

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	French Ichthyological Society ("Société Française d'Ichtyologie" - SFI)
Project Title:	Improving the Conservation of Threatened Freshwater Fish and Crustaceans in Polynesia Through a Synthesis (Handbook Format) of Existing Knowledge on their Taxonomy, Ecology, Biology and the Management of their Habitats.
Date of Report:	March 2013
Report Author and Contact Information	Professor/Assistant Director Philippe Keith, Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle,;13 rue Cuvier CP026. 75005 PARIS. France Dr Philippe Gerbeaux 73 Barrington St, 8024 CHRISTCHURCH.New Zealand

CEPF Region: Micronesia Polynesia

Strategic Direction: SD3

Grant Amount: USD 20,000

Project Dates: Feb 2012-February 2013

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

Conservation Impacts

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

Freshwater fauna is often mostly ignored in conservation projects. Through the participation during the surveys of local leaders, community members and environmental agencies or NGOs, this project has raised and will raise (through its output - the guidebook), the profile and awareness of freshwater fauna of Polynesian streams and wetlands. We hope it will also make a significant contribution, if management recommendations included in the guidebook are implemented, to their conservation and possibly, where applicable, to the recovery of some threatened freshwater species.

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

The book has been completed and printed as planned. Its impact cannot be assessed yet but initial feedback is extremely positive.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: while not strictly involving mechanisms, all rivers, streams and other freshwater wetlands of Polynesian Islands should benefit from the knowledge included in the book

Species Conserved: freshwater fish and crustaceans

Corridors Created: N/A. Only recommendations (Important Freshwater Areas) are suggested in the book

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

The project benefited greatly from over 10 years of surveys in the region. These surveys enabled the first compilation of knowledge on identification, biology, ecology and distribution of prevailing freshwater fauna in Polynesia. It was carried out with the participation of local people from whom we were able to obtain local names (as recorded against each species in the book).

The book contains a list of concrete and relatively simple management recommendations for the conservation of freshwater species. It contains identification keys and an easy to use photographic guide that will be widely distributed to regional government and non-government organizations. It also covers invasive species that threaten endemic fauna and recommendations for their management is proposed. The book is written in English and French and as already mentioned, includes translation, where available of species names in the local languages. The bibliography is a compilation of most up to date information on the fish species of the region and their management

While initial feedback has been positive so far, we still do not have full confidence that the information has been compiled in a format that would be simple enough for end-users to understand and use. We would appreciate a discussion on this at the April workshop in Suva.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

We do not anticipate any unexpected impact other than positive (awareness raising on identification, distribution and management in particular).

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 projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.

Our project was somehow probably atypical compared with other ones and we are not sure we can usefully answer this question. However, it was disappointing perhaps that due to circumstances we have not been able to assist the Samoan MNRE on our recent visit (it would have been good too to visit other agencies from other Polynesian countries once the book was completed) with further training other than the one that took place during the initial surveys on our recent visit. We are however willing, to respond to any requests, and to re-visit as required and if funding becomes available.

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

External funding or in-kind contribution for the members of our team over several years have strongly contributed to facilitating the collation of necessary data (see table below). Surveys are expensive to run but the only way to provide reliable and useful information. The French Ichthyological Society had a lot of prior experience in publishing similar guidebooks and the outcome was greatly enhanced by such experience.

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

The project itself was about assembling the data and writing this book. Years of experience with a good track record of publications on the same topic from the authors enabled a smooth implementation, along with their genuine interest in raising awareness

of freshwater conservation among local communities, agencies and organizations. We would still love though a better knowledge of all Pacific languages but we are very grateful for the welcomes and help received in all countries of Polynesia and beyond (while Micronesia was not included in this project we have since surveyed streams in Palau and Pohnpei).

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

Rivers are an important part of Pacific life, and their sustainable management is important beyond biodiversity for the maintenance of healthy catchments and healthy coastal and marine ecosystems.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

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

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
French Ichthyological Society ("Société Française d'Ichtyologie" - SFI	(A) all the field surveys done during the 1997-2011 period were funded by SFI. Their funding was instrumental to obtain the necessary data and all the species pictures for the handbook.	80,000 Euros	
NZ Department of Conservation	(A) In-kind	40 hours time	(for Dr P. Gerbeaux)
French Ichthyological Society ("Société Française d'Ichtyologie" - SFI	(A) Desktop publishing	10,000USD	

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

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

Sustainability/Replicability

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

All components (surveys, data formatting and guidebook writing) would be easily replicable in other regions

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

N/A

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

Complementary training and commitment from local stakeholders to such training once the information has been published would be desirable

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.

Please include your full contact details below:

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*****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

(Enter Grant Term)

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.

Project Results	Is this question relevant?	If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.	Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.	Describe the principal results achieved from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. (Attach annexes if necessary)
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?	No			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 and no!	N/A	N/A	All streams and wetlands, including those flowing through protected areas, can potentially benefit from this work
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	Yes	N/A	N/A	All streams and wetlands, including those flowing through protected areas, can potentially benefit from this work
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.	N/A			

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

