

CEPF Final Project Completion Report

Instructions to grantees: please complete all fields, and respond to all questions, below.

Organization Legal Name	Biosfera 1
Project Title	Strengthening organizational capacities and field research on Raso Islet, Cape Verde.
CEPF GEM No.	185
Date of Report	27/11/2016

CEPF Hotspot: Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot.

Strategic Direction: SD3

Grant Amount: USD 19.438\$

Project Dates: 1/12/2015 – 30/11/2016

1. Implementation Partners for this Project (*list each partner and explain how they were involved in the project*).

- *OIKOS* - They received our administrative in their headquarters in Lisbon where she learned new account and administrative techniques with their Accounting department.

- *SPEA*, BirdLife International and some individuals - They helped us with ideas to create the Biosfera newsletter (design), creation of merchandising (design), image treatment, etc.

- *PII* (Pacific Invasive Initiatives) through the Queensland Biosecurity Department - They gave us the field methodology to have a better idea of the size of the infestation and to choose the best eradication/control method. (helped us to elaborate the PMP for the Invasive ant specie).

- *Queen Mary University* has helped us to implement better techniques for studying sea turtles on the Island of Santa Luzia.

Conservation Impacts

2. Describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF investment strategy set out in the ecosystem profile

The Project promoted improved management of existing protected areas by developing and implementing sustainable management plans (or part of them), and helped us to learn new techniques and technologies of conservation and financial management with the project partners. Also the project helped to Raise awareness of the importance of priority key biodiversity areas (as The Reserve of Santa Luzia and Raso through our new communication department).

3. Summarize the overall results/impact of your project

- ✓ Improvement of financial management capabilities as well as administrative and accounting techniques of Biosfera 1 staff.
- ✓ The project provided the creation of a department of communication and image equipped, which allowed us to: 1-elaborate a gallery of images; 2-Create a Newsletter and a business cards; 3-Create a merchandising package; 4-Create a new NGO banner and finally improve the quality of our Facebook page.
- ✓ Biosfera 1 developed an eradication plan which will serve to take measures to combat the invasion of the Singapore ants in the Raso Islet.
- ✓ Pest Management Plan prepared and better understanding of safeguard policies
- ✓ The project helped to set up our sea turtle conservation camp in Santa Luzia to implement new tracking techniques and protect them against poaching.

Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each long-term impact from Grant Writer proposal

Our Long-term Impacts:

Biosfera 1 capable to manage more complex projects with knowledge that can be used to prevent or control ants' invasion in the National territory and keep their members informed about their activities, difficulties and victories.

4. Actual progress toward long-term impacts at completion

- We have implemented our activities with the help of young volunteers who have learned valuable lessons that can be replicated in their places of origin (other islands and even other countries).
- The Biosfera has already signed a document with the Government of Cape Verde that directly implicates us in the co-management of this country's largest reserve, which indicates that the new techniques learned here will be used for years to come.
- The Biosfera received the proposal of the working group that operates in the South of the Country (MPA of Rombo, the second largest in the country), so that we can work together so that the Biosfera can pass on its knowledge, that can be applied in the South of the Country.

Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each short-term impact from Grant Writer proposal

Biosfera 1 raise internal capacity building at administrative and communication level.
Accomplished feasibility study on the invasive fire ants specie eradication/control on Raso Islet.

5. Actual progress toward short-term impacts at completion

- Unfortunately, because the financial audit just can be done at the end of the fiscal year, it will not be possible to complete this impact because this project ends now. But anyway, we will keep this financial year paper work documents prepared, and wait to see if in the first trimester of 2017 we can raise money to ask for this audit.
- We have right now new elements in our financial and account model that help us to have a better control of our finances, better manage the projects and present the accounts to our associates in a clear and transparent form.
- We implement an image and communication department that allow us better inform our associates and general public about our work. Develop a merchandising package and a new image elements that help promote our conservation message.
- We develop a Pest Management Plan for the invasive ant specie and this document comport all the necessary information about the ant infestation and the techniques that can be used to eradicate/control the spread.
- Because we were not able to fulfill the financial audit, we use the money to help us to implement the turtle campsite in Santa Luzia in order to protect the specie against the poaching and promote biologic data collecting (this action also drive us to the CEPF strategic investment). This year, because we are waiting for a big project with MAVA Foundation, that would cover the turtle protection, and because this project was supposed to start last June, we didn't propose for any grant to take care of this important matter. If was not for this CEPF grant, a significant population of females' turtles of Santa Luzia would be in serious danger.

6. Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impacts

- To achieve the activity for our administrative formation with our partner in Portugal, we had to send her to Portugal, and it's always a challenge to get a visa to entrance in Europe, but we start the process with months of antecedence. Implement the field work techniques for the evaluation of the ants' infestation guided just by emails exchange and reading specific documents about the matter, was a big challenge but we get that with perseverance and performing a rigorous field work. The Public that follow Biosfera's activities really enjoy our new image communication department.

7. Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

- Positive** - The Biosfera has already signed a document with the Government of Cape Verde that directly implicates us in the co-management of this country's largest reserve, which indicates that the new techniques learned here will be used for years to come.

Negative – We have to put our administrative as full time worker because she doesn't have time in just half period to fulfill all the news administrative requirements (its negative just because we are not prepared to rise a salary at the moment, so we have to cut in others expenses).

Project Components and Products/Deliverables

Component 1 (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each component and product/deliverable from Grant Writer

Raise Biosfera 1 internal capacity building
Require an external account auditory on Biosfera finances.
Create of a Biosfera 1 communication strategy (this will include periodic information letter to associates and partners, compilation of an image gallery and raise image treatment capacity).
Form our administrative in European account model.
To implement new account measures.

8. Describe the results from Component 1 and each product/deliverable

1- For the first expected result (that would come from the implementation of the activity: external account auditory) we have no results or deliverable because the activity was not performed (the financial audit just can be done at the end of the fiscal year, it will not be possible to complete this impact because this project ends in 2016). In the meantime, the audit firm itself helped us to prepare all our accounting so that it can be audited. We are now prepared to receive an audit of our 2016 accounts as soon as we get funding for it. This activity was then replaced by another: Camping implementation for the protection of nesting beaches of sea turtle *Caretta caretta* in Santa Luzia Reserve (Report attached). For this activity, we implemented on the Island of Santa Luzia a camp from July to September, with three main objectives:

- ✓ Count of nests and trails daily through the patrol on the beaches (7 km of beaches), These data are included in a national report to better know the population of nesting turtles in Cape Verde;
- ✓ Night patrol of the beaches to collect biometric data of adult females and mark them with subcutaneous ship. This ship is used by all teams working with turtles in Cape Verde and provides important information about their movements during the nesting period.
- ✓ The presence of the team in the Reserve at this time will serve as a deterrent to fishermen who intend to catch sea turtles.

During the campaign, more than thousand nests were counted and 30 adult females were marked. No evidence of illegal catches has been recorded.



Beaches controlled for Santa Luzia



Volunteer controlling *Caretta caretta* nest

2 - We have right now new elements in our financial and account model that help us to have a better control of our finances, better manage the projects and present the accounts to our associates in a clear and transparent form. In order to achieve this, our Administrative Secretary during 7 days was trained by a partner (OIKOS – international NGO with headquarters in Lisbon, they implement community projects on 3 continents), with a lot of experience. During the training, they addressed:



Training in financial administration in Portugal

- Organizing documents into folders;

Each grant funding (proof of transfers and bank statements) must be organized into separate folders for easy auditing and financial reporting.

- Identification of operating costs;

Identify in accordance with the project submitted for funding, the accepted cost centers.

- Identification of expenditures related to cost centers;

Different identification code for each cost center / project.

- Project development phases;

Project cycle evaluation (step by step).

- Identification of sites that finance projects;

Create a list of global financiers (take into account the submission dates, amounts financed, geographic area covered by the funding and themes.)

- How to organize the financial information for financial audit;

Organization of files; identification of receipts for each project; Listing of monthly account closing, map the organization's treasury and re-evaluation of contracts with financiers.

- How to make a map to the cash resources;

Creation of a cash flow.

- Calculate the time of an employee in each project;

Creating a table to define working hours for each employee for each project.

- Creating a PivotTable;

Pivot table creation (EXCEL) to assist the organization of financial information.

3 - We implement an image and communication department (hiring a designer biologist for the part of the image and a sociologist biologist for the part of the communication), creating a room equipped for this purpose (computer with advanced graphics card and added memory, 40-inch screen, and other utensils needed to work with images) that allow us better inform our associates and general public about our work, through a quarterly newsletter and constant updating of our Facebook page. Develop a merchandising package with its own design and a new image elements that help promote our conservation message as a new business card, a

new banner and whenever necessary, awareness campaigns instruments such as posters, brochures and leaflets.

Component 2 (as stated in the approved proposal)

Studying the fire and presence on Raso Islet and provide an eradication plan as part of the restauration plan.
Prepare a map for fire ant distribution in Raso Islet
Prepare the Pest Management Plan for the fire Ant Eradication
Prepare a detailed eradication plan for fire Ant eradication/control
Elaborate the feasibility study of the eradication/control of fire Ant

9. Describe the results from Component 2 and each product/deliverable

The work with the ants was carried out in several phases:

1° Collect individuals and send them to the Queensland biosafety office for identification of the species (*Trichomyrmex destructor*, or Singapore ant).

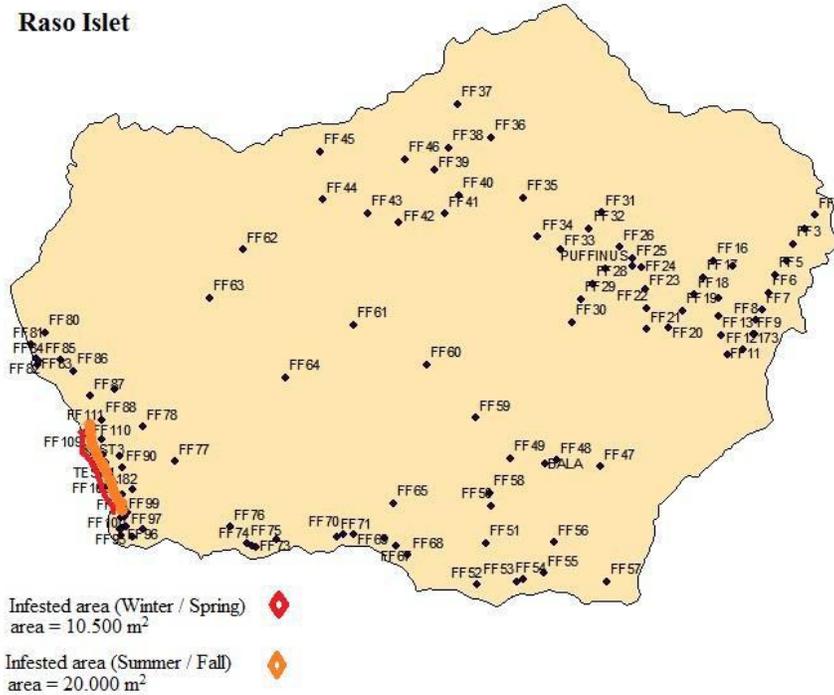
2° To elaborate a grid with the different habitats of the islet where 111 points were applied with a decoy (jelly), to map the distribution of the ant in the dry season and in the rainy season.

3° An assessment (with the help of the Queensland Department of Biosafety) was made to choose the best nutritional base to attract the ant to the pesticide (protein, lipid or carbohydrate), along with a (home-made) device that will serve to deliver the bait with minimal interaction with the remaining animal life of the Islet.

4° Taking into account the data of the previous points, a research was done to identify the best pesticide existing in the market.

5° With the help of the Queensland Biosafety Center, an operational plan was drawn up which includes a period of application of the pesticide in three application waves and one evaluation period.

Raso Islet



Map of ilheu Raso with infested area

With all this information, a final document was prepared, the PMP that was already delivered and accepted by the Cape Verdean authorities, as well as the eradication plan and feasibility study.

10. If you did not complete any component or deliverable, how did this affect the overall impact of the project?

We didn't make the external account audit, but our accounts this year are organized and ready to do it. We are counting on getting some financial support from any of our partners to be able to apply for this activity in the first quarter of 2017.

In compensation, we were able to implement the sea turtle conservation camp (which was not planned) and obtained excellent results for the conservation of the species (more than 1,000 nests)

Benefits to Communities

11. Please describe the communities that have benefited from CEPF support

Please report on the size and characteristics of communities and the benefits that they have received, as a result of CEPF investment. Please provide information for all communities that have benefited **from project start to project completion**.

The actions we developed in the field (preparation of the PMP for the ant invasive species in the Raso Islet and the conservation of sea turtles in Santa Luzia) were both carried out in an Uninhabited Integral Reserve and thus without major impacts on direct communities. The activities we have developed in order to strengthen the capacities of the NGO (administrative and communicative) have a direct impact on our own performance and thus our capacity to develop and implement conservation projects in our country, helping the Cape Verdean State in this task. In a broader analysis, helping the Cape Verdeans to have a healthier environment.

Community Name	Community Characteristics							Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit												
	Subsistence economy	Small landowners	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists / nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Other*	Size of Community				Increased access to clean water	Increased food security	Increased access to energy	Increased access to public services (e.g. health care, education)	Increased resilience to climate change	Improved land tenure	Improved recognition of traditional knowledge	Improved representation and decision-making in governance forums/structures	Improved access to ecosystem services
								50-250 people	251-500 people	501-1,000 people	Over 1,001 people									
Mindelo						x												x		x

*If you marked "Other" to describe the community characteristic, please explain:

Lessons Learned

12. Describe any lessons learned related to organizational development and capacity building.

We must invest in the development of the skills of our technicians in order to implement projects with better quality. Not forgetting, however, always to use the empirical knowledge and the intrinsic capacities of each one.

13. Describe any lessons learned related to project Design Process (*aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)

We learn how to better systematize the ideas in order to present new project proposals and developing more complete reports.

14. Describe any lesson learned related to project Implementation (*aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)

It is necessary to be careful to understand the timings of each activity so that the same error does not have to occur in the case of the audit, which can only be done after the project deadline, so unfortunately cannot be done.

It is also necessary to be careful when working with the technical support of people who are very distant, since the exchange of information can be delayed (as in the case of the precious help of the Queensland Biosafety Center, for which sometimes we had to wait months for an answer).

15. Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community

This year we had a great deal of difficulty managing our projects because we had submitted a large project that had already been approved and that is why we did not submit other projects so as not to run the risk of overlap situations of activities and funds. But the money for this project was delayed and we had to manage the actions with a very low staff to contain expenses.

Sustainability / Replication

16. Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated

The Biosfera has already signed a document with the Government of Cape Verde that directly implicates us in the co-management of this country's largest reserve, which indicates that the new techniques learned here will be used for years to come.

The Biosfera received the proposal of the working group that operates in the South of the Country (MPA of Rombo, the second largest in the country), so that we can work together so that the Biosfera can pass on its knowledge, that can be applied in the South of the Country.

17. Summarize any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability

We ensure with this project a very important activity for the conservation of marine turtles of the Reserve, which would otherwise jeopardize works already developed over the years and that have provided the continuity of the work, ensuring a continuous line of data necessary to have a good evaluation of the species for years to come.

Safeguards

18. If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social and environmental safeguards that your project may have triggered

A PMP has been prepared and shared with BirdLife and CEPF

Additional Funding

19. Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
BirdLife International	C	Still unknown	BirdLife want to secure the ant eradication/or control in Raso Islet
QueenMary University	A	1000 euros and turtle tags	they help to pay 2 more field workers for the campsite of turtle and 500 Euros of supplies.
SeaShepherd	A	20.000 euros	They pay most part of our Boat dispenses as Marina, Purchase of parts, some fuel and part of the on Board Staff Salary.

* Categorize the type of funding as:

- A Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)
- B Grantee and Partner Leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project)
- C Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)

Additional Comments/Recommendations

20. Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF

I am very pleased that the CEPF team has visited us and sought to understand the real problems of our region *in Locco*. This enables a better understanding of the needs and difficulties faced by the activity implementation teams and avoids wasting time explaining the current panorama of the eco-regions.

I would like to thank CEPF for the help this year of some difficulty (for the delay in the beginning of the other great project, which if not for the CEPF, a lot of important activity for the conservation of the species in the Reserve of Santa Luzia, this year would be compromised). And for the patience to deal with partners who still have much to learn but who are committed to contributing to species conservation and the sustainable development of their regions.

Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

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