

Annual Portfolio Overview

CEPF Investment in Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands Hotspot

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

1. Introduction

The Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot (MADIO Hotspot) comprises the island of Madagascar and neighboring islands and archipelagos in the western Indian Ocean, covering a total land area of 600,461 square kilometers. While the different islands of the hotspot share specific biogeographical features, they form a single unit characterized by a wide disparity in scale in terms of both land mass and human population. Madagascar, an island-continent, makes up about 95 percent of the hotspot's land area and is home to about 98 percent of the population, overwhelming the three island groups of Comoros, Seychelles, the Mascarene Islands (comprising La Réunion, Mauritius and Rodrigues) and other scattered islands in the Western Indian Ocean in those respects.

The hotspot has often been considered a priority among hotspots because of its extreme diversity (with about 15,000 plant species of which more than 12,000 are endemic) and because of the high-level taxonomic endemism, which demonstrates distinct evolutionary mechanisms related to the isolation of the hotspot. The area also qualifies as a hotspot due to a very high level of degraded natural ecosystems. While human well-being and economic development rely heavily on ecosystems, the environment of the hotspot is under immense threat. Humans have deeply disturbed ecosystems and biodiversity across the hotspot for centuries, but today enhanced anthropogenic pressures due to population growth and exacerbated by climate change seriously threaten the already degraded and often fragmented ecosystems. Deforestation and habitat loss continue at an alarming rate in Madagascar and the Comoros, mostly as a response to the need for farmland and energy for the growing local communities. Wild species are overexploited for local consumption or international markets: a situation that is especially a concern in regard to coastal resources, which provide a majority of the protein for the hotspot's people. In Madagascar, the mining industry, while in a position to provide economic benefits to the country, also threatens sites of high biodiversity value.

Focusing on 79 priority Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), selected from among the 369 identified in the hotspot, CEPF intends to enable a stronger voice, influence and action by civil society to tackle the immense environmental challenges of the hotspot. CEPF considers strengthening the conservation community at the local, national and regional level as an important element for safeguarding the natural wealth of the MADIO Hotspot.

This report aims to assess progress toward the goals set out in the ecosystem profile in 2015, at the beginning of the investment period, taking into account the gaps and priorities in the CEPF grant portfolio that were highlighted during the Mid-Term Assessment (December 2019), as well as to highlight and to fill any gaps in the remaining final year of the investment period (July 2021 – June 2022). It draws on experience, lessons learned and project reports generated by civil society organizations implementing CEPF grants.

CEPF is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan and the World Bank. The investment in the Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands Hotspot benefitted from an additional contribution from the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust.

2. Niche for CEPF Investment

2. 1 Overview

The CEPF niche for investment was formulated through an inclusive participatory process involving the national, sub-regional and expert consultations during the ecosystem profiling process, which took place in 2013-2014. The niche is also based on a geographical prioritization process to focus on a subset of KBAs and corridors commensurate with the available funding. This process involved the interplay of several criteria, namely biodiversity priority, past and current donor investment levels, protection status, significant threats and provision of ecosystem services.

The CEPF niche in the hotspot was defined to take advantage of CEPF's ability to provide variable levels of funding, in particular with its small-grants mechanism. In this context, the niche is intended to enable CEPF to support the emergence and strengthening of local organizations that could work toward the implementation of site-based conservation actions, maximizing the chances of local ownership, and work hand in hand with other economic sectors and government to support mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation in development policies and business practices. CEPF is also ideally positioned to support concrete regional collaborations among the civil society organizations of the hotspot, maximizing the wealth and diversity of experiences developed—so far in isolation—within the hotspot and using the heterogeneity of the regions to their benefit, fostering the emergence of a regional conservation community.

In terms of geographical focus, the consultations resulted in a plan to primarily focus on seven priority corridors or clusters in Madagascar, plus three other sites, totaling 38 priority KBAs in Madagascar, and 19, 9 and 12 priority KBAs for the Comoros, Mauritius and the Seychelles, respectively. Most of these sites focus on ecosystems that have extraordinary biodiversity but so far have been underfunded relative to other ecosystems: the wetlands and freshwater bodies, the dry forests, and coastal and near-shore marine areas.

The following four strategic directions and 10 investment priorities, set out in the ecosystem profile, guide CEPF's eight-year investment in the region:

Strategic Directions	Investment Priorities
1. Empower local communities to protect and manage biodiversity in priority Key Biodiversity Areas.	1.1 Support local communities to design and implement locally relevant conservation and sustainable management actions that respond to major threats at priority sites. 2.2 Support the development of economic models to improve both livelihoods and biodiversity conservation. 3.3 Build the technical, administrative and financial capacity of local organizations and their partners.
2. Enable civil society to mainstream biodiversity and conservation into policy-making and business practices.	2.1 Support local research institutions to improve basic knowledge of biodiversity of priority ecosystems. 2.2 Support civil society to disseminate biodiversity information and influence political and economic decision-makers in favor of biodiversity and conservation priorities. 2.3 Explore partnerships with private sector stakeholders to promote sustainable practices that deliver positive impacts for conservation.
3. Strengthen civil society capacity at national and regional levels through training, exchanges and regional cooperation.	3.1 Foster the emergence of a new generation of conservation professionals and organizations through small grants for technical and practical training. 3.2 Encourage exchanges and partnerships between civil society organizations to strengthen conservation knowledge, organizational capacity, management and fundraising skills.
4. Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of CEPF investment through a regional implementation team.	4.1 Make operational and coordinate the allocation and monitoring process of the CEPF grants to ensure effective implementation of the strategy. 4.2 Foster the emergence of a conservation community beyond institutional and political boundaries to achieve conservation objectives.

The implementation of the CEPF investment strategy started in February 2015, when the regional implementation team (RIT) was recruited. The overall budget available for the hotspot is US\$12,278,855, comprising an allocation from the CEPF global donors supplemented by additional funds from the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust.

2.2 Coordinating CEPF Grant-Making

Fondation Tany Meva was recruited in 2015 as the RIT for the Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands Hotspot, following a competitive selection process. Tany Meva is a Malagasy foundation created in 1996 with the objective to support civil society organizations in Madagascar to develop community-based management and sustainable use of natural resources. Since inception, Tany Meva has supported more than 2,000 projects for a total amount of more than US\$14.8 million, on issues covering reforestation, renewable energy, alternative livelihood activities, biodiversity conservation and environmental education.

During the fiscal year 2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021), the CEPF Secretariat was not able to conduct any in person supervision visits due to COVID-19 restrictions, however the RIT team conducted twelve supervision missions. Specifically, 10 Large Grants and 20 Small Grants were supervised and a report is available for each of the project visited. The list of the projects visited is in Annex 4.

The RIT staff turnover has been fairly low since the end of FY19. Monique Randriatsivery, continues to be the team leader of the RIT. She is a very capable and resourceful leader. Project managers have also had a high turnover rate for different reasons up to December 2019, but there has been no change in the fiscal year 2021. Claude Fanohiza, hired in January 2018 as the Executive Director, has provided the much-needed stability to Tany Meva and the RIT.

During this period there has been turnover within the Communications Team: The Communications Manager, Randrianarivelo Miharintsoa, who started in February 2019 left the organization in October 2020. She was replaced by Andrianantenaina Doda Fanomezantsoa who started in August 2020 and left in May 2021. The position was then changed to Manager of External Relations to be broader than Communications, and Nary Rasolofoniaina was recruited in October 2021 (beyond this reporting period).

In the Administrative team, Aina Rakotondrazaka, in charge of audit and legal affairs left the organization in April 2020 and was replaced by Serge Solofo Harison Raelison in August 2020.

In this Fiscal year, Tany Meva operated with only one Consultant (Sohibou Mhoumadi) based in the Comoros. As projects in Comoros have wended down, the Consultant's contract ended just after the end of the current fiscal year, in October 2021.

Composition of the CEPF Team, as of June 2021

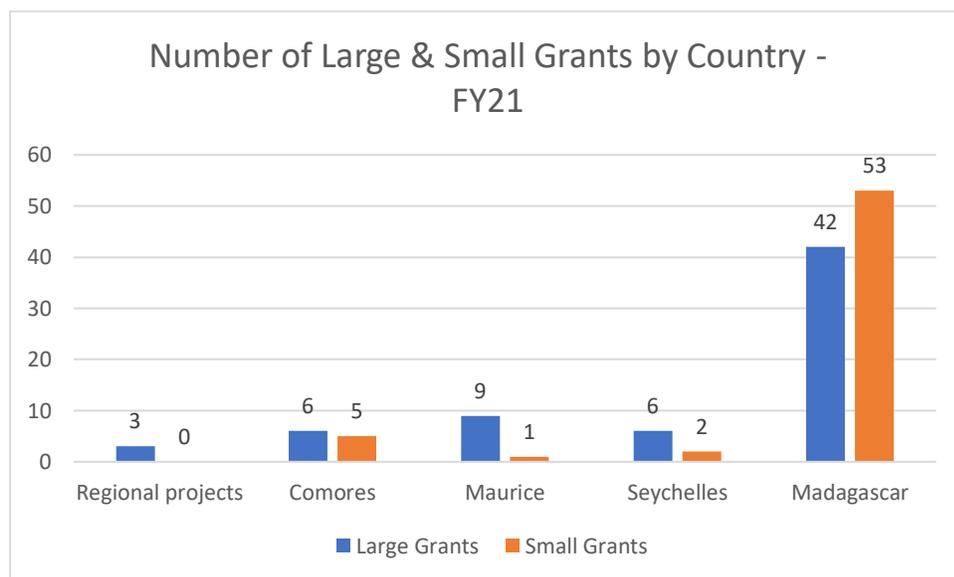
Monique Randriatsivery (was promoted on September 1, 2019)	RIT Lead	Overall coordination of the RIT, preparation of calls for proposals, supervision of the Project Officers, piloting of the communication and outreach, supervision of monitoring and evaluation, coordination with partners
Anicet Josué Rakotoarisoa (Started on April 11, 2019)	Project Manager	Main contact and day-to-day management, projects in Madagascar's Western corridors, and support for Mauritius
Rivo Fanomezantsoa Andriatsimatahomanana (Started on September 3, 2019)	Project Manager	Main contact and day-to-day management, projects in Madagascar's Western corridors, and support for Mauritius
Rindra Nantenaina ANDRIAMAHEFASOA (Started on September 19, 2019)	Project Manager	Main contact and day-to-day management, projects in Madagascar Eastern corridor, Highlands cluster and other sites in Malagasy, as well as the Seychelles and Comoros
Herivola ANDRIAMPENOMANANA (was promoted on June 1, 2019)	Finance and Administration Officer	Day-to-day administrative support, organization of events, project database management and coordination of information
Patrick Raharinjatovoa (Started on July 1, 2014)	Chauffeur	Chauffeur, logistical support
Nary Rasolofoniaina (Started on October 16, 2021)	External Relations Manager (10%)	In charge of external relations (donors and partners), communication material development, organization of

		PR events, preparation of newsletters, and fundraising efforts.
Serge Raelison (Started August 1, 2020)	Internal Control & Legal (5%-10%)	In charge of internal accounting and financial control, as well as legal issues.
Tahina Rakotoson (Started on April 10, 2018)	M&E Specialist (10%)	In charge of monitoring & evaluation of Tany Meva projects

2.3. Portfolio Status

The CEPF portfolio in the MADIO Hotspot has progressed well in terms of budget and portfolio development and has grown to be one of the largest CEPF portfolios. Overall, nine calls for proposals were issued, and no further call for proposals will be issued before the end of the current investment phase in September 2022. As of June 2021, 87% of the current investment period had elapsed, and 98% of funds for the period were committed. All active projects are slated to end by June 2022 to allow for the final reports to be received before final closure of the investment phase in September 2022.

The chart below shows how the numbers of and type of grant by country.

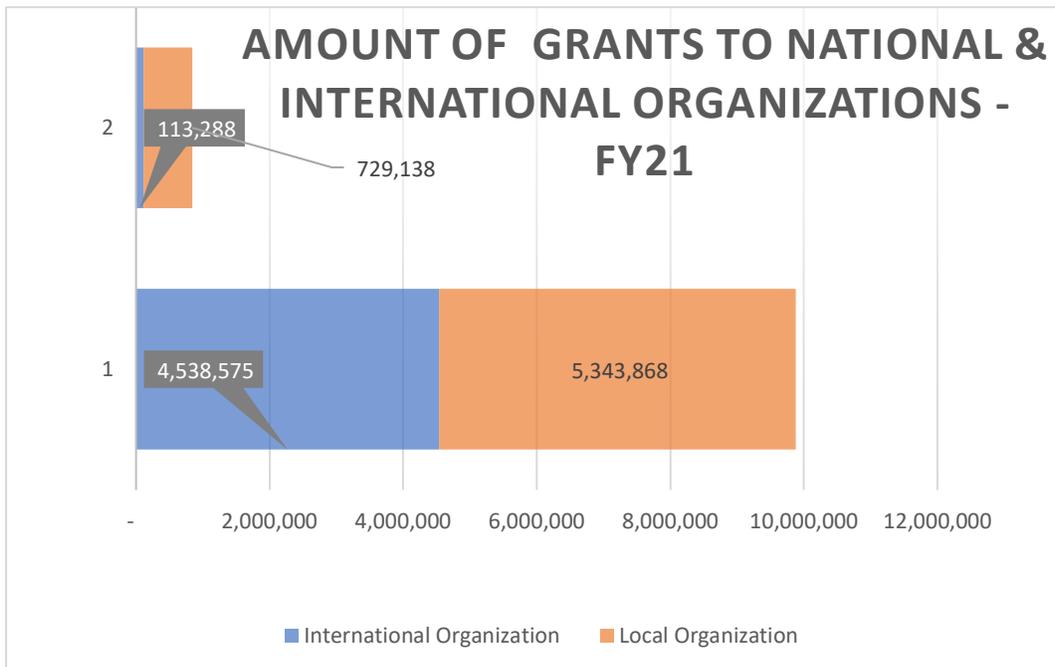


Even though almost the same number of grants have been awarded by type (67 Large Grants and 61 Small Grants), over 80% of the funds have been allocated to Large Grants, and less than 10% has been allocated to Small Grants, due to the larger budget size of large grants.

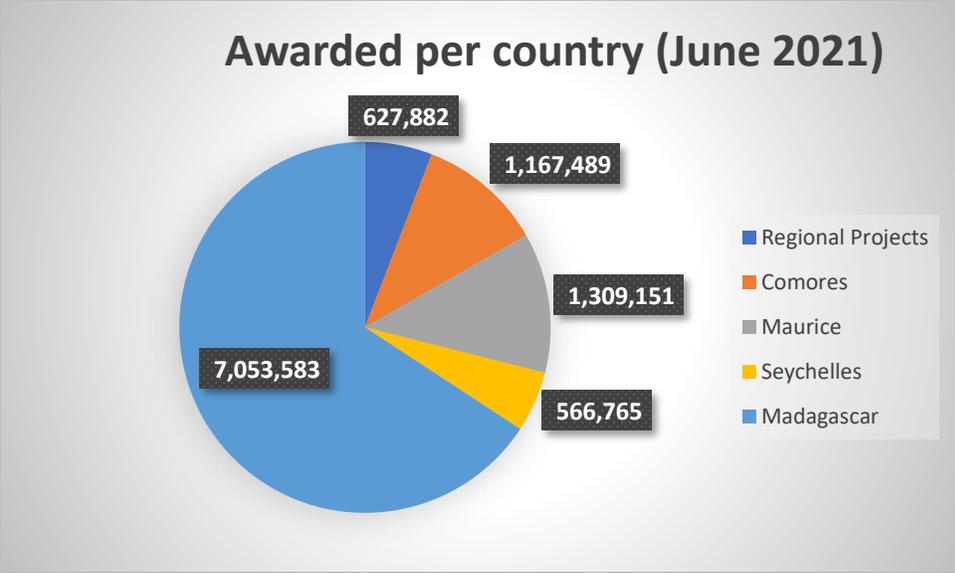
Although not surprising, it is interesting to note that the vast majority of Grants have been awarded in Madagascar, and this is even more so true for Small Grants. There are several factors that account for the imbalance between Madagascar and the other islands: the size and needs of Madagascar dwarf the other islands in terms of size and threats to its unique

fauna and flora; the RIT is based in Madagascar and their expertise is on Madagascar; and Mauritius, Comoros and Seychelles as well as the regional dimension were new areas at the beginning of this Phase 2 investment period. In FY21, 14 Grants were awarded in the hotspot: one Large Grant was issued in Mauritius (Arches aux Plantes), one in Seychelles (Island Biodiversity & Conservation), and one in Madagascar (INDRI). All three large grants address Strategic Direction 2 to fill the gap that existed. The Grants were awarded strategically to address gaps in the Portfolio logframe and funding allocation by Strategic Direction. The 11 Small Grants that were awarded in Madagascar focused on grants that had recently ended or were ending and whose results and impact were adversely affected by COVID-19. These small grant awards also used up the balance of funds available under the Small Grant Mechanism (about USD 185K) and all focused on Strategic Direction 1. All awards in FY21 were made by invitation to existing Grantees whose projects faced hardships related to COVID-19. The review process was transparent and rigorous.

The trend of a healthy balance between Grants made to local versus international organizations continues in the hotspot, as local organizations represent 63% of the total number of grants, and 57% of the budget of the grants is awarded to local organizations (see chart below).



In line with the first chart above, 74% of project funding (not including the RIT funding), has been awarded to Madagascar, with Mauritius and Comoros coming in next. The Seychelles is the least funded island, as it is also by far the wealthiest, and therefore relies less on CEPF funding.



The unbalanced funding between the different countries of the hotspot is a reflection of the different sizes, economy and challenges faced by them. However it is also a reflection of the resources of the RIT which are very limited outside of Madagascar. In addition, given the threshold of USD20,000 for Small Grants, Mauritius and Seychelles were less keen to apply for these types of grants. The recruitment of two consultants to cover Mauritius, Seychelles and Comoros was helpful but came late in the investment phase and a number of administrative challenges had to be overcome especially related to their payment by the RIT.

Finally, the number of truly regional projects spanning the hotspot has been disappointingly low. This is due partly to the fact that the hotspot islands are very diverse in terms of biodiversity (unique to each country), culture, language and GDP. Despite their geographic proximity, the islands face different and unique challenges in terms of biodiversity conservation. Also, as demonstrated by the PROBOI study released in September 2020 and conducted by Biotope for the AFD, there are very few stakeholders who cover the entire hotspot region, thus the regional expertise as a “one stop shop” has yet to be created.

Excluding the RIT grant, as of June 2021 the portfolio comprised 127 grants (66 large and 61 small and 1 RIT Grant). An additional 2 to 3 large grants (by invitation only) are expected to be awarded in the fiscal year 2022. No additional small grants are expected to be awarded.

Per the table below, as of June 2021, 7 small grants and 0 large grants had ended but were not closed. The RIT has successfully worked on a long backlog of sorting through old small grants, adjusting the status as needed and significant progress has been made for closing old grants as 18 Small Grants were closed in FY21 (and 8 Large Grants). That said, all active small grants and large grants will be closing by end of FY22, therefore it will be important to continue to prioritize close-outs, as well as impact reporting. 27% of awarded grants were still active as of June 2021, which represents a 16% drop compared to June 2020 (if one includes the Ended but not Closed grants). Many grants have closed during this fiscal year, indicative of the portfolio winding down.

Status	Active		Closed		Ended but not closed	
Type	Large	Small	Large	Small	Large	Small
Quantity	23	1	43	42	0	7
Percentage	27%		73%			

Given that impact is only reported when grants close, at this time the impact is tangible as reflected by the logframe indicator results. Indeed, during this Fiscal Year, 26 Grants have closed compared to 21 in the previous Fiscal Year (16 Large Grants and 5 Small Grants). In FY22, 31 Active Grants will need to close, plus the 2-3 Grants that will be awarded in FY22.

One caveat is that for many of the projects that started in 2016 through June 2018, baseline civil society tracking tools are not available, therefore, it is hard to measure progress in terms of civil society management capacity. Also, many of the earlier projects did not ask for Gender Tracking Tools (GTT), therefore this data will not be reflected in the impact data. In addition, several GTTs were not scheduled as endline reports. This shortfall has been addressed in early FY22 by the CEPF Secretariat.

In terms of impact, 65% of the 79 KBAs prioritized in the Ecosystem Profile have been covered via one or several grants. For Madagascar 94% of the prioritized KBAs have been covered, 100% of the prioritized KBAs were covered for Comoros and Mauritius, and only 50% for Seychelles (Mahe was over covered and the other islands were insufficiently covered). This is partly due to access issues.

In terms of **strategic direction**, please see the table below for detailed funding allocation as of June 2021.

Strategic Direction	Budget Allocation	Contracted Grants			Over or Under-budget	% Contracted
		Total Amount	No of Large Grants	No. of Small Grants		
SD1 - Empower local communities to protect biodiversity	5,041,013	4,823,379	27	45	217,634	96%
SD2- Mainstream Conservation into political and economic decision making	4,145,714	4,133,760	29	14	11,954	100%
SD3 - Strengthen Civil Society at local and regional level	1,774,248	1,767,729	10	2	6,519	100%
SD4 - Regional Implementation Team	1,317,880	1,330,280	1		(12,400)	101%
TOTAL	12,278,855	12,055,148	67	61	223,707	98%

The spending authority is not expected to change before the end of the current investment phase, however in early FY21 (September 2020), the CEPF Secretariat asked for and received approval for a spending authority re-allocation that increased funds available for SD1 and SD2 and decreased funds available for SD3 and SD 4. Indeed, demand for projects at community level and enabling civil society to mainstream biodiversity has been high, while there was less demand and capacity for regional projects under SD3. Also, the RIT has been able to make cost-savings under SD4 based on their original budget. With the revised allocations reflected in the table above, the investments for each Strategic Direction are well aligned.

The approved re-allocation is shown in the table below.

Strategic Direction	Current Spending Authority	Awarded Amount (as of Dec. 2019)	Proposed Spending Authority (based on awards remaining to be made)	Difference
SD 1	4,557,900	3,627,275	5,041,013	483,113
SD2	3,750,215	3,896,005	4,145,714	395,499
SD3	2,358,950	1,608,769	1,774,248	(584,702)
SD4	1,611,790	1,425,000	1,317,880	(293,910)
Total	12,278,855	10,557,049	12,278,855	(0)

In terms of **geographical distribution**, Madagascar represents about 66% of the total in financial terms, with 87 grants and a budget of over just over 7 million. No geographical distribution projection was made at the onset of the funding phase, and while the need may justify the large proportion of funding going to Madagascar, it has at times been challenging for the RIT to manage all these projects and conduct field supervision visits. Also, the consultants covering Comoros, Mauritius and Seychelles were brought on board only in 2018, and it took some time for the RIT to make them operational. As the portfolio is now winding down, the needed level of effort has decreased and hence the Consultant for Comoros will discontinue work in early FY22 (October). As a reminder the Consultant for Mauritius and Seychelles resigned in FY21 (April) for personal reasons and was not replaced.

In terms of logframe indicators, it is important to note that Objective level indicators were revised in early FY21 with the approval of the CEPF Working Group. The revisions made are the following:

1. O1: 40 [replaced with 30] Key Biodiversity Areas, covering 2.8 million [replaced with 700,000] hectares, have new or strengthened protection and management.
2. O2: At least 10 Key Biodiversity Areas that were unprotected or under temporary protection gain officially declared permanent protected status¹, covering 1 million [replaced with 87,000] hectares.

Context and justification for the revisions are the following:

1. The ecosystem profile, prepared in 2014, identified 78 priority KBAs, with a total area of 2.8 million hectares (1.6 million hectares of terrestrial surface area plus 1.2 million hectares of marine surface area). Given that CEPF does not intend to support work at every priority KBA (e.g., because suitable proposals may not be forthcoming, or because other funders may support work there thus obviating the need for CEPF support) and that not every funded project necessarily results in strengthened protection or management, the targets ought to have been discounted. This was done for the number of KBAs, where the target was set at 40 KBAs (i.e, approximately half of the total of 78) but not for the area of KBAs, for which the

target was set at 2.8 million hectares (i.e., 100 percent of the total). The reason for this is unclear but it appears to have been an oversight.

At the time of the Mid-term Assessment in December 2019, CEPF had funded activities at 60 priority KBAs (35 in Madagascar, 15 in the Comoros, three in the Seychelles and seven in Mauritius). CEPF expects these activities to result in new or strengthened management and protection in at least half of cases (i.e., 30 priority sites), covering a total area of at least 700,000 hectares. There are several reasons why the anticipated result comprises only one-quarter of the total area of the priority sites. As discussed below, the major opportunities to contribute to the formal protection of large areas in Madagascar did not materialize as expected, because of a presidential decision to declare a major expansion to the national protected area system, which occurred between preparation of the ecosystem profile and the start of grant making. With restricted opportunities to support strengthened *protection* of priority KBAs, CEPF grantees focused on strengthening *management*. However, the costs per hectare of strengthening management are much greater than strengthening protection (when a large protected area can be afforded legal protection at the stroke of a pen), meaning that the total area that could be impacted by CEPF grants was, correspondingly, smaller. Also, two-fifths of CEPF investments focused on priority KBAs in the Comoros, Mauritius and the Seychelles, which have high biodiversity values (especially island endemics) but tend to be limited in area compared with priority KBAs in Madagascar (which are more than 10 times larger, on average).

2. Many “New Protected Areas” (NPA) were declared at the time of Marc Ravalomanana’s presidency (2002-2009), as a result of the “Durban Vision” (2003). At the end of Marc Ravalomanana’s era (2009), most of these protected areas were still under “temporary status” – which is quite normal as these NPAs have a much more “participatory” management that require a long process to get to the point when a management system is put in place – including an NGO (national or international) to take over the role of manager (“promoteur”) of the PA (co-management principle). That was the situation at the time that the ecosystem profile was prepared.

The NPAs covered a large combined area (around 6.5 million hectares, just for terrestrial surface area). There was therefore a large potential for CEPF, as it would have supported the promoters to finalize studies, organize workshops with local communities, prepare management plans, set up the governance structures, etc. It was a perfect target for CEPF, supporting civil society involvement. In fact, 17 NPA were among the priority KBAs for Madagascar. Hence, CEPF reasonably expected that, with its support, several priority KBAs would be declared as new PAs.

Then, around the time when the new CEPF investment in Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands was being launched, the new President, Hery Rajaonarimampianina, came to the World Parks Congress in Sydney in 2014, adhered to the Sydney Promise, and turned the NPAs from temporary to definitive PAs.

This did not prevent CEPF from supporting NGOs in several of these sites, specifically, support the NGOs promoters to consult, study, create management plans, start operationalizing them, etc. However, CEPF cannot claim credit for

supporting the creation of these protected areas, as they were (all at once) already declared, just after the profiling exercise.

That said, CEPF has supported seven priority KBAs in the hotspot (with a total area of 87,089 hectares) that are expected to gain permanent protection status thanks to its support to grantees. Most of these KBAs are outside of Madagascar, which also explains the much smaller surface area covered (priority KBAs in Madagascar are, on average, more than 10 times larger than those in the other hotspot countries).

Lessons Learned:

There are two main lessons learned: 1. Logframe objectives need to be determined very carefully and figures double checked; and 2. When a significant discrepancy or incoherence appears, it should be flagged immediately rather than wait for the mid-term evaluation. These are lessons that CEPF will take on board for its future investments.

3. Performance of CEPF's Investment

3.1 Portfolio-Level Performance Assessment

In terms of portfolio management, the RIT, with the support of the leadership of Tany Meva, is performing well and successfully completed the backlog of tasks that were not completed properly and/or in a timely way in the years between 2016 and 2018.

a. How are we doing as a grant-maker?

In 2018, the CEPF started to conduct anonymous exit surveys as grants across hotspots were closing. At the end of FY20, only 4 Grantees had completed the survey, however in FY21 thanks to continuous reminders communicated by the RIT and the Grant Director, a total 22 surveys were completed which represents a very high completion rate, as only 26 Grants closed the same period. These survey responses are indeed very helpful for CEPF who strives to further improve its processes for grant making.

The restrictions related to COVID-19 have affected the hotspot in different ways during the period covered by this report (with Mauritius having the most stringent restrictions and Comoros the most lose), although no country was spared from COVID-19. As island countries, their economies and projects suffered tremendously from the closing of the borders and the lack of access to material and human resources (ie: procurement items for projects; experts in tree climbing). Seychelles suffered most acutely from a lack of tourists, and so did all the other islands in the hotspot. Madagascar was most affected by COVID-19, with quite a high number of cases in the capital and in large cities with high density. Illegal logging and poaching increased tangibly, as did the number of forest fires according to data from Madagascar National Parks. Despite these challenges, overall Grantees have demonstrated their ability to work around restrictions. Most meetings and conferences were conducted virtually, even though this was completely unprecedented. Overall, the precarity that is pervasive in most of the hotspot makes for a resourceful and creative population.

b. How are the grantees reaching their targets?

Based on progress reports submitted by grantees, there is a wide range in terms of capacity and quality of reporting. There is wide disparity within the portfolio in terms of overall performance. However, there is a general tendency to be over-ambitious when setting targets and budgets, and in many cases additional extensions are needed to reach at least

some of the targets set. It is not uncommon for projects closing to return unspent funds to CEPF, as spending funds according to the budget is challenging in an environment in which supply chains are defective and in which the local currency constantly loses value. There is clearly a need to work more closely with the grantees during proposal development to help set realistic targets, and also to clarify the CEPF procedures and requirements to applicants.

Following the mid-term assessment in December, the RIT has developed a revised supervision mission plan to ensure that all projects are being visited and supervised at least once a year (small and large projects). Unfortunately, COVID-19 travel restrictions have hampered full execution of the plan especially for providing oversight in the 3 small islands countries, however 10 Large Grants and 20 Small Grants were visited in FY21 and a report is available for each of the project visited. The list of the projects visited is in Annex 4.

c. What are the factors influencing their performances?

There are many factors outside of our control that are influencing grantees' performance, such as local security, natural catastrophes, and most acutely this year, COVID-19 related restrictions. Concerning the factors that CEPF can control, timing of receipt of funding is an issue that is often raised by grantees. Several grantees continue to require no-cost extensions because they had no funds to start the project at the onset of the contract due to delays in releasing the initial advance.

A Consultant firm called "Air Consult" was hired early in the fiscal year at the request of the CEPF Secretariat to help Tany Meva streamline its administrative processes, and simplify and solidify its internal processes. In June 2021, Air Consult following regular consultation with Tany Meva, delivering two manuals covering Operational Procedures, and Procurement procedures. The manuals were then reviewed by the RIT and CEPF and exchanges between the RIT and Air Consult are ongoing to finalize the manuals and apply the revised procedures.

d. Are we achieving our overall targets?

Overall, projects are achieving most of their project targets, and shortfalls are justified and documented. In terms of achieving logframe indicators, at the end of FY21, the following five indicators are yet to meet their targets:

O2: At least 10 Key Biodiversity Areas that were unprotected or under temporary protection gain officially declared permanent protected status, covering 87,000 hectares. This is the most challenging indicator of the portfolio, and even though the numerical targets have been revised downward, it will likely take longer than the performance period of the current investment phase ending in June 2022 for the targets to be achieved in terms of gaining officially protected status as this is a protracted process led by the government officials over which CEPF has very limited influence. Other extenuating factors related to this indicator are explained above in the context and justification for the request to revise this indicator.

1.3 Local communities are involved in the management and strengthening of 10 protected areas: currently local communities are actively involved in 9 protected areas listed in the logframe, however communities are involved in an additional 4 protected areas which will be counted once the projects close, including one PA in the Comoros.

1.6. At least 75 percent of local communities targeted by site-based projects show tangible well-being benefits: At present actual result is 25% of local communities targeted show

tangible well-being benefits, however an additional 54% is expected based on projects that are still active, so this indicator is of no concern.

3.2. Only 2 students from Comoros achieved a degree in conservation, whereas 6 were planned originally. The shortfall is due to extenuating circumstances.

3.3 At least 12 organizations are supposed to be engaged in a lasting mentoring or partnering relationship at the regional level, and currently 8 organizations have done so (see logframe for list), however an additional 4 organizations are expected to have engaged in a lasting mentoring relationship and this will be counted once the grants close.

All other indicators have already reached and exceeded their targets and as more projects will be closing actual targets will continue to exceed the set targets.

e. Priorities for FY22

In order to address any existing gaps in the final year of the investment phase, the Secretariat and RIT will focus in the coming year on the following action points for the current investment phase:

- Closing all Grants that have ended in a timely manner, and generally ensure that Conservation Grants is up to date.
- Data collection (via impact reports from closed grants; and a continued push for completion of exit results both for small and large grants)
- Award the final grants of the current investment phase to fully obligate the Large grants portfolio (including use of most de-obligated funds to the extent feasible) in accordance with current portfolio gaps and with a view to counting the new awards as cost share against the GCF programme.
- Re-energize the COS (Comite d'Orientation et de Suivi) to play an active part during the final portfolio evaluation.
- Apply the updated procedures recommended by Air Consult for streamlining administrative and operational procedures.
- Support beneficiaries in the implementation of projects as needed by implementing the recommendations from site visits and following up on the recommendations with the grantee.
- Monitor grants through regular supervision visits to the extent feasible given COVID-19 restrictions.
- Capitalize on lessons learned and communicate about the investment phase's successes and lessons learned (ie: production and dissemination of video and other media content)
- Prepare for the new investment phase under the GCF:
 - o Plan for the RIT evaluation (Oct- December 2021)
 - o Plan for the Portfolio evaluation (June 22)
 - o Prepare RIT Terms of Reference and RfP (November 2021)
 - o Update the Ecosystem Profile (Sept. 2020- April 2021)

4. Collaboration with CEPF's donors and other funders

The CEPF Secretariat works very closely with CEPF's global donors. They meet on a regular basis, including during meetings of the donor council and working group, through which the donor partners are well-informed about CEPF's strategy, progress and overall impact on conservation. At the beginning of this fiscal year, the CEPF Secretariat was informed that the GCF project (Ecosystem based Adaptation projects in the hotspot over 10 years) would be awarded to CEPF via AFD, and approximately a year later in June 2021, the project

officially started. Thus, alongside closing the current investment phase, the Secretariat will be working to starting up the GCF program (organizing inception workshops, issuing an inception report and program brochure, issuing a RfP for the profiling exercise, etc.)

In addition, the Secretariat is also fundraising for the hotspot to be able to re-establish an investment phase that focusses strictly on biodiversity conservation in the hotspot, just like the one that will be ending in FY22.

5. Conclusion

With only one year left in the investment phase, the second CEPF investment in the MADIO Hotspot has made very good progress. A balanced grant portfolio has been developed, with 98% of the spending authority awarded, and progress on track to meet 27 of the 29 indicators in the portfolio logframe (see Annex 3). Although many grants (85) have ended already, 31 grants are still active, and only 2 to 3 additional grants are expected to be awarded for the remainder of the investment period. As a result, while tangible impacts are definitely being observed, in terms of biodiversity conserved, human well-being improved, civil society capacity strengthened, and enabling conditions enhanced, there are still opportunities to create impact and to optimize it via active grantee support.

If the portfolio were not already so advanced, it would have been possible to consider focusing more on Red-Listed species conservation or focusing additional efforts on funding Strategic Direction 3 to create truly regional and sustainable networks. Another lesson learned is that major modifications to the portfolio objectives should be raised and discussed internally and with the Working Group in a timely manner. Regardless of these areas for improvement, the portfolio is on track to meet most of its objectives, and the overall performance has been solid despite much staff turnover at the RIT and external challenges related to COVID-19.

Annex 1: Contracted Grants to June 2021

Grantee Name	Project Title	Amount.	Start Date	End Date
Ebony Forest Ltd	Restoring Native Forest at Chamarel: Ecological Restoration, Species Reintroduction, and Reconnecting the Public with Nature	77,707	2/1/2016	3/31/2019
International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (Global Species Programme; Freshwater Biodiversity Unit)	Mobilizing Freshwater Biodiversity Information for Better Representation within Protected Areas in Madagascar	228,085	7/1/2015	6/30/2018
Association Vahatra	Madagascar's Protected Areas: A Bilingual Book and Associated Database Reviewing their History, Biodiversity and Guiding the Future	182,632	10/1/2015	3/31/2019
Association Fanamby	Renforcement de la Coordination et des Capacités des communautés, des collectivités et des acteurs du secteur privé, Co-gestionnaires pour le Développement Local et de Conservation Durable des Ecosystèmes de l'Aire Protégée du Menabe Antimena	153,289	3/1/2016	2/28/2018
Dahari	Identifying and Monitoring Terrestrial Conservation Priorities in the Comoro Islands, and Building Results into Policy and Practice	259,259	7/1/2015	8/31/2019
Blue Ventures Conservation	Strengthening the MIHARI Network to Support Community Management of Marine and Coastal Resources in Madagascar	166,187	12/1/2015	7/31/2019
Global Wildlife Conservation	Building a Future for the Amphibians of Madagascar	152,094	11/1/2015	6/30/2019
Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust	Developing National Management Guidance for Madagascar's Freshwater Wetlands	62,573	11/1/2015	1/31/2019
Island Conservation Society	Integrated Management and Ecosystem Restoration Program for Silhouette Island, Seychelles	139,964	6/1/2016	12/31/2018
Missouri Botanical Garden	Promoting the Self Sufficiency of Reserves in the Ramena Complex, Antsiranana, by Conceiving, Developing, and Testing New Tourism Products	73,212	1/1/2016	6/30/2018
Mauritian Wildlife Foundation	Support to Private Sector to Engage in the Conservation of Mauritius' Threatened Endemic Birds	173,734	7/1/2016	6/30/2019

Francois Leguat Ltd	Expanding Rodrigues Dry Coastal Forest at Plaine Corail in Mauritius to Protect Threatened Biodiversity	51,021	4/1/2016	5/31/2019
Identi'terre	Strengthening Capacity of Local Communities and Establishing an Innovative Mechanism for Sustainable Funding for the Antrema Protected Area in Madagascar	133,957	7/1/2016	1/31/2020
The Peregrine Fund	Enhancing Local Management and Biodiversity Conservation in Tsimembo-Manambolomaty Protected Area	129,632	1/1/2017	3/31/2020
Blue Ventures Conservation	Strengthening Community Management of the Indian Ocean's Largest Locally Managed Marine Area, the Barren Isles	177,889	7/1/2016	12/31/2019
Biodiversity Conservation Madagascar	Long-term Fire Management to Protect Beanka Protected Area in Madagascar	39,904	7/1/2016	7/31/2019
The Aspinall Foundation	Developing Community-based Conservation in the Ambato-Boeny-Maevatanana Forests and Wetlands	163,955	1/1/2017	9/30/2021
Association 2 Mains	Positiver l'Impact sur la Biodiversité du Développement de la Filière Ylang-Ylang aux Comores	186,154	11/1/2016	6/30/2019
Fondation Tany Meva	CEPF Regional Implementation Team in Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands	1,330,280	2/1/2015	6/30/2022
Birdlife International	Seychelles Magpie-Robin Project	19,697	6/1/2015	2/29/2016
Conservation International	Promote Sustainable Fisheries and Ecotourism with Private Sector to Reinforce the Management of Ambodivahibe Marine Protected Area, Madagascar	144,389	4/1/2016	6/30/2019
Missouri Botanical Garden	Compilation and Dissemination of Plant Information for Priority Key Biodiversity Areas in Madagascar	118,029	6/1/2016	12/31/2018
Arche aux Plantes	ASTIRIA – Programme de Coopération pour la Conservation de la Flore Menacée des Iles Maurice et Rodrigues	161,795	4/1/2016	9/30/2019
Planet Madagascar	Preserving Fragile Ecosystems through Community-Based Fire Management and Education Program in Ankarafantsika National Park, North-West Madagascar	139,156	10/1/2016	4/30/2019
Arboretum d'Antsokay	Promotion of Private Sector Engagement in Ecotourism in Tsinjoriake Community Managed New Protected Area, Southwest Madagascar	111,040	1/1/2016	4/30/2019
Island Biodiversity & Conservation	Advancing Environmental Management Practices and Threatened Species Recovery through Partnerships with Private Sector in the Seychelles - First Phase	152,443	11/1/2016	3/31/2019

Blue Ventures Conservation	Towards a Blueprint for Locally-Managed Marine Conservation in the Comoros: Building the Knowledge Base and Capacity for Monitoring and Management	149,846	10/1/2015	3/31/2018
Wildlife Conservation Society - Madagascar	Fulfilling Madagascar's 'Sydney Promise' Through a National Process of Marine Protected Area Planning	177,803	7/1/2015	6/30/2018
California Academy of Sciences Madagascar	Insects and People of the Southwest Indian Ocean: A Network of Researchers for Insect-Focused Approach to Conservation	166,818	5/1/2016	3/31/2020
MARINE CONSERVATION SOCIETY SEYCHELLES	Protection of KBA Biodiversity in Grand Police Wetland	14,172	5/1/2016	4/30/2017
MAURITIAN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION	Developing the Vision for Conservation of Saint Brandon	13,548	3/1/2016	8/31/2019
Velondriake Association	Sustainable, Locally-Led Mangrove Management and Restoration in the Bay of Assassins	9,497	7/1/2016	12/30/2020
Service d'Appui à la Gestion de l'Environnement	Supporting local communities to protect biodiversity of Montagne des Français New Protected Area, North Madagascar	15,919	6/1/2016	10/31/2017
Madagascar National Parks	Conservation of Sakamena Complex: Green Belt around Beza Mahafaly Reserve	14,363	4/4/2016	5/4/2019
THE PEREGRINE FUND	Conservation of Madagascar Fish Eagle through Capacity Building and Partnership Between Site Managers	17,666	4/26/2016	4/25/2017
Société d'Etudes Ornithologiques de La Réunion	Feasibility Study to Establish a Temporal Monitoring of Seychelles, Madagascar and Comoros Common Birds	-	3/1/2016	10/31/2016
MADAGASIKARA VOAKAJY	Conservation of Malagasy Baobabs	14,572	4/1/2016	1/1/2018
VOI LOVA Ampanotoamaizina	Assessing the management transfer agreement and promote income generating activities in Ampanotoamaizina	9,739	7/17/2016	9/17/2018
Asity Madagascar	Sustainable Management of Lake Ihotry Natural Resources, Part of the Complex Mangoky-Ihotry New Protected Area	13,948	8/4/2016	10/31/2017
Office National pour l'Environnement	Strengthening the System of Environmental Indicators for Monitoring the Environment in Madagascar and Updating the Environmental Dashboard of Menabe Region	16,391	9/1/2016	10/5/2017
THE PEREGRINE FUND	Support for Local Communities for the Fight Against Deforestation of the Tsimembo Forest	13,951	10/1/2016	10/1/2017
MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN	Starting Ecotourism for the Ibity New Protected Area	14,680	11/1/2016	9/25/2017

Association des Producteurs Privés d'Alevins (APPA)	Integrated Conservation and Development as a Sustainable Valuation of Endemic Fish, Northwestern Fulvio-Lacustrine Wetlands Complex	180,138	12/1/2016	5/30/2018
Institut et Observatoire de Géophysique d'Antananarivo (IOGA)	Green Accounts for the Sustainable Management of Protected Areas and Parks	16,854	12/1/2016	11/1/2017
MADAGASIKARA VOAKAJY	Preserve the Fish Species Paretroplus Menarambo in Lake Tseny	14,205	1/1/2017	12/31/2018
DURRELL WILDLIFE CONSERVATION TRUST	Support Local Communities for the Conservation of Lake Ravelobe	15,117	12/1/2016	11/30/2018
TFC International	Testing drone for high resolution, 3-D mapping of Silhouette Island, Seychelles	16,696	1/1/2017	8/31/2019
Association du Réseau des Systèmes d'Information (ARSIE)	Contribute to the establishment of a Madagascar Biodiversity Metadata	17,998	1/1/2017	12/31/2019
Groupe des Spécialistes des Plantes de Madagascar	Valorize traditional knowledges, restore heritage species in the Vohibola classified forest	16,722	1/1/2017	11/30/2018
Royal Botanic Gardens Kew	Map plant diversity, land use and fire history for effective management of Itremo and Ambatofinandrahana biodiversity	14,956	1/1/2017	12/31/2020
Dahari	A Landscape Management Model for Biodiversity Conservation in the Comoros	214,828	4/1/2017	12/31/2020
Fikambanana Bongolava Maitso	Structuration et renforcement de l'association Fikambanana Bongolava Maitso pour la gestion efficace de la nouvelle aire protégée de Bongolava	194,621	3/1/2017	3/31/2020
Conservation Centrée sur la Communauté	Filling Knowledge Gaps for Local Conservation of Marine Flagship Species in three Key Biodiversity Areas, North Madagascar	72,252	4/1/2017	9/30/2019
Ter-Mer Rodriguez Association	Increase the Biodiversity of the Gombrani Islet in Rodrigues via Enhanced Conservation Practices	128,628	11/1/2019	12/31/2021
VONDRONA IVON'NY FAMPANDROSOANA "VIF"	Préserver les Espèces menacées de Manjakatempo Ankaratra, Madagascar, en Appuyant la Gestion de l'Ecosystème avec les Communautés de Base	138,494	5/1/2018	7/31/2020
Plant Conservation Action group	National network on biodiversity data exchange for improved KBA management in Seychelles	99,454	4/1/2018	12/31/2020
Ecosystem Restoration Alliance Indian Ocean	Mauritian Fruit Bat (Pteropus Niger) – A Tool for Forest Regeneration	243,146	7/1/2017	8/31/2021
Tropical Biology Association LTD	Strengthening Civil Society Organizations' Capacity for Improved Conservation and Sustainability	221,228	7/1/2017	12/31/2019

Development & Biodiversity Conservation Action for Madagascar	Reinforcing Community Organizations for Sustainable Management and Conservation of Biodiversity of Maevatanana-Ambato-Boeny Wetlands	133,350	6/1/2018	6/30/2022
Missouri Botanical Garden	Construire le Paysage Harmonieux d'Ibity avec l'Engagement des Partenaires Multisecteurs	114,681	4/1/2018	12/31/2021
Durrell Conservation Training Ltd	Developing Indian Ocean Capacity for Conservation Through Training and Exchange	239,835	7/1/2017	10/31/2020
Institut Halieutique et des Sciences Marines	Renforcer les capacités des jeunes conservationnistes marins dans le sud-ouest Malagasy	180,714	7/1/2017	12/31/2019
Blue Ventures Conservation	Strengthen Community-Based Natural Resource Management in Madagascar through Health-Environment Partnerships	178,322	7/1/2018	6/30/2020
Miarakap	Strengthen and promote small and early-stage businesses with a strong positive impact on biodiversity conservation in Madagascar	120,308	12/1/2017	12/31/2019
Madagascar Fauna and Flora Group	Indian House Crow Eradication and Invasive Species Surveillance	161,682	2/1/2019	4/30/2022
Botanic Gardens Conservation International	Assessing the Status of Madagascar's Trees for the Effective Conservation of Key Biodiversity Areas and Protected Areas	190,245	1/1/2018	12/31/2020
Madagascar National Parks	Integrating Local Communities in Effective Fire Management in Kirindy Mitea National Park, Madagascar	168,156	3/1/2018	12/31/2019
FIVE Menabe	Multisectoral Mobilization to save Menabe Antimena (3MA)	98,841	7/1/2018	12/31/2020
Madagascar National Parks	Preservation of the Angonoka tortoises through economic and social development with local communities in Madagascar	198,734	3/1/2019	12/31/2021
Wildlands Conservation Trust	Build Knowledge of Marine Biodiversity in Comoros Archipelago, and Improve Support and Action for Conservation	299,902	7/1/2018	6/30/2021
ONG TAOTSARA	Support communities and authorities in the sustainable management of natural resources around the wetlands of Ambila-Lemaitso, Madagascar	130,698	4/1/2019	8/31/2021
Asity Madagascar	Preparing a Strategic Document for Sustainable Management of Natural Resources of Sites Managed by Asity Madagascar, and Supporting the Development of a Large Grant Proposal	9,634	7/17/2017	7/31/2018
Madagascar National Parks	Support the Development of a Large Proposal for CEPF for Fire Management	929	7/1/2017	8/17/2017

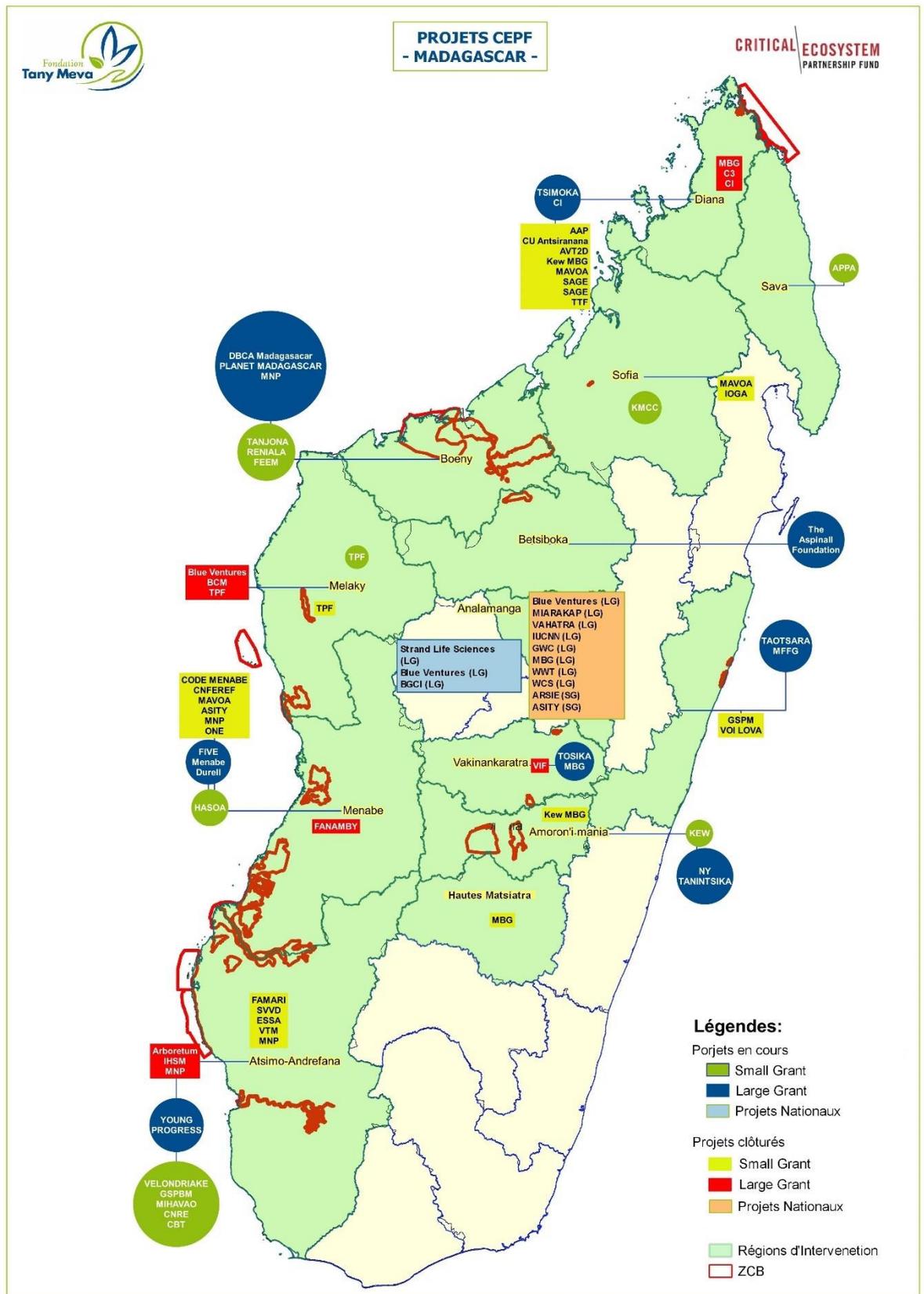
	of Kirindy Mite National Park, Madagascar			
Association RENIALA	Network for Management of Mangroves in the Indian Ocean Islands	4,060	8/11/2017	5/11/2018
Association Naturalistes, Environnement et Patrimoine de Mayotte	Renforcer la Collaboration Entre les Naturalistes de l'Archipel des Comores : le Premier Atlas des Reptiles et Amphibiens des Comores	43,169	9/1/2018	8/31/2019
MARINE CONSERVATION SOCIETY SEYCHELLES	Enabling Protected Area Status for Grand Police on Mahe, Seychelles	74,339	4/1/2018	7/31/2019
ONG MHACHIRICHO	Improving the co-management conditions of coastal communities in the coastal zone of the Colas, Fomboni-Mohéli by the creation of AGR	19,762	7/14/2019	7/13/2021
Plateforme Femme Développement Durable et Sécurité Alimentaire	Strengthening the capacities of Uropveni women in sustainable mangrove management	18,597	7/14/2019	5/22/2021
Les Amis de Nyoubadjou	strengthen the governance capacity of the Nyoubadjou Forest and watershed	12,100	7/23/2019	12/22/2020
Centre National de Formation, d'Etudes et de Recherche en Environnement et Foresterie (CNFEREF)	Strengthen the technical and managerial capacity of the Kirindy Forest Concession Local Communities	9,642	11/1/2017	12/30/2020
Royal Botanic Gardens Kew	Improving Biodiversity Knowledge and Conservation of Bongolava Key Biodiversity Area, Madagascar	14,574	10/10/2017	12/31/2020
MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN	Training Young Professionals on Tools for Identification and Monitoring of Natural Vegetation in the in a Permanent Plot	18,895	10/1/2017	6/30/2019
Centre of Economics and Ethics for Environment and Development in Madagascar (C3EDM)	Assessing economic value of marine and coastal resources in the extreme north of Madagascar	14,445	12/6/2017	4/6/2021
Time and Tide Foundation	Reinforce fisheries management through conservation research and citizen science in the Levens Archipelago, Madagascar	16,616	12/1/2017	4/30/2020
Royal Botanic Gardens Kew	Improving biodiversity knowledge and conservation of Montagne des Francais protected area	15,827	10/11/2017	12/11/2020
Association RENIALA	Support local structures to preserve the main habitats and biological components of the protected area of Baly Bay in the face of the effect of bush fires	17,074	4/1/2018	9/30/2020
Association TAFITA	Strengthen Community-Based Natural Resource Management by developing management plan and restoration	11,097	4/5/2018	9/30/2020

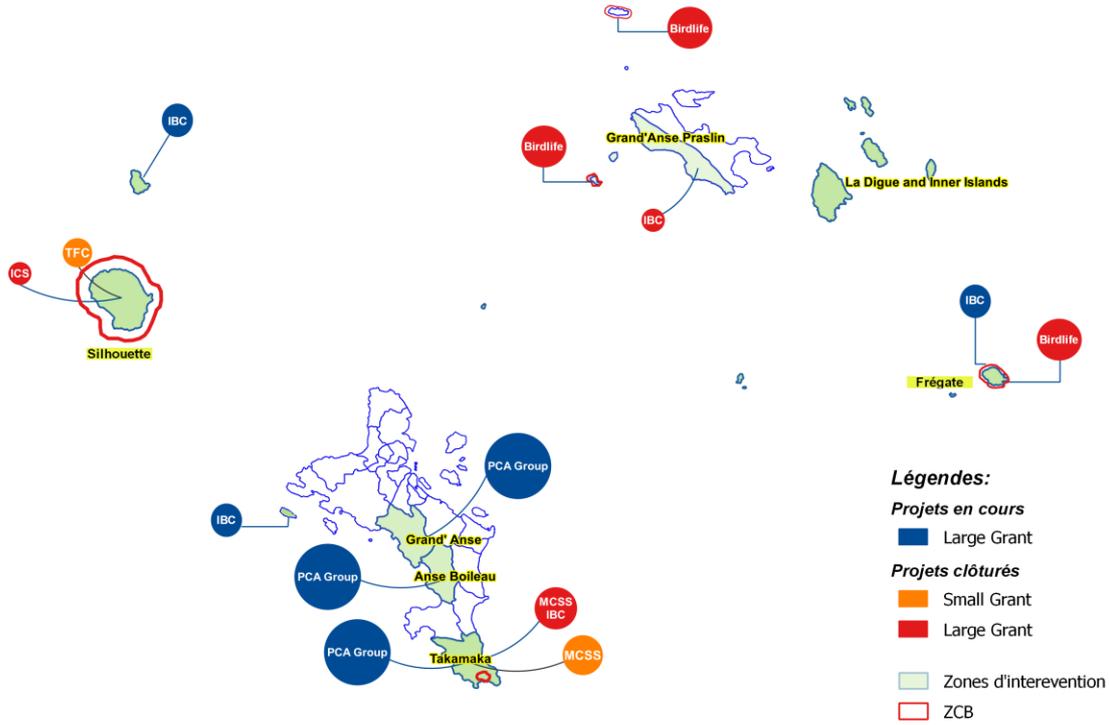
Centre National de Recherches sur l'Environnement (CNRE)	Study and Inventory of the Hydrological Regime for Releasing the Ecosystem Services Provided by Biodiversity Dynamics of the Mangoky River	7,825	3/1/2018	1/31/2020
Association Vehivavy TAMIA Mivoatse - VTM	Promoting the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources of the Protected Area of Tsinjoriake	8,587	4/3/2018	3/3/2020
Anciens Etudiants en Didactique et communication en sciences / Action (AED/Action)	Developping action plans for specific species, studying promising sectors for biodiversity conservation in Ambilalemaiso	14,054	4/3/2018	4/3/2021
Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Agronomiques (ESSA)	Support local structures in setting up an agroecological parcel, ecological restoration and monitoring of community forests related to the protected area of Beza Mahafaly (Ehazoara, Belambo-Jionono and Antarabory)	14,056	4/1/2018	6/30/2020
Association TANJONA	Contribution to the Mangrove Sustainable Management through the Tourism Promotion of the Baly Bay National Park, and Support for the Improvement of the Living Conditions of Basic Communities	14,674	5/22/2018	1/31/2022
Ebony Forest Ltd	Building Local Conservation Capacity in Mauritius	178,644	11/1/2019	6/30/2022
Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust	Mitigating the Unprecedented Loss of the Menabe Dry Forest in Madagascar	199,941	1/1/2020	6/30/2022
Conservation International	Strengthen Marine Biodiversity Conservation from Ambodivahibe to the East-Coast Antsiranana and Rigny Bay Complex in Madagascar	200,000	1/1/2020	12/31/2021
Strand Life Sciences Pvt. Ltd.	Collating and Disseminating Information on Madagascar's Terrestrial Protected Areas	199,150	9/1/2019	10/31/2021
Planet Madagascar	Managing Fires and Monitoring Forests in Ankarafantsika National Park in Madagascar	187,963	4/1/2020	3/31/2022
YOUNG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION	Improving Landscape Management Using Spatial Tools and Sustainable Agricultural Practices in Madagascar	193,652	10/1/2019	3/31/2022
Arche aux Plantes	Aiming for Zero Extinction of Mauritius and Rodrigues Floras	79,691	10/1/2020	6/30/2022
Ny Tanintsika	Developing the Wild Silk Sector to Save Ambatofinandrahana's Tapia Forest	190,584	12/1/2019	6/30/2022
Blue Ventures Conservation	MIHARI: Building a Civil Society Movement to Safeguard Marine Resources in Madagascar.	199,871	7/1/2019	6/30/2022
Island Biodiversity & Conservation	Rescuing the Last Seychelles White-eyes and Developing Sustainable Tourism Partnerships	50,000	11/1/2020	6/30/2022

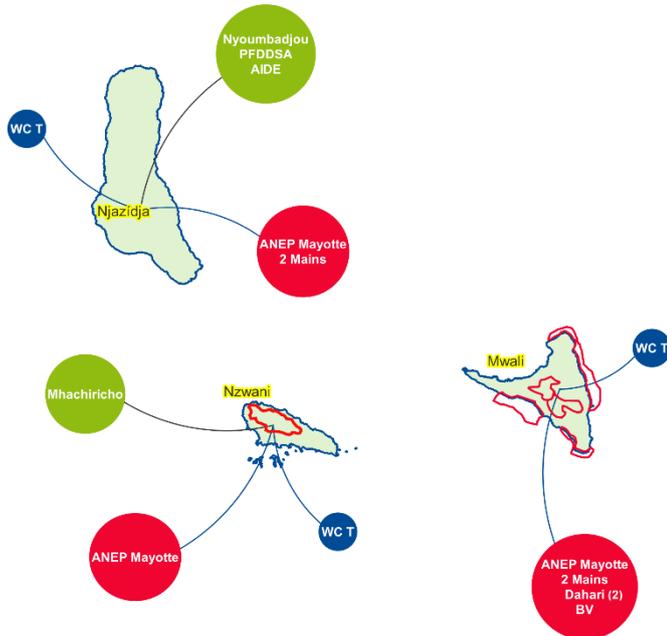
Association TOSIKA	Build the Resilience of the Ibity NPA through Forest Restoration, Improved Agricultural Practices around the Protected Area, and Drone Monitoring in Madagascar	195,477	4/1/2020	6/30/2022
ASSOCIATION TSIMOKA	Providing a Tested Plan to Restore Oranjia Forest, Madagascar	90,537	4/1/2020	6/30/2022
Ebony Forest Ltd	Restoring Forest and Conserving Threatened Birds in Mauritius	201,238	8/1/2019	6/30/2022
Association Femmes Entrepreneurs Environnement Mahajanga	STUDY AND IMPLEMENT THE CONDITIONS OF SUSTAINABLE REFORESTATION HIGH SHORELINE BOMBETOKA BAY IN AVICENNIA MARINA	15,252	1/22/2019	10/31/2020
L'Ecole Doctorale Ecosystèmes Naturels	Technical and practical training for doctoral students in the first year of their doctoral studies Natural ecosystems	4,520	2/1/2019	9/30/2020
L'Arche aux Plantes	Train and involve communities in the new protected area Ambohit'Atsingy Montagne des Français in forest restoration actions	4,901	2/1/2019	3/31/2020
Groupe des Spécialistes et Passionnés des Baobab de Madagascar	Conduct an ethnobotanical study of Adansonia grandidieri to establish a system of sustainable conservation of the species in and around the protected area in Mangoky Ankazoabo	3,821	2/14/2019	3/31/2021
Missouri Botanical Garden	Valuing local communities in the Oranjia protected area through capacity building	958,156	2/1/2019	1/31/2021
L' Association des Volontaires pour la Transmission vers le Développement Durable	Revitalizing the 7 local communities in the New Protected Area in Montagne des Français for participatory and transparent management	9,079	1/28/2019	2/28/2020
L'Association HASOA	Improve the participation of the local population in the preservation of biodiversity through a village defense structure (Kalony) in the rural commune of Beharona, District Manja of the New Protected Area Complex Mangoky Ankazoabo	15,498	1/22/2019	4/30/2021
L'ONG CODE MENABE	Equipping the Local Communities Federation in Rural Journalism for the Conservation of Protected Area Menabe Antimena	4,559	1/22/2019	2/14/2021
Conservation Centrée sur la Communauté	Improve and strengthen the community management of the key area for complex biodiversity Rigny Bay	15,499	2/1/2019	12/25/2020
MADAGASIKARA VOAKAJY	Strengthen the capacity of the MITIA base community for efficient management of the natural resources of the Ampombofofo forest	11,877	2/1/2019	11/25/2020

L'association d'Intervention pour le développement et l'Environnement	implement participatory management and monitoring system of coral reef health status at 5 pilots sites in Ngazidja	18,986	7/20/2019	9/19/2021
L'association MIHAVAO	Increasing community resilience in the Amoron'i Onilahy Protected Area in the face of climate change and overexploitation of forest resources	18,599	7/14/2019	10/30/2021
Solidarité Villageoise Volontaire au Développement	Professionalize SVVD as a major ecological actor of protected area Amoron'Onilahy, Commune Saint Augustin	-	8/12/2019	10/12/2020
L'association Club Botanique de Toliara	Know and share heritage plants in the Onilahy Basin to support community conservation	17,093	8/13/2019	1/13/2022
Babaomby Nature Conservation	Protecting biodiversity through ecotourism in the village of Ampombofofo	11,811	8/22/2019	7/22/2021
SOAMANEVA	Contributing to the Survival and Preservation of Sea Turtles in Rigny Bay	16,784	8/1/2019	3/31/2022
Initiative pour le Développement, la Restauration écologique et l'Innovation	Agora of Landscapes and Forests of Madagascar	103,062	7/1/2020	6/30/2022
Association Femmes Entrepreneurs Environnement Mahajanga	« Avicennia marina et soie sauvage : un équilibre »	40,000	5/15/2021	4/30/2022
Association des Volontaires pour la Transmission vers le Développement Durable (AVT2D)	Amélioration des activités socio-économiques pour le renforcement de la gestion rationnelle des biodiversités de la NAP Montagne des Français et AMP de la Baie d'Ambodivahibe	38,677	6/3/2021	6/3/2022
Royal Botanic Gardens Kew	Appui à la conservation durable de la biodiversité et aux moyens de subsistance des communautés autour de l'AP Massif d'Itremo et du KBA Ambatofinandrahana	30,182	6/3/2021	6/3/2022
MADAGASIKARA VOAKAJY	Soutenir la préservation de la biodiversité et le développement de la population autour d'Ampombofofo en contexte de pandémie	39,989	6/2/2021	6/2/2022
THE PEREGRINE FUND	Renforcement de la gestion communautaire de l'AP Complexe Tsimembo Manambolomaty face aux impacts de la pandémie du COVID-19	39,800	6/3/2021	6/3/2022

Annex 2: Hotspot project maps with FY21 status







Légendes:

Projets en cours

■ Small Grant

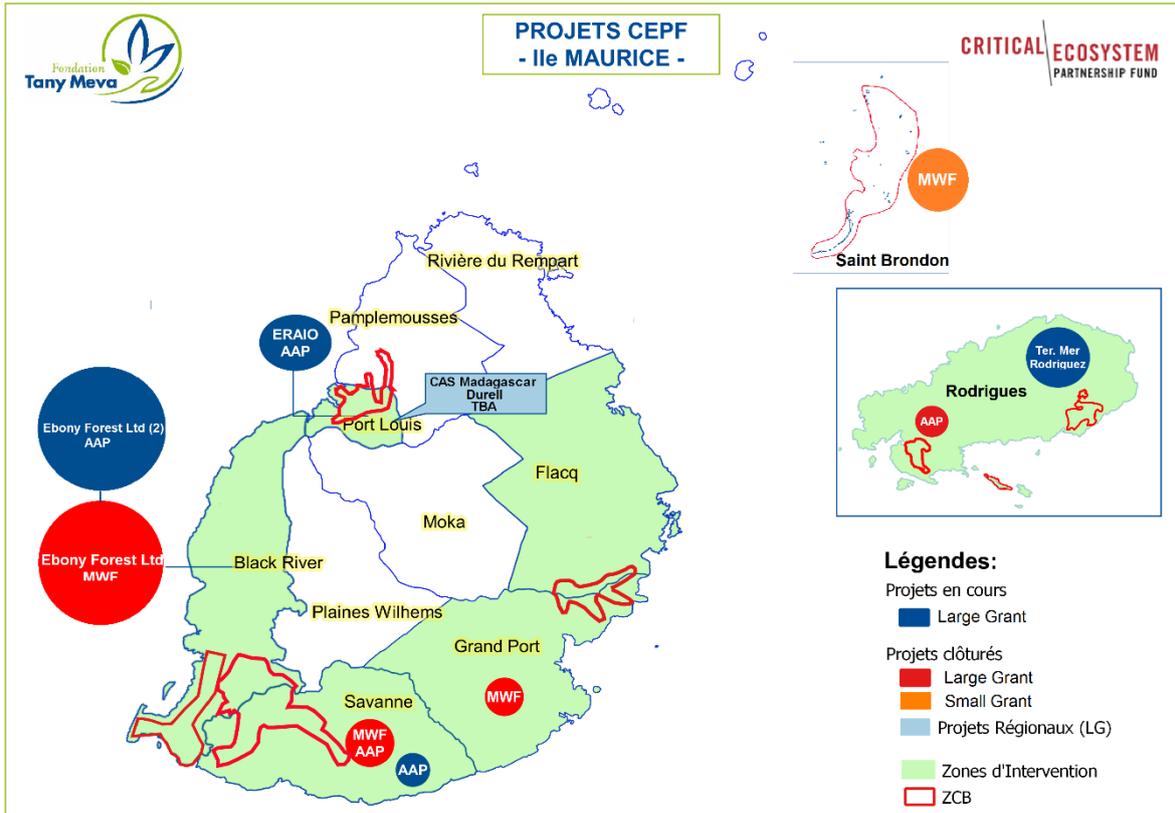
■ Large Grant

Projets clôturés

■ Large Grant

■ Zone d'Interventions

■ ZCB



Annex 3: Portfolio logframe

Objective	Targets	Progress to date (June 2021)
<p>Engage civil society in the conservation of globally threatened biodiversity through targeted investments with maximum impact on the highest conservation priorities.</p> <p>Total amount: \$ 12,278,855</p>	<p>30 Key Biodiversity Areas, covering 700,000 hectares, have new or strengthened protection and management.</p> <p>At least 10 Key Biodiversity Areas that were unprotected or under temporary protection gain officially declared permanent protected status¹, covering 87,000 hectares.</p> <p>At least 10 partnerships and networks formed among civil society, government and communities to leverage complementary capacities and maximize impact in support of the ecosystem profile.</p> <p>At least 40 civil society organizations, including at least 30 local organizations, actively participate in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile.</p>	<p>47 KBAs covering a total area of 1,631,171 ha have been strengthened.</p> <p>To date, none have received permanent status but 7 KBAs covering 87,089 ha are anticipated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 KBAs in the Seychelles (Montagne Corail/Collines du Sud & Grand Police Wetland) have been nominated for PA Status but this has not yet been achieved. • 2 KBAs (MDG33 and MDG36) are anticipated covering an additional 74,908 hectares. • 1 KBA (Long Mountain Site) Mauritius of 100 Ha. • 1 KBA (MDG211 Maevatanana-Ambato-Boeny wetlands of 1095 ha) • 1 KBA (MDG209 Ambila-Lemaintso wetland) of 342 Ha. <p>42 networks and partnerships have been created, examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee in Menabe for EIA monitoring. • Menabe Emergency team. • 1) Freshwater Species Experts for Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands; and (2) National Freshwater KBA Coordination Group for Madagascar (#65744) • Steering Committee for implementation of the Sydney Promise in Madagascar (#65777) • Dahari & Blue Ventures partnership for management of Moheli National Park. • Blue Ventures partnership with Moheli National Park. <p>56 organizations (including 37 local organizations) have been granted projects to actively participate in conservation activities guided by the ecosystem profile.</p>

<p>Outcome 1:</p> <p>Local communities empowered to protect and manage biodiversity at priority Key Biodiversity Areas.</p> <p>\$ 5,041,013</p>	<p>1.1 (IP1.1) Threat levels to at least 25 priority sites reduced through locally relevant conservation actions implemented by local communities.</p> <p>1.2.(IP 1.1) Awareness of the values of biodiversity and the nature of threats and drivers raised among local communities in at least 25 priority sites.</p> <p>1.3 (IP.1.1) Effective participation of local communities in the management of at least 10 new protected areas at priority sites.</p> <p>1.4.(IP.2.2) Mechanisms for effective participation of private landowners in improved biodiversity management on private lands for at least four priority sites.</p> <p>1.5.(IP 1.2.) Economic tools and models improving livelihoods while preserving natural capital and biodiversity (ecotourism, payments for ecosystem services, conservation agreements, etc). piloted and implemented in at least eight priority sites.</p>	<p>Threat levels have been reduced in 31 sites.</p> <p>Awareness of the values of biodiversity and the nature of threats and drivers has been raised in 52 priority sites.</p> <p>Local communities are involved in the management and strengthening of 9 protected areas: MNP 1 priority site with forest blocks and 4 zoning maps; Manjakatombo Ankaratra Massif NPA; Bongolava (MDG105); NPA Tsimembo Manambolomaty; Barren Isles (MDG13); and Plaine Corail (MUS13).</p> <p>Development of mechanisms for private sector involvement in priority site management has been achieved in 7 sites: Menabe Central Corridor NPA (MDG97); Plaine Corail (MUS13); Saint Brandon (MUS1); Montagne Corail (SYC11); Grand Police (SYC13); Moya Forest (COM1); and Saint Anne (SYC29).</p> <p>14 priority sites have developed economic tools and models for improving livelihoods while preserving natural capital and biodiversity. Some examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Baie de Rigny (MDG33) - Sheep breeding. - Bombetoka Bay (MDG85) - Livelihood improvement through the silk business. - Beza Mahafaly Special Reserve (MDG175) - New techniques in agroecology improving agricultural yield, 30 farmers trained. - Ibity NPA (MDG112) - Ecotourism management plan implemented, creating employment for the community through a guide association. - PHE partnerships established at 5 priority sites have allowed for 33,000 Couple Years of Protection in family planning. - Moya Forest (COM1) - Payment for ecosystem services scheme focusing on Livingstone's Fruit Bat. - Beanka NPA (MDG86) - Honey scheme developed in 3 villages. - Marojejy (MDG100)- Insect production related tourism. - Antsokay (MDG11, MDG67): Strengthened partnership between local tourism stakeholders and the wider tourism industry.
--	---	--

	<p>1.6 (IP 1.2.) At least 75 percent of local communities targeted by site-based projects show tangible well-being benefits.</p> <p>1.7 (IP 1.3) Capacities of local community organizations in charge of conservation and local development improved in at least 20 sites, allowing for increased sustainability and efficiency of these organizations.</p>	<p>25% of local communities targeted by site-based projects show tangible well-being benefits, such as cash income from tourism (community of Saint Augustin, Andatabo, and Ranomay); structured training; and PES. An additional 54% is expected.</p> <p>This is measured by comparing the baseline and final Civil Society Tracking Tools completed by community-based organizations and/or other through the narrative final and impact report. Improvement has been noted in 34 sites; examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacity reinforcement in LMMA Ambolombozokely. - 3 local organasiations reinforced (TARATRA in Amboanio; AFIAFY in Morahariva, ANTSIVA in Boanamary). - 5 monitoring and implementation committees per fokontany in the rural commune of Beharona are in place and operational. - Rural journalism: 22 participants trained. - Capacity building in 1 priority site of community organizations on the importance of baobabs, and community input to develop a sustainable management strategy for Adansonia grandidieri. - 1 site (MDG175) with improved community capacity: - Communities trained, experimenting and conducting actions to restore degraded forest areas. - Capacity building of the VOI SOATANAMAHAFALY in 1 priority site: Participation in a workshop on the identification of gaps in the management of Lake Ihotry.
<p>Outcome 2:</p> <p>Civil society organizations have enhanced the knowledge base for biodiversity conservation and influence decision-makers for improved mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>\$ 4,145,714</p>	<p>2.1 (IP 2.1) Baseline studies, inventories and mapping of important biodiversity areas completed for at least six sites—with at least three sites in the Comoros.</p> <p>2.2 (IP 2.2) At least three platforms or networks engaging stakeholders from development agencies, government and local authorities and private sector, to disseminate biodiversity information and influence political and economic decision-makers in favor of biodiversity.</p>	<p>Completed for 88 sites, of which 4 are in the Comoros: Moya forest (MDG1), Mount Ntringui (COM7), biodiversity of rural areas of Anjouan (outside of priority KBAs), and coastal zone of Anjouan (Bimbini peninsula and Selle Islet KBA (COM12); Pomoni Area (COM19).</p> <p>11 projects have either strengthened existing platform or created new platforms. The non-exhaustive list includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MIHARI network for Locally managed protected areas, Madagascar (improvement noted). - Astiria project for data management and protection of rare & endemic plants in Mauritius (creation of platform). - Working group created on wetland management in Madagascar (reinforcement of existing Ramsar Committee). - IPSIO network involves the conservation community working on insect research and

	<p>2.3 (IP 2.3.) Civil society actively participating in and influencing at least five local development strategies, environmental impact assessments or other appropriate decision process.</p>	<p>conservation and open dialogue with government and development NGOs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mauritian Wildlife Foundation structure an informal network of private landowners working on biodiversity preservation. <p>17 local development strategies, environmental impact assessments or other appropriate decision process have been influenced by local development strategies. The non-exhaustive list includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MCSS in Seychelles conducted biodiversity inventories and advocacy work leading to cancellation of infrastructure plan and engagement for creation of protected area. - WCS and MIHARI (Blue Ventures) projects are actively participating to the development of the Malagasy policy on Marine protected areas. - Background documents and guidance for wetland management and inclusion of wetlands in national protected area network conservation (IUCN project on Freshwater KBAs and redlisting, Wildfowl and Wetland Trust on guidance). - Vahatra project on protected areas assessment, MBG project on strengthening plant conservation in protected areas, ONE and ARSIE project on biodiversity information expected to contribute to priority setting for protected area network in Madagascar/ - Several projects at field level (in Madagascar particularly) include work on local development planning (design or revision of protected area boundaries, co-management arrangements with local communities; etc.)
	<p>2.4 (IP 2.2.) At least 12 national organizations improve their skills in advocacy and engagement with authorities and/or private sector.</p>	<p>19 national organizations improved their skills in advocacy and engagement with authorities and/or private sector.</p>
	<p>2.5 (IP 2.3) At least five partnerships between civil society organizations and private sector companies or professional organizations lead to concrete actions benefitting biodiversity conservation.</p>	<p>23 partnerships between civil society organizations and private sector companies or professional organizations have led to concrete actions benefitting biodiversity conservation. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Saint Brandon Institutional mapping - Les Amis de Nyombadjou - The Bee Keeper et Association Villageoise AMI - Ambatovy Mine - Air Mauritius, MV Vision & Rodrigues Regional Assembly - 5 hotels in the Tsinjoriake region

<p>Outcome 3:</p> <p>Regional and national capacity to conserve biodiversity increased through civil society partnerships, within the conservation community and with other stakeholders.</p> <p>\$ 1,317,880</p>	<p>3.1 (IP 3.1.) At least 40 community leaders and/or development professionals with improved capacities and engagement to preserve biodiversity.</p> <p>3.2 (IP 3.1.) At least 15 students—including at least six from the Comoros—successfully achieve a degree in a field related to conservation.</p> <p>3.3 (IP 3.2) At least 12 organizations engaged in a lasting mentoring or partnering relationship at the regional level.</p> <p>3.4 (IP 3.2) At least one regional network is created or reinforced allowing exchange of experience and mutual support at the regional level, enabling collective responses to priority and emerging threats.</p> <p>3.5 (IP 3.2) At least 20 local civil society organizations demonstrate improvements in organizational capacity, project development and institutional fundraising.</p>	<p>54 men and 48 women have benefited from 4 trainings on biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>57 students, including 2 from the Comoros, successfully achieved a degree in a field related to conservation.</p> <p>9 existing mentoring or long-lasting partnering relationships are active at the regional level. They include: Blue Venture, Dahari, GWC, Francois Leguat, BCM, DBCAM, WCT, and PHE.</p> <p>9 networks are currently active, including the IPSIO (Insects & People of the Southern Indian Ocean) network created and active with already important results (additional funding for insect research, for insect & food program, etc.). There is also a networking exercise among CEPF grantees in the region supported by Tropical Biology Association. Four informal networks have been created/supported at national level, on amphibians, freshwater biodiversity and LMMAs in Madagascar, and plant database in Mauritius.</p> <p>Baseline civil society tracking tool data have been received for 44 local organizations. Eight grantees have improved their score between Baseline and Endline. However, many baseline and/or endlines were not scheduled, therefore this indicator cannot be taken at face value.</p>
<p>Outcome 4:</p> <p>A regional implementation team provides strategic leadership and effectively coordinates CEPF investment in the Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands Hotspot.</p> <p>\$ 1,317,880</p>	<p>O1. At least 40 civil society organizations, including at least 30 local organizations actively participate in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile.</p> <p>4.2 (IP4.2) At least 80 percent of local civil society organizations receiving grants demonstrate more effective capacity to</p>	<p>56 organizations, including 37 local organizations, have been granted projects to actively participate in conservation activities guided by the ecosystem profile.</p> <p>18% of local civil society organizations receiving grants have demonstrated more effective capacity as measured by the CSTT tool. However many baseline and/or endlines were not scheduled, therefore this indicator cannot be taken at face value.</p>

	<p>design and implement conservation actions.</p> <p>4.3 (IP4.2) At least 20 civil society organizations supported by CEPF secure follow-up funding from other donors.</p> <p>4.4 (IP4.1) At least two participatory assessments are undertaken and lessons learned and best practices from the hotspot are documented.</p>	<p>25 CSOs have secured follow-on funding from other donors.</p> <p>One participatory assessment was conducted in late 2019 (the mid-term assessment) and the final assessment is planned for May 2022.</p>
--	---	---

Annex 4: Supervision Mission Table – FY21

Name of Grantee	Location	KBA	Award Date	Type	Stage	Number of missions in FY21	Supervision mission date
ONG TAOTSARA	Madagascar		5/4/2019	Large Grant	Grant Active	1	11/18/2020
Madagascar Fauna and Flora Group	Madagascar		2/15/2019	Large Grant	Grant Active	1	11/19/2020
YOUNG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION	Madagascar			Large Grant	Grant Active	1	9/21/2020
Planet Madagascar	Madagascar			Large Grant	Grant Active	1	24-25/01/2021
Ny Tanintsika	Madagascar			Large Grant	Grant Active	1	6/16/2021
ASSOCIATION TSIMOKA	Madagascar			Large Grant	Grant Active	1	3/11/2021
Madagascar National Parks	Madagascar			Large Grant	Grant Active	1	1/20/2021
Conservation International	Madagascar			Large Grant	Grant Active	1	2 and 9/03/2021
Dahari	Comoros		6/4/2017	Large Grant	Grant Closed	1	24-27/07/2020
The Peregrine Fund	Madagascar		12/12/2016	Large Grant	Grant Closed	1	9/17/2020
BNC	DIANA	MDG-16 Ampombofo	4/10/2019	Small Grant	Grant Active	1	03 and 05/03/21
SOAMANEVA	DIANA	MDG-33 Complexe de la Baie de Rigny	4/10/2019	Small Grant	Grant Active	1	06 and 08/03/21
Les amis de Nyumbadjou	Comores	COM-5 Massif du Karthala	4/10/2019	Small Grant	Grant Active	1	4/25/2021
AIDE	Comores	COM-10 Récifs coralliens de Grande Comore	4/10/2019	Small Grant	Grant Active	1	6/21/2021
ONG Mhachiricho	Comores	COM-11 Récifs coralliens de Mohéli - hors Parc Marin	4/10/2019	Small Grant	Grant Active	2	5-10/07/20 and 26-27/07/21
Reniala	Boeny	MDG-143 Parc National	2/15/2018	Small Grant	Grant Active	1	20 et 21/01/21

		de la Baie de Baly					
Association Tanjona	Boeny	MDG-143 Parc National de la Baie de Baly	4/19/2018	Small Grant	Grant Active	1	19 au 21/01/21
CBT	Atsimo andrefana	MDG-67 NAP Amoron'i Onilahy et Rivière Onilahy	4/10/2019	Small Grant	Grant Active	1	11/6/2020
MIHAVAO	ATSIMO ANDREFANA	MDG-67 NAP Amoron'i Onilahy et Rivière Onilahy	4/10/2019	Small Grant	Grant Active	1	7/16/2021
Velondriake	Atsimo andrefana	MDG-12 AMP de Velondriake	11/23/2015	Small Grant	Grant Active	1	11/4/2020
HASOA	MENABE	MDG-92 NAP Complexe Mangoky-Ankazoabo	11/8/2018	Small Grant	Grant Active	1	9/18/2020
C3	DIANA	MDG-33 Complexe de la Baie de Rigny	06 et 08/11/2018	Small Grant	Grant Closed	1	06 et 09/03/21
AEDAction	Atsinanana	MDG-209 Zone humide d'Ambila-Lemaintso	15 et 24/02/2018	Small Grant	Grant Closed	1	11/18/2020
MAVOA	DIANA	MDG-16 Ampombofo	06 et 08/11/2018	Small Grant	Grant Closed	1	03 et 04/03/21
EDEM	Boeny	MDG-141 Parc National d'Ankarafantsika et Ampijoroa	11/8/2018	Small Grant	Grant Closed	1	22 et 23/01/21
FEEM	Boeny	MDG-85 NAP Baie de Bombetoka – Marovoaya	11/8/2018	Small Grant	Grant Closed	1	1/23/2021

Association Tafita	Boeny	MDG-141 Parc National d'Ankarafantsika et Ampijoroa	2/15/2018	Small Grant	Grant Closed	1	24 and 25/01/21
CNFEREF	MENABE	MBG-97 NAP Corridor Central de Menabe	5/29/2017	Small Grant	Grant Closed	1	11/28/2020
Groupe des Spécialistes et Passionnés des Baobab de Madagascar	Atsimo andrefana	MDG-92 NAP Complexe Mangoky-Ankazoabo	10/25/2018	Small Grant	Grant Closed	1	7/14/2021