

CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Legal Name: Wildlife Conservation Society of the Philippines

Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement): Building conservation constituency through the 16th Annual Wildlife Conservation Society of the Philippines (WCSP), "Renewing ties: scientists and grass-root practitioners for biodiversity conservation"

Implementation Partners for this Project: Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF), City Government of Davao, University of the Philippines in Mindanao (UP-Min)

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement): January 1 - June 30, 2007

Date of Report (month/year): August 2007

II. OPENING REMARKS

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

The 16th WCSP Biodiversity Symposium held last April 16 -18, 2007 in Davao City, Philippines was attended by 194 participants representing the different sectors of the conservation community. The symposium provided the environment for stronger stakeholder cooperation in doing biodiversity conservation work in the country. It enabled many conservation practitioners in the country from the government organizations, academe, civil society, non-government organizations, people's organizations and other civic groups to come together and exchange ideas and strategies that will move forward the fight to save biodiversity in the hotspot.

A total of 47 oral presentations were given during the three-day symposium that included five each for the following topics: "Theme paper presentations," "Strategies to sustain human and biodiversity," "Education and legal structures for managing biodiversity," and "Techniques for biodiversity conservation; 22 papers focusing on species and habitat research; and 5 student paper. In addition, a workshop on "How to write a good scientific article" was organized as an evening session on the 2nd day by Drs. Jodi Sedlock, Dr. Nina Ingle and David Waldien who shared their experience in writing research manuscripts and gave tips on how to write good and easily understandable scientific research articles.

III. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

1. What was the initial objective of this project?

The three-day Symposium was convened specifically to provide opportunity and venue for researchers, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and people's organizations to share information and expertise on biodiversity conservation through oral paper and poster presentations that focuses on the different research and case studies pertaining to biodiversity conservation and on the current trends in conservation science and practice in the country.

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

No

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

The Biodiversity Symposium provided a venue for conservation practitioners to come together and exchange information that would further strengthen biodiversity conservation initiatives in the country. The Symposium also enabled budding researchers to consult with both local and international experts and at the same time learn from other scientists who shared the results of their research during the different paper sessions.

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

No

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

More effort should be exerted to ensure the attendance and representation from Local Government Units is encouraged and increased in succeeding biodiversity symposia since they will be playing a critical role in the biodiversity conservation arena since environmental protection has been devolved to them by the national government.

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

The selected papers presented during the symposium are currently under-going peer review and shall be finalized for publication in the "Banwa", the official scientific journal of the University of the Philippines-Mindanao.

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

The Wildlife Conservation Society of the Philippines has been organizing a yearly biodiversity symposium that has become the primary venue for exchange in expertise, information, and technology among local and international conservationists in the last 16 years. The symposium is convened to encourage the exchange of conservation methods, scientific information and management techniques that will assist in the development and implementation of conservation strategies, and at the same time strengthen the nation-wide network of scientists and conservationists, which will facilitate the transfer of information relative to biodiversity conservation in the country

IV. ADDITIONAL FUNDING

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

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
National Aviary	B	Php 47,339.83	
The Peregrine Fund	B	46,903.23	
NCCC Supermarket	B	10,000.00	
Japan Wildlife Center	B	38,393.04	
Bank of the Philippine Islands Foundation	B	50,000.00	
First Gen Corporation	B	75,000.00	
Vitarich Corporation	B	10,000.00	

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

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

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

The Wildlife Conservation Society of the Philippines (WCSP) will continue to hold the annual Biodiversity Symposium in the years to come. The Board of Directors of the Society through the help of members and partner organizations have, so far, been successful in raising funds to have been able to hold the yearly symposium in the last 16 years. Various committees have also been created, including the membership and fundraising committee that will focus on raising funds in preparation for the following years' symposium.

V. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

VIII. INFORMATION SHARING

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

Yes

No

If yes, please also complete the following:

For more information about this project, please contact:

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