

# CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

## I. BASIC DATA

**Organization Legal Name:** Department of Zoology & Wildlife Conservation, University of Dar es Salaam

**Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement):** *Making Data Available on the Species and Sites of the Eastern Arc and Coastal Forest Hotspot in Tanzania*

**Implementation Partners for this Project:** Dept of Zoology & Wildlife Conservation, University of Dar es Salaam, Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania, and Birdlife.

**Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement):** May 1, 2005 - December 31, 2009

**Date of Report (month/year):** final report 052010

## II. OPENING REMARKS

*Provide any opening remarks that may assist in the review of this report.*

Biodiversity information about the Eastern Arc Mountains is scattered and difficult to access. The project sought to address this by facilitating the entry of existing data into the Biodiversity Database at the **Dept of Zoology & Wildlife Conservation, University of Dar es Salaam**, as well as by linking the collection and entry of data to the database (**BREAM project**). After input, information was passed electronically to other partners dealing with conservation in the Eastern Arc Mountains, **Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania** and **Birdlife**. In the latter stages of the project, funds were also made available to ensure a remote backup facility for the database, and for the creation of pdf files of the entire set of Tanzania Notes & Records, a local journal now out of print but an important source of biodiversity information. These pdf files are available from the University of Dar es Salaam and will also be made available on the world wide web through the Tanzania Commission for Science & Technology (**COSTECH**), through its national component of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility **GBIF**, **TANBIF**, for which **COSTECH** is the national node.

## III. ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT PURPOSE

**Project Purpose:** *The main purpose and short term impact of this project will be the provision of data directly to the CEPF database, which in turn will be used for conservation based activities based on current information, for example, data on presence/absence regarding a species in an area as well as its currently understood conservation status.*

### Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
Purpose-level:	

1. <i>Data and specimens received from contributors</i>	Specimens collected have been deposited in the collection of the Dept. of Zoology and Wildlife Conservation, University of Dar es Salaam. Data from these as well as from non-specimen sources have been entered in the database.
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**Describe the success of the project in terms of achieving its intended impact objective and performance indicators.**

The project achieved its main objectives; and the indicators were positive in terms of data being made available for conservation purposes.

**Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?**

No, certainly no unexpected negative impacts; positive impacts were those that would have been expected, i.e. a greater appreciation of the usefulness of the database, for example, by the Eastern Arc Trust Fund and the Leverhulme Valuing the Arc project.

## IV. PROJECT OUTPUTS

**Project Outputs:**

### Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
<b>Output 1: Provision of previously unavailable data from specimens collected in the field on status and distribution of species in the Hotspot to the Birdlife/WCST database. Much but not all of these data will come from other CEPF projects, especially but not only Frontier-Tanzania collecting.</b>	This has been done, all Frontier records have been entered, as well as BREAM and other data.
<i>1.1. Specimen record data transferred from the Dept of Zoology database to the Birdlife/WCST database</i>	This has been done electronically
<b>Output 2: Provision of previously unavailable data from "non-specimen" sources such as photographs, unpublished reports, publications and field notes on species distribution in the Hotspot. These data are to be fed directly to the Birdlife /WCST database.</b>	These data have been extracted from field notes and are in the process of being entered. Those that have been entered have been transferred to the Birdlife/WCST database.
<i>2.1. Non-specimen record data transferred from the Dept of Zoology Database to the Birdlife/WCST database</i>	These were transferred electronically.
<b>Output 3: Capacity of Database computer to be linked to one another and to back-up to a remote server to improve data storage safety</b>	This has been done and back ups are being made on a regular basis.
<i>3.1. Assessment of equipment needed is made.</i>	See above
<b>Output 4: Making data available from the journal "Tanzania Notes and Records" in pdf format</b>	Completed and data are institutionalized at the University of Dar es Salaam main library, within the Dept of Zoology and Wildlife Conservation and will be available on the web through COSTECH.
<i>4.1. Creating pdfs</i>	completed
<b>Output 5: Development of endnote bibliography for biodiversity references</b>	This has been done, about seven hundred references are entered
<i>5.1. Making printed biodiversity data</i>	Data relevant to the Eastern Arc have been sent

available to the wider scientific and civil society community	electronically to both the Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania and Nature Kenya.
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***Describe the success of the project in terms of delivering the intended outputs.***

The project did what no other project had been able to do previously, obtain many unpublished records from the Eastern Arc Mountains from hand written field notes and also from photographs.

***Were any outputs unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project? All outputs were realized but it will be appreciated that it was physically impossible given the relatively short duration of the project to locate all unpublished journals, diaries, etc of every person who lived and worked in the Eastern Arc over generations.***

**V. SAFEGUARD POLICY ASSESSMENTS**

***Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.***

We saw no required actions, since the main role of the project was to provide information to managers of the resources.

**VI. LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PROJECT**

***Describe any lessons learned during the various phases of the project. Consider lessons both for future projects, as well as for CEPF's future performance.***

It was known from the onset that a major constraint would be the lack of trained personnel to enter and manage data. This was addressed by training under another project, the Danish funded ENRECA project, ensuring that three Tanzanians were trained in database management. However, their numerous other commitments at both the Departmental (teaching, administration, research) as well as the National level (involvement with matters relating to the Captive Breeding of the Kihansi Spray Toad) meant that at times the data entry process was slowed.

***Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/failure)***

An aspect that is difficult to assess objectively but that is important is the commitment of those involved in the project. This might be seen as partly design, simply by the choice of key staff as participants, but it is nevertheless critically important. Because trained staff are always in short supply, and one cannot predict what other duties they may be assigned this can be a limiting factor to any project.

A major difficulty for us with the project design was the requirement to report financially using a web based system. This caused us many practical problems. The situation improved in the last year when we were able to use a simple non-web based excel sheet attachment, but in the future we would suggest that in many countries, it may not be practical to use a web-based reporting system.

***Project Execution: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/failure)***

*The project began slowly which reduced its efficacy of execution, and as noted above, staff involved were often assigned other duties that prevented them from working solely on the project.*

**VII. ADDITIONAL FUNDING**

*Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.*

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
		\$	
		\$	
		\$	
		\$	
		\$	
		\$	
		\$	
		\$	

**\*Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:**

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)*
- B** *Complementary funding (Other donors contribute to partner organizations that are working on a project linked with this CEPF project)*
- C** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)*
- D** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

**Note: we did not receive specific funding to support the CEPF project. However, both the Eastern Arc Trust Fund and the Leverhulme Foundation (Valuing the Arc Project) utilized the database to answer questions about conserving the endangered species of the Eastern Arc.**

***Provide details of whether this project will continue in the future and if so, how any additional funding already secured or fundraising plans will help ensure its sustainability.***

This project strengthened the capacity of the Department to institutionalize data and others have seen the importance of maintaining the database and the data contained therein.

**VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Many projects have begun databases yet after the project ends, usually the database too, declines and ceases to exist. This project uplifted the capacity of an existing database and showed how existing and new data could be used for conservation purposes. By**

**facilitating data entry and linking the data to organizations such as WCST and Birdlife, it ensured that the data were made available to those who need it the most.**

## **VIII. INFORMATION SHARING**

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. One way we do this is by making programmatic project documents available on our Web site, [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net), and by marketing these in our newsletter and other communications.

These documents are accessed frequently by other CEPF grantees, potential partners, and the wider conservation community.

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