

## CEPF Final Project Completion Report

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Organization Legal Name:</b> | Bat Conservation International  |
| <b>Project Title:</b>           | Establishing a Management Plan with the Rotokas People for the Kunua Plains and Mount Balbi Key Biodiversity Area, Papua New Guinea                                 |
| <b>Grant Number:</b>            | 65979   |
| <b>CEPF Region:</b>             | East Melanesian Islands   |
| <b>Strategic Direction:</b>     | 1 Empower local communities to protect and manage globally significant biodiversity at priority Key Biodiversity Areas under-served by current conservation efforts |
| <b>Grant Amount:</b>            | \$89,208.00   |
| <b>Project Dates:</b>           | July 01, 2016 - December 31, 2018   |
| <b>Date of Report:</b>          | May 07, 2019  |

### Implementation Partners

List each partner and explain how they were involved in the project

**Rotokas Ecotourism (RET) - working with local communities to develop ecotourism and conservation management plans to help protect Bougainville's biodiversity**

**Bat Conservation International - providing technical expertise in bat conservation and management**  
**Volunteer Services Abroad - in-country technical and logistical help, assisting with GIS training and mapping**

**Christopher Newport University - technical support and assistance with Biodiversity booklets**  
**NGO Pro - providing organizational, financial and office management training**

**Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) - assisting to develop a sustainable and implementable ecotourism plan for Bougainville**

**University of Queensland - are helping provide information on the mammal diversity of the KBA**

**Harrison Institute - helping to raise funds to protect the forests in the KBA**

### Conservation Impacts

Summarize the overall impact of your project, describing how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile



## **Expand awareness and support for the conservation/management plan with the Rotokas Indigenous People**

There are 14 Rotokas Indigenous People clans located in at least 45 communities within or in the immediate vicinity of the Kunua Plains and Mount Balbi Key Biodiversity Area. To maximize the conservation impact of the Conservation/Management Plan, Rotokas Ecotourism has undertaken consultations with thirty nine of these communities to raise awareness, garner support, and catalyze clans to organize themselves at a local level. In the fall of 2018 RET undertook their fourth round of consultation awareness meetings, travelling to the Rotokas, Kunua, Keriaka, Astinima and Torokina areas. During these consultations alone they spoke with 1,468 individuals (884 males and 602 females) about the importance of managing and living in harmony with the natural environment. Attendees have exhibited a great willingness to learn about environmentally sensitive practices and how ecotourism can be used as a source of income. In the 2011 census there were 249,359 living on Bougainville; currently it is estimated to be around 300,000. As the population increases there is a greater demand for resources for building, food and commercial purposes so it is important for communities to be aware of the long-term damage unsustainable forestry and mining practices can be. Without the understanding and approval of local communities and their Clan Chiefs it would not be possible to implement any conservation management plans so we are exceptionally happy with the results of this part of the project and how well the outreach work was received.

### **Food security**

Food security continues to be a primary challenge for conservation as many communities have a diet with very limited protein. As a result, many individuals still go into the forests and hunt for bushmeat which will include species such as the critically endangered Bougainville Monkey Faced Bat. Enhancing poultry and fish pond production are two initiatives that the clans have requested help with. Since installing an inland fish farming in the Rotokas near Tavovi major clans in Ruruvu Village, Usiore and Vuirao have used the design to start their own inland fish farming projects and new projects are planned for Kunua, Keriaka Astinima and Torokina. Overall, fish farming has been far more successful than poultry farming as communities kept losing their chickens due to predators.

### **Biodiversity and Clanship Mapping**

BCI led an expedition to Bougainville in 2017 in which ten species of bats were identified and a identification key developed. RET have continued to search for Bougainville money-faced bat roosts which is increasing the number of sightings for this endangered species. As a result of the community awareness activities RET was able to work with the Clan Chiefs and get them to agree to formally recognizing where community use, traditional use and restricted areas are within Bougainville. This is a huge milestone for the KBA conservation management plan as communities respect and follow the rulings of Clan Chiefs over that of the national government. Having the support of the Chiefs makes us confident that implementation and enforcement of allowed activities in the three areas will be achievable.

### **Strengthening Capacity**

RET has been working hard to improve its organizational capacity in order to maintain their long term goal of building on the success of this project and increasing the work they're able to carry out in Bougainville. RET has been receiving organizational, financial and office management training from NGO Pro for three years, including training sessions in July and September 2018. In addition, RET is continuing its partnership with the VSA who have helped them most recently with the clanship mapping project. RET has drafted financial and HR policies and are looking to identify what other policies are needed for them to grow effectively as an organisation.

### **Strengthening Livelihoods for the People of Rotokas and the Kunua Plains**

**As part of the community visits the RET team helped people understand the value of sustainable farming practices and ways promote diverse range of incomes through small-scale farming. Inland fish farming, cocoa farming, and chicken husbandry are all priorities that have been identified to help sustain local populations. While RET is developing its own plans to build a guest house to strengthen their services to tourists and to establish a model for others to follow, the community of Apuro, Keriaka, has already built a guesthouse and had their opening ceremony.**

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

| Impact Description  | Impact Summary  |
|---|---|
| 5) Hunting of bats and other biodiversity as food or from general persecution will be significantly reduced as understanding of the importance of bats and biodiversity to healthy ecosystems and to the Rotokas People.  | Improving food security is the key to reducing the impact of hunting - on all wildlife, not just bats. RET have been working closely with communities to identify ways to improve farming practices in an environmentally sensitive way (e.g. fish farming, chicken farming). RET have also been working with the Clan Chiefs and villagers to highlight the importance of wildlife and how increases in hunting is unsustainable for many of the species they are targeting. By working with the clan chiefs we have ensured that hunting will not be allowed in traditional sacred areas, which cover a wide extent of the KBA.   |
| 6) The protein/food shortage issues for the Rotokas People will be reduced through a combination of better animal husbandry of the animals they currently raise and better farming techniques resulting in increased yield from current garden plots and larger agricultural areas. | As above. Fish farming has proved successful while chicken farming has proved more challenging. RET have helped people understand the value of sustainable farming practices and ways promote diverse range of incomes through small-scale farming (e.g. cash crops, bee and vanilla farms).  |
| 1) The Rotokas People, with support and endorsement from CEPA and the ABG, will be the recognized local leaders of sustainable conservation of the biodiversity in the Kuna Plan and Mount Balbi KBA.   | Clan Chiefs and local communities have been actively involved in the outreach activities and eager to learn about the importance of protecting their natural environment. Villages have been interested to learn about improving food security and we have established templates for fish farming practices and better poultry husbandry. We have also made people aware of the long-term risks of selling off their land to mining and logging companies and worked with the local government to make sure they legally own their land. By helping to reestablish and strengthen clan customary laws we are highly confident that everyone will respect the land designations within the KBA which will ensure that the biodiversity is protected. |
| 2) Rotokas Ecotourism Group (RET) and other CBOs will be working closely with all of the major communities for sustainable low-impact ecotourism and that the communities will offer quality accommodations with a strong conservation message and experience.                      | RET has been working with communities to make them aware of the advantages of ecotourism projects and have included a representative from the ABG tourism department to speak with communities as well. One   |

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | community has already built a guest house for tourists to use and RET have identified guided trails that the tourism department can promote.   |
| 3) RET and other CBOs will be proactively and independently seeking and receiving additional support to implement the priorities identified in the plan.   | RET have been successful in applying for other funding organizations to continue their work. Funding bodies include the Waterloo Foundation (\$80,000 USD), UNDP small grants program (\$50,000 USD - pending), and PNG government (200,000 PGK, awarded and lost).  |
| 4) Understanding of KPMB biodiversity will be expanded as additional biodiversity projects will be implemented by the Rotokas People, independently and with the assistance of external experts. | Collaborating with the University of Queensland is a key step in providing a detailed knowledge of the mammalian diversity of the KBA and how species patterns change across an elevational gradient. New collaborations with PNG University and Christopher Newport University will help expand biodiversity assessments and improve biodiversity monitoring in the area. |

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

| Impact Description   | Impact Summary   |
|--|--|
| 1) A Framework for a management plan for KPMB biodiversity will be developed. It will present the Rotokas People's perspectives on significant threats to KPMB and suggest priority conservation actions for stakeholders to implement | Before a management plan could be developed a significant amount of work needed to be invested in working with local communities and clan chiefs to teach them why this work was important. This had to be locally led through RET as many villagers are still highly skeptical of outside interference and there is the potential of unintentionally violating clan laws. Through this work, the clans are reestablishing traditional lines of communication and building critical relationships among communities that will ultimately result in a unified vision directly connected with their traditional values and practices. Through the work of community consultations we realized that to achieve greatest impact in protecting the biodiversity of the KBA we needed to identify and get the clan chiefs to enforce community use, traditional use, and sacred areas. As the majority of the KBA has been identified as sacred land it means that no human modification or disturbance is allowed to occur on it. Other areas are described at traditional use land which means that there will be low impact forestry and agricultural practices. Very little of the land within the KBA is described at community use, which allows greater flexibility in how communities use these areas. |
| 2) Initial baseline data on the presence and distribution of the biodiversity in KPMB will be collated into a draft map and a database to be used to inform future priorities. All data will be shared with                            | This was a highly ambitious target. BCI led an expedition to Bougainville in February 2017 where they carried out bat surveys across the KBA. RET have been predominantly leading community outreach work, but have been noting different wildlife as they travel across   |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>CEPA, ABG and the Rotokas people to enhance and inform their contributions to the conservation of KPMB.</p>  | <p>different regions of the island, including recording observations of the Bougainville monkey-faced bat. Since the start of the project Junior Novera started his PhD (which is also supported by BCI) on the mammal diversity of the KBA which will provide useful information for the conservation management plan for the region.</p>  |
| <p>3) The breadth and depth of the skills and capacity of RET and the Rotokas People to effectively conserve KPMB and provide quality low-impact ecotourism will be enhanced through a series of conservation education and training experiences.</p>       | <p>As part of the community visits the RET team identified farming and food sustainability as key threats to the regions biodiversity. During their community visits they provided training on how sustainable farming practices could be implemented and ways promote diverse range of incomes through small-scale farming developed. Inland fish farming, cocoa farming, and chicken husbandry are all priorities that have been identified to help sustain local populations. Training on how to build and manage inland fish farms have been hugely successful with fish farms already constructed and being used as a model for other communities to follow. Similarly, by promoting the concept of tourism one community has already built a guest house and RET plans to build their own guest house in the coming year.</p> |
| <p>4) The Rotokas People, CEPA, ABG and other key authorities are aware of and actively engaged in the development of the KPMB management plan.</p>   | <p>RET has ensured that all community groups (not just Rotokas) are aware of their plan. They have also been working closely with the ABG to make sure that communities have greater legal protection over their property rights, especially with the threat of logging or mining activities occurring in the area.</p>   |
| <p>5) Broader awareness of the initiative will be achieved at the University of PNG and with other stakeholders to catalyze their interest and participation in development of the plan and future implementation of priorities identified in the plan.</p> | <p>Generating interest from faculty members at the University of PNG has proved challenging and has led to little success. However, RET has been in discussion with the university to sponsor a student to help with data collection and analysis of results in the hope that they will come back to Bougainville and continue to help with projects after they have finished. With the help of CEPF and BCI, RET have also started to work more closely with the University of Queensland and PhD student Junior Novera who is conducting a mammal survey within the KBA.</p>  |

Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives

**The greatest success of this project has been the way in which RET has been able to engage with the local communities and teach them about the importance of protecting their environment (especially with the increasing threat of population growth, logging and mining), and how they can benefit from the environment in terms of both food security and generating income. RET were able to work with 39 of the 45 communities - sometimes visiting communities multiple times as they want to learn more**



about activities the community could be getting involved with. Without interest from the communities, and support from the Clan Chiefs, it would be impossible to implement any conservation management plans in the region. In a region where conservation management and ecotourism are not familiar terms it is critical that this groundwork be laid before any direct actions are taken. The clanship mapping is an excellent example of this and will be more effective at protecting the biodiversity in the KBA than any protection measures imposed directly from the government.

The community outreach work has also been able to demonstrate to local communities the benefits of opening their villages. With the assistance of RET and the ABG tourism department we have already seen one guest house being built and RET are in the early stages of designing their own. RET have also taught communities the importance of food security measures and how to build fish farms and raise chickens. While fish farming is a far greater investment (both in time and money) it provides a long-term, sustainable solution to dealing with food security issues as predation of the chickens by wild animals has proved challenging to raise them in any significant numbers.

One of the greatest challenges of this project was being able to reach certain communities as some areas, such as Kakasipa, are located in remote parts of the island and not accessible by road. This would often mean the team trekking for up to four hours each way to reach them. While it is important for RET to reach as many communities within the KBA as possible, accessing sites such as this take up a lot of time. It is important to note that building support within communities for implementing the conservation management plan for the KBA, and promoting the concept of ecotourism is not a fast process and needs to be carried out at a pace that is reasonable considering the logistical challenges of reaching some of these areas and building trust with Clan Chiefs to ensure any recommendation are supported.

While RET has been successful in applying for funding from the ABG to set up fisheries projects on Bougainville on two occasions (the last award was for 200,000 PGK, \$60,000 USD) both times the money was reallocated to other projects without warning or explanation. During feedback from the communities after food security presentations is that they would like to participate in such initiatives but do not have the resources to do it. While RET has been able to establish some fish farms they do not have the resources to meet all the community requests and are continuing to search for other sources of funding as it seems unlikely to receive anything from the ABG.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

The success of the project also came with its own challenges. While Clan Chiefs and community members welcomed RETs efforts to teach them about conservation and ecotourism there was one individual who exhibited some jealousy of the work RET were doing and tried to undermine their work. As reported to CEPF in 2017 and in subsequent correspondence, due to all of the community engagement work RET had been conducting, and the transparency in what they were trying to achieve, this issue was resolved but served as a valuable learning experience for RET. It showed them the importance of clear aims and objectives and how to manage people's expectations as to what the project was going to offer, and achieve.

Following BCI reporting this grievance CEPF in March 2017 CEPF suspended our award. Following CEPF's request we followed all traditional practices and gained permission from the Kunua clan chiefs and community to continue the work (note that on an island such as Bougainville this is not an easy process and involves many days trekking across the island to get to some of the remote villages). BCI, along with Dr. Waldien (who had left BCI at this point but still working with us on this project) and RET



confirmed in writing the endorsement of the Kunua chiefs and community in August 2017. However, it took until June 2018 for CEPF to officially lift the suspension. While we appreciate CEPF has guidelines they have to follow in these situations, we would like to point out how much this impacted the momentum of this project and eroded trust in the system due to all of the extended delays. While we accept that some of the delays were a result of staff turnover at BCI, we found it exceptionally challenging to communicate with CEPF to get this matter resolved, and the length of time it took to get the extension granted.

## Project Components and Products/Deliverables

Describe the results from each product/deliverable:

| Component |   | Deliverable |  |   |
|-----------|---|-------------|--|---|
| #         | Description   | #           | Description  | Results for Deliverable   |
| 1         | Component 1. Management Plan: A unified vision for conservation of KPMB biodiversity is developed and endorsed by the Rotokas People, Keriaka and Kanua, with input from CEPA, ABG and other key stakeholders | 1.1         | By September 2016, a report from multi-stakeholder meetings will be established and insights from stakeholders will inform development of the Management Plan. | BCI led an initial trip to Bougainville in August 2016. By the end of their trip they accompanied Rotokas on eight community consultations. An initial coordination with CEPA, the National Research Institute, UNDP Small Grants Programme were completed. An initial coordination with the ABG Dept of the Environment and Dept of Education were completed.  |
| 1         | Component 1. Management Plan: A unified vision for conservation of KPMB biodiversity is developed and endorsed by the Rotokas People, Keriaka and Kanua, with input from CEPA, ABG and other key stakeholders | 1.2         | By July 2017, a report from multi-stakeholder meetings will be established and insights from stakeholders will inform development of the Management Plan.      | Thirteen consultations in nine communities were completed during this time period. To date, we have visited 29 communities and conducted more than 29 consultations with 1) clan chiefs, 2) entire communities, 3) women's groups, and 4) educators and schools. In addition, nine coordination meeting with CEPA (3), the National Research Institute (2), National Fisheries Office (1) and UNDP Small Grants Programme (1) were completed. Six additional coordination meetings with the ABG Department of Environment (2), Department of Forestry (1), Department of Education (2) and the Department of Tourism (1) were completed. All meetings were well received and covered the vision for the initiative, concerns that the various stakeholders had, and plans to address the concerns and involve the stakeholders. |
| 1         | Component 1. Management Plan: A unified vision for conservation of KPMB biodiversity is developed and   | 1.3         | [DELETE] By the end of the project, a Management Plan for KPMB will be established through a   | Determined not to be possible in the timeframe of this project and deliverable removed.   |

|   |   |     |   |   |
|---|---|-----|---|---|
|   | endorsed by the Rotokas People, Keriaka and Kanua, with input from CEPA, ABG and other key stakeholders   |     | series of consultations will be completed with and endorsed by the Rotokas People, CEPA, and ABG.                                     |   |
| 2 | Component 2: Biodiversity: An initial understanding of the status and distribution of the 25 target species and other biodiversity in KPMB will be established. | 2.1 | By August 2016, biodiversity photo arrays of 25 target species will be established and shared with the Rotokas People, CEPA, and ABG. | An initial photo array was developed for as many of the 25 priority species as we could find. This was well received and an additional 100 copies have been requested to help with the consultations. We plan to update it with additional species photos when they are obtained.       |
| 2 | Component 2: Biodiversity: An initial understanding of the status and distribution of the 25 target species and other biodiversity in KPMB will be established. | 2.2 | By August 2016, a bat identification key for Bougainville will be established and shared with the Rotokas People, CEPA, and ABG.      | The bat identification key was completed and successfully used in the field and will be updated with the additional information and for clarity of use. The key was shared during consultations.  |
| 2 | Component 2: Biodiversity: An initial understanding of the status and distribution of the 25 target species and other biodiversity in KPMB will be established. | 2.3 | By September 2016, a report from the field expedition will be completed with participation by the Rotokas People                      | The field expedition and trip report was completed. The initial biodiversity assessment focused on bats and was completed in Feb/Mar of 2017. A trip report was completed and submitted to BCI. Ten species of bats were documented as a result of a survey transect across the island. |

|   |   |     |   |   |
|---|---|-----|---|---|
| 2 | Component 2: Biodiversity: An initial understanding of the status and distribution of the 25 target species and other biodiversity in KPMB will be established.   | 2.4 | [DELETE] By the end of the project, an initial biodiversity dataset will be established and shared .  | Determined not to be possible in the timeframe of this project and deliverable removed.   |
| 2 | Component 2: Biodiversity: An initial understanding of the status and distribution of the 25 target species and other biodiversity in KPMB will be established.   | 2.5 | By the end of the project based on the 25 target species, biodiversity map will be established and shared with the Rotokas People, CEPA, and ABG. | An initial map has been produced, it is our hope that this can be modified and improved as more records are submitted as part of increasing biodiversity surveys in the area.   |
| 3 | Capacity Building of Rotokas, RET and other stakeholders - through provision of educational materials, and a series of trainings and consultations, to enhance their skills to conserve KPMB biodiversity | 3.1 | By the end of the project, a Low-impact Ecotourism Plan will be established for use by RET.   | RET continues to work with Dr. Waldien at Christopher Newport University and the ABG Department of Tourism to develop a low-impact plan. RET have already submitted guided nature treks that the tourism department will promote.   |
| 3 | Capacity Building of Rotokas, RET and other stakeholders - through  | 3.2 | By July 2017, report on the exchange visit between RET and a Solomon  | Unfortunately this wasn't able to occur as RET have been unable to organize an exchange visit in time. However, two members of RET were able to travel to the CEPF Mid-term review (6th and 7th December 2018), in Honiara, Solomon Islands and meet with other grantees. The |

|   |   |     |   |  |
|---|---|-----|---|--|
|   | provision of educational materials, and a series of trainings and consultations, to enhance their skills to conserve KPMB biodiversity  |     | Islands CBO will be completed.  | money for this element of the project has not been spent and will not be claimed for.  |
| 3 | Capacity Building of Rotokas, RET and other stakeholders - through provision of educational materials, and a series of trainings and consultations, to enhance their skills to conserve KPMB biodiversity | 3.3 | By October 2016, a poster on bat conservation will be developed and shared with the Rotokas People, CEPA, and ABG.        | A simple, easy to understand conservation poster illustrating the importance of bats and the environment has been produced and shared with communities in Bougainville. It is included in final report |
| 3 | Capacity Building of Rotokas, RET and other stakeholders - through provision of educational materials, and a series of trainings and consultations, to enhance their skills to conserve KPMB biodiversity | 3.4 | By October 2016, poster on biodiversity conservation will be developed and shared with the Rotokas People, CEPA, and ABG. | A simple, easy to understand conservation poster has been produced and shared with communities in Bougainville. This is included in final report   |
| 3 | Capacity Building of Rotokas, RET and other stakeholders - through  | 3.5 | By August 2016, a poster on low-impact poultry husbandry will   | Posters already produced. As per the main report, RET are also working closely with local communities to develop other methods for food security (e.g. fish farms).                                    |

|   |   |     |  |   |
|---|---|-----|--|---|
|   | provision of educational materials, and a series of trainings and consultations, to enhance their skills to conserve KPMB biodiversity  |     | be developed and shared with the Rotokas People. Quarterly reports will be submitted on food security projects that are implemented. |   |
| 3 | Capacity Building of Rotokas, RET and other stakeholders - through provision of educational materials, and a series of trainings and consultations, to enhance their skills to conserve KPMB biodiversity | 3.6 | By September 2016 and July 2017, a report on the field ecology training will be completed with the Rotokas People.                   | RET has and continues to conduct training events and send members of their own team for additional training (e.g. food security - developing fish farms in local communities). These reports were submitted in 2016 and 2017. |
| 3 | Capacity Building of Rotokas, RET and other stakeholders - through provision of educational materials, and a series of trainings and consultations, to enhance their skills to conserve KPMB biodiversity | 3.7 | By the end of the project, RET will have submitted a proposal to CEPF to support the next steps of the project.                      | RET have already submitted and awarded additional funding from CEPF and the Waterloo Foundation to carry on with elements of this work. Further applications are also being developed.  |
| 4 | Component 4: Project Management:  | 4.1 | By July 2016, the project will be reviewed   | Although this process was slightly delayed, BCI worked with CEPA to get approval for this project.  |

|   |  |     |   |   |
|---|--|-----|---|---|
|   | The project is managed effectively and implemented according to schedule. Challenges will be proactively identified and resolved.                                  |     | and approved by CEPA.   |   |
| 4 | Component 4: Project Management: The project is managed effectively and implemented according to schedule. Challenges will be proactively identified and resolved. | 4.2 | By August 2016, consultation and survey team will be assembled, a contract signed with RET, and work plans established. | This was completed on time. The contract was signed and RET followed the specifics of the agreement, and its modifications resulting from the project suspension by CEPF.   |
| 4 | Component 4: Project Management: The project is managed effectively and implemented according to schedule. Challenges will be proactively identified and resolved. | 4.3 | By August 2016, consultation and survey team will be assembled.   | See 4.2   |
| 4 | Component 4: Project Management: The project is managed effectively and implemented according to schedule.   | 4.4 | By December 2018, CEPF reporting targets will be met throughout award period.   | Due to the size and complexity of such a project some targets have been met, some activities have achieved more than expected while others have not been able to meet all the required targets. This report listed what has been achieved and where element of the project have not been able to meet initial expectations. |

|   |  |     |  |   |
|---|--|-----|--|---|
|   | Challenges will be proactively identified and resolved.  |     |  |   |
| 4 | Component 4: Project Management: The project is managed effectively and implemented according to schedule. Challenges will be proactively identified and resolved. | 4.5 | By July 2017, Strengthened organizational capacity of RET, as evidenced by change in civil society tracking tool score between project start and end date. | RET continue to improve their organizational capacity and are working closely with representatives from NGO Pro and the VSA to achieve this. RET are still a relatively young organization but are confident that they are receiving all the training they need to build internal capacity and expand on current conservation projects in Bougainville. |
| 4 | Component 4: Project Management: The project is managed effectively and implemented according to schedule. Challenges will be proactively identified and resolved. | 4.6 | By December 2017, an annual performance report containing information on CEPF global and portfolio monitoring indicators will be completed.                | By December 2018 an annual performance report was submitted to CEPF. This was delayed due to the project suspension and delay in getting the project authorized to start again.   |
| 4 | Component 4: Project Management: The project is managed effectively and implemented according to schedule. Challenges will be proactively identified and resolved. | 4.7 | By the end of the project, on a quarterly basis, all project technical reports and data will be shared with the environmental authorities.                 | Summary information from the interim reports is shared with representatives from the ABG.   |
| 5 | Component 5: Communications  | 5.1 | By September 2016, a   | As already reported, this has not been achieved. We have however forged greater links with Dr. Diana Fisher and   |

|   |  |     |   |  |
|---|--|-----|---|--|
|   | Interest and commitment engendered among local, national, and international stakeholders/audiences for immediate steps, long-term sustainability, and to comply with the CEPF social safeguard policy on Indigenous People                             |     | seminar will be held at the University of Papua New Guinea in Port Moresby to disseminate information on the project and engage support from other stakeholders; a list of participants and copies of materials used will be reported on. | her PhD student who is carrying out a small mammal biodiversity survey (including bats) in Bougainville and RET are in discussions with the University of PNG to sponsor a student to help with data collection and analysis of results. |
| 5 | Component 5: Communications Interest and commitment engendered among local, national, and international stakeholders/audiences for immediate steps, long-term sustainability, and to comply with the CEPF social safeguard policy on Indigenous People | 5.2 | By September 2016, a report from community and stakeholder consultations will be completed; a list of participants and copies of materials used will be reported on.  | Reports from community and stakeholder consultations were completed and submitted as part of the CEPF reporting process. Copies of posters used in these outreach activities are included in the final report.                           |
| 5 | Component 5: Communications Interest and commitment engendered among local, national, and international  | 5.3 | By July 2017, a report from community and stakeholder consultations will be completed; a  | Reports from community and stakeholder consultations were completed and submitted as part of the CEPF reporting process. Copies of posters used in these outreach activities are included in the final report.                           |

|   |  |     |   |   |
|---|--|-----|---|---|
|   | stakeholders/audiences for immediate steps, long-term sustainability, and to comply with the CEPF social safeguard policy on Indigenous People   |     | list of participants and copies of materials used will be reported on.  |   |
| 5 | Component 5: Communications Interest and commitment engendered among local, national, and international stakeholders/audiences for immediate steps, long-term sustainability, and to comply with the CEPF social safeguard policy on Indigenous People | 5.4 | By December 2017, a seminar will be held at the University of Papua New Guinea in Port Moresby to disseminate results of the project and engage support from other stakeholders; a list of participants and copies of materials used will be reported on. | See 5.1.  |
| 5 | Component 5: Communications Interest and commitment engendered among local, national, and international stakeholders/audiences for immediate steps, long-term sustainability, and to comply  | 5.5 | [DELETE] By the end of the project, a report on a field trip to KPMB with key stakeholders to formally recognize the management plan will be completed; a list of participants  | As previously reported, it was overly optimistic to assume that a management plan could be completed in this time. As a result this deliverable was agreed to be deleted. |

|   |  |     |  |   |
|---|--|-----|--|---|
|   | with the CEPF social safeguard policy on Indigenous People   |     | and copies of materials used will be reported on.  |   |
| 5 | Component 5: Communications Interest and commitment engendered among local, national, and international stakeholders/audiences for immediate steps, long-term sustainability, and to comply with the CEPF social safeguard policy on Indigenous People | 5.6 | By the end of the project, BCI will have highlighted the project at least three times through our print and electronic outlets to 9,000 members, more than 30,000 e-subscribers and 100,000 followers on Facebook. | BCI has featured this work in their magazine which is distributed to their 9,000 members. This project has also featured on BCI's website and facebook site and during BCI's August trip to Bougainville, BCI's Chief Conservation Officer, Kevin Pierson, and International Programs Manager, Jon Flanders, promoted the ongoing work via social media (Instagram and Twitter) which was also reposted by BCI's main social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter).   |
| 5 | Component 5: Communications Interest and commitment engendered among local, national, and international stakeholders/audiences for immediate steps, long-term sustainability, and to comply with the CEPF social safeguard policy on Indigenous People | 5.7 | By the end of the project, compliance with safeguard policy on Indigenous People monitored, and semi-annual reports submitted to CEPF.   | To date, our initiative has been welcomed by all of the clans. All communities have been supportive and requested additional consultations. Following clan customs, we sent a team and confirmed we were expected and welcomed. We held our standard open consultations with the clan chiefs and full community and clarified any concerns they may have on our initiative. They endorsed our efforts.<br><br>Our work has always ensured compliance with safeguard policy on the indigenous people was monitored, following clan traditions to resolve any concerns, and report on those concerns. |
| 6 | Component 6: Sub-grant   | 6.1 | By the end of August 2016, a   | This was signed during BCI's trip to Bougainville in Sugarbird 2016 and modifications to the agreement have   |

|   |   |     |   |   |
|---|---|-----|---|---|
|   | monitoring and tracking: The sub-grants with RET and VSA are effectively managed to ensure all financial and project tracking safeguards and deliverables are met.                        |     | signed sub-agreement will be in place with RET.                 | been signed since, as a result of the suspension and extension of the project.  |
| 6 | Component 6: Sub-grant monitoring and tracking: The sub-grants with RET and VSA are effectively managed to ensure all financial and project tracking safeguards and deliverables are met. | 6.2 | BCI will receive quarterly financial reports from RET.          | BCI have received all financial reports from RET covering the span of this project.   |
| 6 | Component 6: Sub-grant monitoring and tracking: The sub-grants with RET and VSA are effectively managed to ensure all financial and project tracking safeguards and deliverables are met. | 6.3 | BCI will receive quarterly interim progress reports from RET.   | BCI has received progress reports from RET that cover the extent of this project.   |
| 6 | Component 6: Sub-grant monitoring and tracking: The sub-grants with   | 6.4 | [DELETE] By the end of August 2016, a signed sub-agreement will | This was never completed as the individual at the VSA originally responsible for taking on this work left her post. Due to the suspension of the grant this was taken out of the agreement. |

|   |   |     |  |  |
|---|---|-----|--|--|
|   | RET and VSA are effectively managed to ensure all financial and project tracking safeguards and deliverables are met.   |     | be in place with VSA.  |  |
| 6 | Component 6: Sub-grant monitoring and tracking: The sub-grants with RET and VSA are effectively managed to ensure all financial and project tracking safeguards and deliverables are met. | 6.5 | [DELETE] BCI will received quarterly financial reports from VSA.                               | N/A  |
| 6 | Component 6: Sub-grant monitoring and tracking: The sub-grants with RET and VSA are effectively managed to ensure all financial and project tracking safeguards and deliverables are met. | 6.6 | [DELETE] BCI will receive quarterly interim progress reports from VSA.                         | N/A  |
| 1 | Component 1. Management Plan: A unified vision for conservation of KPMB biodiversity is developed and   | 1.4 | By the end of the project, complete 22 community consultations in order to raise awareness and | 39 of the 45 communities identified have been consulted as part of this work, some communities have been visited multiple times as they request more details of activities they can implement. |

|   |   |     |   |  |
|---|---|-----|---|--|
|   | endorsed by the Rotokas People, Keriaka and Kanua, with input from CEPA, ABG and other key stakeholders   |     | gain support throughout the KBA   |  |
| 3 | Key governance policies of primary partner organisations and secondary partner organisations developed or updated, including policies relating to the roles and responsibilities of the board, management and staff | 3.8 | By the end of the project, RET will have and be able to describe and document its own system for financial and grant management (designed with adherence to CEPF financial management policies) |  |

Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

**We have produced the following documents to support the work in Bougainville:**

- **Posters highlighting important bat species on the island and the importance of living in harmony with the environment**
- **Chicken husbandry pamphlet (in English and Tok Pisin)**
- **A key to the bats of Bougainville**
- **Georeferenced map showing results of clanship mapping (traditional, sacred and traditional use areas)**
- **Biodiversity booklet and maps**
- **Ecotourism plan**
- **Formalized guided trekking routes with the ABG tourism department to promote**

**RET have also established inland fish farms for communities to use and maintain (see attached report)**

## Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building.



Consider lessons that would inform:

- Project Design Process (*aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Project Implementation (*aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community

The objectives for this were overly ambitious and included too many different elements of work (biodiversity surveys for 25 priority species, developing a habitat management plan, developing a low-impact ecotourism plan) and deliverables to be realistically achieved in the timeframe allowed. Considering the lack of information currently available for the biodiversity within the KBA this project needed to involve a broader number of collaborators with expertise in amphibian, bird, insect, mammal and reptile surveys. While BCI was able to carry out bat surveys across the island, neither us nor RET were able to carry out the wider biodiversity surveys that were outlined in the project plan. However, while much broader biodiversity surveys are desperately needed, it would be impossible for them to occur until the clan chiefs and village elders were made aware of why protecting the environment is so important. The work carried out as part of this project has been pivotal at changing public opinion and pathing the way for future studies to be carried out in this area. It is for this reason that the aims of this project should have focused more on Rotokas laying the groundwork for such surveys, building the information and trust needed to allow biodiversity surveys to occur, rather than the surveys themselves. By BCI working in collaboration with RET we have shown communities what to expect when researchers come to their island, and we learnt from RET how to follow local customs to make sure we did not violate any rules. Building this capacity within Bougainville allowed us to identify the most effective way to protect biodiversity within the KBA (by reestablishing and strengthening their customary laws), improve local livelihoods through food security training activities, and help communities understand the importance of protecting their land from mining and logging companies who may incentivize them with short-term financial incentives.

## **Sustainability / Replication**

Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.

RET have been hugely successful at teaching local communities about the different ways they can help protect their land, and for some activities such as food security they have demonstrated how initiatives such can be replicated across the island. By having the communities invested in these activities they have a greater chance of success and do not add to the burden of work for RET, allowing them to oversee activities rather than having to run all of them. The construction of a new inland fish farm and a guest house are two good examples of how the communities are fully engaged and invested in the new ideas being presented to them. While going in and directly building some of these features seems appealing due to their immediate impact, we would argue that the way RET have gone about these conservation activities is the more effective and sustainable method. We fully support the time they have taken to earn the trust and buy in from local communities.

## Safeguards

If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social, environmental, or pest management safeguards

At the very start of this project, before any outreach or training activities took place, RET spent a lot of time speaking with the Clan Chiefs and getting their written endorsement for the project. Even now, the RET team is extremely conscientious and makes sure they follow all Clan customs before making any visits. At the end of each training/outreach session the team ask for feedback to ensure there has been no misunderstandings as to what they are doing and everyone is happy with the progress they are making. RET makes sure that they share their plans with the external partners, including BCI, to ensure the conservation management plans they are proposing are sufficient and not going to cause any inadvertent harm to other species.

## Additional Comments/Recommendations

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

Ecotourism is still very much in its infancy in Bougainville. The infrastructure simply is not there to support the average tourist. While we think it is right to prepare communities for the gradual increase in tourists they may see, in the short term the work RET is doing to enhance food security, enforce the clanship mapping work, helping communities legally own their land, and making sure they are aware of the long-term impacts of selling their land to logging or mining companies should be promoted.

## Additional Funding

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

**Total additional funding (US\$)**  
\$80,000.00

### **Type of funding**

*Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:*

- 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)*

- **Waterloo Foundation (Awarded: ca \$80,000):** RET worked with the Harrison Institute to develop and submit a two-year proposal for forest conservation to the Waterloo Foundation (a UK-based foundation that only funds UK-based organizations). The project was awarded in June 2018 and plans are in development for launching the specific activities.
- **Inland Fisheries, Papua New Guinea Government (Awarded and Lost; 200,000 PGK):** RET developed and submitted a proposal to establish an inland fish farm supply and training centre near Ruruvu Village. The funding was reportedly awarded and RET recently learned that the ABG redirected the funding to other projects. This is the second time funding for fish farming was lost as it came through the ABG and RET is exploring alternate funding sources.

### **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](http://www.cepf.net), and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

1. Please include your full contact details (Name, Organization, Mailing address, Telephone number, E-mail address) below

**Dr. Jon Flanders, Bat Conservation International, 500 North Capital of Texas Highway, Building 1  
AUSTIN, TX 78746, US. Tel: 512 327 9721 ext. 260. Email: [jflanders@batcon.org](mailto:jflanders@batcon.org).**