for Supporting Green Development

US\$19,982

Developing and Implementing GreenHub's Strategies and Plans for Conservation in Vietnam

Global Environmental Institute

US\$74,996

Enhance Myanmar Nongovernmental Organizations' Capability for Community-Based Conservation and Development

GreenViet Biodiversity Conservation Center

US\$19,942

Emergency Actions to Protect the Endangered Red-Shanked Douc Langur and its Habitat, Vietnam

Inn Chit Thu Social Development and Ecotourism Group

US\$17,722

Building Capacity for Community-Based Tourism and Environmental Awareness-Raising at Myanmar's Indawgyi Wildlife Sanctuary

Mekong Community Institute Association

US\$20,000

Strengthening a Women's Network for Riverine Biodiversity Conservation in the Ing River Basin, Thailand – Phase 2

Living River Association

US\$20,000

Strengthening Local Communities and Networks for the Restoration and Protection of Fish Habitats in Thailand's Lower Mun and Mekong Rivers

Ponlok Khmer

US\$19,981

Establishing a Cambodian Buddhist Sangha Conservation Network to Safeguard Biodiversity

Sansom Mlup Prey

US\$19,990

Growing More Than Just Rice: Enabling a Local Civil Society Organization in Cambodia to Increase its Conservation Impact

Southeast Asia Development Program

US\$19,714

Ongoing Support to Strengthen Financial Management of Cambodian Nongovernmental Organizations Working on Biodiversity, Communities and Livelihoods

Sympathy Hands Community Development Organization

US\$19,845

Building the Capacity of Local Biodiversity Conservation Groups in Shan State, Myanmar

Vietnam National Park and Protected Area Association

US\$19,993

Strengthening the Capacity of Vietnam National Park and Protected Area Association to Coordinate and Support Conservation in Vietnam's Protected Areas

WahPlaw Wildlife Watch

US\$80,006

Development of Community-Based Models for Biodiversity Conservation in Tanintharyi, Myanmar

Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences

US\$19,800

Hunting for Solutions in Southwest China

Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands

Strategic Direction 1. Empower local communities to protect and manage biodiversity in priority Key Biodiversity Areas Anciens Etudiants en Didactique et Communication en Sciences/Action (AED/Action)

US\$18,393

Developing Action Plans for Specific Species, Studying Promising Sectors for Biodiversity Conservation in Ambilalemaitso, Madagascar

Asity Madagascar

US\$10,694

Prepare a Strategic Document for Sustainable Management of Natural Resources of Sites Managed by Asity Madagascar

Association RENIALA

US\$19,652

Contribution to the Preservation of Habitats and Their Biological Components in Madagascar's Baly Bay Protected Area Against the Impact of Bush Fires, and Building the Technical Capacity of Local Actors

Association TAFITA

US\$12,754

Strengthen Community-Based Natural Resource Management by Developing Management Plan and Restoration in Madagascar

Association TANJONA

US\$14,674

Contribution to the Mangrove Sustainable Management Through the Tourism Promotion of Madagascar's Baly Bay National Park and Support for the Improvement of the Living Conditions of Basic Communities

Association Vehivavy TAMIA Mivoatse US\$14,756

Promoting the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources of the Protected Area Tsinjoriake, Madagascar

Centre National de Formation, d'Etudes et de Recherche en Environnement et Foresterie (CNFEREF)

US\$20,000

Community Conservation in the Forest Concession of Kirindy, Madagascar

Development & Biodiversity Conservation Action for Madagascar

US\$113,570

Reinforcing Community Organizations for Sustainable Management and Conservation of Biodiversity of Maevatanana-Ambato-Boeny Wetlands in Madagascar

Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Agronomiques (ESSA)

US\$18,469

Agroecology, Ecological Restoration and Monitoring in Support of Community Conservation Forests Related to the Special Reserve of Beza Mahafaly (Ehazoara, Belambo-Jionono and Antarabory), Madagascar

Madagascar National Parks

US\$177,000

Integrating Local Communities in Effective Fire Management in Kirindy Mitea National Park, Madagascar

Madagascar National Parks

US\$1,006

Support the Development of a Large-Grant Proposal for CEPF for Fire Management of Kirindy Mite National Park, Madagascar

Marine Conservation Society Seychelles

US\$84,365

Enabling Protected Area Status for Grand Police on Mahe, Seychelles

Missouri Botanical Garden

US\$114,681

Building a Harmonious Landscape in Ibity, Madagascar, with the Engagement of All Stakeholders

Vondrona Ivon'ny Fampandrosoana

US\$160,602

Preserving the Endangered Species of Manjakatompo Ankaratra, Madagascar, Through Supporting Community-Based Ecosystem Management

Strategic Direction 2. Enable civil society to mainstream biodiversity and conservation into political and economic decision-making.

Blue Ventures Conservation

US\$178,322

Strengthen Community-Based Natural Resource Management in Madagascar through Health-Environment Partnerships

Botanic Gardens Conservation International

US\$196,701

Assessing the Status of Madagascar's Trees for the Effective Conservation of Key Biodiversity Areas and Protected Areas

Centre National de Recherches sur l'Environnement (CNRE)

US\$18,009

Study and Inventory of the Hydrological Regime for Releasing the Ecosystem Services Provided by Biodiversity Dynamics of the Mangoky River in Madagascar

Centre of Economics and Ethics for Environment and Development in Madagascar (C3EDM)

JS\$19,99

Assessing Economic Value of Marine and Coastal Resources in the Extreme North of Madagascar

Conservation Centrée sur la Communauté

US\$72,531

Filling Knowledge Gaps for Local Conservation of Marine Flagship Species in three Key Biodiversity Areas, North Madagascar

FIVE Menabe

US\$109,061

Multisectoral Mobilization to Save Menabe Antimena in Madagascar

Miarakap

US\$120,320

Strengthen and Promote Small and Early-Stage Businesses with a Strong Positive Impact on Biodiversity Conservation in Madagascar

Plant Conservation Action Group

US\$99,990

Developing Tools and Knowledge for Key Biodiversity Area Management and Delineation in Seychelles Using New IUCN International Standards for Better Natural Resource Governance

Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

US\$16,842

Improving Biodiversity Knowledge and Conservation of Bongolava Key Biodiversity Area, Madagascar

US\$17,260

Improving Biodiversity Knowledge and Conservation of Montagne des Francais Protected Area, Madagascar

Time and Tide Foundation

US\$19,420

Reinforce Fisheries Management Through Conservation Research and Citizen Science in the Levens Archipelago, Madagascar

Wildlands Conservation Trust

US\$249,903

Build Knowledge of Marine Biodiversity in Comoros Archipelago, and Improve Support and Action for Conservation

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

Association RENIALA

US\$41,912

Dynamic Management of Mangroves in the Indian Ocean Islands

Durrell Conservation Training Ltd.

US\$231,254

Developing Indian Ocean Capacity for Conservation Through Training and Exchange

Missouri Botanical Garden

US\$19,286

Training Young Professionals in Madagascar on Tools for Identification and Monitoring of Natural Vegetation in a Permanent Plot

Mediterranean Basin

Strategic Direction 6. Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of CEPF investment through a regional implementation team.

BirdLife International

US\$1,649,786

Regional Implementation Team for the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot

BirdLife International

US\$250,000

Small Grants Mechanism for the Mediterranean Basin

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.

Asociación Peruana para la Conservacion de

la Naturaleza (APECO)

US\$32,431

Updating the Status of an Endemic Harlequin Frog in Peru

Conservation International Foundation

US\$94,449

Identifying Conservation Priorities with Local Participation in Cotapata Key Biodiversity Area in Bolivia

Conservation International Foundation

US\$166,941

Participatory Management Planning for Cotacachi-Cayapas Key Biodiversity Area in Ecuador

Nature and Culture International

US\$97,016

Establishing Legal Protection of Carpish Montane Forest of the Carpish-Yanachaga Conservation Corridor in Peru – Phase 2

ONG Asociación Boliviana para la Investigación y Conservación de Ecosistemas Andino Amazónicos (ONG ACEAA)

US\$84,845

Updating Cotapata National Park Management Plan Emphasizing Species Conservation in Bolivia

${\bf Practical\ Actions-Regional\ Office\ for\ Latin\ America}$

US\$109,900

Strengthening Management and Protection of the San Jose de Lourdes Key Biodiversity Area in Peru to Safeguard Globally Threatened Birds – Phase 2

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.

Wildlife Conservation Society

US\$189,251

Integrating Environmental Best Practices Into Mining Operations in the Madidi-Pilon Lajas, Cotapata Conservation Corridor of Bolivia

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.

Asociación para el Estudio y Conservación de las Aves Acuáticas en Colombia

US\$97,883

Implementing Colombia's Western Andes Birding Trail: Conservation and Community Development Opportunity

Strategic Direction 5. Safeguard globally threatened species. Asociación para el Estudio y Conservación de las Aves Acuáticas en Colombia

US\$85,666

Conserving Four Globally Endangered Birds of the Paraguas-Munchique Conservation Corridor of Colombia, Phase 2

Aves y Conservación - BirdLife en Ecuador

US\$79,984

Participatory Conservation of the Critically Endangered Black-Breasted Puffleg in the Key Biodiversity Areas of Mindo (Pichincha Volcano) and Intag-Toisán in Ecuador

Wallacea

Strategic Direction 2. Improve management of sites (Key Biodiversity Areas) with and without official protection status. Conservation International Foundation

US\$299,988

Building Capacity for Management and Monitoring of Timor-Leste's Protected Areas

Strategic Direction 3. Support sustainable natural resource management by communities in priority sites and corridors.

AMAN Maluku Utara

US\$36,730

Using Indigenous Knowledge for Better Management of Fritu Islands in Indonesia

Rainforest Alliance, Inc.

US\$69,982

Conserving the Biodiversity of Indonesia's Danau Poso Through Sustainable Agriculture and Watershed Protection

Yayasan IDEP Selaras Alam

US\$88,967

Sustainable Livelihood and Agroforestry Promotion in the Buffer Zone Surrounding Aketajawe-Lolobata National Park, North Maluku, Indonesia

Strategic Direction 4. Strengthen community-based action to protect marine species and sites.

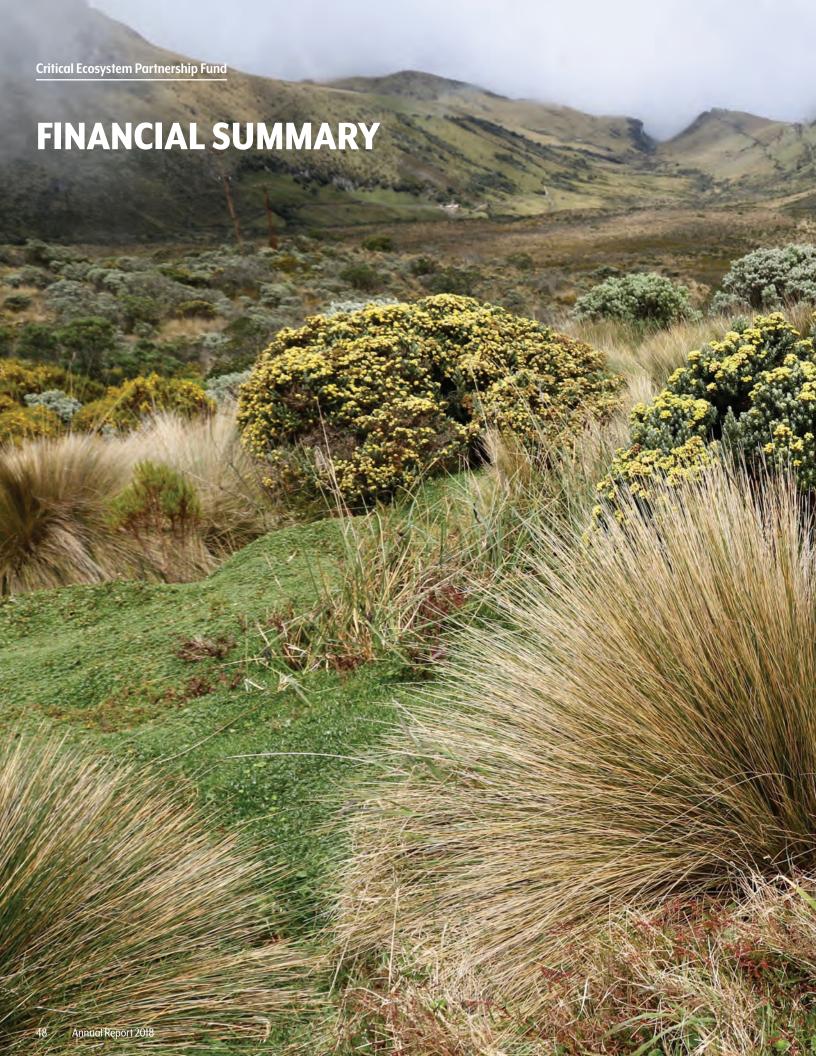
Yayasan Alam Indonesia Lestari (LINI)

US\$62,730

Community-Based Conservation and Coastal Resource Management in the Banggai Islands, Indonesia



Unidentified tarsier species observed in Lore Lindu Key Biodiversity Area, Sulawesi, Indonesia. © Riza Marlon



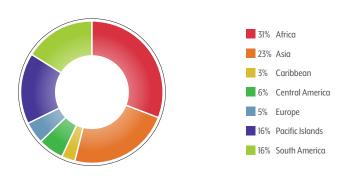


FINANCIAL SUMMARY

During the 2018 fiscal year of 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018, CEPF awarded US\$14.1 million in new grants, bringing the amount it has invested in conserving critical ecosystems since 2000 to nearly US\$231.9 million. By the end of the fiscal year, 2,305 grantees had received support from the fund since its inception. The fund continued active granting in the Cerrado, East Melanesian Islands, Eastern Afromontane, Guinean Forests of West Africa, Indo-Burma, Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands, Tropical Andes, and Wallacea biodiversity hotspots. The fiscal year also saw the completion of CEPF's first five-year, US\$10.7 million investment in the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot, and the start of a second five-year investment of US\$10 million. A team led by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) drafted a new ecosystem profile—the stakeholder-informed analysis of a biodiversity hotspot that includes development of CEPF's funding strategy—for the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot, laying the foundation for a reinvestment in the hotspot following CEPF's US\$6.9 million investment from 2010–2015.

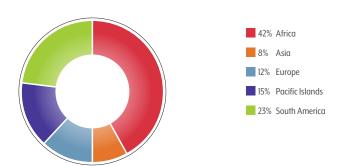
GRANTS BY REGION

Inception through 30 June 2018



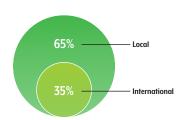
GRANTS BY REGION

Awarded in fiscal year 2018



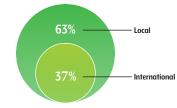
LOCAL VS. INTERNATIONAL

Since 2007



LOCAL VS. INTERNATIONAL

Awarded in fiscal year 2018



CEPF STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For fiscal year ended 30 June 2018

REVENUE	FY18	CUMULATIVE
Grants and Contributions***	0	311,073,763
Gain (Loss) in Foreign Exchange	4,308	(1,492,379)
Interest Earned	122,267	3,359,602
TOTAL REVENUE	126,575	312,940,986
EXPENSES AND GRANTS AWARDED	FY18	CUMULATIVE
Atlantic Forest		10,010,403
Cape Floristic Region		7,551,147
Caribbean Islands		6,872,390
Caucasus		9,288,219
Cerrado	2,173,799	4,467,249
East Melanesian Islands	949,039	6,998,294
Eastern Afromontane	1,587,097	12,382,348
Eastern Arc Mountains & Coastal Forests		8,789,550
Eastern Himalayas		4,882,859
Guinean Forests of West Africa		8,072,696
Guinean Forests of West Africa Reinvestment	2,548,543	4,644,116
Indo-Burma		9,656,797
Indo-Burma Reinvestment	1,177,012	15,231,78
Madagascar		5,555,602
Madagascar & the Indian Ocean Islands	1,868,858	8,806,247
Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany		6,647,323
Mediterranean	(251,250)	10,713,762
Mediterranean Reinvestment	1,899,786	1,899,786
Mountains of Southwest China		7,886,147
Multiple Hotspots		79,380
Northern Mesoamerica		7,079,430
The Philippines		6,970,399
Polynesia-Micronesia		6,828,576
Southern Mesoamerica		7,046,928
Succulent Karoo		9,220,999
Sundaland		9,901,465
Tropical Andes		8,287,386
Tropical Andes Reinvestment	1,040,318	6,790,918
Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena		6,797,978
Wallacea	1,146,804	6,472,703
Western Ghats & Sri Lanka		6,027,573
TOTAL GRANTS	14,140,008	231,860,450
Ecosystem Profile Preparation	82,693	11,559,319
Use of Interest: External Evaluations, Audit, and Special Projects	146,180	2,850,489
Donor-funded non-recurring activities	45,000	245,000
Operations	3,196,195	43,848,009
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	3,470,068	58,502,817
TOTAL EXPENSES AND GRANTS AWARDED	17,610,076	290,363,266
Revenue less Expenses	(17,483,501)	22,577,720
Fund Balance at Beginning of Period	40,657,386	
Fund Balance at End of Period	23,173,885	
FUND BALANCE AT END OF PERIOD CONSISTED OF:		
Cash & Interest Accrued, net of Amount Due to / from CI		18,091,492
Accounts Receivable		30,451,640
Grants Payable		(25,369,247)
Fund Balance at end of the Period (Fully Earmarked for Investments)		23,173,885

^{*}Grant expenses include new grant awards in the current fiscal year. Negative amounts represent deobligations.

^{**}Cumulative total adjusted to reflect CI US\$25 million contribution pledged in prior fiscal year.

GRANTEE PARTNERS

"Gakhir" Charitable Organization

3S Rivers Protection Network

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Protecção do Ambiente (ADAPPA)

Acharya, Pushpa Raj

ACT India Foundation

Action Ceinture Verte pour l'Environnement

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Adams, Agnes

Adams, Robin

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ADDICT.COM, Agence de communication

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Additive Adventure

Adonis, Andries AfriBuas CC

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Afya na Maendeleo Self Help Group Agjencia Joniane e Mjedisit, Medias,

Agoo, Esperanza Maribel G.

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Region of Vietnam

Agricultural Research Council and Range and Forage Institute

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Center (AEEM-Centre)

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Albuquerque, Jorge Luiz

Algeria Community

Aliansi Jurnalis Independen (AJI) kota Gorontalo

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Alianza para las Àreas Silvestres

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Armenian Tourism Association

Arnavon Community Marine Conservation

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Arts, Sciences and Technology University in

Arulagam

ASEAN Focus Group Pty. Ltd.

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Asociación Civil Armonía

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Sustentável Associação Comunitária Alternativa

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Oraânicos do Espírito Santo

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Auristela Toledo de Villafuerte

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Aus Community Conservation Trust

Aves v Conservación

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Baatiies Michelle

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Badan Perencanaan Pembangunan Daerah,

Lampung Barat Badaró, Marama de Mello Bahamas National Trust

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Bailey, Roger

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Baiposhan Nature Reserve

Baiyu Monastery

Balang Institute Barabashin, Timofey

Barbeiro, Heródoto

Barboza, Enoc dos Reis

Baricho Youth Group

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Barkinkhoev, Murad

Barkinkhoeva, Lousa

Barkinkhoeva, Rosa

Barnett, Mandy

Barodien, Glynnis Barrie, Abdulai

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Bayigans Conservancy

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Behr, Walter

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Bekker, Karin Belau Cares

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Benetti, Amilcar

Bengjinmeiduo Women's Group

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BIOS.CV - Association for the Conservation of the Environment and Sustainable Development

Biosfera 1

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Blanchard, Ryan

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Botha, Pierre

Boyana, Nondumiso Faith

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Brink, William

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Burrows, Hendrik Jakobus

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Curtis, Odette da Silva, Irimar José

da Silva, João Emidio Lima Dafenadina Nature Reserve

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Dahari

Daleprani, Martha Penitente Dalko Progressive Group

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Dargle Conservancy

Daries, Joan

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Davids, John

Davies, Sian

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de Rincquesen, Isa

De Rust, Koppie

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de Souza, Max Carmo

Delahunt, Kerry Jo

Degin Community Co-management

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Development Impact

Deyang Wildlife Conservation Association

Dhamala, Man Kumar

Diamond Village Community Heritage

Organisation

Dimalibot-Concepcion, Judeline M.

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Dinkevich, Mikhail

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Diogo, Antonius Do a Derne i

Dolphin Foundation

Dolphin Head Local Forestry Management

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Dorji, Yeshey Douc Langur Foundation

Driver, Amanda Društvo Za Jamsko Biologijo - Society of Cave

Biology (SCB)

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slovenije (DOPPS) Du Toit, Dominique

Du Toit, leanette

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Fcosystem Restoration Alliance Indian Ocean

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Eden to Addo Corridor Initiative Edgaonkar, Advait

Edu Ventures

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Eduarte, Medaro Medel P.

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Khevsureti Center for Natural and Cultural Heritage "Sane"

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Khustup Nature Protection NGO

Kibuta Poverty Eradication

Kihale Wildlife Conservation Farm

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Kikundi cha luhudi na Maarifa

Kikundi cha Kujiendeleza Kikundi cha Mazinaira Kifinaa

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Kikundi cha Uhifadhi wa Makaya ya Rabai

Kikundi cha Wakulima na Uhifadhi wa

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Kilibasi Youth Group

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Kilimo na Mazingira Muyombo Kilio cha Haki Youth Group Kiluma, Linda Stephen

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Kuanzisha Kitalu cha Mitiya Misitu na Matunda

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Kuchile Kumekucha Kuendeleza Msitu Kuensel Corp. Ltd.

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Kurungurungu Group

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Katurukila

Kuzuia Uchomaji Moto Vijiji Vya Magoza na

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KwaZulu-Natal Crane Foundation

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Live & Learn Environmental Education

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Natural History Museum

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Nature Conservancy

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NGO Green Home

NGO Journalists-Ecologists NGO Orbi

Ngosaguata Development Council Nguku, Julius K. Nguruka kwa Kulala Nicholson, Jennifer

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