

### CEPF Small Grants - Final Project Completion Report

*Instructions to grantees: please complete all fields, and respond to all questions listed below.*

<b>Organization Legal Name</b>	Island Reach
<b>Project Title</b>	Promoting gender equity for conservation initiatives through catalyzing a women's environmental network across CEPF priority sites.
<b>Grant Number</b>	<b>GA17/ 03</b>
<b>Date of Report</b>	May 31, 2018

**CEPF Hotspot: East Melanesian Islands Biodiversity Hotspot**

**Strategic Direction: Strategic Direction 4, Investment Priorities 4.1 & 4.2**

**Grant Amount: \$19,960**

**Project Dates: April 1, 2017 – April 30, 2018**

#### **PART I: Overview**

#### **1. Implementation Partners for this Project (list each partner and explain how they were involved in the project)**

**Wan Smolbag's Vanua-tai Resource Monitors network.** The network is the larger group within which the women Vanua-tai are members. IR works closely with Wan Smolbag and especially Vanua'tai Coordinator Donald James and the workshops that occurred as part of this project (at the Vanua-tai AGM and in the provinces) were in association with this group. Male Vanua-tai monitors are also key collaborators with the women in their communities.

**Nguna Pele Marine & Land Protected Area Network.** IR's MoU with NPMLPAN includes helping radiate out their experiences and knowledge about best practices and lesson learned on biodiversity management from ridge to reef to communities throughout Vanuatu. Several experienced women monitors are from this network, including the elected chairperson of the women's network.

**Tasi Vanua environment network, NETEN.** Several members of the women's network – including the communications officer -- are members of this network as well and are active in their region. IR's association with this group enables us to facilitate the sharing

of their experiences and skills to a wider population and increase the skills of their members as well.

**SPC-GIZ Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Islands Region.** Dr. Christopher Bartlett is an advisor to IR and we have worked with him to disseminate information on natural resource management, biodiversity conservation, and climate change adaptation throughout Vanuatu.

**2. Summarize the overall results/impact of your project**

Women's participation in biodiversity conservation and natural resource management has increased across the islands of Vanuatu including in key biodiversity areas, through the catalyzing of a national network of women Vanua-tai monitors.

**3. Briefly describe actual progress towards each planned impact (as stated in the approved proposal)**

*List each impact from your proposal*

a. Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Increasing the numbers of women resource monitors and catalyzing the network will have positive and lasting impacts on the environment achieved by increasing gender-specific knowledge about natural resource use and gender responsive approaches to biodiversity conservation. In these ways, the project will help advance Vanuatu's sustainable development goals and meet commitments expressed in the country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. Moreover, bringing attention to gender-differentiated knowledge and practices will give women stronger positions in their communities, including assisting with other project implementations related to energy, water, economy and production, and tourism, and has the potential to create positive impacts on poverty alleviation.	More women monitors are active members of the Vanua-tai Network. The male members of the Vanua-tai Network are better informed about the importance of women's inclusion and participation in biodiversity conservation and natural resource management. Stories of women monitors have been shared nationally through video including representation at the <i>National dialogue on Women's Leadership on Climate Change Adaptation, DRR and Forced Displacement</i> held in August 2017 and co-hosted by Department of Women's Affairs and Ministry of Climate Change in collaboration with OXFAM, IOM and ActionAid, and in a video for OXFAM/VCAN on women and climate change leadership. The final video product of this project will be screened around Vanuatu and shared with the National Organization of Women, the Dept. of Women's Affairs, the DEPC, and other interested parties.

b. Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Increased knowledge among female and male resource monitors about the	Through trainings at the national Vanua-tai AGM and at women's regional meetings in Torba and Tafea,

<p>benefits of biodiversity in general, and increased knowledge about the importance of gender-specific information and a gender responsive approach that considers: 1) men and women's different knowledge about different things in their environment; 2) men and women's different knowledge about the same things in their environment; 3) how men and women may organize their knowledge in different ways; and 4) how women and men may receive and transmit knowledge by different means.</p>	<p>there is increased knowledge among both men and women about biodiversity conservation, and the importance of a gender responsive approach. Workshops included topics such as gender sensitivity training, ridge to reef ecosystem conservation and management, disaster risk resilience, management plan development, and more.</p>
<p>A larger women's network, including women from CEPF Key Priority Sites.</p>	<p>New women monitors became active from key priority sites on Aneitium, Tanna, Futuna, and Gaua, as well as from the Banks islands of Vanua Lava, Mota Lava, and Mota, and from the islands of Malekula and Epi.</p>
<p>Increasing awareness and capacity in local communities, including in Key Priority Sites, in ways that link to national biodiversity and conservation priorities.</p>	<p>Women monitors received training at the Vanua-tai AGM and at regional workshops coordinated by IR in Torba and Tafea provinces, helping build their leadership capacity within their communities. IR's site visits included community awareness, with video screenings, in key priority sites in Aneitium, Tanna, Futuna, and Gaua, as well as other sites.</p>
<p>The final video will serve as a new resource tool in-country and throughout the Pacific Island Region.</p>	<p>Short videos were produced and screened in the field and at workshops. A final compilation video has been produced at end of project and will be screened at the 2018 AGM, distributed nationally and to stakeholders including National Organization of Women, DEPC, Wan Smolbag, and Dept. of Women's Affairs.</p>

**4. Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impacts**

Some successes:

- This project has resulted in a significant increase in numbers and actions of women monitors, and a significant increase in awareness in communities across Vanuatu about women's participation and inclusion in biodiversity conservation and natural resource management decision-making. Numerous women monitors have flourished with leadership capacity and motivation and this grant has helped increase sharing of lessons learned. For example, the first ever women-run conservation area has been established to protect seagrass habitat in the Banks. IR's ongoing efforts to share these stories, and facilitate peer-to-peer exchanges will help strengthen women's work. The male monitors are much more acutely aware about the contributions and inclusion for women and

many of them have been working in their communities to “recruit” women Vanua-tai partners and support women's local networking.

- Stories about women monitors and their participation in conservation actions were shared at the *National Dialogue on Women's Leadership on Climate Change Adaptation, DRR and Forced Displacement* conference. Short videos about the women's network and meetings have been shown widely around the country and interviews with women Vanua-tai were included in the VCAN/OXFAM video, *Yumi Redi: Women and climate change leadership*.
- Despite women's lower status, in many communities and among both male and female monitors women were repeatedly recognized as having the ability to introduce ideas more effectively, and with less opposition within their communities. This was commonly seen within the Vanua-tai network as a benefit of increasing numbers of women monitors.
- More women across the country, and in key biodiversity sites, have improved understanding about biodiversity conservation, ecosystem threats, endangered and threatened species and habitats, and actions that can be taken.

Some challenges:

- Perhaps more than any other collaboration we've had the opportunity to engage in Vanuatu, our work with women monitors has been the most complex, reaching deep into cultural norms and stirring things up with potentially unsettled effects. Ni-Vanuatu women still have a long way to go in achieving more status as public leaders and decision makers throughout Vanuatu. A lot of women are not confident about their leadership capacity; finding one's voice and exercising it in a public arena are new territory for many. Therefore, there is ongoing need to support and empower women across Vanuatu's communities. In addition, women Vanua-tai monitors face other gender specific challenges as they take on environmental advocacy. These women may encounter new and greater risks as gossip, outright criticism, and possibly even threats and acts of sexual violence can all be used to silence and intimidate them, and jeopardize their coming forward into leadership roles. This project has witnessed some of these challenges.
- Networking – particularly the institutional elements – is not a common feature of Ni-Vanuatu cultures. While communities will rapidly implement organizational committees, the collaborative work outside of local context that constitutes “networking” is less typical. People tend to rely more on local connections and especially for women, reaching out across those local boundaries can be challenging. For example, the women Vanua-tai had decided at the 2016 Vanua-tai AGM to form an executive committee, and this project aimed to bolster that organizational structure. However, in our observations, and in project implementation, it became evident that it is more effective for women to be integrated as equal members into the larger Vanua-tai network and then form local women's networks, rather than their own independent, national-level executive function. Indications are that this will be more sustainable in the long-run.

## **5. Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?**

One significant and unexpected outcome was the election of a woman as the chairperson of the brand new Tanna Usiusi Environment network (some of the motivation for that network

formation came from IR's activities in the region and our support for the Vanua-tai Chairman, Donald James). This monitor is a woman "recruited" as part of this grant. The decision to make her Chairperson is a very significant one on Tanna, known for its strong custom and low status for women in the public domain. She is featured in the documentary.

During the period of this grant, the Vanua-tai network created a Facebook Page and stories of women monitors' work have been featured.

### **Products/Deliverables**

#### **6. Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.**

See attached video

### **Lessons Learned**

#### **7. Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building.**

Consider lessons that would inform:

- Project Design Process (*aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)

Worldwide, environmental degradation, biodiversity loss, and climate change impacts have been shown to disproportionately affect women and girls. In Vanuatu, women's work typically involves high degrees of multitasking and their work load can be increased by these impacts. Taking an integrated, holistic approach that recognizes that women's conservation engagements are inextricably linked with their efforts to support the well-being of their families and communities, as well as with their rights and safety, has been fundamental to this project.

In terms of deliverables, smaller regional workshops were more effective and this was a change from the original project design. The two workshops in Torba and Tafea ended up being very effective capacity building opportunities for regional networking among women and for empowerment.

Communications intra-regionally were more effective than nationally, although the opportunity to share actions and disseminate news widely was very useful.

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- Project Implementation (*aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)

With communications budget, women spoke regionally and less cross-country. This is one indication that a national network is less relevant and supporting local or regional associations is more effective. These members can then meet nationally at the Annual general meeting to report on their activities.

- Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community. See above comments regarding work with women in Vanuatu.

## Sustainability / Replication

- 8. Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.**

Women being integrated in to the larger Vanua-tai network will help ensure sustainability. Activities reported in our progress report indicate that partnerships between monitors are highly effective. The upcoming 2018 Vanua-tai AGM will again include many women monitors and the agenda has two workshop periods to report on women's actions and achievements and to screen the project video. The importance of women's participation in the Vanua-tai network is much more mainstreamed and IR will continue to focus on building women's capacity. The achievements of women monitors can serve as a model for replication in other regions and countries.

## Safeguards

- 9. If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, please summarize the implementation of any required action related to social or environmental safeguards that your project may have triggered.**

No actions related to safeguards were triggered by this project.

## Additional Funding

- 10. Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment**

**a. Total additional funding (US\$)**

**b. Type of funding**

Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes

\* Categorize the type of funding as:

- A Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)
- B Grantee and Partner Leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project)
- C Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)

**Additional Comments/Recommendations**

**11. Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF.**

**Impact at Portfolio and Global Level**

CEPF requires that each grantee report on impacts at the end of the project. The purpose of this report is to collect data that will contribute to CEPF’s portfolio and global indicators. CEPF will aggregate the data that you submit with data from other grantees, to determine the overall impact of CEPF investment. CEPF’s aggregated results will be reported on in our annual report and other communications materials.

**Ensure that the information provided relates to the entire project, from start date to project end date.**

**Contribution to Portfolio Indicators**

**12. If CEPF assigned one or more Portfolio Indicators to your project during the full proposal preparation phase, please list these below and report on the project’s contribution(s) to them.**

Indicator	Narrative

**Contribution to Global Indicators**

**Please report on all Global Indicators (sections 16 to 23 below) that relate to your project.**

**13. Key Biodiversity Area Management**

**Number of hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) with improved management**

Please report on the number of hectares in KBAs with improved management, as a result of CEPF investment. Examples of improved management include, but are not restricted to: increased patrolling, reduced intensity of snaring, invasive species eradication, reduced incidence of fire, and introduction of sustainable agricultural/fisheries practices. Do not record the entire area covered by the project - only record the number of hectares that have improved management.

If you have recorded part or all of a KBA as newly protected for the indicator entitled “protected areas” (section 17 below), and you have also improved its management, you should record the relevant number of hectares for both this indicator and the “protected areas” indicator.

Name of KBA	# of Hectares with strengthened management *	Is the KBA Not protected, Partially protected or Fully protected? Please select one: NP/PP/FP

\* Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were improved due to implementation of a fire management regime in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were improved due to invasive species removal in the second year, the total number of hectares with improved management would be 500.

#### 14. Protected Areas

##### 15a. Number of hectares of protected areas created and/or expanded

Report on the number of hectares of protected areas that have been created or expanded as a result of CEPF investment.

Name of PA*	Country(s)	# of Hectares	Year of legal declaration or expansion	Longitude* *	Latitude**

\* If possible please provide a shape file of the protected area to CEPF.

\*\* Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).

##### 15b. Protected area management

If you have been requested to submit a Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT), please follow the instructions below. If you have not been requested to submit a METT, please go directly to section 16.

Should you want to know more about the monitoring of protected area management effectiveness and the tracking tool, please click [here](#).

Download the METT template which can be found on this page and then work with the protected area authorities to fill it out. Please go to the Protected Planet website [here](#) and search for your protected area in their database to record its associated WDPA ID. Then please fill in the following table:

WDPA ID	PA Official Name	Date of METT*	METT Total Score

*\* Please indicate when the METT was filled by the authorities of the park or provide a best estimate if the exact date is unknown. And please only provide METTs less than 12 months old.*

Please do not forget to submit the completed METT together with this report.

**15. Production landscape**

Please report on the number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity, as a result of CEPF investment. A production landscape is defined as a landscape where agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs. Production landscapes may include KBAs, and therefore hectares counted under the indicator entitled “KBA Management” may also be counted here. Examples of interventions include: best practices and guidelines implemented, incentive schemes introduced, sites/products certified and sustainable harvesting regulations introduced.

**Number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity.**

<b>Name of Production Landscape*</b>	<b># of Hectares**</b>	<b>Latitude***</b>	<b>Longitude***</b>	<b>Description of Intervention</b>

*\* If the production landscape does not have a name, provide a brief descriptive name for the landscape.*

*\*\*Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were strengthened due to certification in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were strengthened due to new harvesting regulations in the second year, the total number of hectares strengthened to date would be 500.*

*\*\*\* Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).*

**17. Beneficiaries**

CEPF wants to record two types of benefits that are likely to be received by individuals: structured training and increased income. Please report on the number of men and women that have benefited from structured training (such as financial management, beekeeping, horticulture) and/or increased income (such as from tourism, agriculture, medicinal plant harvest/production, fisheries, handicraft production) as a result of CEPF investment. Please provide results since the start of your project to project completion.

**17a. Number of men and women receiving structured training.**

<b># of men receiving structured training *</b>	<b># of women receiving structured training *</b>
45	30

*\*Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men received structured training in beekeeping, and 3 of these also received structured training in project management, the total number of men who benefited from structured training should be 5.*

**17b. Number of men and women receiving cash benefits.**

# of men receiving cash benefits*	# of women receiving cash benefits*

*\*Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men received cash benefits due to tourism, and 3 of these also received cash benefits from increased income due to handicrafts, the total number of men who received cash benefits should be 5.*

**18. Benefits to Communities**

CEPF wants to record the benefits received by communities, which can differ to those received by individuals because the benefits are available to a group. CEPF also wants to record, to the extent possible, the number of people within each community who are benefiting. Please report on the characteristics of the communities, the type of benefits that have been received during the project, and the number of men/boys and women/girls from these communities that have benefited, as a result of CEPF investment. If exact numbers are not known, please provide an estimate.

**18a. Please provide information for all communities that have benefited from project start to project completion.**

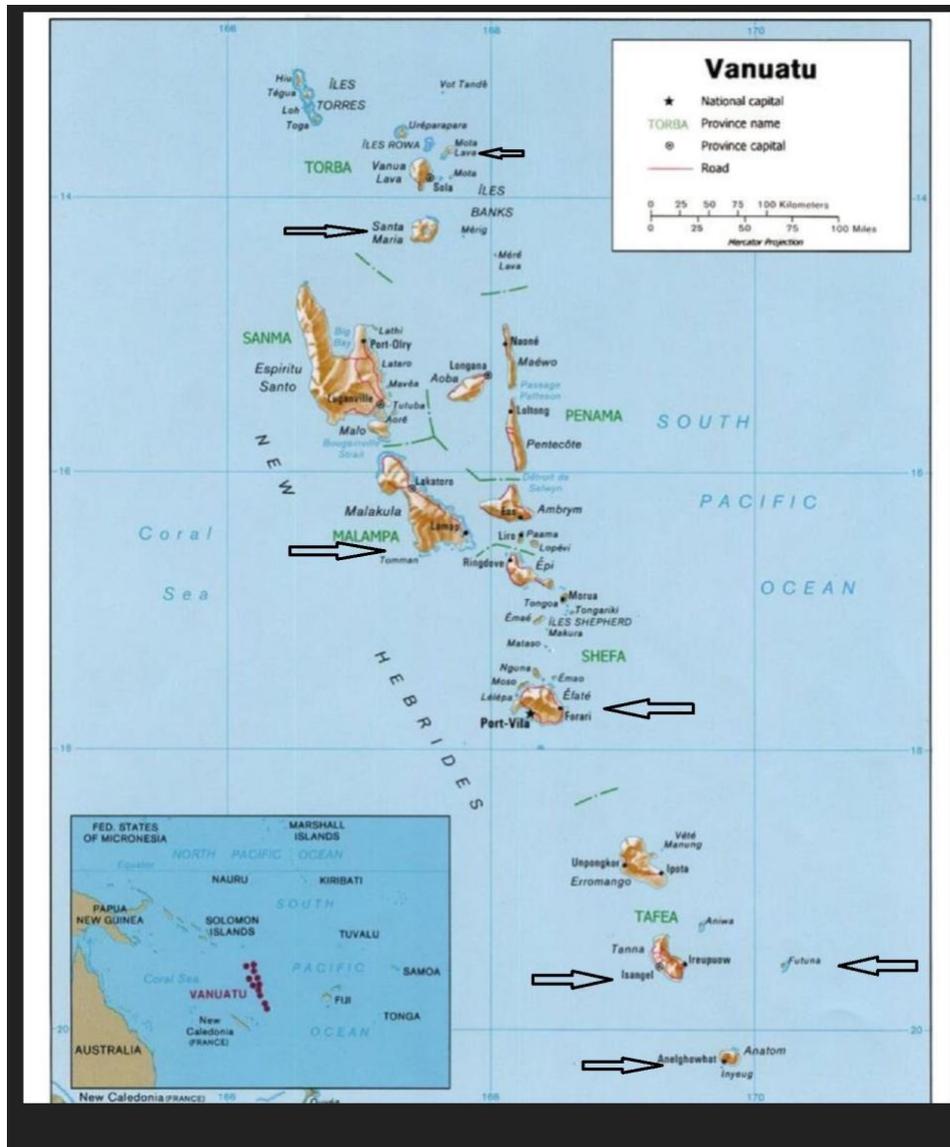
Name of Community	Community Characteristics (mark with x)						Type of Benefit (mark with x)								# of Beneficiaries
	Subsistence economy	Small land owners	Indigenous/ethnic peoples	Pastoralists/nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Other*	Increased access to clean water	Increased food security	Increased access to energy	Increased access to public services (e.g. health care, education)	Increased resilience to climate change	Improved land tenure	Improved recognition of traditional knowledge	
	X	X	X						X			X		X	

\*If you marked "Other" to describe the community characteristic, please explain:

**18b. Geolocation of each community**

Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the community, to the extent possible, or upload a map or shapefile. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).

Name of Community	Latitude	Longitude
Multiple communities across the archipelago, including in Aneitium, Futuna, Tanna, Gaua, Mota, Mota Lava, Malekula		
...		



**19. Policies, Laws and Regulations**

Please report on change in the number of legally binding laws, regulations, and policies with conservation provisions that have been enacted or amended, as a result of CEPF investment. "Laws and regulations" pertain to official rules or orders, prescribed by authority. Any law, regulation, decree or order is eligible to be included. "Policies" that are adopted or pursued by a government, including a sector or faction of government, are eligible.

**19a. Name, scope and topic of the policy, law or regulation that has been amended or enacted as a result of your project**

No.		Scope (mark with x)	Topic(s) addressed (mark with x)
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	Name of Law, Policy or Regulation	L o c a l	N a t i o n a l	R e g i o n a l / I n t e r n a t i o n a l	A g r i c u l t u r e	C l i m a t e	E c o s y s t e m M a n a g e m e n t	E d u c a t i o n	E n e r g y	F i s h e r i e s	F o r e s t r y		Planning/ Zoning	P o l l u t i o n	P r o t e c t e d A r e a s	S p e c i e s P r o t e c t i o n
1																
2																
...																

19b. For each law, policy or regulation listed above, please provide the requested information in accordance with its assigned number.

No.	Country(s)	Date enacted/ amended MM/DD/YYYY	Expected impact

1			
2			
3			

## 20. Sustainable Financing Mechanism

Sustainable financing mechanisms generate financial resources for the long-term (generally five or more years). Examples of sustainable financial mechanisms include conservation trust funds, debt-for-nature swaps, payment for ecosystem services (PES) schemes, and other revenue, fee or tax schemes that generate long-term funding for conservation.

All CEPF grantees (or sub-grantees) with project activities that pertain to the creation and/or the implementation of a sustainable financing mechanism are requested to provide information on the mechanism and the funds it delivered to conservation projects during the project timeframe, unless another grantee involved with the same mechanism has already been or is expected to be tasked with this.

CEPF requires that all sustainable financing mechanism projects to provide the necessary information at their completion.

### 20a. Details about the mechanism

Fill in this table for as many mechanisms you worked on during your project implementation as needed.

NO.	Name of financing mechanism	Purpose of the mechanism *	Date of Establishment **	Description ***	Countries
1					
2					
3					

*\*Please provide a succinct description of the mission of the mechanism.*

*\*\*Please indicate when the sustainable financing mechanism was officially created. If you do not know the exact date, provide a best estimate.*

*\*\*\*Description, such as trust fund, endowment, PES scheme, incentive scheme, etc..*

### 20b. Performance of the mechanism

For each Financing Mechanism listed previously, please provide the requested information in accordance with its assigned number.

NO.	Project intervention *	\$ Amount disbursed to conservation projects **	Period under Review (MM/YYYY -MM/YYYY) ***
1			
2			
3			

*\*List whether the CEPF grant has helped to create a new mechanism (Created a mechanism) or helped to support an existing mechanism (Supported an existing mechanism) or helped to create and then support a new mechanism (Created and supported a new mechanism).*

*\*\*Please only indicate the USD amount disbursed to conservation projects during the period of implementation of your project and using, when needed, the exchange date on the day of your report.*

*\*\*\*Please indicate the period of implementation of your project or the period considered for the amount you indicated.*

Please do not forget to submit any relevant document which could provide justification for the amount you stated above.

## 21. Biodiversity-friendly Practices

Please describe any biodiversity-friendly practices that companies have adopted as a result of CEPF investment. A company is defined as a legal entity made up of an association of people, be they natural, legal, or a mixture of both, for carrying on a commercial or industrial enterprise. While companies take various forms, for the purposes of CEPF, a company is defined as a for-profit business entity. A biodiversity-friendly practice is one that conserves or uses biodiversity sustainably. .

### Number of companies that adopt biodiversity-friendly practices

No.	Name of company	Description of biodiversity-friendly practice adopted during the project
1		
2		
...		

## 22. Networks & Partnerships

Please report on any new networks or partnerships between civil society groups and across to other sectors that you have established or strengthened as a result of CEPF investment. Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable even if they do not have a Memorandum of Understanding or other type of validation. Examples of networks/partnerships include: an alliance of fisherfolk to promote sustainable fisheries practices, a network of environmental journalists, a partnership between one or more NGOs with one or more private sector partners to improve biodiversity management on private lands, a working group focusing on reptile conservation. Please do not use this tab to list the partners in your project, unless some or all of them are part of such a network / partnership described above.

### Number of networks and/or partnerships created and/or strengthened

No.	Name of Network	Name of Partnership	Year established	Did your project establish this Network/ Partnership? Y/N	Country(s) covered	Purpose
1	All regional and local networks's collaborations have been strengthened.					
2						

...						

**23. Gender**

If you have been requested to submit a Gender Tracking Tool (GTT), please follow the instructions provided in the Excel GTT template. If you have not been requested to submit a GTT, please go directly to Part V.

Should you want to know more about CEPF Gender Policy, please click [here](#).

Download the GTT template which can be found on this page and then work with your team to fill it out. Please do not forget to submit the completed GTT together with this report.

**Part V. Information Sharing and CEPF Policy**

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net), and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below:

**16. Name:** Janis Steele, PhD

**17. Organization:** Island Reach (Island Reach Committee Inc)

**18. Mailing address:** c/o Gloria Lango, Wan Smolbag, Rte to Mele, Port Vila, Vanuatu

**19. Telephone number:** 678- 5699209

**20. E-mail address:** [contact@islandreach.org](mailto:contact@islandreach.org)