



# **Mid-term Assessment of CEPF Investment in the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot**

A Special Report  
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## OVERVIEW

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Conservation International, 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.

CEPF commenced its investment in the Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspot on July 1, 2008, following the approval of an ecosystem profile<sup>1</sup> developed with stakeholders' input and a funding allocation of \$9.5 million to be awarded over five years. Indo-Burma is the largest biodiversity hotspot, in terms of land area, but is one of the most threatened, in terms of percentage of original habitat lost (95 percent). It spans mainland Southeast Asia, including all or most of Myanmar (Burma), Thailand, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam, parts of southern China, and small areas of eastern Bangladesh and northeastern India (Figure 1).

**Figure 1. The Indo-Burma Hotspot**



<sup>1</sup> The ecosystem profile for the Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspot is available on the Web, in English at [www.cepf.net/Documents/final\\_indoburma\\_indochina.ep.pdf](http://www.cepf.net/Documents/final_indoburma_indochina.ep.pdf) (PDF - 2.5 MB) and in Vietnamese at [www.birdlifeindochina.org/sites/default/files/CEPFIndoChina\\_EP%26info\\_VN\\_6Nov08.pdf](http://www.birdlifeindochina.org/sites/default/files/CEPFIndoChina_EP%26info_VN_6Nov08.pdf) (PDF - 2 MB)

This report aims to assess progress towards the goals set out in the ecosystem profile, evaluate gaps in the CEPF grant portfolio and set priorities for the remainder of the five-year investment period. It draws on experience, lessons learned and project reports<sup>2</sup> generated by civil society groups implementing CEPF grants. In addition, it incorporates the findings of three mid-term assessment workshops, held in Hanoi, Vietnam, on July 26, Vientiane, Lao PDR, on July 28, and Phnom Penh, Cambodia, on July 30, 2010. These workshops were attended by over 90 representatives of CEPF grantees, national government, CEPF's donor partners and media.

## **THE INDO-BURMA HOTSPOT**

Encompassing over 2 million square kilometers of tropical Asia, Indo-Burma is one of the most geographically diverse of Earth's 34 biodiversity hotspots. The hotspot encompasses a number of major mountain ranges, including the Annamite Mountains and eastward extensions of the Himalayas, as well as extensive areas of limestone karst and five of Asia's largest rivers: the Ayeyarwady, Salween, Mekong, Red and Pearl (Zhujiang). Its sweeping expanse of level lowlands embraces several fertile floodplains and deltas and includes Tonle Sap Lake, Southeast Asia's largest and most productive freshwater lake.

As a result of a high diversity of landforms and climatic zones, Indo-Burma supports a wide variety of habitats and, thus, high overall biodiversity. This diversity has been further increased by the development of areas of endemism as a result of the hotspot's geological and evolutionary history. Centers of plant and animal endemism include the Annamite Mountains and the highlands of southern China and northern Vietnam. The Indo-Burma Hotspot ranks in the top 10 hotspots for irreplaceability and in the top five for threat, with only 5 percent of its natural habitat remaining.

Indo-Burma is home to over 300 million people, more than any other hotspot, the vast majority of who depend, for their livelihoods, on the services provided by the hotspot's natural ecosystem. Of particular importance, in a region where paddy rice and fish provide the staple diet of most people, are hydrological services and provisioning of fish and other freshwater products. The issues of poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation are inextricably linked.

In common with many of the world's biodiversity hotspots, a combination of economic development and human population growth is placing unprecedented pressures on the Indo-Burma Hotspot's natural capital. These pressures are compounded by a lack of effective planning and management systems to control them, and the impacts of climate change. The two greatest immediate threats facing the region's natural ecosystems are habitat loss and overexploitation of plant and animal species. Over the last decade, infrastructure development has emerged as a key factor underlying these threats, with major schemes to increase regional economic integration now underway, and a rapid acceleration in planning for hydropower development. These trends have been counteracted, although by no means offset, by amelioration in the operating climate for local civil society over the last five years, most notably a 2009 decision by the government of Lao PDR to allow local NGOs to register and operate as independent entities.

CEPF investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot is focused on the Indochina Region, comprising Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, Vietnam and parts of southern China, with a total area of 1.5 million square kilometers. The part of the hotspot in northeastern India is covered by the CEPF investment program in the Eastern Himalayas, while Myanmar (Burma) is not currently eligible to receive CEPF investment.

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<sup>2</sup> All available final project reports can be downloaded from the CEPF Web site, [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net)

## **CEPF NICHE**

The ecosystem profile and five-year investment strategy for the Indochina Region of the Indo-Burma Hotspot were developed in 2003, through a process of consultation and desk study coordinated by BirdLife International, in collaboration with the Bird Conservation Society of Thailand, Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden, and the WWF Cambodia Program, with the technical support of the Center for Applied Biodiversity Science at Conservation International. More than 170 stakeholders from civil society, government, and donor institutions were consulted during the preparation of the ecosystem profile.

The ecosystem profile presents an overview of Indochina in terms of its biodiversity conservation importance, major threats to and root causes of biodiversity loss, socioeconomic context, and current conservation investments. It provides a suite of measurable conservation outcomes, identifies funding gaps, and opportunities for investment, and thus identifies the niche where CEPF investment can provide the greatest incremental value.

Given the very significant investments already being made in biodiversity conservation by international donors and national governments, the CEPF niche was defined to target support to civil society initiatives that complement and better target these existing investments. In particular, resources were targeted to conservation efforts for freshwater biodiversity and trade-threatened species, two long-standing investment gaps, as well as for civil society efforts to mainstream biodiversity into development policy and planning.

In line with this niche, the ecosystem profile defines four strategic directions for CEPF investment:

1. Safeguard priority globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats.
2. Develop innovative, locally led approaches to site-based conservation at 28 Key Biodiversity Areas.
3. Engage key actors in reconciling biodiversity conservation and development objectives, with a particular emphasis on the Northern Highlands Limestone and Mekong River and its major tributaries.
4. Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of CEPF investment through a Regional Implementation Team.

To maximize impact and enable synergies among individual projects, CEPF investment focused on 67 priority animal species and 28 priority sites in two conservation corridors. The two conservation corridors were prioritized for investment on the basis of their high biological importance, the level of threat to their biodiversity values, and the opportunities they presented for engaging civil society in biodiversity conservation. The Northern Highlands Limestone corridor, in northern Vietnam and southwestern China, is particularly important for the conservation of primates, supporting the entire global population of two Critically Endangered species (Cao Vit Crested Gibbon and Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey). The corridor is also of high importance for plant conservation, supporting high levels of endemism in groups such as orchids and conifers. The Mekong River and Major Tributaries corridor contains Indochina's best remaining examples of riverine ecosystems, whose values are often under-appreciated by decision makers, and which are severely under-represented within protected areas. As well as their intrinsic values, the riverine ecosystems of the Mekong basin support the most productive freshwater fishery in the world, accounting for as much as one-quarter of the world's freshwater fish catch.

The CEPF ecosystem profile for the Indo-Burma Hotspot was approved by the CEPF Donor Council on April 26, 2007, with a total budget allocation of \$9.5 million. Of this amount, the profile allocates \$3.95 million to Strategic Direction 1, \$2.15 million to Strategic Direction 2, \$2.5 million to Strategic Direction 3 and \$900,000 to Strategic Direction 4. The Council subsequently approved the appointment of BirdLife International as the Regional Implementation Team (RIT) for the region in November 2007, instructing the Secretariat to finalize the work plan and budget for this important implementation partnership with BirdLife and, thus, clearing the way for grant making to begin.

## **COORDINATING CEPF INVESTMENT ON THE GROUND**

BirdLife International is performing the role of the RIT, and is working closely with the CEPF Secretariat to coordinate and manage CEPF grant making in the Indo-Burma Hotspot. BirdLife has assembled an experienced, motivated team, and worked hard to establish key structures, including Technical Review Groups and National Advisory Groups, to promote transparency and ensure synergies between CEPF investments and those of government and other donors in each country. BirdLife has also introduced the necessary processes to ensure effective management of a small granting mechanism, financial and programmatic risk assessment of individual grants, and compliance with CEPF's social safeguard policies.

The RIT is the steward of the CEPF investment portfolio, in close cooperation with the CEPF Secretariat. The RIT maintains close contact with CEPF grantees at each stage of project identification, design and implementation, providing guidance and assistance, where needed. The RIT performs the following key functions:

- Act as an extension service to assist civil society groups in designing, implementing, and replicating successful conservation activities.
- Review all grant applications and manage external reviews with technical experts and advisory committees.
- Award grants up to \$20,000 and decide jointly with the CEPF Secretariat on all other applications.
- Lead the monitoring and evaluation of individual projects using standard tools, site visits, and meetings with grantees, and assist the CEPF Secretariat in portfolio-level monitoring and evaluation.
- Widely communicate CEPF objectives, opportunities to apply for grants, lessons learned, and results.
- Involve the existing regional program of the RIT, CEPF donor and implementing agency representatives, government officials, and other sectors within the hotspot in implementation.
- Ensure effective coordination with the CEPF Secretariat on all aspects of implementation.

BirdLife has successfully overcome a number of challenges inherent in working in one of the first regions to adopt the RIT model. BirdLife has also been faced with the difficult task of engaging civil society in biodiversity conservation in a region where the operating environment for civil society organizations, in particular local groups, is very challenging. The RIT has been proactive in making CEPF funding accessible to local civil society organizations, including by searching for local groups working in or around CEPF priority sites, organizing introductory meetings for potential grantees in targeted provinces, providing hands-on support to local groups with project design and management, and forging alliances between local groups and international NGOs working in the same geographic areas.

To support the work of the RIT, Technical Reviewer Groups have been established in each country, comprising more than 140 representatives of NGOs, government agencies, scientific institutions and donor organizations. Technical Review Group members are responsible for review and evaluation of funding applications. BirdLife has also established National Advisory Groups in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam, comprising selected representatives of civil society plus regional staff of CEPF's donor partners. These groups meet annually and are responsible for overseeing the strategic evolution of the CEPF portfolio in their respective countries.

## **IMPACT SUMMARY**

CEPF investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot began in July 2008. Achievements during the first two years of CEPF investment can be summarized as follows:

- Coherent and balanced grants portfolio developed, comprising 60 grants with a total value of \$6.0 million.
- Work initiated to identify and/or secure core populations of 39 of the 67 priority species identified in the Ecosystem Profile, with local conservation patrol teams in place for 11 species, and nest protection schemes in place for nine species.
- New information generated on two of the 12 globally threatened species identified as having an over-riding need for improved information on their status and distribution.
- Legal protection conferred to all globally threatened turtle species in Cambodia.
- Protection and management strengthened for 14 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) covering over 1 million ha.
- Civil society efforts strengthened to raise concerns about the social, environmental and economic implications of hydropower dam construction in the Mekong and Major Tributaries corridor, and help affected communities voice their concerns.
- Profile of pressing conservation issues in the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor raised among key decision makers in Vietnam, with positive outcomes in several cases.
- Targeted outreach, training or awareness raising provided for at least 260 journalists, academics, civil society representatives and government staff.
- Improved regional collaboration to combat the wildlife trade through formation of a Cambodian Coordination Unit for the ASEAN-Wildlife Enforcement Network.
- National network of conservation volunteers in Vietnam expanded and engaged in efforts to combat the wildlife trade, with 760 new members and over 160 businesses monitored.
- Thirty-two civil society organizations directly benefiting from CEPF investment as grantees, plus seven more benefiting via sub-grants.

## **IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY**

The mid-term assessment took place at the beginning of the third year of CEPF investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot. It was so timed in order to inform the strategic use of the remaining funding allocation, which was due to be committed during the third year. During the first year of CEPF investment (July 2008 to June 2009), the focus was on establishing and training the RIT, putting in place systems and processes to review, manage and monitor grants, and promoting CEPF as a grant-making mechanism. As a result, only eight grants actually began implementation during the first year, although CEPF grant making accelerated dramatically thereafter. Consequently, at the time of the mid-term assessment (July 2010), only eight grants had been under implementation for longer than 12 months, 26 grants had been under implementation for between 6 and 12 months, and 23 had been under implementation for under six months. Three additional grants had been contracted but had not yet begun implementation.

By necessity, therefore, the emphasis of the assessment was on the coverage of the CEPF grant portfolio and the expected results towards CEPF's global targets. Results attained to date towards the goals set out in the logframe for the Indo-Burma Hotspot were evaluated but the findings are preliminary, and only give an indication of the types of impact CEPF investment in the hotspot is beginning to have.

### ***Calls for Proposals***

CEPF makes two types of grants: small grants of up to \$20,000 and large grants above that amount. In the Indo-Burma Hotspot, small grants are contracted and managed by BirdLife International, in its role as the RIT, while large grants are contracted and managed directly by CEPF. Applications for large grants are made in the form of a Letter of Inquiry (LoI), following which shortlisted applicants are invited to submit a full proposal. Small grant applicants are not required to prepare full proposals, and funding decisions are based upon LoIs.

CEPF investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot began on July 1, 2008, and will continue for five years until June 30, 2013. As noted above, the first grant was made to BirdLife International to constitute the RIT for CEPF implementation in the hotspot. At that point, the ecosystem profile had only been endorsed by the national GEF focal points for Cambodia and Vietnam. Consequently, when the first call for proposals was made in August 2008, it only covered these countries.

The GEF focal point endorsements for Lao PDR and Thailand were received in November 2008 and March 2009, respectively, which meant that they could be covered by the second call for proposals, made in June 2009. The second call also included Cambodia and Vietnam, although a restricted call was made in these countries, focusing on gaps in the CEPF investment portfolio. A third call will be made in August 2010 (with a deadline of September 30), covering all four countries. Again, the scope of this call will be restricted, in order to focus remaining CEPF funds at gaps in the investment portfolio. Because this call had not closed at the time of writing, this report only reviews CEPF investment under the first two calls.

Strategic efforts continue to secure the GEF focal point endorsement for China, which is still awaited. In the event that GEF focal point endorsement for China is forthcoming, it may still be possible to undertake some limited grant making there, provided that funding remains available.

A total of 71 applications were received under the first call for proposals, of which 29 were funded (16 large and 13 small). Under the second call, a further 98 proposals were received, of which 30 were funded (eight large and 22 small) and 12 are still in the pipeline, pending approval (seven large and five small). Assuming that all pipeline grants will be funded, the overall success rate for applications to CEPF under the first two funding rounds was 42 percent. The success rate for large grant applications (40 percent) was slightly lower than that for small grant applications (43 percent). The relatively high overall success rate of applications to CEPF reflects several factors, not least the sterling efforts made by CEPF and BirdLife to provide strategic guidance to applicants during the application process to avoid duplication among proposals and ensure the best possible fit with the CEPF investment strategy.

### ***Collaboration with CEPF Donors***

In Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam, the RIT has constituted National Advisory Groups (NAGs), comprising representatives of government, donor agencies, NGOs and academia. The NAGs help review the CEPF portfolio in each country annually, providing guidance and comments to the RIT. CEPF's donors are represented on the NAGs, thereby avoiding overlaps with between their regional investments and the CEPF portfolio, and identifying opportunities for synergy.

Representatives of AFD and the World Bank from the relevant country offices sit on the NAGs. The GEF is represented in the form of the National Operational Focal Point and the UNDP/GEF Small Grants Program Coordinator in each country. The Government of Japan has been represented at NAG meetings in the form of staff from the relevant Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) country office. Finally, Conservation International is represented on the NAG in Cambodia, in the person of its country program manager.

Other opportunities for collaboration with CEPF donors have arisen through the development process for individual grants. For example, the large grant to IUCN for freshwater assessments neatly complements a very similar project by IUCN that was funded by the MacArthur Foundation in the Eastern Himalayas. Further, two significant projects led by Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) complement existing GEF funding. In Cambodia, CEPF funding is allowing WCS to enhance participation and capacity of civil society organizations to increase the financial sustainability of outputs from a UNDP/GEF full-sized project. In Vietnam, CEPF funding has enabled WCS to expand the scope of an in-country component of a regional World Bank/GEF project addressing trade in Tiger and its prey species. Moreover, CEPF-supported work at eight protected areas is being complemented by direct support to the protected area authorities from the World Bank/GEF-funded Vietnam Conservation Fund.

### ***Portfolio Status***

As of July 31, 2010, a total of 60 grants had been contracted, with a total value of \$6.0 million, equivalent to 63 percent of the total budget allocation for the Indo-Burma Hotspot (Annex 1). These comprised: 41 grants under Strategic Direction 1, totaling \$3.1 million; three grants under Strategic Direction 2, totaling over \$800,000; 15 grants under Strategic Direction 3, totaling \$1.2 million; and a \$900,000 grant under Strategic Direction 4 for the RIT. The 60 grants contracted to date have raised nearly \$4.9 million in co-financing (including counterpart funding and in-kind contributions), almost matching the investment by CEPF.

Including the RIT grant, 25 large grants have been contracted to date, with a total value of \$5.4 million. These grants range in size from \$30,702 to \$899,929, with a mean of \$216,752. Only five grants larger than \$250,000 have been awarded, comprising the RIT grant and four 'cornerstone' grants, which cover the key geographic and thematic priorities and form a foundation for other related projects. The remaining 35 grants that have been contracted are all small grants, and have a total value of around \$575,000. These grants range in size from \$1,820 to \$20,000, with a mean of \$16,426.

In addition to the 60 grants that have been contracted, a further 12 grants (five small and seven large) are currently in the pipeline, pending finalization of the review and contracting process. These pipeline grants, which total almost \$2 million, are expected to be signed during the second half of 2010.

Therefore, by the end of the second funding round, it is projected that CEPF will have committed almost \$8.0 million in Indo-Burma, across 33 large and 42 small grants, equivalent to 84 percent of the total allocation for the hotspot (Table 1). Over \$1.1 million will have been awarded to local civil society groups across 16 grants, equivalent to 14 percent of the funds and 27 percent of the grants awarded. The remainder will have been awarded to international groups.

**Table 1: Status of the CEPF grant portfolio in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, as of July 31, 2010**

Strategic Direction	Active grants	Pipeline grants	Total
SD1	\$3,074,089	\$659,892	\$3,733,981
SD2	\$849,862	\$804,215	\$1,654,077
SD3	\$1,169,805	\$498,767	\$1,668,572
SD4	\$899,929	\$0	\$899,929
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,993,685</b>	<b>\$1,962,874</b>	<b>\$7,956,559</b>

It is unsurprising that international civil society organizations have been the recipients of the majority of CEPF grants and investment during the first two funding rounds. As previously mentioned, the operating environment for local civil society in the Indochina Region is particularly challenging, and few groups are currently engaged in biodiversity conservation. The one exception is Thailand, where there is a greater civil society presence from grassroots to national level. However, there have been relatively few applications from local groups in Thailand, due to several factors, including the late endorsement of the ecosystem profile, more funding options for civil society (hence lower reliance on CEPF), recent political turmoil and civil unrest, and the concentration of biological priorities for CEPF investment in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam. In addition, international civil society organizations have, on average, submitted proposals of a higher technical quality. This can be seen in the statistics for small grant applications. Of the 90 applications by international groups under the first two funding rounds, 52 (58 percent) are approved or pending approval. Whereas, of the 59 applications by local groups, only 19 (32 percent) are approved or pending approval.

The issue of distribution of CEPF support between local and international grantees was identified early on, and the RIT has striven to identify and support local grantees. Over time, the capacity of local groups to design and implement successful projects is expected to increase, and with it their ability to raise funds. The RIT is supporting this process by providing hands-on assistance with proposal writing and helping to ‘demystify’ the application process for groups with limited experience of accessing international donor funds. In addition, successful applicants are gaining experience, confidence and enhanced profile through the process of managing grants and interacting with other CEPF grantees via exchange visits, workshops or other events facilitated by the RIT. Finally, local civil society groups that may not necessarily be in a position to receive CEPF funds directly are being engaged in larger projects, given responsibility for leading on specific project components, and given support and mentoring from international groups.

The overall funding allocation for the Indo-Burma Hotspot is \$9.5 million. Taking into account funds already committed and in the pipeline, a little over \$1.5 million remains available for new grants in the third round plus costs associated with the final assessment. The bulk of these funds are allocated to Strategic Direction 3 (mainstreaming biodiversity into development sectors), an area where civil society has great opportunities to deliver large-scale conservation impacts. Smaller allocations are available for Strategic Directions 1 and 2 (Table 2).

**Table 2: Balance of CEPF funds allocated to the Indo-Burma Hotspot, as of July 31, 2010**

Strategic Direction	Active + pipeline grants	Allocation	Balance
SD1	\$3,733,981	\$3,950,000	\$216,019
SD2	\$1,654,077	\$2,150,000	\$495,923
SD3	\$1,668,572	\$2,500,000	\$831,428
SD4	\$899,929	\$900,000	\$71
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,956,559</b>	<b>\$9,500,000</b>	<b>\$1,543,441</b>

### ***Portfolio Overview: Strategic Direction 1***

CEPF investment under this strategic direction aims to safeguard priority globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats. This strategic direction is intended to address the insidious threat of over-exploitation of wildlife, which threatens to undermine all conservation efforts in the region. To date, CEPF has awarded 33 grants aimed at identifying and securing core populations of globally threatened species from overexploitation and illegal trade (Investment Priority 1.1). These grants are addressing 39 of the 67 priority species identified in the Ecosystem Profile. These efforts are founded on two cornerstone projects, targeting two of the most threatened groups of species: a regional initiative to address the conservation of threatened tortoises and freshwater turtles led by the Cleveland Zoological Society and Conservation International; and a program of innovative, community-based efforts to conserve threatened large waterbirds in Cambodia led by WCS.

On the demand side, CEPF is investing in public awareness campaigns to reduce consumer demand for globally threatened species and their products (Investment Priority 1.2). Public awareness campaigns in Vietnam are being supported under a project led by Education for Nature-Vietnam to mobilize the general public to participate in efforts to tackle the wildlife trade. Additional public awareness activities focused on the wildlife trade are also taking place as part of projects supported under other strategic directions.

This strategic direction is also intended to fill long-standing information gaps about the status of key species and, thereby, guide site and habitat conservation efforts and support efforts to mainstream biodiversity into development sectors, particularly energy, transport and agriculture. To this end, CEPF is supporting efforts to investigate the status and distribution of globally threatened plant species, and apply the results to planning, management, and outreach (Investment Priority 1.3). This is being achieved through a cornerstone grant to Missouri Botanical Garden to lead a region-wide plant Red List assessment. CEPF is also supporting efforts to assess the global threat status of selected freshwater taxa and integrate the results into planning processes for the conservation of wetland biodiversity and development plans in the Mekong River and its major tributaries (Investment Priority 1.4). This work is taking place under a cornerstone grant led by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) Freshwater Biodiversity Unit.

In addition, CEPF is funding research on little-known species believed to be highly threatened, in order to inform targeted conservation action (Investment Priority 1.5). Eight grants have been awarded to support research on seven of the 12 priority species assessed in the Ecosystem Profile as having an over-riding need for improved information. These include a small grant to the Harrison Institute to assess the status and distribution of Wroughton's Free-tailed Bat (*Otomops wroughtoni*), and a small grant to Cleveland Zoological Society to conduct surveys for Swinhoe's Soft-shell Turtle (*Rafetus swinhoi*): Asia's rarest turtle.

Finally, CEPF plans to support the publication of local-language reference materials on globally threatened species (Investment Priority 1.6). To date, this investment priority has only been addressed directly by a single small grant, to the Center for People and Nature Reconciliation, which produced local language educational materials on Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey, in support of site-based conservation efforts in the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor. A few other grants have also produced local-language materials, in support of outreach activities.

### ***Portfolio Overview: Strategic Direction 2***

CEPF investment under this strategic direction aims to develop innovative, locally led approaches to site-based conservation at 28 KBAs located within the two priority corridors. To this end, CEPF has awarded two large grants in the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor, aimed at establishing innovative stakeholder-based conservation management and caretaking initiatives, as models for replication elsewhere in the region (Investment Priority 2.1). The first of these is a cornerstone grant to Fauna & Flora International (FFI), which aims to promote community-based collaborative management to strengthen long-term conservation of globally threatened primates and trees at six priority sites in the corridor. This project is complemented by a grant to People, Resources, and Conservation Foundation (PRCF), which is working to strengthen community conservation of five priority sites, including two not covered by the FFI project. In the Mekong River and Major Tributaries corridor, CEPF awarded a small planning grant to WWF, to develop a major site-based initiative to conserve the central section of the Cambodian Mekong, the most important section of the river from a biological perspective, in collaboration with two Cambodian NGOs: Cambodian Rural Development Team (CRDT); and Community Economic Development (CED). This grant led to the development of three linked proposals, which are currently in the process of being contracted.

CEPF will also support the development of standards and programs that address the overexploitation of biodiversity and pilot them at selected sites (Investment Priority 2.2). To date, no grants have been awarded under this investment priority, although it is addressed by the PRCF, which proposes to pilot a model for collaborative community-based sustainable utilization of forest resources within protected areas, through the identification of ‘multiple-use’ areas.

### ***Portfolio Overview: Strategic Direction 3***

CEPF investment under this strategic direction is aimed at engaging key actors in reconciling biodiversity conservation and development objectives, with a particular emphasis on the two priority corridors. To date, CEPF has awarded 11 grants in support of civil society efforts to analyze development policies, plans and programs, evaluate their impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and propose alternative development scenarios and appropriate mitigating measures (Investment Priority 3.1). In the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor, these investments are centered on an initiative to balance development needs and conservation priorities by mainstreaming conservation considerations into development planning, led by IUCN. In the Mekong and Major Tributaries corridor, CEPF investments are aimed principally at ensuring that hydropower development and fisheries management take account of the biodiversity and ecosystem services values of the corridor, and its importance for the livelihoods of people dependent upon the sustainable use of natural resources.

CEPF is also supporting targeted outreach and awareness raising for decision-makers, journalists and lawyers (Investment Priority 3.3). Four grants directly address this investment priority, including: an initiative to raise awareness among national and provincial decision makers of trade-offs between conservation and development in the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor by engaging the Vietnamese media, led by the Center for People and Nature Reconciliation.

Finally, CEPF is seeking to fund initiatives that leverage support for biodiversity conservation from development projects and programs (Investment Priority 3.2). This investment priority is addressed by several grants, as part of efforts to ensure the sustainability of conservation results, although few grants adopt this as their main objective. One such grant is a WCS-led initiative to leverage support from the Vietnamese corporate sector to reduce illegal consumption of protected species.

## BIODIVERSITY RESULTS TO DATE

### *Globally Threatened Species*

#### **Identification and Protection of Core Populations**

CEPF has a goal of identifying and securing core populations of 67 globally threatened animal species from overexploitation and illegal trade. As of July 31, 2010, 33 grants had been awarded to identify and/or secure core populations of 39 of these species. While many of these grants are still in early stages of implementation, several have already had significant impacts.

Turtles are one of the most threatened groups in Indo-Burma, principally due to overharvesting to supply the wildlife trade, and 20 species were prioritized for CEPF investment. CEPF grants have made significant progress towards identification of core populations of several of these species. In Vietnam, Pu Mat National Park has been confirmed to support a population of Four-eyed Turtle (*Sacalia quadriocellata*). In Cambodia, turtle conservationists have significantly improved their understanding of conservation issues relating to Impressed Tortoise (*Manouria impressa*), Indochinese Box Turtle (*Cuora bouretti*), Asian Giant Softshell Turtle (*Pelochelys cantorii*) and Yellow-headed Temple Turtle (*Heosemys annandalii*). This has allowed them to better guide their efforts and focus on core populations to ensure these species are properly protected in the wild.

Action has also been taken to secure core populations from overexploitation. In Vietnam, a local patrol team is protecting a population of Vietnamese Pond Turtle (*Mauremys annamensis*) in Quang Nam province. In Cambodia, community patrols have been established for Mangrove Terrapin (*Batagur baska*) nesting beaches along the Sre Ambel River. In 2009, a nest with 23 eggs was located and protected, resulting in 23 hatchlings. This was the first successful nesting of this species since 2007. Along the Mekong River, excellent progress has been made towards securing the largest known breeding population of Asian Giant Softshell Turtle (*Pelochelys cantorii*) in the hotspot, through community patrols and direct incentives for nest protection. During the 2010 nesting season, 21 nests were protected on seven beaches, leading to almost 300 hatchling turtles being released that would otherwise have been lost through consumption in the egg stage.

Also in Cambodia, conservation incentive agreements signed with local communities in the Cardamom Mountains have incorporated conservation of Impressed Tortoise and its habitat. Turtle conservation has also been integrated into the management plan for the Central Cardamoms Protected Forest, to be funded through a trust fund, including by demarcating specific zones for the conservation of these species. Around Tonle Sap Lake, community patrols have been initiated at key sites to protect Yellow-headed Temple Turtle, Asiatic Softshell Turtle (*Amyda cartilaginea*), and the habitats upon which they rely.

Another heavily threatened group is primates, of which there are seven priority species in the hotspot. As all of these species occur in Vietnam, this country has been the focus of CEPF investments to date. At Cat Ba National Park, efforts to conserve the only known population of Cat Ba Langur (*Trachypithecus poliocephalus poliocephalus*) in the world have been boosted by an increase in the number, duration and coverage of boat patrols to protect the animal from hunting and disturbance, and the recruitment of a new conservation assistant, who is functioning as a bridge between the national park ranger force and the Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project. In addition, 28 rangers have received training in law enforcement and GPS use. No poaching incidents have been reported since the start of the project, and breeding has been reported.

At Son Tra Nature Reserve, a professional guide training program has been established to help manage impacts of tourism development on Vietnam's largest population of Red-shanked Douc Langur (*Pygathrix nemaeus*). In addition, three Douc Protection Teams have been established and trained to protect sleeping and feeding areas of the doucs. To date, patrols have removed over 500 traps and 4,000 meters of trap line from the reserve. Also, since the beginning of 2010, four langurs have been rescued from local hunters, three of which were successfully released back into the wild.

A separate initiative has been working in Quang Nam province to secure the world's largest population of Grey-shanked Douc Langur (*P. cinerea*). A training program has been completed for eight rangers and one masters student, and a survey and monitoring program for the langur population has been established. The first survey recorded five groups, with around 50 individuals.

In addition to primates, 19 other mammal species were prioritized for CEPF investment. In Lao PDR, CEPF is supporting efforts to register working Asian Elephants (*Elephas maximus*), as a means of deterring capture and trade of wild elephants. To date, 200 of the estimated 480 working elephants in Lao PDR have been fitted with microchips, and a national registration database has been developed and populated with data. It is expected that microchipping the entire working elephant population will take a further two years. Once achieved, it will be possible to identify elephants that have been illegally captured.

CEPF is helping to re-energize efforts to conserve Saola (*Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*), the flagship species of the Indo-Burma Hotspot. In 2009, CEPF supported the first meeting of the Saola Working Group under the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC). This meeting developed a conceptual model for Saola conservation and a prioritized list of actions and project, several of which were supported by CEPF. Through these grants, intensive snare removal activities have been initiated within the Saola's recognized core range in Vietnam, with similar efforts scheduled to begin in Lao PDR by the end of 2010.

CEPF has also been active in supporting efforts to conserve core populations of globally threatened bird species. These efforts have focused mainly on Cambodia, which supports the most important populations of large waterbirds and vultures in the region. Core breeding populations of large waterbirds are benefiting from an integrated suite of economic incentives, including ecotourism development, eco-labeling of wildlife-friendly rice, and direct payments for nest protection, to encourage local communities to observe controls on agricultural expansion, and abide by no-hunting agreements. Linked small grants are helping to evaluate the effectiveness of conservation interventions for these species. For instance, in 2010, CEPF supported a simultaneous survey of 37 roost sites of White-shouldered Ibis (*Pseudibis davisoni*). A record-breaking 429 individuals were counted, making the known global population much larger than previously thought. With so many birds remaining in the wild, the chances of conserving this Critically Endangered species are greatly improved.

Alongside other donors, CEPF is also supporting recovery efforts for three Critically Endangered vulture species: White-rumped Vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*); Slender-billed Vulture (*G. tenuirostris*); and Red-headed Vulture (*Sarcogyps calvus*). Against a backdrop of catastrophic declines in other parts of Asia, vulture populations in Cambodia are starting to increase, providing a beacon of hope for these species, which play critical ecological roles. In 2010, 36 vulture chicks fledged from colonies across Cambodia, a major increase over the previous year's total of 19, and 296 individuals of the three species were recorded during the annual synchronized vulture census.

In addition to taking action at the ground level, CEPF grantees have also been working to secure core populations of globally threatened species by addressing one of the major drivers of population declines: the wildlife trade. In Cambodia, CEPF has been supporting efforts to strengthen the capacity of the Wildlife Rapid Rescue Team, the official wildlife crime investigation and counter-trafficking unit. Team members have received training in conducting investigations and working with informants from law enforcement professionals, and the team has undertaken patrols of wildlife tracking hotspots along the Cambodia-Vietnam border.

Further north, along the Vietnam-China border, CEPF has been supporting efforts to strengthen capacity, promote inter-agency cooperation and build political support for addressing illegal trade in wildlife. So far, three multi-agency training programs have been carried out for 64 law enforcement officers from Quang Ninh province and national agencies, to provide an introduction to basic skills required for tackling wildlife crimes. These efforts are already delivering tangible results. For instance, following a training course in 2010, 150 kg of elephant ivory were seized at a border crossing in Mong Cai city.

CEPF is also helping the wider Vietnamese public to participate in efforts to control wildlife trade, by acting as the eyes and ears of the enforcement authorities. During the first half of 2010, 348 cases of wildlife crime were reported through a Wildlife Crime Hotline. Around half were cases of selling wildlife, with the remainder being possession, smuggling, trade operations and advertisement. For example, in April 2010, a member of the public reported to the hotline that a local vendor was selling pythons at a market in Dong Nai province. The district Forest Protection Department (FPD) immediately inspected the market, confiscated two Burmese Pythons (*Python molurus*), and released them into the wild.

### **Public Awareness Campaigns**

CEPF is supporting public awareness campaigns that reinforce existing wildlife trade policies and contribute to the reduction of consumer demand for 67 globally threatened species and their products. Thus far, three public awareness campaigns have been conducted in Vietnam, in support of efforts to combat the wildlife trade. In November 2009, a training workshop on wildlife trade communication was organized in Binh Duong province for 20 journalists from Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. In March 2010, a workshop on the cross-border wildlife trade was held in Quang Ninh province March, resulting in 22 media articles being published and one TV program being broadcast on the cross-border wildlife trade. Finally, under a project to engage the media in reconciling conservation and development objectives, at least five news articles per month on diverse environmental and conservation issues related to the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor have been published on the website ThienNhien.Net.

At the grassroots level, several CEPF grantees are helping to raise conservation awareness among communities living around important sites for globally threatened species. For example, in Cambodia, environmental education through schools and community meetings is helping local communities to be more aware of environmental laws and the importance of maintaining flooded forest habitat at Tonle Sap Lake. In Vietnam, a soccer competition was organized among four villages around Dong Mo Lake, home to one of the world's most endangered species: Swinhoe's Softshell Turtle (*Rafetus swinhoei*). Presentations were made between matches to highlight the need for community support for protection of Dong Mo Lake and the turtle that lives there.

### **Status Assessment of Plants**

CEPF is supporting efforts to investigate the status and distribution of globally threatened plant species, and apply the results to planning, management, awareness raising and/or outreach. Efforts to date have concentrated on building a strong network of botanical institutions,

academics, researchers and conservation professionals, and collating primary baseline data for conservation assessments. A list of candidate threatened species has been prepared, numbering nearly 1,000 species. This is a four-fold increase over the current list of 248 globally threatened plant species in the region. Two Red Listing workshops have been scheduled: the first in Hanoi, Vietnam, in December 2010; and the second in Chiang Mai, Thailand, in November 2011.

### **Status Assessment of Freshwater Taxa**

In parallel to the status assessments of threatened plants, CEPF is also supporting efforts to assess the global threat status of selected freshwater taxa and integrate the results into planning processes for the conservation of wetland biodiversity and development plans in the Mekong River and Major Tributaries corridor. Red List assessments are underway for odonates, molluscs and fishes, and planned for aquatic plants. The draft assessments will be finalized at a review workshop in early 2011, and then published on the IUCN Red List.

### **Research on Little-known Species**

CEPF aims to support research on 12 species for which there is a need for greatly improved information on their status and distribution. So far, research has begun on seven of these species: Vietnamese Pond Turtle; Swinhoe's Softshell Turtle; Wroughton's Free-tailed Bat (*Otomops wroughtoni*); Vietnam Leaf-nosed Bat (*Paracoelops megalotis*); Kouprey (*Bos sauveli*); Otter Civet (*Cynogale bennettii*); and White-eared Night-heron (*Gorsachius magnificus*). This has resulted in new information being generated on two of them.

First, priority habitat has been identified for Vietnamese Pond Turtle in Quang Ngai province, Vietnam, and is the focus of efforts to establish a dedicated protected area for the species. Second, photographic proof has been obtained of the continued presence of Swinhoe's Softshell Turtle at Dong Mo Lake, and interview surveys have identified additional sites where this extremely rare species potentially survives.

### **Local-language Reference Materials**

Publication of local-language reference materials on globally threatened species is one CEPF investment priority that has not received many applications to date. This may partly reflect the success of the World Bank's Local Language Field Guides Program, under which books were produced on everything from trees to birds to turtles. The local-language materials produced to date under CEPF grants have been targeted to specific projects, rather than general references. For example, a poster on Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey (*Rhinopithecus avunculus*) was published to support awareness raising activities in Vietnam's Ha Giang province, while a poster on aquatic species was published to support community fisheries management activities in neighboring Tuyen Quang province.

### **Key Biodiversity Areas**

To date, 1,063,974 ha within 14 KBAs have received strengthened protection and management as a result of CEPF funding:

- Ang Trapeang Thmor (12,650 ha), Cambodia
- Bengal Florican Conservation Areas (six sites, totaling 31,159 ha, within Preah Net Preah-Kra Lanh-Pourk, Stung-Chikreng-Kampong Svay, Stung Sen-Santuk-Baray and Veal Srongae KBAs), Cambodia
- Boeung Prek Lapouv (9,276 ha), Cambodia
- Cat Ba Langur Sanctuary (1,460 ha) and Ang Vem (600 ha), Cat Ba KBA, Vietnam
- Central Cardamoms (402,000 ha), Cambodia

- Kampong Prak (30,000 ha), Boeung Chhmar KBA, Cambodia
- Kampong Trach (1,108 ha), Cambodia
- Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary (240,585 ha of Upper Stung Sen Catchment KBA), Cambodia
- Muong La sector (10,000 ha), Che Tao KBA, Vietnam
- Preah Vihear Protected Forest (189,986 ha of Chhep and Upper Stung Sen Catchment KBAs), Cambodia
- Prek Toal (21,300 ha), Cambodia

One of the key developments at KBAs has been the upgrading of the status of six conservation areas for Bengal Florican *Houbaropsis bengalensis* from provincial protected area to national protected area. These protected areas, which cover 31,159 ha in the floodplain of Tonle Sap Lake, protected key breeding habitats of the largest remaining population of this Critically Endangered species.

The aforementioned KBAs are all located outside of the two priority corridors, and are mainly the focus of investments in threatened species conservation made under Strategic Direction 1. Site-based conservation action within the priority corridors is being supported under Strategic Direction 2. Because of the need to plan these interventions carefully and ensure coordination among activities proposed by different actors, none of the grants awarded under this Strategic Direction began prior to 2010, and several key projects have yet to begin implementation.

Consequently, as of July 31, 2010, there had been few measurable impacts at the 28 KBAs prioritized for CEPF investment. Nevertheless, three grants have been awarded focused on local-stakeholder-based conservation at nine priority sites: eight in the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor; and one in the Mekong and Major Tributaries corridor. Activities are currently underway at several of these sites, for example, community-based conservation teams are providing protection for globally threatened primates at three sites in the Northern Highlands Limestone: Nam Xuan Lac; Tung Vai; and Khau Ca.

### ***Conservation Corridors***

#### **Analysis of Development Policies, Plans and Programs**

Under Strategic Direction 3, CEPF is supporting civil society efforts to analyze development policies, plans and programs, evaluate their impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and propose alternative development scenarios and appropriate mitigating measures. Efforts to date have focused especially on the issue of hydropower development, which represents a severe and immediate threat to many of the region's most intact riverine ecosystems and the services they provide to tens of millions of people.

Under one small grant, a set of educational and guidance materials on mainstreaming biodiversity issues into hydropower sector development was produced, based upon experience in Vietnam, and then disseminated to civil society groups, relevant government authorities and key hydropower project donors throughout the region. Another small grant, to a community-based organization in Cambodia, helped raise awareness of communities along the Sekong, Sesan and Srepok Rivers of impending hydropower projects, and ensured, through meetings and development of a film, that voices from communities, livelihood impacts and environmental opportunity costs were properly taken into account in impact assessments and decision-making processes for hydropower development. An ongoing large grant is supporting and strengthening networks of civil society groups working to protect rivers, and helping them to engage in a coordinated manner in campaigns to keep the mainstream of the Mekong River free flowing.

In the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor, hydropower development is only one of several issues affecting natural ecosystems and the valuable services they provide to people. Other issues include unregulated mining and quarrying, illegal timber extraction, and conversion of forest to agricultural land. Conflicts between development and conservation agendas are being resolved by several CEPF-supported initiatives, working at national, provincial and site levels. For example, one project is conducting a GIS analysis of land cover and land use in Bac Kan and Tuyen Quang provinces, as a vehicle for identifying policy issues and initiating dialogue between local government and relevant stakeholders on alternative development scenarios.

### **Leveraging Support from Development Projects and Programs**

CEPF has allocated resources for initiatives that leverage support for biodiversity conservation from development projects and programs. To date, few grants directly addressing this investment priority have been awarded. However, CEPF expects to receive more inquiries under the third call for proposals, as grantees begin looking for ways to secure the sustainability of conservation outcomes.

### **Outreach and Awareness Raising**

To date, CEPF has supported several initiatives featuring targeted outreach and awareness raising for decision makers, journalists, and lawyers. In keeping with the other activities supported by CEPF, these initiatives address the most pressing conservation issues affecting the priority corridors, including hydropower development and wildlife trade.

In Thailand, a "Public Forum on Sharing the Mekong River" was held in April 2010, attended by over 190 representatives from civil society, academia, media and government. Also, a study tour was organized for 14 journalists to a stretch of the Mekong River threatened by dam development. These events helped generate significant coverage of the issue of mainstream dam development in the national and international media, and contributed to increased recognition of the issue by regional decision makers.

In Vietnam, a workshop was held in Mong Cai city on cross-border wildlife trade, with the participation of 26 journalists. The workshop generated a large amount of coverage of wildlife trade in the national and local media, and resulted in the creation of an informal network of journalist interested in wildlife trade issues, whose members regularly share stories and leads as they arise.

Also in Vietnam, training workshops and field investigation missions were held for at least 30 journalists, focused on conflicts between development and conservation in the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor. Two field missions were organized to investigate an illegal construction project inside the core zone of Tam Dao National Park, in response to a request for help from the park management. These missions generated significant coverage in prominent national newspapers, and the published articles were sent to relevant government agencies, as well as concerned Vietnamese scientists, who helped to raise concerns. Following this outpouring of concern, the illegal construction project was stopped. Other field missions were organized to Cao Bang province, to investigate the issue of illegal wolfram mining within Phia Oac-Phia Den Nature Reserve and pollution of the Hien River. Widespread coverage of these issues in the official media brought them to the attention of the Prime Minister, who intervened directly, requesting the concerned authorities to investigate and address the issues raised by journalists. The illegal mining has since been suspended.

## **SOCIOECONOMIC RESULTS TO DATE**

Delivering socioeconomic benefits to local communities is integral to many CEPF projects. CEPF grantees are assisting communities to introduce more sustainable natural resource management practices, such as sustainable fisheries management along the Mekong River in Cambodia, the Sekong River in Lao PDR and the Gam River in Vietnam. Several grantees are helping communities move toward more sustainable livelihoods, by providing them with alternative livelihoods, such as ecotourism at several locations in Cambodia. Grantees are also providing communities with financial incentives in exchange for conservation actions on their part, ranging from direct payments for nest protection to premiums for agriculture produce marketed under eco-labeling schemes to broader conservation agreements, compensating local communities for the opportunity costs of conservation. To date, five communities in Cambodia have demonstrated increased income from payments for ecosystem services and/or ecotourism revenue.

In addition to providing direct economic benefits, CEPF grantees are empowering local communities to respond to development trends and pressures that affect their livelihoods or cultures. For instance, one project is helping indigenous communities along the Mekong River secure formal land rights, as a foundation for long-term, sustainable management of their land, and as a defense against displacement due to land concessions. Other projects are empowering local communities to have a strengthened voice in decision-making processes, particularly ones concerning hydropower development, by arming them with information and analysis and helping them network with other affected communities. Finally, other projects are establishing and strengthening community-based organizations and other institutions, such as self-help groups and micro-business groups.

Projects working with local communities, especially those involving indigenous people, require significant up-front investment in trust building, consent seeking and capacity strengthening. In addition, projects introducing alternative livelihoods or other forms of economic innovation usually require some time to show results. Consequently, most CEPF projects are not expected to begin demonstrating quantifiable socioeconomic results until the second half of 2010 onwards.

## **ENABLING CONDITION RESULTS TO DATE**

### ***Policy Improvement and Implementation***

At the policy level, one of the key results to date has been revision of Cambodia's list of protected species to include all CEPF priority turtle species. This improved legal protection will bolster efforts to control trade in these species, and help reduce pressure on their core populations. Another key result in Cambodia has been the introduction, by the Department of Animal Health in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, of a nationwide ban on the veterinary use of the drug diclofenac. This drug has been the primary cause of the catastrophic declines of Asian vultures across much of their former range, and this ban will help assure the recovery of Cambodia's globally important vulture populations. In Vietnam, in-depth investigations of unregulated mining projects in the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor are generating information and analysis that is feeding into the revision process for the Mining Law, which is pending approval by the National Assembly in October 2010.

At the institutional level, one highlight to date has been the formation of a Cambodian Coordination Unit for the ASEAN-Wildlife Enforcement Network (WEN). The Coordination Unit was official recognized by the Director General of the Forestry Administration on May 11, 2010, with four assigned staff. This is an important step towards improving regional collaboration to respond to the illegal wildlife trade in Southeast Asia.

### ***Public Awareness Raising***

In Thailand, a ‘Public Forum on Sharing the Mekong River’ was held on April 1, 2010 at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok. This meeting featured panel discussions, which gave opportunities for more than 190 participants from civil society, academia, media, and government agencies to ask questions of staff of the Mekong River Commission and other experts about planned hydropower development in the Mekong basin. The meeting generated significant coverage in the international and national media.

### ***Civil Society Capacity Building and Involvement***

CEPF places a strong emphasis on engaging and strengthening the capacity of civil society to conserve biodiversity. While only a few grants have a direct focus on capacity building, all of them provide opportunities for building the capacity of civil society, as individual organizations or networks. As of July 31, 2010, 32 civil society organizations (10 local and 22 international) had been directly involved in implementing conservation projects as CEPF grantees, while seven more (six local and one international) had been engaged as sub-grantees under larger projects. CEPF is tracking the impacts of its investments on local organizations by using the Civil Society Organizational Capacity Tracking Tool. The results from the 11 groups to have completed a self-assessment using this tool indicate that financial resources is the biggest capacity gap facing local civil society organizations in Indo-Burma, followed by human resources.

In addition to capacity building of CEPF grantees, some projects are building civil society capacity more widely. For example, one project has helped strengthen the Save the Mekong coalition, an alliance of community-based organizations and NGOs concerned about dam development in the Mekong basin, through facilitating information sharing and communication among members. Another project has helped strengthen a national network of conservation volunteers in Vietnam, focused on supporting efforts to combat the wildlife trade by monitoring offending establishments and evaluating voluntary commitments. By the end of June 2010, 760 new volunteers had been recruited in seven cities and provinces, a volunteer network fan page had been created on Facebook, and 161 business establishments had been monitored, of which nearly 50% of made commitments to stop selling wildlife.

## **UPDATE OF CEPF INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

The Ecosystem Profile for the Indochina Region of the Indo-Burma Hotspot was approved in 2007, based upon consultations that took place in 2003. Over the intervening seven years, there have been significant changes to the level of knowledge on biodiversity in the region, including with regard to the levels of different threats, the effectiveness of conservation response, and the actual status of species and sites. During the mid-term assessment workshops, participants were asked to review the CEPF investment strategy, particularly the investment priorities and the priority species, sites and corridors, to confirm that they were still high priorities for investment and to identify opportunities to respond to newly recognized or emerged issues. Throughout this exercise, the emphasis was on being conservative, and not adding to the list of CEPF priorities except in cases of the utmost urgency.

### ***Priority Species***

The Ecosystem Profile prioritizes 67 animal species for species-focused action. Two of these are no longer considered priorities for CEPF investment. The status of Small-toothed Mole (*Euroscaptor parvidens*) was reassessed from Critically Endangered to Data Deficient. Chapa Pygmy Dormouse (*Typhlomys chapensis*) was synonymized with the more widespread Chinese Pygmy Dormouse (*T. cinereus*) and assessed as Least Concern. Both of these changes happened in 2008, prior to the first round of grant making, and no grants were awarded for either species.

The Ecosystem Profile also contains a list of 12 species and one group of species that, although not globally threatened in 2003, were considered provisional priority species, eligible for CEPF investment if their global threat status was reassessed as globally threatened during the investment period. Seven of these species have been subsequently assessed as globally threatened, one of which (White-cheeked Crested Gibbon) was split into two species (Table 3). Five of these species are addressed by active CEPF grants, while the other three are prioritized under the third call for proposals.

Participants at the mid-term assessment workshops identified a further seven species whose global threat status had been upgraded since 2003, that were considered high priorities for species-focused action and/or that were not adequately addressed by existing conservation investments (Table 3). Two of these species are addressed by active CEPF grants and all are prioritized under the third call for proposals.

**Table 3: Additional priority species for CEPF investment in the Indochina Region**

Priority Species	Global Threat Status 2010	Conservation Need(s) Requiring Species-focused Action
<b>MAMMALS</b>		
Hog Deer <i>Axis porcinus</i>	EN	Control of overexploitation
*Sun Bear <i>Helarctos malayanus</i>	VU	Control of overexploitation
*Hairy-nosed Otter <i>Lutra sumatrana</i>	EN	Control of overexploitation
*Sunda Pangolin <i>Manis javanica</i>	EN	Control of overexploitation
*Chinese Pangolin <i>Manis pentadactyla</i>	EN	Control of overexploitation
*Northern White-cheeked Gibbon <i>Nomascus leucogenys</i>	CR	Control of overexploitation
*Southern White-cheeked Gibbon <i>Nomascus siki</i>	EN	Control of overexploitation
*Irrawaddy Dolphin <i>Orcaella brevirostris</i>	VU	Control of incompatible fishing techniques
Indochinese Silvered Langur <i>Trachypithecus germaini</i>	EN	Control of overexploitation
<b>BIRDS</b>		
Spoon-billed Sandpiper <i>Eurynorhynchus pygmeus</i>	CR	Improved information on status and distribution
Bengal Florican <i>Houbaropsis bengalensis</i>	CR	Control of overexploitation; identification of non-breeding areas
Edwards's Pheasant <i>Lophura edwardsi</i>	EN	Improved information on status and distribution
Red-headed Vulture <i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>	CR	Provision of adequate food supply; control of persecution
<b>FISH</b>		
*Giant Dog-eating Catfish <i>Pangasius sanitwongsei</i>	CR	Control of overexploitation
Asian Arowana <i>Scleropages formosus</i>	EN	Control of overexploitation

Note: \* = species identified as a candidate priority species in the Ecosystem Profile.

Finally, two priority species identified in the Ecosystem Profile have subsequently undergone taxonomic revisions recognized by the IUCN Red List. Black Crested Gibbon (*Nomascus concolor*) has been split into Black Crested Gibbon (*N. concolor*), Cao Vit Crested Gibbon (*N. nasutus*) and Hainan Gibbon (*N. hainanus*), all of which are Critically Endangered. Red-shanked Douc (*Pygathrix nemaus*) has been split into the Red-shanked Douc (*P. nemaus*) and Grey-

shanked Douc (*P. cinerea*), which are assessed as Endangered and Critically Endangered, respectively.

With these additions, removals and taxonomic changes, there are now 83 priority species for CEPF investment in the Indochina Region of the Indo-Burma Hotspot. These comprise 36 species of mammal, 16 species of bird, 21 species of reptile and 10 species of fish (Annex 4).

### ***Priority Sites***

The Ecosystem Profile prioritizes 28 KBAs for site-based conservation action. Based upon the discussions at the mid-term assessment workshops, four of these sites are no longer considered priorities for CEPF investment. In the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor, Dong Phuc, an unprotected site, was reported to have been heavily degraded by illegal logging and agricultural expansion, while the biodiversity values of Kim Hy Nature Reserve were reported to have diminished as a result of illegal logging, mining and hunting. In the Mekong and Major Tributaries corridor, Basset Marsh and Boeung Veal Samnap, both unprotected wetlands close to Phnom Penh, were reported to have been heavily degraded by urban and agricultural expansion. All four sites no longer qualify as KBAs. No CEPF grants have been awarded to work at any of these sites.

Since the preparation of the Ecosystem Profile, three additional KBAs were identified in the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor: Bat Dai Son, which supports the only known population of the recently described, Critically Endangered Golden Vietnamese Cypress (*Xanthocyparis vietnamensis*); Khau Ca, which supports the most viable known population of Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey; and Tung Vai, which supports another important population of this Critically Endangered, endemic primate. During the mid-term assessment workshops, it was decided to add Bat Dai Son, Khau Ca and Tung Vai to the list of priority sites.

It was also decided to add one additional KBA to the list of priority sites in the Mekong River and Major Tributaries corridor. In the Ecosystem Profile, this site, Srepok River, was included in another conservation corridor that was not prioritized for CEPF investment, on account of significant conservation investment elsewhere in the corridor. However, the Srepok River is a major tributary of the Mekong River, and is facing the same combination of threats: hydropower development; overfishing; and conversion of forest under land concessions. Inclusion of the Srepok River as a priority site allowed CEPF investments to respond to the common conservation needs of the three major Mekong tributaries in northeastern Cambodia: the '3-S Rivers'.

Finally, it was agreed to extend one priority site, Mekong River Upstream of Vientiane, to encompass a longer stretch of the Mekong mainstream. The extended site, renamed 'Mekong River from Luang Prabang to Vientiane', took in sections of the river that were omitted from the original KBA defined in 2003 because they had not been surveyed.

With these additions, removals and modifications, there are still 28 priority sites for CEPF investment in the Indochina Region. These comprise 10 sites in the Mekong River and Major Tributaries corridor and 18 in the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor (Annex 5).

### ***Priority Corridors***

The Ecosystem Profile prioritizes two conservation corridors for CEPF investment. Based upon the discussions at the mid-term assessment workshops, it was agreed that these two corridors were still a relevant investment niche for CEPF to address with its grant making. If anything, the importance of supporting civil society to engage in the conservation of biodiversity within these corridors has increased over the seven years since the consultations on the Ecosystem Profile took

place. The threat posed by mining has increased significantly in the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor, while research has reinforced the significance of this corridor for the conservation of primates, conifers and other threatened and endemic biodiversity. Since 2003, plans for 11 hydropower dams have been announced the mainstream of the Mekong River, together with numerous additional plans from its tributaries. These have greatly increased the level and immediacy of threats to this corridor, which delivers ecosystem services critical to the livelihoods and food security of over 60 million people. Significant new funding opportunities have not become available for civil society groups in either priority corridor (although the World Bank/GEF supported Vietnam Conservation Fund is providing support to protected area management boards in the Northern Highlands Limestone), and CEPF is currently the major funder of civil society-led conservation efforts.

### ***Investment Priorities***

The Ecosystem Profile defined 12 thematic priorities for CEPF investment (termed ‘investment priorities’), grouped under four ‘strategic directions’. During the mid-term assessment workshops, it was agreed that five of these investment priorities had been sufficiently addressed by CEPF (and, in some cases, other donors), such that they were no longer priorities for additional investment. These comprised the RIT function (Investment Priority 4.1) plus Investment Priorities 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 and 1.6 under Strategic Direction 1.

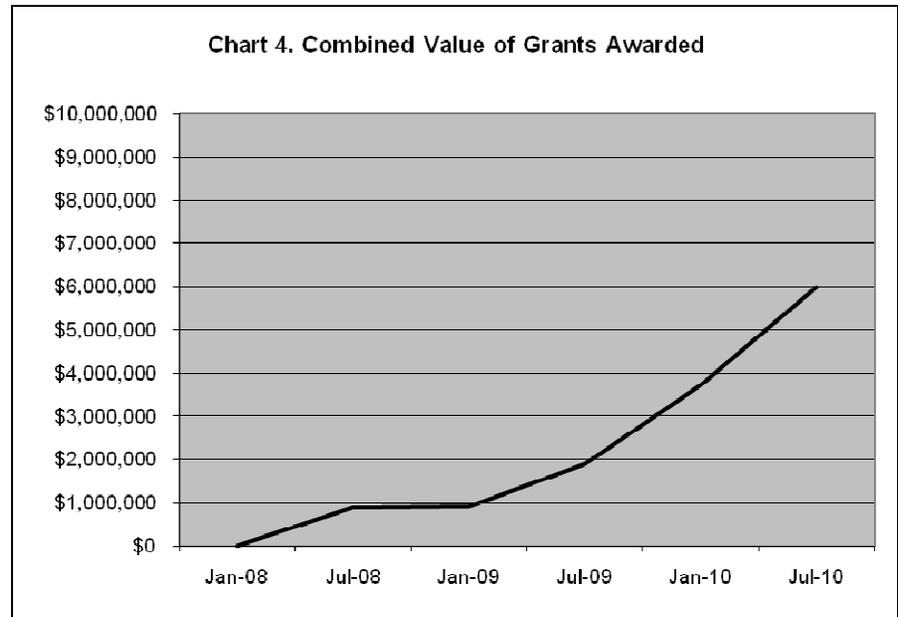
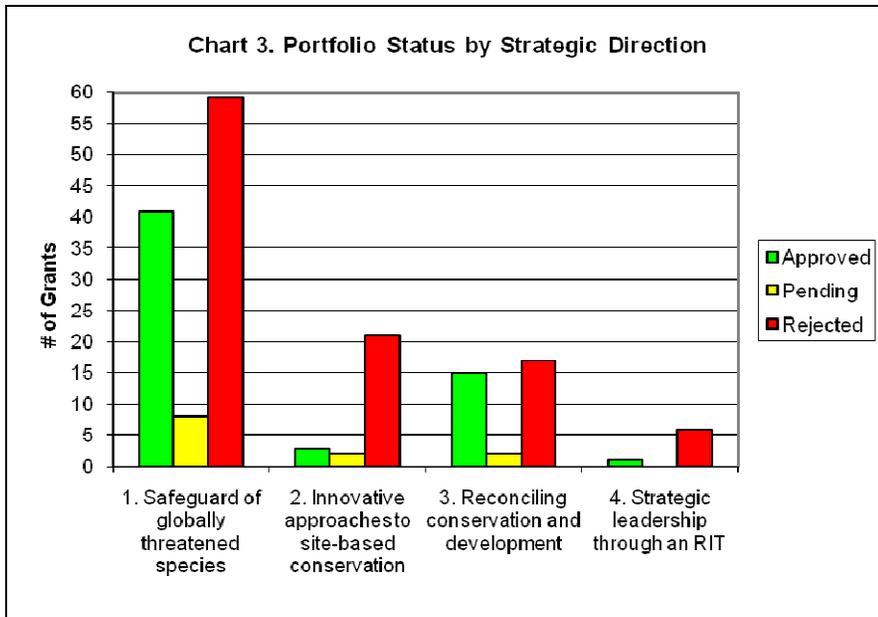
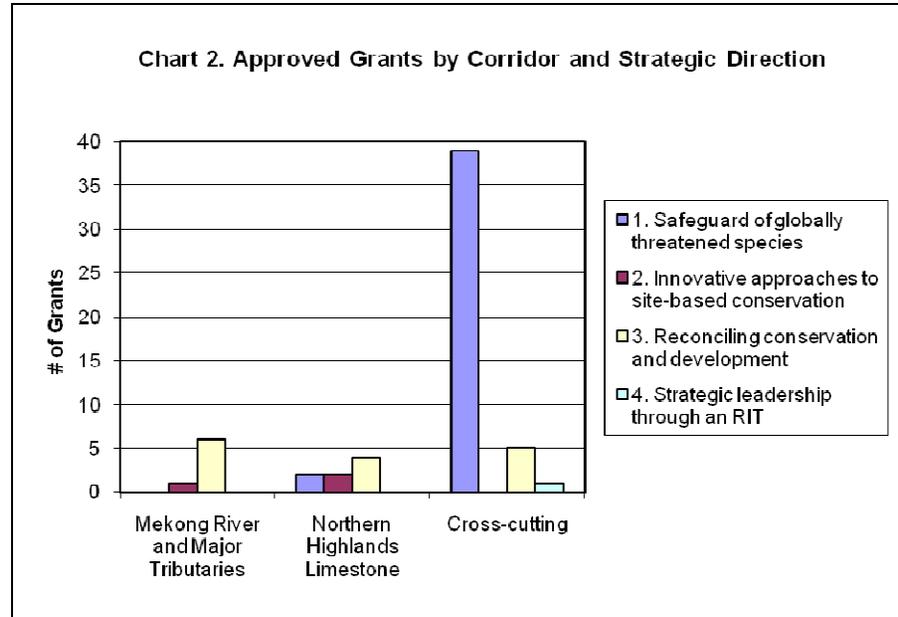
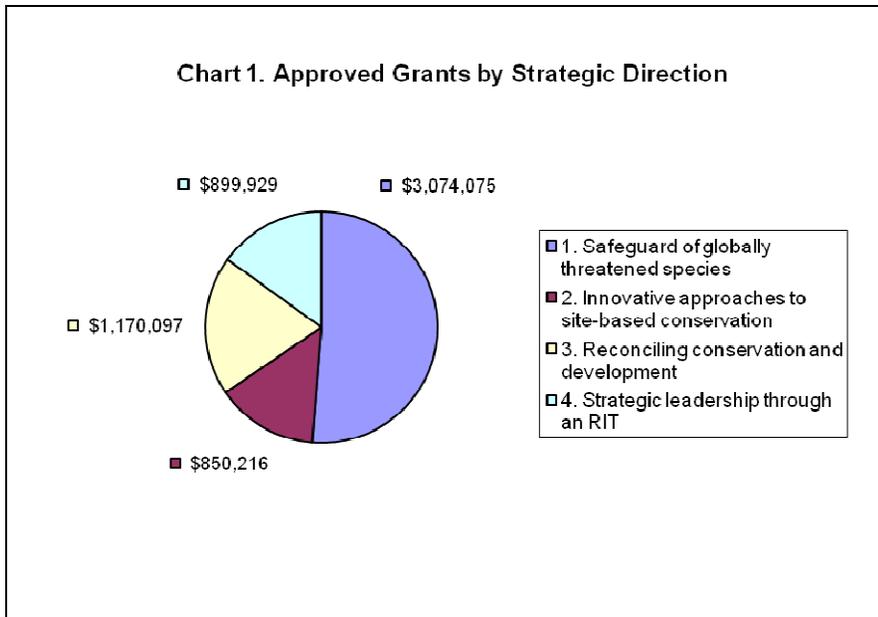
It was also agreed that, for the third call for proposals, the scope of several investment priorities would be narrowed, in order to focus CEPF investment on the thematic topics with the greatest need and opportunity for civil society engagement. The main refinements were made to the investment priorities under Strategic Direction 3 (reconciling biodiversity conservation and development objectives), taking account of the changing operating environment for civil society groups in the Indochina Region, avoiding duplication of other donor investments, and responding to newly emerging threats.

## **CONCLUSION**

Thanks to a high caliber of proposals, clear-sighted leadership and strategic guidance from the RIT, and advice and insights generously contributed by Technical Review Group and NAG members, a well rounded, integrated and high-impact portfolio of CEPF grants has been put in place within the first two years of the five-year investment period. The portfolio is well coordinated and coherent, and goes a long way towards realizing the goals for CEPF investment in the Indochina Region, as set out in the Ecosystem Profile. With the participation of stakeholders, remaining gaps in the investment portfolio have been identified, and priorities for CEPF investment have been adjusted slightly, to adapt to changing circumstances and new information. The third call for proposals focuses on these gaps and priorities, and the grants that will be made under it are expected to complete a well rounded investment portfolio that optimizes opportunities to strengthen conservation movements in the countries of the Indochina Region, while addressing conservation priorities on the ground.

During the remaining three years of the CEPF investment period, the focus will shift from grant making to implementation and monitoring of grants, and measurement, documentation and communication of impacts. CEPF investment in the Indochina Region can be realistically expected to make a major difference to conserving the species and sites that constitute Indochina’s rich and unique biological inheritance, and to securing ecosystem services of immense and, sometimes, irreplaceable importance to the livelihoods and food security of the region’s inhabitants.

**Annex 1 – CEPF Investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot as of July 31, 2010**



**Annex 2 – Update of the Logical Framework for CEPF Investment in Indo-Burma**

Objective	Targets	Progress
<p>Engage civil society in the conservation of globally threatened biodiversity through targeted investments with maximum impact on the highest conservation priorities</p>	<p>NGOs and civil society actors actively participate in conservation programs guided by the ecosystem profile.</p> <p>Alliances and networks among civil society groups formed to avoid duplication of effort and maximize impact in support of the CEPF ecosystem profile.</p> <p>28 key biodiversity areas have new or strengthened protection and management.</p> <p>Development plans or policies influenced to accommodate biodiversity.</p> <p>Improved management for biodiversity conservation or sustainable use within production landscapes in 2 conservation corridors covering 41,547 km<sup>2</sup> or approximately 3 percent of the region.</p>	<p>32 civil society organizations (10 local, 22 international) are directly involved in the implementation of conservation projects funded by CEPF, as grantees. A further seven groups (six local and one international) are engaged as sub-grantees under larger projects.</p> <p>Six alliances have been forged among applicants to avoid duplication of effort and maximize impact, addressing: (i) turtle conservation; (ii) Saola conservation; (iii) status assessments of globally threatened plants; (iv) site-based conservation in the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor; (v) site-based conservation of the Mekong from Kratie to Lao PDR priority site; and (vi) site-based conservation of Sarus Crane in the Mekong Delta.</p> <p>Three grants have been awarded focused on site-based conservation at nine of the 28 priority sites.</p> <p>15 grants have been awarded focused on mainstreaming biodiversity into development.</p> <p>15 grants have been awarded focused on improving the conservation or sustainable use of biodiversity within the two priority corridors.</p>

Intermediate Outcomes	Intermediate Indicators	Progress
<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> Globally threatened species in Indochina safeguarded by mitigating major threats</p> <p>\$3,950,000</p>	<p>Core populations of priority species identified and secured from overexploitation and illegal trade by implementing targeted, high impact projects.</p> <p>Public awareness campaigns that reinforce existing wildlife trade policies implemented and contributing to the reduction of consumer demand for priority species and their products.</p> <p>The status and distribution of globally threatened plant species investigated and results applied to planning, management, awareness raising and/or outreach</p> <p>The global threat status of selected freshwater taxa assessed and the results integrated into planning for the conservation of wetland biodiversity and development plans in the priority corridors.</p> <p>Research on priority species conducted where there is a need for greatly improved information on their status and distribution.</p> <p>Local language reference materials on globally threatened species published.</p>	<p>33 grants have been awarded to identify and/or secure core populations of 39 of the 67 priority animal species in the Indochina Region.</p> <p>Three public awareness campaigns have been conducted in support of efforts to combat the wildlife trade: (i) in Vietnam, 22 media articles were published and one TV program was broadcast on the cross-border wildlife trade; (ii) a training workshop on wildlife trade communication was organized in Binh Duong province, Vietnam, for 20 journalists; and (iii) at least five news articles per month on diverse environmental and conservation issues related to the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor are being published on the website ThienNhiem.Net.</p> <p>A network of botanists across the hotspot and beyond is working to collate data that can be used to assess the Red List status of 1,000 species of plant.</p> <p>A major collaborative initiative is underway to assess the global threat status of all freshwater fishes, molluscs, odonates and plants, and integrate the results into conservation and development planning in the priority corridors.</p> <p>Eight grants have begun to conduct research on seven of the 12 priority species assessed as having an overriding need for improved information.</p> <p>Three sets of local-language materials have been produced: (i) 2,820 copies of a poster on Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey; (ii) 100 copies of a poster on aquatic species in the Nang River; and (iii) 1,500 leaflets on methods and results of participatory research into aquatic species</p>

<p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Innovative, locally led approaches to site-based conservation developed at 28 key biodiversity areas</p> <p>\$2,150,000</p>	<p>Innovative local stakeholder-based conservation management and caretaking initiatives established.</p> <p>Regional standards and programs that address overexploitation of biodiversity are developed and piloted at selected sites.</p> <p>Percent of projects that enable effective stewardship of biodiversity and ecosystem services by Indigenous and local communities in focal areas.</p> <p>Percent of targeted communities involved in sustainable use projects that show socioeconomic benefits.</p> <p>Percent of targeted protected areas with strengthened protection and management.</p> <p>Percent of projects outside protected areas that integrate biodiversity conservation in management practices.</p>	<p>Three grants have been awarded focused on local-stakeholder-based conservation at nine of the 28 priority sites.</p> <p>One grant has been awarded focused on developing regional standards to address overexploitation of biodiversity and piloting them at one priority site.</p> <p>One grant (equivalent to 2% of active grants) enabled indigenous and local communities along the Nang river in the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor to become involved in research and stewardship of aquatic species</p> <p>Three grants focused on sustainable use of natural resources by local communities have been awarded.</p> <p>Six grants have been awarded focused on strengthening the management and protection of 13 protected areas.</p> <p>Five grants have been awarded focused on integrating biodiversity conservation into management practices in landscapes outside protected areas.</p>
<p><b>Outcome 3:</b> Key actors in reconciling biodiversity conservation and development objectives engaged, with a particular emphasis on the Northern Highlands Limestone and Mekong River and its major tributaries</p> <p>\$2,500,000</p>	<p>Civil society efforts to analyze development policies, plans, and programs, evaluate their impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services and propose alternative development scenarios and appropriate mitigating measures implemented.</p>	<p>Three projects have implemented actions to analyze and evaluate development plans and policies and propose appropriate alternatives and mitigation: (i) a set of guidance materials on mainstreaming biodiversity issues into hydropower sector development, based on experience in Vietnam, have been produced and disseminated; (ii) awareness of impending hydropower projects has been raised among communities along the Sekong, Sesan and Srepok Rivers in Cambodia; and (iii) networks of civil society groups working to keep the mainstream of the Mekong River free flowing have been supported and strengthened.</p>

	<p>Initiatives that leverage support for biodiversity conservation from development projects and programs.</p> <p>Targeted outreach and awareness raising for decision makers, journalists and lawyers conducted.</p>	<p>No progress to date.</p> <p>At least 260 persons have received targeted outreach, training or awareness raising: (i) in Vietnam, training workshops and field investigation missions have been organized for at least 30 journalists; (ii) also in Vietnam, a workshop on cross-border wildlife trade and communication was organized with the participation of 26 journalists; and (iii) a trip for 14 Thai journalists was organized to a stretch of the Mekong River threatened by dam development, and a public forum on development of the Mekong River was held in Bangkok, attended by over 190 representatives from civil society, academia, media and government.</p>
<p><b>Outcome 4:</b> A RIT provides strategic leadership and effectively coordinates CEPF investment in the Indochina Region of the Indo-Burma Hotspot.  \$900,000</p>	<p>Percent of civil society groups receiving grants that demonstrate more effective capacity to plan and manage conservation projects.</p> <p>RIT performance in fulfilling the approved terms of reference.</p> <p>At least 2 learning exchanges and/or participatory assessments hosted and documented.</p>	<p>Civil society capacity baselines have been established for eight local civil society organizations receiving CEPF support.</p> <p>The RIT grant has 43 deliverables, spread across nine components. As of June 30, 2010, progress towards 38 of these deliverables (88%) was either on target or ahead of target.</p> <p>One participatory assessment of progress towards the goals set out in the Ecosystem Profile was held in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam during July 2010.</p>
<b>Strategic Funding Summary</b>	<b>Amount</b>	
<b>Total Budget Amount</b>	<b>\$9,500,000</b>	

## **Annex 3 – List of CEPF Approved Grants**

### ***Strategic Direction 1: Safeguard globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats***

#### **Raising the Profile of the Saola**

Research, leverage funds for, and publish a report on the enigmatic Saola, its history, predicament, and the efforts underway to protect it, as well as an executive summary for use in the popular press in Saola range states and a basis for a book that will help build international concern and funding for conservation of this highly threatened flagship species.

Funding: \$20,000

Grant Term: 07/10 - 12/12

Grantee: Lore of the Land

#### **Reducing Exploitation of Trade-Threatened Mammals in Their Cambodian Strongholds**

Improve the enabling environment for otter conservation by building local support, developing a region-wide taskforce and filling key gaps in knowledge of otter ecology and distribution.

Mitigate key threats to pangolins in the Central Cardamom Mountains and improve survival of confiscated animals. Conserve bear populations in the Central Cardamoms by more effectively linking monitoring data to protection activities.

Funding: \$122,148

Grant Term: 07/10 - 06/13

Grantee: Conservation International

#### **Safeguarding the Saola within the Species' Priority Landscape in Vietnam**

Secure core populations of Saola, the flagship species of the Indo-Burma Hotspot, by addressing pressing immediate threats and putting in place a solid foundation for the long-term conservation of the species in terms of funding, knowledge and protected area capacity. Understand resource use patterns among local, forest-dependent communities and develop culturally appropriate economic alternatives to hunting within Saola core areas.

Funding: \$242,674

Grant Term: 05/10 - 06/12

Grantee: World Wide Fund for Nature

#### **Strengthening Capacity for Wildlife Product Identification in Indochina**

Adapt and translate for Lao PDR, Cambodia and Thailand, a recently published English and Vietnamese language identification guide to commonly traded wildlife products, and build on the existing guide to develop a web-based service for providing rapid species identification services to law enforcement agencies in Vietnam, thus improving the identification and regulation of the trade in wildlife.

Funding: \$19,763

Grant Term: 04/10 - 04/12

Grantee: Wildlife Conservation Society

**Searching for the Last Kouprey**

Analyse all survey reports, camera trap photos of cattle and data from the range of the Kouprey, especially in Cambodia, to assess whether overlooked traces of the species' persistence exist and to identify places where survey effort has been insufficient for certainty that Kouprey no longer occur, in order to guide follow-up surveys.

Funding: \$19,310

Grant Term: 04/10 - 10/10

Grantee: Global Wildlife Conservation

**Building a Partnership for Establishing Sustainable Management at Key Wetlands for Sarus Crane in the Cambodian Lower Mekong**

Develop partnership and joint-planning among the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, Mlup Baitong, and Chamroien Chiet Khmer, resulting in submission to CEPF complementary project plans to establish long-term sustainable management of Boeung Prek Lapouv and Kampong Trach, two key sites representative of the lower Mekong floodplain wetlands with priority non-breeding populations of Sarus Cranes.

Funding: \$19,589

Grant Term: 03/10 - 06/10

Grantee: Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust

**Launching the Flagship: Collaborative Saola Conservation**

Leverage financial and political support from companies, development agencies, government and civil society to turn the plans resulting from the first ever technical meeting of the IUCN Species Survival Commission's Saola Working Group last year into a strong regional partnership for effective Saola conservation.

Funding: \$19,987

Grant Term: 03/10 - 01/11

Grantee: International Union for Conservation of Nature, Lao PDR Country Programme

**Raising Awareness and Building Capacity to Manage Human Elephant Conflict in Monduliri province, Cambodia**

Improve the attitudes of people in north-east Cambodia toward elephants by raising awareness of elephant conservation and human elephant conflict among local communities, ethnic groups, agrobusiness and local government, and to enable local people to manage human elephant conflict by providing a range of conflict mitigation strategies including deterrents ranging from chili ropes to watchtowers to fireworks.

Funding: \$19,662

Grant Term: 03/10 - 03/11

Grantee: Fauna & Flora International

**Securing and Increasing Asian Elephant Populations in Laos through the Microchipping of Core Populations**

Secure and increase Asian elephant populations through microchipping core populations of domesticated elephants. Develop a national registration scheme and complete registration of all domesticated elephants. Raise awareness and promote law enforcement toward the illegal capture and trade of elephants, and share information on registration, killing, capture and trade of elephants with neighboring range states and concerned organizations.

Funding: \$35,170

Grant Term: 03/10 - 02/12

Grantee: ElefantAsia

**Food Provision to Cambodia's Vultures**

Increase sustainability in efforts to prevent the extinction, and restore population sizes, of the largest Indochinese populations of three Critically Endangered vulture species, in north and northeastern Cambodia, by increasing revenue from ecotourism to vulture conservation, diversifying the funding base for 'vulture restaurants' and raising awareness about harmful effects of misuse of poison.

Funding: \$19,859

Grant Term: 02/10 - 02/11

Grantee: Wildlife Conservation Society

**Northern Plains of Cambodia Kouprey Survey**

Try to find signs of the survival of Kouprey, and to improve knowledge of the population status of other wild cattle, through camera-trapping and surveys in remote tracts of grassland and open forest in Preah Vihear Protected Forest; one of the most likely locations in which any remaining Kouprey may persist.

Funding: \$19,888

Grant Term: 02/10 - 02/11

Grantee: Wildlife Conservation Society

**Strategic Planning to Safeguard the Green Peafowl**

Identify important areas for Green Peafowl across its range; assess the importance of populations based on currently available information and expert opinion, evaluate the likelihood of conservation success across the range, and develop a species conservation strategy aimed at preventing a further deterioration in the species' conservation status.

Funding: \$12,758

Grant Term: 02/10 - 02/11

Grantee: World Pheasant Association

**Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project**

Bolster conservation efforts for Cat Ba Langur, one of the world's rarest species of primates, by ensuring strict protection of the remaining population, reducing habitat fragmentation and destruction of natural forest in the buffer zones of Cat Ba National Park and Biosphere Reserve, strengthening the capacity of governmental forest protection agencies and reducing population fragmentation through intensive management.

Funding: \$57,910

Grant Term: 01/10 - 12/12

Grantee: Westfälischer Zoologischer Garten Münster GmbH

**Identifying Priority Populations and Reviewing Current Known Distributions for Threatened Bat and Turtle Species in Northern and Central Vietnam**

Fill critical gaps in knowledge on five globally threatened animal species (Indochinese Box Turtle, Four-eyed Turtle, Impressed Tortoise, Wattle-necked Softshell and Vietnam Leaf-nosed Bat) for which core populations have yet to be located in Vietnam by undertaking targeted field surveys, formulating specific management recommendations for protected area managers, and conducting targeted awareness raising for local communities.

Funding: \$42,855

Grant Term: 01/10 - 06/11

Grantee: Centre for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

### **Safeguarding Vietnam's Douc Langur Population through Conservation and Sustainable Ecotourism**

Implement priority conservation actions for a core population of Red-shanked Douc Langur at Son Tra Nature Reserve, Vietnam, by promoting sustainable tourism, including certification of tour guides, and reinforcing protection measures. Determine the status of douc langur populations at a second protected area, Chu Mom Ray National Park, and assess the feasibility of conservation action for them.

Funding: \$40,773

Grant Term: 01/10 - 12/10

Grantee: Douc Langur Foundation

### **Strengthening Public Participation in Tackling the Wildlife Trade in Vietnam**

Mobilize Vietnamese citizens to participate in efforts to tackle the wildlife trade, encourage and support enforcement by government agencies, and work with government leaders to strengthen the application of wildlife protection laws by strengthening a national wildlife trade hotline, developing a national volunteer network, building the capacity of staff and trainers, and securing long-term financing from corporate and membership donations.

Funding: \$173,556

Grant Term: 01/10 - 12/12

Grantee: Education for Nature-Vietnam

### **Sustainable Community-Based Conservation of the Priority Population of Grey-shanked Douc**

Take priority actions for a core population of Grey-shanked Douc in Quang Province as a foundation for longer-term conservation interventions. Clarify the distribution of the population, build capacity of local partners in survey and monitoring, assess the feasibility of ecotourism as a sustainable financing mechanism, evaluate the effectiveness of village patrol teams and raise awareness among local communities.

Funding: \$30,702

Grant Term: 01/10 - 12/10

Grantee: World Wide Fund for Nature

### **Feeding and Breeding Ecology and the Conservation of the Vultures in Cambodia**

As a basis for long-term conservation action planning, start filling key information gaps in the feeding and breeding ecology, and the threats to, the three Critically Endangered vulture species of northern Cambodia, while building local capacity for research and monitoring.

Funding: \$19,990

Grant Term: 12/09 - 12/10

Grantee: Universität für Bodenkultur Wien (University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna)

### **Focused Protection for White-shouldered Ibis and Giant Ibis in Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary, Cambodia**

Contribute to conservation of the two Critically Endangered ibis species of Cambodia by focused protection in Lomphat Wildlife Sanctuary; establish local community site support groups to manage and protect prioritized feeding sites and raise awareness of ibis conservation; and prepare an action plan for ibis conservation for incorporation into the wildlife sanctuary management plan and zonation.

Funding: \$19,940

Grant Term: 12/09 - 12/10

Grantee: People Resources and Conservation Foundation

### **Identifying Wet Season Sites and Non-breeding Habitats Used by the Critically Endangered Bengal Florican in Cambodia**

Recommend appropriate wet season habitat management and site-based conservation management of the Critically Endangered Bengal Florican in the Tonle Sap floodplain, Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia by field research – including satellite tracking – to locate key wet season sites, identify non-breeding habitat preferences and assess threats to non-breeding sites.

Funding: \$17,814

Grant Term: 12/09 - 10/11

Grantee: University of East Anglia

### **Urgent Research to Safeguard the Javan Rhino in Vietnam**

Intensively survey all suitable habitat of Javan Rhinoceros in the Cat Loc sector of Cat Tien National Park, Vietnam, through a combination of video camera traps and systematic dung surveys with detector dogs. DNA and hormone analysis of dung will help to provide a population estimate, and information on whether males are able to reproduce and whether females are pregnant or receptive to breeding.

Funding: \$16,166

Grant Term: 12/09 - 12/10

Grantee: World Wide Fund for Nature

### **Improving Wildlife Law Enforcement in Cambodia to Protect CEPF Priority Species from Overexploitation and Illegal Wildlife Trade**

Address the cross-border trade of wildlife from Cambodia into Vietnam by facilitating inter-agency collaboration and information exchange and supporting the establishment of a Coordination Unit for the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network focal point to allow Cambodia to participate more effectively in regional and global initiatives to combat illegal wildlife trade.

Funding: \$99,291

Grant Term: 11/09 - 04/11

Grantee: Wildlife Alliance, Inc.

### **Measuring the Effectiveness of Conservation Interventions for White-Shouldered Ibis in Cambodia**

Improve knowledge of the ecology of the Critically Endangered White-shouldered Ibis in northern Cambodia and make recommendations for conservation management, particularly focusing on factors influencing the species' patchy distribution, nest failures and effectiveness of nest protection, and positive and negative influences of local livelihoods on ibis habitat requirements.

Funding: \$13,943

Grant Term: 11/09 - 10/10

Grantee: University of East Anglia

### **Research and Conservation Action for Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles in Indochina**

Improve the conservation outlook for highly threatened turtles in Cambodia by expanding a community nest protection program for Asian Giant Softshell Turtle; increasing protection of yellow-headed temple turtle breeding sites through community ranger programs; identifying priority sites for Indochinese box turtle in northeastern Cambodia; initiating community incentive programs for impressed tortoise conservation; and enhancing legal protection under Cambodian law.

Funding: \$95,259

Grant Term: 11/09 - 10/12

Grantee: Conservation International

**Wildlife–Human Friendly Landscape in Northeast Cambodia: Agricultural Development and Awareness for Forest and Wildlife Protection in a Key Biodiversity Area in Northeast Cambodia**

Conduct environmental awareness raising and pilot conservation agreements in Voeun Sai and Siem Pang districts in Ratanakiri and Stung Treng provinces of northeast Cambodia, with the aim of securing commitment by local communities to wildlife and forest conservation in return for agreed livelihood activities and development benefits.

Funding: \$19,998

Grant Term: 10/09 - 10/10

Grantee: POH KAO des Tigres et des Hommes

**Conserving a Suite of Cambodia’s Highly Threatened Bird Species**

Secure core populations of a suite of globally threatened bird species at four sites in Cambodia through a series of innovative conservation interventions focusing on providing direct incentives to local communities, namely payments for birds’ nest protection, improved value-chains for “wildlife-friendly” produce and ecotourism development. Strengthen the capacity of local organizations to engage in long-term conservation efforts for these species.

Funding: \$699,125

Grant Term: 10/09 - 06/13

Grantee: Wildlife Conservation Society

**Research and Conservation Action for Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles in Indo-Burma**

Materially improve the conservation outlook for several of Indo-Burma’s most threatened tortoise and freshwater turtle species by undertaking high-priority conservation actions, including protecting the remaining habitat of Vietnamese Pond Turtle; identifying priority sites for the conservation of Indochinese Box Turtle; increasing the protection of Mangrove Terrapin breeding sites through community ranger programs; and enhancing protection under national laws.

Funding: \$154,950

Grant Term: 10/09 - 09/12

Grantee: Cleveland Zoological Society

**Increasing In-Country Capacity and Regional Cooperation to Promote Bat Conservation in Cambodia with Particular Reference to *Otomops wroughtoni***

Assess the status and distribution of the lesser-known Wroughton’s Free-tailed Bat by field research in Chhep District, Preah Vihear province, Cambodia. In conjunction with this goal, enhance the capacity of local communities, students and conservationists in bat research and conservation and raise awareness of the important role bats play in the ecosystem through organizing workshops and targeted outreach in the media.

Funding: \$20,000

Grant Term: 10/09 - 05/11

Grantee: Harrison Institute

### **Assessing the Taxonomic Validity of Lowe's Otter Civet**

Assess the validity of Lowe's Otter Civet (*Cynogale lowei*) through comparative review of pertinent specimens with related museum specimens in Vietnam, England and Singapore, including microscopic hair analysis and DNA analysis, in order to provide clear, evidence-based recommendations to the IUCN Species Survival Commission Specialist Group and Vietnamese government authorities, and to guide decisionmaking for donors currently listing this as a priority species for funding.

Funding: \$5,039

Grant Term: 09/09 - 02/11

Grantee: Wildlife Conservation Society

### **Freshwater Biodiversity Assessments in the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot: Fishes, Molluscs, Odonates and Plants**

Provide essential information for guiding decisions on the conservation and sustainable management of freshwater biodiversity in the Indochina region by assimilating data on the distribution, conservation status and livelihood values of fishes, molluscs, odonates and aquatic plants, using these to define priority areas for conservation and best practices for management, and linking the results to conservation and sustainable development planning.

Funding: \$299,504

Grant Term: 09/09 - 01/11

Grantee: International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

### **Awareness and Research Conservation Program for Swinhoe's Soft-Shell Turtle in Vietnam**

Conduct surveys and strengthen site-based conservation for the Critically Endangered Swinhoe's Soft-shell Turtle (*Rafetus swinhoiei*), including awareness activities that focus on the special cultural importance of this species and its need for conservation. Only four individuals are known in existence globally, with both known wild animals near Hanoi.

Funding: \$20,000

Grant Term: 08/09 - 07/11

Grantee: Cleveland Zoological Society

### **Development of Educational Materials and Information Focused on the Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey in Northern Vietnam**

Develop focused environmental education materials, training and environmental education activities on the Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey in local languages, and provide them to students, teachers and local communities to increase understanding of, build pride in and reduce threats to this monkey around Khau Ca Proposed Protected Area, Ha Giang province, Vietnam.

Funding: \$9,150

Grant Term: 08/09 - 12/10

Grantee: Center for People and Nature Reconciliation

### **Moving from Planning to Action to Save the Saola: The First Meeting of the Saola Working Group**

Support the first technical meeting of the Saola Working Group in Vientiane, gathering national and international technical expertise from Lao PDR, Vietnam and further afield, to identify and prioritize actions and partnerships, and develop a fundraising strategy to ensure the advancement of Saola conservation from discussion and planning to action.

Funding: \$19,794

Grant Term: 07/09 - 09/09

Grantee: International Union for Conservation of Nature, Lao PDR Country Programme

### **Assessment of the Status and Distribution of Globally Threatened Plant Species in Indochina**

Assess and make available to policymakers up-to-date, scientifically based data on globally threatened plant species in Indochina, train local botanists and conservation biologists in the correct application of the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria, and establish an IUCN/SSC Plant Red List Authority for Indochina with members from all of the key botanical institutions in the region.

Funding: \$506,216

Grant Term: 07/09 - 06/12

Grantee: Missouri Botanical Garden

### **Community Protection of Eastern Sarus Crane and Its Habitat in Boeung Prek Lapouv Management and Conservation Area, Cambodia**

Conserve a third of the non-breeding Indochinese population of Sarus Crane at Boeung Prek Lapouv Management and Conservation Area, Takeo Province, Cambodia, by strengthening law enforcement, raising awareness of conservation area boundaries, conducting environmental education, enhancing the capacity of the local community for outreach, and seeking long-term funding sources (through ecotourism and other sources).

Funding: \$19,928

Grant Term: 07/09 - 06/10

Grantee: Chamroien Chiet Khmer

### **Conserving Non-breeding Populations of Eastern Sarus Crane at Kampong Trach Wetland, Cambodia**

Conserve important Indochinese non-breeding site for Sarus Crane at Kampong Trach Wetland Important Bird Area in the lower Mekong Delta, Kampot Province, Cambodia, by encouraging involvement of communities in conservation activities, raising environmental awareness, providing livelihood alternatives and promoting designation of the site as a Sarus Crane Conservation Area.

Funding: \$19,990

Grant Term: 07/09 - 06/10

Grantee: Mlup Baitong

### **Cambodia Vulture Conservation Project**

Protect and monitor the largest Indochinese populations of three Critically Endangered vulture species in north and northeastern Cambodia by providing uncontaminated food, protecting nests and working to ban veterinary use of diclofenac (a drug toxic to vultures, which has caused enormous declines elsewhere in their range).

Funding: \$19,730

Grant Term: 03/09 - 03/10

Grantee: Wildlife Conservation Society

### **Northern Plains of Cambodia Bird Nest Protection Project**

Increase important populations of nine globally threatened bird species, particularly waterbirds including ibises and cranes, in the Northern Plains of Cambodia by increasing awareness and extending a successful model of providing financial incentives for local people to locate, monitor and protect bird nest sites.

Funding: \$19,673

Grant Term: 03/09 - 03/10

Grantee: Wildlife Conservation Society

### **Conservation Ecology of Bengal Florican in Cambodia**

Fill key information gaps for conservation management of the Critically Endangered Bengal Florican in Integrated Farming and Biodiversity Areas of the Tonle Sap floodplain, Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia by field research – including satellite tracking – to identify important nesting and non-breeding areas.

Funding: \$18,416

Grant Term: 01/09 - 10/10

Grantee: University of East Anglia

### **Conservation Ecology of White-Shouldered Ibis and Local Livelihoods**

Assess the population, status and habitat preferences of the Critically Endangered White-shouldered Ibis in northern Cambodia, identify threats from and synergies with local community livelihoods, and make recommendations for successful conservation management.

Funding: \$19,999

Grant Term: 01/09 - 10/09

Grantee: University of East Anglia

### **Improving Linkages for Collaborative Research and Conservation of Plants in Indochina**

Support 20 junior botanists and students from Vietnam to attend the first international symposium of the “Flora of Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam” in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, thus helping to build a strong network of academics, researchers, conservation professionals and institutions working together to generate scientific knowledge and primary baseline data for sound decisionmaking on the conservation of threatened plant diversity in Indochina.

Funding: \$4,673

Grant Term: 12/08 - 12/08

Grantee: Missouri Botanical Garden

### ***Strategic Direction 2: Develop innovative, locally led approaches to site-based conservation at 28 key biodiversity areas***

#### **Strengthening Community Conservation of Priority Sites within the Ba Be/Na Hang Limestone Forest Complex, Northern Vietnam**

Implement conservation actions at five priority sites in the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor, aimed at supporting conservation at the local level, influencing development projects, and targeting technical and financial support towards global conservation priorities. Establish a catalytic platform on which future conservation interventions can be developed, and contribute to on-going policy dialogue on collaborative natural resource management within protected areas.

Funding: \$151,831

Grant Term: 06/10 – 05/12

Grantee: People Resources and Conservation Foundation

**Promoting Community-Based Collaborative Management to Strengthen Long-Term Conservation of Globally Threatened Primates and Trees in Priority Sites of Northern Vietnam**

Implement priority actions at 11 target sites in northern Vietnam, with a particular focus on the Northern Highlands Limestone Corridor. Consolidate ongoing, participatory conservation activities for globally threatened primates and trees, develop actions at new sites based on opportunities identified by local communities and conduct surveys at little-known sites to assess their importance for the conservation of target species.

Funding: \$694,009

Grant Term: 01/10 - 12/12

Grantee: Fauna & Flora International

**Planning and Partnership Development for Conserving Freshwater Biodiversity and Resources along the Central Section of the Mekong River in Cambodia**

Improve coordination and joint-planning among the WWF Cambodia Country Programme, Community Economic Development and the Cambodian Rural Development Team, resulting in submission to CEPF of revised, complementary project plans to conserve freshwater biodiversity and critical wetland resources for local communities along the Mekong River, Kratie and Stung Treng provinces.

Funding: \$4,376

Grant Term: 12/09 - 02/10

Grantee: World Wide Fund for Nature

*Strategic Direction 3: Engage key actors in reconciling biodiversity conservation and development objectives, with a particular emphasis on the Northern Limestone Highlands and Mekong River and its major tributaries*

**Community Empowerment for Biodiversity Conservation along Sesan and Srepok Rivers of Mekong Basin**

Strengthen grassroots networks and support for conservation and sustainable use of riverine ecosystems along the Sesan and Srepok Rivers. Raise awareness of locally originated threats (such as overfishing) and help communities respond to remotely originated threats (such as hydropower development). Achieve sustainability by integrating conservation measures into Commune Development Plans and establishing civil society networks spanning multiple levels.

Funding: \$108,330

Grant Term: 07/10 - 04/13

Grantee: Save Cambodia's Wildlife

**Co-management of Freshwater Biodiversity in the Sekong Basin**

Demonstrate to policy makers the importance of healthy freshwater ecosystems to local communities in the Sekong Basin of Lao PDR by fostering the development of community groups to protect critical freshwater habitats. Feed village-level experience into relevant policy processes, through policy briefs, technical reports, press releases, district and provincial level dialogues, and meetings of the Sekong Basin Advisory Group.

Funding: \$200,000

Grant Term: 06/10 - 05/12

Grantee: World Wide Fund for Nature

**Integrating Bengal Florican Conservation in Community Forest Management**

Conserve the Critically Endangered Bengal Florican in Stung/Prasat Balang Important Bird Area in Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia, by integrating conservation objectives into community forest management plan, continuing the process of legalizing community forestry, enhancing the capacity of the local community for outreach, and carrying out wildlife survey focused on Bengal Florican and other waterbirds.

Funding: \$9,990

Grant Term: 06/10 - 06/11

Grantee: Action for Development

**Conservation of Aquatic Resources in Northern Vietnam through Promotion of Community Co-Management**

Contribute to preventing the decline in aquatic resources of the Gam River in Tuyen Quang province, northern Vietnam, by encouraging local people to phase out destructive fishing tools, promoting a co-management model for riverine aquatic resources in a pilot village, and documenting and disseminating experience to promote wider application among fishing communities in the Northern Highlands Limestone corridor.

Funding: \$48,700

Grant Term: 05/10 - 04/12

Grantee: Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development

**Integrated Eld's Deer Project, Piloting Integrated Spatial Development Planning as a Tool for Reconciling Conservation and Development Objectives for Forests in Lao PDR**

Pilot Integrated Spatial Development Planning as a tool for reconciling conservation and development objectives for forests in Lao PDR. Test the approach in seven villages in the core zone of the Eld's Deer Sanctuary in Savannakhet province. Initiate community co-management, including direct incentives for conservation. Evaluate, document and disseminate experience with the approach, to promote replication in other areas.

Funding: \$225,000

Grant Term: 05/10 - 04/13

Grantee: World Wide Fund for Nature

**Protecting the Biological Diversity of the Mekong River**

Support and strengthen networks of civil society groups working to protect rivers and help them to engage in a coordinated manner to keep the mainstream of the Mekong River free flowing. Undertake high-quality research to inform policymakers about the environmental and social impacts of proposed dams and raise public awareness about the values of a free-flowing Mekong River.

Funding: \$180,000

Grant Term: 04/10 - 03/13

Grantee: International Rivers Network

**Leveraging support from the Vietnamese corporate sector to reduce illegal consumption of protected threatened species**

Leverage active participation of selected Vietnamese companies in preventing staff from consuming protected threatened species by raising awareness at multiple levels within the companies, integrating a ‘zero-consumption of protected wildlife’ policy within Human Resource and Finance procedures, and monitoring and obtaining media coverage of results of these innovative actions as a model for other companies operating in the region.

Funding: \$19,947

Grant Term: 03/10 - 03/12

Grantee: Wildlife Conservation Society

**Biodiversity and Development of the Hydropower Sector: Lessons from the Vietnamese Experience**

Collate information on effects of hydropower development on biodiversity in Vietnam to produce a set of educational and guidance materials on mainstreaming biodiversity issues into hydropower sector development, including the use of Strategic Environmental Assessment, and then disseminate these materials to civil society groups, relevant government authorities and key hydropower project donors throughout the Indo-Burma region.

Funding: \$20,000

Grant Term: 12/09 - 04/10

Grantee: International Centre for Environmental Management

**Planning and partnership development for modeling and monitoring Mekong River basin hydrological cycles**

Broaden partnerships and improve joint planning among the University of Canterbury, Conservation International, Mekong River Commission and other key stakeholders interested in modeling and monitoring potential hydrological changes owing to hydropower development on the Mekong River and its major tributaries.

Funding: \$6,000

Grant Term: 11/09 - 11/10

Grantee: University of Canterbury, Department of Civil and Natural Resources Engineering

**Building Awareness and Capacity to Reduce the Illegal Cross-Border Trade of Wildlife from Vietnam to China**

Achieve a demonstrable reduction in the illegal cross-border trade of wildlife from Vietnam to China by implementing a targeted program of training, outreach and awareness raising in a key border province aimed at strengthening capacity and building political will. The project will directly target the main driver of overexploitation in the hotspot and build a constituency for conservation among civil society.

Funding: \$106,719

Grant Term: 09/09 - 08/11

Grantee: Wildlife Conservation Society

**Raising Concerns – Reducing Impacts: Providing Inputs to Local Development Policies Related to Biodiversity and Natural Resources through Engaging the Media**

Promote sustainable development and good governance in the Northern Highlands Limestone Corridor of Vietnam by engaging the media to investigate the impacts of development policies and projects on biodiversity and ecosystem services. The project will organize field-based trainings for journalists, support them to undertake regular investigative missions and disseminate the findings through national and local media and a policy workshop.

Funding: \$104,670

Grant Term: 09/09 - 08/12

Grantee: Center for People and Nature Reconciliation

**Balancing Conservation and Development in the Northern Highlands Limestone through Policy Dialogue, Capacity Development and Regional Planning: Phase I**

Mainstream biodiversity into development planning in the Northern Highlands Limestone Corridor by identifying policy issues and options and initiating dialogue between local government and relevant stakeholders on alternative development scenarios in two pilot provinces, building relationships with local government and civil society in three other provinces, and enhancing the role of a local research center as a regional information hub.

Funding: \$99,469

Grant Term: 08/09 - 12/10

Grantee: International Union for Conservation of Nature

**Maximizing CEPF Participation of Civil Society in Thailand**

Enable local Thai civil society organizations to access CEPF support, through translation of key documents and Thai language publicity by radio, cell phone network, national newspapers and Web sites.

Funding: \$1,820

Grant Term: 07/09 - 09/09

Grantee: Thai Fund Foundation

**Raising Awareness of Possible Impacts from Dams on the Srepok, Sesan and Sekong**

Raise awareness of communities along the Sekong, Sesan and Srepok rivers in Ratanakiri and Stung Treng provinces, Cambodia, of impending hydropower projects and enable – through meetings and development of a film – voices from communities, livelihood impacts, international conservation values and environmental opportunity costs to be taken into account as part of impact assessments and the decision-making process.

Funding: \$19,910

Grant Term: 06/09 - 06/10

Grantee: 3S Rivers Protection Network

**Thai Baan Research on Aquatic Species on the Nang River, Tributary of the Gam River, Na Hang District, Tuyen Quang Province, Vietnam**

Train and support local communities to document and identify aquatic species on the Nang river, above the Na Hang Dam, thus building the capacity of local people to understand the value of aquatic biodiversity in their area, understand and document ecological changes since dam establishment, and participate in decisionmaking relating to fisheries, fishing gear and future developments that may affect this river.

Funding: \$19,850

Grant Term: 06/09 - 05/10

Grantee: Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development

***Strategic Direction 4: Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of CEPF investment through a regional implementation team***

**CEPF Regional Implementation Team in Indochina**

Provide strategic leadership and local knowledge to build a broad constituency of civil society groups working across institutional and geographic boundaries toward achieving the conservation goals described in the ecosystem profile for this region. Major functions include assisting civil society groups in designing, implementing, and replicating successful conservation activities; reviewing all grant applications; and awarding small grants.

Funding: \$899,929

Grant Term: 07/08 - 04/13

Grantee: BirdLife International

#### Annex 4 – Updated list of Priority Species for CEPF Investment in Indochina

Priority Species	Conservation Need(s) Requiring Species-focused Action	Over-riding Need for Information
<b>MAMMALS</b>		
Hog Deer <i>Axis porcinus</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Kouprey <i>Bos sauveli</i>		Yes
Wild Water Buffalo <i>Bubalus bubalis</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Asian Golden Cat <i>Catopuma temminckii</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Eld's Deer <i>Cervus eldii</i>	Control of overexploitation; active population management	
Otter Civet <i>Cynogale bennettii</i>		Yes
Hairy Rhinoceros <i>Dicerorhinus sumatrensis</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Asian Elephant <i>Elephas maximus</i>	Mitigation of human-elephant conflict; control of overexploitation	
Sun Bear <i>Helarctos malayanus</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Hairy-nosed Otter <i>Lutra sumatrana</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Smooth-coated Otter <i>Lutrogale perspicillata</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Sunda Pangolin <i>Manis javanica</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Chinese Pangolin <i>Manis pentadactyla</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Clouded Leopard <i>Neofelis nebulosa</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Black Crested Gibbon <i>Nomascus concolor</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Hainan Gibbon <i>Nomascus hainanus</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Northern White-cheeked Gibbon <i>Nomascus leucogenys</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Cao Vit Crested Gibbon <i>Nomascus nasutus</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Southern White-cheeked Gibbon <i>Nomascus siki</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Irrawaddy Dolphin <i>Orcaella brevirostris</i>	Control of incompatible fishing techniques	
Wroughton's Free-tailed Bat <i>Otomops wroughtoni</i>		Yes
Tiger <i>Panthera tigris</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Vietnam Leaf-nosed Bat <i>Paracoelops megalotis</i>		Yes
Marbled Cat <i>Pardofelis marmorata</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Fishing Cat <i>Prionailurus viverrinus</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Saola <i>Pseudoryx nghetinhensis</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Grey-shanked Douc <i>Pygathrix cinerea</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Red-shanked Douc <i>Pygathrix nemaeus</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Black-shanked Douc <i>Pygathrix nigripes</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Lesser One-horned Rhinoceros <i>Rhinoceros sondaicus</i>	Control of overexploitation; active population management	
Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey <i>Rhinopithecus avunculus</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Delacour's Leaf Monkey <i>Trachypithecus delacouri</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Francois's Leaf Monkey <i>Trachypithecus francoisi</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Indochinese Silvered Langur <i>Trachypithecus germaini</i>	Control of overexploitation	
White-headed Langur <i>Trachypithecus poliocephalus</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Asian Black Bear <i>Ursus thibetanus</i>	Control of overexploitation	

Priority Species	Conservation Need(s) Requiring Species-focused Action	Over-riding Need for Information
<b>BIRDS</b>		
White-winged Duck <i>Cairina scutulata</i>	Control of overexploitation	
White-eyed River-martin <i>Eurychelidon sirintarae</i>		Yes
Spoon-billed Sandpiper <i>Eurynorhynchus pygmeus</i>		Yes
White-eared Night-heron <i>Gorsachius magnificus</i>		Yes
Sarus Crane <i>Grus antigone</i>	Control of overexploitation	
White-rumped Vulture <i>Gyps bengalensis</i>	Provision of adequate food supply; control of persecution	
Slender-billed Vulture <i>Gyps tenuirostris</i>	Provision of adequate food supply; control of persecution	
Masked Finfoot <i>Heliopais personata</i>	Control of disturbance along waterways	
Bengal Florican <i>Houbaropsis bengalensis</i>	Control of overexploitation; identification of non-breeding areas	
Greater Adjutant <i>Leptoptilos dubius</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Lesser Adjutant <i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Edwards's Pheasant <i>Lophura edwardsi</i>		Yes
Green Peafowl <i>Pavo muticus</i>	Control of overexploitation	
White-shouldered Ibis <i>Pseudibis davisoni</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Red-headed Vulture <i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>	Provision of adequate food supply; control of persecution	
Giant Ibis <i>Thaumatibis gigantea</i>	Control of overexploitation	
<b>REPTILES</b>		
Asiatic Softshell Turtle <i>Amyda cartilaginea</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Painted Terrapin <i>Callagur borneoensis</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Red-necked Pond Turtle <i>Chinemys nigricans</i>	Control of overexploitation	Yes
Chinese Three-keeled Pond Turtle <i>Chinemys reevesii</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Striped Narrow-headed Softshell Turtle <i>Chitra chitra</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Siamese Crocodile <i>Crocodylus siamensis</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Indochinese Box Turtle <i>Cuora galbinifrons</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Chinese Three-striped Box Turtle <i>Cuora trifasciata</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Zhou's Box Turtle <i>Cuora zhoui</i>	Control of overexploitation	Yes
Black-breasted Leaf Turtle <i>Geoemyda spengleri</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Yellow-headed Temple Turtle <i>Hieremys annandalii</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Asian Giant Tortoise <i>Manouria emys</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Impressed Tortoise <i>Manouria impressa</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Vietnamese Pond Turtle <i>Mauremys annamensis</i>	Control of overexploitation	Yes
Asian Yellow Pond Turtle <i>Mauremys mutica</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Chinese Stripe-necked Turtle <i>Ocacia sinensis</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Wattle-necked Softshell Turtle <i>Palea steindachneri</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Asian Giant Softshell Turtle <i>Pelochelys cantorii</i>	Control of overexploitation	
East Asian Giant Softshell Turtle <i>Rafetus swinhoei</i>	Control of overexploitation	Yes

<b>Priority Species</b>	<b>Conservation Need(s) Requiring Species-focused Action</b>	<b>Over-riding Need for Information</b>
Beale's Eyed Turtle <i>Sacalia bealei</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Four-eyed Turtle <i>Sacalia quadriocellata</i>	Control of overexploitation	
<b>FISH</b>		
Mekong Freshwater Stingray <i>Dasyatis laosensis</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Giant Freshwater Stingray <i>Himantura chaophraya</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Marbled Freshwater Stingray <i>Himantura oxyrhynchus</i>	Control of overexploitation	
White-edged Freshwater Whipray <i>Himantura signifer</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Giant Catfish <i>Pangasianodon gigas</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Giant Dog-eating Catfish <i>Pangasius sanitwongsei</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Freshwater Sawfish <i>Pristis microdon</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Jullien's Golden Carp <i>Probarbus jullieni</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Asian Arowana <i>Scleropages formosus</i>	Control of overexploitation	
Laotian Shad <i>Tenualosa thibaudeaui</i>	Control of overexploitation	

### Annex 5. Priority Corridors and Priority Sites for CEPF Investment in Indochina

Priority corridor	Priority sites	Countries	Area (km <sup>2</sup> )
Mekong River and Major Tributaries	Mekong Channel near Pakchom; Mekong from Kratie to Lao P.D.R.; Mekong from Phou Xiang Thong to Siphandon; Mekong from Luang Prabang to Vientiane; Sekong River; Sesan River; Siphandon; Srepok River; Upper Lao Mekong; Upper Xe Khaman	Cambodia, Lao P.D.R., S. China and Thailand	17,070
Northern Highlands Limestone	Ba Be; Ban Bung; Ban Thi-Xuan Lac; Bat Dai Son; Binh An; Cham Chu; Diding; Du Gia; Gulongshan; Khau Ca; Na Chi; Nongxin; Sinh Long; Tat Ke; Tay Con Linh; Thanh Hen Lake; Trung Khanh; Tung Vai	S. China and Vietnam	24,477