

**Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund**  
No Objection Approval Pursuant to Section 2.03(c) of the Financing Agreement

21 March 2016

**Selection of Instituto Internacional de Educação do Brasil as the  
Regional Implementation Team for the Cerrado Biodiversity Hotspot**

**Recommended Action Item**

The Donor Council is asked to approve, on a no-objection basis, the selection of Instituto Internacional de Educação do Brasil (IEB) as the Regional Implementation Team (RIT) for the Cerrado Biodiversity Hotspot.

The deadline for no-objection approval is **4 April 2016**.

**Background**

*Selection of the Regional Implementation Team for the Cerrado Biodiversity Hotspot*

On 11 November 2015, CEPF requested organizations interested in serving as the RIT for the Cerrado to submit an expression of interest by 4 December 2015, in order to pre-qualify for a formal proposal. Seven organizations submitted an expression of interest by the deadline and were invited to submit full proposals. The Request for Proposals (RfP) was released on 16 December 2015. The RfP placed the maximum value of proposals at \$1,000,000, as per the approved Spending Authority for this Strategic Direction in the Ecosystem Profile. Two organizations submitted valid proposals by the closing date of 7 February 2016: Conservation International (CI) – Brazil ; and IEB. The CEPF Secretariat reviewed these proposals in February, and conducted interviews with the two applicants during 19-22 February 2016. Following the reviews and interviews, the Secretariat ranked IEB first and CI-Brazil second. The Secretariat then shared the full proposals and its evaluation summary with the CEPF Working Group.

On 18 March 2015, the Working Group met to discuss the evaluation of the Secretariat. During the meeting, and via written comments, the Working Group expressed its satisfaction with the evaluation process and also indicated its full support for the recommendation made by the Secretariat. Hence, the Working Group agreed to recommend to the Donor Council the selection of IEB as the RIT for the Cerrado Biodiversity Hotspot, and authorized the Secretariat to enter into negotiations with IEB to resolve a small number of issues with its application.

The assessment of proposals provided to the Working Group is attached. Additional documents provided to the Working Group are listed below and available for download from the following link: [https://www.dropbox.com/sh/7x663hw7tyadi6g/AADmO5oHppuva42ML\\_-GUKiqa?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/7x663hw7tyadi6g/AADmO5oHppuva42ML_-GUKiqa?dl=0)

Attachment 1: Proposal from Conservation International - Brazil

Attachment 2: Proposal from Instituto Internacional de Educação do Brasil