

ESS4 - Community Health and Safety



CANARI serves as CEPF's regional implementation team for the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot.

Community Health and Safety Plan

March 2024

CEPF Grant 115614

International Iguana Foundation

Plan and implement critical conservation actions for the Jamaican Iguana

Jamaica

Grant Summary

1. Grantee organization: International Iguana Foundation
2. Sub project title: *Plan and implement critical conservation actions for the Jamaican Iguana*
3. Grant number: CEPF115614
4. Grant amount (USD\$): 49914
5. Proposed dates of grant: 1 Jan 2025 – 31 Dec 2026
6. Countries where activities will be undertaken: Jamaica
7. Date of preparation of this document: 26 March 2024

8. Overview of the Caribbean Hotspot Project

This section should include a general description of the Parent project, including its components. This description can be standard across all of the sub-project ESS Instruments.

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot Small Grants Mechanism is being implemented in the Caribbean Islands by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) acting as the Regional Implementation Team (RIT). After a successful first investment in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot between 2011 and 2016, the CEPF has returned to the region for a second phase of investment from August 2021 – July 2026, which totals US\$11.8 million.

The goal of the CEPF is to conserve biodiversity. Its approach is to build local conservation leadership and nurture sustainable development by developing locally driven conservation strategies and providing grants to civil society to implement those strategies. In the Caribbean, the CEPF aims to strengthen the protection and management of globally important biodiversity within 32 priority Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) and seven conservation corridors in Antigua and Barbuda; The Bahamas; Dominican Republic; Haiti; Jamaica; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

9. Project Components

This section should briefly describe the sub-project, focusing on those components and activities that may involve risks to the health and safety of communities at the sub-project site(s).

This project will include educational workshops with children from across Jamaica as well as interactions with stakeholders during the healthscreens at the Hope Zoo and action planning workshop. It will also include field work with a small team within the Hellshire Hills, PBPA, Jamaica. There is a risk of disease transmission while conducting workshops and healthscreens as well as while the team is at the basecamp within the Hellshire Hills. Given the location of Jamaica there is a risk of hurricanes. Given that vehicle transport is involved to reach the field site there is a risk of accident. Given that men and women are working together on the team there is a risk of sexual harassment.

10. Risk mitigation measures

This section will describe the measures that will be taken to mitigate all risks rated as moderate or above. Mitigation measures will be presented following the mitigation hierarchy, which requires that risks are anticipated and avoided where possible. Where avoidance is not possible, risks should be minimized to acceptable levels. Any risks that remain following avoidance and minimization should be mitigated.

There are a few anticipated risks to community health and safety for this project, with those identified listed below in Table 10.1.

Table 10.1: Potential Risks to Community Health & Safety and Mitigation Measures

Key risks to Community Health & Safety	Risk probability <i>(low / medium / high)</i>	Level of Risk <i>(low / medium / high)</i>	Description	Mitigation Measures
Transmission of communicable diseases, such as COVID-19, to local stakeholders.	low	low	Project team will participate in the field work, healthscreens, and workshops	We will follow the guidelines of the Jamaican government on Covid-19.
Risks related to hurricanes, earthquakes and other natural disasters.	medium	low	Jamaican is located in an area that experiences hurricanes.	The field supervisor, conservation biologist, and boat transport organization (CCAM) all monitor the weather very carefully. If there is a threat of a hurricane those in the field are evacuated and do not return until the threat has passed. From our experience there are not surprise hurricanes and thus people have always been able to evacuate well in advance of a threatening situation.
Sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment	low	low	Men and women work together on this project.	A grievance mechanism has been developed to address these issues and will be shared with all members of the project prior to the start of the project. All complaints will be taken seriously and resolved as quickly as possible.
Accidents involving persons and vehicles	low	low	Movement by vehicle will be necessary to reach the field site.	NEPA oversees all vehicular movement of the field team and travel is done in a government vehicle with a government driver, following all government safety procedures.

11. Relevant laws in project countries

Table 11.1 below outlines the key law(s) in the project countries and their relevance to this Community Health and Safety Plan. The International Iguana Foundation will ensure that staff adhere to these laws and guidelines.

Table 11.1: Relevant laws for community health and safety in Jamaica

Law	Relevance to ESS4
Public Health Act (2003)	Provides a list of communicable diseases that must be notified to the competent authorities.
Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Act (1993)	Provides for disaster preparedness and emergency management measures.

12. Measures to avoid risk of COVID-19

This section will describe, in addition to the insert below, the measures that will be taken to avoid the risk of COVID-19 transmission to communities at the sub-project site(s).

We will follow the guidelines of the Jamaican government on Covid-19 at the time of the fieldwork, workshops, and healthscreens. Any other relevant guidance from the World Bank as outlined in the technical note, “Public Consultations and Stakeholder Engagement in WB-supported operations when there are constraints on conducting public meetings” (March 20, 2020)¹ will be followed, as relevant and appropriate.

13. Emergency preparedness and response plan

This section will present an outline of your emergency preparedness and response plan for emergency events, in particular hurricanes, earthquakes and (if relevant) volcanic eruptions.

In case of general emergencies while in the field, workshops, or healthscreens, the field supervisor will be immediately notified, and action will be taken following the government guidelines of NEPA. The field supervisor, conservation biologist, and boat transport organization (CCAM) all monitor the weather very carefully. If there is a threat of a hurricane those in the field are evacuated and do not return until the threat has passed.

14. Measures to mitigate risks relating to security personnel

If the sub-project involves support to security personnel (park guards, community rangers, etc.), this section will describe the measures you will take in relation to hiring, rules of conduct, training, equipping, and monitoring the action of security personnel, to ensure they do not engage in unlawful or abusive acts against local people.

N/A

15. Timeline and resources

This section will present an implementation timeline for each measure listed in Sections 11 to 14, together with an estimate of resource needs.

The implementation of mitigation measures will occur throughout the entire project time frame. The cost of implementing the plan is mostly included in the CEPF project.

Table 16.1: Implementation schedule and estimated resources

Action	Cost Estimate (USD)	Implementation Schedule							
		2025				2026			
Covid-19 preparedness	0	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x

¹ https://biwta.portal.gov.bd/sites/default/files/files/biwta.portal.gov.bd/page/f3ca1ff6_95b0_4606_849f_2c0844e455bc/2020-10-01-11-04-717aa8e02835a7e778b2fff46f531a8c.pdf

		Implementation Schedule							
Action	Cost Estimate (USD)	2025				2026			
Emergency preparedness	0	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

17. Monitoring arrangements

This section will outline the steps you will take to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of measures listed in Sections 10 to 14

The field supervisor and conservation biologist will consult with each other on a regular basis to share all health and safety concerns. If any threat to health and safety is identified the field supervisor and conservation biologist will act immediately to ensure everyone remains safe. Any amendments to existing plans will be made as necessary.

18. Disclosure

CEPF requires that environmental and social instruments are disclosed to affected local communities and other stakeholders prior to sub-project implementation. Please describe the efforts you have taken to disclose this plan.

We will provide all project team members with the community health and safety plan at the beginning of the project.