

## **Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund**

Eighth Meeting of the Donor Council  
Jackson Hole, Wyoming  
26 March 2005

### **Presentation on World Bank/CEPF forum in Brazil and plans for Africa and Asia forums**

#### **For Information Only:**

The World Bank convened a workshop in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil January 24 –25, 2005 to explore mechanisms to improve operational linkages between the Bank and CEPF. The two-day workshop was the first in a series of regional meetings designed to help increase synergies between CEPF and the Bank's country programs. The event was sponsored by the Brazil CMU and organized by the Bank's project team, with financial support from the Global Programs and Partnership Group (GPP).

More than 30 representatives from the World Bank, CEPF, local civil society groups and governments across Latin America participated in the meeting.

CEPF prepared briefing books for each of the five Latin America regions and shared these with the workshop participants. The books included the CEPF's investment strategy, overview of grantmaking and results to date, maps of conservation priorities and CEPF project locations (where available), conservation highlights and regional leveraging information. These are available in their entirety on CEPF's website at [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net). Briefing books for all other active CEPF regions will be prepared for the CEPF Replenishment Retreat being held in Jackson, Wyoming on Saturday, March 26, 2005.

The plenary session included presentations by: Vinod Thomas (World Bank Brazil Country Director), Randall Purcell (World Bank DGF), Michael Carroll (CEPF Task Team Leader), Jorgen Thomsen (CEPF Executive Director), Luiz Gabriel Azevedo (World Bank Brazil), Laura Tlaiye (World Bank, ESSD) and Manuel Ramirez (CEPF Southern Mesoamerica Coordination Unit). Naoaki Kamoshida (Advisor to the Executive Director for Japan, World Bank) participated in the workshop.

The participants were split into two working groups (Andes / Mesoamerica and Brazil) to discuss the status of CEPF and Bank Operations in each hotspot and brainstorm recommendations for improving links between Bank and CEPF activities. Following a field visit to Poço das Antas Reserve, managed by Associação Mico Leão Dourado, a CEPF grantee, the plenary reconvened to present their recommendations.

Bank and CEPF staff expressed a strong interest in increasing knowledge sharing among Bank and CEPF projects during the project development phase to draw on the partners' respective strengths and leverage more funding for conservation. The participants noted that if there is a second phase of CEPF grantmaking, the Bank and CEPF should further develop regional systems for communication and collaboration.

The workshop recommendations strongly concluded that there is good potential to inform Bank operations through relationships CEPF is building on the ground and innovations emerging from CEPF's grantees. Also, as the Bank develops a project / program CEPF could be involved to help build awareness of links and to better integrate ongoing CEPF work and biodiversity conservation into Bank projects / programs.

#### **Suggested Next Steps:**

- Widely disseminate the recommendations with World Bank and CEPF staff
- Publish articles about the workshop in both World Bank and CEPF literature (World Bank intranet article published on Friday March 4, 2005 and CEPF February top news story)
- Collaborate with the Bank on a similar workshop in Africa, Asia and a follow up meeting in Washington, DC
- Support World Bank to ensure country level staff participate in the Cape Town meeting in April

- Keep DC-based World Bank staff informed of CEPF, progress to date, and key pipeline projects and strategies by regularly sharing standard communication / reporting tools with a larger subset of Bank staff
- Investigate the feasibility of assigning regional and / or local Bank staff as counterparts to CEPF grantmaking coordination units
- Explore possible mechanisms to provide regional support to the Bank's team responsible for CEPF oversight
- Develop hotspot specific action plans, including periodic meetings, consultations, and exchanges at key stages of the project cycle.