



PHOTOS LEFT TO RIGHT © PPNEA, © OLIVIER LANGRAND

# CEPF and the Mediterranean Basin

## Ecosystem profile update and investment strategy definition, 2016-2017

The Mediterranean Basin biodiversity hotspot is the second largest hotspot in the world and the largest of the world's five Mediterranean-climate regions. Many of the ecosystems reached an equilibrium long ago with human activity dominating the landscapes. However, this delicate balance is in a precarious state as many local communities depend on remaining habitats for fresh water, food and a variety of other ecosystem services. CEPF investment in the Mediterranean Basin Hotspot began in 2012 and is essential to stem the threats, balance economic development with the needs of natural areas, and conserve biodiversity and ecosystem services in this vast region. CEPF's niche is to work with all actors engaged in conservation and development activities in Mediterranean Basin countries to foster partnerships in priority corridors and sites. Such partnerships seek to reduce impacts of these developments on natural resources and systems that the large communities are dependent on. The grants awarded to civil society organizations from CEPF will work towards safeguarding globally threatened species and critical sites in the Mediterranean Basin.

## Planning for a new investment

As the first phase of CEPF investment nears the end in 2016, CEPF has announced that it will soon begin planning a new round of funding for the region, expected to start in mid-2017. To do this they will be updating the ecosystem profile, taking on board new data and socioeconomic changes to the region since 2010. This update is expected to take place between May 2016 and January 2017, and will include an extensive consultation of stakeholders involved in biodiversity conservation in the region.

The ecosystem profile update process will be led by BirdLife International and a consortium of partners. The consortium also includes IUCN, Tour du Valat, Conservatoire du Littoral, and three BirdLife Partners from Mediterranean-based organizations—Sociedad Española de Ornitología (SEO, BirdLife Spain), Društvo za opazovanje in proučevanje ptic slovenije (DOPPS, BirdLife Slovenia) and Association Les Amis des Oiseaux (AAO, BirdLife Tunisia).

## CEPF in the Mediterranean Basin, 2012-2016

- \$8.8 million has been invested.
- 106 projects have been granted
- 80 organizations granted (61 national organizations, or 76 percent)
- 93 beneficiaries (grantees and sub-grantees) (72 national organizations, or 77 percent)
- 14 new protected areas established.
- 132 communities have benefited from projects.
- 14 IUCN Red List species have benefited, including the leatherback sea turtle, the Dalmatian pelican and the Barbary macaque.

**Team Leader:** Jorge Fernández Orueta, Área de Internacional/International Unit  
C/ Melquiades Biencinto, 34 - 28053 Madrid  
Tel. (+34) 914340910 Fax (+34) 914340911 GSM (+34) 687483497  
jorueta@seo.org | www.seo.org skype jorgeorueta twitter @jorge\_seo

**CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM**  
PARTNERSHIP FUND

## Background

CEPF investment in the Mediterranean Basin Hotspot began in 2010-2011, with the creation of the ecosystem profile, a collaborative process led by Doga Dernegi with multiple contributions from more than a hundred organizations (this process was also supported by the MAVA Foundation and Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation).

CEPF began a five-year investment in the Mediterranean Basin in 2012, based on the strategy set forth in the ecosystem profile. The initial funding of US\$10 million

was increased by US\$1.2 million by funding from the MAVA Foundation. The investment strategy is comprised of a series of strategic funding opportunities, termed strategic directions, broken down into a number of investment priorities outlining the types of activities that will be eligible for CEPF funding. Subsequently CEPF recruited Birdlife International as the regional implementation team (or RIT). In partnership with CEPF, the RIT leads the implementation of the CEPF investment strategy and achievement of associated conservation goals, and provides assistance to civil society groups in designing, implementing and replicating successful conservation activities.



THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN

## Focus of funding

**The CEPF investment can support projects in 12 eligible countries;**

- **Balkans:** Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro
- **Middle East:** Jordan, Lebanon
- **North Africa:** Algeria, Cape Verde, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia

### Project categories:

- Conservation planning/priority setting
- Strengthening management outside protected areas
- Strengthening management of protected areas
- Awareness, education and outreach
- Livelihoods/income generation
- Species conservation
- Capacity building
- Biodiversity mainstreaming/policy work
- Networks/partnerships
- Conservation finance

### Money strategically assigned to 3 different areas:

1. Coastal zone management: ecotourism, policy, ICZM, alternative livelihoods, raising awareness
2. Freshwater management: river basin management (IRBM), policy, finance mechanisms, adaptation to climate change
3. Improving the conservation and protection status of KBAs: management plans, sustainable livelihoods, community management, raising awareness

## the partnership

CEPF unites six global leaders under a common vision, maximizing the efficiency and effectiveness of their conservation investment by enabling civil society to protect vital ecosystems and promote economic prosperity.

**L'Agence Française de Développement** ([www.afd.fr](http://www.afd.fr))  
**Conservation International** ([www.conservation.org](http://www.conservation.org))  
**The European Union** ([www.europa.eu](http://www.europa.eu))  
**The Global Environment Facility** ([www.thegef.org](http://www.thegef.org))

**The Government of Japan** ([www.env.go.jp/en/](http://www.env.go.jp/en/))  
**The MacArthur Foundation** ([www.macfound.org](http://www.macfound.org))  
**The World Bank** ([www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org))