

**Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund  
37<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CEPF Donor Council  
Virtual Meeting  
19 November 2020  
8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Eastern Standard Time**

**Partnership Highlights**

**Global Donors**

**The World Bank**

The CEPF Secretariat collaborated with the World Bank task team assigned to the CEPF Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot project to formulate the project appraisal document. This document is now finalized, and a decision meeting will be held by World Bank management in early November to assess the readiness of the project for implementation, followed by World Bank Board approval to move to implementation in January 2021.

A grant agreement for a total of **US\$13.9 million** should be signed early 2021.

**L'Agence Française de Développement (AFD)**

With a €200,000 grant (CZZ2236) provided by AFD in March 2019, the CEPF Secretariat prepared a proposal entitled "Ecosystem-based Adaptation in the Indian Ocean – EBA-IO" that was submitted in January 2020 to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) by AFD as an accredited agency of the GCF. The proposal was finalized in May 2020, and the board of the GCF approved the project in August 2020. A total of **US\$38 million** over a period of 10 years was obtained to promote ecosystem-based adaptation in four island nations of Indian Ocean: Comoros – US\$6.33 million; Madagascar – US\$19 million; Mauritius – US\$6.33 million; and Seychelles – US\$6.33 million. The grant agreement between AFD and CI is in preparation. The implementation is scheduled to start the second quarter of 2021.

AFD provided a **€20,000** grant to launch EBA-IO in the region as soon as the COVID-19 pandemic situation will allow it.

**Regional Donors**

**Walton Family Foundation**

In August 2020, CEPF signed a grant agreement for a total of **US\$1 million** with the Walton Family Foundation, a US-based private foundation. This funding is earmarked for coastal and marine conservation work to be conducted in the Wallacea Biodiversity Hotspot. Walton Family Foundation is a new regional donor of CEPF.

## **Bloomberg Philanthropies**

In September 2020, CEPF signed a grant agreement for a total of **US\$700,000** with Bloomberg Philanthropies, a US-based private foundation, as part of the Ocean 5's Vibrant Oceans Initiative. This funding is earmarked for coastal and marine conservation work to be conducted in the Wallacea Biodiversity Hotspot. Bloomberg Philanthropies is a new regional donor of CEPF.

## **KfW**

In August 2020, KfW conducted a virtual appraisal mission during which the Ministry of the Environment from Ecuador approved a KfW grant of **€7 million** to be made available to CEPF for its investment in Ecuador, part of the Tropical Andes Biodiversity Hotspot portfolio.

The appraisal mission document has been submitted by KfW to the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) for approval. Once the approval is obtained (November 2020), a grant agreement is expected to be signed in December 2020, with funding available for grantmaking in early 2021.

## **MAVA Foundation**

In October 2020, CEPF signed a grant agreement for a total of **US\$2,378,951** with MAVA Foundation, a Swiss-based foundation that has been a supporter of CEPF for a number of years. This funding is earmarked to support the conservation projects in the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot.

## **Prospects for Additional Funding:**

### **Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies**

This US-based private foundation has been a supporter of CEPF for a number of years with funding earmarked mostly for the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot, but also for the Wallacea Biodiversity Hotspot. Margaret A. Cargill catalyzed the engagement of the Walton Family Foundation and Bloomberg Philanthropies with CEPF in Wallacea.

Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies will make a **US\$700,000** grant available to CEPF for the conservation of the coastal and marine biodiversity of Wallacea in 2021.

### **Packard Foundation**

This US-based private foundation is interested in joining forces with the other foundations involved in Wallacea and indicated the possibility of making a **US\$300,000** grant available to CEPF for the conservation of the coastal and marine biodiversity of Wallacea in 2021. Packard Foundation would be a new donor for CEPF.

### **Nimick Forbesway Foundation**

This US-based private foundation has been approached to fund the terrestrial part of the conservation portfolio of Wallacea. The discussions are promising, and a conclusion should be reached in the next two months. The funding target for this foundation is between **US\$1.2 million and US\$2 million**. Nimick Forbesway Foundation would be a new donor for CEPF.

## **Norway**

CEPF is working with Conservation International – Europe for an opportunity to present CEPF to the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) during the winter or spring 2021.

### **In summary CEPF:**

- **Catalyzed** **US\$42,098,951** of new funding from five different sources, all new to CEPF.
- **Expects** **US\$22,160,000** of new funding in the coming months from two different sources, one new to CEPF.
- **Pursues** **\$2,200,000** of new funding from three donors, two new to CEPF.

### **Other Partnerships Highlights:**

#### **AFD**

In September 2020, the CEPF Executive Director gave an interview to AFD's Communications Department regarding the GCF funding recently catalyzed by AFD/CEPF.

#### **EU**

In June 2020, the CEPF Executive Director gave a video interview to EU Cap4Dev on the subject of CEPF as it relates to biodiversity, climate change, relevance to the Green Deal and the fight against COVID-19.

In October 2020, the CEPF Grant Director and RIT for the Tropical Andes Hotspot met virtually for two hours with an eight-member delegation of the EU headed by Florence van Houtte. They provided updated information about the CEPF program and discussed future collaboration.

#### **CI**

In September 2020, CEPF organized a virtual event to present the collaboration between CEPF and CI in the Tropical Andes Biodiversity Hotspot.

CI and CEPF have successfully collaborated in the Andes for nearly two decades. They have worked together to develop CEPF's investment strategies in the Tropical Andes Biodiversity Hotspot, to support conservation projects that strengthen management in several Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA), and to cultivate partnerships with local civil society organizations and government authorities. This collaboration has resulted in a mutually beneficial partnership with notable conservation outcomes. Eduardo Forno (CI Bolivia Country Director), Luiz Suarez (CI Ecuador Country Director), and Michele Zador (CEPF Tropical Andes Grant Director) presented the nature and benefits of this collaboration and factors underlying its success.