

**Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund  
37th Meeting of the CEPF Donor Council Virtual  
Meeting  
19 November 2020  
8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST)**

**CEPF and Covid-19**

On October 13, following up on the survey sent in March 2020, the CEPF Secretariat reached out to 377 grantees to ask them to complete a questionnaire to assess the impact of COVID-19 on partners and on the realization of projects financed by CEPF in the nine hotspots where CEPF is investing.

On November 1, a total of 133 responses had been received. Subsequently, the CEPF Secretariat analyzed the information received which is presented below.

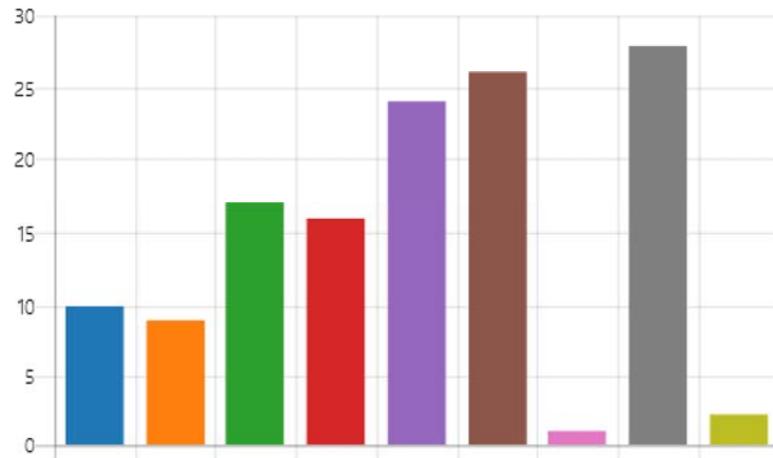
The results of this analysis will be presented to and discussed with the Donor Council members during the meeting.

## CEPF and Covid-19

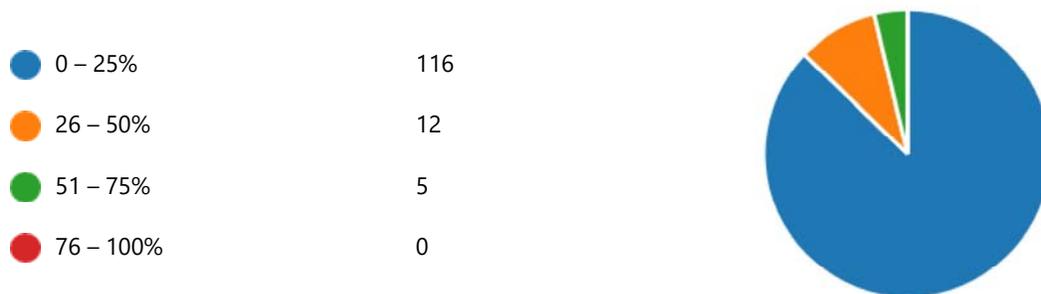
### SURVEY RESULTS

#### 1. Hotspot

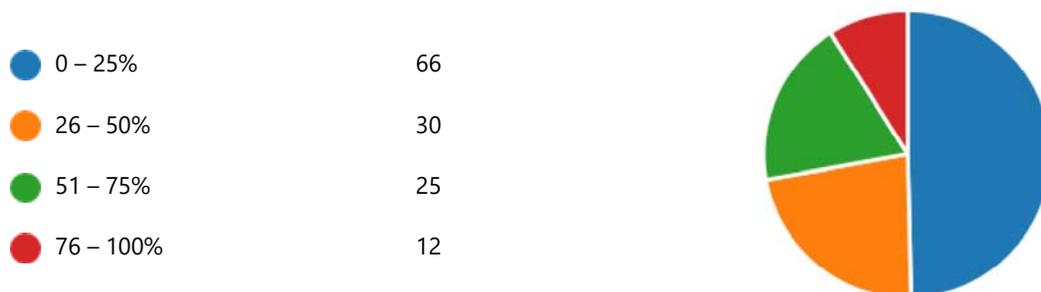
● Cerrado	10
● East Melanesian Islands	9
● Guinean Forests of West Africa	17
● Indo-Burma	16
● Madagascar and the Indian O...	24
● Mediterranean Basin	26
● Mountains of Central Asia	1
● Tropical Andes	28
● Wallacea	2



2. **What proportion of your CEPF project’s deliverables have been cancelled as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic?** Quelle proportion des livrables de votre projet CEPF a été annulée à la suite de la pandémie COVID-19 ? ¿Qué porcentaje de los entregables de su proyecto financiado por CEPF fueron cancelados debido a la pandemia del COVID-19? Que proporção dos resultados de seu projeto do CEPF foi cancelada como resultado da pandemia da COVID-19?

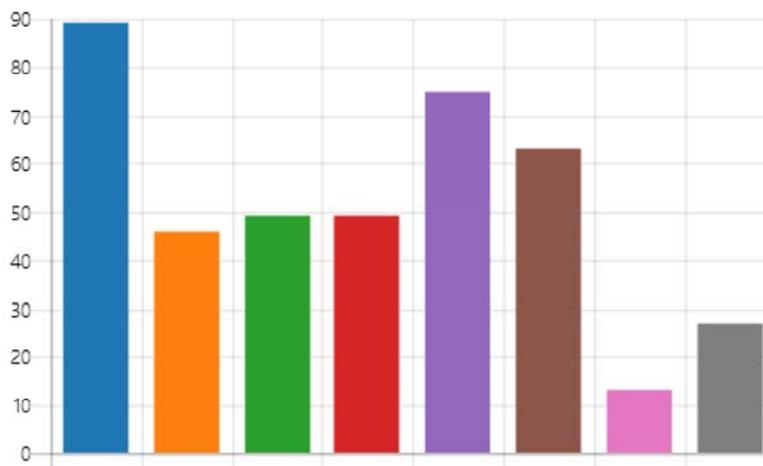


3. **What proportion of your CEPF project’s deliverables have been delayed more than three months as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic?** Quelle proportion des livrables de votre projet CEPF a été retardée de plus de trois mois en raison de la pandémie COVID-19 ? ¿Qué porcentaje de los entregables de su proyecto financiado por CEPF se han retrasado en más de tres meses debido a la pandemia del COVID-19? Que proporção dos resultados do seu projeto do CEPF foi adiada por mais de três meses como resultado da pandemia da COVID-19?



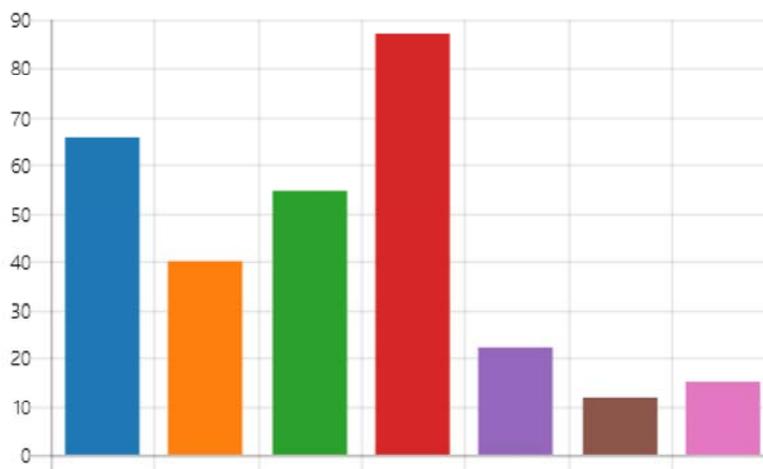
4. Which of the following impacts of COVID-19 have you observed to date at your CEPF project site(s)? (select all that apply) Le(s)quel(s) des impacts suivants du COVID-19 avez-vous observé(s) à ce jour sur le(s) site(s) de votre projet CEPF ? (Sélectionnez tout ce qui s'applique) ¿Cuál(es) de los siguientes escenarios a consecuencia del COVID-19 ha impactado en su proyecto financiado por CEPF a la fecha (seleccione todas las que correspondan) Quais dos seguintes impactos da COVID-19 você observou até o momento em seu(s) local(is) de atuação do projeto do CEPF? (selecione todos os que se aplicam)

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Increased economic vulnerability of local communities	89
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Increased inequality between vulnerable groups and other sections of society	46
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Increased pressure by community members on natural resources (clearance of natural habitat, harvesting of plant and animal species, etc.)	49
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Increased pressure by external actors (companies, criminal gangs, etc.) on natural resources (clearance of natural habitat, harvesting of plant and animal species, etc.)	49
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Reduced capacity of government to manage protected areas / natural resources (protected area rangers, environmental police, etc.)	75
<span style="color: brown;">●</span> Reduced incentives to conserve biodiversity (payments for ecosystem services, wildlife-friendly products, nature-based tourism, etc.)	63
<span style="color: pink;">●</span> No impacts to date	13
<span style="color: gray;">●</span> Other	27



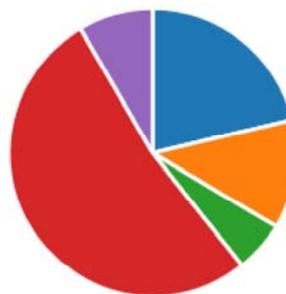
5. Which of the following impacts of COVID-19 have you observed on your organization? (select all that apply) Le(s)quel(s) des impacts suivants du COVID-19 avez-vous observé(s) dans votre organisation ? (Sélectionnez tout ce qui s'applique) ¿Cuál(es) de los siguientes impactos de COVID-19 ha observado en su organización? (seleccione todas las que correspondan) Quais dos seguintes impactos da COVID-19 você observou em sua organização? (selecione todos os que se aplicam)

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Reduction in conservation activities	66
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Reduction in numbers of staff and/or consultants	40
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Reduction in income (from members, donors or commercial activities)	55
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Increased costs to comply with COVID-19 restrictions	87
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Death and/or incapacity of staff and/or consultants due to COVID-19 infection	22
<span style="color: brown;">●</span> No impacts to date	12
<span style="color: pink;">●</span> Other	15



6. **What support has your organization received from national or local government, partner organizations and/or external donors to respond to the impacts of COVID-19, if any? (select all that apply)** Quel soutien votre organisation a-t-elle reçu du gouvernement national ou local, des organisations partenaires et/ou des donateurs externes pour répondre aux impacts du COVID-19, le cas échéant ? (Sélectionnez tout ce qui s'applique) ¿Qué apoyo ha recibido su organización por parte del gobierno nacional o local, organizaciones asociadas y/o donantes externos para responder a los impactos del COVID-19, si corresponde? (seleccione todas las que correspondan) Que apoio sua organização recebeu do governo nacional ou local, organizações parceiras e/ou doadores externos para responder aos impactos da COVID-19, se houver? (seleccione todas as que se aplicam)

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Financial support	33
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Logistical support	19
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Food and drug supply	9
<span style="color: red;">●</span> No support to date	81
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Other	13



7. **What additional support does your organization need to respond to the impacts of COVID-19, if any?** De quel soutien supplémentaire votre organisation a-t-elle besoin pour répondre aux impacts du COVID-19, le cas échéant ? ¿Qué apoyo adicional necesita su organización para responder a los impactos del COVID-19 (complete esta información sólo si corresponde a sus necesidades)? Que apoio adicional sua organização precisa para responder aos impactos da COVID-19, se houver?

**Latest Responses/Comments/Thoughts:**

\* Financial Support

*"We need to fundraise urgently to make up for the two thirds reduction of our projected income..."*

\* Additional Time

\* Logistical/IT Support

*"Equipment to facilitate communication with the population would benefit those living in the rural area"*

\* Covid-19 Related Support

*"We really need another postponement of our project..."*

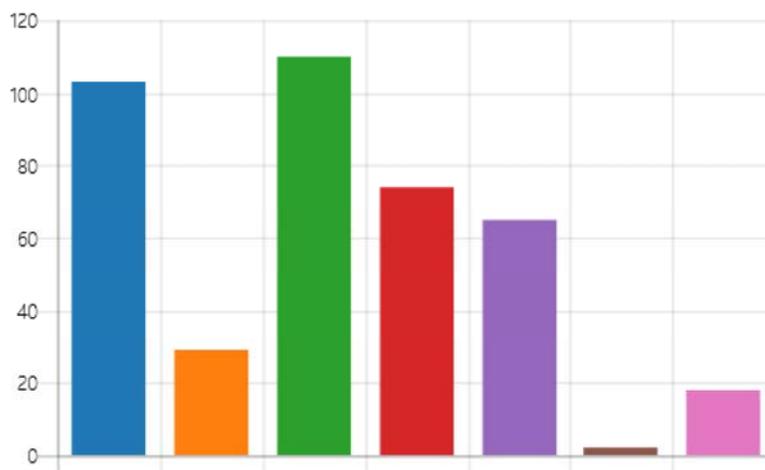
\* Support to Communities

*"We need materials to comply with Covid-19 prevention..."*

*".... facilitate the support of local communities in the immediate needs identified due to the pandemic"*

8. **What action has your organization taken to mitigate risk of exposure of your staff and communities to COVID-19? (select all that apply)** Quelles mesures votre organisation a-t-elle prises pour atténuer le risque d'infection de votre personnel et de vos communautés au COVID-19 ? (Sélectionnez tout ce qui s'applique) ¿Qué acción ha tomado su organización para mitigar el riesgo de exposición de su personal y comunidades al COVID-19? (seleccione todas las que correspondan) Que medidas sua organização tomou para mitigar o risco de exposição de seu pessoal e das comunidades à COVID-19? (selecione todas as que se aplicam)

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Development of internal policy related to COVID-19 risk mitigation	103
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Provision of humanitarian help (e.g. food, agricultural supplies) to community members	29
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Provision of hygiene and protective materials (hand sanitizer, soap, masks, etc.) to community members and/or staff, consultants, or partners	110
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Dissemination of accurate information on COVID-19 to community members	74
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Restructuring of CEPF grant activities and/or budget to help your organization adapt to the COVID-19 pandemic over the longer term	65
<span style="color: brown;">●</span> No action to date	2
<span style="color: pink;">●</span> Other	18



9. **To what extent has the long-term viability of your organization been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic?** Dans quelle mesure la viabilité à long terme de votre organisation a-t-elle été affectée par la pandémie du COVID-19 ? ¿En qué medida la pandemia del COVID-19 ha afectado la viabilidad a largo plazo de su organización? Até que ponto a viabilidade a longo prazo de sua organização foi afetada pela pandemia da COVID-19?

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Severely decreased	7
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Somewhat decreased	56
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Not significantly affected	70
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Increased	0



10. **To what extent has the operating context for biodiversity conservation in the country where you work been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic?** Dans quelle mesure le contexte opérationnel de la conservation de la biodiversité dans le pays où vous travaillez a-t-il été impacté par la pandémie COVID-19? ¿En qué medida el contexto operativo para la conservación de la biodiversidad en el país donde trabaja se ha visto afectado por la pandemia del COVID-19? Até que ponto o contexto operacional para a conservação da biodiversidade no país onde você trabalha foi afetado pela pandemia da COVID-19?

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> Greatly worsened	25
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> Somewhat worsened	70
<span style="color: green;">●</span> Not significantly affected	32
<span style="color: red;">●</span> Somewhat improved	5
<span style="color: purple;">●</span> Greatly improved	1



11. List the main emerging conservation opportunities due to COVID-19 (if any) Énumérez les principales opportunités de conservation émergentes dues au COVID-19 (le cas échéant) Enumere las principales oportunidades de conservación emergentes debido al COVID-19 (complete esta información sólo si corresponde) Liste as principais oportunidades emergentes de conservação devido à COVID-19 (se houver)

- \* Awareness/Importance of Biodiversity
- \* Economic Valuation of Biodiversity
- \* Reduced Human Disturbance
- \* Financial Support
- \* Cooperation

Awareness:

*"Greater community awareness of the importance of balance and respect for biodiversity."*

*"Increased rational for the understanding of the interaction between bats and humans in the Pacific islands."*

*"Awareness of dangers of zoonotic disease spillover, exacerbated by wildlife consumption and trade."*

*"The increased recognition that society is dependent upon a balanced natural environment should lead to increased funding for conservation, restoration activities. However, at present the focus is firmly concentrated on socio-economic recovery with only a very small % of donor funding going to the environment. Hopefully this focus can be moved towards support for the environment."*

*"People are more focused on the outdoors and willing to take part in nature conservation actions after the lockdown period"*

*"People are more aware of how their actions are negatively impacting the biodiversity"*

Economic valuation of biodiversity:

*"Increases the argument for diversification of incentives for conservation away from solely eco-tourism as that has been affected by both the pandemic and severe cyclones"*

*Recently meeting with representatives of two municipal governments where we work and where 3 KBAs are found, and they seem to be more open and enthusiastic about potential NGO and carbon market investments in forest restoration. "*

*"Work on conservation issues and sustainable alternatives for the use of natural resources in those communities located near KBAs that have experienced an increase in extractive activities as a result of the return of families from the city to the countryside."*

*"Surprisingly an in country study of the impacts of Covid-19 on wildlife consumption showed little to no impact, instead fish markets were banned and so fishing activity actually decreased during lockdown. In addition, due to the reduction of tourism, small businesses that focused on products to be sold to tourist, switched to produce local crafts and NFTPs that were relevant to local markets instead."*

*"Opportunity to strengthen processes aimed at food sovereignty and peasant marketing networks to supply cities."*

*"The organic food market has increased in the pandemic, and this is a great opportunity for farmers and their organizations."*

Reduced human disturbance:

*"Temporary reduction of human impact on nature as a result of the confinement of people"*

*"Reduction of the hunting pressure resulting from the confinement"*

*"The major conservation opportunity due to COVID-19 is migration which has led to reduced population around national park thereby leading to reduced illegal activities such as mining and hunting."*

*"Less pressure from humans on the forest: An opportunity to offer nature tourism as an option to get out of the cities."*

*"Among the local initiatives adopted to prevent contamination by COVID-19, sanitary barriers were built in several indigenous lands on the main access roads. Some of these barriers are being converted into territorial monitoring and control barriers, making it difficult to carry out illegal activities in indigenous areas."*

**Financial support:**

**“Funding for Covid-19 related activities for conservation communities.”**

“Save-Our-Species grant.”

“Support the control of illegal activities such as illegal gold mining that increased during the pandemic.”

“Support the sustainable resource management ventures that were affected, especially those of tourism, so that they can work again and prevent them from engaging in other activities not compatible with conservation.”

“We were able to secure community goodwill by providing some medical support where we work. In general, people are glad to receive grant funding for their projects at a time when economic prospects are reduced.”

**Cooperation:**

“Local governments and communities have been motivated to undertake processes of conservation of their ecosystems.”

**“We have seen a greater connection among organizations in online events nationwide.”**

“The use of technologies to carry out workshops, meetings and other types of exchange.”

“Improvement of welfare, especially in terms of health, training of local community on use of phone as tools to collect data.”

“Increasing recognition among conservation organizations of the importance of health systems strengthening as part of an integrated approach to conservation, increasing connections and sharing of best practices among conservation organizations through virtual online meetings (overcoming transport / logistical barriers to frequent in-person meetings).”