CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM

Mid-term Assessment

CEPF Investment in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot

December 2024

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1. Introduction

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) is designed to safeguard the world's biologically richest and most threatened regions, known as biodiversity hotspots. It is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Conservation International (CI), the European Union (EU), Fondation Hans Wilsdorf, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Government of Canada, the Government of Japan, and the World Bank. A fundamental purpose of CEPF is to engage civil society, such as community groups, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), academic institutions and private enterprises, in biodiversity conservation. This is done through a combination of grant making and capacity development.

The Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot is one of 36 biodiversity hotspots in the world. Biodiversity hotspots hold least 1,500 plant species found nowhere else and have lost at least 70 percent of their original habitat extent (Mittermeier *et al.* 2004). The island geography and complex geology of the Caribbean has created unique habitats and high species diversity, and these islands have among the highest number of globally threatened species of any hotspot in the world.

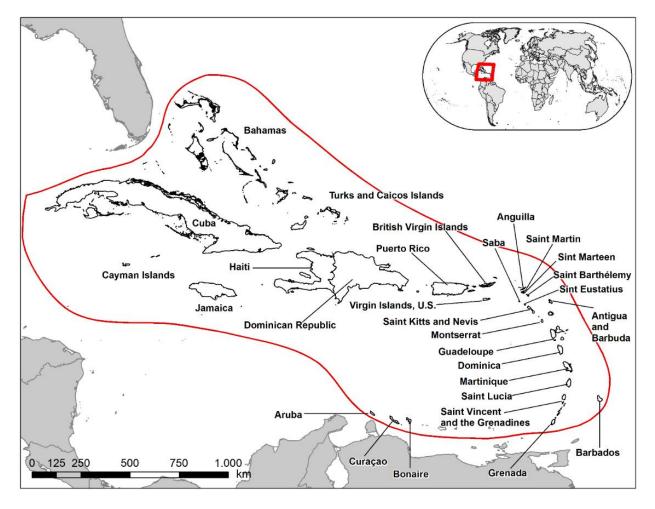


Figure 1. The Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot

The Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot comprises more than 7,000 islands, islets, reefs and cays with a land area of 230,000 km² scattered across 4 million km² of sea (Figure 1). The hotspot takes in 30 biologically and culturally diverse nations and territories, of which seven are currently targeted for support under CEPF's second phase of investment in the region: Antigua and Barbuda; The Bahamas; the Dominican Republic; Haiti; Jamaica; Saint Lucia; and St Vincent and the Grenadines. To date, however, there have been no activities in Haiti under this phase, due to security concerns.

The current CEPF investment in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot began in August 2021 and will continue until July 2027. It builds on the achievements made during the first phase of CEPF investment in the hotspot, from 2010 and 2016.

This report aims to assess progress towards the targets for the current phase of investment, at the mid-point of the phase, and to capture lessons learned by CEPF grantees. It draws on experience, lessons learned, and project reports generated by civil society organizations (CSOs) implementing CEPF grants. In addition, it incorporates the findings of a regional workshop, held in Juan Dolio, Dominican Republic on 19-21 November 2024. The workshop was attended by 94 representatives of 55 civil society, government and donor organizations.

2. Niche for CEPF Investment

2.1 Overview

The CEPF niche for the second investment phase is guided by CEPF's mission and informed by the experience of the first phase of CEPF investment and the findings of the <u>ecosystem profile</u>, which sets out a strategy for CEPF grant making, informed by a situational analysis. Preparation of the ecosystem profile involved three national workshops (Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica) and an online sub-regional meeting for The Bahamas and the Eastern Caribbean, national Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) working groups, and a regional consultation. The process engaged 175 stakeholders from 94 organizations within civil society, government, the private sector and the donor community. Participants in the ecosystem profile consultations emphasized the importance of a multi-pronged approach to conservation that includes addressing the institutional and structural impediments to management and preservation of the natural environment.

This second investment phase seeks to identify opportunities to add value through "continuity of action" and to consolidate the results achieved in the first phase of CEPF investment. It also seeks to identify opportunities for replication and scaling-up of good practice models, and to apply the lessons learned from the earlier phase.

The CEPF niche focusses investment at those priority KBAs with the highest biological values, where there is an existing civil society constituency with an interest in conservation. During the first investment phase, there were examples of clustered grant making, where linked grants were made to CSOs with complementary capabilities to address the conservation of a single site. CEPF seeks to actively promote such approaches to build synergies across grants and scale up impact in sites and corridors.

CEPF's approach also aims to leverage new and existing financial and human resources as part of a sustainability strategy for the hotspot. In implementing the strategy, CEPF seeks to work in partnership with the public and private sectors to identify and maximize opportunities for value-added synergies. Particular emphasis is placed on collaborating with CEPF donors and other active conservation financiers.

2.2 Focus

The thematic focus of the investment strategy is set out in Table 1. CEPF investment addresses 19 investment priorities grouped into six strategic directions. Targets and indicative spending allocations for each strategic direction are given in the logical framework, which is presented in Annex 1.

	Strategic Directions		CEPF Investment Priorities
1	Improve the protection and management of 33 priority sites for long- term sustainability	1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.5	Strengthen the legal protection of priority sites. Prepare and implement participatory management plans that support broad stakeholder collaboration. Assess climate change impacts and integrate climate change adaptation into management plans and their implementation responses to protect ecosystem functions and build resilience. Eradicate, control or prevent further spread of invasive plants and animals that are affecting globally threatened species populations at priority sites. Update the KBA analysis to fill critical conservation planning data gaps in Barbados and Haiti.
2	Increase landscape- level connectivity and ecosystem resilience in seven priority corridors	2.1 2.2 2.3	Prepare and support implementation of participatory local and corridor-scale land-use and watershed management plans to guide future development and conservation efforts. Support sustainable livelihoods in agriculture, fisheries, forestry, and nature tourism that enhance ecosystem resilience and landscape-level connectivity and deliver gender-equitable benefits, in order to maintain the functionality of priority sites. Promote the adoption and scaling up of conservation best practices in those enterprises compatible with conservation to promote connectivity and ecosystem services in the corridors.
3	Safeguard priority Critically Endangered and Endangered species	3.1 3.2 3.3	Prepare and implement conservation actions plans for priority Critically Endangered and Endangered species. Identify climate impacts and develop and implement management plans in response to climate change impacts on priority Critically Endangered and Endangered species. Support assessments of high priority plant families to update national lists and the IUCN Red List and develop conservation action plans.
4	Improve the enabling conditions for biodiversity conservation in countries with priority sites	4.1 4.2	Support the role of civil society organizations in policy dialogue and advocacy focused on government policies and practices that impact priority sites. Mainstream biodiversity conservation and ecosystem service values into development policies, projects, and plans by government and the private sector, with a focus on addressing major threats, such as unsustainable agriculture, mining, tourism and infrastructure development.

Table 1. CEPF strategic directions and investment priorities in the CaribbeanIslands Biodiversity Hotspot (2021-2027)

	Strategic Directions		CEPF Investment Priorities		
		4.3 4.4	Establish and strengthen sustainable financing mechanisms. Build stakeholder and constituency support for the conservation of priority sites and priority globally threatened species through targeted communication and information dissemination.		
5	Support Caribbean civil society to conserve biodiversity by building local, national and regional institutional capacity and fostering stakeholder collaboration	5.1 5.2 5.3	Strengthen CSOs' technical knowledge and skills to implement practical, applied biodiversity conservation actions through short- term training in topics that will advance implementation of projects that support CEPF priorities, based on a CSO training assessment and strategy. Strengthen the administrative, financial, fundraising and project management capacity of strategic CEPF civil society partners to implement biodiversity conservation programs and activities. Support local, national and regional information exchange, networking, mentorship, and coalition building among civil society organizations.		
6	Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of CEPF investment through a Regional Implementation Team	6.1	Build a broad constituency of civil society groups working across institutional and political boundaries to strengthen the communication capacity of local civil society organizations in support of their mission and to build public awareness on the importance of conservation outcomes.		

Building resilience to climate change and integrating gender considerations into all investments are crosscutting themes for all relevant grants. The hotspot is widely recognized as being highly vulnerable to threats associated with climate change, and, as such, CEPF seeks to build climate resilience to ensure sustainability of all investments. Furthermore, gender equity is a critical element of how the investment strategy for the Caribbean will ensure that civil society is empowered, and that there is equitable participation and decision-making by stakeholders at all scales.

The CEPF ecosystem profile includes a detailed logical framework with conservation targets (Annex 1). The logframe presents three portfolio-level targets:

- Thirty-three KBAs covering 1,174,380 hectares have sustainable management plans in place.
- At least 40,000 of 2,345,311 hectares within production landscapes are under improved management for biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services.
- At least five local development plans, projects or policies mainstream biodiversity and ecosystem services, with a focus on tourism, mining, unsustainable agriculture and infrastructure development.

2.3 Coordinating CEPF Grant Making

The Trinidad and Tobago-headquartered Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) serves as the Caribbean Islands' Regional Implementation Team (RIT), which supports grant management and achievement of the conservation outcomes of the second phase of CEPF investment. The RIT:

- Provides technical advice to support the large grants process.
- Manages the small grants mechanism.
- Supports capacity building processes of civil society.

- Maintains and updates information on portfolio-level conservation impacts.
- Conducts donor outreach.
- Supports communications about the portfolio.

The RIT comprises 14 people, as listed in Table 2. There are three full-time staff, two staff who dedicate between 60 and 70 percent of their time to the work of the RIT, and nine staff who work less than 20 percent of their time on CEPF-related work. The original staffing plan included a Country Coordinator for Haiti but this position has not been filled, due to the security situation in the country.

Name	Position/Role	Location	% time
Nicole Brown	RIT Manager	Jamaica	100
Simone Lee	Country Coordinator for the English-speaking Caribbean	Jamaica	100
Liliana Betancourt	Country Coordinator for the Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	100
Aria Laidlow-Ferdinand	Small Grants Officer	Jamaica	70
Wendy Dyemma-Harper	Communications and Information Management Officer	Trinidad and Tobago	60
Chevanese Philip	Junior Finance Officer	Trinidad and Tobago	17
Brandon Greene	Finance Officer	Trinidad and Tobago	10
Venash Ramberan	Finance Manager	Trinidad and Tobago	9
Anna Cadiz-Hadeed	Programmes Director	Barbados	6
Kathryn Jones-Douglas	Human Resources Manager	Trinidad and Tobago	5
Anastacia Lee Quay	Administrative Officer	Trinidad and Tobago	5
Aaron Peter	Administrative Officer	Trinidad and Tobago	5
Sharla Dwarika	Administrative Manager	Trinidad and Tobago	4
Nicole Leotaud	Executive Director	Trinidad and Tobago	2

Table 2. RIT personnel, as of December 2024

In addition to the RIT, the CEPF investment program in the Caribbean Islands is also supported by a Collaborative Social Accountability Team (CSAT) based at Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC) in the Dominican Republic, which applies collaborative social accountability mechanisms and tools to address challenges across the biodiversity conservation delivery chain. INTEC, working in partnership with Integrated Health Outreach (IHO) in Antigua and Barbuda, is implementing a program of capacity building in collaborative social accountability for CSOs in Antigua and Barbuda, the Dominican Republic, Saint Lucia, and Jamaica. This has included a 60hour online certificate course titled "Collaborative Social Accountability for Biodiversity Conservation". Similar activities are being implemented in St Vincent and the Grenadines and The Bahamas by CANARI, following the model and using tools developed by INTEC and IHO.

3. Implementing the Strategy

3.1 Collaboration with CEPF's Donors and Other Funders

The World Bank, using funds provided by the Government of Japan through the Policy and Human Resources Development Trust Fund, is supporting the current phase of CEPF grant making in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot, through the *Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund – Caribbean Hotspot Project – P173464*. This project, which became effective on 2 August 2021, has a total investment of \$13.9 million, of which \$11.8 million is earmarked for grants to CSOs, CANARI (as the RIT) and INTEC/IHO (as the CSAT). The World Bank coordinates closely with the CEPF Secretariat to ensure successful and on-time implementation of this project, including through semi-annual implementation support missions. In parallel to this project, the World Bank is providing additional support to INTEC and IHO, through the Global Partnership for Social Accountability, which aims to enhance citizen participation in the development process and hold governments accountable for their policies and service delivery, through mechanisms like social audits and citizen feedback loops.

CEPF ensures that its investments are well coordinated with those of other funders through various mechanisms. A Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) has been established, comprising representatives of government, civil society, academia, donors and technical assistance agencies present in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot, who are appointed in their personal capacity. RAC members are involved in the review of grant applications, and their input contributes to stronger proposals, while ensuring that there is no duplication of effort with other initiatives supported by government or international donors. At least one RAC member from each country was invited to participate in the mid-term assessment workshop held in November 2024.

3.2 Portfolio Status

By the mid-point of the investment phase (30 June 2024), there had been seven calls for proposals under the current phase of CEPF investment in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot (Table 3). These generated 66 eligible letters of inquiry (LOIs) for large grants and 66 LOIs for small grants.

The CEPF Secretariat and RIT screened all LOIs to ensure their eligibility for CEPF funding and general alignment with the terms of the call for proposals. All eligible LOIs were then reviewed by RAC members. For large grants, RAC recommendations were submitted to the CEPF Secretariat and RIT for a consensus-based decision on whether to invite the applicant to submit a full proposal for funding. For small grants, RAC recommendations were submitted to the award of small grants.

					LC)Is
Call	Release	Closing Date	Strategic			eived
No.	Date		Directions		Large	Small
1	13 October 2021	21 November 2021	1,2,3,4	Dominican Republic, Jamaica	17	6
2	13 December 2021	13 February 2022 extended to 27 February 2022	1,2,3,4	Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines	15	22
3	29 June 2022	23 August 2022	1,2,3,4,5	Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines – all SDs Dominican Republic – SD5 only	8	4
4	10 November 2022	30 December 2022	1,2,3,4,5	Dominican Republic – all SDs Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines – SD5 only	6	9
5	5 June 2023	24 July 2023 extended to 11 August 2023	1,2,4,5	Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines	9	17
6	20 October 2023	27 November 2023	1,2,3,4,5	Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines	8	8
7	13 May 2024	14 June 2024	5	Organization of mid-term assessment	3	n/a
Sub-	Total				66	66
Total	LOIs received				13	32

 Table 3. Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot calls for proposals to date

As of 30 June 2024, 36 grants, with a total value of \$7.7 million had been awarded under the project (Table 4). These comprised: 16 "small grants" (i.e., grants of up to \$50,000, awarded by CANARI in its role as the RIT), valued at \$0.8 million; 18 "large grants" (i.e., grants over \$50,000 in value, awarded directly by CEPF) to CSOs, valued at \$4.9 million; a large grant to CANARI for the RIT (\$1,500,000); and a large grant to INTEC for the CSAT (\$500,000). Excluding the RIT and CSAT grants, the 34 large and small grants support 29 CSOs working in five countries: Antigua and Barbuda; the Dominican Republic; Jamaica; Saint Lucia; and St Vincent and the Grenadines. Four of these grants foster conservation and stakeholder collaboration across two or more countries (Annex 2). Also, two large grants and seven small grant applications were at various stages of review and were expected to be awarded in the second half of 2024.

Chart 1 in Annex 3 shows the distribution of grant awards by strategic direction. Apart from Strategic Direction 6, which provides for the RIT grant, the grant portfolio is most developed with regard to Strategic Direction 3 on species conservation, for which the 71 percent of available funds have already been committed. Progress is also well advanced regarding Strategic Direction 1 on priority sites (66 percent of available funds) and Strategic Direction 4 on enabling conditions (65 percent of available funds).

		Awa	arded Gran	ts		% of
Strategic Direction	Funding Allocation	Total Amount	# of large grants	# of small grants	Budget Balance	Funding Allocation Remaining
SD1 – Priority Sites	\$5,250,000	\$3,446,742	9	7	\$1,803,258	34
SD2 – Priority Corridors	\$1,300,000	\$585,929	2	4	\$714,071	55
SD3 – Species	\$1,750,000	\$1,238,576	6	1	\$511,424	29
SD4 – Enabling Conditions	\$1,000,000	\$647,680	1	3	\$352,320	35
SD5 – Civil Society	\$1,000,000	\$299,848	1	1	\$700,152	70
SD6 – RIT	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	1	0	\$0	0
Total	\$11,800,000	\$7,718,776	20	16	\$4,081,224	35

Table 4. Grant-making status by strategic direction, June 2024

There has been less progress in relation to direct grant making under Strategic Direction 5 on civil society capacity building. The quality of applications received under the first six calls for proposals was not very high, and only two grants were made: one for a hotspot-wide project focused on building sustainable financial capacity for Caribbean CSOs; and one for a hotspot-wide project focused on providing online training in Conservation Standards. It should be noted, however, that grants awarded to local organizations under Strategic Directions 1 and 3 contain components dedicated to institutional capacity building. For Strategic Direction 2 on priority corridors, the volume of applications received was lower than expected, which suggests that targeted efforts may be needed to engage CSOs with the relevant skills and experience to work in this area, including on sustainable livelihoods.

As Figure 2 shows, the highest allocation from a geographic perspective to date has been for multi-country grants. This reflects the disproportionate influence of the strategic grants for the RIT and CSAT, as there have only been four other multi-country grants: one to Re:wild to develop conservation action plans for globally threatened species; one to Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust to build regional capacity for snake conservation; one to Fauna & Flora for regional CSO capacity building; and one to Vermont Center for Ecostudies, also for regional CSO capacity building. Excluding the multi-county grants, the country to have received the largest value of CEPF grants to date is the Dominican Republic, followed by Jamaica, and Antigua and Barbuda. There have been no grants awarded yet in The Bahamas, other than multi-country grants, although this situation is expected to change during the second half of 2024, following targeted outreach by the RIT to CSOs in The Bahamas.

As of 30 June 2024, only two grants had closed: both were small grants to local organizations in Jamaica. The other 34 grants in the portfolio were still active.

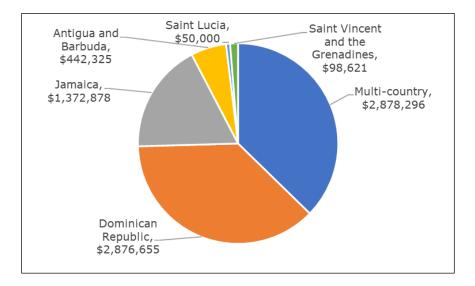


Figure 2. Value of awarded grants by country, June 2024

During the first phase of CEPF investment in the hotspot, Caribbean-based organizations working at local, national and regional levels received 78 percent of the total grant funding, compared with 22 percent for international organizations. During the current phase, CEPF and the RIT have implemented measures to ensure that CEPF grants remain accessible to Caribbean-based organizations, including widely advertising calls for proposals within the hotspot countries, organizing informational calls for prospective applicants, hosting LOI preparation workshops and organizing proposal development "masterclasses" for large grant applicants that reach the full proposal stage.

Nevertheless, as of 30 June 2024, Caribbean-based organizations had received 65 percent of the available funding, compared with 35 percent for international organizations. The overall distribution of funding was strongly influenced by that under Strategic Directions 3 (where international organizations received 85 percent of grant funding) and 5 (where they received 100 percent). This pattern can be explained by the comparative advantage of certain international organizations with regard to species conservation and civil society capacity building: under calls for proposals covering these strategic directions, few competitive applications were received from Caribbean-based organizations. This indicates that the institutional priorities of Caribbean-based organizations overlapped more strongly with other strategic directors, and that their ability to prepare competitive applications has, on the whole, diminished since the first phase, in part due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on retention of experienced staff.

Going forward, CEPF and the RIT will implement additional measures to make CEPF grants accessible to Caribbean-based organizations, especially ones working at local and grassroots levels. These might include restricting some funding opportunities to Caribbean-based organizations and conducting targeted outreach to organizations that did not submit eligible applications under the first seven calls.

4. Performance of CEPF Investment

4.1 Assessment

Implementation of the CEPF investment in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot is largely on track. Excluding the RIT and CSAT grants, \$5.7 million (58 percent) of the \$9.8 million available for grant making has been awarded to 29 different organizations, comprising 18 Caribbean-based and 11 international organizations. While more than half of the available funding for grant making has been committed (and other grant awards are expected soon), awarding grants and implementing them are two separate things. A significant number of awarded grants have encountered implementation delays, and several have already requested amendments to extend their end dates. In particular, the COVID-19 pandemic, which overlapped with the first two years of the investment phase, had several direct impacts on implementation of grants (restrictions on travel and meetings, etc.), as well as indirect impacts on the capacity of CSOs (illness of key members of staff, turnover of staff, changed donor funding priorities, etc.). Several CSOs and their projects were also significantly affected by the impacts of Hurricane Beryl in July 2024. In response to the challenging context for project implementation, the overall duration of the CEPF implementation phase has been extended from five to six years, with an end date of 31 July 2027.

In terms of **coverage**, performance to date has been satisfactory. Of the 29 targets in the logframe of the ecosystem profile, 18 (62 percent) are on track to be met, based on grants awarded to date (Annex 1). As only two grants have closed, these projections are based largely on expected results, rather than actual impacts, which are only reported on by grantees and verified by CEPF and the RIT at grant closure. Also, as mentioned above, only 58% of the funding available for grant making has been awarded. Although overall progress towards the logframe targets is as expected, given the amount of time elapsed and funding committed, it will be necessary to focus the remaining funding on gaps in the grant portfolio, to avoid a situation where some targets are exceeded, and others are not met.

Specifically, all targets under Strategic Directions 3 (species conservation) and 6 (RIT) are on track to be met; these are also the two strategic directions with the lowest proportion of available funding remaining (29 and 0 percent, respectively). There is limited need for additional grant making under Strategic Direction 3 to meet the logframe targets, while the available funding for the RIT grant has already been committed.

Under Strategic Direction 1 (priority sites), only two of the five targets are on track to be met. Two of the other targets are no longer relevant and have been deleted: "three data-deficient sites assessed as KBAs under the 2016 Global KBA Standard", because the sites in question are located in Haiti (two) and Barbados (one), where no grant making is anticipated for the remainder of the investment phase; and "at least seven (50 percent) of the 14 under-protected priority KBAs brought under new or strengthened protection status", because there are limited opportunities to designate new protected areas in the hotspot at the current time, where governments lack the resources to adequately fund the existing protected area estate.

Under Strategic Direction 2 (priority corridors), two out of four targets are on track to be met. More than half of the funding allocation remains uncommitted. This will be needed to meet these targets, especially "at least five participatory local land-use or catchment management plans developed or strengthened to improve ecosystem services and connectivity within conservation corridors", where grants awarded to date are only expected to develop one plan.

Four of the five targets under Strategic Direction 4 (enabling conditions) are on track to be met. The one exception is "at least 10 local, national and regional policies, projects or plans incorporate biodiversity, climate change and ecosystem services in the agricultural, mining, tourism and infrastructural development sectors". Mainstreaming biodiversity into policy and planning is an important role for civil society but one that relatively few organizations have the necessary experience, credibility and interest to play. Only 35 percent of the original funding allocation for this strategic direction remains uncommitted, so it will be important to focus some of these resources towards this target. Moreover, the target of 10 policies, projects or plans was overambitious. Hence, it has been reduced to five.

Finally, under Strategic Direction 5 (civil society), two out of four targets are on track to be met. It seems likely that the other two targets will be met, once additional grants are awarded (some of which are already in the pipeline): "at least 20 civil society networks and alliances enable collective responses to priority and emerging threats", where awarded grants are expected to contribute 15; and "two innovative financing mechanisms for civil society sustainable funding developed", where existing grants are expected to contribute one. Seventy percent of the funding allocation for Strategic Direction 5 remains available, allowing for an increase in grant making for capacity building and networking projects during the second half of the investment phase.

Based on the findings of the mid-term assessment, changes were made to three targets in the portfolio logframe. These are presented in Annex 4, with justifications.

In terms of **efficiency**, the performance of the grant-making process for large grants has been somewhat unsatisfactory. Excluding the CSAT and RIT grants, the average time between LOI submission and grant award for the 18 large grants was 10.7 months (range: 4 to 19 months). This is longer than the optimal length of the grant-making process, which is six months, based on CEPF's experience with grant making in other contexts. Measures have already been put in place to improve the efficiency of the large-grant-making process, including simplifying the LOI and proposal templates, carrying out the programmatic and budgetary reviews in parallel, and enforcing submission deadlines more strictly.

The efficiency of the grant-making process for small grants has been unsatisfactory, especially considering that there are fewer steps in the process, which does not require applicants to prepare a full proposal. The average time between LOI submission and grant award for the 16 small grants was 11 months (range: 3 to 27 months). In part, this is due to small grantees typically having less experience in applying for grants from international funders, and, therefore, requiring more support. Some grants were initially submitted, reviewed and processed as large grant proposals but had to be stepped down to small grant proposals when it became clear that a large grant would not be viable. This extended the processing time between LOI submission and grant

contracting. One contributory factor was challenges with recruiting and retaining staff, which initially constrained the RIT's ability to process small grant applications in a timely fashion, especially considering the simultaneous demands to review applications for large grants and support applicants through the, at times challenging, application process. For example, recruitment of an RIT Country Coordinator for the Dominican Republic was delayed, due to challenges with finding a suitable candidate, and the position was only filled in November 2022, 15 months after the start of the RIT grant. The RIT now has a full complement of staff (Table 2), and, as with large grants, measures have been put in place to increase the efficiency of small grant making.

In terms of **grantee satisfaction**, overall performance to date has been satisfactory. In advance of the mid-term assessment workshop, the RIT circulated an online survey of all grantees; 24 responses were received by the deadline. Regarding calls for proposals, the majority of grantees (58 percent) reported finding the quality of information provided "good" or "excellent", with most of the remainder finding it "neutral" (Figure 3).

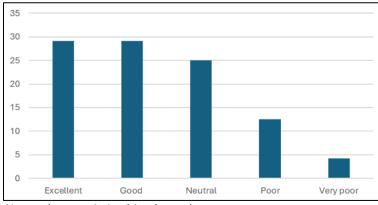
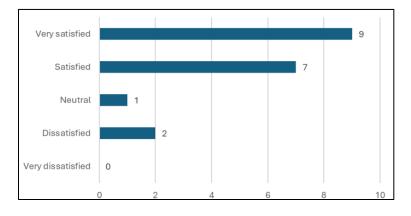


Figure 3. Call for proposals: quality of information

Out of 19 grantees who received guidance from the RIT during the application process (through webinars, one-on-one meetings, proposal development workshops, etc.), the majority (84 percent) reported being "satisfied" or "very satisfied" (Figure 4).





Note: the y-axis in this chart shows percentages.

When grantees were asked to compare CEPF with other donors, in terms the length of time between submission of their LOI and grant award, opinions were divided. Half of them felt that the process was much shorter, and around half felt that it was much longer (Figure 5). This could reflect differences among grantees with their experience of the CEPF grant-making process, as well as their experience with other donors.

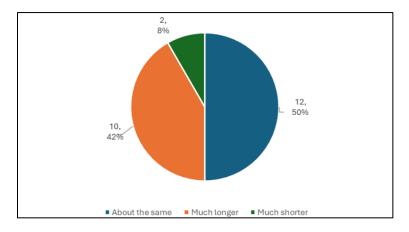


Figure 5. Length of application process: comparison with other donors

Grantees were asked about their experience during implementation with the various CEPF reporting requirements. In every case, a large majority responded that the requirements were "clear" or "somewhat clear". The aspects of reporting that grantees found least clear were CEPF tracking tools (for gender and organizational capacity) and the environmental and social reporting requirements (Figure 6). Nonetheless, grantees found the requirement to communicate the environmental and social policies publicly and explain them to stakeholders helpful in improving the quality of the participatory process.

17	70.83%	
	/0.83%	
4	16.67%	
3	12.5%	

Financial reporting requi	ements	
Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	14	58.33%
Somewhat	9	37.5%
No	1	4.17%

CEPF Tracking Tools reporting requirements

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	7	29.17%
Somewhat	9	37.5%
No	6	25%

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	10	41.67%
Somewhat	7	29.17%
No	6	25%

Understanding of CEPF procurement & FM procedures

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	13	54.17%
Somewhat	8	33.33%
No	3	12.5%

Overall, grantees expressed a high level of satisfaction with the implementation support provided by CEPF and the RIT during the implementation process, with most considering them to be trusted partners (Figure 7).

Response	Frequency	Percentage	Response	Frequency	Percentag
Yes	11	45.83%	Yes	15	62.5%
Somewhat	6	25%	Somewhat	5	20.83%
No	1	4.17%	No	2	8.33%
	support (large & smal	0 ,	RIT as a trusted part		Percentage
Response	Frequency	Percentage	Response	Frequency	Percentage
Response Yes	Frequency 17	Percentage 70.83%	Response Yes	Frequency 18	75%
Response	Frequency	Percentage	Response	Frequency	

Figure 7. Satisfaction with implementation support

The majority of grantees (79 percent) reported that the experience of managing a CEPF grant had "contributed" or "somewhat contributed" to their institutional capacity. Grantees reported that the relationship with CEPF had not only directly enabled them to execute projects but had also left installed technical capacities, strengthening the long-term impact of these projects.

4.2 Summary of Preliminary Impacts

As mentioned above, the final impacts of grants are only reported by the grantee and validated by CEPF and the RIT at grant closure. As so few grants had closed by the time of the mid-term assessment, it was not possible to present a summary of impacts based upon validated results. Instead, the following summary is based upon preliminary impacts reported by grantees at the mid-term assessment workshop in November 2024.

- Management plan for Ebano Verde Scientific Reserve (3,000 hectares) finalized and approved by the Ministry of Environment, Dominican Republic.
- Management plan for Pointe Sable Environmental Protection Area (1,038 hectares), Saint Lucia, revised and updated; sustainable financing plan for the protected area implemented.
- Creation of an ecological corridor (330 hectares) linking Bahoruco Oriental, Sierra de Bahoruco and Bosque Húmedo I and II Nature Reserve, Dominican Republic, and certification of 50 hectares of organic coffee agroforestry in the corridor.
- Restoration of 10 hectares of degraded land in the buffer zone of Sierre de Bahoruco National Park, Dominican Republic with bee-friendly plants, and installation of 60 beehives, managed by a women's cooperative.
- Reforestation of 15 hectares of degraded land in the buffer zone of Montaña La Humeadora National Park, Dominican Republic, with agroforestry systems based on the principle of analogue forestry.

- Restoration of 20 hectares of degraded habitat within Los Haitises National Park, Dominican Republic.
- Development and implementation of a Conservation Action Plan for the cactus, *Consolea spinossima*, Jamaica.
- Development of Conservation Action Plans for five species of globally threatened conifer and palm in the Dominican Republic: *Juniperus gracilior*; *Pinus occidentalis*; *Podocarpus buchii*; *Pseudophoenix ekmanii*; and *Coccothrinax jimenezii*.
- Development and implementation of Conservation Action Plans for Antiguan racer (*Alsophis antiguae*) and St Vincent frog (*Pristimantis shrevei*).
- Actions to conserve central Bahamian rock iguana (*Cyclura rileyi*) incorporated into the draft operational plan for Moriah Harbour Cay National Park in The Bahamas.
- Actions to conserve Bahama oriole (*Icterus northropi*) incorporated into the operational plan for Blue Holes National Park in The Bahamas.
- Development and operationalization of a monitoring protocol for the invasive Cuban tree frog (*Osteopilus septentrionalis*) at Portland Bight Protected Area in Jamaica.
- Establishment of a National Climate Change Association in St Vincent and the Grenadines.
- Creation and training of the Polo Guides Association in Dominican Republic.
- Four organizations with an increase of at least five points in their Civil Society Capacity Tracking Tool score.
- Representatives from 11 CSOs in the Dominican Republic and seven in Antigua and Barbuda trained in using collaborative social accountability.
- One organization with an increased Gender Tracking Tool score.
- One organization with a new gender strategy.

4.3 **Portfolio Investment Highlights by Strategic Direction**

Strategic Direction 1

Strategic Direction 1 aims to improve the protection and management of 33 priority KBAs for long-term sustainability. As of 30 June 2024, nine large and seven small grants had been awarded under this strategic direction.

One of these grants is a small grant to Fundacion de Apoyo al Suroeste (FUNDASUR) for the project *Promotion of Participatory Management of the Miguel Domingo Fuerte Natural Monument Wildlife Refuge (Bahoruco Oriental), Dominican Republic*, which aims to strengthen the management of Padre Miguel Domingo Fuertes Natural Monument in the Dominican Republic by preparing a management plan for the protected area and drafting the first annual operational plan. In August 2024, the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources took an important step towards strengthening governance of the protected area by signing a co-management agreement with CSOs and academic institutions active at the site. Among the signatories were FUNDASUR and another CEPF grantee: Sociedad Ornitológica de la Hispaniola (SOH Conservación). The signatories to the agreement form a co-management council, which will oversee conservation efforts, implement management strategies and foster community engagement. This co-management agreement reflects a growing commitment to participatory governance and collaborative conservation in the Dominican Republic.

Strategic Direction 2

Strategic Direction 2 aims to increase landscape-level connectivity and ecosystem resilience in seven priority corridors. Only two large grants and four small grants had been awarded under this strategic direction by 30 June 2024.

One of the small grants was to Fondazione AVSI for the project *Promoting Conservation through Beekeeping in Sierra de Bahoruco National Park, Dominican Republic*. This was one of only two grants to have closed by the mid-point of the investment phase. The project aimed to mitigate agricultural encroachment into Sierra de Bahoruco National Park, by supporting the adoption of beekeeping for sustainable livelihoods among buffer zone communities. Under this project, Fondazione AVSI provided training in the proper management of apiaries for more than 40 beekeepers, complemented by actions to reforest 10 hectares of degraded land with native tree species with high value for beekeeping. As well as increasing honey production, these actions triggered a payment for ecosystem services scheme that benefited local communities. In addition, Fondazione AVSI carried out a public training and awareness-raising campaign, primarily targeting youth, and focused on disseminating information about environmental and bioecological issues relevant to the region.

Strategic Direction 3

Strategic Direction 3 aims to safeguard priority Critically Endangered and Endangered species. By the mid-point of the investment phase, six large grants and one small grant had been awarded under this strategic direction, focusing on the conservation of conifers, other threatened plants, birds, reptiles and an amphibian.

One of the grants focused on conservation of threatened plants is the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) project *Preparing Conservation Action Plans for Jamaica's Threatened Plants*. Under this project, IUCN is working in close collaboration with Jamaican civil society and government authorities to prepare conservation action plans for threatened plant species in priority KBAs, and to support plant data compilation by Jamaican botanists. This project addresses an ongoing impediment to the conservation of plant species in the Caribbean Islands, namely the relatively low number of species that have been globally assessed against the IUCN Red List categories and criteria. While there are more than 11,000 species of seed plants occurring in the hotspot, only 952 have, to date, been assessed for inclusion on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. In April 2024, IUCN collaborated with Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and the University of the West Indies to host a three-day workshop to train 22 Jamaican botanists from civil society, academia and government in the Red Listing process. Having successfully completed the workshop, participants completed assessments for endemic plant species in Jamaica.

Strategic Direction 4

Strategic Direction 4 aims to improve a range of enabling conditions designed to promote biodiversity conservation in countries with priority sites. By 30 June 2024, CEPF had awarded one large grant under this strategic direction, to INTEC, to implement the CSAT, while the RIT had awarded three small grants.

The small grants include one to Southern Trelawny Environmental Agency (STEA) for the project *Using Nature-based Tourism to Strengthen Biodiversity Conservation in the Cockpit Country, Jamaica*. This is the second grant to have closed by the mid-point of the investment phase. Its successful completion marked a significant milestone in promoting community-driven tourism in Cockpit Country KBA, which provides sustainable income-generating opportunities for local communities, as well as presenting an alternative development vision to bauxite mining. STEA carried out a market assessment of three Cockpit Country communities (Bunker's Hill, Madras and Sawyers), evaluating their potential as valuable additions to the offerings of its affiliated social enterprise, Cockpit Country Adventure Tours, and developed a marketing strategy, focused on preserving and enhancing each community's unique natural heritage. STEA then implemented the marketing strategy, leveraging social media to promote eco-tour packages and collaborating with other communities to develop innovative tourism products.

Strategic Direction 5

Strategic Direction 5 aims to support Caribbean civil society conserve biodiversity by building local, national and regional institutional capacity and fostering collaboration. As of 30 June 2024, only one large grant and one small grant had been awarded under this strategic direction.

The large grant was awarded Fauna & Flora for the project *Building Caribbean Civil Society Capacity in Delivering Sustainable Financial Strategies*, which aims to strengthen the financial resilience of CSOs working at priority KBAs, with a focus on four CSOs in Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Lucia, and St Vincent and the Grenadines. To this end, the project is supporting the development and implementation of sustainable financing plans, providing training and mentoring on project design and fundraising, and promoting eco-tourism products. In April 2024, a sustainable financial planning workshop was conducted for the four partner CSOs, on Union Island, St Vincent and the Grenadines. Training sessions were delivered by experts in organizational resilience and finance, and partner organizations developed draft financial sustainability plans. Also, an experiential training, involving visits to multiple ecotourism operators in Dominica, was organized for the partners. Following this visit, the partner organizations were supported to develop draft ecotourism plans, and some have already piloted ecotourism products.

Strategic Direction 6

Strategic Direction 6 supports the RIT. As described elsewhere, CEPF has awarded a large grant to CANARI, to provide strategic leadership and local knowledge to advance CEPF's goals in the hotspot. The RIT also plays a central role in building the capacity of civil society groups in designing, implementing and replicating successful conservation activities. In addition, the RIT is responsible for supporting collaborative social accountability in St Vincent and the Grenadines, and The Bahamas.

4.4 Challenges and Lessons Learned

The grantees who completed the online survey in preparation for the mid-term assessment workshop highlighted two challenges in particular. The first was complexity of multiple donor procedures. Grantees reported that, sometimes, it is a bit complicated to adjust to the processes and procedures of different funding institutions, when each one has its own procedures, forms, monitoring and evaluation, which often causes confusion in the recipient institution. The second was administrative burden and reporting frequency. In general, grantees found CEPF's management processes and procedures to be intense and to require a great deal of administrative work compared with other donors providing similar amounts of funding. The quarterly frequency of financial reports may have added to this perception, as well as the initial requirement for grantees to submit all monitoring tools annually, which was adjusted in February 2024 to submissions at the start and the end of projects only.

All CEPF grantees were invited to give presentations at the workshop. As part of these presentations, they were asked to reflect on the main challenges they had encountered when implementing their projects and to share lessons learned. Many of these challenges and lessons learned were context-specific and unique to individual projects. However, some common themes emerged, which are summarized in this section.

One set of challenges identified by grantees related to geography. The impacts of adverse climatic conditions and extreme weather events, particularly Hurricane Beryl, were identified as a challenge by 12 grantees, making this the most-commonly cited challenge. Grantees also mentioned the cost and difficulty of travel within the Caribbean region, including difficulties in accessing remote areas and in obtaining suitable vehicles to conduct fieldwork, as well as limited availability of needed equipment.

Another set of challenges concerned relationships with stakeholders. Grantees reported challenges with involving local communities and other stakeholders at project sites. They highlighted the difficulty of involving all interested parties, and of maintaining the interest of local communities in conservation. Grantees also reported challenges involving their relationship with government partners, including slow official responses to request for permissions to conduct fieldwork, turnover of staff at key government institutions, and the additional time needed to coordinate implementation of workplans with the relevant authorities.

A third set of challenges related to internal constraints at the grantee organizations. Grantees reported difficulties with recruiting and retaining staff, especially because they were unable to offer high, stable salaries. Several grantees reported a reduction in staff numbers during the COVID-19 pandemic. These staffing challenges have contributed to a situation where CSOs are overstretched. Because many people working for CSOs are too busy with daily tasks, it is difficult for them to participate effectively in trainings, or to find time for long-term planning.

The fourth set of challenges identified by grantees were donor-related constraints. In some cases, the administrative processes involved with CEPF grants, particularly those related to procurement, had contributed to implementation delays. Also, grantees called for greater flexibility in use of grant funding, because they were not in a position to finance discretionary expenses. Several grantees reflected that they had budgeted insufficient staff time to comply with CEPF administrative and reporting requirements, and that they needed to be more realistic in future grant applications.

The first set of lessons learned related to community engagement. The most widely shared lesson, mentioned by 12 grantees, was the importance of community involvement. Grantees related that community engagement is key to the success of long-term conservation programs. Therefore, it is important to have open communication with communities, and to maintain continuous presence in the

communities, to generate bonds of trust. Grantees emphasized the importance of including all demographic groups in the design and implementation of conservation actions. Another lesson was the need to facilitate dialogue between communities and authorities to seek a common vision for conservation, because participatory governance of natural resources is key to conservation. Grantees also highlighted the importance of identifying alternative and sustainable livelihoods, to take pressure off natural resources, and foster more harmonious relationships between local communities and protected area authorities.

The second set of lessons concerned government relations. Grantees noted that collaboration with government (and private sector) actors is key, and that clear expectations and shared responsibilities must be established among all parties involved in a conservation project. To this end, it is important for CSOs to plan sufficient time to undertake proper consultation with government stakeholders and obtain any necessary permissions. Also, it is important that project workplans align with the strategic objectives and priorities established by government.

The third set of lessons related to public awareness. Several grantees noted that public awareness is critical to project success. To this end, they recommended investing resources in education and public outreach, using simple, clear messages, repeated many times, and taking advantage of social media to reach a wide audience.

Finally, grantees shared some lessons related to project management. Grantees shared that adaptive management and flexibility about scheduling activities are key to keeping project implementation on track in the face of external events, such as hurricanes. Grantees recommended building in some contingency periods, to avoid unanticipated delays impacting overall project delivery, and to building capacity in adaptive management and problem solving. Another lesson, specific to their experience as CEPF grantees, was the need to budget for dedicated administrative and financial management staff, to comply with donor requirements.

5. Priorities for Second Half of the Investment Phase

The remaining uncommitted funds (\$4.1 million) will be deployed in the second half of the investment phase (July 2024 to July 2027). Gaps in the portfolio with respect to the targets in the ecosystem profile logframe will be addressed through targeted grant making, including by issuing targeted calls for proposals and, if required, soliciting grants by invitation. At the portfolio objective level, the key gaps are with regard to the following targets: "33 KBAs covering 1,174,380 hectares have strengthened management, as guided by sustainable management plans", where awarded grants are expect to contribute only nine KBAs; and "at least 40,000 hectares within production landscapes are under improved management for biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services", where awarded grants are expected to contribute only 567 hectares. The target of 33 KBAs with strengthened management needs to be revised, to make it more realistic. In particular, seven of the 33 KBAs prioritized for CEPF investment in the ecosystem profile are in Haiti, where no grant making is anticipated in this investment phase. The target of 40,000 hectares within production landscapes, while ambitious, is, nevertheless, achievable with the right combination of

targeted grant making and outreach to potential applicants working in production landscapes in the conservation corridors around priority KBAs.

During the mid-term assessment workshop, facilitated discussions were organized among stakeholders to get their input on priorities for the second half of the investment phase under four tracks:

- Emerging trends in biodiversity conservation and regional and national needs.
- Mapping initiatives and opportunities for enhanced collaboration.
- Improving efficiency and effectiveness of administration of the CEPF Caribbean Islands program.
- Capturing impact and significant change.

5.1 Emerging Trends in Biodiversity Conservation

Stakeholders noted that there had been changes in the conservation landscape in the Caribbean Islands since the ecosystem profile was prepared. They pointed to an increased number of actors, more partnerships and a growing momentum for policy change. They also emphasized increased involvement of the private sector with social issues. To enable better engagement of conservation CSOs with private companies, they recommended that more attention be given to how biodiversity intersects with social issues and climate change.

In terms of engagement with public sector institutions, stakeholders felt that governments were showing greater interest in policy reform and international commitments regarding the environment. The emphasized the need for local investments (by CEPF and other funders) to align with international targets (Montreal Protocol, Global Biodiversity Framework, Nationally Determined Contributions, etc.). They identified a need to improved management of KBAs, through development of management plans and stakeholder engagement.

Climate change was a major concern among stakeholders. The scale of the challenge posed by climate change is growing, due to the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events (storms, droughts, etc.) affecting biodiversity and CSO operations.

Recommendations

- Provide flexible funding: Allow more discretionary funding to address emerging needs, such as behavioral change, communication and climate adaptation.
- Facilitate frequent grantee meetings: Organize regular, in-person or virtual meetings for grantees to share experiences, challenges and strategies.
- Adapt ecosystem profile criteria: Revise or make more flexible the definitions of priorities to include threats outside KBAs and species that are not on the current priority species list¹.

¹ This recommendation was adopted following the mid-term assessment, and 42 species were added to the list of priority species, following an open call for nominations, which was restricted to Critically Endangered and Endangered species that occur in one or more of the priority sites for CEPF investment. The revised list of priority species is presented in Annex 5.

- Increase focus on climate change adaptation: Support projects that specifically address climate change impacts on biodiversity in the Caribbean.
- Support grantees in climate change engagement: Help grantees integrate climate change impacts into their projects, including providing guidance on how to adapt strategies.
- Facilitate knowledge exchange among grantees: Organize workshops or platforms for grantees to share knowledge on integrating emerging trends into their conservation work.
- Ensure alignment with regional priorities: Help grantees align their work with regional, national and international biodiversity frameworks.

5.2 Mapping Initiatives and Opportunities for Enhanced Collaboration

Stakeholders recognized the value of collaboration, especially in small islands, and called for more formal and informal spaces for grantees, governments and other stakeholders to collaborate. However, they identified barriers to effective communication and coordination. In particular, there is a gap in ensuring that all relevant stakeholders, including national authorities, are aware of ongoing projects and their impact. Also, there is a need for better sharing of existing initiatives and tools, to reduce duplication of effort and enhance synergies. Stakeholders also suggested that grantees would benefit from mentoring and coordination during proposal formulation and project implementation. These are all things that the RIT can do directly and/or support through the award of targeted small grants.

Recommendations

- Strengthen Collaborative Platforms: Develop accessible platforms (e.g., a dedicated website, online tools) to help stakeholders identify synergies.
- Facilitate inception workshops/meetings at the start of funding cycles: Organize workshops early in the funding cycle where partners can meet, identify collaborative opportunities, and form partnerships.
- Encourage joint proposals and consortia: Support the formation of consortia for projects with similar objectives, to increase impact and reduce duplication.
- Improve communication tools: Enhance communication infrastructure for better coordination, information exchange and visibility of ongoing projects.
- Assist grantees to build partnerships: Proactively facilitate connections among grantees working on similar projects, to foster collaboration and mentorship.
- Provide guidance on effective communication: Equip grantees with tools and resources to improve internal and external communication, ensuring better coordination with partners and stakeholders.
- Monitor and map collaborative outcomes: Track and report on collaboration progress and synergies across grantee initiatives, and make this information accessible to all stakeholders.

5.3 Improving Efficiency and Effectiveness of Administration of the CEPF Caribbean Islands Program

Stakeholders highlighted the administrative challenges faced by grantees, including tight timelines, frequent reporting, and complex financial reporting. In particular,

financial reporting was considered burdensome. Grantees reported finding financial reporting requirements overly detailed, leading to delays in fund disbursement and project implementation. The grant review and approval process was too long in some cases, leading to delays in projects starting, and conditions changing from those in the original proposal. A few grantees also mentioned a perceived lack of trust in their abilities, particularly with regard to financial management, which had caused unnecessary friction.

Recommendations

- Simplify administrative processes: Streamline reporting processes, reduce the frequency and complexity of financial reporting, and offer more flexibility in budgets and timelines.
- Enhance communication on reporting expectations: Provide clearer guidance to grantees about reporting requirements and the level of detail needed.
- Speed up the grant approval process: Reduce the time between proposal submission and award, to allow quicker implementation of projects.
- Build trust with grantees: Demonstrate trust in grantees' abilities by adopting a more supportive, collaborative approach to grant management.
- Provide administrative support to grantees: Offer dedicated support to help grantees navigate reporting and financial processes more effectively.
- Streamline RIT processes: Align internal RIT practices with simplified CEPF processes for faster response times and smoother implementation for grantees.
- Enhance grantee capacity for reporting: Provide training and resources to help grantees better understand and meet reporting and budgetary requirements.

5.4 Capturing Impact and Significant Change

Stakeholders felt that CEPF could do more to ensure that its projects had more influence on policy and greater conservation impact at the regional level. They noted that CEPF-funded projects have contributed to multi-stakeholder engagement and coordination, particularly for conservation of priority sites, but need to influence policy more directly. To this end, they suggested that grantees should focus more on engaging with policymakers at local levels to influence biodiversity-related decisions, rather than with national governments.

Stakeholders raised concerns about the sustainability of CEPF investments. They noted that projects need to be linked to national frameworks to ensure long-term sustainability but recognized that there are challenges in doing so. Stakeholders pointed to a widespread need for more consistent and engaging communication, especially with local communities, to showcase project impacts and foster knowledge sharing.

Recommendations

- Develop a clear impact measurement framework: Revise the framework for capturing impact, with indicators for long-term sustainability and policy impact.
- Increase investment in communication resources: Dedicate more resources to project communication, including storytelling, media outreach and local community engagement.
- Create communities of practice: Foster platforms where grantees can share best practices, lessons learned and success stories, to enhance collective impact.

- Integrate grantee results into national reporting: Facilitate integration of CEPFfunded projects into national biodiversity frameworks, ensuring alignment with national goals and reporting.
- Monitor long-term impact: Actively track and assess long-term impact and sustainability outcomes of projects, ensuring alignment with national and regional frameworks.
- Enhance communication with local communities: Provide support for grantees in engaging with local communities, ensuring accessible communication about project results and conservation benefits.
- Promote impact reporting best practices: Encourage consistent and clear reporting practices to demonstrate the long-term significance and impact of CEPF-funded projects
- Strengthen capacity for communication and advocacy: Offer additional resources to grantees for communication and advocacy efforts, improving their ability to capture and share project impacts.

6. Conclusion

By the mid-point of the investment phase, overall progress with implementation was satisfactory. In addition to strategic grants for the RIT and CSAT, a portfolio of 34 grants has been developed, accounting for \$5.7 million (58 percent) of the \$9.8 million available for grant making to CSOs. There is also a strong pipeline of grants, and the size of the grant portfolio is anticipated to grow steadily over the coming year. So far, CEPF grants have been awarded to 29 different organizations, comprising 18 Caribbean-based and 11 international organizations. Caribbean-based organizations have received 65 percent of the available funding so far, although this percentage is expected to increase going forwards.

There remain some gaps in the grant portfolio, especially with regard to improving management of biodiversity within production landscapes, and incorporating biodiversity, climate change and ecosystem services into local, national and regional policies, projects or plans. Sufficient funding remains uncommitted and there is enough time remaining to fill most of these gaps, although some of the targets in the portfolio logframe may need to be revised, because they are no longer achievable. In particular, the deteriorating security situation has prevented grant making in Haiti, where seven of the 33 priority sites are located.

Feedback from grantees indicates that, overall, they are satisfied with their experience, and appreciative of the support provided by CEPF and the RIT throughout the granting cycle. Nevertheless, during the mid-term assessment, grantees identified some areas for improvement, especially with the duration of the grant review and approval process, and with the complexity of financial reporting requirements. CEPF and the RIT have already begun taking action to simplify their administrative processes (proposal review, reporting, financial management) and offer greater flexibility for grantees.

Other recommendations made during the mid-term assessment that will be adopted include:

- Increasing collaboration and synergy among grantees through inception workshops, joint proposals, and platforms for knowledge sharing.
- Ensuring alignment of CEPF-funded project with national and regional biodiversity frameworks, and supporting fundraising and business planning, to enhance long-term sustainability.
- Providing dedicated support to grantees in navigating CEPF processes; offering guidance on reporting, financial management and project implementation.
- Strengthening investment in communications and outreach, to ensure effective engagement with local communities, public sector institutions and the wider public about the impact of conservation efforts.

Annex 1: Results against Targets in the Portfolio Logframe

Global Objective	Goals and Indicators	Results
Support the conservation	Biodiversity	
of biodiversity within the global hotspots by engaging and strengthening the capacity of civil society	 <u>Goal</u>: Improve the status of globally significant biodiversity in critical ecosystems within hotspots <u>Indicators</u>: Number of globally threatened species benefiting from conservation action. Number of hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas with improved management. Number of hectares of protected areas created and/or expanded. Number of hectares of production landscapes 	 globally threatened species have benefited from preparation of conservation action plans and/or implementation of priority actions: 5 conifers and palms in the Dominican Republic. 1 cactus in Jamaica. Bahama oriole. Central Bahamian rock iguana. Antiguan racer. St Vincent frog.
	 Civil Society Goal: Strengthen the capacity of civil society to be effective as environmental stewards and advocates for the conservation of globally significant biodiversity. Indicators: Number of CEPF grantees with improved organizational capacity. Number of CEPF grantees with improved understanding of and commitment to gender issues. Number of networks and partnerships that have been created and/or strengthened. 	4 CEPF grantees have demonstrated improved capacity per the civil society tracking tool.
	 Human Well-being Goal: Improve the well-being of people living in and dependent on critical ecosystems within hotspots. Indicators: Number of people receiving structured training. Number of people receiving non-cash benefits other than structured training. Number of people receiving cash benefits. Number of projects promoting nature-based solutions to combat climate change. Amount of CO₂e sequestered in CEPF-supported natural habitats. 	277 women and 242 men have received structured training.
	 Enabling Conditions for Conservation Goal: Establish the conditions needed for the conservation of globally significant biodiversity. Indicators: Number of laws, regulations, and policies with conservation provisions that have been enacted or amended. Number of sustainable financing mechanisms that are delivering funds for conservation. Number of companies that adopt biodiversity- friendly practices. 	No results to report yet.

Portfolio Objective	Targets	Results
Engage civil society in the conservation of globally	Thirty-three KBAs covering 1,174,380 hectares have strengthened management, as guided by sustainable management plans.	9 grants aim to strengthen management of 9 KBAs covering 1,958,861 hectares.
threatened biodiversity through targeted investments with maximum impact on the highest conservation and	At least 40,000 hectares of the 2,345,311 hectares within production landscapes are under improved management for biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services.	6 grants aim to improve biodiversity management of 567 hectares within production landscapes.
ecosystem services priorities.	At least five local development plans, projects or policies mainstream biodiversity and ecosystem services, with a focus on tourism, mining, unsustainable agriculture and infrastructure development.	3 grants aim to mainstream biodiversity into 4 development plans in the agriculture and tourism sectors.
Intermediate Outcomes	Intermediate Indicators	Results
protection and	At least 75 percent (678,044 hectares) of the 19 existing protected areas in the priority sites, totaling 904,059 hectares experience, on average, a 15 percent improvement on the Protected Area Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool.	11 grants aim to improve the management of 516,928 hectares within 12 existing protected areas.
\$4,500,000	At least seven (50 percent) of the 14 under- protected priority KBAs brought under new or strengthened protection status.	Awarded grants do not aim to protect any under- protected priority KBAs.
	Climate change resilience integrated into 100 percent of management plans developed or updated with CEPF support.	7 grants aim to integrate climate change resilience into 8 management plans.
	At least 10 participatory or collaborative management arrangements developed or strengthened.	8 grants aim to develop such arrangements for 12 priority KBAs.
	Three data-deficient sites assessed as KBAs under the 2016 Global KBA Standard.	Awarded grants do not aim to assess any data deficient sites.
	At least five participatory local land-use or catchment management plans developed or strengthened to improve ecosystem services and connectivity within conservation corridors.	1 grant aims to strengthen 1 plan (for Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco).
\$1,000,000	Climate change resilience integrated into 100 percent of landscape-level plans developed.	1 grant (100%) aims to integrate climate change resilience into the plan.
	At least three conservation-based enterprises (e.g. nature-based tourism, conservation coffee and cacao, sustainable fisheries, etc.) developed in communities within the priority conservation corridors.	13 grants aim to develop 104 conservation-based enterprises (nature-based tourism, conservation coffee, beekeeping, etc.)
	Three businesses and/or their associations influenced to better incorporate biodiversity conservation into business and production practices, strategies and policies.	Awarded grants do not aim to influence any businesses or their associations.

Outcome 3. Safeguard priority Critically Endangered and Endangered species.	Conservation plans developed and implemented for at least 20 priority Critically Endangered and Endangered species.	14 grants aim to develop conservation plans for 40 priority species.
\$1,000,000	At least five species or species-group management plans and programs updated to integrate climate change responses.	11 grants aim to integrate climate change into plans for 54 species.
	IUCN Red List updated with assessments of at least three priority plant families	2 grants aim to update assessments of 8 plant families.
	At least 50 CEPF priority species benefit from conservation actions through CEPF-supported management plans and their implementation.	15 grants aim to benefit the conservation of 66 priority species.
Outcome 4. Improve the enabling conditions for biodiversity conservation in countries with priority sites.	At least 10 local, national and regional policies, projects or plans incorporate biodiversity, climate change and ecosystem services in the agricultural, mining, tourism and infrastructural development sectors.	Awarded grants do not aim to influence any policies, projects or plans in these sectors.
\$1,000,000	Three small-scale climate change demonstration projects in priority sites and conservation corridors planned and implemented to illustrate the benefits of biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services for adaption and mitigation.	3 grantees aim to implement small-scale climate change demonstration projects.
	At least two sustainable financing mechanisms or programs include CEPF priority sites in their programming.	2 grants aim to include CEPF priority sites into 4 sustainable financing mechanisms.
	Three private sector demonstration projects planned and implemented in support of biodiversity conservation.	3 grants aim to implement 5 private sector demonstration projects.
	Awareness of, and support for, conservation issues increased among stakeholders in least 10 priority sites.	20 grants aim to increase awareness at 14 priority sites.

Outcome 5. Support Caribbean civil society to conserve biodiversity by building local, national and regional institutional	At least 15 local CSOs demonstrate improved performance with gender mainstreaming (at least 10 percent increase).	34 grants aim to improve the performance of 18 local CSOs with gender mainstreaming.
capacity and fostering stakeholder collaboration \$1,000,000	At least 20 local CSOs demonstrate improved organizational capacity (at least 10 percent increase).	34 grants aim to improve the capacity of 20 local CSOs; 4 CSOs have already demonstrated improved capacity.
	At least 20 civil society networks and alliances enable collective responses to priority and emerging threats.	10 grants aim to strengthened 15 networks and alliances.
	Two innovative financing mechanisms for civil society sustainable funding developed.	1 grant aims to develop 1 innovative financing mechanism for civil society (in Antigua and Barbuda).
Outcome 6 . Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of CEPF investment through a Regional Implementation Team	At least 50 CSOs, including at least 40 local organizations, actively participate in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile.	56 CSOs, including 45 local organizations, are actively participating in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile.
\$1,500,000		The RIT aims to ensure that 75 percent of local grantees meet or exceed expectations.
	At least 30 CSOs supported by CEPF secure follow- up funding to promote the sustainability of their CEPF grants.	The RIT aims to ensure that 30 CSOs secure follow-up funding.
		1 participatory assessment has been undertaken: the mid-term assessment in November 2024. The final assessment will be undertaken at the end of the investment phase.

Note: Data are accurate as of 31 December 2024.

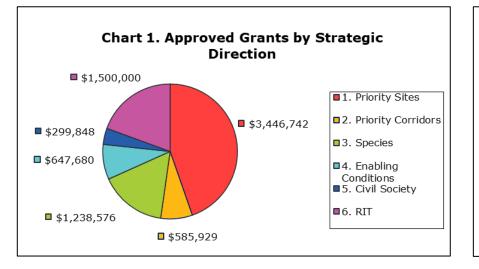
Annex 2: List of Awarded Grants, as of 30 June 2024

No.	Grantee	Project Title and Link to CEPF Website	Countries	Amount	Start Date	End Date
Strat	egic Direction 1: Improve the	e protection and management of 33 pr	iority sites for long-	term sustain	ability	
1	American Bird Conservancy	Removal of Alien Invasive Species for Habitat Restoration in Isla Alto Velo, Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	\$477,376	7/1/2024	12/31/202 6
2	Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation	Management Planning and Implementation in the Portland Bight Protected Area, Jamaica	Jamaica	\$448,484	7/1/2022	9/30/2025
3	Environmental Awareness Group	Accelerating Locally-led Conservation Action at Key Biodiversity Areas in Antigua and Barbuda	Antigua and Barbuda	\$393,385	5/1/2023	4/30/2026
4	Fondazione AVSI	Strengthened Management of Parque Nacional Lago Enriquillo, Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	\$360,032	7/1/2024	6/30/2026
5	Fundacion CI-Atabey	<u>Controlling Invasive Species in the</u> Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	\$43,065	5/1/2024	4/30/2025
6	Fundacion CODESPA	Ecotourism Development and Management Planning in Cabo Samana, Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	\$320,581	6/1/2024	5/31/2026
7	Fundacion de Apoyo al Suroeste (FUNDASUR)	Promotion of Participatory Management of the Miguel Domingo Fuerte Natural Monument Wildlife Refuge (Bahoruco Oriental), Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	\$49,964	10/1/2023	1/31/2025
8	Fundación José Delio Guzmán	Reducing Threats in Valle Nuevo National Park, Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	\$209,892	7/1/2022	2/28/2025
9	Fundación para el Mejoramiento Humano	Update of the Management Plan for the Ebano Verde Scientific Reserve, Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	\$49,473	7/1/2023	11/30/202 4
10	Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral, Inc.	<u>Management Planning and</u> <u>Implementation in Parque Nacional</u> <u>Montaña La Humeadora, Dominican</u> <u>Republic</u>	Dominican Republic	\$215,224	7/1/2023	6/30/2025
11	International Iguana Foundation	Protecting the Jamaican Rock Iguana from Threats Posed by Invasive Species, Hellshire Hills, Portland Bight Protected Area, Jamaica	Jamaica	\$49,946	7/1/2023	6/30/2025

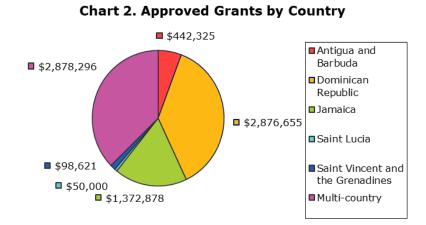
No.	Grantee	Project Title and Link to CEPF Website	Countries	Amount	Start Date	End Date
12	Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust	Improving Management of the Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park, Jamaica	Jamaica	\$252,881	4/1/2024	3/31/2027
13	Jamaica Environment Trust	<u>Climate Change Assessment and</u> <u>Adaptation Plan for Cockpit Country,</u> <u>Jamaica</u>	Jamaica	\$47,144	1/1/2023	1/31/2024
14	JEMS Environment Management Services	<u>Climate and Conservation Risk Mapping</u> <u>Initiative in St Vincent and the</u> <u>Grenadines</u>	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	\$48,635	3/1/2024	4/30/2025
15	Saint Lucia National Trust	Establishing the Enabling Environment for Sustainable Management of the Point Sable Environmental Protected Area, Saint Lucia	Saint Lucia	\$50,000	1/1/2023	9/30/2024
16	Sociedad Ornitologica de la Hispaniola	<u>Threat Mitigation in Sierra de Bahoruco</u> <u>and Bahoruco Oriental Key Biodiversity</u> <u>Areas, Dominican Republic</u>	Dominican Republic	\$430,661	7/1/2022	6/30/2025
Strat	tegic Direction 2: Increase lar	ndscape-level connectivity and ecosys	tem resilience in sev	en priority c	orridors	
17	Dolphin Head Local Forest Management Committee Cooperative Society	Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods Through Ecotourism in the Dolphin Head Forest Reserve, Jamaica	Jamaica	\$47,751	12/1/2023	2/28/2025
18	Fondazione AVSI	Promoting Conservation through Beekeeping in Sierra de Bahoruco National Park, Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	\$120,515	1/1/2023	3/31/2025
19	Fundacion CI-Atabey	Ecosystem-based Adaptation and Biodiversity Conservation at Los Haitises, Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	\$271,161	7/1/2024	12/31/202 6
20	Northern Cockpit Country Local Forest Management Committee Benevolent Society	<u>Maintaining Biodiversity Through</u> <u>Sustainable Livelihoods and</u> <u>Environmental Awareness in Northern</u> <u>Cockpit Country, Jamaica</u>	Jamaica	\$47,022	6/1/2023	3/31/2025
21	Sawyers Local Forest Management Committee Benevolent Society	Preserving Biodiversity Through Sustainable Alternative Livelihoods Within the Cockpit Country, Jamaica	Jamaica	\$50,000	12/1/2023	2/28/2025
22	South East Cockpit Country Local Forest Management Committee Benevolent Society	Promoting and Supporting Sustainable Livelihoods in South East Cockpit Country, Jamaica	Jamaica	\$49,480	12/1/2023	5/31/2025

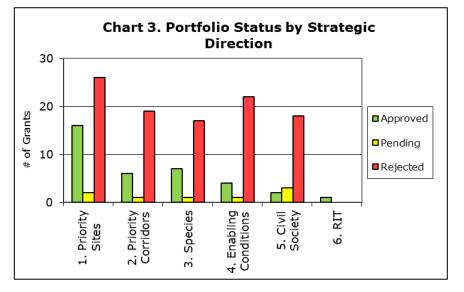
No.	Grantee	Project Title and Link to CEPF Website	Countries	Amount	Start Date	End Date
Strat	egic Direction 3: Safeguard p	riority Critically Endangered and Enda	angered species			
23	BirdsCaribbean	Developing a Conservation Action Plan for the Endangered Whistling Warbler in the Cumberland Forest Reserve and the Central Mountain Range, St. Vincent	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	\$49,986	12/1/2022	11/30/202 5
24	Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust	Conserving the Saint Lucia Racer and Strengthening Regional Capacity for Racer Conservation	Antigua and Barbuda; Saint Lucia	\$241,834	4/1/2023	3/31/2026
25	International Union for Conservation of Nature	<u>Conservation Action Plans for</u> <u>Threatened Conifers and Palms in the</u> <u>Dominican Republic</u>	Dominican Republic	\$112,626	7/1/2022	6/30/2024
26	International Union for Conservation of Nature	Preparing Conservation Action Plans for Jamaica's Threatened Plants	Jamaica	\$147,106	6/1/2023	2/28/2025
27	Jamaica Environment Trust	Implementing the Jamaican Blackbird Conservation Action Plan, Jamaica	Jamaica	\$183,742	6/1/2024	5/31/2026
28	Re:wild	Call to Action: Conservation Action Plans for Endangered Caribbean Species	Antigua and Barbuda; Bahamas; Jamaica; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	\$336,614	3/1/2023	2/28/2026
29	The Peregrine Fund	Conservation Action Planning and Implementation for Ridgway's Hawk, Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	\$166,668	8/1/2023	1/31/2025
Strat	egic Direction 4: Improve the	e enabling conditions for biodiversity o	conservation in count	tries with pri	iority sites	
30	Fitches Creek Residents Association	Building a Community Constituency for Conservation of Fitches Creek Bay and the Northeast Marine Management Area, Antigua and Barbuda	Antigua and Barbuda	\$48,940	7/1/2023	6/30/2025
31	Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral, Inc.	Improving the Capacity and Enabling Conditions for the Protection of Key Biodiversity Areas of the Dominican Republic	Dominican Republic	\$49,417	6/1/2024	5/31/2025
32	Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC)	Promoting Collaborative Social Accountability in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot	Antigua and Barbuda; Dominican Republic; Jamaica; Saint Lucia	\$500,000	9/1/2021	8/31/2025

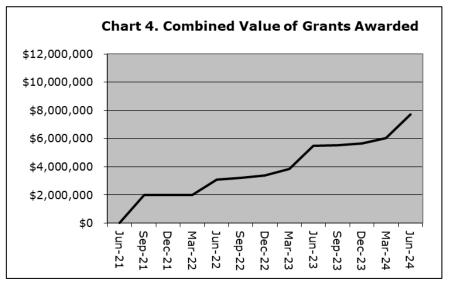
No.	Grantee	Project Title and Link to CEPF Website	Countries	Amount	Start Date	End Date
33	Southern Trelawny Environmental Agency	Using Nature-based Tourism to Strengthen Biodiversity Conservation in the Cockpit Country, Jamaica	Jamaica	\$49,323	1/1/2023	2/28/2024
	egic Direction 5: Support Car autional capacity and fosterin	ibbean civil society to conserve biodiv g stakeholder collaboration	versity by building loc		-	
34	Fauna & Flora International	Building Sustainable Financial Capacity for Caribbean Civil Society Organizations	Antigua and Barbuda; Bahamas; Dominican Republic; Jamaica; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		6/1/2023	5/31/2025
35	Vermont Center for Ecostudies	Implementing the Conservation Standards Online Training Workshop Pilot Project in the Caribbean Islands	Antigua and Barbuda; Bahamas; Dominican Republic; Jamaica; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines		4/1/2024	3/31/2025
	egic Direction 6: Provide stra ementation Team	tegic leadership and effective coordin	ation of CEPF investr	nent througl	n a Regional	
36	Caribbean Natural Resources Institute	<u>CEPF Regional Implementation Team</u> for the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity <u>Hotspot</u>	Hotspot-wide	\$1,500,000	8/1/2021	7/31/2026



Annex 3. CEPF Investment in the Caribbean Islands, as of 30 June 2024







Annex 4. Changes to Targets in the Portfolio Logframe

Intermediate Outcome	Intermediate Indicators	Original Target	Revised Target	Justification
Outcome 1. Improve the protection and management of 33 priority sites for long-term sustainability.	Number (and percentage) of the 14 under-protected priority KBAs brought under new or strengthened protection status.		0 (0 percent)	None of the grants awarded to date aim to protect any under-protected priority KBAs. Of the 14 sites, two are in Haiti, where no activities are expected. There are limited opportunities for civil society to promote expansion of protected areas, given national realities.
	Number of data-deficient sites assessed as KBAs under the 2016 Global KBA Standard.	3	0	None of the grants awarded to date aim to assess any data deficient KBAs. The critical information gaps regarding KBAs are in Barbados and Haiti, where no activities are expected.
Outcome 4. Improve the enabling conditions for biodiversity conservation in countries with priority sites.	Number of local, national and regional policies, projects or plans incorporate biodiversity, climate change and ecosystem services in the agricultural, mining, tourism and infrastructural development sectors.		5	None of the grants awarded to date aim to influence any policies, projects or plans in these sectors. Mainstreaming biodiversity into policy and planning is an important role for civil society but one that relatively few organizations have the necessary experience, credibility and interest to play.

Class	No.	Scientific Name	English Name	Red List Status	Island Endemic	Key Biodiversity Area
Mammalia	1.	Natalus jamaicensis	Jamaican Greater Funnel- eared Bat	CR	Jamaica	Peckham Woods
Mammalia	2.	Phyllonycteris aphylla	Jamaican Flower Bat	CR	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Mammalia	3.	Plagiodontia aedium	Cuvier's Hutia	EN	Hispaniola	Monumento Natural Cabo Samaná; Parque Nacional Jaragua; Parque Nacional Los Haitises; Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco; Parque Nacional Valle Nuevo; Refugio de Vida Silvestre Monumento Natural Miguel Domingo Fuerte;La Visite; Macaya
Mammalia	4.	Solenodon paradoxus	Hispaniolan Solenodon	EN	Hispaniola	Monumento Natural Cabo Samaná; Parque Nacional Jaragua; Parque Nacional Los Haitises; Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco; Parque Nacional Valle Nuevo; Refugio de Vida Silvestre Monumento Natural Miguel Domingo Fuerte; Reserva Científica Ébano Verde; Macaya
Aves	5.	Amazona imperialis	Imperial Amazon	EN	Dominica	Morne Diablotin National Park; Morne Trois Pitons National Park
Aves	6.	Buteo ridgwayi	Ridgway's Hawk	CR	Dominican Republic	Parque Nacional Los Haitises
Aves	7.	Catharopeza bishopi	Whistling Warbler	EN	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Cumberland Forest Reserve
Aves	8.	Coccyzus rufigularis	Bay-breasted Cuckoo	EN	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco
Aves	9.	Geotrygon leucometopia	White-fronted Quail-dove	EN	Hispaniola	Refugio de Vida Silvestre Monumento Natural Miguel Domingo Fuerte; Reserva Científica Ébano Verde
Aves	10.	Icterus northropi	Bahama Oriole	CR	The Bahamas	Andros Blue Holes National Park
Aves	11.	Leptotila wellsi	Grenada Dove	CR	Grenada	Beausejour/Grenville Vale; Mount Hartman; Perseverance; Woodford; Woodlands
Aves	12.	Loxia megaplaga	Hispaniolan Crossbill	EN	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco; Parque Nacional Valle Nuevo; Refugio de Vida Silvestre Monumento Natural Miguel Domingo Fuerte; Forêt des Pins Unité 1; La Visite; Macaya

Annex 5. Updated List of Priority Species for CEPF Investment

Class	No.	Scientific Name	English Name	Red List Status	Island Endemic	Key Biodiversity Area
Aves	13.	Melanospiza richardsoni	Saint Lucia Black Finch	EN	Saint Lucia	Castries and Dennery Waterworks Reserve and Marquis; Mandelé Protected Landscape
Aves	14.	Nesopsar nigerrimus	Jamaican Blackbird	EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains National Heritage and surroundings; Cockpit Country; Litchfield Mountain - Matheson's Run
Aves	15.	Pterodroma hasitata	Black-capped Petrel	EN	Dominican Republic/ Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Dr. Juan Bautista Pérez Rancier (Valle Nuevo); Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco
Aves	16.	Turdus swalesi	La Selle Thrush	VU	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Montaña La Humeadora; Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco; Parque Nacional Valle Nuevo; Refugio de Vida Silvestre Monumento Natural Miguel Domingo Fuerte; Forêt des Pins Unité 1; La Visite
Reptilia	17.	Alsophis antiguae	Antiguan Racer	CR	Antigua and Barbuda	North East Marine Management Area and Fitches Creek Bay
Reptilia	18.	Amphisbaena caudalis	Cayemite Long-tailed Amphisbaena	EN	Haiti	Cayemites - Barradères
Reptilia	19.	Amphisbaena cayemite	Cayemite Short-tailed Amphisbaena	CR	Haiti	Cayemites - Barradères
Reptilia	20.	Bothrops caribbaeus	Saint Lucia Lancehead	EN*	Saint Lucia	Anse Cochon Protected Landscape, Castries and Dennery Waterworks Reserve and Marquis, Iyanola and Grande Anse, Esperance and Fond D'ors, Mandelé Protected Landscape, Pitons(Qualibou and Canaries)
Reptilia	21.	Celestus barbouri	Limestone Forest Lizard	EN	Jamaica	Catadupa; Cockpit Country; Litchfield Mountain - Matheson's Run; Peckham Woods
Reptilia	22.	Celestus duquesneyi	Blue-tailed Galliwasp	CR	Jamaica	Portland Bight Protected Area
Reptilia	23.	Chironius vincenti	St Vincent Blacksnake	CR	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Cumberland Forest Reserve
Reptilia	24.	Cnemidophorus vanzoi	Saint Lucian Whiptail	CR	Saint Lucia	Mandelé Protected Landscape; Pointe Sable
Reptilia	25.	Cyclura collei	Jamaican Iguana	CR	Jamaica	Portland Bight Protected Area

Class	No.	Scientific Name	English Name	Red List Status	Island Endemic	Key Biodiversity Area
Reptilia	26.	Cyclura cornuta	Hispaniolan Rhinoceros Iguana	EN	Hispaniola	Monumento Natural Cabo Samaná; Parque Nacional Jaragua; Parque Nacional Lago Enriquillo e Isla Cabritos; Parque Nacional Sierra Martín García; Reserva Biológica Loma Charco Azul
Reptilia	27.	Cyclura ricordii	Ricord's Rock Iguana	CR	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Jaragua; Parque Nacional Lago Enriquillo e Isla Cabritos; Anse-à-Pitres
Reptilia	28.	Cyclura rileyi	Central Bahamian Rock Iguana	EN	The Bahamas	Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park; Graham's Harbour National Park
Reptilia	29.	Erythrolamprus ornatus	Saint Lucia Racer	CR	Saint Lucia	Pointe Sable
Reptilia	30.	Gonatodes daudini	Union Island Gecko	CR	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Chatham Bay, Union Island
Reptilia	31.	Leiocephalus altavelensis	Alto Velo Curlytail Lizard	CR	Dominican Republic	Parque Nacional Jaragua
Reptilia	32.	Mitophis calypso	Samana Threadsnake	CR	Dominican Republic	Monumento Natural Cabo Samaná
Reptilia	33.	Pholidoscelis atratus	Redonda Ameiva	CR	Angtigua and Barbuda	Redonda
Reptilia	34.	Pholidoscelis dorsalis	Jamaican Ameiva	EN	Jamaica	Portland Bight Protected Area
Reptilia	35.	Phyllodactylus pulcher	Barbados Leaf-toed Gecko	CR	BRB	North East Coast, South East Coast
Reptilia	36.	Sphaerodactylus cochranae	Cochran's Least Gecko	CR	Dominican Republic	Parque Nacional Los Haitises
Reptilia	37.	Sphaerodactylus cryphius	Bakoruco Least Gecko	EN	Dominican Republic	Parque Nacional Lago Enriquillo e Isla Cabritos
Reptilia	38.	Sphaerodactylus samanensis	Samana Least Gecko	CR	Dominican Republic	Parque Nacional Los Haitises
Reptilia	39.	Sphaerodactylus thompsoni	Barahona Limestone Sphaero	EN	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Jaragua
Reptilia	40.	Spondylurus fulgida	Jamaican Skink	EN	Jamaica	Portland Bight Protected Area
Reptilia	41.	Tetracheilostoma breuili	Saint Lucia Threadsnake	EN	Saint Lucia	Mandelé Protected Landscape; Pointe Sable
Reptilia	42.	Tetracheilostoma carlae	Barbados Threadsnake	CR	BRB	Scotland District
Reptilia	43.	Typhlops syntherus	Barahona Peninsula Blindsnake	EN	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Jaragua

Class	No.	Scientific Name	English Name	Red List Status	Island Endemic	Key Biodiversity Area
Amphibia	44.	Anolis luciae	Saint Lucian Anole	EN*	Saint Lucia	Anse Cochon Protected Landscape, Castries and Dennery Waterworks Reserve and Marquis, Iyanola and Grande Anse, Esperance and Fond D'ors, Mandelé Protected Landscape, Pitons (Qualibou and Canaries), Pointe Sable, Rat Island
Amphibia	45.	Anolis nubilis	Redonda Anole	CR*	Antigua and Barbuda	Redonda
Amphibia	46.	Eleutherodactylus alcoae	Barahona Rock Frog	EN	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Jaragua; Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco; Refugio de Vida Silvestre Monumento Natural Miguel Domingo
Amphibia	47.	Eleutherodactylus amadeus	Haitian Robber Frog	CR	Haiti	Grand Bois; Macaya
Amphibia	48.	Eleutherodactylus amplinympha		EN	Dominica	Morne Diablotin National Park
Amphibia	49.	Eleutherodactylus andrewsi	Jamaican Rumpspot Frog	EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains National Heritage and surroundings;
Amphibia	50.	Eleutherodactylus apostates	Apostates Robber Frog	CR	Haiti	Grand Bois
Amphibia	51.	Eleutherodactylus armstrongi	Baoruco Hammer Frog	EN	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco; Refugio de Vida Silvestre Monumento Natural Miguel Domingo
Amphibia	52.	Eleutherodactylus auriculatoides		EN	Dominican Republic	Parque Nacional Montaña La Humeadora; Parque Nacional Valle Nuevo; Reserva Científica Ébano Verde
Amphibia	53.	Eleutherodactylus corona		CR	Haiti	Масауа
Amphibia	54.	Eleutherodactylus counouspeus		EN	Haiti	Grand Bois
Amphibia	55.	Eleutherodactylus eunaster	Les Cayes Robber Frog	CR	Haiti	Grand Bois
Amphibia	56.	Eleutherodactylus fowleri	Fowler's Robber Frog	CR	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco
Amphibia	57.	Eleutherodactylus furcyensis	La Selle Red-legged Frog	CR	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco
Amphibia	58.	Eleutherodactylus glaphycompus		EN	Haiti	Grand Bois, Macaya
Amphibia	59.	Eleutherodactylus grabhami		EN	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Amphibia	60.	Eleutherodactylus griphus		CR	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Amphibia	61.	Eleutherodactylus haitianus		EN	Dominican Republic	Parque Nacional Valle Nuevo

Class	No.	Scientific Name	English Name	Red List Status	Island Endemic	Key Biodiversity Area
Amphibia	62.	Eleutherodactylus heminota	Half-stripe Bromeliad Frog	EN	Hispaniola	Refugio de Vida Silvestre Monumento Natural Miguel Domingo Fuerte; La Visite; Macaya
Amphibia	63.	Eleutherodactylus hypostenor	Baoruco Burrowing Frog	EN	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco; Refugio de Vida Silvestre Monumento Natural Miguel Domingo Fuerte
Amphibia	64.	Eleutherodactylus jamaicensis		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains National Heritage and surroundings; Dolphin Head
Amphibia	65.	Eleutherodactylus jugans	La Selle Dusky Frog	CR	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco; La Visite
Amphibia	66.	Eleutherodactylus leoncei	Southern Pastel Frog	CR	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco; Refugio de Vida Silvestre Monumento Natural Miguel Domingo
Amphibia	67.	Eleutherodactylus luteolus		EN	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Amphibia	68.	Eleutherodactylus minutus		EN	Dominican Republic	Parque Nacional Montaña La Humeadora; Parque Nacional Valle Nuevo; Reserva Científica Ébano Verde
Amphibia	69.	Eleutherodactylus montanus		EN	Dominican Republic	Reserva Científica Ébano Verde
Amphibia	70.	Eleutherodactylus nortoni	Spiny Giant Frog	CR	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco; Refugio de Vida Silvestre Monumento Natural Miguel Domingo; Grand Bois; Macaya
Amphibia	71.	Eleutherodactylus parapelates	Casillon Robber Frog	CR	Haiti	Macaya
Amphibia	72.	Eleutherodactylus patriciae		EN	Dominican Republic	Parque Nacional Montaña La Humeadora; Parque Nacional Valle Nuevo
Amphibia	73.	Eleutherodactylus pituinus		EN	Dominican Republic	Parque Nacional Montaña La Humeadora; Parque Nacional Valle Nuevo; Reserva Científica Ébano Verde
Amphibia	74.	Eleutherodactylus ruthae		EN	Hispaniola	Monumento Natural Cabo Samaná
Amphibia	75.	Eleutherodactylus semipalmatus	Foothill Robber Frog	CR	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco; Grand Bois
Amphibia	76.	Eleutherodactylus sisyphodemus		CR	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Amphibia	77.	Eleutherodactylus thorectes		CR	Haiti	Масауа

Class	No.	Scientific Name	English Name	Red List Status	Island Endemic	Key Biodiversity Area
Amphibia	78.	Eleutherodactylus ventrilineatus		CR	Haiti	Масауа
Amphibia	79.	Osteopilus marianae	Jamaican Yellow Treefrog	EN	Jamaica	Catadupa; Cockpit Country; Litchfield Mountain - Matheson's Run; Peckham Woods
Amphibia	80.	Osteopilus wilderi	Green Bromeliad Frog	EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains National Heritage and surroundings
Amphibia	81.	Pristimantis euphronides		EN	GRD	Grand Etang National Park; Mount Saint Catherine
Amphibia	82.	Pristimantis shrevei		EN	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Cumberland Forest Reserve
Actinopterygii	83.	Gambusia dominicensis	Domingo Mosquito Fish	EN	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Lago Enriquillo e Isla Cabritos; Lac Azuéi – Trou Caiman
Insecta	84.	Papilio homerus	Jamaican Giant Swallowtail	EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains; Catadupa; Cockpit Country; Litchfield Mountain - Matheson's Run
Udeonychophora	85.	Speleoperipatus spelaeus	Jamaican Velvet Worm	CR	Jamaica	Portland Bight Protected Area
Liliopsida	86.	Acianthera compressicaulis		EN	Hispaniola	Масауа
Liliopsida	87.	Bletia hamiltoniana		CR	Jamaica	Catadupa
Liliopsida	88.	Bulbophyllum jamaicense		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Liliopsida	89.	Coccothrinax jimenezi	Guanito del Lago	CR	Hispaniola	Monumento Natural Las Caobas, Parque; Nacional Lago Enriquillo e Isla Cabritos
Liliopsida	90.	Encyclia parviloba		CR	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Liliopsida	91.	Epidendrum morrisii		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Liliopsida	92.	Lepanthes adamsii		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Liliopsida	93.	Lepanthes bilabiata		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Liliopsida	94.	Lepanthes convexa		EN	Jamaica	Catadupa; Cockpit Country
Liliopsida	95.	Lepanthes lanceolata		CR	Jamaica	Catadupa
Liliopsida	96.	Lepanthes loddigesiana		EN	Jamaica	Catadupa
Liliopsida	97.	Lepanthes multiflora		EN	Jamaica	Catadupa; Cockpit Country
Liliopsida	98.	Lepanthes pulchella		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains

Class	No.	Scientific Name	English Name	Red List Status	Island Endemic	Key Biodiversity Area
Liliopsida	99.	Lepanthes rotundata		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Liliopsida	100.	Lepanthes sanguinea		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Liliopsida	101.	Lepanthes simplex		EN	Jamaica	Catadupa; Cockpit Country
Liliopsida	102.	Lepanthes tridentata		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Liliopsida	103.	Lepanthes unguicularis		CR	Jamaica	Catadupa
Liliopsida	104.	Lepanthes vinacea		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Liliopsida	105.	Lepanthes woodiana		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains; Cockpit Country
Liliopsida	106.	Maxillaria swartziana		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Liliopsida	107.	Neocogniauxia monophylla		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Liliopsida	108.	Pseudophoenix ekmanii		CR	Dominican Republic	Parque Nacional Jaragua
Liliopsida	109.	Pterichis proctorii		CR	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Liliopsida	110.	Tolumnia gauntlettii		EN	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Liliopsida	111.	Tolumnia hamiltonii		EN	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	112.	Ardisia brittonii		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains National Heritage and surroundings
Magnoliopsida	113.	Ardisia byrsonimae		CR	Jamaica	Peckham Woods
Magnoliopsida	114.	Bernardia trelawniensis		EN	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	115.	Blakea urbaniana		CR	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Magnoliopsida	116.	Bursera hollickii		EN	Jamaica	Bull Bay; Portland Bight Protected Area
Magnoliopsida	117.	Calyptranthes acutissima		CR	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Magnoliopsida	118.	Calyptranthes discolor		EN	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Magnoliopsida	119.	Cassipourea brittoniana		EN	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	120.	Cassipourea subcordata		CR	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	121.	Cassipourea subsessilis		CR	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Magnoliopsida	122.	Comocladia parvifoliola		CR	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Magnoliopsida	123.	Consolea spinosissima		EN	Jamaica	Bull Bay; Portland Bight Protected Area
Magnoliopsida	124.	Dendrocousinsia howardiana		CR	Jamaica	Cockpit Country

Class	No.	Scientific Name	English Name	Red List Status	Island Endemic	Key Biodiversity Area
Magnoliopsida	125.	Dendropanax grandiflorus		CR	Jamaica	Litchfield Mountain - Matheson's Run
Magnoliopsida	126.	Eugenia aboukirensis		CR	Jamaica	Litchfield Mountain - Matheson's Run
Magnoliopsida	127.	Eugenia eperforata		EN	Jamaica	Litchfield Mountain - Matheson's Run; Portland Bight Protected Area
Magnoliopsida	128.	Eugenia laurae		EN	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	129.	Eugenia polypora		CR	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Magnoliopsida	130.	Eugenia rendlei		CR	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains National Heritage and surroundings
Magnoliopsida	131.	Eugenia sachetae		EN	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	132.	Exostema orbiculatum		CR	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	133.	Guettarda longiflora		CR	Jamaica	Catadupa; Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	134.	llex jamaicana		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains National Heritage and surroundings
Magnoliopsida	135.	Jacaranda ekmanii	Jacaranda de Jaragua	EN	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Jaragua
Magnoliopsida	136.	Magnolia ekmanii		CR	Haiti	Grand Bois
Magnoliopsida	137.	Magnolia hamorii	Caimoni	EN	Dominican Republic	Refugio de Vida Silvestre Monumento Natural Miguel Domingo Fuerte
Magnoliopsida	138.	Magnolia pallescens		EN	Dominican Republic	Parque Nacional Montaña La Humeadora; Parque Nacional Valle Nuevo; Reserva Científica Ébano Verde
Magnoliopsida	139.	Malpighia proctorii	Wild cherry	CR	Jamaica	Portland Bight Protected Area
Magnoliopsida	140.	Manilkara excisa		EN	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	141.	Maytenus harrisii		CR	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains National Heritage and surroundings
Magnoliopsida	142.	Meriania purpurea		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Magnoliopsida	143.	Miconia ausutgrisebachii		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Magnoliopsida	144.	Miconia gloriosa		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Magnoliopsida	145.	Miconia nubicola		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains National Heritage and surroundings
Magnoliopsida	146.	Miconia pyxidata		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains
Magnoliopsida	147.	Mitranthes macrophylla		CR	Jamaica	Cockpit Country

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Magnoliopsida	148.	Mitranthes nivea		EN	Jamaica	Litchfield Mountain - Matheson's Run
Magnoliopsida	149.	Nectandra pulchra		CR	Haiti	Forêt des Pins 1; Macaya
Magnoliopsida	150.	Ocotea staminoides		EN	Jamaica	Litchfield Mountain - Matheson's Run
Magnoliopsida	151.	Ormosia jamaicensis		EN	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Magnoliopsida	152.	Ouratea elegans		CR	Jamaica	Catadupa
Magnoliopsida	153.	Phialanthus revolutus		EN	Jamaica	Portland Bight Protected Area
Magnoliopsida	154.	Phyllanthus axillaris		EN	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	155.	Pimenta richardii		EN	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	156.	Pseudorhipsalis alata		EN	Jamaica	Cockpit Country, Peckham Woods
Magnoliopsida	157.	Psychotria bryonicola		CR	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains National Heritage and surroundings
Magnoliopsida	158.	Psychotria clarendonensis		EN	Jamaica	Litchfield Mountain - Matheson's Run; Peckham Woods
Magnoliopsida	159.	Psychotria clusioides		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains National Heritage and surroundings
Magnoliopsida	160.	Psychotria hanoverensis		CR	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Magnoliopsida	161.	Psychotria siphonophora		EN	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	162.	Rondeletia amplexicaulis		EN	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	163.	Rondeletia brachyphylla		EN	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains National Heritage and surroundings
Magnoliopsida	164.	Rondeletia cincta		CR	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Magnoliopsida	165.	Rondeletia clarendonensis		EN	Jamaica	Litchfield Mountain - Matheson's Run; Peckham Woods
Magnoliopsida	166.	Scolosanthus howardii		EN	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	167.	Sebastiania fasciculata		EN	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Magnoliopsida	168.	Sebastiania spicata		EN	Jamaica	Litchfield Mountain - Matheson's Run
Magnoliopsida	169.	Sophora saxicola		EN	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	170.	Spathelia coccinea		CR	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Magnoliopsida	171.	Tabernaemontana ovalifolia		EN	Jamaica	Dolphin Head
Magnoliopsida	172.	Ternstroemia bullata		CR	Jamaica	Litchfield Mountain - Matheson's Run
Magnoliopsida	173.	Ternstroemia calycina		EN	Jamaica	Litchfield Mountain - Matheson's Run; Peckham Woods

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Magnoliopsida	174.	Ternstroemia glomerata		CR	Jamaica	Catadupa
Pinopsida	175.	Juniperus gracilior		EN	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Montaña La Humeadora; Parque Nacional Sierra de Parque Nacional Valle Nuevo Bahoruco;
Pinopsida	176.	Pinus occidentalis	Hispaniolan Pine	EN	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco; Parque Nacional Valle Nuevo; Refugio de Vida Silvestre Monumento Natural Miguel Domingo
Pinopsida	177.	Podocarpus buchii		EN	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Sierra de Bahoruco; Parque Nacional Valle Nuevo; Reserva Científica Ébano Verde
Pinopsida	178.	Podocarpus hispaniolensis		EN	Hispaniola	Parque Nacional Montaña La Humeadora; Parque Nacional Valle Nuevo; Refugio de Vida Silvestre Monumento Natural Miguel Domingo
Pinopsida	179.	Podocarpus purdieanus	Yacca	EN	Jamaica	Cockpit Country
Pinopsida	180.	Podocarpus urbanii	Blue Mountain Yacca	CR	Jamaica	Blue and John Crow Mountains National Heritage and surroundings