



CANARI serves as CEPF's regional implementation team for the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot.

Community Health and Safety Plan

November 2023

CEPF 114894

Sawyers Local Forest Management Committee Benevolent Society

Project Name: Preserving biodiversity through sustainable alternative livelihoods within the Cockpit Country, Jamaica.

Grant Summary

1. Grantee organization: **Sawyers Local Forest Management Committee Benevolent Society**
2. Sub project title: *Preserving biodiversity through sustainable alternative livelihoods within the Cockpit Country, Jamaica.*
3. Grant number: **CEPF114894**
4. Grant amount (USD\$): \$50,000
5. Proposed dates of grant: **Dec 2023- Feb 2025**
6. Countries where activities will be undertaken: Jamaica
7. Date of preparation of this document: **23 November 2023**

8. Overview of the Caribbean Hotspot Project

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot Small Grants Mechanism is being implemented in the Caribbean Islands by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) acting as the Regional Implementation Team (RIT). After a successful first investment in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot between 2011 and 2016, the CEPF has returned to the region for a second phase of investment from August 2021 – July 2026, which totals US\$11.8 million.

The goal of the CEPF is to conserve biodiversity. Its approach is to build local conservation leadership and nurture sustainable development by developing locally driven conservation strategies and providing grants to civil society to implement those strategies. In the Caribbean, the CEPF aims to strengthen the protection and management of globally important biodiversity within 32 priority Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) and seven conservation corridors in Antigua and Barbuda; The Bahamas; Dominican Republic; Haiti; Jamaica; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

9. Project Components

The overall goal of this sub-project is to protect and conserve our biodiversity and forest and increase income within the households of those persons who are currently doing unsustainable farming practices, to reduce dependence on the Hyde Hall Forest Reserve. We estimate the prolonged impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has tripled the impact of deforestation on a healthy forest, income and food security, especially for forest dependent communities. The project has four components that aim to create sustainable livelihoods, improve agricultural practices, promote biodiversity conservation, and ensure effective project management and monitoring.

Component 1: Supporting community-based sustainable livelihoods

Under this component, the project aims to introduce sustainable farming practices that alleviate pressure on forest resources. By supplying seedlings to 25 members of the Sawyers Local Forest Management Committee and Benevolent Society (LFMCBS) group and community members, and conducting training sessions, the project seeks to improve agricultural yield, generate income, and ensure proper land use practices. The project will provide 20 women and 10 elderly and disabled men with fruit trees and drought resistant crops to plant in their backyards within southern Trelawny including the communities of Sawyers, Burke, Mahogany Hall, Alps and Blagrove Drive. Activities under this component will also improve irrigation access for agricultural needs for agroforestry and homebound farmers by providing 20 recipients with 650 gallon tanks for rainwater harvesting, which will be allocated on a needs basis. Through this project we will also establish 30 colonies of bees in the Hyde Hall Forest Reserve to increase income for 20 families in the Sawyers community.

Component 2: Awareness-raising sessions for climate-smart agriculture

Under Component 2, the project will heighten awareness and build capacity for climate-smart agriculture. Thirty community members, including youths and disabled individuals, will receive comprehensive training in biodiversity conservation and sustainable agricultural practices, fostering resilience within marginalized groups engaged in farming. Additionally, 20 community members will receive specialized apiculture training, equipping them with beekeeping skills to enhance productivity and income generation through bee-related products. Moreover, business skills and entrepreneurial sessions benefit group and community members involved in livelihood activities, focusing on marketing, computer literacy, and entrepreneurship to reduce reliance on forest resources and create sustainable livelihoods.

Component 3: Reforestation

Under this component, the project will reforest one hectare of land within the Hyde Hall Forest Reserve with native, hardwood tree species. Reforestation efforts are essential to counter the negative impacts on the forest caused by human intervention and natural disasters. By restoring these areas, the project aims to protect biodiversity, encourage natural recovery, and rectify past practices that have contributed to the depletion of the forest cover in the community.

Component 4: Project management and monitoring

This project component is intended to ensure proper project management in compliance with CEPF and World Bank requirements.

10. Risk mitigation measures

There are a few anticipated risks to community health and safety for this project, with those identified listed below in Table 10.1.

Table 10.1: Potential Risks to Community Health & Safety and Mitigation Measures

Key risks to Community Health & Safety	Risk probability (low / medium / high)	Level of Risk (low / medium / high)	Description	Mitigation Measures
Transmission of communicable diseases, such as COVID-19, to local stakeholders.	low	low	Several components will involve the gathering of small groups of people – e.g., training for bee keeping, educational awareness sessions and reforestation training sessions.	The guidelines of the Jamaican government on Covid-19 at the time of the fieldwork and community engagement will be followed.
Risks related to hurricanes, earthquakes and other natural disasters.	medium	low	Jamaica is located in an area that experiences hurricanes.	The Project Manager and Project Assistant will monitor the weather very carefully. If there is a threat of a hurricane, field activities will not occur. Typically, sufficient advance notice for hurricanes is given and thus people have always been able to

Key risks to Community Health & Safety	Risk probability <i>(low / medium / high)</i>	Level of Risk <i>(low / medium / high)</i>	Description	Mitigation Measures
				evacuate well in advance of a threatening situation. Insofar as possible, the scheduling of activities will take into account the most active part of the hurricane season, minimizing field-based and other activities that could be adversely affected by the passage of a hurricane. Should a hurricane occur, all measures will be taken to ensure project activities do not expose community members and stakeholders to risk from any the hazards encountered during response and recovery efforts.
Sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment	low	low	This project will target both men and women, but the group comprises a female majority.	The Sawyer's LFMCBS will not tolerate members of the project implementation team carrying out any form of sexual exploitation, abuse, or harassment and project workers will be briefed accordingly. Any incidents will be addressed according to the grievance mechanism outlined in the stakeholder engagement plan, which will be shared with all project workers prior to the start of the project and with beneficiaries and stakeholders throughout implementation. All complaints will be taken seriously and resolved as quickly as possible.
Accidents involving persons and vehicles	low	low	Movement by vehicle will be necessary to conduct several project activities.	To minimize risk to communities, the vehicle to be used under the project will undergo routine maintenance. Authorized drivers of the vehicle will

Key risks to Community Health & Safety	Risk probability (low / medium / high)	Level of Risk (low / medium / high)	Description	Mitigation Measures
				have the necessary licenses to operate the vehicle in question. All authorized drivers will be reminded of safe driving practices. workers will be licensed to operate vehicles and any other motorized equipment and will be determined to be in good health prior to departure.
Bee stings	medium	low	Component 3 which seeks to establish an apiculture project can expose those involved to bee stings. It is very unlikely for other community members to be stung by the bees, as their awareness would promote necessary actions of precaution. Most apiaries are established away from public thoroughfares and though people may have them in their backyard gardens these are in rural areas that are not clustered	The effects are generally very mild but may be a bit more serious for those who have allergic reactions to bee stings. The project will procure personal protective equipment for all persons as well as antihistamines for itching and swelling, acetaminophen for pain relief and EpiPen in the event of a severe allergic reaction.

11. Relevant laws in project countries

Table 11.1 below outlines the key law(s) in the project countries and their relevance to this Community Health and Safety Plan. The SLFMCBS will ensure that members adhere to these laws and guidelines.

Table 11.1: Relevant laws for community health and safety in Jamaica

Law	Relevance to ESS4
Public Health Act (2003)	Provides a list of communicable diseases that must be notified to the competent authorities.
Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Act (1993)	Provides for disaster preparedness and emergency management measures.

12. Measures to avoid risk of COVID-19

The Grantee will follow the guidelines of the Jamaican government on Covid-19 at the time of the fieldwork and community engagement. Any other relevant guidance from the World Bank as outlined in the technical note, “Public Consultations and Stakeholder Engagement in WB-supported operations when there are constraints on conducting public meetings” will be followed, as relevant and appropriate.

13. Emergency preparedness and response plan

In case of general emergencies while in the field or during community gatherings, the Project Manager will be immediately notified, and action will be taken following the government guidelines. The Project Manager and Project Assistant will monitor the weather very carefully. If there is a threat of a hurricane field activities will not occur.

14. Measures to mitigate risks relating to security personnel

N/A

15. Timeline and resources

The implementation of mitigation measures will occur throughout the entire project time frame. The cost of implementing the plan is mostly included in the CEPF project.

Table 16.1: Implementation schedule and estimated resources

Action	Cost Estimate (USD)	2023	Implementation Schedule				
			2024			2025	
Salary of direct workers to implement the CHSP (5% of Project Manager and 5% of Project Assistant)	\$300	x	x	x	x	x	x
Personal Protective Equipment, medications for bee stings	\$2300	x	x	x	x	x	x
Maintenance of SLFMCBS vehicle	\$300		x	x	x	x	x

16. Monitoring arrangements

The Project Manager and Project Assistant will consult with each other on a regular basis to share all health and safety concerns. If any threat to health and safety is identified, they will act immediately to ensure everyone remains safe. Any amendments to existing plans will be made as necessary.

17. Disclosure

The Grantee will provide all project team members and stakeholders with the community health and safety plan at the beginning of the project. Should any stakeholders – project workers, project beneficiaries, community members etc. – raise any concerns or provide feedback, these will be considered and responded to in a formal manner.