

**Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
33rd Meeting of the CEPF Donor Council
Agence Française de Développement
5 Rue Roland Barthes, 75012 Paris
10 September 2018
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Central European Standard Time**

Action Points Review

The 32nd CEPF Donor Council meeting took place on 6 February 2018 at the Conservation International office in Arlington, USA. The agenda included decisions related to the CEPF governance arrangements, discussions on ecosystem-based adaptation for climate change as possibly a new niche for CEPF, and consideration of how to balance risk and accessibility of funding when working with local grantees. The agenda also included the reporting from the World Bank on its CEPF assessments and related action points.

During the meeting, the Donor Council:

- Approved the revised minutes of the 31st Meeting of the Donor Council.
- Agreed that the suggested text on governance be re-worked and included revised texts (see DC 32 Approved Minutes).
- Supported the Green Climate Fund (GCF) proposal as an important project to promote ecosystem-based approach to adapt to and mitigate climate change, underlining that promoting the role of critical ecosystems for climate change is at the heart of CEPF's mission. Members also made several recommendations and comments.
- Agreed that CEPF must preserve its niche and *raison d'être* by continuing to target small grants to local actors in developing countries.

The Donor Council also requested that the Secretariat:

- Post on the CEPF website the infographic for the Impacts of CEPF.
 - ✓ **The full Impact Report and the highlights summary are posted on the website, in the Impact section, where related graphics can also be found.**

Impact Report:

- Revise the report to include a new graphic for Figure 1 (pertaining to pillars) and improve text to better explain the gender-disaggregated data.
 - ✓ **The Impact Report has been revised as requested and the new version uploaded on CEPF website.**
- Ensure that future efforts to share impact data include presentation of progress towards meeting hotspot/portfolio level targets.
 - ✓ **This request will be addressed in FY19 when the next reports containing impact data are prepared.**

- Consider attendance at several high-level meetings focusing on demonstrating CEPF's contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and CBD Aichi Targets.
 - ✓ **February 2018: At the invitation of the Milken Institute and the Sheth Sangreal Foundation, Olivier Langrand presented CEPF during the 2018 Conservation Philanthropy Retreat in Los Angeles.**
 - April 2018: Olivier presented CEPF work in KBA identification at the KBA Partnership meeting in Austin, with a presentation titled "Key Biodiversity Areas and Their Importance for the "Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework" and in preparation of the CBD COP 14 that will take place in November 2018.**
 - April 2018: Olivier attended the Flyways Conference organized by BirdLife International in Abu Dhabi. Presentation was made in the session on Partnership Alliance dedicated to promoting investment in conservation.**
 - June 2018: Olivier presented the results of the Ecosystem Profile of Caribbean Islands during the Caribaea Initiative Symposium in Guadeloupe.**
 - In the context of CEPF investment portfolio supervision missions, Olivier Langrand visited many CEPF donors as well as donors involved in conservation such as the EU in Bolivia, Madagascar and Lebanon; GEF in Bolivia and in Lebanon; AFD in Bolivia and Lebanon; Japan in Bolivia; and the ADB in Bolivia.**

- Consider the question of measuring impacts in terms of money spent.
 - ✓ **The FY18 annual report contains infographics comparing percentage of portfolio funds earmarked for each strategic direction, to progress towards strategic direction targets. Discussions are underway to improve the presentation of this information.**

New Website:

- Send information on the new website encouraging Donor Council members to share this on their social networks.
 - ✓ **The Executive Director sent this information in an email dated 21 February.**

CEPF Governance:

- Revise the Governance text with the new suggestions from the Donor Council and send it to the Donor Council members by no later than 13 February 2018 for review and comments before seeking electronic no-objection for final approval.
 - ✓ **Discussions on "CEPF Donors Membership and Rules of Engagement" took place during Donor Council Meetings # 29 (June 2016), 31 (June 2017) and 32 (February 2018) under agenda items entitled "Governance." As per the request of the Donor Council (Minutes of Donor Council #32 of April 2018), the CEPF Secretariat circulated a revised version of the text describing the terms of the membership of CEPF donors as well as their rules of engagement, and solicited comments, and sought an electronic no-objection for final approval, by 5 June 2018. No objections were received.**

Balance of Risk and Accessibility of Funding when Working with High-Risk Grantees:

- Formulate a proposal for possible targeting (limited) of additional funds to mitigate financial risk, especially through financial capacity building for grantees.
 - ✓ **The CEPF Secretariat is currently implementing a number of measures to mitigate financial risk, including compulsory orientations for new grantees, developing an overall compliance monitoring plan for each hotspot, formalizing requirements for financial site visits to large grants, and formalizing expectations of RITs with regard to**

management of small grant mechanisms. The CEPF Secretariat is exploring additional measures to mitigate financial risk, informed by internal discussion and the findings the detail fiduciary review conducted by the World Bank. For instance, it has been suggested to restructure RIT grants to ensure they include a full-time qualified financial manager responsible for monitoring the financial management of large and small grants. If any of these measures require additional funds for the Secretariat and/or RITs, a proposal will be formulated for consideration by the Donor Council.

- Develop a risk assessment framework based on multiple dimensions of risk (outcome, technical, financial and social capital) that would inform the selection of grants and the definition of mitigation actions.
 - ✓ **The CEPF Secretariat has yet to begin to develop a new risk assessment framework, due to other priorities since the previous Donor Council meeting.**