

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
No Objection Approval Pursuant to Section 1.1 of the Operational Manual

October 22, 2020

Revised Terms of Reference for CEPF Regional Implementation Teams

Recommended Action Item:

The Donor Council is asked **to approve on a no-objection basis** the revised terms of reference for Regional Implementation Teams (RITs).

The deadline for no-objection endorsement is **5 November 2020**.

Background

The Donor Council approved revisions to the RIT TOR and selection process at its 25th meeting on 24 June 2014. In 2015, an additional component was added to the RIT TOR, and the revised TOR were approved by the Donor Council at its 31st meeting on 27 June 2017, as part of a wider set of revisions to the CEPF Operational Manual.

In late 2020 and early 2021, RIT grants will be awarded in four hotspots where new investments are planned. This creates an opportunity to revisit the RIT TOR and incorporate revisions based on experience over the last five years. This exercise was undertaken by the CEPF Secretariat and drew on findings from the independent evaluations of lessons learned by the RITs in the Caribbean Islands, Eastern Afromontane, Indo-Burma and Wallacea Hotspots conducted during 2018-2020.

The CEPF Secretariat proposed incremental changes to seven components of the RIT TOR, deleting two components (on developing a long-term vision and reporting) and adding one component (on supporting the CEPF Secretariat to monitor large grantees' compliance with CEPF funding terms). These proposed changes were reviewed by the Working Group at its 64th meeting, on 15 October 2020. The Working Group recommended that the revised TOR be submitted to the Donor Council for no-objection approval, in keeping with the established process for amendments to the CEPF Operational Manual (OM 1.1).

The updated section of the Operational Manual (OM 4.2 (Rev)) is presented as Attachment 1. In addition to the revised RIT TOR, this section also includes the RIT selection process, which remains unchanged.

A comparison of the former and revised RIT TOR is presented in Attachment 2.