CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND

CEPF Final Project Completion Report

Organization Legal Name:	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
Project Title:	Integrated Catchment Management Planning for the Malili Lakes, Sulawesi, Indonesia
Grant Number:	65999
CEPF Region:	Wallacea
Strategic Direction:	2 Improve management of sites (KBAs) with and without official protection status
Grant Amount:	$190,922.00
Project Dates:	June 01, 2016 - September 30, 2019
Date of Report:	November 27, 2019

Implementation Partners

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

The Project lead was the IUCN Global Species Programme's Freshwater Biodiversity Unit. IUCN was responsible for overall project management / coordination, technical input, and training / capacity building.
The Implementing Partner was Yayasan Bumi Sawerigading (YBS), Sawerigading Earth Foundation. YBS was responsible for: i) providing an operational base for the project at the YBS office in Palopo, Sulawesi and for IUCN personnel visiting the region to conduct project activities; ii) informing the relevant Ministry in Indonesia and relevant local authorities about the project and obtaining endorsement for project activities as appropriate, iii) planning, and logistical support for all in country activities, iv) key contribution in developing the catchment management plan, and v) the lead role for implementing pilot activities from the catchment management plan.

Conservation Impacts

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

We consider this project to be a major success representing one of the most effective projects run by IUCNs Freshwater Biodiversity Unit over the last 15 year period. It represents an excellent example of the new "Assess, Plan, Act" approach now being mainstreamed through the IUCN SSC network. The assessment component of the project included work to identify species in need of

conservation action through the IUCN Red Listing assessment process. This was followed by an integrated wetland assessment, combining knowledge on the biodiversity and socio-economics of the region, and confirmation of the main Malili Lakes as Key Biodiversity Areas providing much of the information required to then develop the catchment management plan. In the final stages of the project a number of pilot actions were implemented to deliver on selected activities in the management plan.

The projects impact is already apparent in that the importance of the lake and it's catchment is now widely appreciated both locally and regionally (already gaining attention in local media). Local villagers expressed their extreme gratitude in "opening their eyes" to the global value of Mahalona Lake and its unique biodiversity, and regional government has expressed a strong commitment to help implement the management plan.

Lake Mahalona is now "on the map" as a globally important site for the persistence of biodiversity, and as an Alliance for Zero Extinction site. In themselves these two designations have ensured that the importance of Lake Mahalona and its catchment is now widely recognised so hopefully helping to ensure its future protection from the numerous and serious threats currently facing this lake and its catchment. In short, public awareness has been raised.

The management plan developed now provides an excellent platform for government, conservation NGOs and the private sector to ensure the conservation and sustainable development of this globally unique site and much interest has been expressed in doing so. Finally, this project has also stimulated the interest of two other international organisations (Shoal and Freshwater Life) to try and raise additional funds to help now implement the many other activities detailed in the management plan.

Our project has directly contributed to the following CEPF Strategic Directions and Investment Priorities:

Strategic Direction 1: Address threats to high-priority species. Eighty nine of the 101 freshwater species assessed for the IUCN Red List across the Malili Lakes Complex were found to be threatened by extinction with their assessments published on the IUCN Red List website. Many of these species were also found to be endemic to the Malili Lakes. The conservation needs of all those species in the Lake Mahalona system were addressed specifically through the management plan developed and through a implementation of a number of pilot activites.

Strategic Direction 2: Improve management of sites (KBAs) with and without official protection status. Lakes Matano, Towuti and Mahalona were confirmed to meet the new global KBA standard and to also be AZE sites. The managment plan developed for Lake Mahalona has already led to improvments, in particular through raised awareness, and is of course focused on improved future management of the site.

Strategic Direction 3: Support sustainable natural resource management by communities in priority sites and corridors.One of the activities within the Lake Mahalona Management Plan developed through this project specifically focuses on sustainable management of the lake fisheries and this has the support of the regional fisheries department.

Strategic Direction 6: Enhance civil society capacity for effective conservation action in Wallacea. A number of people from civil society have been trained in use of tools such as the IUCN Red List, Integrated Wetland Assessments (UNANDA experts), KBA site designation and project management.

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary

1. Better-informed decision-making for biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods in the Malili Lakes wetland ecosystem	The information collated and created through this project now provides a strong basis for decision making. Information is now freely available on the distributions and conservation status of all known native species of freshwater fishes, molluscs, odonates, crabs and shrimps in these lakes and their associated catchments. Local dependence upon natural resources for livelihoods has also been collated and made available. This combined information now enables decision makers to better appreciate the full values of these ecosystems in terms of their biodiversity and socioeconomic importance. Given the strong interest of local communities, regional government and the private sector throughout the project period awareness of the availability of these new data sources is high, so uptake should be significant over the long term.
2. Raised awareness of endemic and globally threatened freshwater species in the Malili Lakes ecosystem	Awareness of the globally unique and highly threatened freshwater species of these lakes has been raised from a very low level at the start of the project to the point where it is now widely understood by the local communities, government and the private sector. The local community of Lake Mahalona in particular expressed their gratitude to the project as they were previously unaware that many species in their lake are found nowhere else in the world – this has generated a strong sense of pride and intention to ensure their future conservation and sustainable use. Local media have also started to report on the importance of the freshwater biodiversity found in these lakes. Under this new raised level of awareness it is hoped that: i) government support for implementing the management plan will remain high and, ii) the private sector will ensure more rigorous safeguards are put in place to avoid impacts to the lake fauna.
3. Identification and confirmation of KBAs leading to appropriate management focus on freshwater biodiversity	The 3 pre-existing KBAs for Lakes Matano, Towuti and Mahalona were primarily focused on the presence of important bird species and were not yet recognised as "Confirmed" Global KBAs. The work of this project means that the three site are now officially confirmed Global KBAs, with a strong focus on the freshwater biodiversity at the sites, and can now be published on the World Database of KBAs and also through IBAT. KBAs published in IBAT are recognised widely by many international donors and private sector institutions. The long-term impact of this work is to: i) ensure global awareness of the importance of these KBAs in terms of their freshwater biodiversity in particular, ii) potentially

	attract donors to fund work for conservation and sustainable use at these sites (a number of international donors target funding specifically to KBAs), iii) the environmental safeguards of major donor institutions, such as the IFC and Equator Banks are triggered due to KBA status so requiring recipients of funds to ensure no net negative impacts on biodiversity from funded activities. Recognition of these sites as global KBAs will also highlight the needs of private sector parties, such as PT Vale, to avoid, minimise, mitigate impacts.
4. Integrated catchment management plan will be used as model for similar systems in the hotspot	The management plan developed through this project is focused on the Lake Mahalona system. However, the plan can now easily be used as a template for developing similar plans for the other Malili Lakes in particular given that, through this project, information is now also readily available on their freshwater biodiversity (through the species Red List assessments) and socio-economic values (as collated through the Integrated Wetland Assessment). The approach and tools employed here for the generating the information base to develop integrated catchment management plans can now also be applied to other lake and river catchments throughout the hotspot
5. Improved conservation and sustainable use of freshwater biodiversity resources in the Malili Lakes KBA complex.	Although the final focus of this project was for development and implementation of the integrated catchment management plan for Lake Mahalona the information generated through the project extended to the whole Malili Lake Complex. As such the basic information is now readily available to develop similar plans to ensure conservation and sustainable use of freshwater biodiversity throughout the wider Malili Lakes Complex.

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

Impact Description	**Impact Summary**
1. A network of conservation professionals is created linking national and international experts	A group of national experts was brought together at the Inception Meeting and Red List Training Workshop and introduced to the aims of the project. Levels of engagement from these individuals at the workshop were high. YBS followed up with a number of these individuals/their organisations to ensure links with other international scientists contracted to work on the species Red List assessments. Some of these international experts already have links to LIPI but, where not, the links have been made. A number of national experts from UNANDA University were also involved in the integrated wetland assessment and

	received training from IUCN in the wetland assessment methodology and have gained experience in its implementation in the field. Finally, a number of the species experts involved in the project, who received training in Red Listing, have since been employed to contribute to a related project assessing all freshwater fish species across the Sunda region. Training through this project has enabled these experts to participate in this parallel project and to work with other international experts.
2. 47 people have been trained in a range of conservation science tools and applications	Seventeen people have been trained in Red Listing and a further 7 have been trained in application of the IUCN IWAT for integrated wetland assessment. Although it was agreed that the KBA workshop was replaced by remote consultations, in particular with Burung, a further 28 participants to the workshop for developing the Integrated Catchment Management Plan for Lake Mahalona, representing the village communities, local government, and conservation sector, were also introduced to the KBA methodology and provided with a background to the Red Listing process and its aplications. In summary, an estimated 50+ people have received training.
3. An information base has been created for Malili Lakes freshwater species and associated catchments	All species of fishes, molluscs, odonates and crabs native to the Malili Lakes and their associated catchments were assessed for the IUCN Red List. The information included in these assessments includes data on: species distributions (each species has a digital distribution map and point locality records where available); ecology; population status; threats to the species; utilisation of the species, such as for consumption or the ornamental trade, and conservation actions in place or recommended. This information is supported by a bibliography. This information is freely available online for querying and/or download for non-commercial use.
4. Freshwater KBAs have been “put on the map” through online publication in IBAT as sites for attention within environmental safeguards of international donors and private sector companies operating in the area, such as PT Vale.	Lakes Matano, Towuti and Mahalona were all previously recognised as Key Biodiversity Areas. However, these site designations did not yet conform to the Global KBA Standard as published in 2016. In addition the information for these three lakes did not include the significant number of additional freshwater KBA trigger species identified through this current project. Through consultation with Burung Indonesia, the original designators of these sites, the boundaries of all three sites were slightly modified and the newly collated information on freshwater species was evaluated leading to identification of a significant

	number of new KBA trigger species. All information was collated in the newly designed KBA data forms, a process through which we helped the KBA secretariat in its development. Through this process all the new data requirements and procedures for confirming global KBAs were followed and all three sites were confirmed in June 2019 for publication in the WDKBA and in IBAT in September 2019. All three KBAs also qualified as Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) sites on account of the large numbers of lake-endemic threatened freshwater species. These sites will now be subject to the environmental safeguards required by donors and private sector parties. For the Lake Mahalon
5. A situation analysis has been completed for the Malili Lake Complex identifying freshwater biodiversity conservation priorities, their importance to local livelihoods and socio-economic values.	The situation analysis was completed in April 2018 and the report has since been completed. The section of this report specific to Lake Mahalona has been finalised and was a key document for supporting the workshop discussions for developing the Lake Mahalona Catchment Management Plan. The text also forms an important background section in the Final Management Plan document.
6. An integrated catchment management plan has been drafted and piloted by the Mahalona Lake Community leading to the improved conservation and sustainable use of freshwater species in this part of the Malili Lakes Complex.	The management plan has been published (in Indonesian & English) following review by YBS, Burung and BKSDA. A number of the recommended actions were selected for pilot implementation by YBS. For each activity a draft activity plan and budget was developed. Following discussions between IUCN and YBS with input from Burung and the government fisheries and parks authorities the following activities were implemented: i) Baseline Biodiversity Assessment of Lake Mahalona. Biodiversity survey data on the freshwater biodiversity in Lake Mahalona is currently very limited so a baseline survey to determine the species present in the lake and to map their distributions and abundance has now been implemented and a report has been completed; ii) Alternative livelihoods. Through identifying and developing sustainable alternative livelihoods opportunities for people living in the Lake Mahalona catchment it is possible to increase the value of the lake and its catchment for local people so reducing the likelihood of future activities which will harm this environment as their livelihoods would also then suffer. The assessment has been implemented and a report completed. iii) Awareness raising. Activities to raise local and national awareness of the lakes values have been implemented and a report
7. A suit of indicators has been created to monitor progress towards achieving	Indicators are incorporated within the Management Plan.

activities identified in the management plan.	

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

Successes:
***Awareness raising*: A prominent sign board identifying the area as a globally important site for biodiversity is now in place on the only access road to the lake. This along with a number of other awareness raising products and events has very successfully put Lake Mahalona on the map as an important site of freshwater biodiversity.**
***Government buy-in*: Government support for assisting in the implementation of the management plan is also very strong with a number of commitments made to take responsibility for various proposed activities, such as for the control of alien invasive species which represent a current an extreme threat to the unique biodiversity of the lake. The BKKSDA in particular expressed strong support insisting that their logo was also added to the KBA sign board and they said that they will use the management plan developed through the project to further develop their own plan for the Recreational Park incorporating a greater focus on the areas freshwater biodiversity and its associated forest catchment.**
***Wider application of outputs*: The catchment management plan developed for Lake Mahalona, combined with the findings reported from the integrated wetland assessment of the wider Malili Lake Complex, now serves as the basis for development of a management plan for the other Malili Lakes and potentially for other lake systems throughout Indonesia.**
***Capacity building*: A number of local and regional scientists, government officials and local villagers received training in the IUCN Red List and in KBA site designation through workshops. University scientists were also trained in the IUCN Integrated Wetland Assessment methodology before implementing the approach to the Malili Lake Complex. Our partner YBS has gained considerable experience in managing and reporting on a donor funded project such as this one. The YBS project coordinator, in particular, has gained greatly from the project through working closely with IUCN and can now be considered an excellent project leader, not having lead a project before this one.**
Challenges:
Initial communications: In the early stages of the project communications with our partner YBS proved challenging due to the language barrier and rather infrequent communications. This issue was however completely overcome following the appointment of Ernhy as the YBS project lead.
Private sector engagement: engagement with PT Vale in particular was not as successful as hoped. In part this may be due to their reluctance to attend meetings where other organisations sometimes rather hostile to their activities are present. We also feel PT Vale was too defensive of its own activities and ready to shift the blame to the local communities. However, PT Vale is still very open to discussions and relations with YBS are very good so we feel that there still remains great potential for them to become much more engaged in and supportive of the Mahalona Management plan should the right conditions be established.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

The very strong support of BKKSDA and their keenness to be associated with the project was a very welcome and somewhat unexpected given that they had already completed their own plan for the area as a "Recreational Park"..

Project Components and Products/Deliverables

Describe the results from each product/deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1	Red List Species Assessments (IUCN to lead).	1.1	Report on the Red List training workshop listing the names and competencies of at least 18 participants who received the training.	The workshop was held successfully with 20 participants. A workshop report has been published listing the names of all participants.
1	Red List Species Assessments (IUCN to lead).	1.2	A repository of information on the Malili Lakes freshwater biodiversity available within IUCN's Species database (SIS)	Species assessments have been compiled and added into SIS for the following taxonomic groups: FW crabs (5 species), FW shrimps (15 species), FW molluscs (40 species), odonata (15 species), and fishes (34 species). This information, along with species distribution maps, represents all known native described species in these taxonomic groups and is available to all those with access to the SIS database and is the basis for the information now published and publicly available on the IUCN Red List website.
1	Red List Species Assessments (IUCN to lead).	1.3	An updated online version of IUCN's Red List of Threatened Species with Malili Lakes fishes, molluscs, and decapods.	All species assessments compiled in the SIS database were published on the IUCN Red List Website by early 2019.
2	Freshwater KBA identification and delineation (IUCN to lead).	2.1	Report on the KBA validation workshop listing the names and competencies of at least 10 participants	Following consultation and agreement with CEPF and BURUNG this workshop was cancelled in favour of remote consultations. Familiarisation with the KBA methodology was included as part of the workshop to develop the Integrated Catchment Management Plan for Lake Mahalona.

			who received training in the KBA methodologies .	
2	Freshwater KBA identification and delineation (IUCN to lead).	2.2	List of KBA Site Champions.	No specific KBA site champions were listed as the new KBA data collation form does not cater for such lists. However, many interested parties were of course involved throughout the project so can be considered as site champions.
2	Freshwater KBA identification and delineation (IUCN to lead).	2.3	Confirmed freshwater KBAs and accompanying factsheets for the Malili Lakes Complex published online within the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT) and the World Biodiversity Database (WBDB).	All three of the main lakes, Matano, Towuti and Mahalona were updated to meet the global KBA standard and their boundaries slightly modified. Following review by Burung and the KBA Secretariat all three sites were confirmed as Global KBAs and submitted to BirdLife in July 2019 for inclusion in the next update of the KBA database and IBAT. These sites are now published in IBAT and in the KBA database.
3	Integrated Freshwater Biodiversity Assessment (YBS to lead with an advisory role for IUCN).	3.1	Situation Analysis report for the Malili Lakes Complex.	The situation analysis for the Malili Lakes Complex was completed in August 2019 having been used as the basis for the Integrated Catchment Management Plan for Lake Mahalona. The resulting report is a working document available as input to development of additional management plans for the other lakes in the complex.
3	Integrated Freshwater Biodiversity Assessment (YBS to lead with an advisory role for IUCN).	3.2	Data set on freshwater biodiversity and its economic and livelihoods values within the Malili Lakes Complex.	These data are available in the report on the Integrated Assessment of the Malili Lakes Complex (the Situation Analysis).
4	Integrated	4.1	Integrated	Following agreement with CEPF, and to make the task

	Catchment Management Plan (YBS to lead with an advisory role for IUCN)		Catchment Management Plan for the Malili Lakes Complex.	more practical, the focus of this plan was revised to Lake Mahalona. The Integrated Catchment Management Plan for Lake Mahalona has been completed with a published official version in Indonesian (September 2019) and a draft copy in English.
4	Integrated Catchment Management Plan (YBS to lead with an advisory role for IUCN)	4.2	MoU with local government signed to adopt the management plan	It was not possible to obtain a signed MoU although clear support was given publicly at the projects closing workshop.
5	Management Plan piloted with the Mahalona Lake communities (YBS to lead with an advisory role for IUCN)	5.1	List of key stakeholders who attended the village meetings. To include village, local government and private sector representatives.	The lists of those attending the various workshops are presented in the uploaded meeting reports.
5	Management Plan piloted with the Mahalona Lake communities (YBS to lead with an advisory role for IUCN)	5.2	A signed MoU between the communities of Mahalona, East Luwu regency government, BKSDA (Agency for Natural Resources Konserfasi) Luwu Timur and P.T. VALE in support of the management plan.	It was not possible to obtain a signed MoU although clear support was given publicly at the projects closing workshop.
5	Management Plan piloted with the Mahalona	5.3	Implementation plan for piloting the	A plan was created in collaboration with YBS and three activities were selected, budgeted and implemented.

	Lake communities (YBS to lead with an advisory role for IUCN)		integrated catchment management plan in the Lake Mahalona area of the Malili Lakes Complex.	
5	Management Plan piloted with the Mahalona Lake communities (YBS to lead with an advisory role for IUCN)	5.4	Presentations by YBS to the government and public.	A project final dissemination workshop was held in Saroako on September 17th, led by YBS. There were 29 participants, representing BBKSDA, local Government, NGOs, and the local Tole Village community. The project findings were presented and the Management Plan was presented. The workshop was opened by the Head of BBKSDA South Sulawesi who verbally endorsed the work in front of the local Tole Village community and stated that it will be used to update their own "living document" for the management of TWA Mahalona Lake. The workshop was very well received by all attending and was reported on local print and online media. A report on the meeting has been uploaded.
5	Management Plan piloted with the Mahalona Lake communities (YBS to lead with an advisory role for IUCN)	5.5	Report on the aquaculture training and operations, including details on participants (names, positions, gender).	This activity was not recommended in the final Management Plan so was not implemented. Reports on the following activities were instead completed: i) Awareness raising activities; ii) Alternative livelihoods, iii) Baseline biodiversity Assessment.
5	Management Plan piloted with the Mahalona Lake communities (YBS to lead with an advisory role for IUCN)	5.6	Report on the removal of alien fish species from Lake Mahalona.	It was not possible to implement activities for the removal of alien fish species due to insufficient time under the project period. This conclusion is based upon discussions with the regional fisheries department following completion of their own trials for fishing down invasive alien species through selective gill netting in Lake Towuti. Their results suggest a period of 2-3 years is required to get an effective result so was beyond the scope of our current project. Given the extreme urgency in supressing the alien species which are heavily impacting many of the endemic lake fauna the local fisheries department has expressed a willingness to implement this work themselves. We have also applied

				for additional funding in partnership with Shoal (UK based organisation) and YBS to help implement activities such as this, as identified through the Management Plan. Unfortunately these initial attempts to raise additional funds were not successful but other initiatives are being pursued.
5	Management Plan piloted with the Mahalona Lake communities (YBS to lead with an advisory role for IUCN)	5.7	Report on planting of native tree species within the Mahalona lake catchment.	This activity was not one of those recommended for pilot implementation in the final Management Plan. Reports on the following activities were instead completed: i) Awareness raising activities; ii) Alternative livelihoods, iii) Baseline biodiversity Assessment.
5	Management Plan piloted with the Mahalona Lake communities (YBS to lead with an advisory role for IUCN)	5.8	Report on increased enforcement of regulations by the District Government, East Luwu through the Department of Marine and Fisheries is evidenced through activity log books.	This activity was not one of those recommended for pilot implementation in the final Management Plan. Reports on the following activities were instead completed: i) Awareness raising activities; ii) Alternative livelihoods, iii) Baseline biodiversity Assessment.
5	Management Plan piloted with the Mahalona Lake communities (YBS to lead with an advisory role for IUCN)	5.9	Report on engagement with P.T. Vale regarding establishment of CSR fund for Mahalona Lake.	PT Vale were approached on a number of occasions for involvement in the project. Although willing to collaborate PT Vale are also very wary of attending meetings where they are wary of some of the more vocal NGOs taking a more combative stance regarding PT Vales activities in the region. Due to these fears PT Vale did not attend any of the project workshops. We did however hold several more informal meetings during which PT Vale expressed willingness to collaborate and to support activities through their CSR fund. These options need to be pursued.
5	Management Plan piloted with the Mahalona Lake communities	5.10	Report on findings, successes and lessons learned from	Three pilot activities of the plan were implemented and reports on their findings have been completed. These activities / reports are: i) Awareness raising activities; ii) Alternative livelihoods, iii) Baseline biodiversity Assessment. Reports have been uploaded for each of

	(YBS to lead with an advisory role for IUCN)		pilot implementation of the management plan at Mahalona.	these activities.
6	YBS sub-grant management.	6.1	Sub-grant agreement between IUCN and Yayasan Bumi Sawerigading	The Sub-grant Agreement between IUCN and YBS was signed 16/10/2016
6	YBS sub-grant management.	6.2	Technical and financial report on performance by Yayasan Bumi Sawerigading	Technical and financial reports from YBS have been received and approved by IUCN on a 6 monthly basis throughout the duration of the project. YBS competencies in project management and reporting have improved significantly over the project period such that they are now considered proficient in all aspects of project management.

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

No new tools or methodologies were developed. The main product is the Lake Mahalona Management Plan which is submitted along with the following reports: i) Lake Mahalona Situation analysis; ii) Report on Awareness Raising Activities, iii) Report on a Baseline Biodiversity Assessment of the Lake Mahalona, iv) Report on alternative livelihoods for Lake Mahalona, v) Integrated Wetland Assessment of the Malili Lake Complex (working document), and vi) an awareness raising video. The video is a very large file so we will contact CEPF separately to work out the best way to send it.

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

Overall we feel this project has been highly successful but the following lessons have been learned.

1. **Implementing Partner (IP). We learned the importance in having a strong project coordinator based in the Implementing Partner organisation. In this case the initial stages of the project were not easy as the IP coordinator had limited language skills and poor communications practices (both being directly related). Early replacement of the coordinator with a strong English speaker, already very familiar with all aspects of the project, was probably the most critical step in making this project the success it has been. Our lesson learned is therefore to spend time at the project planning stage to ensure a strong IP and Coordinator are selected.**
2. **Scope of the project. We also learned that in order to be successful we needed to refocus the project to develop the management plan for a single lake (Mahalona) reducing it from the original scope of the full Malili Lakes Complex. This refocusing proved highly beneficial in that the management plan created is realistic and feasible to implement.**

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.

Capacity building for YBS has been a great success in that they are now well equipped to lead on any follow-on projects to continue implementation of activities in the Management Plan at Lake Mahalona. One potential follow-on project is currently being investigated by Shoal in the UK, with the intention for YBS to lead with Ernhy coordinating and with a small advisory role for IUCN.
There has also been very encouraging support from regional government in implementing a number of the activities in the Management Plan. BKSDA also expressed strong support for the Management Plan and an intention to merge many aspects of the plan with the TWA to ensure a stronger focus on freshwater biodiversity.
The wider focus of the Integrated Wetland Assessment on the Malili Lake Complex, combined with a fully development management plan for Lake Mahalona, provides an excellent foundation for future replication of the process to create a broader management plan to include the other lakes. The project can now also be replicated to develop similar management plans for other lake and river systems throughout the hotspot and beyond.

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

None required.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

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

We have found this project very rewarding and intend to look for opportunities to replicate the approach in other areas in and beyond the hotspot. As mentioned previously the approach involving "Assessment" (Red Listing, Integrated Wetland Assessment and KBA designation) followed by "Planning" (development of the management plan), finishing with "Actions" where we were able to implement some activities of the management plan represents a excellent model to ensure projects lead to well informed action on the ground. We are grateful to CEPF for their initial advice on the project design and also for their flexibility in allowing us to modify the project as we proceeded – this has led to a most satisfying outcome.

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$)
$0.00

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 investm*ent or successes related to this project)

Regional/Portfolio Leveraging. Shoal (https://shoalconservation.org/project/wallaces-dreamponds/) has expressed a strong interest in sourcing additional funds to support the work of this proect and is actively working to do so. FreshwaterLife (https://freshwaterlifeproject.org/projects/) is also keen to engage in work to follow up on implementtion of some of the activities proposed in the Lake Mahalona Managment Plan. Synchronicity Earth and has recently secured around GBP 25,000 to follow up on a number of the proposed activities, through a partnership with YBS with IUCN providing a small advisory role.

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.

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

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