

**Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
41st Meeting of the CEPF Donor Council
In-Person, Tangier, Morocco, and Virtual Meeting
Monday 17 July 2023
8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST)
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Tangier Time
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Brussels and Paris Time
9:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m. (+1 day) Tokyo Time**

Partnership Highlights

Global Donors:

L'Agence Française de Développement (AFD)

In February 2023, CEPF and BirdLife International jointly submitted, through AFD as an accredited agency of the GCF, a concept note for a total of US\$40 million to promote ecosystem-based adaptation as a way to mitigate the impact of climate change in the Mediterranean Basin Hotspot.

In February 2023, CEPF and IUCN South-East Asia jointly submitted, through AFD as an accredited agency of the GCF, a concept note for a total of US\$64.8 million to promote ecosystem-based adaptation as a way to mitigate the impact of climate change in the Indo-Burma Hotspot.

European Commission

In February 2023, CEPF received confirmation of a commitment from the European Commission to add US\$10 million to the current investment in the Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands Hotspot where CEPF is working on a 10-year project to reduce the vulnerability of island populations to climate change. The contract is under preparation and CEPF expects the funding to be available in Q1 of FY24.

In April 2023, CEPF submitted a concept note for an amount of €5 million to the European Commission on R2C2 (Rapid Rescue for Conservation Crises) to address immediate conservation crises from natural causes that require an urgent response, such as wildfires, droughts, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and cyclones.

World Bank

In March 2023, the World Bank conducted the evaluation of the investment portfolio of CEPF in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot, where CEPF is in the midst of a five-year investment that began in 2021, funded via US\$13.9 million received from the Government of Japan. The conclusions are positive.

Other Fundraising Efforts:

Following the CEPF executive director's meeting with staff of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Canada last year during COP 15, CEPF submitted a requested concept note in February 2023. The concept note is for US\$20 million to support civil society organizations involved in biodiversity conservation through a small grant program in three biodiversity hotspots: the Caribbean Islands, Tropical Andes and Mesoamerica.