

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Legal Name: Asean Focus Group Pty Ltd

Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement): West Coast Ecologically Sustainable Tourism Project – WEST Project Sumatra

Implementation Partners for This Project: Provincial Government of West Sumatra; District Government of Mentawai's; Andalas University and Bung Hatta Universities Padang; Conservation International, University of Technology Sydney;

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement): February 1, 2006 - December 31, 2006

Date of Report (month/year): 30 March 2007

II. OPENING REMARKS

Provide any opening remarks that may assist in the review of this report.

This funding was to allow Asean Focus Group Associate Director Michael Fay to assist Conservation International in building a partnership between conservation interests and various stakeholders from community, government, ngo's, academic institutions and the private sector operating in the marine, surf and adventure tourism sector in the Mentawai Islands of West Sumatra Indonesia

III. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

1. What was the initial objective of this project?

To gain stakeholder support for the conduct of the West Coast Ecologically Sustainable Tourism (WEST) Workshop in Padang West Sumatra in 2007. The WEST workshop series will assist in putting conservation issues in the Mentawais on the agenda of all key stakeholders and in gaining national and international attention for biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.

2. Did the objectives of your project change during implementation? If so, please explain why and how.

Our original objective was to get funding support from AusAID but they have indicated that sustainable development based on the development of tourism is not a priority area for funding. They are also mainly focused on infrastructure support on tsunami affected areas of North Sumatra and Aceh provinces as well as development support for Eastern Indonesia not Sumatra.

3. How was your project successful in achieving the expected objectives?

There is now broad stakeholder support for the conduct of the workshop including from national, provincial and district government, from NGO's, the university sector and the private sector

4. Did your team experience any disappointments or failures during implementation? If so, please explain and comment on how the team addressed these disappointments and/or failures.

We originally raised the issue of funding support for the West Workshop with the Australian Government Aid Agency AusAID in early 2006 and received some positive feedback that encouraged us to develop a proposal. We put in a proposal for funding on which we were not successful in the initial round, however we were asked to resubmit in June 2006. AusAID however decided not to fund any Indonesian activities under this funding category ion 2006-2007. AusAID had trouble understanding the intersection between sustainable development and tourism.

We have now gone out to the private and ngo sector for funding sponsorship

We have had difficulties in getting response to our proposals from Indonesian government departments who have little understanding of the concept of ecologically sustainable tourism and sustainable development.

5. Describe any positive or negative lessons learned from this project that would be useful to share with other organizations interested in implementing a similar project.

The international surf marine tourism stakeholders are very keen for the workshop to take place. They were not aware of CI or the CELB role in tourism and it will be helpful for the CI and CELB profile to play a key role in the workshop. It will be helpful and appropriate to have key speakers from CELB present frameworks for development and management of land and marine based tourism.

CI and CELB should initiate formal discussions with Surfaid see: www.surfaidinternational.org a high profile are focused on health projects (malaria eradication) and disaster management in the Mentawais.

6. Describe any follow-up activities related to this project.

Asean Focus Group with initial support from UTS developed a website see: <http://www.aseanfocus.com/west2007/>

Follow meetings in Jakarta and Padang in 2007 self funded up to this point including with CI; Mentawai Marine Tourism Association; Government of Indonesia Ministry of Tourism and Culture; Garuda Indonesia Airlines.

7. Please provide any additional information to assist CEPF in understanding any other aspects of your completed project.

The CI offices in Jakarta and Padang have been involved in all stages of this project.

West Sumatra is one of the few provinces in Indonesia with a vibrant international tourism sector which is almost totally based on marine and surf tourism to the Mentawai islands.

Prince Albert of Monaco visited the Mentawai's in January 2007 and is keen to promoter conservation there.

IV. ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

| Donor | Type of Funding* | Amount | Notes |
|----------------|-------------------------|---|---|
| Nibago Pty Ltd | A | In lieu of wages to value of AUD 10,000 | Voluntary work after initial CEPF funding exhausted |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

**Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:*

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)*
- B** *Complementary funding (Other donors contribute to partner organizations that are working on a project linked with this CEPF project)*
- C** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)*
- D** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

Provide details of whether this project will continue in the future and if so, how any additional funding already secured or fundraising plans will help ensure its sustainability.

We are confident the WEST workshop will be held in Padang in 2007.
Follow up meetings with CI Indonesia and potential sponsors January to March 2007 has been helpful.

V. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In November –December there was a communication hitch in correspondence between our office and CEPF which resulted in us not receiving a vital email about information required for an extension of funding request.

VI. INFORMATION SHARING

CEPF aims to increase sharing of experiences, lessons learned and results among our grant recipients and the wider conservation and donor communities. One way we do this is by making the text of final project completion reports available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and by marketing these reports in our newsletter and other communications. Please indicate whether you would agree to publicly sharing your final project report with others in this way.

Yes ok _____

No _____

If yes, please also complete the following:

For more information about this project, please contact:

Name: Michael Fay

Mailing address: Level 37, 225 George St Sydney 2000

Tel: 61 2 92567878

Fax: 61 2 92587888

E-mail: michael.fay@aseanfocus.com