

## CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

<b>Organization Legal Name:</b>	Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversité Marine (FoProBiM)
<b>Project Title:</b>	Stakeholder Networking for Biodiversity Conservation in the Lac Azuei/Trou Caiman Key Biodiversity Area of Haiti
<b>Date of Report:</b>	Nov 27, 2013
<b>Report Author and Contact Information</b>	Jean Wiener jeanw@forobim.org

**CEPF Region:** Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot

**Strategic Direction:** #3.2 “Enable local and regional networking, learning and best practice sharing approaches to strengthen stakeholder involvement in biodiversity conservation”.

**Grant Amount:** \$19,500

**Project Dates:** November 1, 2012 to Oct. 31, 2013

**Implementation Partners for this Project (please explain the level of involvement for each partner):**

<b>Partners/Collaborators</b>	<b>Level of involvement</b>
<p>Tet Ansanm, <b>ODATH</b>,  <b>PINEPA</b>,  <b>ASINEDGRAPT</b>, <b>CPSS</b>,  <b>CoProFer</b>, <b>RDJHC</b>,  <b>OPDL</b>, Mairie de  Thomazeau,  <b>RECICODETH</b>, <b>OPVH</b>,  <b>UPDSSE</b>, <b>RJPS</b>,  <b>MPDST</b>, <b>ADJEMT</b></p>	<p>Participants in meetings and members of the ad hoc environmental committee; organizing community meetings, outings, and field work.</p>
<p><b>INTEC (D.R.)</b>, <b>CCNY</b></p>	<p>Exchange of information, collaboration on meetings. Through a long-time friendship with partners at the <i>Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC)</i> in the Dominican Republic, a partnership with the project <b>Sudden Climatic Changes and Sustainable Solutions in the Enriquillo Water Basin</b> funded by the United States National Science Foundation/RAPID Research Grants and executed by The City College of New York (CCNY), Drexel University, the <i>Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC)</i>, and the Government of the Dominican Republic was begun. This project is looking into the scientific causes of the rise in lake water levels for both Lago Enriquillo in the Dominican Republic and Lac Azuei in Haiti. FoProBiM provided contact information to this project for the execution of their social analysis and interviews were held with some of the ad hoc CoCiPrELA Steering Committee that FoProBiM was supporting during the week of March 11, 2012. Meetings were also held with members of the project team on November 21, 2012 to discuss project synergies and on April 8, 2013 to discuss project activities.</p>
<p>Haitian Ministry of Environment</p>	<p>Although the Haitian Ministry of Environment was advised of many of the dates for community and committee meetings in the area they were never able to send a representative to express the ministry's views and collect or advise on the local community's concerns.</p>

## Conservation Impacts

*Please explain/describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile.*

This project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile by strengthening and organizing local stakeholder groups, especially those located within current or proposed protected areas, through environmental and association building classes and activities so as to increase protection and management of these areas and the conservation of biodiversity. It has increased contacts and the potential for collaborative activities between target area community groups through networking meetings.

*Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project against the expected results detailed in the approved proposal.*

### Project Progress

Activity	Output		
	Target Output	Actual	Remaining
Educational Classes : 200 local area coastal community stakeholders having participated in five classes targeting resource use conflict resolution, watershed protection, reforestation, and the importance of local forests and watershed management	200 participants	197 participants	3 participants
Exchange visits : Increased networking between stakeholder groups in the area with five networking/exchange visits involving 50 participants focused on local environmental threats and possible remedies	50 participants	55 participants	0 participants
Establishment of a KBA Steering Committee engaged in guiding actions for future activities*	1 committee	1 committee	0 committees

\*The Steering Committee will provide guidance for future activities within the target area, continue to maintain contact with FoProBiM for potential continuation of activities, remain as a contact point for the associations and their interactions with the public sector, and, as possible, engage in local rehabilitative actions, and remain a focal/contact point for other institutions which may be interested in undertaking activities in the area.

Unfortunately, there is no mechanism which can ensure the sustainability of the Steering Committee. As with all institutions its survival will depend on the willingness of its members to continue to collaborate and move initiatives forward, as well as their ability to secure resources, including funding. FoProBiM will continue, as always, to maintain

contacts with these groups in the hopes of being able to provide them with resources to engage in the many needed activities to protect and manage local resources.

*Please provide the following information where relevant:*

**Hectares Protected: n/a**

**Species Conserved: n/a**

**Corridors Created: n/a**

Although no new designations were obtained during this brief project, as stated in the initial LoI, the target area is located within the new La Selle Biosphere Reserve declared in 2012. It is comprised of a Surface Area of 377, 221 ha (land 360,434 ha; marine 16,787 ha), with a core area of 52, 579 ha, a buffer zone of 66,116 ha, and is administered by the Ministry of Environment. This critical designation should allow for the implementation of much needed conservation initiatives.

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

The project has reached its short term objectives of organizing local community groups from different communities into a committee with the target of raising awareness and encouraging better management of area resources, and seeking possible solutions to pressing environmental and linked socio-economic issues. In the short-term, the project goals of forming a local environmental committee comprised of members from different sectors and communities was accomplished as well as the numbers of participants in both environmental classes and inter-community exchange visits. These have laid the basis for potential continuation activities within the target area related to this project's original goals as well as for other projects with similar goals.

In reaching the potential long term objective of having a well-established and supported community group (committee) with the resources necessary to actively engage both public and private sector stakeholder groups in substantive actions, the inherent weaknesses in the local community groups as well as the brevity of the project timetable did not allow for much more to be undertaken.

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

Local community groups who sent representatives to various educational classes/workshops, but whose own communities were not the beneficiaries of these activities, have asked on several occasions to have these educational activities provided within their home communities. Unfortunately, as stated above, the brevity and limited funding for this project did not allow any expansion of previously scheduled activities.

<b>Lessons Learned</b>
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***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 projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.***

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

During the project design process local community groups were consulted and expressed their deep interest in seeing activities proposed implemented in their region. With their support FoProBiM continued and succeeded in having the project approved. During these preliminary consultations (pre-project) these local associations appeared well organized enough to allow for the proper implementation of project activities. It is only after the beginning of project implementation that weaknesses began to appear in these local associations which were cause for a bit of concern (however, nothing too critical). FoProBiM therefore needed to provide additional expertise and time to strengthening these associations in order to ensure successful project execution. These weaknesses did not prevent the local associations from participating in the project design phase or in the execution of the project; but it did limit their ability to execute project activities. However, all project activities were completed on schedule, albeit with much more hand-holding from FoProBiM staff than originally anticipated.

The project was designed with and for the local communities and would absolutely not have been possible without their interest and collaboration. It was entirely a community strengthening activity executed through the use of environmental and association building classes/workshops and field activities which, without the participation of these groups, would never have succeeded.

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

All aspects of project implementation were undertaken on schedule, and much of this was owed to the interest and willingness to participate of certain members of the Steering Committee.

***Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:***

Often the inherent weaknesses in local community groups do not really become apparent until the real work begins. Often to their credit, however, those who represent their organizations are more often than not extremely interested and dynamic with a great will to move projects and activities for their communities forward. Continued support for these local organizations, after having first provided them with association building /reinforcement, is critical for the continuation and sustainability of activities. Because

they are weak and do not have any resources it is almost inevitable, unfortunately, that all of the “good” done under short-term projects will be erased over the long-term.

#### **ADDITIONAL FUNDING**

Unfortunately no additional funding has been accessed for this activity.

#### **Sustainability/Replicability**

***Summarize the success or challenge in achieving planned sustainability or replicability of project components or results.***

Success of this project, as with FoProBiM’s previous activities, was guaranteed by intrinsically implicating local stakeholders in all aspects of the project from design to implementation in order to provide them with the ultimate sense of ownership, pride in success, and responsibility. The projects are undertaken with and for these stakeholders.

This project is part of a larger effort by FoProBiM in Haiti to continuously provide environmental educational activities, and management support, in regard to environmental resources at all levels from the grassroots level to the public sector throughout Haiti.

FoProBiM will continue to contribute to ongoing activities targeted at the betterment of the socio-eco-environmental condition in Haiti through the development of environmental education including the development of environmental educational materials, scientific surveys and monitoring, awareness raising on threats to biodiversity, the strengthening of local grassroots organizations, conflict resolution programs, and research on, and encouragement of, the use of more environmentally friendly and sustainable fishing and agricultural methods to stem the deterioration of the environment and the loss of biodiversity. Sustainability of project activities is somewhat questionable as the amount of resources needed for the continuation and growth of actions will no longer be provided. Although the project was not targeting the creation of a self-sustaining environmental folder of activities it did meet its goals of educating and organizing local stakeholders.

Although the project has ended, FoProBiM will continue to link its activities when possible, to upcoming initiatives being proposed for the area by the Haitian Government, UNESCO, and others, focused on protecting and managing the area’s environmental resources. The groundwork for the continuation of activities to preserve local biodiversity through the use of local community stakeholder groups has been laid.

***Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.***

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## Safeguard Policy Assessment

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

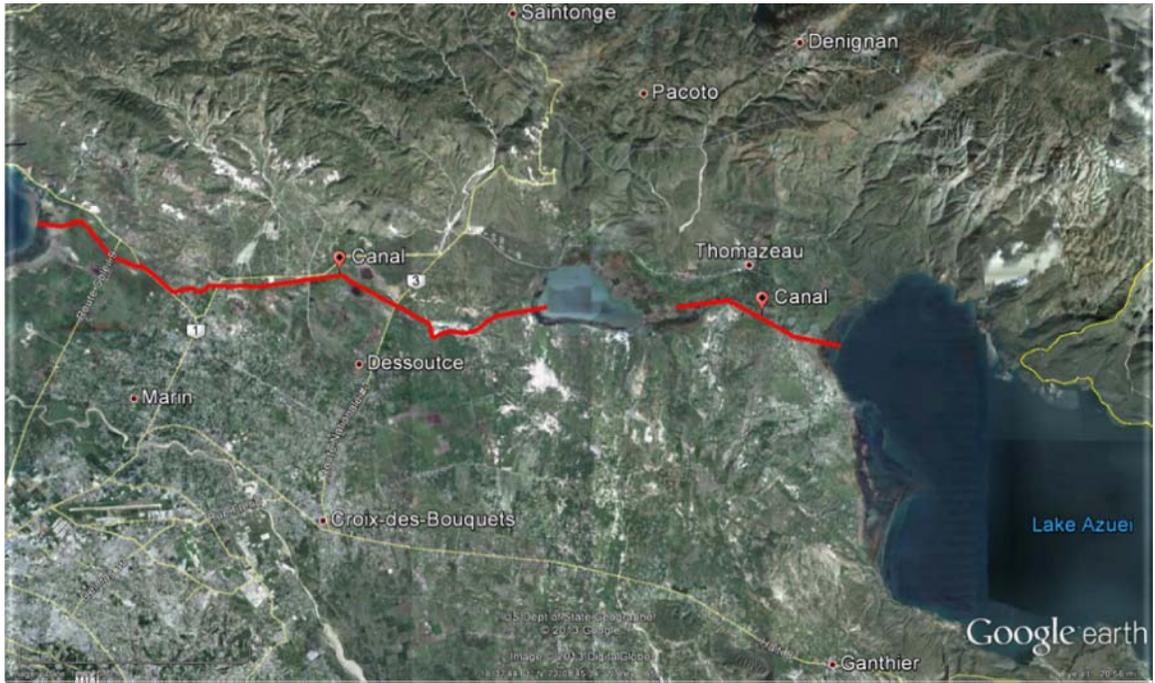
n/a

## Additional Comments/Recommendations

Mayors in the area (Thomazeau, Ganthier, Croix-des-Bouquets) have been loosely working together to find a solution (Croix-des-Bouquets is not really implicated, yet, due to its distance from the lakes). Everyone, of course, is saying that the government needs to come up with a solution and implement it as soon as possible. The main issue, however, is that no one has been able to pin down the exact cause(s) of the rising water in order to provide a direct solution to the identified problem.

One possible solution brought up by members of the ad hoc committee as well as many others we have spoken to is the cleaning out of a canal which supposedly links Lac Azuei to Trou Caiman to the ocean (figure 1). A potential issue which would need to be resolved before this could take place would be the verification that Lac Azuei and/or Trou Caiman are above sea level, thus allowing for draining. FoProBiM did observe heavy equipment cleaning out the canal at the level of Koray between Trou Caiman and the ocean (figure 2).

**Figure 1 - Map of canal leading from Lake Azuei to Trou Caiman and on to the ocean**



**Figure 2 – Canal looking west from lakes area**



Project Activity Timetable

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location(s)</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Nov 14, 15, 16 2012	Trou Caiman, Thomazeau, Sous Sab, Zone Ballan, l'Etan, Hatte Dwouya, Savane a Cabrit, Hatte Cadet, La Teriere, Jwano, Kasis, Jondry	Initial contacts	Serious trouble getting around target area due to heavy rains and flooding
Nov 30 2012	Fond Parisien, Ganthier, La Sous, Fwontyè	Initial contacts	Along the rte. Ntle. # 8 to the border and back up to Trou Caiman
Dec 15-19 2012	Sous Sab, Jondry, Dekayette	Initial contacts	Serious trouble getting around target area due to heavy rains and flooding
Dec 21-23 2012	Trou Caiman, Thomazeau, Sous Sab	Initial contacts	Serious trouble getting around target area due to heavy rains and flooding
Jan 8-10 2013	Savane a Cabrit, Hatte Cadet	Initial contacts	
Jan 15, 16 2013	Santo, Debat, Fond Parisien, Ganthier, La Sous, Fwontyè	Initial contacts	
Feb 4-8 2013	Hatte Cadet	First informal meeting	
Feb 24, 25 2013	Thomazeau	1 <sup>st</sup> educational class	41 participants
Mar 5-8 2013	Thomazeau, Hatte Cadet	2 <sup>nd</sup> educational class; Formation of ad hoc Committee; First look at Statutes; 1 <sup>st</sup> exchange visit	55 participants (edu) 15 participants (com) 22 participants (exch)
Apr 16, 17 2013	l'Etan, Dekayette,	2 <sup>nd</sup> review of statutes ; 2 <sup>nd</sup> exchange visit	15 participants (stats) 32 participants (exch)
Apr 24, 25	Thomazeau, Sous Sab, Zone Ballan,	Sensitization tour/3rd exchange	68 participants

Date	Location(s)	Activity	Comments
2013	l'Etan, Hatte Dwouya, Hatte Cadet, Debat, Kasis, Jondry	visit by ad hoc Committee	
Apr 28, 29 2013	Santo, Debat, Fond Parisien, Ganthier, Jwano, Tet Sous	3 <sup>rd</sup> educational class; 3 <sup>rd</sup> review of statutes	41 participants (edu) 12 participants (stats)
May 23 2013	Thomazeau	Informal meetings	Constitution and Statutes
June 24 2013	Thomazeau	Informal meeting	Constitution and Statutes
August 15 2013	Thomazeau	Informal meeting	Constitution and Statutes
October 22 2013	Thomazeau	Informal meeting, project close-out	Constitution and Statutes, and close-out

Members of the ad hoc « **Coordination des Citoyens pour la Protection de l'Environnement du Lac Azuei (CoCiPrELA)** » formed on March 8, 2013.

Name	Title	Contact	Location
Jean Jean Phomphile	Coordinator	3448-4131	Sous Sab (Zone Balan)
Alustra Yston	Vice-Coordinator	3687-7077	l'Etan
Julson Ernstso	Secretary	3787-0782 4213-8325	Hatte Dwouya
Joisnce Joinithas	Vice-Secretary	3681-5432	Savan a Cabrit
Ulysse Jacson	Treasurer	3644-1458 4258-7020	Hatte Cadet
Pierre Dieufaite	Public Relations	3487-6379	La Teriere
Josmice Esaie	Public Relations	3633-8776	Santo
Jean Robert Nicolas	Advisor	3693-4796	Debat
Occirl Johnson	Advisor	3864-9404	Debat

### 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.

**Please include your full contact details below:**

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**Fax:** --

**E-mail:** jeanw@foprobim.org

**\*\*\*If your grant has an end date other than JUNE 30, please complete the tables on the following pages\*\*\***

**Performance Tracking Report Addendum**

**CEPF Global Targets**

(November 1, 2012 – October 31, 2013)

**Provide a numerical amount and brief description of the results achieved by your grant.  
Please respond to only those questions that are relevant to your project.**

<b>Project Results</b>	<b>Is this question relevant ?</b>	<b>If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.</b>	<b>Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.</b>	<b>Describe the principal results achieved from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. (Attach annexes if necessary)</b>
1. Did your project strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.	No.	--	--	Please also include name of the protected area(s). If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas did your project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?	N/A	--	--	Please also include name of the protected area. If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
3. Did your project strengthen biodiversity conservation and/or natural resources management inside a key biodiversity area identified in the CEPF ecosystem profile? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	Yes.	22,000	22,000	--
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	No.	--	--	--
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.	No.	--	--	--

**If you answered yes to question 5, please complete the following table.**



<b>Total</b>																					

**If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit:**

