



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

Community Health and Safety Plan

November 2023

CEPF 115168

Dolphin Head Local Forest Management Committee Cooperative Society

Project Name: Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods through Ecotourism in the Dolphin Head Forest Reserve, Jamaica

Grant Summary

1. **Grantee organization: Dolphin Head Local Forest Management Committee Cooperative Society**
2. **Sub project title: *Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods through Ecotourism in the Dolphin Head Forest Reserve, Jamaica***
3. **Grant number: CEPF115168**
4. **Grant amount (USD\$): \$48,000.88**
5. **Proposed dates of grant: December 2023 - February 2025**
6. **Countries where activities will be undertaken: Jamaica**
7. **Date of preparation of this document: 30 November 2023**

8. Overview of the Caribbean Hotspot Project

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

Dolphin Head Forest Reserve is an area of high botanical diversity, pharmaceutical, nutraceutical and recreational value and boasts an astonishing 32.5% rate of plant endemism, making it one of the most valuable terrestrial habitats in the Caribbean. It also supports the health, wellbeing and livelihoods of over 15 communities. The biodiversity of the Dolphin Head Forest Reserve is threatened by deforestation from agriculture and harvesting for coal.

The objectives of the sub-project are to: 1) establish sustainable alternative livelihoods among the target groups, leading to an improvement in their income earning potential 2) improve the capacity of the Dolphin Head Local Forest Management Committee Cooperative Committee (DHLFMCCS) to ensure its ability to upscale implementation of biodiversity conservation programs within the Dolphin Head Reserve and 3) to continue the awareness building of youth and community members about the value of biodiversity conservation in the Dolphin Head Forest Reserve. The project will be implemented through four components.

Component 1: Supporting Sustainable Alternative Livelihoods

Under this component, the DHLFMCCS will promote eco-tourism, craft-making, and apiculture as alternative livelihoods for farmers and community members. The DHLFMCCS will seek to operationalize its eco-venture by integrating farmers, focusing on Team Jamaica training, tour guiding, craft production, and potential bed and breakfast accommodations. Apiculture will also be expanded to provide additional income sources without relying on forest resources.

Component 2: Community Sensitization Sessions

Activities under this sub-project component will focus on educating forest-dependent communities across five locales and reshaping community behaviours and attitudes towards forests in Jamaica.

Component 3: Organizational Capacity Building for DHLFMCCS

Through this component, the DHLFMCCS will enhance its operational efficiency by updating its Strategic and Action Plan, obtaining Tourism Product Development Company (TPDCo) certification and training members and the administration in entrepreneurship, record-keeping and administrative duties.

Component 4: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation

This sub-project component is intended to ensure proper project management in compliance with CEPF and World Bank requirements.

10. Risk mitigation measures

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	Several components will involve the gathering of small groups of people – e.g., training for bee keeping, educational awareness sessions and reforestation training sessions.	The guidelines of the Jamaican government on Covid-19 at the time of the fieldwork and community engagement will be followed.
Risks related to hurricanes, earthquakes and other natural disasters.	medium	low	Jamaica is located in an area that experiences hurricanes.	The Project Manager and Project Assistant will monitor the weather very carefully. If there is a threat of a hurricane, field activities will not occur. Typically, sufficient advance notice for hurricanes is given and thus people have always been able to evacuate well in advance of a threatening situation. Insofar as possible, the scheduling of activities will take into account the most active part of the hurricane season, minimizing field-based and other activities

				that could be adversely affected by the passage of a hurricane. Should a hurricane occur, all measures will be taken to ensure project activities do not expose community members and stakeholders to risk from any the hazards encountered during response and recovery efforts.
Sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment	low	high	This project will target both men and women but the group comprises a majority of females.	<p>The DHLFMCCS will not tolerate members of the project implementation team carrying out any form of sexual exploitation, abuse, or harassment and project workers will be briefed accordingly.</p> <p>Any incidents will be addressed according to the grievance mechanism outlined in the stakeholder engagement plan, which will be shared with all project workers prior to the start of the sub-project and with beneficiaries and stakeholders throughout implementation. All complaints will be taken seriously and resolved as quickly as possible.</p>
Accidents involving persons and vehicles	low	low	Movement by vehicle will be necessary to conduct several sub-project activities.	All arrangements for transportation will be made with authorized/ licensed drivers with a known history of safe driving practices.
Bee stings	medium	low	Component 1 which seeks to establish an apiculture project can expose those involved to bee stings. It is very unlikely for other community members to be	The effects are generally very mild but may be a bit more serious for those who have allergic reactions to bee stings. The sub-project project will procure personal protective equipment for all persons as well as antihistamines for

			stung by the bees, as their awareness would promote necessary actions of precaution. Most apiaries are established away from public thoroughfares and though people may have them in their backyard gardens these are in rural areas that are not clustered	itching and swelling, acetaminophen for pain relief and EpiPen in the event of a severe allergic reaction.
--	--	--	---	--

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 DHLFMCCS will ensure that members 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

The Grantee will follow the guidelines of the Jamaican government on Covid-19 at the time of the fieldwork and community engagement. 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” will be followed, as relevant and appropriate.

13. Emergency preparedness and response plan

In case of general emergencies while in the field or during community gatherings, the Project Manager will be immediately notified and action will be taken following the government guidelines. The Project Manager and Project Assistant will monitor the weather very carefully. If there is a threat of a hurricane field activities will not occur.

14. Measures to mitigate risks relating to security personnel

N/A

15. Timeline and resources

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)	2023	Implementation Schedule				
			2024			2025	
Salary of direct workers to implement the CHSP (5% of Project Manager and 5% of Project Assistant)	\$360	x	x	x	x	x	x
Personal Protective Equipment, medications for bee stings	\$2250	x	x	x	x	x	x

16. Monitoring arrangements

The Project Manager and Project Assistant 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, they will act immediately to ensure everyone remains safe. Amendments to existing plans will be made as necessary.

17. Disclosure

The Grantee will provide all project team members and stakeholders with the community health and safety plan at the beginning of the project. Should any stakeholders – project workers, project beneficiaries, community members etc. – raise any concerns or provide feedback, these will be considered and responded to in a formal manner.