CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND

Assessing Five Years of CEPF Investment in the Eastern Himalayas Region

July 2011

Contents

OVERVIEW

CEPF is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International (CI), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Government of Japan, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and the World Bank. CEPF provides strategic assistance to nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), community groups, and other civil society partners to help safeguard Earth's biodiversity hotspots: the biologically richest yet most threatened ecosystems. A fundamental goal of CEPF is to ensure civil society is engaged in biodiversity conservation.

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) investment in the Eastern Himalayas region commenced in February 2005 with the approval of an ecosystem profile[1] and an allocation of $5 million to be awarded in grants over five years in Bhutan, Nepal and the states of northeastern India.

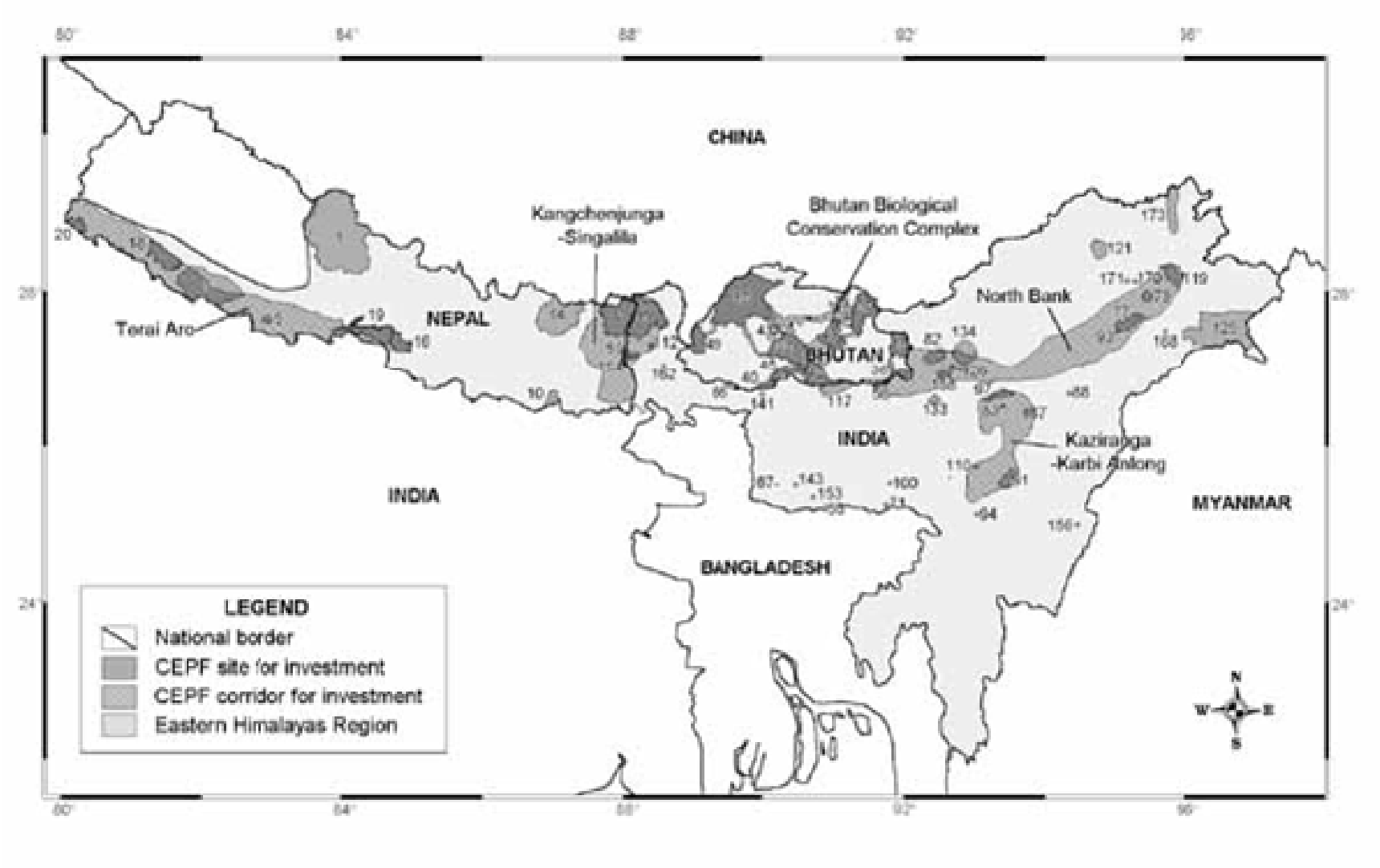
This assessment report presents the results achieved by civil society organizations and their partners through CEPF funding beginning with the first implementation grants in April 2007 through the close of the majority of grants in late 2010. In addition to reviewing results per the logical framework in the ecosystem profile, this assessment examines accomplishments in site- and species-based conservation, the benefits derived by local communities, and improvements in the enabling conditions during implementation. It draws from project monitoring reports and visits, including grant final reports that are available on the CEPF Web site, www.cepf.net. This report also is based on findings from a questionnaire sent to CEPF grantees and input received during an assessment workshop held 7-8 December, 2010 in Paro, Bhutan. The workshop was attended by 65 grantee participants from the three countries, as well as representatives from the government of Bhutan and three of CEPF's donors. The meeting was organized by CEPF's coordination unit for this region, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) with offices in Nepal and Bhutan.

CEPF Niche

The region covered by this portfolio was originally part of the Indo-Burma Hotspot. A hotspots reappraisal conducted in 2005 classified the region as part of two hotspots: Indo-Burma and Himalaya, with the latter being a newly classified hotspot. The Eastern Himalayas region covers the eastern Himalayas and northeastern India. In Nepal, it includes the lowlands of western Nepal and the montane regions of central and eastern Nepal. In India it covers the State of Sikkim, the northern extent of West Bengal including Darjeeling District, and the northeastern Indian states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Meghalaya and Nagaland. The entire country of Bhutan is included in the region (see Figure 1).

[1] The Ecosystem Profile for the Eastern Himalayas region is available on the CEPF website. English, http://www.cepf.net/Documents/final.ehimalayas.ep.pdf (PDF – 3.4 MB)

Figure 1. Priority Site and Corridor Outcomes



The Eastern Himalayas region hosts globally important plant diversity and more than 175 species of mammals and 500 species of birds. This is due to the region having multiple biogeographic origins, its considerable climatic variability, and its topographic complexity that has created isolated habitat islands stretching across its vast mountain ranges. Altitudes range from 100 meters to more than 8,000 meters, and rainfall varies from 2,000 millimeters per year on the monsoon-facing (south and east-facing) slopes to desert-like conditions in the northern and western rain-shadows. The Eastern Himalayas' biological diversity is paralleled by great political and cultural diversity. The region is home to more than 100 million people of multiple ethnicities and religions.

Growing and migrating populations, along with the economic demands that they create, are the major underlying threat to biodiversity in the region. This manifests itself in agricultural land clearing, over-grazing, illegal logging, illegal wildlife trade and unplanned infrastructure. The political turbulence of Nepal and autonomy movements in West Bengal, Sikkim and Assam make it that much more difficult to address such issues.

The CEPF strategy for the Eastern Himalayas is based on the results of a comprehensive ecosystem profiling process. Beginning in 2003, BirdLife International, WWF, the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE), and nine other organizations led the preparation of the profile through a process of stakeholder consultations, field visits, data analysis, and review of background reports. In total, 147 participants from Bhutan, India, Nepal and beyond were directly involved in the preparation process. The lead team compiled data on biodiversity, socioeconomic factors, institutions in the region, and conservation efforts. They also conducted expert roundtables in each country to craft conservation outcomes for the region, a niche for CEPF investment, and specific investment priorities.

During the consultations it was found that national governments, bilateral and multilateral aid agencies, and several international organizations were already providing financial support to environment-related programs in the priority landscapes. However, the focus of these programs was on natural resource management and lacked adequate biodiversity conservation components. Therefore the resources provided by CEPF were considered to be an opportunity to leverage matching funds and catalyze larger conservation programs. By collaborating with larger initiatives in the region, CEPF was expected to provide momentum for a long-term regional conservation initiative in the Eastern Himalayas.

The specific niche identified for CEPF was to influence existing biodiversity conservation programs through civil society; complement large development projects that did not directly address conservation; and support civil society's role in species-specific actions and in influencing biodiversity policies. The ecosystem profile named four strategic directions:

1. Build on existing landscape conservation initiatives to maintain and restore connectivity and to protect wide-ranging threatened species in priority corridors.
2. Secure the conservation of priority site outcomes (key biodiversity areas) in the Eastern Himalayas.
3. Leverage partnerships among donor agencies, civil society and government institutions to achieve priority biodiversity conservation outcomes over the long term.
4. Develop a small grants program to safeguard globally threatened species in the Eastern Himalayas.

These strategic directions were further refined by guidance provided through 15 investment priorities. While CEPF allocated funds along the thematic lines described above, investments were also determined on the basis of species and geographic priorities. Seventy-six animal species were prioritized (19 mammals, 28 birds, 17 reptiles, 12 amphibians), as were 60 sites (12 in Bhutan, 38 in India, 10 in Nepal). Further, five landscapes were prioritized, encompassing 36 of the 60 site outcomes. Emphasis was on the

Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex, the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex (Nepal), and the North Bank Landscape (India). Two others—the Terai Arc (Nepal) and Kaziranga-Karbi Anlong (India) — while no less important, already had significant national and donor support. In these two corridors, CEPF sought to use limited funds there to fill specific gaps.

Coordinating CEPF in the Field

CEPF's investment in the Eastern Himalayas was formally coordinated via a grant to WWF-US, based in Washington, D.C. WWF was an obvious choice to lead the coordination effort, given its long-standing links and presence in the region. Its program in Nepal has been active for more than 40 years and has a total staff of more than 250 people. In Bhutan, WWF was the only international conservation organization with formal permission to work in the country and receive or disburse international funds. In India, WWF has many contacts, relationships and successes that demonstrate their expertise and ability to work in the region.

Overall responsibility for coordinating CEPF's program was held by the U.S.-based office. It provided financial and administrative support for the grant, as well as high level strategic leadership that was particularly valuable in ensuring synergy with partners and WWF programs. For on-the-ground implementation, however, WWF's operations were coordinated from its office in Kathmandu, Nepal, with support from the WWF Program Office in Thimphu, Bhutan for operations in that country, and the Darjeeling-based office of the Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment, via a sub-grant. ATREE was uniquely qualified to perform its coordination role in the region due to its expert knowledge of the political, social and economic scene, as well as its proximity to partners and grantees. ATREE operated from its office in Darjeeling, West Bengal.[2]

The Coordination Unit consisted of a team leader in Kathmandu, country coordinators in each of the three countries, small-grants coordinators in each of the three countries, and a communications specialist. This team managed the development of the grants portfolio and assisted grant applicants and recipients in all facets of grant-making, including the following key tasks:

- Arranged calls for letters of inquiry (LOIs).
- Assisted applicants with project design and application procedures.
- Solicited reviews of external experts and stakeholders.
- Facilitated program and financial monitoring of the grant portfolio and individual projects.
- Built and facilitated partnerships and alliances among relevant stakeholders.
- Ensured collaboration and exchange of information among CEPF grantees, relevant government agencies, local communities and other stakeholders.
- Beginning in mid-2007, independently managed small grants programs in India (ATREE) and Nepal and Bhutan (WWF).

The grant for WWF to lead the Coordination Unit fell within Strategic Direction 3 (leveraging partnerships).[3]

[2] ATREE later became the Regional Implementation Team for the Western Ghats and Sri Lanka Hotspot, with responsibilities running from 2008-2013.

[3] The WWF/ATREE team was the last CEPF Coordination Unit. CEPF now has more formal terms of reference for these groups and calls them the Regional Implementation Team (RIT). For transparency, RITs now have a stand-alone Strategic Direction that includes a budget allocation only for the RIT grant itself.

CEPF gained great advantage and leverage just from working with WWF and ATREE. Both organizations incorporated CEPF's goals into their own organizational missions and provided staff, office infrastructure and synergy with their own programs.

IMPACT SUMMARY

The overall impact of CEPF's five years of investment can be summarized as follows:

1. CEPF played an instrumental role in improving the management of 750,000 hectares located across 11 key biodiversity areas. Within these areas, CEPF contributed to a reduction of agricultural encroachment and poor land use, as well as the recovery of degraded lands and wildlife populations. Included in this expanse are four protected areas that showed significant management improvements and renewed political commitment: Bumdeling and Sakteng in Bhutan, and Manas Tiger Reserve and Sonai Rupai in India.

2. Four national or local policies were adopted to support mainstreaming conservation into development policy at the local, state, and national levels. Through policy analysis, stakeholder consultations, media and community outreach, training and technical assistance, local civil society groups gained important new capacities that allowed them to work collaboratively with local and federal agencies to strengthen public policies. Grant partners achieved important policy results in the Bhutan Biological Corridor Complex and the Kanchenjunga-Sinagalila Complex. In Bhutan, CEPF funding provided the basis for a new Corridor Management Policy.

3. Field assessments for five Critically Endangered species and16 Endangered species were conducted. A network of more than 30 experts and conservationists was established and new capacity for species conservation was built. During the period of CEPF investment, no known species were lost. These efforts have significantly expanded understanding of the state of the Eastern Himalayas Critically Endangered species, especially for fish, plants, and reptiles, which were poorly studied before CEPF.

4. A total of $1,220,110 was leveraged to support CEPF outcomes via grantee contributions of cash, labor and in-kind contributions from communities and host government agencies. (See Appendix C for leveraging data.)

5. A total of 1,500 households benefited directly from CEPF projects across a broad array of activities, including alternative and sustainable livelihood programs, park management implementation, sustainable agriculture, watershed management and ecotourism.

6. Five multi-stakeholder collaborative networks were established and/or strengthened at various levels of decision-making and on numerous topics, signaling a new approach to conservation in a region that historically has been characterized by isolated and fragmented approaches to conservation. Through CEPF, local civil society groups worked collaboratively with their government counterparts to proactively seek solutions to pressing conservation and development problems.

Participants attending the December 2010 assessment workshop agreed that CEPF grants were transformational in several respects. CEPF empowered local civil society organizations to enter into new arenas of environmental governance and decision-making on critical policy issues. Participants cited numerous examples of how CEPF grants were instrumental in resolving long-standing conflicts. Government representatives credited CEPF with catalyzing local conservation priorities that had languished due to the lack of funding and capacity. Furthermore, the partnerships that CEPF facilitated

have heralded a more collaborative and constructive approach to environmental problems in the Eastern Himalayas. These alliances span multiple levels of governance, from local communities and municipalities, across states lines, to national governments and across international boundaries. Regional cooperation was particularly noteworthy since the environmental community had little experience working across international boundaries before CEPF. All impacts are summarized per the 2007 Logical Framework, as shown in Appendix D.

IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY

The ecosystem profile for the Eastern Himalayas Region was approved in February 2005. Following submission of a Letter of Inquiry from WWF-US and subsequent discussions about the design of the coordination unit, a proposal with a start date of 1 January 2006 was approved. As efforts began to secure GEF focal point endorsement, to get the coordination unit up and running in all three countries, and to implement the program, several factors arose that acted to delay progress.

Firstly, the team was faced with a serious administrative challenge in Bhutan. At that time, national regulations required that all international funds flow through the Gross National Happiness Commission before being disbursed to grantees. Due to CEPF's requirement that funds cannot go to government, much effort was made to figure out how to channel funds so that the civil society grantees in Bhutan would be able to receive funds, while at the same time ensuring compliance with CEPF's governing principles. After much legal consultation, CEPF and WWF were able to develop appropriate legal procedures whereby WWF-US would assist CEPF to send its funds to its civil society grantees, without adopting the overall responsibility for each and every grant awarded to an organization in Bhutan. This challenge resulted in a delay in grant making in Bhutan, with the first grants in Bhutan only being awarded in October 2007.

In India, two factors were particularly challenging. These were (1) that all projects proposed for northeastern India were required to receive state and national government-level approvals; and (2) that all grantees had to have a permit under the country's Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) allowing the receipt of international funds. These administrative requirements resulted in significant delays and meant that the first grants for work in India were not approved until January 2008. Some grants were never approved as the grantees were not able to secure the required FCRA clearance.

Most importantly and most tragically, conservation efforts in the region came to a halt when in September 2006, a helicopter crash in Nepal took the lives of 24 people including seven from WWF's offices in Nepal, the United States and the United Kingdom. This was an immense blow to the WWF team and the entire conservation community in Nepal. Thus, the first grants in Nepal were not awarded until April 2007.

Recognizing that there would be less time to implement the portfolio, the CEPF Secretariat traveled to the region in early 2008 to conduct a reprioritization of the conservation outcomes. The multiple species, sites and landscape identified in the ecosystem profile were far too many given the limited time and money remaining in the portfolio. Thus, the secretariat and coordination unit agreed to modify the logical framework in the ecosystem profile, most significantly reducing the number of sites from 60 to 27 and reducing the number of landscapes from five to three (i.e., eliminating the two better-funded landscapes: the Terai Arc and Kaziranga-Karbi Anlong).[4]

[4] The logical framework included in this document and all impacts reflect the modified conservation outcomes from the 2007 reprioritization exercise.

Resource Allocation

CEPF awarded 32 grants valued at $4,988,763 during the investment period from February 2005 through January 2010 (see Appendix A).[5] This yields an average grant size of close to $160,000 and a median of almost $80,000. However, four grants skew these statistics somewhat: 1) the grant to WWF to serve as the Coordination Unit ($947,381); a grant to WWF for a small grants program for Bhutan and Nepal ($684,454); a grant to ATREE for a small grants program in India ($667,350); and the grant to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for the Save the Tiger Fund ($648,952). Excluding these four, CEPF awarded 28 grants valued at $2,040,627. Those grants ranged in size from $4,000 to $140,000 with a median of $77,460 and an average of $72,880. All projects were approved based on their ability to contribute in a direct way to the achievement of specific investment priorities identified in the ecosystem profile.

Grant-making was implemented in accord with the ecosystem profile investment strategy and its four strategic directions. While each strategic direction was assigned a framework budget during profile development in 2004 to guide overall grant allocations, the coordination unit and secretariat allowed for modifications in response to expressed demands. In particular, more was ultimately allocated to small grants (Strategic Direction 4) than initially budgeted and less to landscape initiatives (Strategic Direction 1). Table 1 shows resource allocation by Strategic Direction.

Table 1. Resource Allocation by Strategic Direction for All Grants

	Strategic Direction 1 Landscapes	Strategic Direction 2 Sites	Strategic Direction 3 Capacity Building	Strategic Direction 4 Species (Small Grants)	Total
Number of Grants	9	13	8	2	**32**
Percent of Grants	28%	41%	25%	6%	**100%**
Dollar Allocation	$1,307,743	$873,860	$1,455,356	$1,351,804	**$4,988,763**
Percent of Allocation	26%	18%	29%	27%	**100%**

CEPF grants went directly to 26 different organizations, as shown in Table 2. Of these, only four were international groups: WWF (with its coordination grant, small grant fund, and two independent grants in Bhutan), the Mountain Institute (operating in Nepal), the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (operating in Assam), and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for the support to Save the Tiger Fund. This attests to CEPF's emphasis on directly engaging local organizations as grantees whenever possible, even if it means that capacity building might come at the expense of biophysical conservation results.

[5] The total amount awarded is marginally less than the $5 million allocation because small amounts were unused by grantees and de-obligated upon grant close.

Table 2. Resource Allocation by International versus Local Organization

Organization Type	International Organizations	Local Organizations	Total
Number of Organizations	4	22	**26**
Percent of Organizations	15%	85%	**100%**
Dollar Allocation	$2,618,787	$2,369,976	**$4,988,763**
Percent of Allocation	52%	48%	**100%**

The data in Table 2 tells only part of the story, however. The majority of the money in the WWF-managed small grants fund actually went to local groups or individuals, and some of the Save the Tiger Fund money was further granted to local groups. A more precise accounting would show that more than 60 percent of the funds went directly to local groups or individuals. Considering the 55 different recipients of small grants, as well as several local organizations that received sub-grants under the 28 direct implementation grants, CEPF funds flowed to close to 100 recipients over five years.

Table 3 shows the relative allocation by country, assuming an even split of the WWF small grant between Bhutan and Nepal. The grants for the WWF Coordination Unit and the Save the Tiger Fund provided support throughout the hotspot, so are more difficult to categorize by country.

Table 3. Resource Allocation by Country

	Bhutan	India	Nepal	Hotspot Wide	Total
Number of Grants	8.5	8	13.5	2	**32**
Percent of Grants	27%	25%	42%	6%	**100%**
Dollar Allocation	$1,104,835	$1,291,690	$995,906	$1,596,333	**$4,988,763**
Percent of Allocation	22%	26%	20%	32%	**100%**

Note: WWF small grant fund of $684,454 split evenly between Bhutan and Nepal, hence the counting of 8.5 and 13.5 grants, respectively.

Political Context

The social and political context in which CEPF operated influenced the types of applicants, the types of awards, the management and the performance of the grants. In Bhutan, the challenge was one of working with a nascent civil society sector. Over the seven years since the preparation of the ecosystem profile, the ability of international donors to provide funding to civil society and the ability of Bhutanese civil society organizations to play a role in conservation has changed dramatically. Over the period of grant-making, CEPF was somewhat limited in finding viable partners. On the other hand, the partners that CEPF did engage with were given strong backing by national and local government agencies.

In northeastern India, an ever-present challenge was the one of political disruption due to independence movements in several of the states, with strikes intermittently limiting the progress of grantees throughout the investment period. A second hurdle was the administrative complexity of working in a place where there are federal agencies, equally strong state agencies, and sometimes parallel agencies for autonomous groups, such as the Bodoland Territorial Autonomous District in Assam. Lastly, Indian government required that grantees have FCRA permits in order to receive international wire transfers; however, the process for receiving FCRA permits is time-consuming and often beyond the capacity of small

organizations. This effectively limited direct grants to those groups that already had FCRA permits at the time they submitted letters of inquiry. Regrettably, in late 2009, CEPF had to reject several qualified grant applications because the proponents were unable to secure FCRA permission.

In Nepal, challenges came from a continuing political insurgency that both made operations in Kathmandu difficult while also presenting security threats to grantees. On the other hand, with a strong tourism sector and many government and non-government agencies addressing health, education and livelihood issues, grantees were able to focus on conservation.

In total, recognizing that there was limited time for implementation, CEPF's goal was to address high-priority needs and to build a foundation to enhance sustainability of results, as discussed below for each strategic direction.

Strategic Direction 1. Build on existing landscape conservation initiatives to maintain and restore connectivity and to protect wide-ranging threatened species in priority corridors

Under this strategic direction, CEPF aimed to protect species that cannot be contained and conserved within the bounds of small, isolated protected areas, such as tigers, Asian elephant, snow and clouded leopards, greater one-horned rhinoceros, large birds like vultures, hornbills and adjutants, and small birds that undertake altitudinal migrations. Grants were meant to analyze and define potential habitat-linking corridors, educate stakeholders on the value of these linkages, engage civil society to manage the links, and promote forest management practices. Under this strategic direction CEPF made three grants for a combined $276,958 in Bhutan, three grants for $250,756 in India, two grants for $131,077 in Nepal, and one biome-wide grant to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to support the Save the Tiger Fund. The multi-hotspot award to Save the Tiger Fund totaled $2,235,267, of which $648,952 originated in the Eastern Himalayas allocation.

The Save the Tiger Fund grant formed an integral part of CEPF's contribution to conservation in the region, and was the first grant to be allocated in the portfolio. This grant benefited three investment areas (Sundaland, Mountains of Southwest China, and Eastern Himalayas) and as such was coordinated by the CEPF Secretariat. Via the Save the Tiger Fund grant, CEPF was able to support tiger conservation efforts in strategic locations in the region and beyond.

In the Bhutan Biological Corridor Complex, CEPF supported civil society organizations as they worked to strengthen the policy framework supporting corridors. In India's North Bank Landscape, CEPF supported groups that developed conservation action plans for two elephant corridors and developed a publicly available GIS database on the Manas Biosphere Reserve.

In Nepal's landscapes, CEPF grantees focused on identification and management of habitat linkages, and in eastern Nepal the Ilam Cooperation Council (ICC) worked with local communities to improve management of their community forests and resources. ICC's work has been broad based in that it has entailed training and capacity building among stakeholders on varying levels, as well as specific actions to improve management such as inventories, demarcation of boundaries, monitoring and participatory development of conservation and management plans.

Although the number of projects supported was not large under this Strategic Direction, grantees have been able to influence conservation in the three priority corridors by ensuring that efforts have been focused and complementary.

Strategic Direction 2. Secure the conservation of priority site outcomes (key biodiversity areas) in the Eastern Himalayas

Under this strategic direction, CEPF aimed to protect globally important sites supporting globally threatened species that only occur in those sites. Grants were meant to support protected areas and key biodiversity areas without formal legal status, alternative livelihood programs that divert human pressure from key biodiversity areas, and those traditional land- and resource-use practices that foster sustainability. Under this strategic direction CEPF awarded four grants for a combined $345,650 in Bhutan; three grants for $293,584 in India; and six grants for $234,626 in Nepal.

Much work within this strategic direction took the shape of livelihood support programs (and crop diversification programs) to provide communities with alternatives to habitat degradation, zoning to guide people on allowable activities in designated locations, and the formation of networks of civil society organizations. This strategy was aimed at reducing unsustainable resource use to secure priority key biodiversity areas.

As with the case of Strategic Direction 1, work in Nepal focused on the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex and neighboring key biodiversity areas. The Ilam Cooperation Council, in its efforts to improve protection for community forests, examined the traditional Kipat system of community forest management, which is outdated but still used in some areas. It has taken the positive and conservation-oriented aspects of the Kipat system and applied them to the current system of forest management. The reconciled system is important in that it minimizes the risk that conservation will fail due to conflicts in land tenure, where communities have used “Kipat land” for generations. Many of these same forests benefit from the attention of the Namsaling Community Development Center (NCDC) who worked hand in hand with ICC. NCDC focused on the Nepalese forests of the Upper Mai Valley, adjacent to the Singalila National Park in India. Their program aimed at controlling and minimizing unsustainable resource use by providing alternative livelihood options to the forest users of the area. Further north in Nepal’s Sankhuwasabha District, in the area between Makalu Barun National Park and Kanchenjunga Conservation Area, The East Foundation has been working with local communities to improve forest management and conserve the red panda. Also contributing to the efforts in this large area is Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna which has been working with five villages in India to improve livelihoods and resource management in the buffer areas of the Singalila National Park.

In Bhutan, while efforts were underway to strengthen the Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex as a whole via eco-tourism and policy work, targeted efforts were directed at Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary in eastern Bhutan, and the Bumdeling Wildlife Sanctuary, wintering habitat of the black-necked crane. In India, in addition to the work of Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna mentioned above, the Bombay Natural History Society focused on eight key biodiversity areas in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

As stated previously, during the reprioritization undertaken in early 2008, the number of priority sites was reduced. With this action, CEPF was able to focus remaining efforts, time and funds for the last two years of the program.

Strategic Direction 3. Leverage partnerships among donor agencies, civil society, and government institutions to achieve priority biodiversity conservation outcomes over the long term

Under this strategic direction, CEPF aimed to build the capacity of civil society and government agencies, and then create partnerships between them. Grants were meant to create partnerships that addressed specific issues (e.g., anti-poaching networks), training programs, organizational strengthening, and transboundary initiatives. Foremost among the grants in this strategic direction was the WWF Coordination Unit grant. More than for just the supervision of other grantees, the grant to WWF (and its sub-grantee ATREE) allowed biologists and development experts based in Darjeeling, Kathmandu and Thimphu to mentor grantees in project development and implementation, to build partnerships between

grantees and other stakeholders, and to ensure that grantee efforts fed into broader government development efforts. In addition to the WWF Coordination Unit grant, under this strategic direction CEPF made one grant for $130,000 in Bhutan; one grant for $80,000 in India; and five grants for $287,976 in Nepal.

Ultimately, the coordination unit determined that with limited time and funds, there would be no transboundary grants. However, grants in the Nepali side of the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex did relate to India, and grants on the Indian side of the North Bank Landscape did relate to Bhutan. For example, CEPF supported grants to establish anti-poaching networks that worked in both India and Nepal and grants that supported regional bans on diclofenac.

CEPF also purposefully pushed grantees toward partnerships with one another and with host country government agencies. Partnerships were notable in Bhutan, where working with the government was a fundamental requirement, and also in Assam, where grantees were able to leverage the human resources of national park and forestry agencies (e.g., in Kaziranga) and the motivational and leadership power of the Bodo tribal government.

Strategic Direction 4. Develop a small grants program to safeguard globally threatened species in the Eastern Himalayas

This strategic direction was established to address the lack of knowledge on biodiversity in the Eastern Himalayas. Grants were meant to support high-impact projects like captive breeding species recovery programs; action-oriented research on priority species' ecology, behavior, and demographics; and species monitoring programs. Under this strategic direction CEPF made one grant of $667,350 to ATREE to provide funds for sub-granting in India and one grant of $684,454 to WWF to provide funds for sub-granting in Bhutan and Nepal.

As shown in Appendix B, small-grant managers in each country built a complementary suite of grants related to amphibians, birds, fish, invertebrates, mammals, plants, reptiles and community-led efforts. In total, funds supported research on three Critically Endangered and 16 Endangered species. Further, networks of researchers and experts were built geographically and organizationally. For example, in the community of Gainda Tal, in Lumbini, Nepal, CEPF supported separate grants on research into the Indian eye turtle and on vulture conservation. The ancillary effect was to raise the awareness of the community about the value of biodiversity. Alternatively, in India, several small-grant recipients were affiliated with Aaranyak, which connects researchers with practitioners to share knowledge and advocate for policy change.

With hindsight in 2010, one might ask why CEPF chose to invest so much in small grants. Again, the stakeholder in the ecosystem profile process identified knowledge gaps as a key concern, such gaps being due to numerous small and remote key biodiversity areas made by steep mountain ranges and dense forest. Making small grants to independent researchers, many of whom were affiliated with universities or larger scientific advocacy organizations, was a way of accomplishing the dual goals of building knowledge and capacity.

BIODIVERSITY RESULTS

With a relatively small portfolio of grants and a relatively short period of time, the results of the work of CEPF grantees is best understood as inputs that allow for a continuity of conservation in highly threatened geographies. Grantees worked intensively in three major corridors and 27 key biodiversity areas and conducted action-oriented research on 53 different species. Results came from identification and management of important habitat linkages, improving the land management in those areas, and via

targeted conservation action for individual species. Further, as Table 4 shows, CEPF played an instrumental role in improving management on over 750,000 hectares in the region.

Table 4. Area under Improved Management (hectares)

Name of Site	Protected Area (hectares)	Production Landscape (hectares)	Unprotected Area (hectares)	CEPF Management Tool
Bhutan Biological Corridor Complex	330,714			Regulatory framework for biological corridors in Bhutan.
Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary	74,060			Zonation of Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary
Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex		6,000		Corridor management through alternative livelihoods
Makalu Barun			10,000	Inclusion of Red panda conservation measures in Community Forest Operation/management plans, approved by Makalu Barun National Park and District Forest Office
Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex			15,000	41 Community Forests (CFs) of 19 trans boundary Village Development Committees (VDCs) of Eastern Nepal adjoining North East India brought under scientific sustainable management system supporting to link habitats of key species (plants, birds and mammals).
Jajimukh-Kokilamukh Wetland Complex		2,500	11,500	Planning and proposal for Community Conservation Area; Site Support Group formed
Behali Reserved Forest	14,000			Conservation Management Plan; Site Support Group
Singalila National Park	7,100	59		Conservation friendly farming practices, resource use protocols
Pani Dehing Bird Sanctuary	4,000			Conservation Management Plan; Site Support Group
Mehao Wildlife Sanctuary	28,150			Conservation Management Plan; Site Support Group
Manas National Park and Tiger Reserve	13,000			Management recommendations and training of frontline staff for management of grasslands; reducing dependence of fringe villages
Orang National Park	3,686			Recommendations and training of frontline staff for grassland management
Nameri National Park	20,000			PA Management plan; recommendations and training of frontline staff for grassland management
Mouling National Park	48,300			Landscape level conservation action plan in collaboration with local traditional institutions
Upper Dehing,Jeypore, Kakojan and Dilli Reserved Forests	46,400			Biodiversity values documented and disseminated, proposal prepared to include in PA network; management recommendations and advocacy

Name of Site	Protected Area (hectares)	Production Landscape (hectares)	Unprotected Area (hectares)	CEPF Management Tool
Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary	10,400			Conservation action formation of state-level coordination mechanism involving various stakeholders; training for frontline staff, economic development councils, and local governance institutions
Bornadi-Khalingduar	9,000		1,000	Conservation Action Plan for corridor connectivity and integrity, complemented by studies and species specific conservation management plans
Pakke-Doimara	86,100		800	Conservation Action Plan for corridor and integrity, complemented by studies and species specific conservation plans for Pakke
Talley Valley Wildlife Sanctuary	33,700	3,200		Community based conservation using traditional institutions
Total	**728,610**	**11,759**	**38,300**	

Identification and management of important habitat linkages

Bhutan

In central Bhutan, three national parks risk becoming islands surrounded by degraded land. The parks—Thrumsingla National Park, Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park, and Centennial National Park—are surrounded by unprotected forests which are used as a source of fuel wood by local inhabitants and as a source of timber by local sawmills, of which there are many. One private sector partner, Norden Pines, became concerned and applied for a grant to use sawdust to manufacture briquettes, with the aim of reducing use of timber. The briquettes are used for cooking and heating. In the central Bhutan districts of Bumthang and Trongsa, briquettes are in regular use in several hotels, schools, and homes in the region. This is a first step in changing behaviors and attitudes about firewood collection by providing an alternative, thereby helping maintain the biological corridor.

In northeastern Bhutan, the Nature Conservation Committee of Trashiyangtse (NCCT) was instrumental in improving the winter habitat of the threatened black-necked crane in the Bumdeling Wildlife Sanctuary, a priority site. The bird's feeding grounds amidst paddy fields had been destroyed by successive spring-time flooding over the past several years, disturbing their migration to the Tibetan plateau. In response, NCCT installed flood protection measures to conserve 405 hectares of habitat. They also secured 85 hectares of roosting sites from wildlife attack and feral dogs.

Along the Phochu River in the Punakha region of Bhutan, south of Jigme Dorji National Park, the Royal Society for the Protection of Nature worked with local communities to demarcate 1,140 hectares of habitat critical to the white-bellied heron. This broader area, the last remaining habitat of the species, is threatened by a planned hydropower facility along the river. The demarcation of habitat may help to ensure better infrastructure planning.

In promoting the Bhutan Biological Corridor Framework, WWF analyzed how to mitigate the effects of climate change on corridors while also allowing for continued human use. WWF's policy recommendations to the government will improve overall management on 3,307 square kilometers. Included in this is a zoning system in Jigme Dorji and Jigme Singye Wangchuck national parks that

resolves disputes between sanctuary managers and local communities over 739 square kilometers of land. WWF continued this theme in Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary, particularly focusing on zoning for responsible tourism.

The Ugyen Wangchuck Institute furthered the theme of improving environmental tourism in Bhutan. The Institute used a science-based collaborative approach to prepare ecotourism plans in and around protected areas.

Bhutan's Royal Institute of Management has built the capacity of four social forestry groups and improved sustainable management on 180 hectares of forest. Although small in size, these plots demonstrate that policies can be effectively implemented.

India

The North Bank Landscape—the northern bank of the Brahmaputra River, running parallel to the border between India and Bhutan—is under incredible pressure from economic development and the north-south road connections between Bangladesh, India, Bhutan and China. Within this landscape are such globally important areas as the Manas Tiger Reserve and Kaziranga National Park.

One organization, Aaranyak, used its grant to develop the first comprehensive GIS database showing habitat linkages running via the Manas Reserve. This database, now publicly available, allows forest managers to better understand the movements of megafauna such as tigers and rhinos.

Working to the west of Manas, the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust has established a major breeding center for pygmy hogs (*Sus salvanius*) to be reintroduced into the wild. The pygmy hog is an important food source and indicator species for the larger predators—tigers and leopards. While breeding the animals is certainly a challenge, the CEPF grant was used to ensure the maintenance of the grassland habitats and educate farmers.

Working to the east of Manas, WWF-India, an independent Indian national group that is part of the WWF federation, sought to mitigate human-wildlife conflict in the Tipi-Dedjling and Bornadi-Khalingduar corridors. Tigers, rhinos, and particularly elephants move via these corridors. WWF studied community dynamics and land use in relation to elephant movements and has developed participatory action plans with the communities to maintain the habitat.

The Bombay Natural History Society, one of India's leading scientific research organizations and the Indian partner of Birdlife International, established site support groups in five Important Bird Areas in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh. Each site now has surrounding communities that understand the value of maintaining these bird habitats, typically marshes and riparian flood zones.

Nepal

In the Kanchenjunga Singalila Complex of eastern Nepal, bordering Tibet, China and India, the Ethnobotanical Society of Nepal helped identify two areas critical to plant biodiversity and developed sustainable use strategies for each. In turn, the Shree Deep Jyoti Youth Club helped implement these strategies. In the same region, researchers who received small grants identified important sites for the conservation of satyr tragopan, giant hornbill, lesser adjutant and vulture species. With a grant to Bird Conservation Nepal, eight site support groups are now better able to monitor the status of the birds in areas spanning 20,000 hectares overseen by19 border-adjacent village development committees. This work provides a biological link to India's Singalila National Park in Darjeeling, as well as the Barshey Rhododenron Sanctuary and Mai Valley Important Bird Area.

The work with Bird Conservation Nepal expanded to central Nepal's Terai Arc Landscape. The grantee was able to convince 10 districts in the region to declare themselves "diclofenac free zones." Diclofenac is a veterinary drug that is toxic to vultures, should they consume decomposing cattle with the drug still in their system. By removing this drug from local practice, and promoting an alternative, Bird Conservation Nepal has been able to create a safe ecological corridor for the birds. Nepal now has a Vulture Conservation Action Plan for the period of 2009-2013.

In Nepal's Kanchenjunga Conservation Area, grantees and partners operating in 51 community forests brought 20,000 hectares under better management by developing forest operation management plans that had sections devoted to biodiversity conservation, as opposed to only silviculture improvements. The broader Kangchenjunga Conservation Area management plan will also now have a provision for conservation of indicator bird species.

Nepal's Shree Deep Jyoti Youth Club worked with 714 households in the Eastern Himalayan Broadleaf and Conifer Forest (a Global 200 Eco-Region) to conserve medicinal plants. The households conducted *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation of *Aconitum ferox, A. spicatum, Neopicrorhiza crophulariiflora, Nardostachys grandiflora, Michelia sps.* and *Taxus wallichiana*. Sustainable harvest guidelines have been applied to 480 hectares in two community forests.

Nepal's Red Panda Network, working in the Kanchenjunga region, helped change local perception of conservation programs as one that benefits people as well as nature. The grantee promoted guidelines for community-based anti-poaching operations and helped implement these, resulting in 15,000 hectares of red panda (*Ailurus fulgens)* habitat being better protected.

The Ilam Cooperation Council, through its project entitled Strengthening Civil Society for Biodiversity Project, has made significant strides in improving forest management in eastern Nepal. To date, their efforts have improved the management of a total of 1,620 hectares via inventories, monitoring, demarcation of boundaries, training and preparation of conservation and operational plans for community forests. These forests are home to valued medicinal plants, as well as threatened species such as the Himalayan thar and the red panda. Efforts have also included a focus on grazing, with management plans developed for two intensively grazed sites that will include alternative strategies such as rotations, controlled grazing, fencing and stall feeding.

Further north in Nepal's Sankhuwasabha District in the area between Makalu Barun National Park and Kanchenjunga Conservation Area, the East Foundation has been working with local communities to improve forest management and conserve the red panda. They have focused on Community Forest User Groups and aim to ensure that 10 forests comprising 10,782 hectares have red panda conservation programs approved in their statutes and operational plans. To date, half of the forests—representing more than 5,000 hectares—have been successful at adopting statutes and plans.

Species conserved through targeted conservation action

Species conservation was the result of habitat management, reduced pressure due to promotion of alternative livelihoods, public awareness, partnerships and policy changes. In Bhutan, counted black-necked cranes increased from 115 in January 2009 to 123 in January 2010 at the bird's wintering site. In Nepal, monitoring results have shown an increase in red panda (*Ailurus fulgens*) and the first ever recorded increased in white-rumped vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*). With continued effort, further increases are expected for wood snipe (*Gallinago nemoricola*), slender-billed vultures (*Gyps tenuirostris*), clouded leopards (*Neofelis nebulosa*), musk deer (*Muscus cryogaster*) Himalayan thar (*Hemitragus jemlahicus*), Asiatic black bear (*Ursus thibetanus*), Himalayan monal, *Gyps himalayensis, G. fulvus, Neophron percnopterus, Gypaetus barbatus, Aegypius monachus* and *Sarcogyps calvus*.

Plant conservation was aimed at medicinal and aromatic plant species, including *Michelia sps. and Taxus wallichiana, Rhododendron species Swertia chirata,Aconitum ferox, A. spicatum, Neopicrorhiza crophulariiflora,* and *Nardostachys grandiflora.*

Via focus on three key biodiversity areas—the Upper and Lower Mai Valley Forests and the Dharan Forests—communities monitored 15 indicator bird species and bird species of global conservation concern: *Tragopan satyra, xanthonotus, Buceros bicornis, Gallinago nemoricola, Neophron percnopterus, Gyps bengalensis, Gyps tenuirostris, Aegypius monachus, Sarcogyps calvus, Circus macrourus, Aquila clanga, Falco naumanni, Leptoptilos javanicus, Spelaeornis caudatus* and *Emberiza aureola*.

The red panda has been the focus of several CEPF grantees in eastern Nepal. The Ilam Cooperation Council has collaborated with the Red Panda Network, and the Namsaling Community Development Centre to conduct Red Panda surveys in two community forests in Ilam District, and to set up permanent transects to be monitored by local communities. This effort has entailed training of four forest guardians and yielded sightings of three red pandas.

The table below presents all species, via core and small grants, for which CEPF conducted a direct conservation action.

Table 5. Species Addressed by CEPF in the Eastern Himalayas

Category	Species	Conservation Action
Mammals	Bhutan takin (*Budorcas taxicolor whitei*) and Takin (*Budorcas taxicolor*)	Study on population status and demographic structure in Bhutan (Boe Nueli and Langdra Ney) and along the Tibet and Myanmar borders of Arunachal Pradesh (India)
Mammals	Red panda (*Ailurus fulgens*)	Study on distribution and habitat characteristic and conservation status in Thrumshingla National Park, Jigme Dorji National Park, and Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary
Mammals	Golden langur (*Trachypithecus geei*)	Assessment of the extent of hybridization between golden and capped langur and establish baseline for future monitoring in the Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex, plus assessment in Ripu-Chirrang Reserved Forest and Nameri National Park (India)
Mammals	Capped langur (*Trachypitheucs pileatus*)	
Mammals	Snow leopard (*Uncia uncia*)	Ecology, distribution and conservation threats in Jigme Dorji National Park (Bhutan) and Sikkim (India)
Mammals	Pygmy hogs (*Sus salvanius*)	Presence/absence survey and assessment in Royal Manas National Park
Mammals	Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*)	Presence/absence survey and assessment in Royal Manas National Park
Mammals	Wooly flying squirrel (*Eupetaurus cinereus*)	Presence/absence survey and assessment in Jigme Dorji National Park
Mammals	Wild water buffalo (*Bubalis arnee*)	Status assessment in North Bank Landscape
Mammals	Hoolock gibbon (*Hoolock hoolock*)	Status assessment and community awareness program in Mehao Wildlife Sanctuary, India
Mammals	Hispid hare *(Caprolagus hispidus*)	Distribution and threat mapping in North Bank Landscape (India)

Category	Species	Conservation Action
Mammals	Gangetic dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*)	Minimize fishing pressure in and around identified dolphin habitats in Brahmaputra River system
Birds	White-bellied heron(*Ardea insignis*)	Habitat improvement in Ada Lake, Puba tsangchu (Bhutan) and Assam, India
Birds	Black-necked crane (*Grus nigricollis*)	Habitat improvement in Trashiyangtse (Bhutan)
Birds	White-rumped vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*)	Ecology and demography study in range from Samdrup Jonger in the east to Samtse in the west of Bhutan
Birds	Rufous-necked hornbill (*Aceros nipalensis*)	Ecology and demography study in range from Thrumshingla National Parkto Royal Manas National Park and Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park (Bhutan) and in Northeastern India
Birds	Bengal florican (*Houbaropsis bengalensis*)	Status survey, monitoring, and formation of a conservation network in the North Bank Landscape (India)
Birds	Red-breasted hill-partridge (*Arborophila mandellii* Hume)	Status and distribution in Singalila National Park and upper reaches of the Buxa Tiger Reserve of West Bengal (India)
Reptiles	Gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*)	An assessment of assisted recovery of wild gharial populations in the river systems of the northeast India and Chitwan (Nepal)
Reptiles	Turtles and tortoises	Rapid study of chelonian diversity, along with identification of viable populations and sites for long-term conservation action and research in Dibru Saikhowa, D'Ering, Mehao, Nameri and Pakke (India)
Amphibians	Amphibians	To ascertain the diversity and distribution of rare, threatened and endemic amphibians along the elevation gradient in Kanchenjunga-Singalila Landscape
Invertebrates	Swallowtail butterflies (Papilionidae)	Status in Ripu-Chirang Elephant Reserve and Barnadi Wildlife Sanctuary (India)
Plants	*Bazzania bhutanica*	Study the status, key threats, and conservation needs of a rare species of liverworts
Plants	Agarwood (*Auilaria malaccensis*)	Identification of different locations where the plant is grown in Bhutan
Plants	Rhododendron *R. subansiriense* and *R. wattii*	Research and pictorial guide on rhododendrons in Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary (Bhutan) and Sikkim, India
Plants	*Cycas pectinata*	Survey and documentation of cycad diversity in North Bank Landscape (India)
Plants	Taxus *baccata* and *Rubia cordifolia*	Distribution study of medicinal plant in Arunachal Pradesh
Plants	Genus *Dioscorea*	Study on diversity and sustainable cultivation in Arunachal Pradesh

SOCIOECONOMIC RESULTS

Integrating socioeconomic benefits into conservation is of vital importance in the Eastern Himalayas, where rural poverty drives many threats to biodiversity. CEPF's priority key biodiversity areas are particularly vulnerable to threats rooted in poverty because they are either located in the remote and rarely visited parts of eastern Nepal, in the rarely visited parts of Bhutan, or abutting the highly populated regions of northeastern India. Given these circumstances, the coupling of conservation with poverty alleviation and human welfare was woven throughout the corridor, site, and capacity building strategic directions.

With this recognition, 24 grants contained at least one major activity designed to provide community benefits from the sustainable use of natural resources. In total, approximately 1,500 households benefited directly from CEPF projects. These projects provided people with new skills in order to increase their income, manage their resources more effectively, and have an alternative to direct resource degradation.

Livelihoods

Bhutan
Several of the grants in Bhutan had the dual purpose of promoting conservation and providing the opportunity for improved livelihoods. For example, the black-necked crane conservation program in Bumdeling Wildlife Sanctuary was aimed at preserving the bird’s wintering habitat. This habitat happens to be rice paddy fields. By putting in measures to mitigate against floods, the grant helped preserve both habitat and the source of people's income. Through supporting the installation of retaining walls, the community reclaimed 1,000 acres of paddy fields belonging to 300 households.

Similarly, the Royal Institute of Management trained communities in social forestry, with the goal of enabling communities to sustainably plant forests, manage existing stands, and harvest non-timber forest products and small but economically viable amounts of timber. This grant is placing communities in the position of both benefactor and protectors of their forests. At the same time, Norden Pines was able to sell sawdust briquettes at approximately US $0.50 per kilogram. They ultimately delivered 153 tons of briquettes to schools, hospitals and individuals as a way to develop this market.

In the biological corridor regions, Ugyen Wangchuck has created Village Tourism Management Group to promote sustainable practices. Benefits are expected to flow to 142 households along the trekking route.

India
In Sikkim, Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna has been working with five villages to improve livelihoods and resource management in the buffer areas of the Singalila National Park. With a focus on environmentally friendly agriculture, this organization has used village workshops to promote organic square-meter gardening and animal husbandry, vermi-composting and a reduction in use of synthetic agro-chemicals. Training and networking have been tactics used to institutionalize alternative sustainable livelihood strategies. To date, the training has been well-received, and the organic practices enthusiastically adopted in the villages.

Also in Sikkim, the Voluntary Health Association worked with communities on the conservation and cultivation of threatened medicinal plants. Because of their work, 15 community organizations were qualified to register with the state medicinal plants board and more than 1,000 people received information on proper collection of commercially valuable species.

Meanwhile, in Assam, the Dolphin Foundation started alternative livelihood programs for 12 communities bordering Manas National Park. The grantee formed community groups and trained

members in cultivation of silk worms, textile weaving, and honey production as alternatives to illegally collecting products out of the forest or expanding their farms.

Nepal
In Nepal, the Red Panda Network's efforts led to the creation of paid positions for 24 forest guardians, two animal trackers, two nature guides, and six home-stays. RPN also promoted production of bee hive briquettes by 60 households from four community forests within the project area; provided training to 300 farmers in sustainable agriculture practices (via five demonstration plots) such as organic manure production; trained people from 180 households on non-timber forest product cultivation; and provided training for 15 herders in pastureland management.

The Ethnobotanical Society of Nepal provided training to 714 households in medicinal and aromatic plant cultivation. Families are now farming *Swertia chirata* and are expected to have commercially viable plants by the close of 2011. (The drug chiretta is obtained from the dried plant and used for treatment of fever, skin diseases and bronchial asthma.) Households are also expected to grow *Aconitum* sp., *Nardostachys grandiflora,* and *Neopicrorhiza scrophauliflora.*

The Namsaling Community Development Centre provided training to 150 households in environmental enterprises and conservation friendly technologies. Small hotel and home-stay operators were trained in the use of efficient cook stoves that use less fuel and produce less indoor air pollution, thus making the lodgings more attractive to tourists while also making their operations more environmentally benign.

ENABLING CONDITIONS RESULTS

CEPF-supported interventions for conservation are more likely to be sustained when complementary policies, human and organizational capacity, and partnerships are in place. In Nepal and India, with long histories of civil society engagement, the focus was more on building the abilities of local people and community groups in remote locations or with disadvantaged or ethnic groups. In Bhutan, on the other hand, important changes took place that allowed civil society organizations to engage in conservation work and receive international funds. CEPF cannot claim credit for instigating these changes, but did demonstrate, by funding successful grants, that these new policies represent a productive path.

Policies
The coordinated work of the Bhutan grantees yielded considerable results that were reflected at both site and national levels. For example, zoning in Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary now identifies areas for tourism, non-timber forest product collection, community forestry and strict conservation. This approach is reflected more broadly via a national ecotourism framework, the Forest and Nature Conservation Rules, the draft Protected Areas and Wildlife Bill of 2010, and the country’s tenth Five Year Plan.

The Aaranyak and WWF-India efforts in Assam also inform policy on state and national park management. With a better understanding of wildlife corridors and the economic and social dynamics of local inhabitants, government agencies have the tools to better manage their parks. As a membership organization that includes scientists and civil servants, Aaranyak has been particularly adept informing decision-making of government land managers.

In Nepal, the East Foundation has worked with the managers of five community forests covering roughly 5,000 hectares in the area between Makalu Barun National Park and Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in Nepal’s Sankhuwasabha District to incorporate red panda conservation into their formal forest management plans. These plans are legally endorsed by district forest agency offices and allow the communities productive and sustainable access to the land.

Table 6 summarizes key policy enhancements that took place due in part to the work of CEPF grantees.

Table 6. Policy Improvements

Country	Policy	Summary
Bhutan	Corridor Management Policy (national level)	Defines rights and responsibilities of government and community bodies in relation to operations and management of Bhutan's wildlife corridors..
Bhutan	Zonation for Sustainable Use (protected area level)	Within Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary, defines rights and responsibilities for park management staff and inhabitant communities on allowable resource and land use
Bhutan	National Eco-tourism Framework for protected Areas in Bhutan	Obtaining government endorsement for the introduction of eco-tourism facilities in Bhutan's Protected Areas so that a balance between development and conservation could be achieved and also bring about increased levels of ownership from the local communities.
India	Community-Based Action Plans Policy	As applied to the North Bank Landscape, proposed community conservation areas and site support groups at key biodiversity areas
India	State and trans-boundary level coordination mechanisms	Policy level intervention for biodiversity conservation by way of constituting a body at the State level comprising of Forest Department authorities, Barsey Sanctuary authorities, civil society representatives, conservation NGOs, local Panchayats, schools and EDCs; trans boundary coordination mechanism with civil society and government representation from India (West Bengal and Sikkim) and Nepal
India	Conservation Action Plans for inter-state and trans-boundary wildlife corridors	Conservation Action Plans being implemented to restore corridor and reduce Human-Elephant conflict in the Bornadi-Khalingduar in Assam and Pakke-Doimara corridors in Arunachal Pradesh that also connect to Bhutan
Nepal	Biodiversity and Community User Forest Operational Plan Policy (local)	A new initiative that biodiversity conservation values are included in Community Forest Operational plans, approved by the District Forest Office, adopted and implementation initiated

Strengthening community and partner capacity

As summarized in Table 7, CEPF grants led to the building of capacity of grantees, communities, local government partners and individuals, all serving to enhance the sustainability of our interventions. In total, more than 70 different partner agencies and700 individual professionals, community members, or households are now better able to implement conservation actions.

Table 7. Capacity Building in the Eastern Himalayas

Location	Number of beneficiaries	Type of training	Description
Bhutan Biological Corridor	25 agencies and organizations	Corridor steering committee	Training to improve operations of steering committee and ensure equal participation
Bhutan Biological Corridor	Representatives of 35 communities	Community representation	Communities have ability to participate in district forestry meetings

Location	Number of beneficiaries	Type of training	Description
Jigme Dorji; Jigme Singye Wangchuk; Sakteng; Manas; Thrumshing La; Phobsoo	Representatives of 22 communities	Community representation	Communities adjacent to national parks have ability to participate in park meetings
Thrumshingla National Park, Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park, Jigme Dorji National Park, Royal Manas National Park and Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary	Members of 6 communities	Conservation and livelihood training	Training in micro-enterprise schemes and tourism, trail demarcation, wildlife identification
Bumdeling	2 government personnel	Study tour	District governor and human resources officer travel to Tibet to learn about management of wide-ranging species
Bumdeling	8 government personnel	Study tour	Park staff, local government, and national Nature Conservation Division travel to northeast India to learn about community-based nature tourism
Sakteng	10 forestry division rangers	Park management	Training in biological and socioeconomic surveys and basics of GIS
Punakha Dzongkhag	5 government personnel and 20 community members	Facilitation	4 extension offices, one Social Forestry Division officer, and 20 community members trained in leading community forest management groups
Zhemgang, Trashigang, Bumthang, Sarbang, Wangdiphodrang and Paro	30 government personnel and 120 community members	Project management	District Environment Officers, forest officials, teachers, and local leaders trained in project cycle management
North Bank Landscape	50 community members	Site management	Important Bird Area site support group formation and training in habit maintenance
Sonai Rupai	150 community members	Livelihood training	Silk worm cultivation, weaving, and beekeeping
Manas Tiger Reserve	10 park personnel	GIS	Training in use of GIS tools
Kaziranga	5 park personnel	Biodiversity monitoring	Training for rangers in species identification and monitoring
Varsay Rhododendron sanctuary	80 community members	Livelihood training	People from eight villages trained in medicinal plant identification and cultivation
Senchel Wildlife Sanctuary	50 community members	Livelihood training	People from five villages trained in sustainable agriculture practices

Location	Number of beneficiaries	Type of training	Description
Kanchenjunga Singalila complex	6 grantee personnel and 20 local government personnel	Conservation management	Training for organization staff and local government in locally appropriate biodiversity conservation actions
Kanchenjunga Singalila complex	40 community members	Livelihood training	Medicinal plant identification and cultivation
Kanchenjunga Singalila complex	50 community members	Livelihood training and biodiversity management	Training for villages in species identification, tracking, guiding, and tourism related to Red panda
Gadia Tal, Dang-Deukhuri Foothills and Buffer Zone of Chitwan National Park	19 government personnel and 40 community members	Vulture conservation	Training in establishing vulture restaurants and "diclofenac free" zones
Kanchenjunga	6 forest rangers	Biodiversity monitoring	Identification and monitoring of indicator bird species
Kanchenjunga	11 district forest personnel	Biodiversity monitoring	Training in biodiversity resource inventories, medicinal plant identification, sustainable harvesting
Namsaling	4 district forest personnel and 8 others	Conservation management	Government personnel and individuals of a multi-stakeholder committee trained in corridor restoration
Makalu-Barun	5 park personnel	Conservation management	2 guards and 3 other staff trained in participatory monitoring
Total	**737**		

Bhutan

The Bhutan Biological Corridor Framework project established a steering committee with representatives from the government Nature Conservation Division, staff of each protected area within the corridor, local Territorial Forest Divisions, the Bhutan Power Corporation, Department of Roads, Druk Green Power Corporation, the Livestock Division, NGOs, and community advisory groups from affected *geogs* and *dzonghkags*. Similarly, based on training from RIM, 35 community members will now be able to participate in district meetings on forest management, while in one RSPN project area, communities now formally provide input into all natural resource management decisions. At a more fundamental level, the Kuensel Corporation built awareness of biodiversity values in six villages, tapping into existing community groups. These groups are now ready to replicate small-scale conservation programs and micro-enterprise schemes.

Several efforts in Bhutan also led to capacity building for partner government agencies:

- The Bumdeling District Governor and Human Resources Officer in relation to the biological corridors program, both of whom travelled to Tibet to learn more about species management.
- Forestry Division personnel in Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary were trained in biological and socioeconomic surveys, use of global positioning system devices, and the basics of geographic information systems, including further GIS training for two forest rangers.
- Four local government staff and two park staff from the Bumdeling region joined grantees from UWICE and staff of the government's Nature Conservation Department to visit ecotourism sites in northern India to better understand how household income could be enhanced via "home stay" lodging arrangements.

- The Royal Institute of Management provided general management training to one person from the Social Forestry Division and four extension officers in Punakha Dzongkhag. They joined 20 community members to learn how to lead community forest management groups.
- The RSPN ensured that joining community members in its trainings were District Environment Officers, forest officials, officials from other sectors, teachers, and local leaders like Gups and Tshogpas. Trainings covered project cycle management, action planning, biodiversity monitoring, proposal writing, and monitoring and evaluation of project activities.

India

In India, almost all the grants were built around stakeholder guidance and ownership. WWF-India's program could not succeed in resolving human-elephant conflict without ensuring that communities agree to the plans, and the Bombay Natural History Society relies on "site support groups" (i.e. community groups) to collective protect bird habitat. Similarly, the Dolphin Foundation, Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna, and the Voluntary Health Association of Sikkim either initiated or built on existing communal bodies to promote environmental enterprises.

Partner government agencies in India benefited as well:

- Providing district forestry officers and national park staff with a GIS database on Manas Tiger Reserve.
- Providing protected areas managers with information on 25 under-studied plant and animal species.

Nepal

In Nepal, CEPF funds have been instrumental in supporting local organizations to improve their institutional capacity. Specifically, in eastern Nepal, the Ilam Cooperation Council has used funds to develop a new biodiversity unit with six trained staff. This unit has successfully developed a new conservation strategy for the organization, contributing to its ability to maintain a long term commitment to biodiversity conservation. This support has gone even further, with the formation of Biodiversity Conservation Coordination Committees within local government. Two Village Development Committees have now allocated space and finances for the biodiversity committees, the District Development Committee for Ilam has allocated district level funds for wetlands documentation and conservation. In a region that has significant socioeconomic challenges, this is an extremely positive result of ICC's efforts. Finally, ICC's capacity building efforts are also evident at the local stakeholder level, with programs being undertaken amongst local government stakeholders, community forest user groups, and eco-clubs in four schools.

As in India, grants to Nepal's Shree Deep Jyoti Youth Club and the Ethnobotanical Society were targeted at an environmental enterprise—medicinal plants—but are made sustainable based on strengthening local organizations. Groups received training in plant collection and cultivation, of course, but also in participatory decision-making, project management, and proposal development. Similar training was given to the groups focused on animal species: creating the ability to manage small-scale tourism around vultures and red pandas for groups working with Bird Conservation Nepal and the Red Panda Network.

Training for government partners occurred via several grants:

- Six forest rangers from two districts in the Kanchenjunga region received training in monitoring indicator bird species.
- 11 district forest staff in the same region learned how to conduct biodiversity resource inventories and how to develop operational plans that incorporate biodiversity conservation. They were also trained in the cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants and preparation of sustainable harvesting guidelines.
- The Namsaling Community Development Centre provided training to three rangers and one district plant resource officer in corridor restoration. NCDC also created a district advisory committee consisting of representatives from the District Forest Office, the local planning officer from the District Development Committee, Federation of Nepalese Journalists, NGO representatives, and the Federation of Community Forest Users. NCDC provided a lecturer to this committee to orient them on different projects funded by CEPF and share lessons learned.
- Working in the Terai Arc, Bird Conservation Nepal invited District Livestock Services and District Forest Office staff from all 10 project districts, along with representatives from Bardiya National Park and Shukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (a total of 19 government officials) to two trainings on vulture conservation.
- The Red Panda Network trained two government forest guards and three staff from Makalu-Barun National Park on participatory monitoring.

Local Stakeholder Coordination and Partnerships

Via the grant to NCCT, CEPF enabled coordination between the district administration office, personnel from the Bumdeling Wildlife Sanctuary, and local communities who actually own the land where black-necked cranes spend the winter. Similarly, the Royal Society for the Protection of Nature created local conservation support groups consisting of communities, businesses, and government personnel districts of Zhemgang, Trashigang, Bumthang, Sarbang, Wangdiphodrang and Paro.

Further in Bhutan, via the Biological Corridor Framework, WWF has fostered partnerships among the Departments of Roads, Power, Tourism, and Industry, as well as district authorities. For the promotion of social forestry policy, there is now a stronger partnership between the Royal Institute of Management and the Social Forestry Division of the Department of Forestry.

In Nepal, a transboundary working group was formally registered in the Panchthar District to coordinate anti-poaching units, site support groups, and conservation coordination committees in specified areas of Panchthar, Ilam and Taplejung.

Further in Nepal, multiple groups came together as part of the ban on veterinary diclofenac. These include the Departments of Drug Administration, Livestock Services, and National Parks and Wildlife Conservation; and the Nepal Veterinary Council, Veterinary Standards and Drug Administration Office, Nepal Veterinary Association, and Nepal Para-Veterinary and Livestock Association.

Leveraging additional resources

"Leveraging" in the context of CEPF has meant actual cash commitments, but also includes labor and materials, which is harder to quantify. In Bhutan, this took the form of parallel UNDP/GEF small grant of $25,380 for livelihood promotion that complemented WWF's biological corridor work in the eastern part of the country. It also took the form of the Tourism Corporation of Bhutan providing capacity building and marketing of a pilot site as part of the Ugyen Wangchuck grant; the SNV (Netherlands Development Aid) providing professional services for training social forestry groups identified by the Royal Institute of Management; and the Embassy of Finland and the Bhutan Water Partnership providing support to groups identified by the Royal Society for the Protection of Nature.

In Nepal, each Village Development Committee allocated a total of Rp 50,000 ($700) to biodiversity conservation in areas where CEPF grantees were active. This amount may seem small, but is significant in context. Similarly, District Livestock Offices provided veterinary services and outreach promoting alternatives to the use of diclofenac. Further, international and national government-sponsored efforts made contributions to efforts that complemented those of CEPF grantees. WWF and CARE will be investing more than $900,000 from 2010-2015 on pastureland management training as part of the Sustainable Conservation Approach for Priority Ecosystems (SCAPE) project in areas that overlap multiple CEPF KBAs. The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development is now focusing on enterprise development in the transboundary KBAs of the Upper and Lower Mai Valleys, while the Development Fund of Norway is supporting a community forestry program for the village development committees of Maimajhuwa and Jamuna, which overlap the KBAs of Singalila National Park (India).

There has been much work around the conservation of vultures. The CEPF coordination unit further worked with the United Kingdom's Darwin Initiative and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), along with Bird Conservation Nepal and the Bombay Natural History Society on a "Trans Boundary Solution to the Asian Vulture Crisis." RSPB has supported in monitoring in five project districts where CEPF also supported grantee work. At the same time, BCN was able to attract funds from the Conservation Leadership Award program (funded by Conservation International, Birdlife International, Fauna and Flora International, Wildlife Conservation Society and British Petroleum) to do further research on vultures in the Nawalparasi District. Lastly, the Rufford Small Grants for Nature Conservation program provided funds to sustain Vulture Safe Zones in two areas as well as some sensitization and research work.

LESSONS LEARNED

The CEPF portfolio in the Eastern Himalayas ultimately evolved into a relatively small number of grants in each of three countries that, while close geographically, are far apart in terms of coordinated conservation management. As a result, lessons apply to each country, as well as to CEPF from a broader regional management perspective.

1. CEPF has helped to expand the work of organizations that have typically focused on development, helping them understand the role of conservation in their efforts. It has similarly affected organizations that have typically focused on conservation, helping them understand the role of development. When first approached by potential grantees in the region, the coordination unit saw many proposals for "typical" programs of community forestry and fostering green cover. CEPF guided grantees into more targeted and specific conservation work. This dual focus on conservation and development made the efforts of grantees more acceptable at a local level, which is critical for sustainability. However, this may have come at the expense of greater gains strictly for conservation.

2. In regions like this, capacity is a limiting factor, and development aims will take precedence, at least in popular awareness. Addressing issues in turn becomes one approach: first provide training to stakeholders while also changing their perceptions of the value of conservation as integral to health and well-being, and only then directly address conservation issues. Of course, this requires more time than that allowed in an implementation period constrained to 3.5 years.

3. The formal engagement of civil society in Bhutan, because of government controls, is necessarily a methodical process. On the one hand, this limits the breadth of organizations with which donors like CEPF can work. On the other hand, once a partner is selected, we can expect strong government support at national and local levels. For a donor like CEPF, the lesson in Bhutan is that conservation

gains are likely to be achieved, but not necessarily with the broadest or deepest level of civil society participation.

4. In India, the ongoing political tension in the northeast demands either patience or the ability to be nimble on the part of donors and grantees. At the same time, the economic power of the country can dwarf even significant conservation efforts. A typical grant of two years and $80,000 is small relative to the budgets managed by state-level and national park and forest managers, and is inconsequential relative to the budgets committed to infrastructure and urbanization. The risk is that a conservation effort can be viewed as irrelevant. The lesson is that further conservation efforts in the region need to be narrowly tailored and strategic.

5. Research for the ecosystem profile began in 2003 and the CEPF investment priorities focus on species, sites, and corridors. Today, this is a region where people speak of development; of pressing economic, demographic, and political needs; and of the wholesale impacts of climate change. Over the period of seven years, the CEPF field team (the coordination unit) found that while the conservation outcomes had not changed, the priorities of their stakeholders perhaps had. Allowing for greater flexibility in investment priorities allows CEPF to stay germane to its grantees.

6. CEPF had a knowledgeable and effective field-based coordination team, yet the region is large, the tri-country scenario is very complex, and the number of sites and the size of the corridors made unqualified success hard to achieve. The result was that CEPF achieved small and localized success and catalyzed conservation action at a corridor level and for many sites, but more funding and time would have allowed for greater impact. In particular, CEPF was unable to reach important sites in Arunachal Pradesh and the most eastern parts of India.

CONCLUSION

CEPF faced a big challenge in the Eastern Himalayas. It had a relatively modest allocation of funding to spread over three countries coupled with a relatively short period of implementation, due to both the tragedy that struck WWF and the learning curve of working in countries – Bhutan and India – with unique administrative requirements. Despite these challenges, the suite of grants ultimately awarded, and the accomplishments of these grantees, provide significant progress toward the conservation outcomes originally identified by stakeholders in 2004.

Looking ahead, the CEPF grantees were not acting alone, and the continuum of conservation work will continue long beyond a donor-driven five-year investment period. CEPF created new knowledge on species, reached the grassroots in remote areas, and built capacity as the first step in a multi-year process. In Bhutan, we demonstrated that engaging civil society is a viable and non-controversial way of promoting conservation; in India we filled key conservation needs that otherwise would have remained unfunded; and in Nepal, CEPF allowed local stakeholders to promote conservation within a broader development framework.

In some cases, CEPF has bridged the gap between past efforts and a next step, and in others, we have laid the foundation for new work. Either way, there are several tasks ahead. The threats to the region have not changed. If anything, they are worse, with greater population pressure from Bangladesh, the roaring economic demands of China and India, and decreasing snowpack that is changing water regimes for tens of millions of people. Future donors must consider these, while still accepting the primacy of sites and corridors for the conservation of biological diversity. Civil society will continue to have a vital role in addressing these issues.

While this report is purposefully retrospective, it would be remiss to not consider the future direction for potential donors, including the following. (1) Ensure mechanisms are in place to respond to emerging threats, such as the impact of climate change on Bhutan (and its concomitant impact on hydropower generation) or the economic pressures on India's northeast. (2) Create an enabling policy environment that controls the use of veterinary pharmaceuticals in Nepal and promotes equitable and sustainable tourism in Bhutan. (3) Support sustainable livelihoods, the fundamental issue on the Kanchenjunga-Singalila border region between Nepal and India. (4) Engage civil society, particularly in Bhutan, which is now open to the role of these groups. (5) Close geographic gaps in major corridors, particularly on Nepal's northern border.

In terms of the modest start that CEPF made in the region, and in relation to future opportunities, there is good momentum and an opportunity to continue the work the mission of ensuring civil society is engaged in biodiversity conservation.

Appendix A. List of CEPF Approved Grants

The grants below were awarded directly the CEPF Secretariat from Conservation International's headquarters in metropolitan Washington, D.C. Grants are listed alphabetically by organization within each of four Strategic Directions.

Strategic Direction 1. Build on existing landscape conservation initiatives to maintain and restore connectivity and to protect wide-ranging threatened species in priority corridors

1. **India – Identification and Strengthening of Key Habitat Linkages in Manas Tiger Reserve using Geo-spatial Technology and Policy Advocacy**
   Develop a comprehensive GIS-based biodiversity information database (Manas Tiger Reserve Information System) through analysis of satellite imagery and field work to help ensure that local stakeholders and forest managers can manage the Manas Tiger Reserve effectively.
   Funding: $89,980
   Grant Term: 1 January 2008 to 31 May 2010
   Grantee: Aaranyak

2. **India – Pygmy Hog Conservation Program**
   Contribute to enhancing key habitat areas necessary for the conservation of the Critically Endangered pygmy hog (Sus salvanius) as an extension of an ongoing program for pygmy hog recovery through captive breeding. This new phase seeks to establish new populations and to help enhance the capacity of park staff for improving the management of grasslands; monitor and protect pygmy hog; and raise awareness regarding conservation of this species.
   Funding: $80,000
   Grant Term: 1 October 2008 to 31 December 2010
   Grantee: Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust

3. **Nepal – Strengthening Civil Society for Biodiversity Conservation Support Project**
   Strengthen civil society participation in all stages of corridor management and incorporate conservation issues in community, private, and national forest management plans in selected sites in the Nepali sector of the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex. Through the development of a multi-stakeholder civil society forum, this project will reduce threats to existing forests from encroachment, over-grazing, and unsustainable harvesting of forest resources.
   Funding: $60,165
   Grant Term: 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2009
   Grantee: Ilam Co-operation Council, Ilam – 2

4. **Bhutan – Advocacy and Awareness Campaign on Biodiversity in Bhutan**
   Identify and design appropriate initiatives for building awareness of biodiversity values and conservation issues in six sites in the Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex as well as educating and raising awareness levels of civil society groups at the grassroots as well as of government decision-makers at the policy level.
   Funding: $79,947
   Grant Term: 1 July 2007 to 30 September 2010
   Grantee: Kuensel Corporation Limited

5. **Regional – Save The Tiger Fund**
   Award grants to partners working to save Asia's wild tigers, tiger prey species and tiger habitats and/or to address the threat posed to tigers by illegal wildlife trade. Also lead the efforts of the Campaign against Tiger Trafficking in its work with tiger range and consuming countries, as well as consumers of tiger parts, to stop the trade in tigers and their derivatives.
   Funding: $648,952
   Grant Term: 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2008
   Grantee: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

6. **Nepal – Local Stewardship for Conservation of the Red Panda in Eastern Nepal**
   Identify red panda hotspots and initiate action to conserve, reduce threats, restore and maintain key red panda habitats through community-based approaches in Kanchenjunga Singalila Complex, Nepal. A Forest Guardian initiative for information sharing, monitoring and a community conservation vision for sustained red panda conservation will be developed.
   Funding: $70,912
   Grant Term: 1 October 2008 to 31 December 2010
   Grantee: Red Panda Network

7. **Bhutan – Management of Social Forestry in Bhutan**
   Develop appropriate management practices to be piloted in select social forestry groups within the Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex. Royal Institute of Management will conduct studies on current government policies regarding social forestry and the operational and management structure of local social forestry groups and will also study best practices within the region.
   Funding: $84,011
   Grant Term: 1 July 2007 to 30 September 2010
   Grantee: Royal Institute of Management

8. **India – Maintain and Restore Habitat Connectivity and Reduce Human-Animal Conflict in the North Bank Landscape**
   Secure linkages across the Tipi-Dedjling and Bornadi-Khalingduar corridors in the North Bank Landscape for elephant movement to conserve elephant, tiger and rhino. Mitigate human-wildlife conflict in these corridors that are critical passageways for elephants. Conduct studies on community dynamics, land use and elephant movements. Develop a conservation action plan based on the studies and in consultation with stakeholders.
   Funding: $80,776
   Grant Term: 1 February 2008 to 30 June 2010
   Grantee: World Wide Fund for Nature – India

9. **Bhutan – Biological Corridor Framework for the Kingdom of Bhutan**
   Prepare a management framework for the 366,000-hectare Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex corridor. Build upon existing WWF work covering socioeconomic and biodiversity data and on government commitment, with the ultimate goal of maintaining ecosystem ecological connectivity within a mosaic of forest corridors. Ensure civil society involvement in development of the framework.
   Funding: $113,000
   Grant Term: 1 February 2009 to 31 October 2010
   Grantee: World Wildlife Fund, Inc.

Strategic Direction 2. Secure the conservation of priority site outcomes (key biodiversity areas) in the eastern Himalayas

10. **India – Civil Society Networks for Site Conservation in the North Bank Landscape, India**
    Strengthen and expand grassroots civil society networks in eight key biodiversity areas in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh at the state and national levels, and assist these networks to engage in advancing the conservation of key sites and globally threatened bird species.
    Funding: $106,283
    Grant Term: 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2010
    Grantee: Bombay Natural History Society

11. **India – Strengthen Civil Societies for Improved Resource Management for Conservation**
    Organize and support communities in the fringe areas of the Singalila National Park to conserve local biodiversity by promoting environmentally friendly sustainable livelihoods and resource use practices. Establish a system to share skills and knowledge about these practices amongst the communities and to enhance the integrity of the national park by conserving biodiversity and increasing forest cover.
    Funding: $80,000
    Grant Term: 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2011
    Grantee: Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna

12. **India – Integrated Approach to Enhance Protection of Manas Tiger Reserve, a Priority Site Outcome in the Indian part of the Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex**
    Reduce threats like habitat loss, degradation, and fragmentation resulting from over-harvesting of natural resources by local communities in the fringe area of Manas Tiger Reserve. Additionally, strengthen and mobilize community-based organizations, develop a community-based education and awareness program, and support sustainable natural resource-based enterprises.
    Funding: $107,301
    Grant Term: 1 January 2008 to 30 June 2010
    Grantee: Dolphin Foundation

13. **Nepal – A Pre-Community Planning Project for Red Panda Conservation in Eastern Himalayas Region**
    Implement a planning project to identify key issues and threats to red panda conservation in Makalu Barun National Park and its buffer zone to design future actions. Activities include collecting relevant information and organizing planning workshops involving all stakeholders to generate support for red panda conservation.
    Funding: $4,000
    Grant Term: 1 October 2008 to 31 December 2008
    Grantee: The East Foundation

14. **Nepal – Community-Initiated Red Panda Conservation Project in North-East Region of Sankhuwasabha District in Eastern Nepal, Himalaya**
    Improve red panda conservation through the increased involvement of communities in the Makalu Barun area of Nepal. This includes community capacity building, incorporation of red panda conservation into community forest operation plans, scientific and community-based surveys to identify red panda priority areas and promotion of conservation-friendly livelihood opportunities.
    Funding: $45,300
    Grant Term: 1 September 2009 to 30 November 2010
    Grantee: The East Foundation

15. **Nepal – Plant Biodiversity Inventory, Identification of Hotspots, and Conservation Strategies for Threatened Species and Habitats in Kanchenjunga-Singalila Ridge, Eastern Nepal**
    Identify important plant areas in the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Ridge of Eastern Nepal using endemic and globally threatened species of plants and their habitats and develop strategies to conserve these sites through scientific and participatory community-based approaches.
    Funding: $35,000
    Grant Term: 1 April 2007 to 30 September 2008
    Grantee: Ethnobotanical Society of Nepal

16. **Nepal – Traditional Land Management System and its Impacts on Conservation in the Kanchenjungha-Singalila Complex in Nepal**
    Study and explore good practices of traditional Kipat system and community forest to come up with a reconciled resource management strategy that supports implementation of conservation programs more effectively and successfully. This project will also identify key issues, gaps and conflicts to recommend ways to address policy gaps related to resource management.
    Funding: $29,606
    Grant Term: 1 February 2009 to 30 June 2010
    Grantee: Ilam Co-operation Council

17. **Nepal – Conservation Corridor and Livelihood Development Project**
    Reduce the pressure of unsustainable forest use through conservation-friendly, low-cost livelihood options. The project will focus on enhancing the capacity of civil society to identify alternative livelihood opportunities that support biodiversity conservation through community-based institutions in follow up to a plan developed with the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development.
    Funding: $79,920
    Grant Term: 1 April 2007 to 30 June 2009
    Grantee: Namsaling Community Development Centre

18. **Bhutan – Restoration of the Wintering Habitat of the Black-Necked Crane In and Around Bumdeling Wildlife Sanctuary Eastern Bhutan through Community-Based Initiatives**
    Restore and improve the wintering habitat of the endangered black-necked crane in Bomdeling Wildlife Sanctuary through community participation and initiation of alternative livelihood options. Enhance capacity to develop and implement habitat restoration plans and engage local community members in monitoring and assessing habitat and numbers of black-necked cranes.
    Funding: $130,000
    Grant Term: 1 February 2009 to 31 December 2010
    Grantee: Nature Conservation Committee of Trashiyangtse

19. **Bhutan – Production of Alternative Fuel from Sawdust and other Wood Waste by Using Briquetting Technology**
    Initiate the production of briquettes as a sustainable and environmentally sound alternative for domestic energy in two pilot communities within a critical corridor in the Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex. To encourage adoption of the product, Norden Pines will offer incentives to major users through public awareness campaigns.
    Funding: $25,650
    Grant Term: 1 July 2007 to 31 December 2008
    Grantee: Norden Pines

20. **Nepal – Conservation of Key Plant Species and their Habitats in Kanchenjunga Singalila Complex for Livelihood Improvement**
    Conserve important medicinal and aromatic plant and tree species in their natural habitat, as well as in community and private forests in Kanchenjunga Singalila Complex, Eastern Nepal. The project will establish community networks and build capacity of groups involved in non-timber forest products cultivation and trade to support local livelihoods.
    Funding: $40,800
    Grant Term: 1 October 2008 to 30 September 2010
    Grantee: Shree Deep Jyoti Youth Club

21. **Bhutan – Developing a National Ecotourism Framework for Protected Areas in Bhutan and Implementation in a Pilot Site**
    Develop a national ecotourism framework for the protected areas of Bhutan, the ultimate aim of which will be to conserve the Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex through responsible tourism initiatives that benefit the rich natural resources as well as people of Bhutan. Involve civil society in developing and pilot testing of the framework.
    Funding: $115,000
    Grant Term: 1 April 2009 to 30 September 2010
    Grantee: Ugyen Wangchuck Institute for Conservation & Environment

22. **Bhutan – Participatory Zoning of Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary**
    Conduct stakeholder consultations, biodiversity and socioeconomic surveys, mapping and boundary demarcation of the 73,900-hectare Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary in eastern Bhutan as part of the larger Bhutan Biological Corridor Complex. Ensure effective and efficient resource administration and utilization through implementation of a zoning plan and enhance knowledge of the sanctuary's resources through establishment of a GIS database.
    Funding: $75,000
    Grant Term: 1 February 2010 to 31 March 2011
    Grantee: World Wildlife Fund Inc.

Strategic Direction 3. Leverage partnerships among donor agencies, civil society, and government institutions to achieve priority biodiversity conservation outcomes over the long term

23. **Nepal – Developing Civil Society Networks to Conserve Key Biodiversity Areas in Nepal, Focusing on the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex**
    Develop civil society networks to manage, monitor, and mitigate threats to biodiversity conservation in the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex. Pilot projects will establish local community conservation groups or "Site Support Groups" to identify and promote conservation solutions that sustain biodiversity while meeting the livelihood needs of rural communities.
    Funding: $69,704
    Grant Term: 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2009
    Grantee: Bird Conservation Nepal

24. **Nepal – Securing Safe Environment for Critically Endangered Vulture Species by Declaring and Ensuring Diclofenac Free Zones in Central and Western Low Lands of Nepal**
    Secure safe environment for Critically Endangered vulture species in the Terai Arc Landscape of Nepal through sensitization of stakeholders, developing appropriate policy and regulation, and declaration of diclofenac free zones. The project will also build the capacity of stakeholders in monitoring and management of vultures and their habitats for long-term conservation.
    Funding: $34,955
    Grant Term: 1 November 2009 to 31 March 2011
    Grantee: Bird Conservation Nepal

25. **Nepal – Biodiversity Conservation Initiatives through Grassroots Participation**
    Build partnerships among stakeholders to incorporate biodiversity conservation perspectives in forest management outside of protected areas within the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex. This includes advocacy at the local and national government level, as well as raising awareness and building capacity at the local level to plan and monitor biodiversity in key project sites.
    Funding: $69,989
    Grant Term: 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2009
    Grantee: Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness

26. **Nepal – Establishment of Community-Based, Anti-Poaching Networks to Reduce Poaching and Trade in Endangered Wild Species of Flora and Fauna in Kanchenjunga Singalila Complex, Nepal**
    Establish community-based, anti-poaching networks in two transboundary trade routes in Eastern Nepal and create a mechanism for effective partnership to advocate against poaching and illegal trade. The project will sensitize communities on rules and regulations related to flora and fauna conservation, assess human-wildlife conflict and identify mitigation measures.
    Funding: $43,328
    Grant Term: 1 October 2008 to 30 September 2010
    Grantee: Kanchenjunga Landscape Concern Group

27. **Nepal – Promoting Coordinated Community-Based Landscape Conservation in the Trans-Boundary Region of the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex**
    Strengthen communication and cooperation between communities and district government across the transboundary area of Kanchenjunga Singalila Complex to address threats to key habitats. The project will also strengthen capacity of community groups to monitor and manage key habitats to ensure reduction in threats to biodiversity.
    Funding: $70,000
    Grant Term: 1 October 2008 to 30 September 2010
    Grantee: The Mountain Institute

28. **Bhutan – Building Grassroots Civil Society Support for Biodiversity Conservation in Bhutan**
    Establish a network of local support groups in six pilot districts within key biodiversity areas of the Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex. Royal Society for the Protection of Nature will also build capacity of these groups to identify and undertake conservation actions for key biodiversity areas and important habitat linkages, with action grants and funds leveraged from small grant schemes.
    Funding: $140,000
    Grant Term: 1 July 2007 to 30 September 2010
    Grantee: Royal Society for the Protection of Nature

29. **India – Building Capacity of Civil Society for the Conservation of Biodiversity with Special Focus on Livelihood, Sanitation, and Health Development in Kanchanjunga-Singalila Areas of Sikkim State**
    Increase participation of civil society groups in conservation and management of locally important and threatened medicinal plants in the Varsay key biodiversity area of Kanchenjunga Landscape. Promote collaboration and partnerships at the state and local levels, and with local communities, especially for in situ and ex situ conservation of medicinal plants.
    Funding: $80,000
    Grant Term: 1 January 2008 to 30 June 2010
    Grantee: Voluntary Health Association of Sikkim

30. **Regional – CEPF Coordination in the Eastern Himalayas**
    Lead CEPF implementation in the Eastern Himalayas Region. The team will ensure maximum participation of civil society groups, support the development of effective conservation projects in line with the CEPF ecosystem profile for this region, and engage stakeholders to leverage funds for sustainable long-term investment.
    Funding: $947,381
    Grant Term: 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2010
    Grantee: World Wildlife Fund, Inc.

Strategic Direction 4. Develop a small grants program to safeguard globally threatened species in the Eastern Himalayas

31. **India – CEPF Small Grants Program, India - Small Grants Program for Biodiversity Conservation in the Eastern Himalayas of India**
    Achieve site and species outcomes in the Indian portion of the Eastern Himalayas, with emphasis on the North Bank Landscape and Kanchenjunga Singalila Complex, by awarding grants to: a) generate critical data and information on globally threatened species, sites, and landscapes, b) develop and improve approaches, including policies and governance, to conserve biodiversity, and c) build capacity for conservation.
    Funding: $667,350
    Grant Term: 1 June 2007 to 31 March 2011
    Grantee: Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment

32. **Bhutan/Nepal – Safeguarding Globally Threatened and Lesser Known Species in the Eastern Himalayas: Small Grants for Species Conservation in Nepal and Bhutan**
    Implement a small grants program in Nepal and Bhutan to support action-oriented research for conservation of priority species, and implement a monitoring program for priority species outcomes and supporting conservation assessments of lesser known taxonomic groups for inclusion in the IUCN Red List.
    Funding: $684,454
    Grant Term: 1 September 2007 to 31 December 2010
    Grantee: World Wildlife Fund

The table below presents the same 32 grants as above, by country.

Strategic Direction	Grantee	Summary grant title	Funding	Grant Term	
Bhutan					
1 – corridors	Kuensel Corporation Limited	Advocacy and awareness campaign	$79,947	1 July 2007	30 September 2010
2 – sites	Nature Conservation Committee of Trashiyangtse	Black-necked crane habitat	$130,000	1 February 2009	31 December 2010
2 – sites	Norden Pines	Alternative fuel	$25,650	1 July 2007	31 December 2008
1 – corridors	Royal Institute of Management	Social forestry	$84,011	1 July 2007	30 September 2010
3 – partnerships	Royal Society for the Protection of Nature	Civil society support	$140,000	1 July 2007	30 September 2010
2 – sites	Ugyen Wangchuck Institute	Ecotourism	$115,000	1 April 2009	30 September 2010
4 – small grants	WWF*	Species studies	$342,227	1 September 2007	31 December 2010
1 – corridors	WWF	Biological corridor framework	$113,000	1 February 2009	31 October 2010
2 – sites	WWF	Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary	$75,000	1 February 2010	31 March 2011
India					
1 – corridors	Aaranyak	Manas Reserve GIS	$89,980	1 January 2008	31 May 2010
4 – small grants	ATREE	Species studies	$667,350	1 June 2007	31 March 2011
2 – sites	Bombay Natural History Society	Bird habitat site support groups	$106,283	1 January 2008	31 December 2010
2 – sites	Darjeeling Ladenla Road Prerna	Community based NRM	$80,000	1 April 2008	31 March 2011
2 – sites	Dolphin Foundation	Manas Tiger Reserve alternative livelihoods	$107,301	1 January 2008	30 June 2010
1 – corridors	Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust	Pygmy hog conservation	$80,000	1 October 2008	31 December 2010
3 – partnerships	Voluntary Health Association of Sikkim	Civil society support	$80,000	1 January 2008	30 June 2010
1 – corridors	WWF – India	North Bank Landscape habitat connectivity	$80,776	1 February 2008	30 June 2010
Nepal					
3 – partnerships	Bird Conservation Nepal	Civil society support	$69,704	1 April 2007	31 March 2009
3 – partnerships	Bird Conservation Nepal	Vulture conservation	$34,955	1 November 2009	31 March 2011
2 – sites	The East Foundation	Red panda conservation	$4,000	1 October 2008	31 December 2008
2 – sites	The East Foundation	Red panda conservation	$45,300	1 September 2009	30 November 2010

Strategic Direction	Grantee	Summary grant title	Funding	Grant Term	
3 – partnerships	Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness	Environmental education	$69,989	1 April 2007	31 March 2009
2 – sites	Ethnobotanical Society of Nepal	Plant biodiversity study	$35,000	1 April 2007	30 September 2008
1 – corridors	Ilam Co-operation Council	Civil society support	$60,165	1 April 2007	31 March 2009
2 – sites	Ilam Co-operation Council	Community based NRM	$29,606	1 February 2009	30 June 2010
3 – partnerships	Kanchenjunga Landscape Concern Group	Anti-poaching networks	$43,328	1 October 2008	30 September 2010
3 – partnerships	The Mountain Institute	Community based NRM	$70,000	1 October 2008	30 September 2010
2 – sites	Namsaling Community Development Centre	Alternative livelihoods	$79,920	1 April 2007	30 June 2009
1 – corridors	Red Panda Network-Nepal	Red panda conservation	$70,912	1 October 2008	31 December 2010
2 – sites	Shree Deep Jyoti Youth Club	Plant biodiversity conservation	$40,800	1 October 2008	30 September 2010
4 – small grants	WWF*	Species studies	$342,227	1 September 2007	31 December 2010
Regional					
1 – corridors	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Save the Tiger Fund	$648,952	1 January 2004	31 December 2008
3 – partnerships	WWF	Coordination Unit	$947,381	1 January 2006	31 December 2010

* Small grant fund managed by WWF listed under both Bhutan and Nepal, with total funding of grant ($684,454) divided equally between the two countries.

Appendix B. List of Small Grants

The grants below were awarded by ATREE in northeast India and by WWF in Bhutan and Nepal as formal sub-grants under Grants 31 and 32, identified in Appendix A. Grants are listed alphabetically by organization or person within each country.

Small Grants in Bhutan

Grantee (Affiliation)	Grant Summary	Funding	Grant Term	
Birds				
R. Pradhan (Royal Society for the Protection of Nature)	White Bellied Heron study	$19,810	15 May 2008	15 May 2010
Sherub (Nature Conservation Division)	Black-necked Crane (*Grus nigricollis*) habitat use at Trashiyangtse	$11,600	15 May 2008	30 June 2009
Dorji Wangchuk (Paro College of Education)	Population Status and Distribution of White-rumped Vulture (Gyps bengalensis) in Bhutan	$11,911	1 January 2009	30 September 2009
Rinchen Drakp (Thrumshingla National Park)	Rufous-necked Hornbill in sub-tropical eco-regions and ensuring species persistence	$18,770	1 January 2009	30 June 2010
Mammals				
Sangay (Nature Conservation Division)	Bhutan Takin (*Budorcas taxicolor whitei*) and its spatio-temporal distribution at Boe Nueli and Langdra Ney of Kashi Geog under Wangdi Phodrang Dzongkhag	$9,425	15 May 2008	30 June 2009
Sangay Dorji (Thrumshingla National Park)	Red Panda: Distribution, Habitat Characteristic and Conservation status	$17,816	15 May 2008	30 November 2009
Tashi Wangchuk (University of Maryland)	Conservation of the Golden Langur (*Trachypithecus geei*) and Capped Langur (*Trachypitheucs pileatus*)	$18,400	1 May 2008	31 March 2010
Kesang Dorji (Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary)	Conservation and Management of Red Panda in Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary	$14,150	15 May 2008	30 November 2009
Tenzin Phuntsho (Jigme Dorji National Park)	Snow Leopard's Ecology, Distribution & Conservation Threats in Jigme Dorji National Park	$10,950	1 May 2008	30-April-10
Sangay Wangchuk	Survey of Pigmy Hogs (*Sus salvanius*) and Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) in Royal Manas National Park	$11,000	15 May 2008	15 September 2009
Kuenzang Dorji (Ugyen Wangchuck Institute)	Small Felids in Small Country: A Preliminary Survey to assess the presence of Small felids in Bhutan through questionnaire-based survey	$10,000	1 October 2010	31 March 2011
Dorji Rinchen	Survey of Wooly Flying Squirrel (Eupetaurus cinereus) habitat	$10,350	1 January 2009	31 March 2010

Grantee (Affiliation)	Grant Summary	Funding	Grant Term	
Plants				
Baboo Ram Gurung	Study the Status, Key threats and Conservation needs of Bazzania bhutanica	$10,805	1 January 2009	31 March 2010
Pelzang Wangchuk	The Status of (Agarwood) Aquilaria malaccensis	$10,010	15 January 2009	15 May 2009
Yeshey Dorji	Red Data Book for Flowering Plants	$15,477	1 January 2009	30 April 2010
Tenzin Wangchuk (Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary)	Rhododendron survey in Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary	$7,000	1 April 2009	31 March 2010
Other				
Thinley Wangdi (Ugyen Wangchuck Institute)	Training on Economic Tools for Conservation	$15,000	15 July 2010	31 October 2010
	Total Small Grants in Bhutan	**$222,474**		

Small Grants in India

Grantee (Affiliation)	Grant Summary	Funding	Grant Term	
Birds				
Rohit Naniwadekar (Nature Conservation Foundation)	Rufous-necked hornbill ecology and conservation status	$15,984	1 September 2008	31 January 2011
Namita Brahma (Aaranyak)	Survey, Monitoring and Conservation of the Bengal Florican in Bodoland Territorial Areas District, Assam	$13,860	1 September 2008	30 November 2009
Raju Das (Nature's Foster)	Surveys to confirm the distribution of White-bellied Heron *Ardea insignis* in Assam	$14,938	1 September 2009	31 August 2010
Heerak Nandy (World Pheasant Association)	A study on the status, distribution, key threats and related conservation aspects of Red-breasted Hill-Partridge (*Arborophila mandellii* Hume) in Singalila National Park and Buxa Tiger Reserve, West Bengal	$13,000	15 October 2009	30 September 2010
Invertebrates				
Kushal Choudhury	Population status and distribution of Swallowtail butterflies (Papilionidae) in Manas Tiger Reserve, Assam	$12,220	1 November 2008	30 October 2010
Urbashi Pradhan (Manipal University)	Fragmented landscape, biodiversity and ecosystem services: a study of pollinators within and outside the Kanchenjunga Biosphere Reserve in Sikkim	$11,000	1 December 2009	31 December 2010
Mammals				
Dr.Kashmira Kakati	Camera Trapping survey of Carnivores in the Jeypore Upper Dehing and Kakojan RF Complex in Assam	$15,000	1 February 2008	31 March 2009
Dr. Anwaruddin Choudhury (Rhino Foundation for Nature)	Assessment of the current status of Wild Water Buffalo in Assam	$13,950	1 April 2008	31 March 2009
Dr. Jihosuo Biswas	Conserving through communities: adopting an inclusive approach of research, population monitoring, conservation education and extension on golden langur in Ripu-Chirrang Reserved Forest, India	$18,400	1 May 2008	30 April 2009
Dr. NVK Ashraf (Wildlife Trust of India)	A study on distribution and population status of takin (*Budorcas taxicolor*) along the Tibet and Myanmar borders of Arunachal Pradesh	$20,000	1 July 2008	31 May 2009
Nabajit Das	Evaluation of Population Status, Demography and Threats of Capped langur in Nameri NP and adjoining Protected Areas of Arunachal Pradesh	$14,100	1 July 2008	30 June 2009
Dr. Yashveer Bhatnagar (Nature Conservation Foundation and The Mountain Institute)	Non-invasive Monitoring to support local stewardship of Snow Leopards and their prey in Sikkim Trans Himalayas	$20,000	1 April 2008	31 March 2010

Grantee (Affiliation)	Grant Summary	Funding	Grant Term	
Dr. Dilip Chetry	Conservation of Hoolock gibbon by integrating field survey with Education and Awareness programme in Mehao Wildlife Sanctuary in Arunachal Pradesh	$10,940	1 July 2008	31 May 2009
Naba Krishna Nath	Status and distribution of Hispid Hare Caprolagus hispidus in North Bank Landscape	$15,640	1 July 2008	30 June 2009
Dr. Abdul Wakid (Aaranyak)	Initiative to reduce the fishing pressures in and around identified habitats of endangered Gangetic dolphin in Brahmaputra river system, Assam	$13,000	1 January 2009	31 December 2009
Rajkamal Goswami (Manipal University)	Hunting of Primates: Understanding the Influence of Legal and Communal Protection Regimes on Primate Conservation in the North-East India	$12,500	1 February 2009	31 March 2011
Plants				
Lalit Kumar Rai	Assessment for conservation status of threatened rhododendron populations from the Sikkim Himalaya	$7,500	1 April 2008	30 May 2009
Dr. Hui Tag (Rajiv Gandhi University)	Status Survey and Documentation of Selected Threatened Medicinal Flora of Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary of East Kameng Districts in Arunachal Pradesh (Eastern Himalayas)	$20,000	1 April 2008	31 March 2011
Dr. Rita Singh	Cycas pectinata complex in the North Bank Landscape: Status Survey and conservation action plan	$20,000	1 May 2008	30 April 2010
Dr. Gibji Nimachow (Rajiv Gandhi University)	Phytogeographic survey and conservation of Taxus baccata and Rubia cordifolia in Arunachal Pradesh	$13,021	1 February 2009	31 July 2010
Bhaskar Saikia (Rajiv Gandhi University)	Documentation of diversity, status and importance of the Genus Dioscorea in Arunachal Pradesh and Issues related to its Conservation	$12,625	1 January 2009	31 December 2010
Anand Gazmer (Manipal University)	Distribution of vegetation types as a function of elevation and their response to climate change in the sub-alpine and alpine regions of the Darjeeling-Sikkim Himalaya: conservation and social implications	$10,810	1 February 2009	31 December 2010
Reptiles				
Firoz Ahmed (Aaranyak)	Turtles and Tortoises of Northeast India: Saving then from extinction	$13,200	15 April 2008	30 July 2009
Dr. Basundhara Chettri	A study of the distribution and conservation of amphibians in Teesta Valley, Sikkim	$13,780	1 January 2009	30 September 2010
Barkha Subba (Manipal University)	Ecology, diversity, distribution and conservation of high altitude amphibians in Kanchanjunga and Singalila National Parks	$11,000	1 December 2009	31 December 2010

Grantee (Affiliation)	Grant Summary	Funding	Grant Term	
Abhijit Das, Aaranyak	An assessment for assisted recovery of wild gharial populations in the river systems of northeast India (Brahmaputra and Barak Valleys, Assam)	$12,000	1 February 2010	31 December 2010
Other				
Sandesh Kadur	Mountains of Life: photo-documentation of priority sites and species to raise awareness	$20,000	1 September 2008	31 January 2011
Dr. Tage Kanno (Future Generations Arunachal)	Community Based Conservation in the Talley Valley Wildlife Sanctuary of Arunachal Pradesh	$20,000	15 July 2009	31 March 2011
Sudipto Chatterjee (Winrock International)	Baseline Survey for documenting mammalian diversity of Mouling National Park and developing an action plan for strengthening the traditional institution of the Adi tribal community in Arunachal Pradesh	$13,381	1 October 2009	30 June 2010
Bharat Prakash Rai (Federation of Societies for Environmental Protection)	Community based approaches to combating illegal activities in the trans-boundary area of the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex, Darjeeling, India	$20,000	1 December 2009	31 December 2010
Wildlife Trust of India	Making strategies for future conservation and management procedures of Nameri National Park, India through collecting critical information of important species	$20,000	1 February 2010	31 December 2010
Future Generations Arunachal	Community based approaches to conservation of the Apatani Landscape in Arunachal Pradesh	$20,000	1 February 2010	31 March 2011
Khalid Pasha, TRAFFIC (WWF)	Wildlife Trade Control in the Eastern Himalayan Landscape, with Special Focus on Asian Big Cat, Elephant and Rhino Conservation – A Participatory Approach	$12500	1 February 2010	30 November 2010
Dipankar Ghose, WWF India	A Regional Strategic Conservation Planning Workshop for Wild Cattle and Buffaloes in Eastern Himalaya	$6000	1 June 2010	31 December 2010
Simang Women's Welfare Organization (SWWO)	Community based conservation and awareness campaigns in the Simang Valley, Arunachal Pradesh	$20,000	1 May 2010	31 March 2011
Kushal Choudhury (continuation grant)	Book on "Butterflies of Assam"	$3000	1 June 2010	31 October 2010

Grantee (Affiliation)	Grant Summary	Funding	Grant Term	
Dr. Bibhab Talukdar, Aaranyak	Development of Model Farming cum Training Centre to Build Capacity of Fringe Villagers of Key Biodiversity Rich Areas to Reduce Forest Dependence	$20,000	1 August 2010	31 March 2011
Ngunu Ziro (through Future Generations Arunachal)	Proposal for Trust fund for community based organization - Ngunu Ziro, Ziro, Arunachal Pradesh	$20,000	1 August 2010	31 March 2011
DLR Prerna	Capacity building of local NGOs and CBOs for environmental action and awareness	$14,095	1 August 2010	31 March 2011
Dr. Hui Tag (Rajiv Gandhi University)	Status Survey and Documentation of Selected Threatened Medicinal Flora of Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary of East Kameng Districts in Arunachal Pradesh (Eastern Himalayas)	$20,000	1 April 2008	31 March 2011
	Total Small Grants in India	**$597,444**		

Small Grants in Nepal

Grantee (Affiliation)	Grant Summary	Funding	Grant Term	
Amphibians				
Dr. Kalu Ram Khambu Rai	Conservation of Amphibians in key sites of Kanchenjunga Singalila Complex in Eastern Nepal	$12,401	1 January 2009	30 April 2010
Santapur-Dhanepa	Community Based Amphibian Habitats Management and Conservation Programme in Key-Sites of Kanchanjanga-Singalilla Complex	$945	15 June 2010	31 August 2010
Kalpokhari Community Forest User Group	Community Based Amphibian Habitats Management and Conservation Programme in Key-Sites of Kanchanjanga-Singalilla Complex	$945	15 June 2010	31 August 2010
Dr. Kalu Ram Khambu Rai	Publication of Book Titled: Amphibia of Kanchanjanga Singalila Complex	$2,279	1 June 2009	31 August 2010
Birds				
Bird Conservation Nepal	Community managed vulture restaurant in Gainda Tal, Lumbini	$19,431	1 July 2008	31 July 2009
Dr. Bharat Raj Subba	Conservation of the Breeding Population of Lesser Adjutant Stork (Leptoptilos Javanicus) in and around Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve, Nepal	$9,806	1 August 2008	31 August 2009
Jokhuram Choudhary, Narti Community Forest Coordination Committee	Save Vulture from Extinction	$10,664	1 November 2008	26 February 2010
Golden Valley Youth Club	Diclofenac Free Zone for Vulture Conservation in Eastern Nepal	$1,963	1 May 2010	15 December 2010
Fish				
Dr. Jiwan Shrestha	Survey on Fish Diversity and Conservation Management of Tamor River and its major Tributaries	$9,604	1 April 2009	26 February 2010
Mammals				
Puspa Raj Acharya	Bat Diversity Hot Spots and its Conservation Implication in Kanchenjunga Singalila Complex and Makalu Region	$9,895	1 May 2008	31 December 2009
Mahesh Khadka	Estimating Snow Leopards Using Camera Trap and Evaluating it with Snow Leopard Information Management System Method – Study from Kanchenjunga Conservation Area	$15,323	8 June 2008	30 November 2009
Promod Tandan	Population Status, Habitat Utilization, Distribution and Conservation Threats of Hispid Hare (Caprolagus hispidus) in Bardia National Park of Western Nepal	$8,810	1 July 2008	31 August 2009

Grantee (Affiliation)	Grant Summary	Funding	Grant Term	
Mr. Yogendra Mandal	Awareness raising and sensitization for conserving the Ganges River Dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*) in Eastern Nepal	$6,696	1 August 2008	31 January 2009
Yadav Ghimirey	Assessing the Status of Small Carnivores with a special focus on Clouded Leopard *Neofelis nebulosa* in Makalu-Barun National Park, Nepal	$15,006	1 December 2008	31 December 2009
Choyatar Community Forest Users Committee	Red Panda habitat management (zoning, mapping and improvement) within a Community Managed Eco-tourism area	$1,350	15 June 2010	15 November 2010
Mr. Pushpa Raj Acharya	Publication of Book Titled Bats of Nepal – A guidebook with species profile including general guidelines to bat survey and bat species identification key to Nepalese bats	$1,999	25 June 2010	31 October 2010
Mr. Kanchan Thapa	Tiger Ecology in Churia habitat in TAL: A case study across churia range in Chitwan National Park	$9,410	1 July 2010	15 December 2010
Reptiles				
Man Kumar Dhamala	Species Accounts, Distribution Status and Threat Assessment of Turtles in Lowlands of Nepal with Special Focus on Indian Eyed Turtle	$1,924	1 June 2008	31 May 2009
Bishnu Prasad Thapaliya	Gharial (Gavialis gangeticus) Conservation Program(Monitoring and Assessment of gharial conservation initiatives in Chitwan National Park)	$18,521	1 December 2008	31 January 2010
Prakash Chandra Aryal	Species Accounts, Distribution Status and Threat Assessment of Turtles in Lowlands of Nepal with Special Focus on Indian Eyed Turtle	$6,114	16 December-2008	15 October 2009
Prakash Chandra Aryal	Publication of Book Titled Turtles of Nepal: Species accounts, Distribution and Field Biology	$1,434	1 May 2010	31 July 2010
Insects				
Himalayan Nature	Publication of Book Titled Lepidoptera of Nepal	$4,098	1 April 2010	31 May 2010
Other				
Ujir Singh Sunar	Conservation of key species of fauna and flora by reducing illegal activities through community based anti-poaching approaches around Bardia National Park	$5,260	1 August 2008	30 August 2009
Dr. Amchi Gyatso Bista Chairman Himalayan Amchi Association	Integrating Amchis' Traditional Knowledge and Practices for Medicinal Substitutes and Conservation of Threatened Species in the Himalaya	$18,697	15November 2008	31 May 2010
Himalayan Nature	Preparing recommendations for updating the protected animal list for Nepal Government	$15,973	1 March 2009	31 January 2010

Grantee (Affiliation)	Grant Summary	Funding	Grant Term	
Nature Conservation and Health Care Council	Biodiversity assessment of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve after Koshi Flood Disaster 2008	$7,552	16 April 2009	15 December 2009
Nature Guide Association	Capacity Enhancement of Nature Guides: Building a Conservation Force	$2,568	1 May 2009	30 June 2010
Namsaling Community Development Centre	Understanding Indigenous Peoples' perception on climate change impacts on floral and faunal species in the Kanchenjunga Singalila Complex, Eastern Nepal	$7,270	1 June 2009	30 April 2010
	Total Small Grants in Nepal	**$228,905**		

Appendix C. Leveraging Data for the Eastern Himalayas Region

Grantee	Project Title	CEPF Grant Award Amount	Leveraged and Co-Financing Funds
Bird Conservation Nepal	Developing Civil Society Networks to Conserve Key Biodiversity Areas in Nepal, Focusing on the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex	$69,704	$5,735
Bird Conservation Nepal	Securing Safe Environment for Critically Endangered Vulture Species by Declaring and Ensuring Diclofenac Free Zones in Central and Western Low Lands of Nepal	$34,955	$35,875
Ethnobotanical Society of Nepal	Plant Biodiversity Inventory, Identification of Hotspots, and Conservation Strategies for Threatened Species and Habitats in Kanchenjunga-Singalila Ridge, Eastern Nepal	$35,000	$4,000
Ilam Co-operation Council	Strengthening Civil Society for Biodiversity Conservation Support Project	$60,165	$7,500
Namsaling Community Development Centre	Conservation Corridor and Livelihood Development Project (CCLDP)	$79,920	$27,000
Nature Conservation Committee of Trashiyangtse	Restoration of the Wintering Habitat of the Black-Necked Crane In and Around Bumdeling Wildlife Sanctuary Eastern Bhutan through Community-Based Initiatives	$130,000	$25,000
Royal Society for the Protection of Nature	Building Grassroots Civil Society Support for Biodiversity Conservation in Bhutan	$140,000	$25,000
The Mountain Institute	Promoting Coordinated Community-Based Landscape Conservation in the Trans-Boundary Region of the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex	$70,000	$300,000
World Wide Fund for Nature - India	Maintain and Restore Habitat Connectivity and Reduce Human-Animal Conflict in the North Bank Landscape	$80,776	$40,000
World Wildlife Fund, Inc.	CEPF Coordination in the Eastern Himalayas	$947,381	$750,000
	Total	**$1,647,901**	**$1,220,110**

Appendix D. Eastern Himalayas Logical Framework

Long-Term Goal Statement	Targeted Conservation Outcome	Results
Improve or stabilize the conservation status of species and ultimately avoid extinctions through the conservation and improved management of key sites and corridors.	Extinctions are avoided for 45 species of mammals, 50 species of birds, 17 species of reptiles, 12 species of amphibians, and 36 species of plants.	Mammals: Hoolock Gibbon, Capped Langur, Golden Langur, Wild Water Buffalo, Mishmi Takin, Tiger, Leopard, Clouded Leopard, Hispid Hare, Gangetic Dolphin, Snow Leopard, Leopard Cat, Marbled Cat, Golden Cat, Wild Dog, Asian Elephant, Pygmy Hog, Eastern Barasingha, Red Panda, Red Goral, Black Muntjak, Malayan Sun Bear, Himalayan Black Bear, Sambar and Gaur Reptiles: *Nilssonia nigricans* (Critically Endangered); *Indotestudo elongata, Manouria emys, Chitra indica, Batagur dhongoka, Pangshura sylhetensis, Cuora mouhotii* Endangered (EN); and, *Amyda cartilaginea, Nilssonia gangeticus, Nilssonia hurum, Cuora amboinensis, Geoclemys hamiltonii, Hardella thurjii, Melanochelys tricarinata, Morenia petersi* (Vulnerable). Critically Endangered Gharial *Gavialus gangeticus* Amphibians: *Bufo himalayana, Bufo melanostictus,Megophrys parva, Megophrys robusta, Scutiger sikkimensis, Paa liebigii, Limnonectes limnocharis, Limnonectes teraiensis, Amolops marmoratus, Amolops monticola, Amolops formosus, Paa blanfordi* (VU)*, Paa minica, Polypedates maculates, Philautus annandalii* and *Ichthyophis sikkimensis.* Birds: Bengal Florican, White-bellied Heron, Red-breasted Hill Partridge, Rufous-necked

Long-Term Goal Statement	Targeted Conservation Outcome	Results
		India Hornbill, White winged wood duck, swamp francolin, black breasted parrot bill, and marsh babbler. Plants: *Panax pseudoginseng, Swertia chirayita, Taxus baccata, Rubia manjith, Heracleum nepalense, Tupistra nutans, Astilbe rivularis, Berginia ciliata, Piper longum, Aesculus assamica* , *Canarium resiniferum, Derris scandens*, *Gloriosa superba*, *Illicium grifithii*, *Laggera crispata*, *Paris polyphylla, Phoenix rupicola, Stephania glandulifera, Rhododendron arboreum, Rhododendron baileyi, Rhododendron campanulatum* subsp*. aeruginosum, Rhododendron decipiens, Rhododendron fulgens, Rhododendron virgatum, Rhododendron dalhousiae* var*. tashi, Rhododendron griffithianum, Rhododendron leptocarpum, Rhododendron maddeni, Rhododendron niveum, Rhododendron pendulum, Rhododendron thomsoni* var*. flocculosum, Rhododendron pumilum and Rhododendron sikkimense*. Habitat conservation, resource management, status surveys, distribution studies, education and awareness, threat and vulnerability assessments No extinctions documented during the period. Some plant species—like cycads, rhododendrons—may be 'critically endangered' or locally lost in the wild. One species of turtle declared 'Extinct in the Wild' has been 'rediscovered'. A butterfly species reported after a 100 year gap.

Long-Term Goal Statement	Targeted Conservation Outcome	Results
		Bhutan – mammals – greater horned rhino, takin, snow leopard, golden langur, capped langur, red panda, pygmy hog. Birds – rufous necked hornbill, white bellied heron, black necked crane, Others – bazzania bhutanica, agar wood **Nepal** : **Mammals-** Red panda, clouded leopard, Asiatic black bear, Dolphin, Bats, Tiger (study, site demarcation, studies and anti-poaching) **Birds:** Woody snipe, White rumped Vulture, Slender billed Vulture Red headed Vulture, Egyptian Vulture, Cinereous Vulture (scientific study and conservation) **Plants:** Aconitum Sp, Michelia, Taxus, Jatamansi (*Nardostachys grandiflora*), Kudki (*Neopicrorhiza schrophulariflora),* Swertia chiraita (study and sustainable harvesting) **Amphibians:** Paa blanfordii, Paa rostandi, (status assessment, site demarcation and conservation) **Reptiles:** Gharial, Turtles (status assessment studies) Bhutan – wooly flying squirell and white rumped vulture Nepal: No
	27 sites are protected: Namdapha National Park, Keibul Lamjao National Park, Teesta-Rangit Valley, Siroi, Rongrengiri-Siju Caves, Dibang Valley Wildlife Sanctuary, Jatinga	Bhutan – Bumdeling, Jigme Dorji, Jigme Singye Wangchuk, Royal Manas, Sakteng, Sarpang/Gelephu, Thrumshingla, Ada lake **India**: management information systems for

Long-Term Goal Statement	Targeted Conservation Outcome	Results
		Manas TR, Community Conservation plans and habitat management plans for Jajimukh, Mehao, Manas, Sonai Rupai, Orang, Nameri; **Nepal:** Makalu Barun 10,000 hectares (conservation of red panda through inclusion in Community Forest Operational Plans) Bhutan – awareness building, conservation of species, community forestry, livelihood initiatives, policy work
	3 corridors are protected: Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex, Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex (Nepal), and North Bank Landscape (India)	Bhutan – 330,714 Corridor regulatory framework- recommended modifying boundaries and applying zoning and role of various stakeholders **Nepal KSC:** (15,000 hectares) contributed in reinforcing and restoration of biological corridors approximately 15,000 hectares along the trans boarder area of Nepal and India in Eastern Nepal through inclusion of biodiversity conservation measure in the community forest operational plans and institutionalization of transboundary working groups **India** Conservation Action Plans being implemented to restore corridor and reduce Human-Elephant conflict. Six priority corridor sites identified for habitat linkages within Manas Tiger Reserve complex Survey, identification and community conservation of bird local migration /dispersal corridor to the north of the Jajimukh – Kokilamukh wetland complex connecting to Brahmaputra riverine islands and sand bars and westwards to Kaziranga NP

Long-Term Goal Statement	Targeted Conservation Outcome	Results
		Identification and conservation of grassland corridor on the western part of Mehao wildlife sanctuary Field surveys conducted under Pygmy Hog Conservation Programme have identified strips of grasslands in the buffer areas of Manas Tiger Reserve that provide linkages with grasslands in the core area of Manas National Park, which are crucial to survival of several threatened species Dolphin Foundation's project has contributed to the management of more than 10,000 ha of critical forest area (areas corresponding to 12 fringe villages) in the western part of Manas Tiger Reserve that provides elephant habitats linkages to Manas National Park (core area) with rest of the western part of Manas Tiger Reserve.

CEPF Purpose	Impact Indicators	Results
Landscape conservation to protect wide ranging mega fauna over large expanses to include protected areas through habitat management, wildlife protection, and sustainable use of natural resources, as well as maximizing impact through partnerships with civil society, government, and organizations working to achieve and enhance biodiversity conservation in priority sites.	Better understanding on the presence of wildlife in 5 corridors within the 3 landscapes	Project: Maintain and Restore Habitat Connectivity and Reduce Human-Animal Conflict in the North Bank Landscape, complemented by status surveys and studies on Bengal Florican, Capped Langur, Hispid Hare, Turtles, swallowtail butterflies, rare and endangered medicinal plants in the Nameri-Eagles Nest-Pakke-Sonai Rupai-Barnadi-Khalingduar area Project: Identification and strengthening of key habitat linkages in Manas Tiger Reserve with the help of geospatial technology and policy advocacy, complemented by status surveys and studies on Golden Langur, Swallowtail

CEPF Purpose	Impact Indicators	Results
		butterflies in Manas Surveys, satellite imagery used to develop a web-based GIS tool called 'MANTRIS' (Manas Tiger Reserve Information System) and maps (detailing historical data, land use and land cover change) of MTR Studies and interventions in the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Landscape on Snow Leopard, Red-breasted hill partridge, amphibians, pollinators, rhododendrons and medicinal plants
	Habitat integrity improved in 5 corridors within the 3 landscapes through restoration, exchange, and extension	B2C2 – engaging local people by forming LCSGs in six districts, Awareness building and community forests management skills Bomdeling WS – crane habitat restoration Civil Society Networks for Site Conservation in the North Bank Landscape, India – North Bank Landscape – work in two priority corridors (Mehao-D'Ering-Dibru-Saikhowa-Jamjing and Sengajan) Strengthening of civil society groups for sustainable resource use and conservation friendly agriculture in five forest villages on the periphery of Singalila National Park and medicinal plant conservation in the Barsey area of the Kanchenjunga-Singalila complex, and inter-state and trans-boundary exchange and interaction
	Sustainable resource use regulated and enhanced in 10 corridors within 5 landscapes	Bhutan -Corridor Regulatory Framework. SWS zonation Permaculture training for chemical-free agriculture on the periphery of Singalila National Park

CEPF Purpose	Impact Indicators	Results
		Alternative livelihoods for villages dependent on the resources of Western Range of Manas Conservation action plan for two priority elephant corridors in North Bank Landscape, NE India Community Conservation Area plan and proposal for Jajimukh-Kokilamukh wetland complex
	Civil society empowered and engaged in conservation planning and monitoring activities in 5 corridors and 3 landscapes	Bhutan – Kuensel, RIM. RSPN, Norden, WWF, UWICE, NCCT **Nepal:** 12 civil society organization's capacity strengthened to be engaged in biodiversity conservation, planning, monitoring and fund raising. WWF, BNHS, Aaranyak, DLR Prerna, Voluntary Health Association of Sikkim, Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, Dolphin Foundation, Future Generations Arunachal, Rhino Foundation for Nature in North East India, The Mountain Institute, Nature Conservation Foundation, Winrock International India, Wildlife Trust of India, Federation of Societies for Environmental Protection, Nature's Foster, TRAFFIC, Simang Women's Welfare Organization, Rajiv Gandhi University, World Pheasant Association India, 14 independent researchers and at least 55 Self Help Groups, traditional institutions, CBOs and Forest Protection Committees/Eco Development Committees

Strategic Direction	Investment Priority	Results
1. Build on existing landscape conservation initiatives to maintain and restore connectivity, and protect wide-ranging threatened species, in priority corridors	1.1. Important habitat linkages identified between site outcomes in the 3 priority corridor outcomes (Kanchenjunga, Bhutan corridors and North bank)	Bhutan – Regulatory Framework for management of Corridors Nepal: Local Stewardship for Conservation of the Red Panda in Eastern Nepal by RPN Six priority corridor sites identified for habitat linkages within Manas Tiger Reserve complex under the project on 'Identification and strengthening of key habitat linkages in Manas Tiger Reserve with the help of geospatial technology and policy advocacy' Survey and identification of bird local migration /dispersal corridor to the north of the Jajimukh-Kokilamukh wetlands that provides contiguous riverine grassland habitat through the Majuli river island and sand bars of Brahmaputra River westwards to Kaziranga national Park Identification and conservation action plan for two priority corridors - Pakke-Doimara and Bornadi-Khalingduar that connect Assam and Arunachal Pradesh with Bhutan and contribute to trans-boundary conservation of Asian Elephants across India and Bhutan border
	1.2. Civil society engaged in the development and implementation of management plans for key habitat linkages	Bhutan – organizing local community into groups and building capacity and guidance to develop and implement projects Nepal: Strengthening Civil Society for Biodiversity Conservation by ICC Site Support Group involved in survey and identification of bird local migration /dispersal corridor to the north of the Jajimukh-Kokilamukh wetlands Civil Society groups from Manas involved in Identification and strengthening of key habitat

Strategic Direction	Investment Priority	Results
		linkages in Manas Tiger Reserve Partnership with the forest department, civil administration and local NGOs in the Bornadi-Khalingduar and Pakke-Doimara area as a part of the Conservation Action Plan
	1.3. Conservation education and awareness programs among communities, schools, journalists and decision makers supported in priority corridors	Bhutan – built capacity of local media house to cover local conservation issues and build awareness of youth and park inhabitants to the issues that surround them. **India:** Conservation education and awareness programs among communities, schools, journalists and decision makers undertaken by projects – 'Maintain and Restore Habitat Connectivity and Reduce Human-Animal Conflict in the North Bank Landscape' (Human-Elephant conflict in Bornadi-Khalingduar and Pakke-Doimara), Identification and strengthening of key habitat linkages in Manas Tiger Reserve with the help of geospatial technology and policy advocacy' (Manas TR), Strengthen Civil Society for Improved Resource Management for Conservation (Singalila NP), Conservation of Medicinal Plants (Sikkim), Pygmy Hog Conservation Programme (Manas and North Bank), Civil Society Networks for Site Conservation in the North Bank Landscape, India (North Bank Landscape) and 'Integrated Approach to Enhance Protection of Manas Tiger Reserve' (Manas). Conservation education and awareness programs among communities, schools, journalists and decision makers undertaken by small grants working on Gangetic dolphin, Hoolock Gibbon, amphibians, turtles, Bengal florican, medicinal plants, rhododendrons, red-

Strategic Direction	Investment Priority	Results
		breasted hill partridge, golden langur, capped langur, snow leopard, takin, white-bellied heron
	1.4. Forest management practices that benefit biodiversity conservation promoted in the priority outcomes	Bhutan – Community Forestry Management policy review and capacity development of local groups to manage their groups plans and budgets. India: Community Forests promoted among villages on the Western Range of Manas Tiger Reserve 'Food forests' promoted on the periphery of Singalila National Park Grasslands management training for frontline staff in Manas, Orang, Nameri and Sonai Rupai
2. Secure the conservation of priority site outcomes (key biodiversity areas) in the Eastern Himalayas	2.1. Supported targeted efforts to manage and protect site outcomes (key biodiversity areas)	Bhutan- Critical Black necked crane Habitat restored by river training activities in Bomdeling WS. Nepal: Plant Biodiversity Inventory, Identification of Hotspots, and Conservation Strategies for Threatened Species and Habitats in Kanchenjunga-Singalila Ridge, Nepal: Conservation of Key Plant Species and their Habitats in Kanchenjunga Singalila Complex for Livelihood Improvement by DJYC Nepal : Traditional Land Management System and its Impacts on Conservation in the Kanchenjungha-Singalila Complex in Nepal by ICC Nepal: Community-Initiated Red Panda Conservation in Makalu Barun Nepal by TEF **India** Supported targeted efforts of Pygmy Hog Conservation Programme to improve the

Strategic Direction	Investment Priority	Results
		status of the critically endangered pygmy hog in Manas which holds the only viable breeding population in the wild and captive breeding and re-introductions in other protected areas like Sonai Rupai, Orang and Nameri Supported targeted effort to mitigate threats from hunting and unsustainable land management in Mehao sanctuary, Pani Dehing sanctuary, Sonai Rupai and Janjimukh-Kokilamukh wetland complex for conservation of white winged wood duck, red breasted hill partridge, bar-headed and greylag geese, and Bengal florican Supported targeted conservation effort for identification and mapping of important habitat linkages, documentations of key habitats in Manas Tiger Reserve and development of GIS system (MANTRIS) for planning and decision making in Manas Tiger Reserve Supported interventions to mitigate key threats mainly illegal logging/hunting in the western part of Manas Tiger Reserve Supported conservation of medicinal plants in Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary, a key biodiversity area for plants
	2.2. Incremental support provided to effective ongoing alternative livelihood projects with local communities and reduced threats to and enhanced conservation of priority sites	Bhutan- Framework for Ecotourism developed Bhutan's protect areas so that increased levels of ownership from the local communities and a balance between development and conservation is achieved through alternative livelihoods opportunities. Nepal: Conservation Corridor and Livelihood Development by NCDC

Strategic Direction	Investment Priority	Results
		India DF: Incremental support provided to work of Dolphin Foundation to support alternative livelihoods for local communities and reduce threats to the Western Range of Manas Tiger Reserve PHCP: Community conservation efforts in the three fringe villages of Manas NP have so far benefited about 120 households. In addition, about 25 more households have been provided alternative livelihood skills training in two villages of Nameri Tiger Reserve. Through formation of self help groups in the project villages, member households (117) have acquired new skills and honed their existing ones in weaving, handicrafts, food preservation, betel nut plate making, piggery, agriculture, and sewing.
	2.3. Supported traditional land and resource use practices in projects that ensured effective conservation of priority sites	Supported work with traditional institutions around Talley Valley Wildlife Sanctuary, Mehao Wildlife Sanctuary and Mouling National Park for participatory monitoring, reducing hunting pressures and conservation of these three priority sites and in the traditional homelands within and on the periphery of these protected areas
3. Leverage partnerships among donor agencies, civil society and government institutions to achieve biodiversity conservation outcomes over the long term	3.1. Strengthened and supported government and civil society partnerships that resulted in new funding for achieving conservation outcomes in the Eastern Himalayas.	Bhutan – Regulatory Framework for management of Borridors Nepal: Local Stewardship for Conservation of the Red Panda in Eastern Nepal by RPN India Eighteen of the small grant recipients have leveraged approximately $250,000 additional funding to supplement, enhance coverage or continue work initiated or supported by CEPF Small Grants

Strategic Direction	Investment Priority	Results
		DWCT has been able to garner funding for 2011 from the *Wildlife without Borders – Critically Endangered Animals Conservation Fund* of the US Fish and Wildlife Service for work on Pygmy Hog Conservation ATREE has leveraged additional funding of $280,000 to continue [small] grant making in the region, focusing within and outside of the CEPF priority areas; 16 grants have been made so far
	3.2. Supported training programs for the protection, management and monitoring of species, sites and corridor outcomes	Bhutan – organizing local community into groups and building capacity and guidance to develop and implement projects Nepal: Strengthening Civil Society for Biodiversity Conservation by ICC India Community leaders and hunters trained in camera trapping techniques for monitoring of wildlife in Talley Valley WLS Training programmes for progressive farmers on organic farming and biodiversity conservation on the periphery of Singalila National Park Frontline staff trained for improved management of grasslands in Manas National Park, Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary, and in Orang and Nameri National Parks State forest department officers and frontline staff trained and provided technical inputs like research findings, GIS analysis of forest cover loss (maps), elephant movement tracks, habitat utilization by elephants, socio economic

Strategic Direction	Investment Priority	Results
		profiling of fringe community in the Bornadi-Khalingduar and Pakke-Doimara area Training programmes for frontline staff, schools and Eco Development Committees for monitoring and conservation of medicinal plants in Sikkim (Barsey) Forest department staff given training on plant identification and use of GPS for field survey in Manas Tiger Reserve (MANTRIS) Data shared with forest department for the preparation of a working plan for Kokrajhar Working Plan division for the next 5 years (Manas).
	3.3. Developed and strengthened capacity among grassroots civil society organizations for managing, monitoring and mitigating specific threats to biodiversity	Bhutan – built capacity of local media house to cover local conservation issues and build awareness of youth and park inhabitants to the issues that surround them. India Strengthening of Civil Society Networks for Site Conservation in the North Bank Landscape, India in the sites of Mehao WLS, Behali RF, Jajimukh-Kokilamukh wetland complex, Sonai Rupai and Pani Dehing Bird Sanctuary Strengthening of civil society groups for sustainable resource use and conservation friendly agriculture in five forest villages on the periphery of Singalila National Park
4. Develop a small grants program to safeguard globally threatened species in the Eastern Himalayas	4.1. Supported targeted, high impact projects for the conservation of Critically Endangered and Endangered species in the Eastern Himalayas	Bhutan – Community Forestry Management policy review and capacity development of local groups to manage their groups plans and budgets.

Strategic Direction	Investment Priority	Results
		India Targeted projects on the Critically Endangered Gharial, Bengal Florican, White-bellied Heron and Black Softshell Turtle; the endangered Hispid Hare, Wild Water Buffalo, Hoolock Gibbon, Capped Langur, Golden Langur and Gangetic Dolphin, Clouded Leopard
	4.2. Supported action-oriented research that enabled or improved the conservation of priority species outcomes	Bhutan- Critical Black necked crane Habitat restored by river training activities in Bomdeling WS. Nepal: Plant Biodiversity Inventory, Identification of Hotspots, and Conservation Strategies for Threatened Species and Habitats in Kanchenjunga-Singalila Ridge, Nepal: Conservation of Key Plant Species and their Habitats in Kanchenjunga Singalila Complex for Livelihood Improvement by DJYC Nepal : Traditional Land Management System and its Impacts on Conservation in the Kanchenjungha-Singalila Complex in Nepal by ICC Nepal: Community-Initiated Red Panda Conservation in Makalu Barun Nepal by TEF India Action-oriented research on priority species such as Gharial, Bengal Florican, White-bellied Heron and Black Softshell Turtle, Hispid Hare, Wild Water Buffalo, Hoolock Gibbon, Capped Langur, Golden Langur, Gangetic Dolphin, threatened turtles and tortoises, swallowtail butterflies, rhododendrons, rare and endangered medicinal and aromatic plants,

Strategic Direction	Investment Priority	Results
		snow leopard
	4.3. Implemented a monitoring program for priority species outcomes	Bhutan- Framework for Ecotourism developed Bhutan's protect areas so that increased levels of ownership from the local communities and a balance between development and conservation is achieved through alternative livelihoods opportunities. Nepal: Conservation Corridor and Livelihood Development by NCDC Comprehensive status surveys for baselines and monitoring of wild water buffalo, Gangetic dolphin, golden langur, turtles Community-based monitoring around Singalila National Park for biodiversity and to check cross-border trade in wildlife Participatory monitoring programme on 'Wildlife Trade Control in the Eastern Himalayan Landscape, with Special Focus on Asian Big Cat, Elephant and Rhino Conservation' with TRAFFIC Bengal florican monitoring network established across three protected areas of North Bank Landscape for regular monitoring and information sharing Non-invasive monitoring of snow leopard and prey by working with herding communities in the Sikkim trans-Himalaya

Appendix E. Reporting Against Standard World Bank Biodiversity Indicators

Impacts on:	Has the project produced impacts?	Quantitative information on changes	Comments on changes, including qualitative information
Expanding protected areas	Not applicable		The Ecosystem Profile and its Strategic Directions did not include this as a priority for CEPF investment
Improving management effectiveness of protected areas	Yes	(See Table 4 of this report) 728,610 hectares consisting of: • Bhutan Biological Corridor Complex (330,174) • Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary (74,060) • Behali Reserved Forest (14,000) • Singalila National Park (7,100) • Pani Dehing Bird Sanctuary (4,000) • Mehao Wildlife Sanctuary (28,150) • Manas National Park and Tiger Reserve (13,000) • Orang National Park (3,686) • Nameri National Park(20,000) • Mouling National Park (48,300) • Upper Dehing,Jeypore, Kakojan and Dilli Reserved Forests (46,400) • Barsey Rhododendron Sanctuary (10,400) • Bornadi-Khalingduar (9,000) • Pakke-Doimara (86,100) • Talley Valley Wildlife Sanctuary (33,700) In addition, 38,300 hectares of land not under formal protection benefited from conservation action:	(See Table 4 of this report) In formal protected areas, work consisted of regulatory frameworks, zoning plans, community conservation management plans, protected area management plans, enabling of site support groups, promulgation of sustainable farming and use practices within protected areas that allow for these practices, landscape-level conservation action plans, inter-agency coordination bodies, and stakeholder advisory groups. In land outside of formal protected areas, work consisted of creation of community forests, improved community forest operation and management plans, creation of transboundary village development committees, and conservation action plans that imporved corridor connectivity and integrity.

Impacts on:	Has the project produced impacts?	Quantitative information on changes	Comments on changes, including qualitative information
		• Makalu Barun (10,000) • Kanchenjunga-Singalila Corridor (15,000) • Jajimukh-Kokilamukh Wetland Complex (11,500) • Bornadi-Khalingduar (1,000) • Pakke-Doimara (800)	
Area of production systems that involve improving sustainable use of biodiversity resources	Yes	(See Table 4 of this report) 11,759 hectares consisting of: • Kanchenjunga-Singalila Corridor (6,000) • Jajimukh-Kokilamukh Wetland Complex (2,500) • Singalila National Park (59(• Talley Valley Wildlife Sanctuary (3,200)	(See Table 4 of this report) Work consisted of promotion of alternative livelihoods within targeted corridors, promulgation of conservation friendly farming practices and resource use protocols, and promotion of sustainable use via traditional institutions and practices.
Percentage of beneficiaries engaged in improved livelihoods based on sustainable natural resources management (or sustainable harvesting)	Yes	24 grants contained at least one major activity designed to provide community benefits from the sustainable use of natural resources. Several project generated income for local communities, but this data has not been tracked systematically.	Work included: • Rice paddy and crane habitat restoration in Bumdeling, Bhutan, leading to reclamation of 1,000 hacres of paddy fields supporting 300 families • Creation of village tourism management group in Bhutan that will benefit 142 households along a trekking route • Training for five villages bordering Singalila National Park, including organic farming, vermin-composting, and improved animal husbandry • Training of 1,000 people and improved capacity of 15 community organizations on proper collection of medicinal plants in Sikkim. • Alternative livelihood program for 12 communities bordering Manas National Park in Assam, including textile weaving, silk work cultivation, and honey production • Promotion of red panda tourism in

Impacts on:	Has the project produced impacts?	Quantitative information on changes	Comments on changes, including qualitative information
			Nepal, leading to creation of jobs for 24 forest guards, two animal trackers, two nature guides, and six home-stays • Training 495 people in Red Panda regions of eastern Nepal on sustainable agriculture techniques • Training of 714 people in medicinal and aromatic plant cultivation in Nepal • Training of 150 households in environmental enterprises in Namsaling region of Nepal
Changes in sectoral policies, laws and regulations and their application, changes in institutional arrangements, responsibilities and effectiveness, to improve biodiversity conservation and sustainable use	Yes		(See Table 6 of this report) Bhutan Corridor Management Policy (national level) Defines rights and responsibilities of government and community bodies in relation to operationalisation and management of Bhutan's wildlife corridors Bhutan Zonation for Sustainable Use (protected area level) Within Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary, defines rights and responsibilities for park management staff and inhabitant communities on allowable resource and land use Bhutan National Eco-tourism Framework for protected Areas in Bhutan Obtaining government endorsement for the introduction of eco-tourism facilities in Bhutan's Protected Areas so that a balance between development and conservation could be achieved and also bring about increased levels of ownership from the local communities. India Community-Based Action Plans Policy As applied to the North Bank Landscape, proposed community conservation areas and site support

Impacts on:	Has the project produced impacts?	Quantitative information on changes	Comments on changes, including qualitative information
			groups at key biodiversity areas India State and trans-boundary level coordination mechanisms Policy level intervention for biodiversity conservation by way of constituting a body at the State level comprising of Forest Department authorities, Barsey Sanctuary authorities, civil society representatives, conservation NGOs, local Panchayats, schools and EDCs; trans boundary coordination mechanism with civil society and government representation from India (West Bengal and Sikkim) and Nepal India Conservation Action Plans for inter-state and trans-boundary wildlife corridors Conservation Action Plans being implemented to restore corridor and reduce Human-Elephant conflict in the Bornadi-Khalingduar in Assam and Pakke-Doimara corridors in Arunachal Pradesh that also connect to Bhutan Nepal Biodiversity and Community User Forest Operational Plan Policy (local) A new initiative that biodiversity conservation values are included in Community Forest Operational plans, approved by the District Forest Office, adopted and implementation initiated
Sharing of benefits between and/or in countries arising from the use of genetic resources	Not applicable		
Other impacts (e.g., increase in scientific understand and knowledge base for biodiversity	Yes	(See Logical Framework in Appendix B and D of this report) Extinctions were avoided for 45 species of mammals,	(See Logical Framework in Appendix B and D of this report) Action-oriented research on: Nepal: Plant Biodiversity Inventory,

Impacts on:	Has the project produced impacts?	Quantitative information on changes	Comments on changes, including qualitative information
conservation)		50 species of birds, 17 species of reptiles, 12 species of amphibians, and 36 species of plants 27 sites of critical biodiversity were protected 3 landscape-level corridors were protected	Identification of Hotspots, and Conservation Strategies for Threatened Species and Habitats in Kanchenjunga-Singalila Ridge, India Action-oriented research on priority species such as Gharial, Bengal Florican, White-bellied Heron and Black Softshell Turtle, Hispid Hare, Wild Water Buffalo, Hoolock Gibbon, Capped Langur, Golden Langur, Gangetic Dolphin, threatened turtles and tortoises, swallowtail butterflies, rhododendrons, rare and endangered medicinal and aromatic plants, snow leopard Bhutan- Framework for Ecotourism developed Bhutan's protect areas so that increased levels of ownership from the local communities and a balance between development and conservation is achieved through alternative livelihoods opportunities. Comprehensive status surveys for baselines and monitoring of wild water buffalo, Gangetic dolphin, golden langur, turtles Bengal florican monitoring network established across three protected areas of North Bank Landscape for regular monitoring and information sharing Non-invasive monitoring of snow leopard and prey by working with herding communities in the Sikkim trans-Himalaya

Appendix F. Participants at Final Assessment Workshop; Paro, Bhutan; 6-8 December 2010

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Appendix G. Final Assessment Workshop Agenda

Location: Zhiwaling Hotel, Paro, Bhutan
Dates: 7-8 December 2010

7 December 2010

Chair Mr. Suman Rai, National Coordinator, CEPF NE India
Rapporteurs Ms. Sampreethi Aipanjiguly and Mr. Samuel Thomas

8:30-9:00 Welcome and Introductions

9:00-10:00 Session I – Coordination, Partnerships, EH perspective

Presentations by Mr. Dan Rothberg, CEPF MD, and Dr. Sarala Khaling, Regional Coordinator, Eastern Himalayas

10:00-11:30 Session II – Strategic Direction 1 - Build on existing landscape conservation initiatives to maintain and restore connectivity and protect wide-ranging threatened species, in priority corridors

Chair – Dr. Gilles Kleitz – AFD
(Three presentations by grantees – one each from India, Nepal and Bhutan – time allotted 15 minutes for each presentation followed by 15 minutes of discussions)

India: Bibhuti P. Lakhar, Aaranyak – Identification and Strengthening of Key Habitat Linkages in Manas Tiger Reserve using Geo-spatial Technology and Policy Advocacy

Nepal: Mr. Kamal Kandel, Red Panda Network - Local Stewardship for Conservation of the Red Panda in Eastern Nepal

Bhutan: Ms. Dechen Yeshi, WWF - Biological Corridor Framework for the Kingdom of Bhutan

11:45-13:15 Session III – Strategic Direction 2 – Secure the conservation of priority site outcomes (key biodiversity areas) in the Eastern Himalayas

Chair – Mr. Karma Dukpa, Director, Director of Forests, Government of Bhutan
(Three presentations by grantees – one each from Nepal, Bhutan and India – time allotted 15 minutes for each presentation followed by 15 minutes of discussions)

Nepal: Mr. Hira Bahadur Ghale, Namsaling Community Development Center - Conservation Corridor and Livelihood Development Project

Bhutan: Mr. Passang Dorji, Nature Conservation Committee of Trashiyangtse – Restoration of the wintering habitat of the Black necked crane in and around Bumdeling Wildlife Sanctuary in Eastern Bhutan through community based initiatives

India: Rohin D'souza, DLR Prerna - Strengthen Civil Societies for Improved Resource Management for Conservation

14:30-16:00 Session IV – Strategic Direction 3 – Leverage partnerships among donor agencies, civil society and government institutions to achieve priority biodiversity conservation outcomes over the long term

Chair – Mr. Daiji Kawaguchi, Government of Japan
(Three presentations by grantees – one each from India, Nepal and Bhutan – time allotted 15 minutes for each presentation followed by 15 minutes of discussions)

India: Dr. Asad Rahmani, Bombay Natural History Society - Civil Society Networks for Site Conservation in the North Bank Landscape, India

Nepal: Mr. Karma Bhutiya, The Mountain Institute - Promoting Coordinated Community Based Landscape Conservation in the Trans-Boundary Region of the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex

Bhutan: Mr. Ugyen Lhendup, Royal Society for Protection of Nature – Building grassroots civil society support for biodiversity conservation in Bhutan

16:00-16:30 *Mountains of Life* – audio visual presentation, Mr. Sandesh Kadur

16:30-17:00 wrap up-day 1 session

8 December 2010

Chair Sonam Choiden, CEPF Grantee
Rapporteurs Ms. Sampreethi Aipanjiguly and Mr. Samuel Thomas

09:00-10:00 Recap of previous day – discussion on the parked items and questions from the previous day

10:00-12:30 Session 5 – Strategic Direction 4 – Develop a small grants program to safeguard globally threatened species in the Eastern Himalayas

Chair – Mr. Olivier Langrand, Executive Vice President, CI

(Six presentations by grantees – two each from India, Nepal and Bhutan – time allotted 15 minutes for each presentation followed by a 15 minute discussion of the three presentations)

India : Dr. Kashmira Kakati - Camera-trapping survey of carnivores in the Jeypore-Upper Dehing-Kakojan forests, Assam

Nepal : Mr. Yadav Ghimire, Friends of Nature - Assessing the Status of Small Carnivores with a special focus on Clouded Leopard Neofelis nebulosa in Makalu-Barun National Park

Bhutan : Mr. Rinchen Drakpa, Thrumshingla National Park (TNP) – An ecological study of Rufous-necked Hornbill in sub-tropical eco-region in TNP and biological corridors connecting TNP with Royal Manas National Park and Jigme Singye National Park.

Chair – Dr. Brian Penniston, Director, The Mountain Institute

Nepal : Mr. Anand Chaudhary, Bird Conservation Nepal - Community managed vulture restaurant in Gainda Tal, Lumbini

India : Dr. Hui Tag- Status Survey and Documentation of Selected Threatened Medicinal Flora of Pakhui Wildlife Sanctuary of East Kameng District in Arunachal Pradesh

Bhutan : Dr. Tashi Wangchuk – Conservation of the Golden Langur (Trachypithecus geei) and Capped Langur (Trachypithecus pileatus) in Bhutan.

13:30-14:00 Session 6 - bazaar (presentation of posters by CEPF grantees of Bhutan, India and Nepal)

Chair – Dr. Bawa

14:00-14:15 15 minute discussions on the posters

14:15-15:15 Session 7 – What next?
Discussions on sustainability of the CEPF programme in the Eastern Himalayas led by Dan Rothberg

15:30-16:15 Session 7 - closing session
Comments by Donor and partner representatives – RGOB- Karma Dukpa, AFD-Gilles Kleitz, GOJ-Daiji Kawaguchi and Momoko Nitta, CEPF/CI-Olivier Langrand and WWF–Kinzang Namgay.
Summing up comments by Dr. Bawa, President, ATREE – 20 minutes

16:30 Closing Cocktail and Reception

NB: Proceedings from this workshop are available from CEPF by request.