

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

Approved Minutes

Twelfth Meeting of the Donor Council
World Bank Headquarters, Washington, DC
20 November 2007

1. **Welcome and introductions** (Doc.CEPP/DC12/1)
The Acting Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. She reported that the MacArthur Foundation representative could not be present, but that he had provided his vote by proxy to the Conservation International representative agreeing with each of the actions recommended in the detailed agenda.
2. **Adoption of agenda** (Doc.CEPP/DC12/2)
The meeting agenda was adopted.
3. **Adoption of minutes of the Eleventh Meeting of the CEPP Donor Council**
(Doc.CEPP/DC12/3)
The Donor Council adopted the minutes of the Eleventh Meeting of the Donor Council, which took place on 18 July 2007.
4. **Follow up to decisions taken at the Eleventh Meeting of the CEPP Donor Council**
(Doc.CEPP/DC12/4)
The Executive Director provided an update on actions taken in follow up to decisions from the Eleventh Meeting of the Council. This included:
 - The Donor Council approved the revised Operational Manual on a no-objection basis as of 18 September 2007. A summary of the approach to engage the private sector in implementation also has been added to the section on ecosystem profiling, completing the GEF Council conditions for replenishment. The formal agreement for additional GEF support is scheduled to be signed on Dec. 18, 2007. The revised Operational Manual is now in force to guide investment in new regions.
 - The Secretariat provided a synthesis of accomplishments to the MacArthur Foundation from the recently completed World Bank Implementation Completion Report, as well as a document specifically on results in the Tropical Andes Hotspot. Following receipt of these documents, the MacArthur Foundation issued formal approval of a new grant to provide additional support for CEPP.
 - The Secretariat has commissioned a small study to assess the CEPP portfolio for linkages to climate change resilience and mitigation. The results could help inform future approaches. Council members suggested that they could also share their own experiences related to climate change and biodiversity. The Council agreed that addressing climate change is of great importance and identifying linkages, such as climate change resilience, would be relevant but should not become an explicit condition for grant planning.
 - The Secretariat produced a table outlining the respective roles of CI and the Donor Council in fiduciary management of the Fund. The Donor Council requested that the

Working Group be removed from the title of the table or a footnote added to clarify that the Working Group itself does not have any role in fiduciary management.

In addition, the Acting Chairperson reported that the World Bank President believes the partnership is extremely important, but he has now made a policy decision not to sit on any boards or councils and thus has decided not to chair the Council. She said the President could, however, meet with the Council prior to Council meetings and participate in funding outreach, for example. She said her vice presidency would work to get opportunities into briefings for him at high levels. The Council members agreed that the President's decision not to chair the Council was unfortunate but that the World Bank's overall commitment to the partnership remains the most important. The Council agreed that the Executive Director should canvas Council members on chairmanship and report back with a proposal, a decision for which could be made through a teleconference or no-objection approval.

5. **Report on progress by the Executive Director** (Doc.CEPP/DC12/5)

The Executive Director highlighted recent activities from his written report on progress since the last meeting of the Donor Council. These included a visit to Tokyo where he met with Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Environment, and Japan International Cooperation Agency representatives. He also mentioned a recent visit to CI Headquarters by a French governmental delegation, including the Minister of Cooperation for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the AFD Donor Council representative. The AFD representative thanked Conservation International (CI) for hosting the delegation. He said the visit was highly successful and reported that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has decided to second a technical staff member to CEPF, the arrangements for which are in development. He also said that AFD is very interested in China, particularly related to conservation, agriculture and reforestation, and would like to discuss opportunities to partner more at the local level with CEPF in this region. The Government of Japan representative said he was satisfied with the Executive Director's briefings in Tokyo and said he would like to see greater efforts to make the Japanese people more aware of biodiversity conservation and also the role of CEPF.

6. **Selection of Regional Implementation Teams for Indochina, Polynesia-Micronesia, and the Western Ghats** (Doc.CEPP/DC12/6)

The Executive Director summarized the competitive process undertaken to solicit applications for Regional Implementation Teams in these three new investment regions, as well as the discussion and recommendations of the Working Group as detailed in Document CEPF/DC/12/6. He reported that the process went very well but that a call for proposals may not be the most suitable way to attract the best candidates and the Secretariat may work together with the Working Group to refine the selection process. He also clarified that the ecosystem profile approved by the Donor Council for the Western Ghats and Sri Lanka Hotspot focuses strictly on the Western Ghats and does not include Sri Lanka at this time.

Donor Council members discussed how two of the three Regional Implementation Teams proposed for approval by the Working Group are international, rather than local, organizations and also discussed the potential of re-advertising in Polynesia-Micronesia due to the limited choice of applicants as well as the low quality of the application proposed for approval. The GEF Council member recommended that a clear statement about how conflict of interest was avoided should be included in future recommendations and also that collaboration with the GEF Small Grants Program should be considered. The World Bank Task Manager said the Working Group's recommendations are based on a unanimous decision of the group and also reflected how it is much easier to attract qualified local candidates to lead implementation of an ecosystem profile that covers a single country

profile, such as that for the Western Ghats (India), rather than profiles encompassing multiple countries, such as those for Indochina and Polynesia-Micronesia.

The Donor Council approved the following recommendations from the Working Group:

- The selection of BirdLife International as the Regional Implementation Team for the Indochina region of the Indo-Burma Hotspot. The Secretariat shall finalize the work plan and budget together with BirdLife, with a particular emphasis on developing a strategic approach to address the coverage of the Regional Implementation Team in Thailand and the southern part of China as the proposal focuses on only three of the five countries covered by the ecosystem profile due to the resources available. BirdLife's Indochina regional program with offices in Hanoi, Vietnam, and Phnom Penh, Cambodia would lead the Regional Implementation Team.
- The selection of Conservation International (CI) as the Regional Implementation Team for the Polynesia-Micronesia Hotspot provided that the organization submits a substantially revised and complete proposal acceptable to the Working Group and Secretariat. This shall include a more detailed performance tracker with definitive activities and outcomes as well as a specific output for managing small grants, among other things. Once a revised proposal is accepted, the Secretariat shall work together with CI to finalize the work plan and budget. CI's Pacific Islands Program based in Apia, Samoa would lead the Regional Implementation Team.
- Selection of Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE) as the Regional Implementation Team for the Western Ghats region of the Western Ghats and Sri Lanka Hotspot. The Secretariat shall finalize the work plan and budget with ATREE, with particular emphasis on reviewing the proposed Steering Committee structure. ATREE, a local organization with four offices and field stations throughout India, would lead the Regional Implementation Team.

The Council also agreed that the following actions shall be taken:

- The Secretariat shall assess the overall strategic approach for selection of Regional Implementation Teams with the Working Group, including whether lessons could be learned from other partnerships with a similar goal and also whether collaboration could be scaled up with others such as the GEF Small Grants Program.
- The Working Group shall include a statement on the overall process in future recommendations to the Council for selection of Regional Implementation Teams.

7. **CEPF Fund-raising Strategy, FY 2008-2012 (Doc.CEPF/DC12/7)**

The Donor Council approved the CEPF Fund-raising Strategy for fiscal years 2008-2012 and invited future updates to the strategy as needed. The strategy sets out the overarching approach for the partnership to secure a total of \$150 million for implementation of the new CEPF 5-year Strategic Framework approved by the Donor Council in July 2007. The strategy sets a first benchmark of \$18 million and a second of an additional \$50 million to meet the total goal of \$150 million for implementation. The Council agreed that the effort should enlarge the funding base but that it is important for additional partners to also have substantial commitments, rather than inviting multiple smaller donors, and for all the partners to share the common vision and strategic approach. The Council members discussed how other

national governments and bilateral and multilateral agencies would be welcome as partners in the program. They agreed that the Secretariat should develop a short briefing for discussion on potential terms and conditions for engaging major private sector entities in the partnership.

8. Time and place of the next meeting of the Donor Council

The Donor Council agreed that the next meeting will be held on 21 April 2008 in Washington DC. This date was chosen to coincide with the GEF Council meeting and therefore enable greater ease in participation by the Government of Japan and other members who would already have representatives attending the GEF Council meeting. The Donor Council members also agreed that the Secretariat should consider and discuss with Japan potential opportunities for raising awareness of CEPF and biodiversity conservation in Japan.

List of Follow-up Actions:

1. The Secretariat will update the title of the table outlining the respective roles of the Donor Council and Conservation International in fiduciary management to exclude the Working Group as it does not have a role in fiduciary management.
2. The Council requested that the Executive Director canvas Council members on chairmanship and report back with a proposal, a decision for which could be made through a conference call or on a no-objection approval.
3. Regarding the Donor Council's approval of Regional Implementation Teams:
 - a. The Secretariat will finalize the work plan and budget together with BirdLife as the Regional Implementation Team for Indochina, with a particular emphasis on developing a strategic approach to address the coverage of the Regional Implementation Team in Thailand and the southern part of China as the proposal focuses on only three of the five countries covered by the ecosystem profile due to the resources available.
 - b. The Secretariat and Working Group will review the revised application from Conservation International (CI) as the Regional Implementation Team for the Polynesia-Micronesia Hotspot. Once a revised proposal is accepted, the Secretariat shall work together with CI to finalize the work plan and budget.
 - c. The Secretariat will finalize the work plan and budget together with Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE) as the Regional Implementation Team for the Western Ghats, with particular emphasis on reviewing the proposed Steering Committee structure.
4. The Secretariat will assess the overall strategic approach for selection of Regional Implementation Teams with the Working Group, including whether lessons could be learned from other partnerships with a similar goal and also whether collaboration could be scaled up with others such as the GEF Small Grants Program.
5. The Working Group will include a statement on the overall process in future recommendations to the Council for selection of Regional Implementation Teams.
6. The Secretariat will develop a short briefing for discussion on potential terms and conditions for engaging major private sector entities in the partnership.
7. The Secretariat will consider and discuss with Japan potential opportunities to increase awareness of biodiversity conservation and CEPF in Japan.

** These Minutes were approved at the Thirteenth Meeting of the Donor Council in April 2008.*

List of Attendees

Donor Council Members

Monique Barbut, CEO	Global Environment Facility
Pierre Jacquet, Executive Director for Strategy	L'Agence Française de Développement
Yasushi Onishi, Director for Development Issues, International Bureau, Ministry of Finance	Government of Japan
Peter Seligmann, CEO and Chairman	Conservation International
Kathy Sierra, Vice President, Sustainable Development and Acting Chairperson, CEPF Donor Council	The World Bank

Staff & Other Representatives

CEPF

Jorgen Thomsen, Executive Director
Bobbie Jo Kelso, Senior Director for External Affairs

L'Agence Française de Développement

Denis Loyer, Head of the Environment and Natural Resources Division

Global Environment Facility

Yoko Watanabe, Program Manager, Biodiversity

Government of Japan

Reiji Kamezawa, Director, Global Biodiversity Strategy Office, Nature Conservation Bureau,
Ministry of the Environment
Naohisa Konita, Section Chief, Development Policy Division, International Bureau, Ministry of
Finance

World Bank

Warren Evans, Sector Director, Environment
Kathy MacKinnon, Lead Biodiversity Specialist and CEPF Task Team Leader, Environment
Department

Other Representatives

Claude-Anne Gauthier, Biodiversity Program Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government
of France
Toru Kajiwara, Advisor, Office of the Executive Director, Government of Japan