

Co-ordination of Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund Investment in the Eastern Arc/Coastal Forest hotspot

Annual Analysis of the Project Portfolio

31st December 2005



Output 4: To make sure that a comprehensive and complimentary suite of CEPF Projects (within budget) is in place to fully address the Strategic Directions

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) provides funding for a series of biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihood initiatives within the Eastern Arc and Coastal Forest (EACF) of Kenya and Tanzania region. There are currently 35 hotspots in the world and the EACF is one of 15 such regions in the world where CEPF is investing its conservation funds. The 5-year programme in the EACF started in 2004 and has attracted a great deal of interest from a wide range of stakeholders including academic and research institutions, environmental agencies, community-based organizations, the corporate world and government departments. Now in its third year, the programme has established many site-based activities in accordance with CEPF's ultimate goal of achieving the identified conservation outcomes, namely: avoiding species extinctions, protecting sites and conserving landscape by creating corridors between fragmented forest patches. In order to achieve the quantitative and justifiable conservation targets and ultimately preventing biodiversity loss, the programme recognises the link between biodiversity conservation and livelihood improvement. Therefore, a number of projects being funded by CEPF within the region pursue an integrated approach. This approach seeks to enhance biodiversity conservation and improve livelihoods.

This report presents an overview of the project portfolio by the end of 2005, identifies gaps in the targets specified in the ecosystem profile and makes recommendations on the way forward for 2006. 2005 was a busy year for CEPF, the Coordination Unit and the many beneficiaries of CEPF funds. A large number of project proposals progressed from submission and review stages to approval and actual implementation of activities on the ground. Last year was characterised by a tremendous growth in the project portfolio, placing a great demand on the available funds. Out of the more than 320 proposals submitted, 64 have already been funded to a tune of more than USD 5million or 75% of the USD 7 million CEPF's investment into the EACF region. There continued to be active participation and engagement of the civil society. This is in tandem with CEPF's goal to ensure that the civil society is systematically engaged in biodiversity conservation.

A global reappraisal of the biodiversity hotspots was published in 2005 (Mittermeier *et al.* 2004), and the former Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forest of Kenya and Tanzania hotspot was split. The Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests currently falls within two hotspots namely the Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa and the Eastern Afromontane hotspots. However, this has had very minimal impacts on the CEPF initiative and focus within the region's 160 sites and 333 threatened species. The activities continue to be implemented as planned in the ecosystem profile. It is therefore

worthy to note that for this EACF programme, CEPF is working in a region and not exclusively a single hotspot as was the concept before.

1.2 Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund and Coordination Unit

The conservation efforts by CEPF within this region are guided by a Coordination Unit (CU) comprising of International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), World Wide Fund-East African Regional Programmes Office (WWF-EARPO), Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) and BirdLife International (BLI represented by the Partners Nature Kenya in Kenya and the Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania in Tanzania, and the BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat) and various co-opted members who have agreed to work together in implementing projects therefore, establishing linkages between and synergies with existing initiatives.

The CEPF CU was established to ensure that a coordinated approach is applied amongst stakeholders to achieve the CEPF conservation outcomes for the EACF region. The CU continues pursuing these goals through regular consultative meetings, correspondence and other forms of communication. During 2005, the CU was also represented at regional meetings, including World Bank Meetings in South Africa and Kenya respectively. Linkages were established and information shared with the CEPF South African Programme. Invaluable support was solicited and received from the various external reviewers who have dedicatedly provided very useful comments on grant applications. With the USD7million fund allocated by CEPF diminishing, the CU has been in the forefront in putting in place a Resource Mobilization Unit (RMU). If successful, the RMU will ensure the sustainability of activities initiated through the CEPF programme within the region.

For more information about CEPF and CU, visit www.cepf.net and www.cepf.tfcg.org.

A summary of projects that have so far been approved and with work either in progress or already completed can be accessed at:

http://www.cepf.net/xp/cepf/recent_grants/grantsbyregion.xml?region=Eastern+Arc+%26+Coastal+Forests&year=2006

Additional highlights during the past year were the establishment of a special grant, the CEPF/EACF Community Micro grants programme. To be administered by WWF-EARPO with support from the TFCG, Nature Kenya and WCST, this programme will considerably increase the participation by community groups. It will develop the capacity of Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) for project management. It is envisaged that this special programme will prepare them to contribute to long-term conservation and sustainable development issues at their respective sites. Ultimately, it will ensure sustainability of activities initiated under the CEPF programme. Funds for

this micro grant scheme have been released and will soon be available to the beneficiaries at the grass root level.

1.2.1 Roles of Coordination Unit member organizations

The main roles and respective outputs of the CU member organisations are outlined below:

1) ICIPE:

To ensure that an EACF Coordination Unit exists with appropriate mechanisms to facilitate achievement of the Investment Priorities identified in the CEPF Ecosystem Profile (Output 1)

2) TFCC

To ensure that stakeholders within civil society and government are aware of the CEPF Process, goals and achievements, and are sharing experiences (Output 2).

3) WWF-EARPO

To make sure that civil society stakeholders are supported to design effective conservation projects in line with the Ecosystem Profile and submit proposals to CEPF (Output 3).

4) BirdLife International

To make sure that a comprehensive and complimentary suite of CEPF projects (within budget) is in place to fully address the Strategic Directions (Output 4).

2.0 Purpose of the Report

This report is the second in a series of annual syntheses of the projects portfolio submitted for funding under the CEPF programme in this region. The analysis provides a synopsis of the coverage of the projects with respect to taxa, sites and activities. Based on this analysis, potential gaps to be addressed during the remaining period of the CEPF investment in the region are identified.

The report is meant to serve as a tool for all Eastern Arc and Coastal Forests stakeholders. This includes donors, researchers, conservationists, development agencies, government departments and people aspiring to submit their funding applications to CEPF. It attempts to present the current priorities subject to the availability of funds. The report makes recommendations on the way forward in terms of achieving priority site and species-specific issues that need focus in 2006 and beyond.

This report supplements other CEPF reports that look at the biodiversity in the Eastern Arc Mountains, biodiversity in the Coastal Forests, overall and common hotspot-wide threats that can be accessed online at

http://www.cepf.net/ImageCache/cepf/content/pdfs/cepf_2easternarcmountains_2overview_5f3_2e05_2epdf/v2/cepf.easternarcmountains.overview_5f3.05.pdf

3.0 Overview of the Project Portfolio as of 31st December 2005

3.1 Distribution of applications according to the Strategic Funding Directions

1. A total of 327 grant applications (termed Letters of Inquiry or LoIs) have been submitted to CEPF for work in the EACF since its inception in 2004. This represents an increase of 73.0% compared to the portfolio at the end of 2004. Details of these project proposals have been and regularly updated in the project database hosted by BirdLife but shared by all the members of the CU. The distribution of LoIs by Strategic Funding Directions and their status is shown in Table 1 below and Fig1.

Table 1. Strategic Funding Directions and respective Letters of Inquiries submitted as of 15th January 2006.

SFD	Accepted	Micro grants	Rejected	Withdrawn	Pending	Total
SFD1	21	9	90	0	18	138
SFD2	15	1	25	1	4	46
SFD3	23	1	60	0	2	86
SFD4	6	0	5	1	13	25
SFD5	0	0	1	0	1	2
Multi SFD	0	4	25	0	1	30
	65	15	206	2	39	327

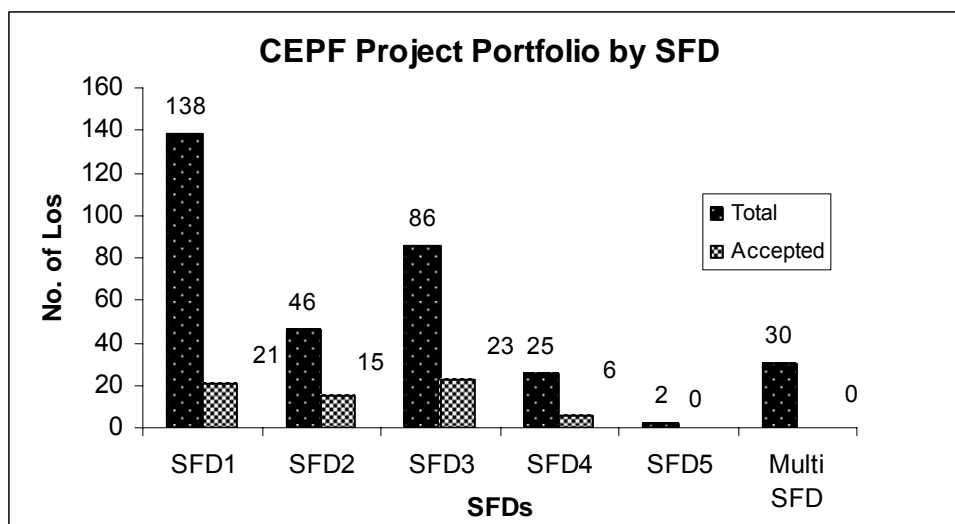


Figure 1. A graphical representation of the current project portfolio showing SFDs vs. the approved LoIs

2. During the two years of CEPF/EACF project implementation, CU addressed a total of more than 300 LoIs through the internal review process. This includes the more than 100 LoIs addressed specifically in 2005. A consensus was reached through the periodical consultative process conducted through meetings and regular correspondence.
3. By the end of 2005, a total of 66 LoIs¹ had been accepted for funding either as small grants or full grants. Compared to 2004, this represents an increase of over 350% in the number of LoIs approved. A total of 206 LoIs have been rejected after undergoing the review process. This number includes those LoIs fitting under community grants programme and whose proponents were advised by CEPF to explore the possibility of resubmission through the community micro grants. However, a review of the resubmissions under the micro grants scheme is subject to proponents addressing key concerns raised during initial review, including the amendment of the budget to fit the USD 5, 000 ceiling applicable to this new grant scheme.
4. Thirty-nine LoIs were still pending, but 12 of these are at an advanced stage of approval/rejection.
5. Apart from the 18 proponents requested to merge proposals in 2004, there was no subsequent merging of projects in 2005.

¹ This figure includes the funding by CEPF-EACF to other global (multiregional) projects.

3.2 Sites coverage

This section aims to give an overview of the CEPF/EACF project portfolio based on how the site outcomes have been covered by the end of 2005. The information emerging from this site-by-site analysis is to help identify existing gaps in site coverage. This can provide guidance on priority sites to be given emphasis during subsequent conservation investments, either by CEPF or through other donors. Excluded in this analysis are sites that were not listed among the 160 conservation outcome sites.

The ultimate goal of the CEPF investment within the region is to cover as many sites outcomes as possible. However, given the limitations of funds, it may not be feasible to comprehensively cover all the 160 focal sites.

Of the 160 outcome definition sites, 84 have already been mentioned in the proposals submitted. This represents 52% of all the 160 sites. When considering accepted projects, 49 sites where over 310 of the 333 outcome definition species occur have been covered. However, some of the project activities are not species-specific and cover a wide range of aspects. It is assumed that if well implemented, they have the potential to enhance the conservation of the majority of the outcomes species each site.

As illustrated in the Ecosystem Profile, it is evident that some sites have comparatively higher numbers of threatened species (hereby referred to as conservation outcome species) than others. Examples of such sites include East Usambara Mts, Uluguru Mts, Udzungwa Mts National Park, West Usambara Mts, Udzungwa Mts, Shimba Hills, Lindi District Coastal Forests, Nguru Mts, Taita Hills and Kisarawe District Coastal Forests. At least all these sites have are represented amongst sites where projects are underway. The main gap amongst this category is South Pare, as none of the grant seekers has mentioned this site in their proposals. This is notwithstanding the fact that persistent fires caused by anthropogenic activities on the eastern boundary of Chome Forest Reserve, logging and extensive degradation, Kwizu and Chambogo Forest Reserves respectively continue to be a major threat to the posterity of this site and the species (BirdLife International 2005).

A site-by-site analysis was conducted and the highlights for respective sites are outlined below.

Entire hotspot

Since the recent hotspot re-assessment, the entire region is located in two hotspots. Of a total of 31 LoIs, 12 have already been approved and there is possibility to allocate funds to two additional projects. The coordinated biodiversity monitoring project aims to

bring together all stakeholders in the hotspot, both CEPF funded, and non-CEPF funded to contribute to a hotspot-wide monitoring system. A hotspot-wide CEPF funded Outcomes database exists, which provides an opportunity for data contribution and sharing between all stakeholders. The database is also a means to compile information generated from projects and use it to evaluate how the conservation outcomes during the duration of CEPF's investment would have been achieved. The database will be useful, providing up to date information on species population and distribution. Such information will effectively enhance the red listing of species and guide conservation action in the region.

There exists a project to assess and monitor insect fauna in the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests using ground-dwelling ants and beetles as indicator groups. Baseline information generated will complement future monitoring and red listing purposes. Another project focussing on butterfly fauna will collate existing data on all butterfly species making it available and identifying where gaps exist. With the threats on forests, a project to assess plant conservation in the whole region will provide up-to-date information on forest plant species and their conservation status. Raising awareness is a prerequisite if change in attitude by people is to be achieved. A project to raise the awareness about the economic and ecological importance of the forests and the threats they face is being implemented within the whole region.

Taita Hill Forests

Taita Hill Forests still leads in terms of the total number of applications made so far. The site has been mentioned in 57 proposals cutting across all Strategic Funding Directions. Of the 57, 12 proposals have already been approved for funding and projects address a wide range of aspects including species research, monitoring, conservation action, and livelihoods. A structured approach was undertaken to develop, in a participatory manner involving a consultative stakeholders' workshop, a cohesive strategy and prioritise activities to ensure long-term conservation and the implementation of activities at this site. A report from this workshop is available at: http://www.cepf.net/xp/cepf/recent_grants/grantsbyregion.xml?region=Eastern+Arc+%26+Coastal+Forests&year=2005

A suite of projects at the site are underway to provide the much-needed opportunities to increase connectivity between forest fragments while promoting other sustainable livelihood options. This will ensure best practices are promoted for long-term benefit of diverse threatened species, which move between fragments. Key projects include a suite of small-scale restoration projects (Chawia and Mwambirwa fragments) and a large-scale project that seeks to model opportunities to increase connectivity between forest fragments. It is envisioned that this will ultimately have a positive impact on the

movement and survival of key species of conservation concern. Currently, studies from the site indicate that the endemic Taita Thrush, *Turdus helleri* is seriously affected by fragmentation.

The site is known to host **32** outcome species and it is envisaged that the outputs from these projects will either directly or indirectly improve the conservation status of the site and resident species.

East Usambara Mountains

East Usambaras Mountains is the most biodiverse of focal sites in the region and ranks the highest in terms of the total number of the globally threatened species. The site is home to **111** outcome species and this diversity of threatened species underscores its high conservation value. **Thirty-nine** project proposals have so far been submitted for work at the site. Of these, **nine** have been approved for funding while **two** are at an advanced stage of approval. This is one of the four sites where a nature-based sustainable businesses project targeting the forest-adjacent communities will be implemented as part of efforts to raise the living standards of the local people and reduce pressure on the forest.

With support from CEPF, a project to examine the influence of land-use practices on bird species movement, survivorship and natality is under way. The results from this initiative will be useful in identifying and defining land-use practices within corridors, which promote bird movement and survivorship. It is also anticipated that the best practices documented in this study will be replicated elsewhere within and beyond the region. Funds have also been provided to facilitate the compensation payments for the Derema Forest Reserve, an initiative that will significantly ensure connectivity between Amani Nature Reserve and the other more northern forest reserves of the East Usambara Mountains.

Udzungwas

The whole of Udzungwa Mountains and National Park harbours **69** outcome species. **Thirty-five** project proposals were submitted for work at Udzungwas. These are more of landscape level projects covering the entire Udzungwa ecosystem (Udzungwa Mountains and Udzungwa National Park). Of these, **nine** proposals have been accepted and **three** more are likely to be approved in the near future.

One of the milestones achieved for Udzungwas and the adjacent sites is the convention of a consultative stakeholders' workshop to discuss and agree on the best approaches and comprehensive plans to address sites-specific connectivity issues. The major outputs, results and recommendations from the workshop were the formulation of well-targeted project concepts, which have since been submitted for funding from CEPF. Other notable projects underway include the first-ever study on the ecological requirements and demographics of the Sanje Mangabey *Cercocebus sanji* in the

Udzungwa National Park. The final report of the CEPF funded stakeholders' workshop is available at:

<http://www.cepf.net/xp/cepf/static/pdfs/Final.WWF.Udzungwa.Mountains.Area.pdf>

Lower Tana River Forests

Lower Tana River Forests is home to **ten** outcome species. Under the CEPF funding, **25** project proposals have been submitted targeting work at this site, of which six have been approved for funding and work is either complete or in progress. This was a focal site for a project to carry out carbon state assessment to assess the possibility of establishing carbon emissions offset and trading projects and establishment of compensation schemes to community-managed forests from greenhouse gas emitting industries. The estimated carbon densities for the various forest types sampled were generally ascertained. A final project report and contacts of the project executants can be accessed from

http://www.cepf.net/ImageCache/cepf/content/pdfs/final_2eintl_2ecentre_2einsect_2epdf/v1/final.intl.centre.insect.pdf

Another project whose objective was to develop an Environmental Impact Assessment of the Lower Tana Forests with respect to the proposed rehabilitation of the Tana Irrigation Project was completed and the final report and contact details of the executants is available at:

http://www.cepf.net/xp/cepf/static/pdfs/Final.TDIP_Environmental_Assessment.pdf

As part of generating and filling gaps in biological knowledge, a CEPF funded primate study was conducted to specifically conduct research on population and distribution for Red Listing assessment. The final comprehensive report and details of the project executants is available at:

<http://www.cepf.net/xp/cepf/static/pdfs/Final.CI.PrimatesKasigau.pdf>

Arabuko Sokoke Forest

Arabuko Sokoke Forest is one of the most biodiverse sites and the largest remaining coastal forest fragment. The site harbours **19** conservation outcome species. The priority for the site mainly includes scaling up activities initiated through previous conservation and sustainable development investments. The site has so far attracted **13** project proposals out of which **five** have been funded, while there are discussions on whether an additional proposal could be funded in the first quarter of 2006. Already a CEPF funded project with a goal of carrying out a baseline carbon storage assessment was completed in May 2005. A report and contact details of the executants are available at:

http://www.cepf.net/ImageCache/cepf/content/pdfs/final_2eintl_2ecentre_2einsect_2epdf/v1/final.intl.centre.insect.pdf

In addition, to ease the pressure on the forest resources, one of the local community-based organizations is taking a lead on initiating agroforestry on farms through the propagation and planting of indigenous and exotic trees species for commercial and cultural purposes.

Uluguru Mountains

The **Uluguru Mountains** is ranked second to East Usambara in terms of high number of globally threatened species. It hosts a total of **81** conservation outcome species. A total of 14 project proposals have been submitted focussing their proposed activities at Uluguru Mountains. Out of these, **five** proposals have so far been accepted and funded. As it applies to all sites, it is envisioned that CEPF funded projects will establish and strengthen synergies with the already existing conservation initiatives by other non-CEPF funded stakeholders at the site. This site has a long history of conservation investments.

North Pare Mountains

In terms of biodiversity, **11** outcomes definition species are found at **North Pare Mountains**. Conservation issues abound including extensive cultivation by smallholders in the central plateau of the North Pare Mountains and the consequent replacement of natural vegetation by non-native plants as a result of which the dominant tree on the plateau is now the Australian silky oak, *Grevillea robusta* (BirdLife International 2005). The forest is also highly fragmented and appears as isolated forest patches. Through the CEPF initiative, **six** project proposals covering this site have been submitted of which **four** have already been approved for funding.

Rubeho Mountains

The lesser-known **Rubeho Mountains** has **six** conservation outcomes species. In terms of the CEPF initiative, of a total of **eight** project proposals submitted to CEPF and targeting Rubeho Mountains, **five** have since been approved. One of the projects underway focuses on biodiversity research and awareness at Rubeho and three other conservation outcome sites (Mahenge, Ukaguru and Nguru).

Table 3 provides a list of sites where three or less projects have been approved for funding under the CEPF programme.

Table 3. An analysis of sites where three or less projects were approved.

Conservation Outcome site	Conservation Outcome species	No. of times mentioned	Proposals approved
Boni forest	7	8	3
Dodori forest	1	7	3
Coastal Forests of	---	4	3

Tanzania			
Jozani Forest Reserve	8	9	3
Lindi District Coastal Forests	45	6	3
Mt. Kasigau,	4	9	3
Nguru Mts	42	13	3
Tanga	1	30	3
Coastal Forests of Kenya	---	4	2
Nguu Mountains	2	11	2
Pemba Island	4	4	2
Rufiji Coastal Forests	22	6	2
Ukaguru Mountains	9	8	2
Mafia Island	12	2	2
Chuna Forest	1		1
Kayas Gonja	1		1
Kaya Kinondo	3	2	1
Kaya Miungoni	2	1	1
Kaya Muhaka	7	1	1
Kaya Rabai	8	1	1
Kaya Sega	1	1	1
Kilombero Valley	10	3	1
Kilwa District Forests	12	3	1
Kisarawe District Coastal Forests	30	5	1
Lindi	2	5	1
Lughi,	1	1	1
Chale Islands	4	3	1
Mahenge	1	2	1
Mikumi National Park	1	2	1
Mrima Hill,	10	5	1
Mtwara Coastal Forests	1	1	1
Tana River Delta	0	4	1
Tumbatu Island,	1	1	1
Uvivunda Mountains,	2	1	1
West Usambara,	66	3	1
Witu	9	2	1
Zanzibar (Kituani)	1	1	1
Zanzibar (Muyuni)	1	2	1
Zanzibar Island-East Coast & Zanzibar Island-South Coast	0	1	1

Entire Tanzania

The Tanzanian component of the EACF is composed of a remarkable number of globally threatened species. This is attributed to the sheer large size of the Tanzanian portion relative to the Kenyan one and the associated threat of sites in Tanzania. Of the 333 conservation outcome species, 307 are found in Tanzania compared to the Kenya's 105 species. Of the **11** proposals that proposed to work in the entire Tanzanian portion of the hotspot, **five** were accepted and these target the production of a field guide for the moist forests of Tanzania and development of a the Tanzanian National Biodiversity Database to include all existing specimens as well as incorporating site and species records from biodiversity surveys. Publication of field guides is one way of documenting and disseminating to a wider audience the botanical diversity of the forests and the project is underway.

3.3 Characteristics of applicants to CEPF

The CEPF programme has elicited interest from a wide range of stakeholders. This is evident from the remarkably high number of applications from diverse organizations. Currently, over 180 local and foreign-based academic/research institutions, corporate institutions, community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations, quasi-autonomous government parastatals and consultancies have applied for CEPF funds.

Efforts are underway to maintain this interest and concerted effort beyond the CEPF funding, e.g. through the BirdLife-led process to institute the sustainable monitoring system for the region. Effort has also gone into promoting linkages and strengthening of partnerships between local and foreign institutions, e.g. through promoting collaborative projects. As a result, partnerships have evolved that have led to increased exchange of information, expertise, skills and capacity between local institutions and their foreign-based counterparts. These partnerships forged and the collaborative approach taken to resource mobilization, research and biodiversity conservation is hoped to endure into the future for the sake of the region's biodiversity.

A review of the project portfolio, taking into account the applicant institution's country of origin is presented in figure 2. Based on this analysis, it is evident that Community-Based Organizations in both countries are becoming increasingly active in their involvement in the conservation of biodiversity in the region. With over 40 applications, Kenyan CBOs take the lead followed over their Tanzanian counterparts (15 applications). However, the large number of applications by CBOs from Kenya is partly

attributed to the fact that quite a considerable number of CBOs applied to work at sites that are not eligible (i.e. not part of the 160 focal sites) for funding under the CEPF initiative. The high number of applications from Kenya's CBOs may also partly be attributed to a long history of and interest by community-based natural resource management networks on the Kenyan side of the hotspot, and particularly the coastal forests of Kenya where there has been substantial investments through WWF-EARPO, ICIPE and BirdLife International. There exist established conservation mechanisms focusing on coastal forests. This includes but is not limited to the National Museum's Coastal Forests Conservation Unit tapping on the indigenous traditional knowledge of local communities in the conservation of the coastal shrines (Kayas).

When mapped, it also emerged that some sites have a considerably high concentration of CBOs. Investing in small scale community conservation initiatives is one approach by CEPF that may ensure sustainability of site-based activities, as the communities will build their capacity in fund raising, financial and project management. The introduction of special community micro-grant scheme will go a long way in supporting the communities to translate and implement their conservation ideas while at the same time improving their standards of living. It is however evident from accumulated experience from elsewhere that when involving communities in integrated conservation, one of the challenges is to demonstrate the link between conservation and livelihood and whether this approach by design translates into biodiversity conservation. However, if well formulated, planned and implemented and with technical support from experienced conservation agencies working within the region, most community-based activities have a potential to attain a greatest impact on biodiversity and socio-economics.

Considering the two countries, Kenya having more applicants than Tanzania is partly because most of the organizations and individual researchers applying are regional and based in Nairobi or work in collaboration with local institutions. Examples of such organizations include World Wide fund for nature-Eastern African regional Programme Office (WWF-EARPO), Fauna and Flora International, BirdLife International, International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE). However, in most cases these institutions operate at a regional and not national scene thus enabling them to implement their conservation and livelihood promotion activities in both countries. Of the **64** approved proposals, **22** (including one for Coordination Unit and Community Micro-grants respectively) are from Kenya, **15** from Tanzania, **19** from USA, **three** from UK, **three** from rest of Europe and **one** from South Africa. This is represented in Figure 2.

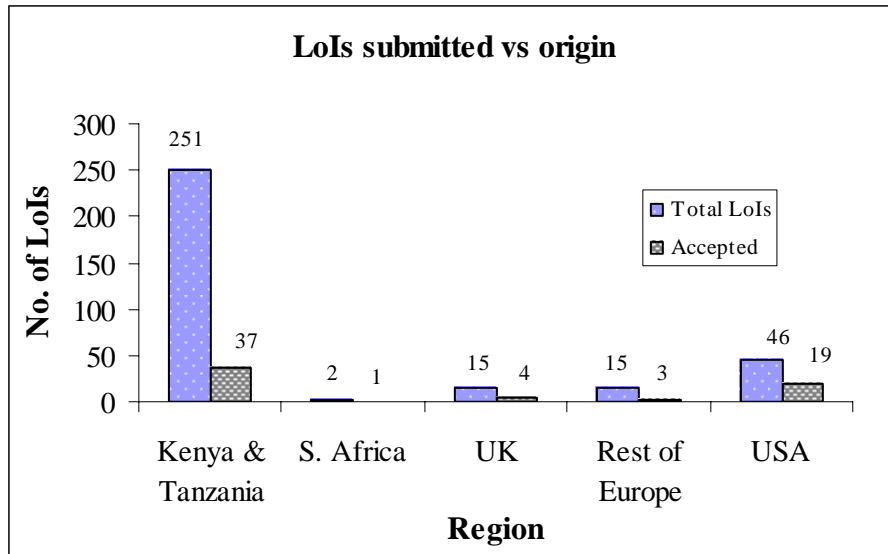


Figure 2. The number of applicants who applied for CEPF grants in 2004 and their countries of origin

3.4 Distribution by thematic issues

Very few projects focus on single species, but address taxa at family, order and class level. The analysis likewise does not tease out individual species outcomes but looks at general benefits to species.

a) Filling gaps in biological knowledge:

A total of 17 projects address this aspect of which one has been completed and the rest are in progress. Through these and previous initiatives, the following species are either new to science or have been described for the first time at certain sites:

- the discovery of Highland Mangabey, *Lophocebus kipunji* in the Udzungwa Mountains (Jones et al 2005).
- the new *Toussaintia* (Annonaceae) from Udzungwa Mountains in Tanzania (Deroin & Luke 2005)
- *Congosorex phillipsorum*, a new species of shrew described in the Udzungwa Mountains
- *Otus ireneae* added to Dakatcha Woodland
- *Afrivalus morerei* added to Udzungwa Mountains
- *Afrivalus uluguruensis* added to Mahenge and Ukaguru Mountains
- *Apalis moreaui* added to the East Usambara Mountains
- *Arthroleptides yakusini* added to Nguru Mountains and Udzungwa National Park
- *Campylopermum scheffleri* added to East Usambara Mountains
- *Cephalophus spadix* added to Udzungwa National Park
- *Encephalartos kisambo* added to Mount Kaisigau

- *Leptopelis parkeri* added to Udzungwa National Park
- *Leptopelis uluguruensis* added to Mpanga Village Forest reserve and Udzungwa National Park
- *Leptopelis vermiculatus* added to Mahenge, Shimba Hills and Ukaguru Mountains
- *Nectophrynoides tornieri* added to Mpanga Village Forest Reserve and Nguru Mountains
- *Nectophrynoides viviparus* added to Rubeho Mountains, Udzungwa Mountains and Uluguru Mountains
- *Probreviceps macrodactylus* added to Udzungwa National Park, Uluguru Mountains and West Usambara Mountains
- *Probreviceps rungwensis* added to Udzungwa Mountains
- *Psychotria megalopus* added to Uluguru Mountains

This is a clear indication of range extensions and reports of species in new sites. Other species are currently unidentified but are suspected to be new, such as presence of at least one undescribed reptile and seven red-listed animal species (N. Doggart, pers. com) and the genetic and morphological evidence of new species of Rubeho Forest Partridge, *Xenoperdix obscurata* (Bowie & Fjeldsa 2005).

A major recommendation here would be a review of the current conservation outcome species to identify which have either been down listed or up listed. Upon review, it would therefore be easier to identify new candidates, which initially out of danger currently require priority conservation action. Other ongoing projects that will generate biological knowledge include:

- Population estimates of selected threatened birds of Tanzania
- Survey of microchiropteran bats on insular sites of Tanzania
- Primates in the Coastal forests of Kenya and Tanzania and a selected few sites in the Arc Mountains, including Mt. Kasigau
- Small mammals in Mikumi National Park, North Pare and Rubeho Mts.
- Species/sites surveys at a suite of poorly known sites in Tanzania and its island sites
- Threatened Mangabey taxa including a specific study of Sanje Mangabey in the Udzungwas
- Assessment and validation of ecosystem services including a study of carbon storage
- Research on ground dwelling ants and beetles at 18 outcome definition sites within the region

Major gap is lack of targeted work on AZE² species in region. This is in spite of the EACF region harboring nine AZE sites and 20 AZE species.

In addition, with the launch and implementation of the small grants for post-graduate students, it is envisaged that more information will be generated through student research and recommendations made to guide sites' and species' conservation in future.

b) Monitoring of sites and species

- Instituting a standardized sustainable biodiversity monitoring system in all the 160 sites. Compiling and analyzing existing data on forest cover, forest condition, management effectiveness, species distribution and status
- Army ants studies and monitoring
- Monitoring the impact of timber trade in Tanzania
- Plant assessment for red listing in all the 160 sites of the Eastern Arc and Coastal forests region
- Pathogenicity in frogs at Udzungwas and Kilombero Valley
- Large-scale (both hotspot-wide and multiple site respectively) monitoring of forest health
- Ethnobotanical knowledge for Adaptive Collaborative Management at Mt. Kasigau, Kenya
- Chytrid distribution and pathogenicity among frogs of the Udzungwas.
- Monitoring coastal forest disturbance in Tanzanian coastal forests.
- Does the carbon storage assessment work come in here (for Kenya??)

c) Rehabilitating, restoring degraded habitats and increasing connectivity in fragmented landscapes

- Rehabilitation and restoration of Mwambirwa Forest's 318ha by the local community groups to re-establish connectivity with the larger Mbololo forest and improve the long-term survival of the critically endangered Taita thrush, *Turdus helleri*
- Rehabilitation of Chawia Forest for conservation through restoring the understorey vegetation within Chawia forest, while providing alternative sources of both timber and non-timber forest products for the local communities
- Assessing the potential for restoring connectivity and evaluating options for improved management of the Udzungwa Scarp, Iyondo, Matundu and Nyanjanje Forest Reserves in the Udzungwa Mountains of Tanzania
- Restoration and increase of connectivity among fragmented forest patches in the Taita Hills and generation of data to guide future conservation

² The Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE), a joint initiative of biodiversity conservation organizations from around the world, aims to prevent extinctions by identifying and safeguarding key sites, each one of which is the last remaining refuge of one or more Endangered or Critically Endangered species

investments in the Taitas while promoting alternative nature-based livelihoods

- Facilitation of the compensation payments for the Derema Forest Reserve, East Usambara Mountains through establishment of the working mechanisms for a compensation scheme capitalised by the governments of Tanzania and Finland, the Global Conservation Fund, and other donors
- Magombera forest connection to the Selous Game Reserve...
- Facilitation of consultative stakeholders' workshop for the Udzungwas and Taitas.

d) Awareness raising

The focus has been the production of advocacy and awareness raising material, distribution of books and use of other audio-visual aids such as the Lulanda Documentary. Other projects include:

- A region-wide CEPF funded initiative to raise awareness about the importance of forests in the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests.
- Butterfly studies and awareness raising
- Capacity Building to empower community conservation through the creation of environmental conservation awareness among the local community.
- Coastal forests web site under development
- Eastern Arc film being produced by BBC

e) Livelihood projects and capacity development initiatives

- Kaya Kinondo Community Ecotourism Project, which seeks to demonstrate the positive influence of ecotourism on socio-economic needs of the local people
- Capacity Building to empower community conservation through the initiation and scaling up of tourism activities and the development of commercial tree nurseries in and around Mt. Kasigau
- Investigating the benefits of Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in Uluguru Forest Reserves by extrapolating the relationships between community livelihood and forest to identify the best practices and constraints to forest management approaches and assist in refining these approaches accordingly
- Scaling up agroforestry practices by the Arabuko Sokoke CBO through increased propagation and planting of indigenous and commercial tree species for cultural and economic uses and hence reducing the pressure on the forest.
- Promotion of a diversified nature-based, sustainable businesses (commercial insects, honey production, silk farming, and medicinal plants) for forest-

adjacent communities in the East-Usambara-Tanga, Taita Hills, and Lower Tana River Forests

- Business-oriented conservation and agroforestry initiatives in Muheza District, Tanzania through the establishment of a demonstration farm neighbouring the East Usambaras, to showcase the potential of agroforestry techniques in generating income
- Conserving Coastal and Eastern Arc Forests through Community access to retail markets for Good Wood Carvings on the South Coast of Kenya through the promotion of the use of alternative and abundant timber, including Neem and Jacaranda timber as “good woods.”
- Preventing Unsustainable Timber Trade from the Coastal Forests of Southeast Tanzania Following Completion of the Mkapa Bridge.

3.5 Funds committed versus the funds allocated to different SFDs

Over the two years that the CEPF Programme has been active, funds have been allocated to successful projects. Figure 3 represents these allocations with respect to the initial allocation to SFDs.

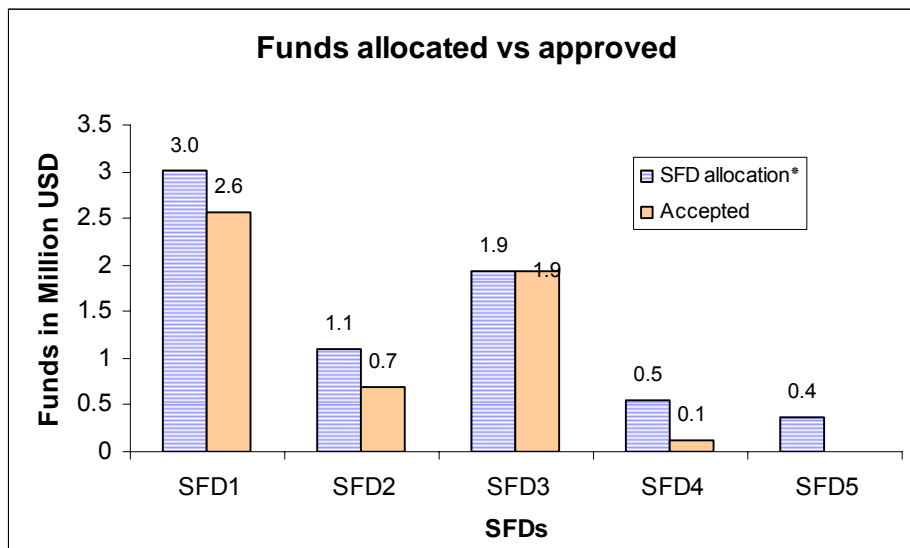


Figure 3. The current project portfolio in terms of funds allocated to specific SFDs versus funds committed in 2005.

3.6. Role of governments

The role that the government is playing through its relevant departments/parastals can not be over-emphasised. Government significantly continue to provide the much-needed political, technical, and moral support to CEPF investment within the region with a sole aim of ensuring that the achievements are maximised. Governments in the two countries are represented and actively participate in the Project Steering Committee

of the Coordination Unit. In Tanzania, government representatives are drawn from Forest and Bee Keeping Division, Wildlife Division and Tanzania National Parks of the Ministry of Tourism and Natural Resources, Tanzania. In Kenya, the Forest Department, Kenya Wildlife Service, National Museums of Kenya and the Kenya Forest Research Institute have been instrumental in the support that CEPF enjoys within the country. Researchers from some of the institutions are actively involved in the review of project proposals to CEPF. The Coastal Forests Conservation Unit (CFCU), which is an outfit of the National Museums of Kenya, is one of the organisations involved in the coordination of the locally administered CEPF community micro grants.

4.0 Major Gaps Identified in the Project Portfolio

4.1 Gaps in site coverage

A full list of sites that have not been specifically targeted in any of the projects proposals submitted so far is presented in table 2.

Table 2. List of 77 priority sites not mentioned in any of the proposals received by end of 2005 and the respective outcomes definition species.

1. Bagamoyo (2)	30. Lindi (Nyangao River)	54. Newala (Kitama) (1)
2. Bagamoyo (Kikoka FR) (1)	(2)	55. Newala (Kitangari) (1)
3. Baricho near Arabuko Sokoke (1)	31. Lindi (Ras Rungi) (1)	56. Newala (Mahuta) (1)
4. Bungu (1)	32. Lindi (Tendaguru) (1)	57. Newala District coastal forests (13)
5. Cha Simba (3)	33. Lindi Creek (1)	58. Ngozi crater (1)
6. Dar es Salaam Coast (1)	34. Lukoga forest reserve (1)	59. Nyumburuni forest reserve (2)
7. Dzitzoni (1)	35. Mangea Hill (9)	60. Nzovuni River (1)
8. Kambe Rocks (1)	36. Makongwe Island (1)	61. Panza Island (1)
9. Kaya Bombo (1)	37. Marafa (1)	62. Ras Kituani (1)
10. Kaya Fungo (1)	38. Masasi (1)	63. River Wami(2)
11. Kaya Kambe (3)	39. Masasi (Nyagendi) (1)	64. Rufiji Delta (1)
12. Kaya Kauma (3)	40. Masasi East (1)	65. Sabaki River Mouth (1)
13. Kaya Kivara (4)	41. Mahenge (Kwiro forest) (1)	66. Sangerawe (1)
14. Kaya Lunguma (3)	42. Mahenge (Liondo) (1)	67. Semdoe (2)
15. Kaya Mwarakaya (1)	43. Mahenge (Lipindi) (1)	68. Shikurufumi forest reserve (1)
16. Kaya Puma (1)	44. Mahenge (Sali) (1)	69. Sinza River-near Univ. of
17. Kaya Ribe (1)	45. Mikindani (Mnima) (1)	
	46. Mikindani (Mtwara)	

18. Kaya Teleza (1)	Inland) (1)	Dar (1)
19. Kaya Tiwi (2)	47. Mikindani District	70. South Pare Mountains ³
20. Kaya Ukunda (2)	(Mtwara-Mikindani) (1)	(33)
21. Kaya Waa (2)	48. Mkomazi Game Reserve	71. Ukunda (3)
22. Kisiju (1)	(4)	72. Ukwama forest reserve (1)
23. Kisimani wa Ngoa (2)	49. Mnazi bay (0)	73. Utete (Kibiti) (2)
24. Lango la Simba (2)	50. Mpanga village forest	74. Uzaramo (Dar to
25. Latham Island (0)	reserve (1)	Morogoro) (1)
26. Lindi (Kengedi) (1)	51. Msambweni (1)	75. Uzaramo (Msua) (1)
27. Lindi (Mikindani) (1)	52. Mtanza forest reserve (2)	76. Verani South West (1)
28. Lindi (Ngongo) (1)	53. Near Buda forest reserve	77. Vigola (1)
29. Lindi (Nondora) (1)	(1)	

A hotspot-wide mechanism and tactic is needed to ensure that these gaps in site coverage are filled. Even after all the current CEPF funding for the region are completely allocated, recommendations on subsequent priority work at selected sites are valid, as this could be funded by other agencies or through the planned Resource Mobilisation Unit. A priority candidate for funding is South Pare Mountains, which in spite of its biodiversity value; apparently the site has not attracted a lot of interest from potential applicants. This is also despite the fact that burning and logging is a major threat to biodiversity at the site (BirdLife International 2005).

4.2 Gaps in Activities

The majority of Investment Priorities (IPs) have been covered, but conspicuously missing is IP 1.6 that emphasizes “research and promotion of eco-agricultural options for the local population in the hotspot”. It is still reiterated that an emphasis needs to be placed on conservation friendly farming technologies, integrated pests management, organic agriculture, agroforestry, agricultural products processing, traditional farming systems and traditional knowledge, domestication of wild insects to supplement protein needs. This will strike an effective balance between biodiversity conservation, agriculture and food security.

Likewise, the involvement of communities in conservation should go hand-in-hand with the compilation of indigenous knowledge. Whereas there is need to “support cultural practices that benefit biodiversity in the hotspot”, documenting where the basic information does not exist is a prerequisite. Apparently only one project on Mt. Kasigau

³ This is one of the priority sites in terms of biodiversity value and which has not been captured in previous grant applications.

has captured IP 1.5, which addresses the indigenous traditional knowledge and its relevance to biodiversity conservation.

Investment Priority 1.3 which is to “explore possibilities for direct payments and easements (Conservation Concessions) for biodiversity conservation in the hotspot and support when necessary” has also not been covered, even though evidence from other contexts (i.e. Gola Forest in Sierra Leone) has demonstrated that this is an innovative participatory forest management strategy for conservation. The only difference is that there are no commercial logging concessions in the region that can be bought.

In terms of taxa, there has been a conspicuous failure to capture certain taxonomic groups especially the reptiles and the fishes. This is in spite of the significant role these taxa could play as indicators of environmental health with particular focus on catchment areas, rivers and streams traversing the forest sites where CEPF has invested its funds. Of course, insects remain a taxonomic group where intensive research has been done, but there remains a lot to be done in describing new species and determining their current taxonomic and conservation status. This is a challenge that stakeholders in the EACF and especially entomologists within the region and beyond have to contend with. There has been lack of emphasis on AZE species despite this being an agreed priority of CABS/CI/CEPF.

4.3 Gaps in terms of funding available

As the CEPF programme approaches the middle of its expected time span, the funding is getting exhausted and some deserving applications will not be funded on the grounds that there will be no funds to allocate to them. Plans are afoot to activate a Resource Mobilization Unit (RMU) to fill the funding gaps after the CEPF investment. It appears that the existing strategic funding directions (1, 2, 3 and 4) remain valid areas deserving of funding, though additional areas may also be identified.

4.4 Gaps in terms of proponents

Initially, the set-up of the CEPF programme would have benefited more the well-established institutions with their higher capacity for writing good projects, low financial risk and track record. However, the introduction of a simpler and quicker to process community micro-grant scheme is an innovative approach aimed at ensuring that CBOs derive as much benefit as possible from CEPF investment.

Most applicants are well established professionals and results from their work is mainly a contribution to science and publication. In the pursuit of avoiding species extinctions, protecting sites and conserving landscape by creating corridors between fragmented forest patches, one of the contributions of the CEPF Programme is the development of

capacity. It is believed that adequate capacity will be built and information generated through the implementation of the small grants scheme for local and foreign students pursuing their post-graduate studies.

5.0 References

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6.0 Annexes

6.1 Annex 1: An overview of the review process

The Letter of Inquiry (LoI) once received will be reviewed through a transparent, objective and timely review process.

- 1) Each LoI is reviewed by individuals from CEPF, CEPF Coordination Unit and Conservation International.
- 2) Depending on the relevance of the application to the Strategic Funding Directions, capacity of the organization to implement proposed activities, the project's impact on the conservation outcomes and the coherence of the proposed project, the CEPF, CU or CI may recommend that the proposal either be approved for funding, revised and resubmitted, pushed too stage two of proposal development, sent for external review, merged with other(s) or be rejected at the preliminaries. LoIs with budget exceeding USD20, 000 will be asked to write a full proposal and a more detailed budget, while those with less than this amount may be accepted as a small grant once it is accepted for funding.
- 3) If it is recommended for external review, the proposal will be send to a cohort of at least two external reviewers with expertise relevant to the application. Feedback from the external reviewers is incorporated into those from internal reviewers and a decision is made on whether to reject, push to stage two or resubmit.
- 4) Based on the comments from reviewers, CEPF will communicate directly with the applicant to advise accordingly as to whether the LoI was rejected, accepted, or recommended to proceed to proposal development
- 5) The Coordination Unit may provide assistance to develop proposals at the request of the CEPF Grant Manager

6.2 Annex 2. Strategic Funding Directions and respective investment priorities as defined in the Ecosystem Profile

Strategic Directions	Investment Priorities
1. Increase the ability of local populations to benefit from and contribute to biodiversity conservation, especially in and around Lower Tana River Forests, Taita Hills, East Usambaras/Tanga, Udzungwas, and Jozani Forest	1.1 Evaluate community-based forest management initiatives in the hotspot to determine best practices
	1.2 Promote nature-based, sustainable businesses that benefit local populations in the hotspot
	1.3 Explore possibilities for direct payments and easements (Conservation Concessions) for biodiversity conservation in the hotspot and support where appropriate
	1.4 Build the capacity of community-based organizations in the hotspot for advocacy in support of biodiversity conservation at all levels
	1.5 Support cultural practices that benefit biodiversity in the hotspot
	1.6 Research and promote eco-agricultural options for the local populations of the hotspot
2. Restore and increase connectivity among fragmented forest patches in the hotspot, especially in Lower Tana River Forests; Taita Hills; East Usambaras/Tanga; and Udzungwas	2.1 Assess potential sites in the hotspot for connectivity interventions
	2.2 Support initiatives that maintain or restore connectivity in the hotspot
	2.3 Monitor and evaluate initiatives that maintain or restore connectivity in the hotspot
	2.4 Support best practices for restoring connectivity in ways that also benefit people
3. Improve biological knowledge in the hotspot (all 160 sites eligible)	3.1 Refine and implement a standardized monitoring programme across the 160 eligible sites
	3.2 Support research in the less studied of the 160 eligible sites in the hotspot
	3.3 Monitor populations of Critically Endangered and Endangered Species in the hotspot

	3.4 Support research in the hotspot to facilitate Red List assessments and re-assessments for plants, reptiles, invertebrates and other taxa
	3.5 Compile and document indigenous knowledge on hotspot sites and species
	3.6 Support awareness programs that increase public knowledge of biodiversity values of the hotspot
4. Establish a small grants programme in the hotspot (all 160 sites eligible) that focuses on critically endangered species and small-scale efforts to increase connectivity of biologically important habitat patches	4.1 Support targeted efforts to increase connectivity of biologically important habitat patches
	4.2 Support efforts to increase biological knowledge of the sites and to conserve critically endangered species
5. Develop and support efforts for further fundraising for the hotspot	5.1 Establish a professional resource mobilization unit, within an appropriate local partner institution, for raising long-term funds and resources for the hotspot
	5.2 Utilize high-level corporate contacts to secure funding from the private sector for the hotspot
	5.3 Train local NGOs and community-based organizations in fundraising and proposal writing