

## **Process Framework for Involuntary Restrictions**

**17<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

**CEPF Grant: CEPF-100798**

**Fauna & Flora International**

From Bee-burners to Beekeepers: Supporting Community Beekeeping Organization in  
Príncipe

Príncipe, Guinean Forests of West Africa Hotspot

## **Grant Summary**

1. Grantee organization: Fauna & Flora International
2. Grant title: From Bee-burners to Beekeepers: Supporting Community Beekeeping Organization in Príncipe
3. Grant number CEPF-100798
4. Grant amount (US dollars): \$199,962.54
5. Proposed dates of grant: 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 – 30<sup>th</sup> May 2019
6. Countries or territories where project will be undertaken: Príncipe , Sao Tome and Príncipe
7. Date of preparation of this document. 17th March 2017

**The Process Framework describes the project and how restrictions of access to natural resources and measures to assist affected communities will be implemented. This is a preliminary draft and affected communities will have the opportunity to participate in the drafting of the Process Framework. This draft Framework will be shared and discussed with local communities and other relevant stakeholders if funding is secured to deliver the project. Based on the consultations, a final Framework will be prepared, with the additional support and guidance of CEPF.**

### **A. Project background**

- B. Príncipe's forests are among the most biodiverse in Africa, and contain a level of endemism comparable to other oceanic islands such as the Galapagos. This is centered on the island's extensive primary and secondary forests, much of which are contained within the Natural Park, Parque Natural do Príncipe (PNP). All of the island's forests, including those within PNP, are used by the island's citizens for hunting, timber and foraging for non-timber forest products. This can cause substantial damage to wildlife and threaten species. At the same time, Príncipe has very few civil society organizations or formal businesses with a stake in conserving the island's wildlife. Local communities are poor and have few opportunities to engage with conservation, or to diversify their livelihoods away from potentially damaging activities.

Honey is currently collected from wild colonies of honeybees (*Apis mellifera adansonii*) by a destructive method that includes burning the nest, killing most of the bees and risking uncontrolled fires in important habitat. Honey collectors are known as "queimá vunvú" which literally means "bee-burners" in the local Forro dialect. They put themselves at risk scaling trees up to 25m high with minimal safety equipment to reach wild bee colonies, and the extraction method used means that the final honey is usually of poor quality with low levels of hygiene and contaminated by eggs and pupae.

Government officials report that the practice of burning wild bee colonies has had a significant impact on the abundance of bees in Príncipe, and as a result the production of honey has fallen significantly in the last 15 years. As such, honey collectors also engage in other non-sustainable activities inside and around PNP such as illegal wood harvest, hunting, and charcoal production as a way to increase their earnings. This places significant pressure on this KBA and is responsible for a

substantial proportion of damage and degradation within the PNP. The combined effect is to degrade both primary and secondary forests, through direct activities and very likely through reduced presence of keystone pollinators.

The current honey-collection method on Principe is not yet illegal if practiced outside the national park, however the local government is currently in the process of drafting new regional legislation to support beekeeping and prohibit bee burning throughout the island. The activity is already considered illegal if practiced within the national park boundaries, however local resources for enforcement are minimal, and due to the lack of other livelihoods options and weak enforcement, many locals often do not respect the park boundaries.

In addition, the current honey-collection method is highly destructive, unsustainable and destructive killing the majority of bees in the hive during harvesting. Moreover it is dangerous to the people involved who must climb tall trees with no safety equipment. And finally it produces low quality honey which has a lower market value than clean, well prepared domesticated honey.

While this project will support the government's development of legislation, and thereby contribute to the restriction of access to a natural resource (honey), its primary focus is to provide an alternative model of honey production that is legal, sustainable and non-destructive.

FFI/FPT launched in April a Campaign to Protect the Bees in Principe and a protocol of cooperation was signed with the Principe Beekeepers cooperative, the park authority, the forest department, and the regional Economy secretary. FFI/PTF has also produced new awareness raising materials to support the conservation efforts for Principe Bees, and has been distributing stickers and posters to the local communities to raise their awareness about the importance of the bees.

The FFI/PTF Terrestrial Biodiversity conservation manager has been assisting the local government in the development of a law to protect Principe Bees, effectively drafting the new law in strong consultation with the Principe Beekeepers cooperative. After a consensus law was drafted a public consultation of the law was held on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016 which more than 50 people, including many government officials, attended. Suggestions from this consultation were taken into account to improve the draft, and following some small adjustments a final version proposed at the consultation was fully approved by consensus. The legislation is now with regional government and a vote is expected soon. If the law is approved it will be implemented immediately.

### **C. Participatory implementation**

#### **i. Procedure development**

FFI has a position statement and guidance document related to displacement (including economic displacement i.e. the loss of or restricted access to livelihood resources) that was approved by FFI's Council in 2016. FFI endeavors to ensure that our conservation activities do not disadvantage or undermine poor, vulnerable or marginalized people who are dependent upon or live adjacent to natural resources, and wherever possible we seek to conserve biodiversity in ways that enhance local well-being and social equity. We are committed to respecting human rights, promoting their protection and realization within our conservation programs, and supporting the governance

systems that can secure those rights. We are one of the founding members of the Conservation Initiative on Human Rights (<http://www.thecihr.org>), a consortium of international conservation NGOs that seek to improve the practice of conservation by promoting the integration of human rights in conservation policy and practice.

FFI seeks to uphold this position in all of its partnerships, including with government departments, the corporate sector and civil society organizations.

This draft procedure has been developed by FFI as part of the CEPF proposal development process.

Prior to finalizing and implementation it will be discussed, revised and approved with:

- COOPAPIP
- The local government officials from the park authority, the Forestry direction and the Economy Secretariat.
- CEPF
- Relevant local communities

## ii. Project implementation

FFI will take a participatory approach throughout this project. To achieve our project goals, we will continue to work in close partnership with the nascent bee-keeping co-operative COOPAPIP, the PNP authority, the Príncipe autonomous government and the Fundação Príncipe Trust to encourage participation at various levels of project delivery. Our guiding principles of participation include:

- Participatory processes should be ‘well governed’ (transparent, accountable, legitimate, fair and inclusive).
- There should be sufficient capacity for all involved (community members, government agency staff, civil society actors, etc.) to meaningfully participate, which may require capacity strengthening for some or all groups.
- Sufficient time should be built into decision-making processes to enable genuine participation.
- Participation should be equitable, with particular attention to ensuring accessibility and ‘voice’ of those who may be marginalized or vulnerable. This may involve additional financial, technical, time, and other resources for some groups, and attention to issues of language and culture.
- Processes should be based upon and encourage mutual respect between participants, including substantive roles and appropriate power sharing.
- Representation and leadership should be inclusive and effective.
- Participation should be an integral part of any activity or project cycle, commencing at the outset of activities and continuing through project/program design, management, monitoring and evaluation.

Specific activities to facilitate wide participation in project activities will include:

- COOPAPIP and other local people will be involved in bee hive trials in order to identify their preferred method of beekeeping. This preference will then be acted on in the remainder of the project through equipment and training support.

- A role assessment will be conducted based on market research and hive trails, and women and men will be consulted on the types of roles in which they would like to be involved. They will then receive training and equipment wherever possible to support that preference. Initial preference will be given to the members of COOPAPIP, but FFI will work in partnership with the local population and regional government to ensure more are given the chance to engage in beekeeping.
- Women will be encouraged to participate in the project. Strategies will initially include, but not be limited to, including females in supportive beekeeping tasks such as sewing materials, taking care of the nursery, the honey extraction and packing, marketing, as well as developing and exploring adding value to bee products that can be made and sold locally, creating more livelihood opportunities, recipes and processed products associate to beekeeping.
- During the project special attention will be given to engage woman and encourage them to promote safe, direct contact with the bees in the hope that at least some will lose their fear of the bees and may become interested in becoming beekeepers.

In the event that the project generates significant interest and the training sessions and materials are over-subscribed, preference for participants will be given to existing members of COOPAPIP. If necessary community sessions will be held to ensure the selection process for applicants is transparent and avoids any negative bias.

We acknowledged that there will be constraints on the number of people that we can provide beekeeping materials too (approximately 30 people), but the training events can involve many more if there is greater interest in becoming in involved. In this case we will arrange additional training sessions in other communities at little extra cost. In addition over the course of the project we will encourage the members of COOPAPIP to independently (as far as possible) organize further introductions to beekeeping training beyond the two years of the project to ensure that other people will continue to be trained.

Project members will be involved in participatory research to guide the decisions about the types of hives to be adopted in Principe, as well in the selection of species and implementation of the demonstrative agroforestry and community nursery. Their wishes will be balanced with technical scientific knowledge provided by the project technical experts, in an effort to balance both inputs and manage community expectations of the project results.

The project will also bring local beekeepers into closer contact with Príncipe autonomous government officials through support to attend stakeholder meetings. This will enable them to better influence the development of legislation that may affect their access to natural resources.

Consultations will be held within local communities at times that both men and women are able to participate. They will be held in Portuguese, as the language in most common use of the island. Notification of the meetings will be made beforehand via notice boards to be installed at the Honey House, the FPT office, SMS messages to people with phones, and by word of mouth, so people have time to arrange attendance. The meetings will be hold in accessible places (city centre), and if

necessary the future project car will be used to facilitate transport to meetings held at the Honey house (Ponta do Sol neighborhood).

#### **D. Criteria for eligibility of affected persons**

People affected by the restrictions proposed in the project will largely be those currently engaged in illegal bee burning activity outside of the PNP. Once the law is in place, this activity will be prohibited throughout the island.

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the African Development Bank Group classify displaced/affected persons as follows:

- those who have formal legal rights to the land or other assets (including customary and traditional rights recognised under national laws);
- those who do not have formal legal rights to land or assets at the time of the census, but who have a claim that is recognised or recognisable under the national laws (including persons who may not have any assets or direct sources of livelihood derived from the project site, but who have spiritual and/or ancestral ties with the land); or
- those who have no recognisable legal right or claim to the land they occupy. This third category includes squatters who claim or make use of land without formal legal rights, and others, who may have usufruct or customary claims to affected land or other resources not recognised or recognisable under national laws.

Other affected persons will include:

- Local government
- Members of COOPAPIP
- Community members involved in the project
- Community members not involved in the project
- All those who currently engage in honey collection practices in the PNP

#### **E. Measures to assist the affected persons**

We do not anticipate that any individuals will be eligible for compensation as a result of this project. This is because the project itself will not limit or prohibit access to natural resources. It will offer safer, more sustainable alternatives to honey collection and support the government in their development of legislation (which will, in time, restrict access to natural resources).

Persons affected by this project are largely those who are voluntarily participating in the project. It is possible that there may be individuals who would like to take part in the project but who are unable to for a number of reasons. From the projects side we will be limited in the number of people we can adequately resource to set up beekeeping. However local materials will be used wherever possible to reduce costs of setting up a hive as far as possible. It is likely that there will be additional spaces at the training sessions to the number of sets of material we can distribute s we proposed to encourage all interested parties to attend the training process to build skills and raise awareness. In particular we are aware that women may not want to take part due to cultural traditions related to bee handling, but we will aim to engage women in the later stages of the process (processing, bottling, production of secondary products e.g. candles).

There may also be people who are inadvertently negatively affected by the project who have not been identified during the development of this process. If this situation arises during consultation on this process, the process will be adapted to account for their situation. If this situation arises during implementation of the project, the people concerned will be able to seek redress through the grievance mechanism outlined below.

#### **F. Conflict resolution and complaint mechanism.**

A grievance mechanism will be established to enable the receipt, review and addressing of affected communities' concerns and complaints. Any person or group who is affected has a right to raise a grievance and the project proponent has the responsibility to respond within a reasonable time period.

Should there be a need for a formal complaints mechanism, the following will apply:

- The project coordinator in Principe will be the first contact point for grievances. His details will be shared on project communications such as posters and leaflets, together with the contact details of the Regional Implementation Team Sub-regional Officer for the Gulf of Guinea Islands, and he will be present at stakeholder meetings to enable face to face communications. He will be based within the Fundação Príncipe Trust.
- FFI and the Fundação Príncipe Trust will support him in resolving any conflicts as they arise. The process will involve discussions with all affected persons, COOPAPIP management and if needed the Regional government to identify a solution to which all are able to agree within the law and without negatively affecting others. Any grievances raised with FFI will be communicated to the Regional Implementation Team and the CEPF Grant Director within 15 days, together with a proposed response.
- For complaints that cannot be resolved through this mechanism, the grievance will be escalated as per the CEPF grievance policy and procedure.

#### **G. Implementation Arrangements**

This project builds on existing initiatives and has been developed in consultation with project stakeholders. This is the first method employed to reduce the likelihood of conflict and complaints.

Posters, leaflets and a grant roll-out meeting will provide information to stakeholders on the purpose, goals, scope and intended activities of this project. They will help to manage expectations among affected persons and will also reduce the likelihood of complaints during implementation.

Regular stakeholder meetings will provide a forum for issues to be shared and resolved in a timely and transparent manner. This should reduce the need for a formal grievance mechanism to be used.

The contact details of the project coordinator on Principe will be made available on public communications related to this project, to enable the grievance mechanism to be activated. Details of stakeholder meetings will also be shared in advance to enable face to face communications.