

CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	OceansWatch
Project Title:	64036: Empowering the People of Temotu to Protect Their Significant Biodiversity
Date of Report:	23/4/15
Report Author and Contact Information	Julia Alabaster/Chris Bone chris@oceanswatch.org

CEPF Region: East Melanesia

Strategic Direction: 1: Empower local communities to protect and manage globally significant biodiversity at priority Key Biodiversity Areas under-served by current conservation efforts

Grant Amount: \$66,500

Project Dates: 2014/5/1 to 2015/1/31

Implementation Partners for this Project (please explain the level of involvement for each partner): OceansWatch Solomon Islands

Living Oceans Foundation, International Organisation finally visited these communities October 2014 . One of our team Georgia Coward and two of our local contacts Honourable Earnest (Lata) and John Laulae (Mola'a) joined them in their mapping project of the Province. We are still waiting for their high definition maps.

During our visit the Temotu Provincial assembly and the National government were having elections. There is a new Premier of Temotu Province, Baddley Tau and we are developing a close relationship with him.

OceansWatch Solomon Island Directors worked closely with us during our time in the country.

Conservation Impacts

Please explain/describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile.

We have engaged with the communities and all stakeholders in Bala village on Santa Cruz (who own Shrikebill habitat), Minivi village on Malo (customary land owners of Tinakula) and Buma village in Vanikoro (who own Vanikoro Flying Fox habitat).

In each community, we have provided biodiversity, habitat conservation and invasive species education. We have identified the five IUCN target species and have discussed with all communities the possibilities of various conservation actions to conserve the habitats of these species.

Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project.

We have identified that Tinakula Island is rat and cat free and is therefore a vital habitat to conserve. We have empowered the people in each community and they are now interested in protecting an area of forest in Graciosa Bay, the whole of Tinakula and the whole of Tevai island. We have secured funding to take the next step of implementing this protection.

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

1. Marine and terrestrial protected areas implemented that encompass habitats where identified endangered species are found. These will be mapped and registered under the Solomon Islands Protected Areas Act 2010.
2. Management plan implemented for the whole of Tevai Island, Vanikoro and for identified ridge to reef ecosystems in Nende communities.
3. Wide community awareness about endemic endangered species. A ban on harvesting the Vanikoro and Temotu flying fox, the Santa Cruz ground dove and the Santa Cruz Shrikebill.
4. Sustainable livelihood projects implemented to take the pressure off unsustainable and unmanaged resources.

Actual Progress Toward Long-term Impacts at Completion:

1. Identified Tinakula Island as the priority area to protect and enrolled the traditional owners in the idea of long term legal protection. Will do awareness raising about the SI Protected Areas act in 2015. Temotu Fisheries are interested in an MPA around the Island too so will discuss with them in 2015 visit.
2. Discussed protection of Tevai Island with chief and community. They are interested in a complete logging ban on Tevai Island and protecting their customary land on the mainland of Vanikoro against logging but allowing managed milling. Identified areas of important habitat near Bala on Nende and opened discussions about long term protection under SI Protected Areas Act 2010. Will do awareness raising about SI Protected Areas act in 2015.
3. We found that community members do not hunt the Temotu or Vanikoro Flying Fox as they are not good eating. The Shrikebill is not hunted. The Santa Cruz Ground Dove is hunted occasionally. This issue will be addressed during our 2015 visit.
4. The Sustainable Livelihood Project was very successful in Buma and the community continued to produce virgin coconut oil after we had left. We will implement a similar project in Minivi and Bala in 2015. We are looking for extra funding for this program to expand to many other villages in Temotu.

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

1. Identification and mapping of ecosystems with baseline counts of all flying fox, bird and marine species seen.
2. Increased Community awareness of conservation issues, the value of their resources and the value of biodiversity. Increased knowledge of endemic and endangered species.
3. A community conservation committee in place to manage marine and terrestrial resources.
4. A women's sustainable livelihood committee established to manage household economy.

Actual Progress Toward Short-term Impacts at Completion:

1. Initial transect surveys done for all species in most areas, although we were unable to survey marine species in Buma and Bala due to the presence of crocodiles, and unable to survey marine species Tinakula due to difficult conditions making anchoring unsafe. We will try again in 2015 with a new dinghy.
2. Awareness education was provided at all sites. Awareness about conservation and the local habitat was increased in all communities. We also educated the communities about the dangers of invasive species.

3. A committee set up in Buma, to be legally registered as the Buma Sustainable Development and Conservation Association in 2015.
4. The target species were all identified and awareness was raised in communities about the species, to ensure they are not killed for food. Forest Guardians/rangers have been identified and further training will be provided in 2015.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: None officially gazetted yet

Species Conserved: Vanikoro Flying Fox, Temotu Flying Fox, Santa Cruz Shrikebill, Santa Cruz Ground Dove

Corridors Created: None, although we have opened discussions with communities in Utapua, which lies half way between Vanikoro and Nende. This island is in sight of both Vanikoro and Nende so could be considered a corridor between Vanikoro and Nende

Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives.

We had some logistical problems as our dinghy and outboard motor were a bit too small and old for reliable transport. This made work at Minivi very difficult, so some planned activities were not completed there as it took more than an hour to get there from our yacht anchorage. This issue will be addressed by new dinghy and motor in 2015.

We felt that Dr Pierce's lack of local language ability was a constraint at times. We shall ensure we use an interpreter at all times in 2015. Also Dr Pierce will improve his ability to speak pijin. We should have liked longer in each village and for awareness raising, etc., but this is constrained by budget. In the future we expect to have full time local representatives in the area which will solve this issue to a great extent.

Since departing the field area we have had a few messages from one community member who helped us. He is asking for things to be brought for him. In 2015 we shall manage expectations more carefully.

The main success was that we found all species in good numbers.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

We found that Tinakula was rat and cat free. This was an unexpected positive discovery.

Project Components

Project Components: *Please report on results by project component. Reporting should reference specific products/deliverables from the approved project design and other relevant information.*

Component 1. Community conservation committees formed involving the traditional leaders and opinion leaders to lead conservation action for these sites. One in Buma (Tevai Island, Vanikoro) one involving the communities of Mataboi, Nepa and Pala in Graciosa Bay and one involving the Carlisle Bay communities.

Deliverable 1.1. List of committee members (approx 10 for each of 3 villages)

A community conservation committee was established for Buma village with six members: Chief Chris; Joseph Garmou; Basil Polau; Joselyn Ndni; Agnes Muja; and Patrick Obulou. A second

committee was established for Bala village in Graciosa Bay with four members: Titus Godfrey; Barnabas Meioko; Ben; and Margaret. A third committee was established for Minivi village with four members: Chief Paul; Tom; Nicholas Kawak; and Brian Stevens. The former two committees numbered men and women among their members; the latter only men.

Deliverable 1.2. Signed conservation committee constitution (3 documents)

The conservation committee constitutions were not complete by the end of the project, as there was insufficient time for people to consider them fully. We will follow this up in 2015.

Component 2. Forest Guardians trained. One group in Buma (Tevai Island, Vanikoro) one group from the communities of Mataboi, Nepa and Pala in Graciosa Bay and one group from the Carlisle Bay communities

Deliverable 2.1. Three lists of the trained local Forest Guardians

We found it best just to train two or three Forest Guardians in each village, because training too many would create a large group that would find it difficult to do quiet, well managed surveys. In Buma we trained Joseph Garmou, Basil Polau, and Patrick Obuloa. In Bala, we trained Titus Godfrey and Barnabas Meioko. For Tinakula, we trained Nicholas Kawalo, Titus Godfrey and Brian Steven.

Deliverable 2.2. Evaluation forms from the final of three training sessions held in each of the three villages. These will be educating Forest Guardians in Eco-system based management honoring their customary knowledge.

Evaluation forms were completed for the Forest Guardians trained from Buma, Minivi and Bala.

Component 3. Baseline species lists including mammals and birds for Tevai island, Vanikoro and one for the extended area around the communities of Mataboi, Nepa and Pala in Graciosa Bay and one for the extended area around the Carlisle Bay communities

Deliverable 3.1. Technical reports showing data from at least six flying fox monitoring events undertaken. Initial evaluation will determine best survey methods, e.g. searches for camps, night spotlighting, vocalization or mist-netting.

All planned monitoring events were completed. No mist netting was undertaken as it was not felt that it was needed and it can cause distress. The survey methods area outlined on page 6 of the scientific report, which is submitted as an annex to this report.

Deliverable 3.2. Technical reports showing data collected in at least six of the bird counts completed - initial survey of birds will determine most useful detection methods including relative merits of visual and auidial for completing full baseline surveys

Survey methods are outlined on page 6 of the scientific report. The main method was encounter rates along transects. Extensive lists of species recorded are provided in the scientific report.

Component 4. Women's Sustainable Livelihood Co-operative set up in Buma village, Tevai island, Vanikoro. Set up at the request of the women there.

Deliverable 4.1. Names of Members (15 signed up in Buma) (up to 16 in 2 villages on Nende)

A Women's Sustainable Livelihood Co-operative was set up in Buma village with 20 members: Emma Ramoli; Tina Aluramo; Joselyn Ndni; Agnes Muja; Joselyn Mamuli; Sera Navlaro; Sera Gamou; Elizabeth Simevio; Jenny Sica; Elen Bangora; Melot Simbalem; Alice Nimelie; Anna Tua;

Jesse Keoramo; Doreen Io; Emilie Kofana; Evelyn Tatali; Clara Gamen; Stella Mgiro; and Milford Tapoi.

We demonstrated the project in other villages but did not set up co-operatives, as we only had equipment for one village. This is to be completed in 2015

Deliverable 4.2. Signed constitution of committee (3 documents)

This was not completed by the end of the project; it will be completed in 2015.

Deliverable 4.3. Evaluation from final training session in coconut oil production held in Buma

Five days of training were provided to the co-operative members in Buma village. Similar training sessions will be provided for women in Bala and Miniv villages in 2015.

Deliverable 4.4. Copy of receipt for liters of coconut oil bought.

The co-operative in Buma village produced 100 liters, which was paid for by the project.

Component 5. Community conservation awareness carried out to all the adults and children in the community to provide support for the conservation action. This will include an evaluation component to assess the effectiveness of the approach at changing attitudes and awareness towards conservation.

Deliverable 5.1. At least 20 film nights held in communities visited.

Eight film nights were completed. None could be held in Minivi village, as originally planned, due to unforeseen difficulty with anchorage.

Deliverable 5.2. At least six school classes taught in the three schools.

We taught two classes in Buma and in only one each in Bala and Minivi.

Deliverable 5.3. At least three visits to kindergartens in the local communities.

We visited the kindergarten several times in Buma. We have not determined whether there is formal childcare in Bala and Minivi villages.

Deliverable 5.4. Number of adults and children present at all our film or Power Point presentations

About 75 people attended the presentations altogether.

Deliverable 5.5. Evaluation report from the six show of hands evaluation during 5.1,5.2, 5.3 and 5.4 to determine number who can name Endangered species, the number who understand the value of biodiversity and the number who want to have a conservation project in their village.(At least once at beginning and end of duration in Buma (Tevai Island, Vanikoro) in the communities of Mataboi, Nepa and Pala in Graciosa Bay and in the Carlisle Bay community meetings.

We found the show of hands evaluation difficult to assess as people were too shy. We shall try a different method in 2015.

Deliverable 5.6. SEM Pacifica Household Survey report showing results from Surveying a significant percentage of households to find out what species of animals and plants are of cultural, food and economic importance for the communities. This survey will contain an

evaluation component to assess the effectiveness of the approach at changing attitudes and awareness but survey fatigue will prevent it being useful to complete more in this time frame.

We did not manage to conduct these surveys due to elections taking lots of time in villages.

Deliverable 5.7. At least one Radio programs broadcast on World Vision's new Temotu FM station. Assuming the radio station starts as expected.

The Radio station in Lata was not working throughout the project, so these broadcasts were not possible.

Component 6. Wider National and Provincial Solomon Island awareness of conservation issues to gain greater support for the local conservation action

Deliverable 6.1. At least two presentations to the Temotu Provincial government

We made one presentation to the Temotu Provincial government in Lata in early November 2014. Prior to that, they were not prepared for us due to elections.

Deliverable 6.2. At least one meeting with Solomon Islands Environment Minister.

Ray Pierce had two meetings with Government officials in Honiara to share findings from the research.

Deliverable 6.3. At least two articles published in the Solomon Island Star Newspaper.

One article was published on biodiversity protection and two others to raise awareness about OceansWatch Solomon Islands to increase their presence.

Deliverable 6.4. At least six posts on Temotu Environment Facebook page.

More than 10 posts were made on this site and other Solomon Island sites and OceansWatch's own Facebook page.

Deliverable 6.5. One non technical report written and delivered to each community. 1 report written covering all our work in Temotu delivered to appropriate government contacts and available on our website. Report distributed to our mailing list (~8,000). 1 draft scientific paper written to be later presented for peer review and publication in such journals as Pacific Conservation Biology, Melanesian Geo and other appropriate journals as determined by Dr Pierce dependant on outcomes of surveys.

The report "Surveys of threatened birds and flying-foxes in the Santa Cruz Islands, Solomon Islands, September – October 2014" was peer reviewed by regional ornithological authority, Guy Dutton, and is available on the OceansWatch website.

Component 7. Mapping of Temotu ecosystems including detail around Vanikoro and over the whole of Nendo.

Deliverable 7.1. At least two annotated maps showing ecosystems and the Identification of existing and proposed conservation areas in Temotu Province. In partnership with Living Oceans Foundation.

Initial maps have been completed, although more work is needed. We are waiting on high definition maps from Living Oceans, which have not yet been completed.

Component 8. Compliance with CEPF Social Safeguard Policies

Deliverable 8.1. Social Safeguard Policies monitored using our social safeguard assessment and reported to CEPF". (3 Reports)

A safeguard monitoring report, covering the project period, was submitted to CEPF in February 2015. No negative social impacts were reported, and no grievances were raised by local people.

Were any components unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?

We did not fully complete the socio-economic survey (Deliverable 5.6) due to the timing of the elections. This did not significantly affect the overall impact of the project but it would have provided additional baseline data.

We did not complete all awareness outreach work in Minivi (Deliverable 5.1) as the anchorage was so difficult and so time in the village was limited.

Please describe and submit (electronically if possible) any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

Two technical reports were produced and are annexed to this final completion report:

1. Surveys of Threatened Birds and Flying-foxes in the Santa Cruz Islands, Solomon Islands, September-October 2014.
2. OceansWatch Sustainable Livelihoods Report Temotu Province, Solomon Islands, 2014.

Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building. Consider lessons that would inform projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.

The main lesson we learnt with regard to our relationship with the communities was the significance of the sustainable livelihoods project. The surveying and conservation work is very male focused as it is the men that hunt and go into the bush. It is the women who hold the families and communities together. When the teams leave and go surveying for extended periods the remaining community can see no benefit, just the loss of some of their key males. The coconut oil extraction project allowed time for engagement with the women and they can see something positive in this in that they are learning new extraction techniques suitable for the Western market and they are earning an income. This engagement encourages people to partake in the conservation awareness meetings and films.

We learnt that in most cases it is not appropriate to ask elders to sign forms as they cannot read and do not write and it may embarrass them. Their languages are not written languages and all dealings are mainly verbal, although this is one area where we need to build their capacity.

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

We were happy with the project design but needed longer in Bala and Minivi. The engagement with the community around the making of coconut oil in Buma really encouraged all villagers to be involved in the awareness events and to show an interest in the conservation discussions.

We did not allow enough time for CEPF reporting.

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

Our dinghy was too small and far too slow to move people around effectively.

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

The communities were very grateful that we did a livelihoods component and we feel that was a very positive factor.

Additional Funding

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

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes

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

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project.)*
- C** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*
- D** *In-Kind contributions can include staff and volunteer time, supplies, and other materials your organization provides to the project.*

Sustainability/Replicability

Summarize the success or challenge in achieving planned sustainability or replicability of project components or results.

We have secured funding to train a local representative to follow up in each village for Cyclone Pam and also to visit each village with us in 2015. We sincerely hope we can get full time funding for him to visit every village every 3-6 months.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

The fact that Tinakula is rat and cat free was unknown and provides great opportunities for ongoing conservation action.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

A safeguard monitoring report, covering the project period, was submitted to CEPF in February 2015. No negative social impacts were reported, and no grievances were raised by local people.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

N/A

Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

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

Please include your full contact details below:

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*****If your grant has an end date other than JUNE 30, please complete the tables on the following pages*****

Performance Tracking Report Addendum

CEPF Global Targets

(2014/5/1 to 2015/1/31)

Provide a numerical amount and brief description of the results achieved by your grant.
Please respond to only those questions that are relevant to your project.

Project Results	Is this question relevant?	If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.	Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.	Describe the principal results achieved from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. (Attach annexes if necessary)
1. Did your project strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.	No			Please also include name of the protected area(s). If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas did your project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?	No			Please also include name of the protected area. If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
3. Did your project strengthen biodiversity conservation and/or natural resources management inside a key biodiversity area identified in the CEPF ecosystem profile? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	Yes	Tevai Island 1700ha Tinakula 1250ha		Tevai island is forms part of Vanikoro Key Biodiversity Area (SLB35), a CEPF priority site Tinakula is a Key Biodiversity Area (SLB33)
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	Yes	Tevai Island 1700ha Tinakula 1250ha		Tevai island is forms part of Vanikoro Key Biodiversity Area (SLB35), a CEPF priority site Tinakula is a Key Biodiversity Area (SLB33)
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.	Yes	1 village: Buma		Buma village is on Tevai island

If you answered yes to question 5, please complete the following table

Table 1. Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities

Please complete this table if your project provided concrete socioeconomic benefits to local communities. List the name of each community in column one. In the subsequent columns under Community Characteristics and Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit, place an X in all relevant boxes. In the bottom row, provide the totals of the Xs for each column.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics							Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit												
	Small landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists/nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty rate	Other	Increased Income due to:			Increased food security due to the adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or agricultural practices	More secure access to water resources	Improved tenure in land or other natural resource due to titling, reduction of colonization, etc.	Reduced risk of natural disasters (fires, landslides, flooding, etc)	More secure sources of energy	Increased access to public services, such as education, health, or credit	Improved use of traditional knowledge for environmental management	More participatory decision-making due to strengthened civil society and governance.	Other
									Adoption of sustainable natural resources management practices	Ecotourism revenues	Park management activities									
Buma (Puma) Teanu, Banie, Tevai, Vanikoro	/	/	/				/		/											/
Total																				
If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit: Implementation of alternative livelihood project: producing coconut oil for Western market.																				