

Small Grants – Final Completion and Impact Report

Instructions: CEPF requires that each grantee report on project results and impacts at the end of their grant. To monitor CEPF’s global indicators, CEPF will aggregate the data that you submit with data from other grantees, to determine the overall impact of CEPF investment. The aggregated results of all grantees will be reported on in our annual impact report and other communications materials. Your Final Completion and Impact Report will be posted on the CEPF website.

Ensure that the information provided pertains to the entire project, from start date to project end date.

Please complete all fields and respond to all questions listed below.

Organization Legal Name: Global Initiative for Food Security and Ecosystem Preservation

Project Title: Showcasing CEPF Investments: Project assessment, knowledge sharing and lessons from GFWA

Grant Number:

Date of Completion of this Report: 4th July 2022

CEPF Hotspot: GFWA - Guinean Forests West Africa

Strategic Direction: SD4

Grant Amount: \$50,000

Project Dates: 1st April 2022 to 30th June 2022

PART I: Overview

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

Tropical Biology Association: Supported with the assessment of grantees projects to collate the lessons learnt and facilitated knowledge sharing and lessons learnt during the workshop.

2. Summarize the overall results of your project

The project assisted with facilitating a Final Assessment (FA) workshop (Showcasing CEPF Investments: Project assessment, knowledge sharing and lessons from GFWA), which brought together a total of A total of 85 participants out of which 28 were females and 57 males. 53 grantee organizations, 5 mentee organizations, 8 media outfit and 6 donor

agencies. The outcome of the workshop was the adoption of the lessons learned document; through the sharing of knowledge and conservation stories, the understanding of the hotspot’s conservation needs, and the strengthening of the network among CSOs in the region. The workshop provided an opportunity for participants to share information about local conservation issues, as well as a robust database of information about CEPF investments. Also, a strategy for better future investments for the CEPF was developed as a result of the validation of a draft long-term vision document for CEPF investment in the hotspot. A platform for contacts and effective engagement among CSOs was developed where CSOs can continually share knowledge, experience, and ideas on conservation priorities and best practices.

3. Briefly describe actual progress towards each planned long-term and short-term impact (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each long-term impact from your proposal

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Enhanced sustainability of conservation impacts in the hotspot building on the lessons and achievements of the CEPF investment, and whose showcasing will ensure CEPF impacts in the hotspot are better known regionally and internationally, and solutions are more widely adopted	A total of 85 participants out of which 28 were females and 57 males. 53 grantee organizations, 5 mentee organizations, 8 media outfit and 6 donor agencies, are now better equipped to sustain, replicate, upscale and disseminate the outcomes and conservation impacts especially from their projects, following the exchange of experiences, lessons learnt and the way forward in tackling the conservation issues and challenges identified

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Improved understanding of conservation best practices relevant to the hotspot: by the end of the project, 30 CSOs demonstrate improved conservation knowledge, and how to tackle conservation challenges facing them, supported by access to a lesson learnt document to inform future actions.	53 CEPF grantees, and 5 mentees are now better equipped to sustain, replicate, upscale and disseminate the outcomes and conservation impacts especially from their projects, following the exchange of experiences, lessons learnt and the way forward in tackling the conservation issues and challenges identified
A validated vision for achieving sustainable conservation success providing hotspot CSOs and other	The long-term vision document was presented to the participants. It was discussed and validated by the participants.

key actors and stakeholders, priority ideas for future investments.	
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4. Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

- CSOs have adapted the use of re-useable water bottles at their future events.
- The online streaming of the event live on Facebook and tweets by the participants created a lot of publicity about the event that was not planned.
- The press conference also provided publicity and was a very valuable perspective we didn't think we were going to have
- The cocktail and exhibition of grantees' IEC materials went beyond just the networking planned. It resulted in new partnership built amongst grantees that created the platform for transboundary collaborations
- The use of water dispensers, re-useable cups and the distribution of re-useable water bottles was an innovation that helped us to reduce plastic waste at the event justifying the slogan 'Practice what you preach'

PART II: Project Products/Deliverables

5. List each product/deliverable as stated in your approved proposal and describe the results for each of them:

#	Deliverable Description	Deliverable Update
1	A lesson learnt document with tips on what works and what does not work in conservation in the hotspot	The cocktail and networking session on day one of the workshop helped set the stage for CSOs, media out fit and the representative of donors to network and share knowledge of their work in the region. The Knowledge Café approach adopted, also provided an added platform for more in depth discussion and knowledge sharing. The knowledge cafe aimed at providing a platform that surfaces the grantees' collective knowledge so that they can learn from each other's' experiences, ideas and insights and gain a deeper understanding of priority conservation actions, and best practices with the greatest potential for upscaling or replicating. Grantees with good conservation action/impact, were asked to present their work. This provided more opportunity for CSOs to discuss challenges from their individual project and learn from each other what worked and what did not and how they tackled these challenges. Lessons learnt from

		<p>this session was collated and presented along with the survey carried out by the RIT prior to the workshop. This document was shared with the participants as a reference as well as a working tool. This helped to strengthen connections and mutual assistance among the CSOs and improve interpersonal relationships breaking down organizational silos, building trust and engagement for sustained cooperation. This in the long run is envisaged to establish and sustain multi-stakeholder partnership that demonstrate models for sustainable growth and achieve priority conservation outcome in the hotspots</p>
2	<p>At least 30 grantee CSOs with improved conservation knowledge and understanding of emerging issues and possible solutions</p>	<p>The conservation knowledge sessions were tailored through interactive presentations and discussions. The capacity building focused on strengthening the participants knowledge in conservation, with emphasis being on climate change – as an important emerging issue, locally and internationally. Participants learnt from each other’s experiences in solving conservation challenges facing them. Learning together helped strengthen contacts and networking among the participants.</p>
3	<p>A validated long-term vision document for CEPF for the hotspot.</p>	<p>The project assisted the consultant to facilitate the long-term vision session. Building on the knowledge gained from the lesson learnt, the long-term vision (LTV) was presented to the workshop's participants, many contributions were incorporated, and the updated document was validated for conservation efforts by CEPF in the region. This resulted in the development of a validated vision for attaining sustainable conservation success by identifying priority ideas for future investments to hotspot CSOs and other key actors and stakeholders. This document will serve as a working document for CEPF’s future investment in the region as well as for other donors</p>

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

Branded Jotter and Water Bottles

Jotters were produced and distributed to workshop participants for notetaking and to help CEPF and its partners' brands live on after the workshop. The same is true for the branded water bottles, which not only helped to reduce the consumption of single-use plastics at the workshop but will also help to promote CEPF work when the project is completed.

Knowledge Cafe and Group Work

The project adopted the knowledge café and group work approach that immensely contributed to the results. These methodologies, enabled the grantees to share experiences, learn from each other, build relationships, make a better sense of the work they are all involved with in the hotspots and come up with improved decisions by which they can replicate or upscale their work as well as tackle the conservation issues and challenges identified.

Self-assessment (pre- and post- workshop) evaluation

A self-assessment survey was conducted to measure participants' understanding of CEPF investment and the level of new knowledge acquired during the workshop in comparison to their prior knowledge. Unlike using the post-workshop assessment alone, the introduction of the pre-workshop assessment offered a basis for measuring the workshop's impact on participants.

Exhibition/Networking Session

The networking session was created at the beginning and at the end of the workshop where CSOs introduced themselves and their work to each other. They also exhibited products from their work. A cocktail party at the end of the workshop also provided an opportunity for the CSO's to further network and connect with each other.

PART III: Lessons, Sustainability, Safeguards and Financing

Lessons Learned

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

“Lessons learned” are experiences you have gained that you think would be valuable successes worth replicating or practices that you would do differently if you had the chance. Consider lessons that would inform project design and implementation, and any other lessons relevant to the conservation community. CEPF Lessons Learned Guidelines are available here: <https://www.cepf.net/sites/default/files/cepf-lessons-learned-guidelines-english.pdf>.

The interpretation service made the project/event more inclusive

For maximum benefits, a separate workshop for strengthening conservation knowledge and networking among journalists and civil societies, combining the workshop with the Final Assessment workshop provided less time for the communication and networking sessions.

It was very beneficial to have experts with a range of expertise and experience participating at the workshop – both in terms of the CEPF grantees, donors, journalist, and other invited speakers. This made for a rich and diverse learning.

The Alisa Hotel had limited breakout space, especially suitable outdoor spaces, as this makes a big difference in keeping energy levels up.

Sustainability / Replication

8. 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.

The workshop adopted a variety of approaches to ensure all attendees are engaged in the way that best works for them and maximizes knowledge retention (E.g., the *Knowledge Café*, analyzing biodiversity conservation issues using interactive and practical exercises from actual lessons learnt from their individual projects). Participants left the workshop with practical tools and clear action plans on how to ensure tangible outputs/changes. Participants got a clear understanding of the 'why' and 'how' to strengthen their approaches, and tools to help them do so, which is envisaged to result in replicating or upscaling projects in the region. Furthermore, the workshop provided opportunity for participants to establish supportive relationships that will guarantee mutual encouragement, ongoing experience and knowledge sharing and potential future collaboration. The Lessons Learned factsheet/brochure was an important reference document for CSOs in the long term. All the above constitute a firm foundation for continued communication of conservation impacts into the future.

Safeguards

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

We adhered to the recommended government protocols and guidelines on COVID19 prevention including on travel requirements in Ghana (host country), and the delegates countries of origin.

Additional Funding

10. Provide details of any additional funding that you have secured to support this project.

a. Total additional funding (US\$)

b. Type of funding

Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source.

Donor	Type of Funding	Amount

Additional Comments/Recommendations

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

1. More time should be given to the planning and implementation of a project of this nature. The planning process should begin well ahead of time at least 6 months.
2. The Final Assessment Workshop should be organized separately from training and capacity building workshop etc.

PART IV: Impact at Portfolio and Global Level

Contribution to Portfolio Indicators

12. In order to measure the results of CEPF investment strategy at the hotspot level, CEPF uses a set of Portfolio Indicators which are presented in the Ecosystem Profile of each hotspot. Please list these below and report on the project's contribution(s) to them.

Indicator	Actual Numeric Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
Number of local civil society organizations demonstrate increased communication capacity in ways that support the delivery of their mission	58	The capacity of 58 CSOs (53 grantees and 5 mentees) and 8 journalists capacity have been built to effectively communicate conservation outcomes
Number of networks formed among civil society, government and private sector actors to facilitate capacity building, avoid duplication of effort and maximize impact	1	A network of Journalist and CSO's working in the GFWA established

Contribution to Global Indicators

Please report on all Global Indicators that pertain to your project.

13. Benefits to Individuals

13a. Number of men and women receiving structured training.

Report on the number of men and women that have benefited from structured training due to your project, such as financial management, beekeeping, horticulture, farming, biological surveys, or how to conduct a patrol.

# of men receiving structured training *	# of women receiving structured training *	Topic(s) of Training
57	28	Strengthening conservation knowledge and understanding of emerging issues and possible solutions - with emphasis on climate change – as an important emerging issue, locally and internationally

**Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men received structured training in beekeeping, and 3 of these also received structured training in project management, the total number of men who benefited from structured training should be 5.*

13b. Number of men and women receiving cash benefits.

Report on the number of men and women that had an increase in income or cash (monetary) benefits due to your project from activities such as tourism, handicraft production, increased farm output, increased fishery output, medicinal plant harvest, or payment for conducting patrols.

# of men receiving cash benefits*	# of women receiving cash benefits*	Description of Benefits

**Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men received cash benefits due to tourism, and 3 of these also received cash benefits from increased income due to handicrafts, the total number of men who received cash benefits should be 5.*

14. Protected Areas

Number of hectares of protected areas created and/or expanded

Report on the number of hectares of protected areas that have been created or expanded as a result of your project. Protected areas may include private or community reserves, municipal or provincial parks, or other designations where biodiversity conservation is an official management goal.

Name of PA*	Country(s)	Original # of Hectares**	# of Hectares Newly Protected	Year of Legal Declaration/Expansion	Longitude** *	Latitude** *

** If possible please provide a shape file of the protected area to CEPF.*

*** Enter the original total size, excluding the results of your project. If the protected area was not existing before your project, then enter zero.*

**** Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456). To obtain the latitude and longitude of your protected area, use googlemap, right click on the center of your protected area, and select "What's here?", and copy the latitude and longitude appearing in the popup window.*

15. Key Biodiversity Area Management

Number of hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) with improved management

Report on the number of hectares in KBAs with improved management, where tangible results have been achieved to support conservation, as a result of your project. Examples of improved management include, but are not restricted to: increased patrolling, reduced intensity of snaring, invasive species eradication, reduced incidence of fire, and introduction of sustainable agricultural/fisheries practices. Do not record the entire area covered by the project - only record the number of hectares that have improved management.

If you have recorded part or all of a KBA as newly protected for the indicator entitled “protected areas”, and you have also improved its management, you should record the relevant number of hectares for both this indicator and the “protected areas” indicator.

Name of KBA	KBA Code from Ecosystem Profile	# of Hectares Improved *

** Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were improved due to implementation of a fire management regime in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were improved due to invasive species removal in the second year, the total number of hectares with improved management would be 500.*

16. Production landscapes

Number of hectares of production landscape with strengthened management of biodiversity

Please report on the number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity, as a result of your project. A production landscape is defined as a landscape where commercial agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs.

- For an area to be considered as having "strengthened management of biodiversity," it can benefit from a wide range of interventions such as best practices and guidelines implemented, incentive schemes introduced, sites/products certified, and sustainable harvesting regulations introduced.
- Areas that are protected are not included under this indicator, because their hectares are counted elsewhere.
- A Production Landscape can include part or all of an unprotected KBA.

Name of Production Landscape*	# of Hectares with Strengthened Management**	Latitude***	Longitude***	Description of Intervention

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** If the production landscape does not have a name, provide a brief descriptive name for the landscape.*

***Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were strengthened due to certification in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were strengthened due to new harvesting regulations in the second year, the total number of hectares strengthened to date would be 500.*

**** Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456). To obtain the latitude and longitude of your production landscape, use googlemap, right click on the center of your production landscape, and select "What's here?", and copy the latitude and longitude appearing in the popup window.*

17. Benefits to Communities

CEPF wants to record the non-cash benefits received by communities, which can differ to those received by individuals because the benefits are available to a group. CEPF also wants to record, to the extent possible, the number of people within each community who are benefiting. Please report on the characteristics of the communities, the type of benefits that have been received during the project, and the number of men/boys and women/girls from these communities that have benefited, as a result of your project. If exact numbers are not known, please provide an estimate.

Please provide information for all communities that have benefited from project start to project completion.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics (mark with x)							Country of Community	Type of Benefit (mark with x)								# of Beneficiaries	
	Small landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists / nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Other*		Increased access to clean water	Increased food security	Increased access to energy	Increased access to public services (e.g. health, care, education)	Increased resilience to climate	Improved land tenure	Improved recognition of traditional	Improved representation and decision-making in governance	Improved access to ecosystem	# of men and boys benefiting

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

18. Policies, Laws and Regulations

Report on policies, laws and regulations with conservation provisions that have been enacted or amended, as a result of your project. “Policies” pertain to statements of intent formally adopted or pursued by a government, including at sectoral or sub-national level. “Laws and regulations” pertain to official rules or orders, prescribed by authority. Any law, regulation, decree or order is eligible to be included.

18a. Name, scope and topic of the policy, law or regulation that has been amended or enacted as a result of your project

No.	Name of Law, Policy or Regulation	Scope (mark with x)			Topic(s) addressed (mark with x)																	
		Local	National	International	Agriculture	Climate	Ecosystem	Education	Energy	Fisheries	Forestry	Mining and	Planning/Zoning	Pollution	Protected Areas	Species Protection	Tourism	Transportation	Wildlife Trade	Other*		
1																						
2																						
...																						

* If you selected “other”, please give a brief description of the main topics addressed by the policy, law or regulation.

18b. For each law, policy or regulation listed above, please provide the requested information in accordance with its assigned number.

No.	Country(s)	Date enacted/ amended MM/DD/YYYY	Expected impact	Action that you performed to achieve this change
1				
2				
3				

19. Biodiversity-friendly Practices

Number of companies that adopt biodiversity-friendly practices

Please list any companies that have adopted biodiversity-friendly practices as a result of your project. While companies take various forms, for the purposes of CEPF, a company is defined as a for-profit business entity. A biodiversity-friendly practice is one that conserves or uses natural resources in a sustainable manner.

No.	Name of Company	Description of biodiversity-friendly practice adopted during the project	Country(s) where the practice has been adopted by the company
1			
2			
...			

20. Networks & Partnerships

Number of networks and/or partnerships created and/or strengthened

Report on any networks or partnerships between and among civil society groups and other sectors that you have created or strengthened as a result of your project. Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable. Examples of networks/partnerships include: an alliance of fisherfolk to promote sustainable fisheries practices, a network of environmental journalists, a partnership between one or more NGOs with one or more private sector partners to improve biodiversity management on private lands, or a working group focusing on reptile conservation.

Do not list the partnerships you formed with others to implement this project, unless these partnerships will continue after your project ends.

No.	Name of Network / Partnership	Year established	Did your project establish this Network/ Partnership? Y/N	Country(s) covered	Purpose
1	Network of Journalist working in the GFWA	2022	Yes	9	To improve conservation communication
2					

...					

21. Sustainable Financing Mechanism

List any functioning sustainable financing mechanisms created or supported by your project. Sustainable financing mechanisms generate funding for the long-term (generally five or more years). These include, but are not limited to, conservation trust funds, debt-for-nature swaps, payment for ecosystem service (PES) schemes, and other revenue, fee or tax schemes that generate long-term funding for conservation. To be included, a mechanism must be delivering funds for conservation.

21a. Details about the mechanism

No.	Name of Financing Mechanism	Purpose of the Mechanism*	Date of Establishment*	Description***	Countries
1					
2					
3					

*Please provide a succinct description of the mission of the mechanism.

**Please indicate when the sustainable financing mechanism was officially created. If you do not know the exact date, provide a best estimate.

***Description, such as trust fund, endowment, PES scheme, incentive scheme, etc.

21b. Performance of the mechanism

For each Financing Mechanism listed previously, please provide the requested information in accordance with its assigned number.

NO.	Project intervention (mark with x)			Has the mechanism disbursed funds to conservation projects?
	Created a mechanism	Supported an existing mechanism	Created and supported a new mechanism	
1				
2				
3				

22. Red List Species

If the project included direct conservation interventions that benefited globally threatened species (CR, EN, VU), as per the IUCN Red List, add the species below.

Examples of interventions include: preparation or implementation of a conservation action plan, captive breeding programs, species habitat protection, species monitoring, patrolling to halt wildlife trafficking, and removal of invasive species.

Genus	Species	Common Name (Eng)	Status (VU, EN, CR or Extinct in the Wild)	Intervention	Population Trend at Site (increasing, decreasing, stable or unknown)

Part V. Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

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

Provide the contact details of your organization (organization name and generic email address) so that interested parties can request further information about your project.

Organization Name: Global Initiative for Food Security and Ecosystem Preservation (GIFSEP)

Generic email address: gifsep@gmail.com

ADDENDUM

1. Participant's list.

https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/16_RsHW7U14YqDfuIu9G2OWC5FQurc1A4

A total of 85 persons participated in the workshop comprising of grantees, Mentees, Donors, Media, consultants and a government representative.

Gender	No:
Female	28
Male	57
Total	85

Category of Participants	No:
Grantees	53
Donor	6
Media	8
Mentees	5
Consultant	1
Government	1

2. Links to Photos.

Day <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/18sPNa5gkyJpoLT3NW4P1FcDFVCFnQoU7>

3. Link to Presentations

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1hWvJJTxKzKJHu8ixECn5q6tO43nWwYWo>

4. Link to the Articles and publications

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1fRewNzMc0r9tl5CBs1UICRVQUCh2fNA5>

5. Link to Facebook live

Opening session: <https://fb.watch/dCMws4PgF1/>

Afternoon Session: <https://fb.watch/dCN7oh-U6K/>

6. Group work and Feedback

<https://fb.watch/dCO1QGY6rV/>