

**Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund**

**No-Objection Approval Request  
October 23, 2018**

**Increase the Spending Authority for Guinean Forests of West Africa Hotspot and  
Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands Hotspot**

**Recommended Action Item:**

The Donor Council is asked **to approve on a no-objection basis** an increase in Spending Authority to the following hotspots:

1. Guinean Forests of West Africa: An increase of \$3,000,000 in the Spending Authority to include the additional funding made available by L'Agence Française de Développement. The total Spending Authority for the Guinean Forests of West Africa hotspot will total \$20,107,209 comprising the approved \$6,200,000 for Phase 1, the approved \$10,907,209 for Phase 2, and this request of \$3,000,000.
2. Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands: An increase of \$3,000,000 in the Spending Authority to include the additional funding made available by L'Agence Française de Développement. The total Spending Authority for Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands hotspot will total \$18,175,800 comprising the approved \$4,250,000 for Phase 1, the approved \$10,925,800 for Phase 2, and this request of \$3,000,000.

The deadline for no-objection approval is **November 6, 2018**.

**Background:**

L'Agence Française de Développement has provided a grant to CEPF in support of work in Guinean Forests of West Africa hotspot, and Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands hotspot. The agreement is intended to support the existing and previously approved CEPF investment strategies for these biodiversity hotspots. The total grant award to CEPF is €6,000,000, of which €5,100,000 will be invested in the region as sub-grants, with the balance helping to support CEPF Secretariat operations.