

Mid-term Assessment (July 2013 to June 2015) of CEPF Investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot

July 2015

Introduction

Encompassing more than 2 million square kilometers of tropical Asia, Indo-Burma is the largest and one of the most geographically diverse of Earth's 35 biodiversity hotspots. The hotspot encompasses a number of major mountain ranges, including the Annamite Mountains and eastern extensions of the Himalayas, as well as extensive areas of limestone karst and five of Asia's largest rivers: the Ayeyarwady, Thanlwin/Salween/Nujiang, 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 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. Consequently, the Indo-Burma Hotspot ranks in the top 10 hotspots for irreplaceability, although it is also ranked in the top five for threat, with less than 5 percent of its natural habitat remaining.

Indo-Burma holds more people 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 protein provide the staple diet of more than 300 million 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 Indo-Burma's natural capital. This is compounded by a lack of effective systems to manage these pressures and a dearth of environmentally sustainable development models. An extensive stakeholder consultation exercise conducted by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) in 2011 identified hunting and trade of wildlife as the highest ranked threat to biodiversity in the hotspot. Conversion of natural habitats into agro-industrial plantations of rubber, oil palm, tea and other cash crops was identified as the next highest threat, followed by proliferation of hydropower dams, which is the major threat to riverine ecosystems in the hotspot. The broad consensus from the stakeholder consultations was that all three threats are getting more severe, and will continue to do so, at least in the short-term. In every case, these threats have major implications for national economies and the livelihoods of rural people, both of which depend upon the services provided by natural ecosystems.

Over the last decade, there has been a gradual reduction in the amount of funding available for biodiversity conservation in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, as donors have shifted focus to other issues (most notably climate change) or retired from countries altogether. At the same time, changing political and economic conditions have facilitated increased private sector investment in hydropower, agro-industry, mining and other industries with potentially large environmental footprints. While these trends present ever-greater conservation challenges, one positive development has been the growth of local civil society groups engaged in biodiversity conservation and related issues of sustainable development, poverty alleviation and social equity.

The emergence of these groups presents opportunities to support broad coalitions of civil society, ranging from international NGOs to community-based organizations, to engage with urgent conservation challenges from multiple angles. To this end, CEPF has embarked upon a five-year program of investment, from 2013 to 2018, which builds on the result of an earlier program, from 2008 to 2013, and is well aligned with investments by other funders, including the MacArthur, Margaret A. Cargill and McKnight Foundations.

This report aims to assess progress towards the goals set out in the portfolio logframe, 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 generated by civil society organizations implementing CEPF grants. In addition, it incorporates the findings of the mid-term assessment workshop, held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, on 3-5 March 2015, which was attended by over 130 representatives of CEPF grantees, government partners and CEPF donors.

CEPF Niche

Overview

CEPF investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot focuses on non-marine parts of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, plus those parts of southern China in Biounits 6 and 10 (i.e., Hainan Island, southern parts of Yunnan, Guangxi, and Guangdong provinces, and Hong Kong and Macau Special Administrative Regions). The current investment program is informed by the ecosystem profile for the hotspot, which was prepared in 2011, through an extensive consultation process coordinated by the CEPF Secretariat, in collaboration with BirdLife International *in Indochina*, the CI-China Program, Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden, the Samdhana Institute, and the Yunnan Green Environment Development Foundation. The process engaged more than 470 stakeholders from civil society, government, and donor institutions.

The ecosystem profile presents an overview of the Indo-Burma Hotspot, in terms of its biodiversity conservation importance, and socioeconomic, policy and civil society contexts. It defines a suite of measurable conservation outcomes, at species, site and corridor scales, and assesses the major direct threats to biodiversity and their root causes. The situational analysis is completed by assessments of current conservation investment, and the implications of climate change for biodiversity conservation. The ecosystem profile articulates an overarching investment strategy for funders interested in supporting conservation efforts led by civil society, including a niche where CEPF's investment can provide the greatest incremental value.

The CEPF investment niche builds on the experience of the first phase of investment by focusing on approaches that have demonstrated success, moving from pilot projects to longer-term interventions, and integrating results more concretely into government programs and policies. At the same time, the CEPF niche responds to emerging conservation issues, such as wildlife trade, hydropower development and expansion of agro-industry, with strategies developed through extensive consultation with practitioners in the field. These strategies are focused on the corridors

where these conservation issues are most acutely felt: the Mekong River and its major tributaries; Tonle Sap Lake and its inundation zone; the limestone highlands along the Vietnam-China border; and the mountains of Hainan Island. The geographic scope of the CEPF niche also embraces Myanmar, to take advantage of opportunities to strengthen capacity among civil society organizations in the country and enable them to address priority conservation actions in a rapidly changing political and development context.

In line with this niche, the ecosystem profile sets out six strategic directions¹ for CEPF investment in Indo-Burma:

1. Safeguard priority globally threatened species by mitigating major threats.
2. Demonstrate innovative responses to illegal trafficking and consumption of wildlife.
4. Empower local communities to engage in conservation and management of priority Key Biodiversity Areas.
6. Engage key actors in mainstreaming biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into development planning in the priority corridors.
8. Strengthen the capacity of civil society to work on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods at regional, national, local and grassroots levels.
11. Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of conservation investment through a Regional Implementation Team.

The ecosystem profile was approved by the CEPF Donor Council in October 2012, with a total budget allocation of \$10.4 million. Of this amount, \$1.8 million was allocated to Strategic Direction 1, \$1.2 million to Strategic Direction 2, \$2.6 million to Strategic Direction 4, \$2.4 million to Strategic Direction 6, \$1 million to Strategic Direction 8 and \$1.4 million to Strategic Direction 11. The Donor Council subsequently approved the appointment of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as the Regional Implementation Team (RIT) for the hotspot. IUCN began work as the RIT in July 2013, thus beginning the second phase of CEPF investment in the hotspot.

Coordinating CEPF Grant Making

IUCN is performing the role of the RIT in partnership with Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden (KFBG) and Myanmar Environment Rehabilitation-conservation Network (MERN). IUCN has overall responsibility for ensuring delivery of the CEPF program in the hotspot, and leads implementation in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam. KFBG leads on implementation in the Chinese portion of the hotspot, while MERN is responsible for implementation in Myanmar.

As well as establishing an experienced, integrated team, IUCN and its partners have put in place necessary structures to ensure transparency and technical rigor in the proposal review process, through the establishment of National Advisory Committees (see below), engaging voluntary inputs from expert peer reviewers, and drawing on the expertise that exists within IUCN's commissions, especially the Species Survival Commission and its specialist groups. IUCN has also put in place the necessary processes to ensure sound financial management of the RIT grants, financial and programmatic risk assessment of small grants, and compliance with environmental and social safeguard policies of the World Bank. Moreover, IUCN has developed content on its website, to communicate the availability of CEPF grants and disseminate lessons learned from them. This includes a page of frequently asked questions for applicants and monthly web stories.

¹ Because the overall investment strategy in the ecosystem profile includes strategic directions that are supported by other funders, the numbering of the CEPF-funded strategic directions is non-consecutive.

Implementing the Strategy

Collaboration with CEPF's Donors and Other Funders

In each country in the hotspot, the RIT has constituted a National Advisory Committee to provide an additional layer of quality control on grant making, to ensure transparency, and to build ownership of the CEPF grant portfolio among key stakeholders in government, civil society and the donor community. National Advisory Committee members participate as representatives of their institutions, not as individuals, and have already proven useful in discriminating strong from weak applications, identifying potential synergies with other initiatives, and providing feedback to applicants. Regional staff members from CEPF's global donors, including l'Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the European Union and the World Bank, have been invited to participate in all National Advisory Committee meetings to date, while the GEF has been represented in the form of its Operational Focal Points within government and UNDP/GEF Small Grants Program Coordinators.

The ecosystem profile is being used by other funders, including the MacArthur Foundation, the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation and the McKnight Foundation, to guide their grant-making for projects that address biodiversity, communities and livelihoods in the Mekong Region. These three foundations, plus CEPF, have been meeting periodically with the aim of better coordinating their support to civil society groups active in the region. A similar effort is underway specifically for Myanmar, with a focus on sharing information among funders interested in supporting civil society organizations to work on environmental issues.

Portfolio Status

The CEPF investment phase in Indo-Burma has a duration of five years, from July 2013 to June 2018. The investment phase builds on an earlier phase, which focused on Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam. In these countries, at least, there was a good degree of familiarity with CEPF as a funding mechanism, which the RIT built upon. Consequently, the response to the first four calls for proposals was strong, in terms of both quality and quantity of applications. A total of 514 Letters of Inquiry (LoIs) were received (Table 1), of which 95 were selected for award. As of 30 June 2015, 81 of these grants have already been contracted and 15 are still in the "pipeline", meaning that they are undergoing final financial review and due diligence, prior to contracting. Annex 6 provides summary information about the 81 awarded grants.

Table 1: Calls for proposals in the Indo-Burma Hotspot during 2013 and 2014

No.	Release date	Closing date	LoIs received
1	29 July 2013	9 September 2013	228 [95 large / 133 small]
2	30 October 2013	11 December 2013	104 [51 large / 53 small]
3	8 July 2014	18 August 2014	165 [46 large / 119 small]
4	10 November 2014	22 December 2014	17 [2 large / 15 small]

Excluding the RIT grants, there are two types of CEPF grants. Large grants, for amounts more than \$20,000, are awarded directly by CEPF, while small grants, for amounts up to \$20,000 are awarded by the RIT. The 41 large grants that have been awarded have a total value of \$7.7 million, four other applications, totaling \$0.7 million, are in the pipeline (Table 2). With regard to small grants, 40 have been awarded, totaling \$687,494, while 11 are in the pipeline, totaling \$199,921 (Table 3). Forty-four percent of large grants have been awarded to local organizations. Conversely, 83 percent of small grants have been awarded to local organizations, reflecting the greater accessibility of small grants, including a streamlined application process and the option to apply in local languages.

Table 2: Status of the large grant portfolio in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, as of June 30, 2015

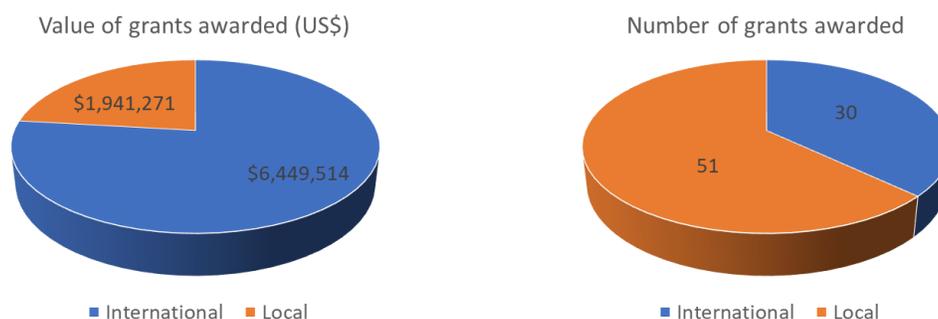
Strategic Direction	Awarded grants	Pipeline grants	Total
SD1	\$1,847,631	\$0	\$1,847,631
SD2	\$1,159,284	\$0	\$1,159,284
SD4	\$1,799,670	\$279,957	\$2,079,627
SD6	\$1,001,949	\$464,580	\$1,466,529
SD8	\$494,755	\$0	\$494,755
SD11	\$1,400,003	\$0	\$1,400,003
Total	\$7,703,291	\$744,537	\$8,447,828

Table 3: Status of the small grant portfolio in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, as of June 30, 2015

Strategic Direction	Awarded grants	Pipeline grants	Total
SD1	\$249,885	\$0	\$249,885
SD2	\$19,742	\$0	\$19,742
SD4	\$95,897	\$57,874	\$153,771
SD6	\$99,093	\$0	\$99,093
SD8	\$222,877	\$142,047	\$364,924
SD11	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$687,494	\$199,921	\$887,415

Overall, grants to local civil society organizations make up 63 percent of the portfolio by grant number and 23 percent by grant amount (Figure 1). These proportions are expected to increase over time, because almost all of the pipeline grants are to local organizations; most of which are first-time applicants to CEPF, for whom the due diligence process tends to take longer. In any case, these figures are a significant increase over those in the first investment phase (2008-2013), when local groups received just 37 percent of the grants by number and 19 percent by amount. This trend reflects the growth of local civil society in several hotspot countries over the last five years, especially in Cambodia and Vietnam, as well as targeted efforts by the RIT to engage local organizations that had limited experience receiving grants from international donors, especially in Myanmar.

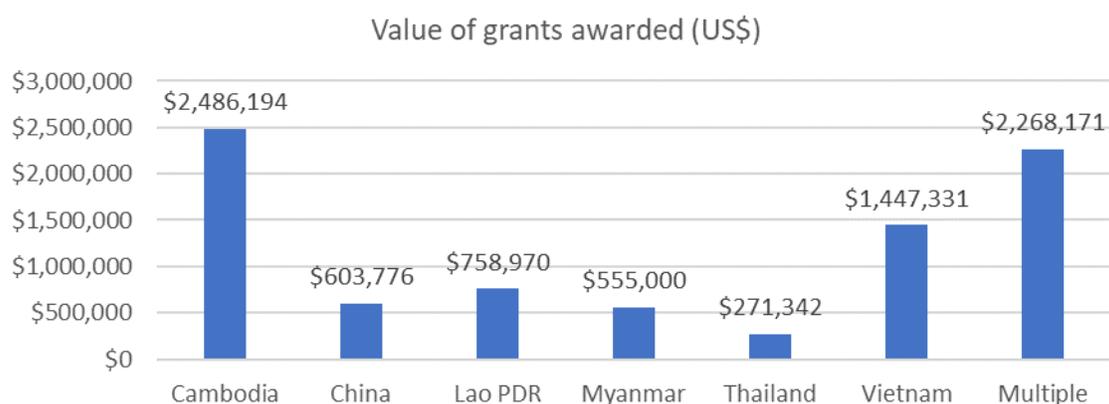
Figure 1: Breakdown of CEPF investment between local and international organizations



The overall grant portfolio stands at \$8.4 million in awarded grants (Table 4). Apart from the two RIT grants, only three grants for more than \$250,000 have been awarded, each for a complex project, covering multiple sites or multiple countries. The mean grant size is \$152,235 for large grants and \$17,186 for small grants. By value, the country to have received the most CEPF investment to date is Cambodia, followed by Vietnam. There are also \$2.3 million in grants covering multiple countries, most of which is accounted for by the two RIT grants (Figure 2).

Table 4: Status of the overall portfolio in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, as of June 30, 2015

Strategic Direction	Awarded grants	Pipeline grants	Total
SD1	\$2,097,516	\$0	\$2,097,516
SD2	\$1,179,026	\$0	\$1,179,026
SD4	\$1,895,567	\$337,831	\$2,233,398
SD6	\$1,101,042	\$464,580	\$1,565,622
SD8	\$717,632	\$142,047	\$859,679
SD11	\$1,400,003	\$0	\$1,400,003
Total	\$8,390,785	\$944,458	\$9,335,243

Figure 2: Breakdown of CEPF investment by country

Assuming that there are no unforeseen problems with awarding pipeline grants, the overall grant portfolio at the end of the first funding round will be around \$9.3 million, equivalent to 88 percent of the spending authority for the investment phase (Table 5). A little less than \$1.3 million will remain available for additional grant making under future calls. The CEPF Secretariat and RIT followed a deliberate strategy of awarding most of the available funding during the first two years, in order to respond to pressing threats to biodiversity and allow enough time for initiatives to demonstrate results, which can then be used to attract other funding to sustain or amplify impacts. Moreover, it is hoped that this strategy will allow the RIT to shift its focus away from grant making towards other functions, including providing ongoing supervision and mentoring to grantees, facilitating exchange of experience among them, and documenting and disseminating good practice and lessons learned from the grant portfolio.

Table 5: Balance of CEPF funds allocated to the Indo-Burma Hotspot, as of June 30, 2015

Strategic Direction	Allocation ²	Awarded plus pipeline grants	Balance
SD1	\$2,021,203	\$2,097,516	-\$76,313
SD2	\$1,200,000	\$1,179,026	\$20,974
SD4	\$2,600,000	\$2,233,398	\$366,602
SD6	\$2,400,000	\$1,565,622	\$834,378
SD8	\$1,000,000	\$859,679	\$140,321
SD11	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,003	-\$3
Total	\$10,621,203	\$9,335,243	\$1,285,960

² The original allocation to Strategic Direction 1 of \$1,800,000 was increased to \$2,021,203 through the addition of deobligated funds carried over from the first investment phase in Indo-Burma.

The downside of committing funding early in the investment phase is that it can be difficult to respond to demand for funding. If a similar quantity and quality of applications is received under future calls for proposals as under those to date, there will be even greater competition for available funding and pressure on the remaining allocations. This pressure is likely to be felt more strongly under some strategic directions than others. Already, the allocations for Strategic Directions 1 (species conservation) and 2 (wildlife trade) are fully committed, due to strong demand. These are two areas for which dedicated donor funding is not available at scale. While this is beginning to change for wildlife trade, thanks to some recent major initiatives, the demand for dedicated funding for species conservation is likely to remain high, making this a priority theme for leveraging additional funding for the portfolio.

Sufficient resources remain under Strategic Directions 4, 6 and 8 to allow a significant amount of new grantmaking during the remainder of the investment phase. Based on experience to date, it is anticipated that enough applications will be generated to allow the remaining funds under these strategic directions to be awarded. As well as making funding available through competitive, open calls, it may be prudent to retain a small allocation for “emergency grants”, to respond to urgent needs that may arise in the second half of the investment phase.

There exist several opportunities to leverage additional funding for the Indo-Burma Hotspot at the portfolio level. These opportunities are being actively pursued by the CEPF Secretariat. The precise allocation of any additional funding among strategic directions would need to be discussed with the funder(s) in question. It is clear, however, that there is significant unmet demand in relation to all strategic directions, especially Strategic Direction 1.

Performance of CEPF’s Investment

Portfolio-level Performance

To perform the RIT role, IUCN has built on systems developed during the first investment phase, and incorporated experience from its own grant-making initiatives, such as Mangroves for the Future. The RIT has established robust processes for proposal solicitation and review, and established monitoring, learning and evaluation methodologies for the grant portfolio. As a result, the RIT was successful in widely communicating the first four calls for proposals, which met with a massive response (Table 1), and generated many applications from organizations that had not applied to CEPF (or, in some cases, any international donor) before. The volume of applications created an unexpectedly large workload for the RIT and contributed to some delays with the due diligence and contracting process. Although the technical reviews of most grants were completed within three months of submission, allowing grant award decisions to be made promptly, moving from this point to contracting took around six months for the small grants, which was considerably longer than the average time for large grants (despite the more streamlined process).

Calls, proposal templates and other materials were translated into the national languages of the six hotspot countries, which helped make CEPF funding available to local organizations. While applications for large grants could only be submitted in English, more than half of the small grant applications were submitted in local languages. Local-language materials were particularly important in China and Thailand, where English is not as widely used among civil society organizations as in the other four countries. Indeed, it is likely that a significant proportion of the small grantees in these two countries would not have been able to access CEPF grants without the option to apply in local languages.

Overall, the response from local civil society organizations to the two calls issued in 2013 was encouraging, with a good number of former grantees applying for new projects, and many

organizations applying to CEPF for the first time. However, there were some issues with the quality of applications submitted by local organizations, especially in China, Myanmar and Thailand, where applicants were less familiar with the CEPF investment strategy. For example, many applications under Strategic Direction 4 did not focus on priority sites, and thus were ineligible for support. Similarly, many applications under Strategic Direction 1 did not focus on priority species. To address this issue, the RIT held proposal-writing workshops, combined with informational days or “roadshows” for potential applicants. Following these activities, a marked improvement was seen in the quality of applications from local organizations in China and Thailand under the 2014 calls. Additional outreach and training exercises are planned for local civil society organizations in Myanmar, where it has proven challenging to solicit applications of the requisite quality.

With regard to the success rate of applications, 16 percent of small grant applications were successful (i.e. approved for award and either contracted or still in the pipeline), which approximates to a success rate of one in-six. In contrast, 23 percent of large grant applications were successful, which approximates to a success rate of one in four. This discrepancy can be attributed to the large proportion of small grant applications that were judged ineligible because they focused on species or sites not recognized as priorities for CEPF investment. The success rates of applications under the second phase were significantly lower than during the first phase, when 43 percent of small grant and 39 percent of large grant applications were successful. In large part, this reflects the achievement of the RIT in widely publicizing the calls for proposals.

With regard to the performance of individual grantees, as of 30 June 2015, 21 of the 40 small grants have ended, while none of the 41 large grants has³. Of the 21 small grants to have ended, two were evaluated as having exceeded expectations with regard to delivery of the expected results set out in the project proposal, 15 were evaluated as having met expectations, and four were evaluated as having failed to meeting expectations in some regards. While it is necessary to be cautious about extrapolating too much from this limited sample, drawn only from small grants with a short duration, it is encouraging that four out of five grants have met or exceeded expectations.

Preliminary Impacts Summary

Apart from the RIT grants, the first grants to be awarded under the new investment phase began implementation only in March 2014. Therefore, the impacts of the grant portfolio to date are still very preliminary. Nevertheless, it is possible to anticipate the scope and magnitude of impacts at the portfolio level, by aggregating the expected impacts of individual grants. The anticipated and (in a few cases) secured impacts against the indicators in the portfolio logframe are presented in Annex 2 and briefly summarized below.

Based upon the awarded and pipeline grants, progress is on track to meet 25 of the 28 indicators in the portfolio logframe. The three indicators where progress is not on track comprise one under Strategic Direction 1 (funding for the conservation of priority species in the hotspot from existing funds increased by at least 25 percent) and two under Strategic Direction 6 (the biodiversity and ecosystem service values of at least 2 priority corridors integrated into land-use and/or development plans; and new protocols for ecological restoration demonstrated in the priority corridors and integrated into the national forestry programs of at least 1 hotspot country). Because more than \$800,000 remains uncommitted under Strategic Direction 6 (Table 5), it is reasonable to expect that the latter two indicators will be met, provided that suitable applications are received under the upcoming calls for proposals. Unfortunately, no funding remains under Strategic

³ One large grant was terminated due to serious findings about financial mismanagement.

Direction 1, and no suitable applications were received under the earlier calls. Unless additional funding can be leveraged and an appropriate opportunity arises, this element of the CEPF investment strategy may need to be reconsidered.

Biodiversity Conservation

The ecosystem profile identifies 152 globally threatened species as priorities for CEPF investment. Awarded grants aim to strengthen the conservation of core populations of 30 priority species, three of which have been strengthened to date:

- Indochinese silvered leaf monkey (*Trachypithecus germaini*) at Dong Sakee forest, Lao PDR.
- Jullien's golden carp (*Probarbus jullieni*) and thick-lipped barb (*P. labeamajor*) in the Mekong River between Luang Prabang and Vientiane, Lao PDR.

Awarded grants also aim to improve knowledge of the status and distribution of seven additional priority species, of which knowledge of two species has been improved to date:

- Fishing cat (*Prionailurus viverrinus*).
- Masked finfoot (*Heliopais personata*).

The ecosystem profile also identifies 74 priority sites for CEPF investment within four priority corridors. Awarded grants aim to pilot or replicate community forests, community fisheries and community-managed protected areas at 11 of these sites, comprising four each in Cambodia and China, two in Vietnam and one in Lao PDR. To date, three community co-managed fish conservation zones have been established along a 13-kilometer section of the Mekong River from Luang Prabang to Vientiane in Lao PDR. To complement these approaches, which focus outside of protected areas, awarded grants aim to develop co-management mechanisms that engage local communities and other stakeholders in the management of protected areas at eight priority sites, comprising five in Cambodia, two in Vietnam and one in China.

The other geographic priority defined in the ecosystem profile is Myanmar. Here, CEPF grantees are conducting protected area gap analyses of the Chin Hills Complex, Rakhine Yoma Range and Western Shan Yoma Range corridors, as well as freshwater ecosystems in the upper Ayeyarwady Basin. These grants propose to establish at least five new protected areas (fish conservation zones) using community-based models.

Strengthening Civil Society

Fifty-three civil society organizations, including 33 local ones, have directly received CEPF grants. All of these organizations will have gained experience of designing, managing and implementing conservation projects, especially those with little or no prior experience of receiving grants from international donors. Many grants include explicit activities related to capacity building of either the grantee organization or sub-grantees (some grants to larger, more experienced organizations include sub-grants to smaller, grassroots organizations with associated mentoring). CEPF uses a self-assessment questionnaire, called the civil society tracking tool, to monitor changes in institutional capacity of civil society organizations. To date, baseline and final tools have been completed by eight local organizations receiving grants or sub-grants. Among these, the scores of six organizations (75 percent) have increased over the period of CEPF support.

Capacity building is also taking place at the level of the network, in recognition of the fact that many conservation issues facing the Indo-Burma Hotspot cannot be responded to effectively by one organization working in isolation. Awarded grants are supporting 20 networks of various kinds, among which two networks have already enabled collective responses to priority and emerging threats. In Cambodia, a network of grassroots community-based organizations in the Areng Valley responded to the threat of a proposed hydropower dam. In northern Thailand, a network of local communities, known as the People’s Council of the Ing River Basin, implemented various activities to promote river conservation.

Human Well-being

The impacts of CEPF grants on human well-being are evaluated when grants close. Seven awarded grants aim to deliver tangible benefits to local communities, in the form of increased food security due to sustainable management of fisheries, formal recognition of tenure to land or natural resources, or increased income from nature-based tourism, payments for bird nest protection or cultivation of wildlife-friendly crops. Only one of these grants has so far closed. This grant addressed human-elephant conflict in Wang Mee village, outside of Thailand’s Thab Lan National Park, leading to reductions in injury to people and damage to crops and property.

Enabling Conditions

CEPF grants aim to influence various parameters that define the political, social and economic environment in which conservation takes place. With regard to public support for conservation goals, awarded grants are increasing public debate and awareness of four key environmental issues through coverage in domestic media:

- Hydropower development on the Mekong mainstream.
- Hydropower development in the 3S Basin of Cambodia.
- Mining in the Sino-Vietnamese Limestone corridor.
- Forest management and financing mechanisms in the Sino-Vietnamese Limestone corridor.

Regarding the policy environment, awarded grants are analyzing six policies, plans or programs, evaluating their impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and formulating alternative development scenarios and appropriate mitigating measures. These relate to:

- Hydropower development on the Mekong mainstream.
- Hydropower development on the Nujiang, China.
- Hydropower development in the 3S Basin, Cambodia.
- Cement manufacture in Myanmar.
- Tourism development on Hainan Island, China.
- Tourism development in Myanmar.

Portfolio Investment Highlights by Strategic Direction

The investment strategy for the Indo-Burma Hotspot contains 38 investment priorities, grouped into 11 strategic directions. CEPF investment focuses on six of these strategic directions, containing 21 investment priorities, in order to play to the strengths of the fund and not duplicate investments made by other funders. As can be seen from the charts in Annex 1, there is a good distribution of investment across the six strategic directions that comprise the CEPF investment niche. This section explores grant making under each strategic direction in more detail.

Strategic Direction 1

CEPF investment under this strategic direction aims to safeguard priority globally threatened species by mitigating major threats. This strategic direction is intended to support targeted conservation actions for species that address threats other than habitat loss (which can be effectively addressed through site and corridor-scale conservation actions), particularly overexploitation, which is all too often manifested as the “empty-forest syndrome” of protected areas with high levels of forest cover but heavily depleted wildlife populations.

To this end, CEPF is supporting efforts to transform pilot interventions for core populations of priority species into long-term conservation programs (Investment Priority 1.1). To redress an imbalance in conservation efforts, which have tended to overlook freshwater biodiversity, CEPF is also supporting efforts to develop best-practice approaches for conservation of highly threatened and endemic freshwater species (Investment Priority 1.2). 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. To this end, CEPF is supporting research on globally threatened species for which there is a need for greatly improved information on status and distribution (Investment Priority 1.3). CEPF also aims to support existing funds to become effective tools for the conservation of priority species in the hotspot (Investment Priority 1.4), in order to enhance financially sustainability of species conservation efforts in the hotspot.

Fourteen large grants and 14 small grants have been awarded under Strategic Direction 1. These 28 projects directly address the conservation or research needs of 37 of the 152 priority species for CEPF investment. This is greater than the combined target set in the portfolio logframe. However, these investments are heavily skewed towards animals, with 33 percent of the priority animal species targeted, compared with only 6 percent of the priority plants. This reflects an underlying imbalance within the conservation movement in Indo-Burma, where relatively few organizations have an explicit focus on plant conservation. The awarded projects directly address three of the four investment priorities under Strategic Direction 1. Although, as discussed above, grant applications to address Investment Priority 1.4 have not been forthcoming, there may be opportunities to address this through the work of the RIT, which is mandated to promote opportunities to leverage CEPF funds with donors and governments investing in the region.

Strategic Direction 2

CEPF investment under this strategic direction aims to demonstrate innovative responses to illegal trafficking and consumption of wildlife, in order to respond to the highest ranked threat to biodiversity in the hotspot according to stakeholders consulted during the preparation of the ecosystem profile. The rationale for developing and testing innovative approaches is that, compared with other threats to biodiversity, there is little consensus among conservationists about what represents best practice with regard to addressing this sinuous and pernicious threat.

CEPF is supporting enforcement agencies to unravel high-level wildlife trade networks by introducing them to global best practice with investigations and informants (Investment Priority 2.1). These efforts are complemented by facilitating collaboration among enforcement agencies and non-traditional actors to reduce cross-border trafficking of wildlife (Investment Priority 2.2). In addition to strengthening collaboration with and among government agencies, CEPF is supporting civil society organizations to work with selected private sector companies to promote the adoption of voluntary restrictions on the international transportation, sale and consumption of wildlife (Investment Priority 2.3). Finally, CEPF is supporting efforts to engage the general public in combating the wildlife trade through campaigns, social marketing, hotlines and other

long-term communication programs to reduce consumer demand for wildlife and build public support for wildlife law enforcement (Investment Priority 2.4).

A relatively small number of civil society organizations are working directly on wildlife-trade-related issues in Indo-Burma, and this is reflected in the fact that only five large grants and one small grant have been awarded under Strategic Direction 2 to date. There are no grants in the pipeline and few remaining uncommitted funds (Table 5). Although little if any additional grant making is anticipated under this strategic direction, the six grants that have been awarded involve some of the most experienced conservation organizations working in this field in the hotspot, and propose a series of complementary actions that address the demand side as well as the supply side of the wildlife trade. These projects address all four investment priorities under this strategic direction and are expected to meet or exceed all of the targets in the portfolio logframe.

Strategic Direction 4

CEPF investment under this strategic direction aims to empower local communities to engage in conservation and management of priority sites. The rationale for this investment is that conservation initiatives that engage local communities as allies can create better conditions for long-term conservation and sustainable use of natural resources than more adversarial approaches that treat local people as part of the problem. Moreover, such initiatives can contribute to improved livelihoods for people living in remote, rural communities, especially those with high levels of dependence on natural resources.

To this end, CEPF is supporting efforts to raise awareness about biodiversity conservation legislation among target groups at priority sites (Investment Priority 4.1). This is intended to build a foundation for investments outside conventional protected areas to pilot and amplify community forests, community fisheries and community-managed protected areas (Investment Priority 4.2). Within protected areas, CEPF is supporting the development of co-management mechanisms that enable community participation in all levels of management (Investment Priority 4.3). While the first three investment priorities focus on Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) within the four priority corridors, they are complemented by investments in Myanmar to conduct gap analyses of KBAs and support expansion of the protected area network using community-based models (Investment Priority 4.4).

Nine large grants and five small grants have been contracted under Strategic Direction 4, with a further two large and three small grants in the pipeline. Assuming that all of the pipeline grants are awarded, these 19 grants will directly address the conservation of 20 of the 74 priority sites identified in the ecosystem profile, comprising eight in China, seven in Cambodia, four in Vietnam and one in Lao PDR. In Myanmar, KBA gap analyses are being conducted in four corridors, to guide potential future expansion of the protected area system, including through community-based approaches. In this way, the awarded and pipeline grants address all four investment priorities under Strategic Direction 4. Although not all of the targets in the portfolio logframe are expected to be met by awarded and pipeline grants, there are sufficient funds remaining to support the additional grants needed to do so.

Strategic Direction 6

CEPF investment under this strategic direction aims to engage key actors in mainstreaming biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into development planning in the priority corridors. The intention is to mainstream biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into economic development and, thereby, secure broader political, institutional and financial support for these goals. In this way, it is hoped that the natural ecosystems of the hotspot will be able to underpin inclusive, pro-poor growth strategies, and be resilient in the face of climate change.

CEPF is supporting civil society efforts to analyze development policies, plans and programs, evaluate their impact on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods, and propose alternative development scenarios and appropriate mitigating measures where needed (Investment Priority 6.1). CEPF is also supporting efforts to integrate the biodiversity and ecosystem service values of priority corridors into land-use and development planning at all levels (Investment Priority 6.2), and to develop protocols and demonstration projects for ecological restoration that improve the biodiversity performance of national forestry programs (Investment Priority 6.3). These initiatives are being assisted by engaging the media as a tool to increase awareness and inform public debate of environmental issues (Investment Priority 6.4).

Eight large and five small grants have been contracted under Strategic Direction 6, and a further two large grants are in the pipeline. These 15 grants aim to mainstream biodiversity into development plans and policies in various sectors, including energy, agriculture, tourism and construction materials. As discussed above, these grants address only two of the four investment priorities under this strategic direction, because no suitable applications have yet been received under Investment Priorities 6.2 and 6.3. Additional grant making will be needed in these areas, especially in the Hainan Mountains, Sino-Vietnamese Limestone and Tonle Sap Lake and Inundation Zone Corridors, in order to develop a balanced portfolio that can meet the targets set out in the portfolio logframe. Fortunately, sufficient funds remain available to do so (Table 5).

Strategic Direction 8

CEPF investment under this strategic direction aims to strengthen the capacity of civil society to work on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods at regional, national, local and grassroots levels. This strategic direction recognizes that local civil society organizations are growing in credibility and influence, and beginning to play leading roles in addressing key threats to biodiversity. Therefore, the CEPF investment niche makes provision for direct investments in the development of skilled, authoritative and effectively networked conservation champions at regional, national, local and grassroots levels.

To this end, CEPF is supporting networking activities that enable collective civil society responses to priority and emerging threats (Investment Priority 8.1). At the organizational level, CEPF is providing core support for the organizational development of local civil society organizations (Investment Priority 8.2), while supporting efforts to establish clearing house mechanisms that match volunteers to civil society organizations' training needs (Investment Priority 8.3).

Five large and 15 small grants have been contracted under Strategic Direction 8, with eight small grants in the pipeline. These 28 grants aim to support the capacity development of 85 local civil society organizations, either directly as grantees or indirectly through training, mentorship or material support. These comprise 29 organizations in Myanmar, 26 in Cambodia, 16 in China, seven in Thailand, five in Vietnam and two in Lao PDR. These projects also aim to support 26 civil society networks, comprising seven in Thailand, six in Vietnam, five each in Cambodia and China and three that bring together participants from more than one country: the Mekong Fish Network; the Save the Mekong Coalition; and the Saola Working Group.

Strategic Direction 11

CEPF investment under this strategic direction aims to provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of conservation investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot. This strategic direction provides for the establishment of an RIT, to convert the plans in the ecosystem profile into a cohesive portfolio of grants that exceeds in impact the sum of its parts. Two grants were awarded to perform the RIT functions: one to operationalize and coordinate CEPF's grant-making

processes and procedures to ensure effective implementation of the investment strategy throughout the hotspot (Investment Priority 11.1); and the other to build a broad constituency of civil society groups working across institutional and political boundaries towards achieving the shared conservation goals described in the ecosystem profile (Investment Priority 11.2). As previously described, these grants were awarded to IUCN, which is performing the RIT role in partnership with KFBG and MERN.

Progress towards Long-term Goals

Because biodiversity hotspots are, by definition, the biologically richest and most threatened terrestrial ecoregions on the planet, the scale of the conservation challenge in these places is, on average, greater than elsewhere. Also, in most hotspots, conservation efforts are constrained by limited capacity among conservation organizations, unsupportive operating environments, and unreliable funding. Therefore, conservation in the biodiversity hotspots is a long-term endeavor, requiring the combined efforts of many actors over long periods, to achieve the systematic changes necessary to reverse entrenched processes of biodiversity loss.

In order to better evaluate and focus its contributions to long-term, collaborative conservation efforts, CEPF has developed a set of long-term goals for the hotspots where it invests. These goals are an expression of five key conditions that must be met in order for conservation efforts to meet with enduring success:

1. Global conservation priorities (i.e., globally threatened species, KBAs and conservation corridors) and best practices for their management are identified, documented, disseminated and used by public sector, civil society and donor agencies to guide their support for conservation in the region.
2. Local and national civil society groups dedicated to conserving global conservation priorities collectively possess sufficient organizational and technical capacity to be effective advocates for, and agents of, conservation and sustainable development for at least the next 10 years.
3. Adequate and continual financial resources are available to address conservation of global priorities for at least the next 10 years.
4. Public policies, the capacity to implement these, and the systems of governance in each individual country are supportive of the conservation of global biodiversity.
5. Mechanisms exist to identify and respond to emerging conservation issues.

The attainment of all five goals would not necessarily mean that biodiversity was no longer threatened but only that government, civil society and donors, collectively, were able to respond effectively to all present threats and any potential future threats that could reasonably be expected to arise. Periodic assessment of progress towards these goals can help identify areas most in need of additional investment from CEPF.

The participants at the mid-term assessment workshops were asked to assess progress towards the five goals, using the criteria and indicators provided, which they were free to adjust to the specific context of Indo-Burma. Participants were asked to apply the criteria and indicators based on the prevailing situation in March 2015. These were then compared these with the situation in March 2013, at the end of the first phase of investment in the hotspot. This allowed an assessment of change over time to be made with respect to each criterion. The synthesized results are presented in Annex 3.

Two years is too short a time period over which to observe significant change with regard to long-term goals. Consequently, when comparing stakeholders' perceptions of the situation

prevailing in 2015 with that in 2013, the evaluations remained unchanged for 21 of the 25 criteria. In two cases, a positive change occurred. Under Goal 2 (civil society capacity), the criterion on partnerships was assessed as partially met, having been not met in 2013, due to an observed increase in the number of civil society networks and partnerships active at sub-national, national and regional levels. Under Goal 3 (sustainable financing), the criterion on livelihood alternatives was assessed as partially met, having been not met in 2013, due to an observed increase in the number of initiatives that have developed livelihood alternatives with demonstrated conservation impacts, including nature-based tourism, eco-labelled agricultural products, and direct payments for conservation actions.

These two improvements were, however, cancelled out by two negative changes. Under Goal 1 (conservation priorities), the criterion on KBAs was assessed as partially met, having been fully met in 2013. This was because significant gaps were identified with regard to freshwater and marine KBAs, and because there was felt to be insufficient ownership of the KBA approach by government in most countries. Under Goal 5 (responsiveness to emerging issues), the criterion on public sphere was assessed as partially met, having been fully met in 2013, because participants felt that there was still relatively little coverage of environmental issues in local media (in contrast to increasing coverage in international media), and few examples of public debate influencing public policy.

Overall, there is still a long way to go before the long-term conservation goals for the Indo-Burma Hotspot are met. Of the 25 criteria, none were assessed as being fully met. Nine were assessed as not met and 16 as partially met, which appears to reflect the consensus among participants: progress has been made in many areas but nowhere is it yet sufficient. The strong message from participants was that investment from CEPF and other international funders in biodiversity conservation would be needed for some considerable time yet.

Priorities for the Remainder of the Investment Phase

The mid-term assessment workshop, in March 2015, brought together more than 130 stakeholders in the CEPF investment phase, including representatives of grantees, funders and government agencies, as well as the RIT and CEPF Secretariat. The workshop provided an opportunity for participants to share results and lessons learned for their grants, revalidate the underlying assumptions of the investment strategy, and revisit investment priorities in light of new information and changed circumstances.

Main Messages from Mid-term Assessment Workshop

Participants provided a lot of valuable feedback, to help set priorities for the remainder of the investment phase (July 2015 to June 2018). From this feedback, six main messages were distilled. First, there should be stronger links among CEPF grantees at both national and regional levels. Civil society organizations have developed, tested and refined many conservation approaches of demonstrated effectiveness but they tend not to be familiar with the work of other organizations grappling with similar challenges. This means that many organizations try to “reinvent the wheel”, rather than adopting good practice approaches developed by others. Another reason why strengthened linkages are needed is that conservation issues are increasingly trans-national in nature and require solutions that span international borders. Given the relative lack of regional civil society organizations, this calls for networks and alliances between civil society organizations in different countries.

Second, more emphasis should be given to evidence-based conservation. Several conservation approaches supported by CEPF have strong anecdotal evidence for their efficacy but little

empirical evidence of their impacts on either biodiversity conservation or human well-being. An example cited by several participants was community fisheries, which are widely promoted as a model for conservation and sustainable use of aquatic resources. Third, there is a need for greater integration of the CEPF portfolio into government plans and priorities. To this end, participants recommended that more use should be made of the National Advisory Committees to align CEPF grant making with national priorities, and as a platform for sharing experience and lessons learned from the portfolio, especially good practice conservation models relevant to national conservation policy.

Fourth, many participants identified the need for longer-term funding support to civil society organizations. Although they welcomed the grants from CEPF, they noted that most had a duration of under two years, meaning that it was frequently difficult for organizations to retain institutional memory and staff capacity built during the period of support. Although individual grants may be short in duration, CEPF is able to provide multiple consecutive grants to the same organization, and thereby support multiple phases of a longer program of work. Going forward, it will be important to strike the right balance between providing longer-term support to a few organizations and making at least some funding available to a larger number. Another limitation was the size of small grants. Some participants noted that the maximum size of \$20,000 does not necessarily match the capacity-building needs of many small organizations that might have high potential to grow and do more impactful work but whose potential is constrained by limited funding. The challenge here, of course, is to identify those organizations that have high potential for growth among the large number of smaller organizations, and to do so in a way that is transparent and fair.

The fifth message from participants was to transfer experience from civil society organizations working in the Mekong Basin to organizations working in the Ayeyarwady and the Thanlwin/Salween/Nujiang Basins. Conservation issues in the Mekong Basin, especially in relation to hydropower development, agro-industrial plantations and other major threats to biodiversity, are more severe but, at the same time, the response from civil society is more advanced. Participants recognized an opportunity for civil society organizations working in Myanmar to learn from the experience of peer organizations active in the Mekong Basin.

Finally, participants emphasized the point that CEPF should not lose its unique focus on biodiversity. In recent years, several donors that had hitherto been an important source of funding for civil society organizations announced decisions to end their support for biodiversity conservation. Consequently, there was a certain level of anxiety that CEPF might also shift its focus to another programmatic focus, such as climate change. The Secretariat staff provided reassurances that biodiversity conservation would remain at the heart of CEPF's mission.

Proposed Adjustments to the Investment Strategy

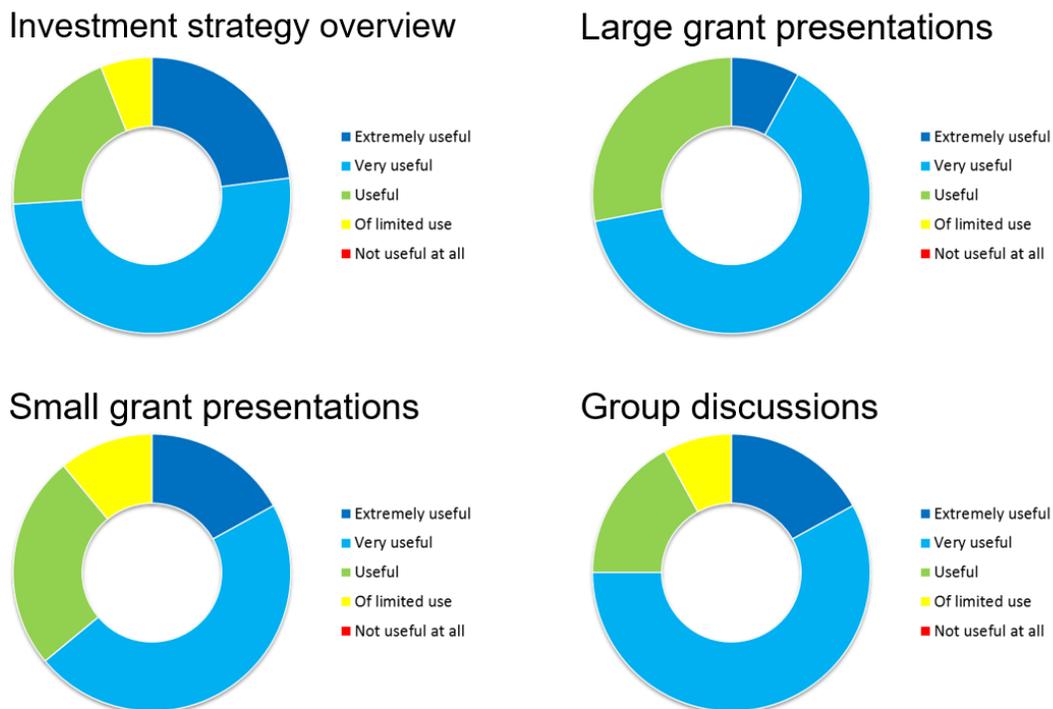
The investment strategy for the Indo-Burma Hotspot was formulated as part of the update of the ecosystem profile in 2011. In the intervening period, there have been changes to the relative importance of threats to biodiversity, the capacity and programmatic focus of civil society organizations active in the conservation field, and the operating environment for civil society, in terms of both political space and funding opportunities. The mid-term assessment, therefore, provided an opportunity to review the investment strategy and the underlying assumptions. Participants at the workshop were invited to review the investment priorities from the 2011 ecosystem profile, consider the strategies adopted by grantees, discuss what has worked, what has not worked and why, and propose updates, if needed, with justification.

Participants proposed revisions and/or clarifications to the language of 26 of the 38 investment priorities in the strategy. In addition, participants proposed the inclusion of four new investment priorities: two under Strategic Direction 6 (on biodiversity-friendly production/consumption, and financial decision making); and two under Strategic Direction 9 (on support for future conservation leaders, and proposal/report-writing skills). These suggestions were taken into consideration by the CEPF Secretariat, resulting in 21 investment priorities being revised and three new investment priorities being added to the strategy. The proposed revisions and the ensuing changes are detailed in Annex 4. Future calls for proposals will be based on the revised investment strategy, thereby ensuring that the results of the mid-term assessment are reflected in the grant portfolio.

Participants at the mid-term assessment workshop also proposed revisions to the geographic and taxonomic priorities for investment. Relatively few changes to the geographic priorities were proposed, which resulted in the addition of two sites to the list of KBAs in Myanmar: Lawkananda (including Bagan area) in Mandalay Region, because of its importance for turtles and birds; and Pwe Hla in Shan State, an important site for green peafowl (*Pavo muticus*).

More changes were made to the list of priority species, both during and after the workshop. Most of these changes reflected changes in taxonomy or global threat status. Three turtles were added due to taxonomic splits: Bourret’s box turtle (*Cuora bourreti*), previously lumped with *C. galbinifrons*; southern Vietnam box turtle (*C. picturata*), also previously lumped with *C. galbinifrons*; and southern river terrapin (*Batagur affinis*), previously lumped with *B. baska*. Also, Vietnamese pheasant (*Lophura hatinhensis*) was removed from the list, because it is no longer recognized as a separate species by the IUCN Red List but lumped with Edwards’s pheasant (*L. edwardsi*).

Figure 3: Results of the Evaluation Questionnaire Completed by Workshop Participants



Five species were moved from the list of provisional priority species for CEPF investment to the priority species list, because their global threat status has been reassessed as globally threatened: white-throated wren-babbler (*Rimator pasquieri*; was LC, now EN); Nonggang babbler (*Stachyris nonggangensis*; was NT, now VU); black-bellied tern (*Sterna acuticauda*; was NT, now EN); Chinese crocodile lizard (*Shinisaurus crocodilurus*; was NT, now EN); and Laos warty newt (*Laotriton laoensis*; was DD, now EN). Finally, southern white-cheeked crested gibbon (*Nomascus siki*) was added to the list of priority species due to it being re-evaluated as facing similar levels of urgency and opportunity for conservation action as other congeners already on the list. The revised priority species list is presented in Annex 5.

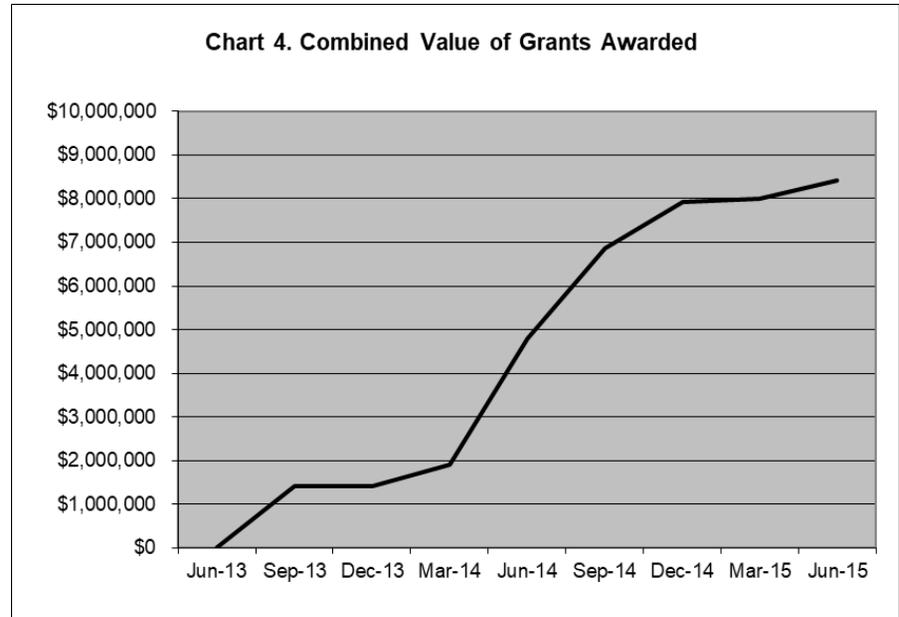
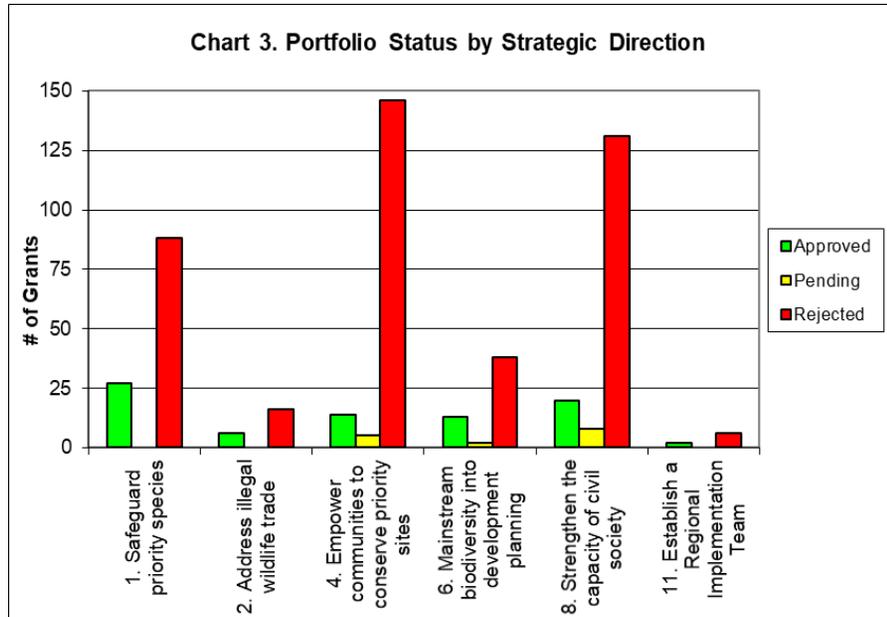
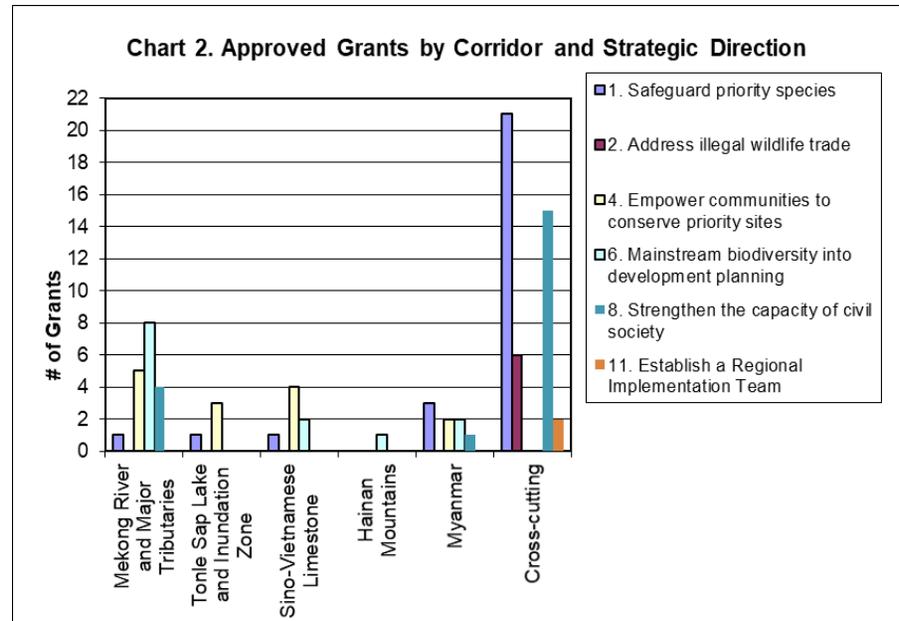
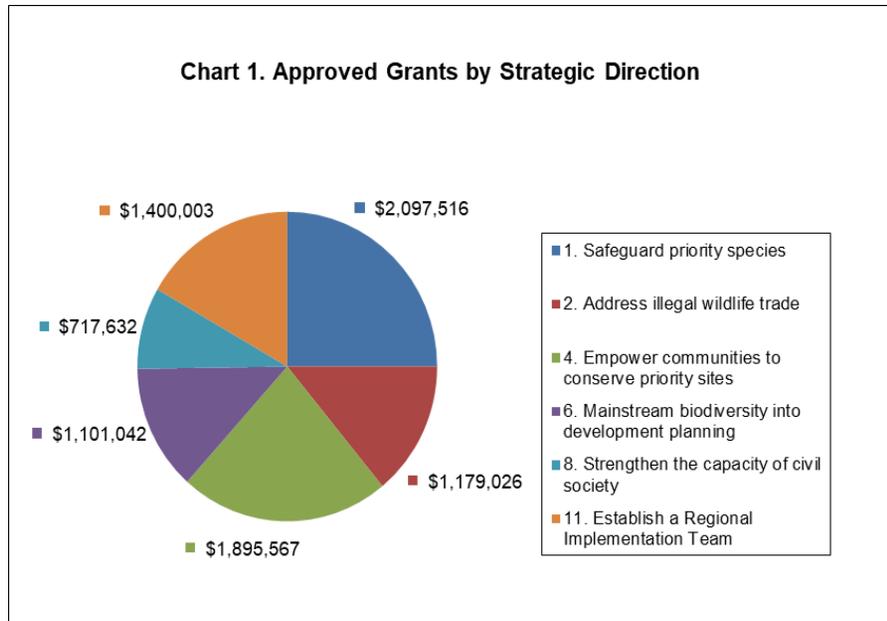
Finally, the participants were asked to evaluate the workshop itself. In response to the question “to what degree were the workshop aims met?”, 91 percent responded that the aim of sharing results and lessons learned had been mostly or fully met, 83 percent responded that the aim of revalidating the underlying assumptions had been mostly or fully met; and 86 percent responded that the aim of revisiting the investment priorities had been mostly or fully met. Most or all of the participants found each type of session to have been useful, very useful or extremely useful (Figure 3).

Conclusion

Two years in, the second CEPF investment phase in the Indo-Burma Hotspot has made very good progress. A balanced grant portfolio has been developed, with 79 percent of the spending authority already awarded, and progress on track to meet 25 of the 28 indicators in the portfolio logframe. Although most grants have been under implementation for less than 18 months, and only 21 small grants have so far ended, tangible impacts are already being observed, in terms of biodiversity conserved, human well-being improved, civil society capacity strengthened, and enabling conditions enhanced. A notable feature of the investment phase to date has been the widening of access, with many local organizations applying for and receiving CEPF grants for the first time. The RIT has been instrumental in achieving this, by communicating the funding opportunity widely, providing outreach and training for potential applicants, and providing ongoing mentoring and oversight to first-time grantees.

Moving forward, new calls for proposals will be issued, to program the remaining funds. These will be informed by an updated investment strategy and will target gaps in the portfolio, especially with regard to mainstreaming biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into development planning. CEPF will continue to pursue opportunities for leveraging additional funds, to help respond to the unmet demand for grant funding among civil society organizations active in the hotspot. The RIT will continue to engage with civil society organizations, and provide training in proposal writing and project cycle management, to make CEPF grants accessible to a wider pool of organizations. The RIT will also start to transition away from a focus on grant making towards supervision of the active portfolio, monitoring of impacts, and documentation and communication of lessons learned. Finally, CEPF and the RIT will continue to facilitate collaboration among the community of civil society organizations that is responding to the pressing conservation issues in the Indo-Burma Hotspot: a community that continues to grow in size, capability and influence.

Annex 1 - Charts Summarizing CEPF Investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot as of June 30, 2015



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>At least 50 civil society organizations, including at least 30 domestic organizations actively participate in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile.</p> <p>At least 8 alliances and networks formed among civil society actors to avoid duplication of effort and maximize impact in support of the CEPF ecosystem profile.</p> <p>At least 25 Key Biodiversity Areas targeted by CEPF grants have new or strengthened protection and management.</p> <p>At least 5 development plans or policies influenced to accommodate biodiversity.</p> <p>Improved management for biodiversity conservation or sustainable use within production landscapes in 4 conservation corridors covering 109,976 square kilometers or 5 percent of the hotspot.</p>	<p>53 civil society organizations, including 33 domestic organizations have been awarded CEPF grants. Applications from a further 12 organizations (all domestic) are in the pipeline.</p> <p>Awarded grants propose to establish 16 alliances and networks among civil society actors, while pipeline grants propose to establish 2 more.</p> <p>35 Key Biodiversity Areas are targeted by awarded grants, while pipeline grants propose to target a further 5.</p> <p>Awarded grants aim to influence 2 plans and policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spatial development plans in Savannakhet province, Lao PDR. • The Mekong River Commission’s Procedures for Notification, Prior Consultation, and Agreement. <p>A pipeline grant proposes to influence 1 more policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vietnam’s national policy on overseas investment. <p>Grants have been awarded improving conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity within production landscapes in 3 conservation corridors plus Myanmar:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mekong River and Major Tributaries. • Tonle Sap Lake and Inundation Zone. • Sino-Vietnamese Limestone. <p>A pipeline grant proposes to do this in 1 more corridor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hainan Mountains.

Intermediate Outcomes	Intermediate Indicators	Progress
<p>Outcome 1: Priority globally threatened species safeguarded by mitigating major threats</p> <p>\$1,800,000</p>	<p>Pilot interventions for core populations of at least 20 priority species transformed into long-term conservation programs.</p> <p>At least 3 best practice approaches for conservation of highly threatened and endemic freshwater species developed.</p> <p>Knowledge of the status and distribution of at least 10 priority species improved through research.</p> <p>Funding for the conservation of priority species in the hotspot from existing funds increased by at least 25 percent.</p>	<p>Conservation of core populations of 3 priority species has been strengthened:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indochinese silvered leaf monkey. • Jullien’s golden carp. • Thick-lipped barb. <p>Core populations of a further 27 priority species are targeted by awarded grants.</p> <p>Best practice approaches for have been developed for 2 highly threatened and/or endemic freshwater species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jullien’s golden carp. • Thick-lipped barb. <p>Awarded grants are developing similar approaches for an additional 4 species.</p> <p>Knowledge of the status and distribution of 2 priority species has been improved through research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing cat. • Masked finfoot. <p>Awarded grants propose to improve knowledge of the status and distribution of 5 more priority species.</p> <p>No progress to date.</p>

Intermediate Outcomes	Intermediate Indicators	Progress
<p>Outcome 2: Innovative responses to illegal trafficking and consumption of wildlife demonstrated</p> <p>\$1,200,000</p>	<p>At least 1 high-level wildlife trade network unraveled by enforcement agencies employing global best practice with investigations and informants.</p> <p>At least 2 initiatives to reduce cross-border trafficking of wildlife piloted by enforcement agencies in collaboration with non-traditional actors.</p> <p>At least 5 private sector companies promote the adoption of voluntary restrictions on the international transportation, sale and consumption of wildlife.</p> <p>At least 3 campaigns, social marketing programs, hotlines or other long-term communication programs implemented to reduce consumer demand for wildlife and build public support for wildlife law enforcement.</p>	<p>Awarded grants are supporting enforcement agencies unravel 2 high-level wildlife trade networks by bringing to bear cutting-edge methodologies for investigation and informant management.</p> <p>Awarded grants are supporting 5 initiatives to reduce wildlife trafficking across the Cambodia-Vietnam, Lao PDR-Vietnam, Vietnam-China and Myan03/China borders.</p> <p>Awarded grants are promoting the adoption of voluntary restriction on the international transportation, sale and consumption of wildlife by at least 4 private companies in Cambodia and at least 4 in China.</p> <p>Awarded grants are implementing 5 campaigns, social marketing programs or hotlines to reduce consumer demand for wildlife and build public support for wildlife law enforcement.</p>

Intermediate Outcomes	Intermediate Indicators	Progress
<p>Outcome 3: Local communities empowered to engage in conservation and management of priority Key Biodiversity Areas</p> <p>\$2,600,000</p>	<p>Awareness of biodiversity conservation legislation raised among target groups within at least 10 priority sites.</p> <p>Community forests, community fisheries and/or community-managed protected areas piloted or replicated within at least 15 priority sites.</p> <p>Co-management mechanisms that enable community participation in management of formal protected areas developed for at least 10 priority sites.</p> <p>Gap analysis of Key Biodiversity Areas in Myanmar conducted, and protected area network expanded through the creation of at least 5 new protected areas using community-based models.</p> <p>At least 75 percent of local communities targeted by site-based projects show tangible well-being benefits.</p>	<p>Awarded grants are raising awareness of conservation legislation among target groups at 7 priority sites, while pipeline grants propose to do so at 2 more.</p> <p>Three community co-managed fish conservation zones have been established along a 13-km section of the Mekong River from Luang Prabang to Vientiane. Awarded grants are piloting or replicating community forests, community fisheries or community-managed protected areas at an additional 10 priority sites, while a pipeline grant proposes to do so at 1 more.</p> <p>Awarded grants are developing protected area co-management mechanisms at 8 priority sites, while pipeline grants propose to do so at a further 3 sites.</p> <p>Awarded grants are conducting protected area gap analyses of the Chin Hills Complex, Rakhine Yoma Range and Western Shan Yoma Range corridors, as well as freshwater ecosystems in the upper Ayeyarwady Basin. These grants propose to establish at least 5 community-managed fish conservation zones.</p> <p>Wang Mee village, outside of Thailand’s Thab Lan National Park, has benefited from reduced human-elephant conflict. A further 6 awarded and 1 pipeline grants aim to deliver benefits to local communities but results will only be reported when these grants close.</p>

Intermediate Outcomes	Intermediate Indicators	Progress
<p>Outcome 4: Key actors engaged in mainstreaming biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into development planning in the priority corridors.</p> <p>\$2,400,000</p>	<p>At least 5 development policies, plans or programs analyzed, with impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services evaluated and alternative development scenarios and appropriate mitigating measures proposed.</p> <p>The biodiversity and ecosystem service values of at least 2 priority corridors integrated into land-use and/or development plans.</p> <p>New protocols for ecological restoration demonstrated in the priority corridors and integrated into the national forestry programs of at least 1 hotspot country.</p> <p>Public debate and awareness of at least 3 key environmental issues increased through coverage in domestic media.</p>	<p>Awarded grants are analyzing 6 policies, plans or programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydropower development on the Mekong mainstream. • Hydropower development on the Nujiang, China. • Hydropower development in the 3S Basin. • Cement manufacture in Myanmar. • Tourism development on Hainan Island, China. • Tourism development in Myanmar. <p>Pipeline grants propose to analyze a further 2 plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rubber production in Cambodia. • Hydropower development in Yunnan province, China. <p>No progress to date.</p> <p>No progress to date.</p> <p>Awarded grants are increasing public debate and awareness of 4 key environmental issues through coverage in domestic media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydropower development on the Mekong mainstream. • Hydropower development in the 3S Basin. • Mining in the Sino-Vietnamese Limestone corridor. • Forest management and financing mechanisms in the Sino-Vietnamese Limestone corridor. <p>Pipeline grants propose to increase awareness and debate of a further 2 issues.</p>

Intermediate Outcomes	Intermediate Indicators	Progress
<p>Outcome 6: A Regional Implementation Team provides strategic leadership and effectively coordinates CEPF investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot.</p> <p>\$1,400,000</p>	<p>At least 50 civil society organizations, including at least 30 domestic organizations actively participate in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile.</p> <p>At least 80 percent of domestic civil society organizations receiving grants demonstrate more effective capacity to design and implement conservation actions.</p> <p>At least 2 participatory assessments are undertaken and documented.</p>	<p>53 civil society organizations, including 33 domestic ones have been awarded CEPF grants. Applications from a further 12 domestic organizations are in the pipeline.</p> <p>Baseline and final civil society tracking tools have been completed by 8 domestic civil society organizations receiving grants or sub-grants. Among these, the scores of 6 organizations (75 percent) have increased over the period of CEPF support.</p> <p>1 mid-term assessment was undertaken in Siem Reap, Cambodia in March 2015, with more than 130 participants.</p>
Strategic Funding Summary	Amount	
Total Budget Amount	\$10,400,000	

Annex 3 – Progress towards Long-term Goals for CEPF Investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot

Goal 1: Conservation priorities

Criterion	2013		2015		Notes
i. Globally threatened species. Comprehensive global threat assessments conducted for all terrestrial vertebrates, vascular plants and at least selected freshwater taxa.		Not met		Not met	In 2013, comprehensive Red List assessments had been carried out for all mammals, birds and amphibians plus five major freshwater taxa. Also, assessments had been carried out for 607 vascular plants. However, an estimated 20,000 vascular plant species remained unassessed, while a comprehensive Red List assessment of reptiles was lacking. In 2015, the situation remained broadly similar, with incomplete Red List assessments for plants and reptiles.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
ii. Key Biodiversity Areas. KBAs identified, covering, at minimum, terrestrial, freshwater and coastal ecosystems.		Not met		Not met	A comprehensive analysis of KBAs, in terrestrial and coastal ecosystems was conducted in 2003, as part of the ecosystem profiling process. By 2013, this analysis had been updated, and an initial analysis of freshwater KBAs had been undertaken for the hotspot. In 2015, stakeholders assessed this criterion as only partial met, because no comprehensive analysis of freshwater and marine KBAs had been conducted, and there was insufficient support and ownership from government for the KBA agenda.
		Partially met	X	Partially met	
	X	Fully met		Fully met	
iii. Conservation corridors. Conservation corridors identified in all parts of the region where contiguous natural habitats extend over scales greater than individual sites, and refined using recent land cover data.		Not met		Not met	A system of conservation corridors was defined across part of the hotspot through a WWF-led ecoregion-based conservation assessment in 2001. This analysis was extended to the entire hotspot in 2003, under the ecosystem profiling process. In only a few cases is there broad-based support for these corridors. In 2015, the situation remained broadly the same; with some exceptions, the corridors are not widely supported by government.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
iv. Conservation plans. Global conservation priorities incorporated into national or regional conservation plans or strategies developed with the participation of multiple stakeholders.		Not met		Not met	At the regional level, conservation corridors form the basis for the spatial priorities under the ADB's Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Initiative for the Greater Mekong Sub-region. The level of integration of globally conservation priorities into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans varies from total to negligible, although some countries are due to update their plans, which creates an opportunity to include them.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
v. Management best practices. Best practices for managing global conservation priorities (e.g., participatory approaches to park management, invasive species control, etc.) are introduced, institutionalized, and sustained at priority KBAs and corridors.	X	Not met	X	Not met	Examples of management best practices (e.g. community co-management, use of SMART patrolling, conservation incentives, etc.) have been piloted at individual sites but they have yet to be replicated at the majority of priority KBAs. Stakeholders felt that this goal may be overambitious, as there is a gap in terms of recognition of what are best practices. An overview of selected best practices may help in introducing and institutionalizing them.
		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	

Goal 2: Civil society capacity

Criterion	2013		2015		Notes
i. Human resources. Local and national civil society groups collectively possess technical competencies of critical importance to conservation.		Not met		Not met	Local civil society organizations rate their knowledge and capacity as satisfactory or better for most of the technical competencies considered as priorities in the hotspot. Nevertheless, a number of significant gaps remain for local groups, most notably securing long-term financing, successfully influencing government policies, developing science-led actions for threatened species, and implementing site-based conservation actions.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
ii. Management systems and strategic planning. Local and national civil society groups collectively possess sufficient institutional and operational capacity and structures to raise funds for conservation and to ensure the efficient management of conservation projects and strategies.		Not met		Not met	There has been greater focus by civil society organizations on conservation action for priority species and sites. At the same time, a shift in donor interest is causing organizations in some countries to move away from biodiversity conservation into areas where funding is available, most notably climate change. A significant minority of the priority sites and species in the Indo-Burma Hotspot still received no focused conservation attention from civil society organizations.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
iii. Partnerships. Effective mechanisms exist for conservation-focused civil society groups to work in partnership with one another, and through networks with local communities, governments, the private sector, donors, and other important stakeholders, in pursuit of common objectives.	X	Not met		Not met	In 2013, fully institutionalized and sustainable partnerships dedicated to coordinating conservation actions among key stakeholder groups were in place for only two CEPF priority sites. By 2015, this number had increased to five. Although civil society organizations can find it difficult to work in partnership, in part due to competition for funding, there are encouraging signs of greater collaboration in recent years.
		Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
iv. Financial resources. Local civil society organizations have access to long-term funding sources to maintain the conservation results achieved via CEPF grants and/or other initiatives, through access to new donor funds, conservation enterprises, memberships, endowments, and/or other funding mechanisms.	X	Not met	X	Not met	In 2013, none of the CEPF priority sites had access to stable and diversified long-term funding sources for conservation through support to local civil society organizations. By 2015, the situation had not improved markedly; even international NGOs remain dependent on short-term grant funding to support their work at priority sites. Local groups face strong competition for funding from international NGOs, who pursue the same opportunities if they are allowed. Although the GEF Small Grants Program and some other schemes are only accessible to local groups, their support is short-term.
		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
v. Transboundary cooperation. In multi-country hotspots, mechanisms exist for collaboration across political boundaries at site, corridor and/or national scales.	X	Not met	X	Not met	There are only a few examples of effective mechanisms for transboundary conservation in the hotspot, such as on primate conservation between China and Vietnam, and Annamite forest conservation between Lao PDR and Vietnam. Good examples of wider regional collaboration among civil society organizations are emerging, however, such as the Save the Mekong Coalition and the Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP).
		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	

Goal 3: Sustainable financing

Criterion	2013		2015		Notes
i. Public sector funding. Public sector agencies responsible for conservation in the region have a continued public fund allocation or revenue-generating ability to operate effectively.	X	Not met	X	Not met	In 2013, the financial resources available to the three largest public sector agencies responsible for conservation in each hotspot country were considered a serious impediment to their effective functioning. By 2015, the situation had not improved markedly. Public sector funding is not adequate in any of the hotspot countries, although it is growing in Thailand. Biodiversity conservation remains a low spending priority for national governments across the hotspot, and the limited budget allocations that are made are strongly skewed towards infrastructure and staff salaries.
		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
ii. Civil society funding. Civil society organizations engaged in conservation in the region have access to sufficient funding to continue their work at current levels.		Not met		Not met	An estimated five of the 10 largest civil society organizations engaged in conservation in the hotspot have access to sufficient secured funding to continue their work for at least the next five years. Most local and international civil society organizations remain heavily dependent upon grant funding, although a few have secured funding from other sources, such as private companies and donations from high-net-worth individuals.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
iii. Donor funding. Donors other than CEPF have committed to providing sufficient funds to address global conservation priorities in the region.	X	Not met	X	Not met	Some new donors have made significant commitments to conservation in the hotspot over the next five years, while other donors have scaled down their support or switched to other priorities, such as climate change. Funding levels for conservation from the major donors remain broadly unchanged from the situation in 2013, i.e. they remain vastly below the level needed, given the scale and intensity of threats to biodiversity.
		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
iv. Livelihood alternatives. Local stakeholders affecting the conservation of biodiversity in the region have economic alternatives to unsustainable exploitation of natural resources.	X	Not met		Not met	In 2013, local communities at only a handful of CEPF priority sites had access to economic alternatives to unsustainable exploitation of natural resources. The situation had improved somewhat by 2013, with an increasing number of initiatives delivering income-generating activities that provide genuine alternatives to unsustainable natural resource use that are supportive of or, at least, complementary to conservation goals.
		Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
v. Long-term mechanisms. Financing mechanisms (e.g., trust funds, revenue from the sale of carbon credits, etc.) exist and are of sufficient size to yield continuous long-term returns for at least the next 10 years.	X	Not met	X	Not met	There are still no CEPF priority sites for which sustainable financing mechanisms are yielding funding such that financial constraints are no longer identified as a barrier to effective conservation management. Long-term conservation finance is an emerging field in the hotspot. Some experience exists with private sector partnerships, especially in Lao PDR and Myanmar, as well as environmental trust funds in China, Thailand and Vietnam, but performance has been mixed.
		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	

Goal 4: Enabling environment

Criterion	2013		2015		Notes
i. Legal environment for conservation. Laws exist that provide incentives for desirable conservation behavior and disincentives against undesirable behavior.		Not met		Not met	In all hotspot countries, international commitments under multilateral environmental agreements are reflected in national laws, which are often elucidated through detailed regulations. However, these laws and regulations do not provide for sufficient incentives and disincentives to encourage behavior consistent with them. In particular, there are few financial incentives for conservation and few effective deterrents to over-exploitation and conversion of natural ecosystems. At the regional level, frameworks for inter-governmental collaboration on natural resources are consider ineffectual, and better multi-stakeholder processes and platforms are needed for regional decision-making, especially given the transboundary nature for many environmental problems.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
ii. Legal environment for civil society. Laws exist that allow for civil society to engage in the public policy-making and implementation process.		Not met		Not met	In 2013, local civil society organizations all countries in the hotspot were legally allowed to convene, organize, register, receive funds and engage in conservation activities. In 2015, the situation is broadly similar, although there has been some tightening of regulations governing the operations of civil society organizations, which have had the effect of constraining the political space open to them. In every country, there remain politically sensitive issues that are seen as “off limits” to civil society.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
iii. Education and training. Domestic programs exist that produce trained environmental managers at secondary, undergraduate, and advanced academic levels.		Not met		Not met	In 2013, the proportion of senior leadership positions in conservation agencies staffed by local country nationals was estimated to be more than 50 percent but less than 90 percent, as many senior positions were staffed by expatriates. By 2015, the situation had not changed much. Stakeholders noted that there appears to be a disconnect between the indicator (staffing of conservation agencies) and the criterion (education and training), and suggested that a better indicator would be that the criterion will be considered full met if working for a conservation agency is seen as a pathway to a professional career and provides a salary sufficient to raise a family.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
iv. Transparency. Relevant public sector agencies use participatory, accountable, and publicly reviewable process to make decisions regarding use of land and natural resources.	X	Not met	X	Not met	Neither public agencies responsible for biodiversity at the national level nor those controlling individual conservation areas regularly hold public meetings, or document their decisions and make them available to the fullest extent possible. There is a general lack of accountability in public administration, and the environment sector is no exception. Civil society organizations face restrictions on access to information held by public agencies.
		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	

v. Enforcement. Designated authorities are clearly mandated to manage the protected area system(s) in the region and conserve biodiversity outside of them, and are empowered to implement the enforcement continuum of education, prevention, interdiction, arrest, and prosecution.	X	Not met	X	Not met	Protected area management bodies have varying but typically limited jurisdiction over the areas nominally under their management, and very limited influence over activities occurring in their buffer zones. In each country, less than half (and in some cases much less) of the legally designated protected areas are estimated to have their boundaries demarcated on the ground and to be patrolled regularly (at least one week out of every month).
		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	

Goal 5: Responsiveness to emerging issues

Criterion	2013		2015		Notes
i. Biodiversity monitoring. Nationwide or region-wide systems are in place to monitor status and trends of the components of biodiversity.		Not met		Not Met	National governments have established systems to monitor status and trends in forest cover. Other habitat types are generally not monitored at the national or regional scale, although there are some site-specific initiatives. A small but growing number of species populations benefit from systematic monitoring efforts, which is enabling a move towards evidence-based conservation. Stakeholder identified the need for a series of reports on the state of biodiversity in the hotspot.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
ii. Threats monitoring. Nationwide or region-wide systems are in place to monitor status and trends of threats to biodiversity.		Not met		Not met	Systems are in place to monitor certain threats (e.g. forest fire, land conversion, hunting, etc.) at the national scale in some countries. There is also systematic monitoring of wildlife crime at the regional level, although information sharing still tends to be reactive rather than proactive. Since 2013, there has been important progress with sharing information about development, most notably the Open Development Mekong web platform.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
iii. Ecosystem services monitoring. Nationwide or region-wide systems are in place to monitor status and trends of ecosystem services.	X	Not met	X	Not met	In 2013, there were no systems in place to monitor status and trends in ecosystem services at the national or regional scale. Global datasets were available that could be used to infer trends in such services as water provision and carbon storage but these were not ground-truthed within the region. In 2015, this remains a major gap. A particular challenge is the need for long-term financial support for monitoring systems.
		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
iv. Adaptive management. Conservation organizations and protected area management authorities demonstrate the ability to respond promptly to emerging issues.		Not met		Not met	There are numerous examples of conservation organizations adapting their missions or strategies to respond to emerging issues, such as agro-industrial plantations, mining and climate change. At the same time, there are other emerging issues, such as hydrocarbon exploration, that conservation organizations have not yet responded to systematically. Stakeholders noted that some funders were too rigid and did not allow their grantees to change course from the objectives in their grant agreements.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	
v. Public sphere. Conservation issues are regularly discussed in the public sphere, and these discussions influence public policy.		Not met		Not met	In 2013, this criterion was considered fully met, because there was more discussion of conservation issues in the public sphere than in 2008, and these discussions had been seen to influence policy in some cases. In 2015, stakeholders revised this assessment to partially met, arguing that, while conservation issues in the hotspot gain lots of attention in the international media, they tend to receive less coverage in local media, in particular those with local-language content. Moreover, examples of greater public discussion of conservation issues influencing public policy remain limited.
		Partially met	X	Partially met	
	X	Fully met		Fully met	

Annex 4 – Revisions to the CEPF Investment Strategy for the Indo-Burma Hotspot

Strategic Direction / Investment Priority (2011 Ecosystem Profile)	Revisions suggested by participants at mid-term assessment workshop (March 2015)	How suggestions will be addressed
COMPONENT I: CONSERVATION OF PRIORITY SPECIES		
1. Safeguard priority globally threatened species by mitigating major threats	None.	n/a
1.1 Transform pilot interventions for core populations of priority species into long-term conservation programs	<p>Reword: Build and strengthen long-term conservation programs for core populations of priority species.</p> <p>Need legal recognition of pilot activities.</p> <p>Need to share innovative ideas – what works.</p>	<p>1.1 Build and strengthen long-term conservation programs for core populations of priority species.</p> <p>Future calls for proposals will specifically encourage proposals that promote legal recognition of pilot approaches and sharing of innovative ideas.</p>
1.2 Develop best-practice approaches for conservation of highly threatened and endemic freshwater species	The IP language seems to be focused on fish and should be broadened to include other endemic freshwater species (birds, turtle, etc.).	<p>No change to IP language.</p> <p>Future calls for proposals will clarify that “threatened and endemic freshwater species” refers to all taxa.</p>
1.3 Conduct research on globally threatened species for which there is a need for greatly improved information on status and distribution	<p>Reword: Conduct research on globally threatened species for which there is a need for greatly improved information.</p> <p>Research on species clusters and data deficient or poorly defined species should be allowed.</p>	1.3 Conduct research on globally threatened and data deficient species for which there is a need for greatly improved information.
1.4 Support existing funds to become effective tools for the conservation of priority species in the hotspot	<p>Request clearer language.</p> <p>Support long-term sustainable financing.</p>	1.4 Develop long-term financing mechanisms for conservation of priority species.

Strategic Direction / Investment Priority (2011 Ecosystem Profile)	Revisions suggested by participants at mid-term assessment workshop (March 2015)	How suggestions will be addressed
2. Demonstrate innovative responses to illegal trafficking and consumption of wildlife	None.	n/a
2.1 Support enforcement agencies to unravel high-level wildlife trade networks by introducing them to global best practice with investigations and informants	Emphasize using non-traditional laws (e.g. money laundering). Emphasize strengthening political will to implement existing policies and enforce sentencing guidelines related to wildlife crime.	No change to IP language. Future calls for proposals will specifically encourage proposals that make use of non-traditional legal tools, such as money laundering and tax laws, as well as proposals that strengthen political will for implementing existing policies and sentencing guidelines.
2.2 Facilitate collaboration among enforcement agencies and non-traditional actors to reduce cross-border trafficking of wildlife	None.	n/a
2.3 Work with selected private sector companies to promote the adoption of voluntary restrictions on the international transportation, sale and consumption of wildlife	Reword: Engage with private sector [banks, transport, e-commerce] to develop effective measures to reduce their involvement in wildlife trafficking. Capture active discouragement as well as voluntary restrictions.	2.3 Engage with private sector companies to develop effective measures to reduce their involvement in wildlife trafficking. Future calls for proposals will clarify that private companies include those in the banking, transport and e-commerce sectors, and that eligible activities include active discouragement as well as voluntary restrictions.
2.4 Support campaigns, social marketing, hotlines and other long-term communication programs to reduce consumer demand for wildlife and build public support for wildlife law enforcement	More focus needed on crime prevention to reduce consumption (but not at expense of demand reduction).	2.4 Support campaigns, social marketing, hotlines, crime prevention and other long-term programs to reduce consumption of wildlife and build public support for wildlife law enforcement.

Strategic Direction / Investment Priority (2011 Ecosystem Profile)	Revisions suggested by participants at mid-term assessment workshop (March 2015)	How suggestions will be addressed
COMPONENT II: PROTECTION AND STEWARDSHIP OF PRIORITY SITES		
3. Strengthen management effectiveness at protected areas as a tool to conserve priority key biodiversity areas	None.	n/a
3.1 Develop verifiable standards and objectives for protected area management and pilot at priority sites	Focus on building the capacity to apply existing tools/systems, instead of developing them. Consider clarifying what is meant by “verifiable standards”. Is this necessary given existing global standards?	3.1 Build capacity to apply global standards and tools for protected area management.
3.2 Institutionalize training programs for protected area managers within domestic academic institutions	Reword: Develop training programs at universities, forestry schools and training centers for protected area staff and biodiversity conservation practitioners.	3.2 Develop training programs for protected area managers within domestic academic institutions (universities, forestry schools, training centers, etc.).
3.3 Develop best-practice approaches for direct civil society involvement in protected area management	Make this a priority for CEPF. There is some existing capacity here, and a clear role for civil society.	No change to IP language.
4. Empower local communities to engage in conservation and management of priority key biodiversity areas	None.	n/a
4.1 Raise awareness about biodiversity conservation legislation among target groups at priority sites	None.	n/a
4.2 Pilot and amplify community forests, community fisheries and community-managed protected areas	Need approval of ministry for any community management area; need transfer of rights.	No change to IP language.
4.3 Develop co-management mechanisms for formal protected areas that enable community participation in all levels of management	Naïve; may not be possible.	4.3 Develop co-management mechanisms for formal protected areas that enable community participation in management and governance.

Strategic Direction / Investment Priority (2011 Ecosystem Profile)	Revisions suggested by participants at mid-term assessment workshop (March 2015)	How suggestions will be addressed
4.4 Conduct a gap analysis of key biodiversity areas in Myanmar and support expansion of the protected area network using community-based models	Split IP into two parts, so that IP4.4 becomes “conduct a gap analysis of KBAs in Myanmar”, and IP4.5 becomes “support expansion of the protected area network using participatory gazettement, community consultation processes and/or community based models”.	4.4 Conduct a gap analysis of key biodiversity areas in Myanmar. 4.5 Support expansion of the protected area network in Myanmar using participatory gazettal, community consultation processes and/or community-based models.
5. Strengthen local initiatives to sustain and improve the livelihoods of local communities at priority key biodiversity areas	Emphasize biodiversity conservation using mechanisms of sustainable livelihoods.	5. Strengthen biodiversity conservation by promoting sustainable livelihoods for local communities at priority key biodiversity areas.
5.1 Pilot alternative livelihood projects to reduce dependence on natural resources at priority sites	Consider “sustainable livelihoods” not “alternative livelihoods”. Involve relevant expertise from development partners and give attention to micro-credit and saving schemes. Add a monitoring component.	5.1 Pilot sustainable livelihood projects to reduce dependence on natural resources at priority sites. Future calls for proposals will specifically encourage proposals that involve expertise from development partners and give attention to micro-credit and saving schemes, and will require projects to monitor impacts on livelihoods and biodiversity.
5.2 Directly link livelihood support to conservation actions through negotiated agreements	Add a monitoring component.	No change to IP language. Future calls for proposals will require projects to monitor impacts on livelihoods and biodiversity.
5.3 Develop best-practice ecotourism initiatives at priority sites	Reword: Develop and strengthen best-practice ecotourism initiatives at priority sites. Add a monitoring component.	5.3 Develop and strengthen best-practice ecotourism initiatives at priority sites.

Strategic Direction / Investment Priority (2011 Ecosystem Profile)	Revisions suggested by participants at mid-term assessment workshop (March 2015)	How suggestions will be addressed
COMPONENT III: ENHANCEMENT OF ECOLOGICAL CONNECTIVITY AND RESILIENCE		
6. Engage key actors in mainstreaming biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into development planning in the priority corridors	None.	n/a
6.1 Support civil society efforts to analyze development policies, plans and programs, evaluate their impact on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods, and propose alternative development scenarios and appropriate mitigating measures where needed	<p>Need to build government capacity in planning processes.</p> <p>Need to learn from global best practice on mainstreaming.</p> <p>Split IP into two parts: one dealing with analysis; and one dealing with alternative scenarios.</p>	<p>No change to IP language.</p> <p>Future calls for proposals will specifically encourage proposals that draw on global best practice, and that emphasize capacity building for government agencies in mainstreaming biodiversity into development planning.</p>
6.2 Integrate the biodiversity and ecosystem service values of priority corridors into land-use and development planning at all levels	Reword: Integrate the biodiversity and ecosystem service values of priority corridors into government land-use and development planning at all levels and promote effective implementation and monitoring.	6.2 Integrate the biodiversity and ecosystem service values of priority corridors into government land-use and development plans at all levels and promote effective implementation and monitoring of these plans.
6.3 Develop protocols and demonstration projects for ecological restoration that improve the biodiversity performance of national forestry programs	Reword: Develop protocols and demonstration projects for ecological restoration that improve the biodiversity performance of government forestry and other natural resources programs.	6.3 Develop protocols and demonstration projects for ecological restoration that improve the biodiversity performance of government programs in the forestry and other natural resource sectors.
6.4 Engage the media as a tool to increase awareness and inform public debate of environmental issues	Reword: Engage the media as a tool to increase awareness and inform public debate on mainstreaming biodiversity into development planning.	6.4 Engage the media as a tool to increase awareness and inform public debate on mainstreaming biodiversity into development planning.

Strategic Direction / Investment Priority (2011 Ecosystem Profile)	Revisions suggested by participants at mid-term assessment workshop (March 2015)	How suggestions will be addressed
<i>New IP</i>	Add new IP on production and consumption (certification, etc.).	6.5 Pilot models for biodiversity-friendly production, including certification and eco-labelling.
<i>New IP</i>	Add new IP on financial decision making.	6.6 Integrate the biodiversity and ecosystem service values of priority corridors into financial decision making by governments, private investors and development banks.
7. Minimize the social and environmental impacts of agro-industrial plantations and hydropower dams in the priority corridors	None.	n/a
7.1 Support land registration for local and indigenous communities at priority sites	IP is too specific to land – include fisheries and forestry context to include community managed conservation areas.	7.1 Support legal registration of land and natural resource rights for local and indigenous communities at priority sites.
7.2 Upgrade the legal status of unprotected priority sites threatened by incompatible land uses	IP is too specific to land – include fisheries and forestry context to include community managed conservation areas.	7.2 Upgrade the legal status of unprotected priority sites threatened by incompatible development.
7.3 Strengthen the voice of affected communities in approval processes for agro-industrial plantations and hydropower dams	None.	n/a
7.4 Work with the private sector to develop guidelines for siting and developing agro-industrial plantations and hydropower dams in an environmentally and socially responsible manner	None.	n/a

Strategic Direction / Investment Priority (2011 Ecosystem Profile)	Revisions suggested by participants at mid-term assessment workshop (March 2015)	How suggestions will be addressed
COMPONENT IV: DEVELOPMENT OF A CONSERVATION CONSTITUENCY		
8. Strengthen the capacity of civil society to work on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods at regional, national, local and grassroots levels	None.	n/a
8.1 Support networking activities that enable collective civil society responses to priority and emerging threats	<p>Networks should have coordinating body with sufficient/sustainable funds and clear mandate.</p> <p>Link sectors to promote good governance (e.g. linking conservation with rights-based approaches).</p>	<p>No change to IP language.</p> <p>Future calls will specifically encourage proposals that develop adequately resourced coordinating bodies with clear mandates, and that forge links among sectors to promote good governance.</p>
8.2 Provide core support for the organizational development of domestic civil society organizations	None.	n/a
8.3 Establish clearing house mechanisms to match volunteers to civil society organizations' training needs	Reframe the clearing house mechanism component. More relevant to "Networks" but many local organizations often need volunteers but find it difficult to connect.	No change to IP language.
9. Conduct targeted education, training and awareness raising to build capacity and support for biodiversity conservation among all sections of society	Reword: Conduct targeted education, training and awareness raising to build capacity and support for biodiversity conservation.	9. Conduct targeted education, training and awareness raising to build capacity and support for biodiversity conservation.
9.1 Invest in the professional development of future conservation leaders through support to graduate programs at domestic academic institutions	Reword: Invest in the professional development of future conservation leaders through support to graduate programs at domestic academic institutions and promote regional replication in each country.	9.1 Invest in the professional development of future conservation leaders through support to graduate programs at domestic academic institutions, and promote regional replication to each country.

Strategic Direction / Investment Priority (2011 Ecosystem Profile)	Revisions suggested by participants at mid-term assessment workshop (March 2015)	How suggestions will be addressed
9.2 Foster leadership for sustainable development by investing in professional development of key individuals	Reword: Foster leadership for sustainable development by investing in professional development of key individuals relevant to priority KBAs or priority species.	9.2 Foster leadership for sustainable development by investing in professional development of key individuals working on conservation of priority corridors, sites or species.
9.3 Pilot programs of experiential education to connect school children to nature in priority corridors	None.	n/a
9.4 Conduct targeted outreach and awareness raising for urban populations about the values of natural ecosystems and the impacts of consumption patterns	Split IP into two parts: one dealing with awareness and education in rural areas, with a focus on livelihood and daily life; and one dealing with awareness and education in urban areas, with a focus on consumption and lifestyle.	9.4 Conduct targeted outreach and awareness raising for rural populations about the values of natural ecosystems, with a focus on livelihoods and daily life. 9.5 Conduct targeted outreach and awareness raising for urban populations about the values of natural ecosystems, with a focus on consumption patterns and lifestyle.
<i>New IP</i>	Add new IP: Encourage support for future conservation leaders through formal and non-formal programs inside academic institutions or agencies with specific expertise.	No change to IP language (unclear how this differs from IP9.1).
<i>New IP</i>	Add new IP: Enhance proposal and report-writing skills of national and local conservation organizations through <i>ad hoc</i> training.	9.6 Enhance proposal and report-writing skills of national and local conservation organizations through <i>ad hoc</i> training.

Strategic Direction / Investment Priority (2011 Ecosystem Profile)	Revisions suggested by participants at mid-term assessment workshop (March 2015)	How suggestions will be addressed
COMPONENT V: COORDINATION AND MONITORING OF CONSERVATION INVESTMENT		
10. Evaluate the impacts of conservation investment on biodiversity and human well-being through systematic monitoring	Reword: Use the results of systematic research and monitoring to enhance the impacts of conservation investments and minimize the negative impacts of development investment.	10. Undertake systematic monitoring and research, and use the results to enhance the impacts of conservation investment and minimize the negative impacts of development policies, plans and projects.
10.1 Develop common standards and systems for monitoring the impacts and effectiveness of conservation actions across multiple scales	Need to adopt a multi-organizational approach to adopting common standards by CEPF projects. Need to collect monitoring data over appropriate timescales, not just at project end. Need community “buy in” to monitoring, with adequate and clear feedback of results.	Future calls for proposals will specifically encourage proposals that bring multiple organizations together to develop common standards, collect monitoring data over timescales longer than individual grants, and ensure community ownership of monitoring, with clear and adequate feedback of results.
10.2 Support systematic efforts to build capacity for monitoring among domestic organizations	None.	n/a
10.3 Develop and test mechanisms for ensuring that monitoring results inform national policy debates and local adaptive management	Reword: Develop and test strategies for ensuring that research and monitoring influence policies and practices of government, donors, financial institutions and communities.	10.3 Develop and test strategies for ensuring that research and monitoring influence policies and practices of government, donors, financial institutions and communities.

Strategic Direction / Investment Priority (2011 Ecosystem Profile)	Revisions suggested by participants at mid-term assessment workshop (March 2015)	How suggestions will be addressed
11. Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of conservation investment through a regional implementation team	None.	n/a
11.1 Operationalize and coordinate CEPF's grant-making processes and procedures to ensure effective implementation of the investment strategy throughout the hotspot	None.	n/a
11.2 Build a broad constituency of civil society groups working across institutional and political boundaries towards achieving the shared conservation goals described in the ecosystem profile	None.	n/a

Annex 5 – Revised List of Priority Species for CEPF Investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot

Priority Species	English Name	Conservation Need(s) Requiring Species-Focused Action	Over-riding Need for Improved Information
MAMMALS			
<i>Aonyx cinereus</i>	Asian Small-clawed Otter	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Axis porcinus</i>	Hog Deer	Control of overexploitation; population management	
<i>Bubalus arnee</i>	Wild Water Buffalo	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Dicerorhinus sumatrensis</i>	Hairy Rhinoceros		Yes
<i>Hipposideros halophyllus</i>	Thailand Leaf-nosed Bat	Cave management	
<i>Hoolock hoolock</i>	Western Hoolock	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Lutra sumatrana</i>	Hairy-nosed Otter	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Lutrogale perspicillata</i>	Smooth-coated Otter	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Manis javanica</i>	Sunda Pangolin	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Manis pentadactyla</i>	Chinese Pangolin	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Moschus berezovskii</i>	Forest Musk Deer	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Moschus fuscus</i>	Black Musk Deer	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Muntiacus vuquangensis</i>	Large-antlered Muntjac	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Nomascus concolor</i>	Black Crested Gibbon	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Nomascus hainanus</i>	Hainan Gibbon	Population management; habitat restoration	
<i>Nomascus leucogenys</i>	Northern White-cheeked Gibbon	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Nomascus nasutus</i>	Cao Vit Crested Gibbon	Control of overexploitation; habitat restoration	
<i>Nomascus siki</i>	Southern White-cheeked Crested Gibbon	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Orcaella brevirostris</i>	Irrawaddy Dolphin	Reduction of fishing-related accidental death	
<i>Prionailurus viverrinus</i>	Fishing Cat		Yes
<i>Pseudoryx nghetinhensis</i>	Saola	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Pygathrix cinerea</i>	Grey-shanked Douc	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Pygathrix nemaeus</i>	Red-shanked Douc	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Rhinopithecus avunculus</i>	Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Rhinopithecus strykeri</i>	Myanmar Snub-nosed Monkey	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Rucervus eldii</i>	Eld's Deer	Control of overexploitation; population management	
<i>Trachypithecus delacouri</i>	Delacour's Leaf Monkey	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Trachypithecus francoisi</i>	François's Leaf Monkey	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Trachypithecus germaini</i>	Indochinese Silvered Leaf Monkey	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Trachypithecus poliocephalus</i>	White-headed Leaf Monkey	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Trachypithecus shortridgei</i>	Shortridge's Leaf Monkey	Control of overexploitation	

Priority Species	English Name	Conservation Need(s) Requiring Species-Focused Action	Over-riding Need for Improved Information
BIRDS			
<i>Ardea insignis</i>	White-bellied Heron		Yes
<i>Asacornis scutulata</i>	White-winged Duck	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Chrysomma altirostre</i>	Jerdon's Babbler		Yes
<i>Eurochelidon sirintarae</i>	White-eyed River-martin		Yes
<i>Calidris pygmaea</i>	Spoon-billed Sandpiper	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Gorsachius magnificus</i>	White-eared Night-heron	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Grus antigone</i>	Sarus Crane	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>	White-rumped Vulture	Provision of adequate food supply; control of persecution	
<i>Gyps tenuirostris</i>	Slender-billed Vulture	Provision of adequate food supply; control of persecution	
<i>Heliopais personata</i>	Masked Finfoot		Yes
<i>Houbaropsis bengalensis</i>	Bengal Florican	Retention of suitable agricultural practices	
<i>Leptoptilos dubius</i>	Greater Adjutant	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>	Lesser Adjutant	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Lophura edwardsi</i>	Edwards's Pheasant		Yes
<i>Mergus squamatus</i>	Scaly-sided Merganser		Yes
<i>Platalea minor</i>	Black-faced Spoonbill	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Polyplectron katsumatae</i>	Hainan Peacock-pheasant	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Pseudibis davisoni</i>	White-shouldered Ibis	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Rimator pasquieri</i>	White-throated Wren-babbler	Specific habitat management	
<i>Rhodonessa caryophyllacea</i>	Pink-headed Duck		Yes
<i>Rynchops albicollis</i>	Indian Skimmer		Yes
<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>	Red-headed Vulture	Provision of adequate food supply; control of persecution	
<i>Stachyris nonggangensis</i>	Nonggang Babbler		Yes
<i>Sterna acuticauda</i>	Black-bellied Tern	Active population management	
<i>Thaumatibis gigantea</i>	Giant Ibis	Control of overexploitation	
REPTILES			
<i>Batagur affinis</i>	Southern River Terrapin	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Batagur baska</i>	Northern River Terrapin	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Batagur borneoensis</i>	Painted Terrapin	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Batagur trivittata</i>	Burmese Roofed Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Chitra chitra</i>	Striped Narrow-headed Softshell Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Chitra indica</i>	Indian Narrow-headed Softshell Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Crocodylus siamensis</i>	Siamese Crocodile	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cuora bourreti</i>	Bourret's Box Turtle	Control of overexploitation	

Priority Species	English Name	Conservation Need(s) Requiring Species-Focused Action	Over-riding Need for Improved Information
<i>Cuora galbinifrons</i>	Indochinese Box Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cuora picturata</i>	Southern Vietnam Box Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cuora mccordi</i>	McCord's Box Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cuora mouhotii</i>	Keeled Box Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cuora trifasciata</i>	Chinese Three-striped Box Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cuora yunnanensis</i>	Yunnan Box Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cuora zhoui</i>	Zhou's Box Turtle		Yes
<i>Geochelone platynota</i>	Burmese Star Tortoise	Reintroduction to wild	
<i>Manouria emys</i>	Asian Giant Tortoise	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Mauremys annamensis</i>	Vietnamese Pond Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Mauremys mutica</i>	Asian Yellow Pond Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Mauremys nigricans</i>	Red-necked Pond Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Morenia ocellata</i>	Burmese Eyed Turtle		Yes
<i>Nilssononia formosa</i>	Burmese Peacock Softshell	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Pelochelys cantorii</i>	Asian Giant Softshell Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Platysternon megacephalum</i>	Big-headed Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Rafetus swinhoei</i>	East Asian Giant Softshell Turtle		Yes
<i>Sacalia bealei</i>	Beale's Eyed Turtle	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Shinisaurus crocodilurus</i>	Chinese Crocodile Lizard	Control of overexploitation	
AMPHIBIANS			
<i>Amolops hongkongensis</i>	Hong Kong Cascade Frog		Yes
<i>Laotriton laoensis</i>	Laos Warty Newt	Control of overexploitation	
FISH			
<i>Aptosyax grypus</i>	Mekong Giant Salmon Carp	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Balantiocheilos ambusticauda</i>	Siamese Bala-shark		Yes
<i>Catlocarpio siamensis</i>	Giant Carp	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Ceratoglanis pachynema</i>	Club-barbel Sheatfish	Localized control of water quality	
<i>Dasyatis laosensis</i>	Mekong Freshwater Stingray	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Datnioides pulcher</i>	Siamese Tiger Perch	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Datnioides undecimradiatus</i>	Thinbar Datnoid	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Epalzeorhynchus bicolor</i>	Redtail Shark Minnow	Localized control of water quality; reintroduction	
<i>Glyphis siamensis</i>	Irrawaddy River Shark		Yes
<i>Himantura kittipongi</i>	Roughback Whipray	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Himantura oxyrhynchus</i>	Marbled Freshwater Stingray	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Himantura polylepis</i>	Giant Freshwater Stingray	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Himantura signifer</i>	White-edged Freshwater Whipray	Control of overexploitation	

Priority Species	English Name	Conservation Need(s) Requiring Species-Focused Action	Over-riding Need for Improved Information
<i>Luciocyprinus striolatus</i>	Monkey-eating Fish	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Pangasianodon gigas</i>	Mekong Giant Catfish	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Pangasianodon hypophthalmus</i>	Striped Catfish	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Pangasius sanitwongsei</i>	Giant Dog-eating Catfish	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Poropuntius deauratus</i>	Yellow Tail Brook Barb	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Probarbus jullieni</i>	Jullien's Golden Carp	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Probarbus labeamajor</i>	Thick-lipped Barb	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Scaphognathops theunensis</i>	Nam Theun Barb		Yes
<i>Schistura leukensis</i>	Nam Leuk Loach		Yes
<i>Schistura nasifilis</i>	Vietnamese Loach		Yes
<i>Schistura tenuta</i>	Slender-tailed Loach		Yes
<i>Scleropages formosus</i>	Asian Arowana	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Trigonostigma somphongsi</i>	Somphongs's Rasbora		Yes
<i>Triplophysa gejuensis</i>	Geju Blind Loach		Yes
PLANTS			
<i>Afzelia xylocarpa</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Aglaia pleuropteris</i>			Yes
<i>Amentotaxus yunnanensis</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Anisoptera costata</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Anisoptera scaphula</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Aquilaria crassna</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Aquilaria sinensis</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Burretiodendron tonkinense</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cinnamomum balansae</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Craigia yunnanensis</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cunninghamia konishii</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cycas bifida</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cycas changjiangensis</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cycas collina</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cycas debaoensis</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cycas hainanensis</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cycas multipinnata</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cycas pectinata</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Cycas shanyaensis</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Dalbergia bariensis</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Dalbergia cambodiana</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Dalbergia cochinchinensis</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Dalbergia tonkinensis</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Dendrobium officinale</i>	Official Dendrobium	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Dendrobium sinense</i>	Chinese Dendrobium	Control of overexploitation	

Priority Species	English Name	Conservation Need(s) Requiring Species-Focused Action	Over-riding Need for Improved Information
<i>Diospyros mun</i>	Ebony	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Dipterocarpus gracilis</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Dipterocarpus turbinatus</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Glyptostrobus pensilis</i>	Chinese Water Fir	Population management; habitat restoration	
<i>Helicia shweliensis</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Hopea chinensis</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Hopea mollissima</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Hopea pierrei</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Malania oleifera</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Manglietia sinica</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Michelia coriacea</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Myristica yunnanensis</i>		Population management	
<i>Paphiopedilum armeniacum</i>	Golden Slipper Orchid	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Paphiopedilum emersonii</i>	Emerson's Paphiopedilum	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Paphiopedilum tigrinum</i>	Tiger-striped Paphiopedilum	Control of overexploitation	
<i>Pinus squamata</i>		Population management	
<i>Pinus wangii</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Pterospermum kingtungense</i>		Population management	
<i>Shorea falcata</i>			Yes
<i>Taiwania cryptomerioides</i>		Control of overexploitation; population management	
<i>Vatica guangxiensis</i>			Yes
<i>Vatica xishuangbannaensis</i>		Control of overexploitation	
<i>Xanthocyparis vietnamensis</i>	Golden Vietnam Cypress	Control of overexploitation; population management	

Annex 6 – List of CEPF Grants Awarded in the Indo-Burma Hotspot as of 30 June 2015

Strategic Direction 1. Safeguard priority globally threatened species by mitigating major threats.

Securing the Long-Term Future of Vulture Conservation in Cambodia

Enable more effective long-term conservation interventions for three Critically Endangered vulture species in Cambodia by testing key assumptions regarding secondary poisoning, nesting success and carcass availability at seven sites. Enhance coordination and increase capacity for vulture conservation through the establishment of an active working group, and identify sustainable funding mechanisms that could support the long-term conservation of the three vulture species.

Amount: \$139,936

Grant Term: 04/14 - 03/17

Grantee: BirdLife International

Re-Wilding Western Siem Pang: Ecological Restoration in the Deciduous Dipterocarp Forests of Cambodia

Improve the ecological integrity of the deciduous dipterocarp forest ecosystem of Western Siem Pang, Cambodia, for two Critically Endangered birds, white-shouldered ibis (*Pseudibis davisoni*) and giant ibis (*Thaumatibis gigantea*), by clarifying the impact of different buffalo densities on ibis foraging microhabitats; introducing appropriate management regimes at selected water bodies; highlighting the conservation benefits of buffalo as a management tool; and building capacity among young Cambodian conservationists.

Amount: \$249,999

Grant Term: 05/14 - 10/18

Grantee: BirdLife International

In Search of Edwards's Pheasant in the Annamese Lowlands of Vietnam

Determine the future direction of conservation efforts for Edwards's pheasant (*Lophura edwardsi*), a CEPF priority species with no known wild population, in the Annamese Lowlands of Vietnam by identifying at least two sites for focused conservation action. These sites will support either viable wild populations that can be conserved, or provide suitable habitat conditions that can allow for the reintroduction of captive-bred birds.

Amount: \$90,000

Grant Term: 10/14 - 06/17

Grantee: Central Institute for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

Strengthening Conservation of the Most Critically Endangered Turtles in Vietnam

Inform conservation efforts for Vietnam's wild populations of Zhou's box turtle (*Cuora zhoui*) and the Vietnamese pond turtle (*Mauremys annamensis*) by analyzing environmental DNA from northern and central Vietnam to confirm the locations of wild populations of these species.

Amount: \$19,164

Grant Term: 09/14 - 03/16

Grantee: Centre for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

Embedding Sustainable Community Management Practices in Key Sarus Crane Wetlands: Environment and Livelihoods Enhancement at Boeung Prek Lapouv Sarus Crane Reserve

Build local community support for the conservation of Cambodia's Boeung Prek Lapouv Sarus Crane Reserve, one of the best remaining examples of a Mekong Delta wetland ecosystem and an essential source of ecosystem services, by establishing community fisheries and restoring fish habitats, piloting wildlife-friendly agricultural products, introducing community-based

ecotourism, and raising awareness of the site's ecosystem service values among local stakeholders.

Amount: \$72,000

Grant Term: 04/14 - 06/17

Grantee: Chamroen Chiet Khmer

Ecology and Population Trends of the Eastern Sarus Crane

Inform the development of conservation strategies and identify site-based management needs relating to the eastern sarus crane (*Grus antigone*) in Cambodia by researching the ecological requirements and limiting factors for this species. This research will help determine why the population of this species has not increased since monitoring began 10 years ago.

Amount: \$19,780

Grant Term: 04/14 - 11/15

Grantee: Charles Darwin University

Giant Soft Shell Turtle Protection in the Kratie Region, Cambodia

Transform pilot interventions for a population of Cambodia's Asian giant softshell turtle (*Pelochelys cantorii*) on the Mekong River into a long-term, self-sustained conservation program by sustaining the Mekong Turtle Conservation Program and enhancing its effectiveness, refining conservation incentives for turtle nest finding and nest protection, and improving visitor numbers and experience at the Mekong Turtle Conservation Center and strengthening its management capacity.

Amount: \$117,161

Grant Term: 05/14 - 04/17

Grantee: Conservation International Foundation

Long-term Research and Conservation Field Station in Nakai-Nam Theun National Protected Area

Improve conservation of CEPF priority species, including the red-shanked douc (*Pygathrix nemaeus*), at Nakai-Nam Theun National Protected Area, Khammouane and Bolikhamxay provinces, Lao PDR, by establishing a field station, initiating long-term species-focused conservation programs, and providing technical advice to the protected area management authority.

Amount: \$18,306

Grant Term: 10/14 - 09/15

Grantee: Fauna & Flora International

Development of a Holistic Approach to the Conservation of the Cat Ba Langur

Develop conservation efforts for Cat Ba langur (*Trachypithecus poliocephalus*) that are supported by a multi-stakeholder approach by initiating a targeted scientific research program for the species; undertaking population surveys and initiating monitoring; creating and distributing technical inputs into conservation planning; and supporting Vietnamese nationals to participate in conservation of the species to ensure long-term sustainability of conservation efforts.

Amount: \$65,500

Grant Term: 07/14 - 06/16

Grantee: Fauna & Flora International

Conservation of Vultures in Myanmar

Protect populations of three Critically Endangered species of vultures in Myanmar, the white-rumped vulture (*Gyps bengalensis*), slender-billed vulture (*G. tenuirostris*), and red-headed vulture (*Sarcogyps calvus*), by working with local communities at two key sites in Shan State and

Kachin State to change local attitudes toward vulture conservation, establish community-based vulture conservation groups, and address threats related to lack of food for vultures, and the use of the veterinary drug Diclofenac.

Amount: \$19,946

Grant Term: 10/14 - 09/15

Grantee: Friends of Wildlife

Promoting the Conservation of Eld's Deer in Chatthin Wildlife Sanctuary Through Core Zone Management and Community Participation

Protect the population of Eld's deer (*Panolia eldii*) in Myanmar's Chatthin Wildlife Sanctuary by improving management of the sanctuary's core zone, building the capacity of sanctuary staff and village-level civil society to support conservation initiatives, raising awareness of the importance of sustainable management of dry dipterocarp forest among local communities, and reducing the dependency of local communities on forest resources through community forestry.

Amount: \$19,816

Grant Term: 11/14 - 10/16

Grantee: Friends of Wildlife

Finding Saola, Saving Saola: Transforming Saola Conservation in Key Sites in Lao PDR and Vietnam

Conserve critical core populations of saola (*Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*), the flagship mammal species of the Indo-Burma Hotspot, by measuring progress toward zero hunting and better targeting patrolling efforts at four sites in Lao PDR and Vietnam. Conduct genetic analysis of leeches as a cost-effective survey method for tropical forest vertebrates, and thereby significantly increase understanding of the distribution of saola and other threatened species of the Annamite Mountains.

Amount: \$199,070

Grant Term: 04/14 - 04/18

Grantee: Global Wildlife Conservation

Securing Endangered Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles in the Indo-Burma Region

Strengthen the long-term conservation prospects of selected endemic and highly threatened tortoise and freshwater turtle species in Vietnam by building support for their conservation among local communities and wildlife protection authorities, identifying and protecting sites where the species survive, developing species recovery plans, and strengthening networking among conservation practitioners and researchers at civil society organizations in Vietnam and internationally.

Amount: \$150,000

Grant Term: 11/14 - 10/17

Grantee: Indo-Myanmar Conservation

Understanding and Inspiring Conservation of Saola and Other Endemic Species in Lao PDR

Work to conserve saola (*Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*) and other endangered species in the Phou Sithon Endangered Species Conservation Area of Bolikhamxay Province in Lao PDR through focused camera trapping, on-going engagement with local communities, building local capacity to implement future conservation work, and collaboration with related conservation initiatives being implemented at the site.

Amount: \$17,418

Grant Term: 04/14 - 01/15

Grantee: King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi

Freshwater Turtle Conservation in the Karst Area of Yunnan and Guangxi

Protect Zhou's box turtle (*Cuora zhoui*) in China's limestone karst areas of Yunnan and Guangxi by carrying out a survey to assess its distribution, habitat preferences and population status, evaluating key threats, developing and initiating best-practice conservation and management strategies, and assessing the feasibility of captive breeding as a conservation approach for the species.

Amount: \$16,000

Grant Term: 06/14 - 05/16

Grantee: Kunming Institute of Zoology ,Chinese Academy of Sciences

Assessing the Status of Northern White-cheeked Crested Gibbon

Improve conservation of the northern white-cheeked gibbon (*Nomascus leucogenys*) in and around Phou Den Din National Protected Area, Phongsaly Province, Lao PDR, by generating improved information about the species, identifying priorities for conservation interventions, and disseminating conservation recommendations to national and international stakeholders.

Amount: \$19,878

Grant Term: 06/14 - 05/15

Grantee: Lao Biodiversity Association

Embedding Sustainable Community Management Practices at Key Sarus Crane Wetlands in the Cambodian Lower Mekong: Environment and Livelihood Improvements at Anlung Pring Sarus Crane Reserve

Contribute to sustainable improvement of natural resource management at Anlung Pring, an important non-breeding site for sarus crane (*Grus antigone*) in the lower Mekong Delta of Cambodia, by improving local livelihoods to reduce pressures on crane habitat; and increasing community support for and active participation in crane conservation by establishing eco-schools and village environment and conservation action teams.

Amount: \$69,949

Grant Term: 07/14 - 09/16

Grantee: Mlup Baitong

Investigating the Status of Masked Finfoot in Cambodia

Improve the protection of the masked finfoot (*Heliopais personata*) in Cambodia by conducting research on the population status, habitat status and threats to the species; determining the long-term viability of populations at known sites; developing an action plan of threat mitigation recommendations; and conducting nest protection measures at newly-identified sites.

Amount: \$19,996

Grant Term: 06/14 - 01/15

Grantee: Royal University of Phnom Penh, Centre for Biodiversity Conservation

Identifying Priority Sites and Conservation Actions for the Fishing Cat in Cambodia

Improve the conservation of fishing cat (*Prionailurus viverrinus*) in Cambodia by conducting research on priority sites for the species, completing camera trap surveys and threat assessments, and determining priority conservation actions in a Fishing Cat Action Plan for Cambodia.

Amount: \$19,999

Grant Term: 11/14 - 06/15

Grantee: Royal University of Phnom Penh, Centre for Biodiversity Conservation (RUPP-CBC)

Conservation Initiatives for the Indochinese Silvered Leaf Monkey in Dong Phou Vieng National Protected Area

Improve conservation of the Indochinese silvered langur (*Trachypithecus germaini*) in Lao PDR through awareness-raising initiatives among local communities, improving understanding of the langur population and habitat status in and around Dong Phou Vieng National Protected Area, and strengthening coordination and cooperation between local people and national protected area staff.

Amount: \$19,995

Grant Term: 05/14 - 04/15

Grantee: The Lao Wildlife Conservation Association

Mitigating Threats to CEPF's Priority Globally Threatened Species in Nam Mo-Nam Thong Provincial Protected Area

Improve conservation of the northern white-cheeked gibbon (*Nomascus leucogenys*) in Nam Mo-Nam Thong Provincial Protected Area, Lao PDR, by working with local communities and local government to raise awareness of the conservation importance of the species and improve coordination and cooperation between local villagers and government staff.

Amount: \$19,592

Grant Term: 05/14 - 04/15

Grantee: The Lao Wildlife Conservation Association

Building a Comprehensive Chelonian Conservation Program in Myanmar

Scale up pilot projects for highly threatened turtle species in Myanmar by establishing a group of free-living Burmese star tortoise (*Geochelone platynota*), demonstrating that reintroduction is a feasible conservation strategy. Augment the wild population of Burmese roofed turtle (*Kachuga trivittata*), and generate lessons for future reintroductions. Prioritize conservation actions for Burmese eyed turtle (*Morenia ocellata*) through studies of its conservation status and natural history.

Amount: \$60,000

Grant Term: 10/14 - 02/16

Grantee: Turtle Survival Alliance

Embedding Sustainable Community Management Practices at Key Sarus Crane Wetlands in the Cambodian Lower Mekong

Strengthen management of Boeung Prek Lapouv and Anlung Pring protected areas in the Mekong Delta Region of Cambodia to enhance protection of their sarus crane (*Grus antigone*) populations and improve management of seasonally-inundated grasslands and associated habitats. Implement site management plans and water management plans, and strengthen capacity of local communities and government to participate in sustainable co-management of the protected areas.

Amount: \$20,000

Grant Term: 04/14 - 03/17

Grantee: Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust

Emergency Funding for Recovery of the Critically Endangered Siamese Crocodile

Support the recovery of a globally significant population of Critically Endangered Siamese crocodile (*Crocodylus siamensis*) at Xe Champhone, Savanakheth Province, Lao PDR.

Amount: \$19,956

Grant Term: 05/14 - 09/15

Grantee: Wildlife Conservation Society

Restoring the Wild Population of Southern River Terrapin in Cambodia: Nest Protection, ‘Head-Starting’, Reintroductions, and Sustainable Financing

Demonstrate a model for the long-term conservation of the southern river terrapin (*Batagur affinis*) in Cambodia that is applicable to other species of Critically Endangered chelonians by creating an expanded head-starting facility that generates a sustainable revenue stream from tourism; activating a patrol team to mitigate threats to wild turtles; monitoring movement and survival of head-started turtles following their release; and generating widespread community support.

Amount: \$69,285

Grant Term: 06/14 - 05/17

Grantee: Wildlife Conservation Society

Stimulating Sustainable Saola Snare Removal: Leveraging Long-Term Support for Saola Conservation in the Central Annamites of Vietnam

Achieve zero threats to saola (*Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*) in critical forest compartments within the Thua Thien Hue and Quang Nam saola reserves of Vietnam by removing saola snares through effective and accountable law enforcement implemented by trained and motivated forest guards, and supported by an effective intelligence network. Initiate long-term funding for these conservation efforts through payment for ecosystem services, corporate partnerships and donations from high-net-worth individuals in Vietnam.

Amount: \$199,528

Grant Term: 01/15 - 12/16

Grantee: World Wide Fund for Nature

Enhancing Integrated Spatial Development Planning as an Effective Conservation Tool: Safeguarding Lao’s Last Eld’s Deer Population

Demonstrate Integrated Spatial Development Planning (ISDP) as a tool for sustainable development and biodiversity conservation in Lao PDR by strengthening capacity of local government and communities, and expanding the plan for the core area of Eld’s Deer Sanctuary across the broader landscape, securing protection of the globally threatened Eld’s deer (*Rucervus eldii*) and its habitat, and maintaining access to natural resources for communities.

Amount: \$199,985

Grant Term: 04/14 - 12/16

Grantee: World Wide Fund for Nature

Strategic Direction 2. Demonstrate innovative responses to illegal trafficking and consumption of wildlife.

Mobilizing Public Action in Reducing Demand for Wildlife Products and Combating Wildlife Crime in Vietnam

Strengthen Vietnam’s civil society conservation movement, leading to societal changes in attitudes toward wildlife consumption, by expanding and strengthening Education for Nature-Vietnam’s National Wildlife Protection Network. Engage volunteers in consumer crime monitoring and public outreach activities aimed at reducing consumer demand for wildlife. Increase public involvement in combating wildlife crime through a hotline, and promote responsible consumer behavior via an online platform.

Amount: \$121,935

Grant Term: 07/14 - 06/17

Grantee: Education for Nature-Vietnam

iTHINK: a Joint Campaign Platform to Tackle Wildlife Consumption

Initiate a downward trend in consumption and sale of endangered species in Vietnam and southern China by changing public attitudes toward endangered species conservation; reducing demand for key species and their derivatives in four major cities; enhancing awareness of illegal wildlife trade in these cities, leading to increased law enforcement action; and applying lessons learned elsewhere in China and Vietnam.

Amount: \$243,149

Grant Term: 03/14 - 01/17

Grantee: FREELAND Foundation

Reducing Wildlife Consumption in Da Nang City

Reduce consumption of wildlife and wildlife products in Da Nang, Vietnam, by supporting public officials in environmental protection, raising awareness among the public of the issue through the broadcasting of a talk show on local television, and conducting a communications campaign in partnership with Da Nang International Airport and Da Nang taxi companies during the 2014/15 Christmas and Tet holiday season.

Amount: \$19,742

Grant Term: 09/14 - 08/15

Grantee: GreenViet Biodiversity Conservation Center

Starving the Supply: Interventions to Curb Illegal Wildlife Trade from Southeast Asia into Southern China

Reduce the volume of wildlife smuggling at four key crossing points along China's international borders with Myanmar, Lao PDR and Vietnam by sharing wildlife trade information, piloting wildlife detector dogs, delivering targeted inter-agency training and supporting inter-agency enforcement actions, strengthening trans-boundary collaboration between China and its neighbors, and reducing demand for wildlife products through awareness-raising and social marketing.

Amount: \$166,634

Grant Term: 07/14 - 06/17

Grantee: TRAFFIC International

Stemming the Tide: a Coordinated Community and Law Enforcement Response to the Illegal Wildlife Trade in Cambodia

Reduce exploitation of protected wildlife species in Cambodia by enhancing implementation of the Cambodian Wildlife Enforcement Network; strengthening government capacity to enforce wildlife protection laws; supporting the Wildlife Rapid Rescue Team to undertake intensive investigations; encouraging public participation in reporting wildlife crime via a hotline and iPhone app; and promoting adoption of voluntary restrictions on transport of wildlife by logistics companies.

Amount: \$180,000

Grant Term: 05/14 - 07/16

Grantee: Wildlife Alliance, Inc.

Breaking the Chain: Building a Transnational Partnership Between Civil Society and Governments to Combat Major Wildlife Trade Networks in Lao PDR, Vietnam and China

Increase the effectiveness of the law enforcement response to prevent, detect and suppress wildlife criminals operating along a major transnational trade chain from Lao PDR's Bolikhamxay Province to China's Guangdong Province by generating and disseminating accurate information and intelligence; increasing political support for effective enforcement; and increasing debate on wildlife crime issues by the media and among local civil society.

Amount: \$324,550
Grant Term: 10/14 - 09/16
Grantee: Wildlife Conservation Society

Strategic Direction 4. Empower local communities to engage in conservation and management of priority Key Biodiversity Areas.

Enhancing Co-Management for Sustainable Aquatic Resources in Tuyen Quang Province, Vietnam

Establish a model for fisheries co-management in the Sino-Vietnamese Limestone Corridor as a basis for wider replication in Vietnam. Enhance community participation in sustainable management and protection of aquatic resources in Tuyen Quang by developing a supportive regulatory framework at the provincial level, and raising awareness and knowledge of sustainable management among fishing households in two communities.

Amount: \$100,000
Grant Term: 04/15 - 12/16
Grantee: Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development

Feasibility Study on the Establishment of a Community-Managed Protected Area in Na Chi

Ensure that the feasibility study for the proposed establishment of a community protected area in Na Chi, Xin Man District, Ha Giang Province, Vietnam, includes a thorough understanding of the current challenges and opportunities for promoting biodiversity conservation outside the government-managed protected area system, the opportunities for improving local livelihoods and empowering ethnic minority communities, and the values and status of the area's biodiversity.

Amount: \$18,711
Grant Term: 10/14 - 09/15
Grantee: Centre for People and Nature Reconciliation

Empowering P'nong and Kuoy Indigenous Communities for Natural Resource Management and Biodiversity Conservation Along the Mekong River

Establish a solid foundation for the conservation of terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity along the central section of the Mekong River in Cambodia by assisting the P'nong and Kuoy indigenous communities to gain legal rights to community forests and community fisheries; providing these communities with diversified livelihood options through small-scale enterprises based on non-timber forest product value addition; and securing communal land titles.

Amount: \$20,697
Grant Term: 06/14 - 05/17
Grantee: Community Economic Development

Promoting a Community-Based Limestone Biodiversity Conservation Network in Guangxi

Strengthen conservation of five globally threatened primate and tree species and their limestone habitats in south-western Guangxi, China, by empowering local communities to engage in biodiversity conservation and natural resource management. Demonstrate standardized and effective patrolling and monitoring systems at three conventional and two community-managed protected areas. Actively engage local communities in habitat restoration and co-management models for threatened primate species.

Amount: \$199,999
Grant Term: 06/14 - 06/17
Grantee: Fauna & Flora International

Empowering Local Communities to Engage in Conservation and Management of Priority Key Biodiversity Areas and Threatened Primate and Plant Species in the Sino-Vietnamese Limestone Corridor

Engage local communities in conservation efforts for threatened primate and tree species at three priority sites in northern Vietnam by increasing ethnic minority representation in protected area co-management bodies; developing conservation action plans taking into account local concerns; improving local understanding of conservation-related legislation; enabling benefit sharing for local communities from natural resource management; and promoting locally appropriate livelihood alternatives.

Amount: \$400,000

Grant Term: 07/14 - 06/17

Grantee: Fauna & Flora International

A Gap Analysis for the Conservation of Freshwater Biodiversity in the Upper Ayeyarwady Basin

Identify key biodiversity areas for fish in the Upper Ayeyarwady Basin of Myanmar through desk studies and field surveys. Support local communities in establishing at least eight Fish Conservation Zones, and initiate monitoring of threatened and endemic taxa populations, delivery of food security benefits and social sustainability. Undertake a threat assessment to inform development decision-making in relation to aquatic ecosystems.

Amount: \$147,456

Grant Term: 10/14 - 03/17

Grantee: Fauna & Flora International

Establishing Co-Managed Fish Conservation Zones to Help Communities Protect Endangered Probarbus Fish in the Mekong River in Northern Lao PDR

Address ongoing declines in populations of Jullien's golden carp (*Probarbus jullieni*) and thick-lipped barb (*P. labeamajor*) in the Mekong River of northern Lao PDR through the establishment and management of co-managed Fish Conservation Zones (FCZs) at three sites of spawning habitat for these species, between Luang Prabang and Vientiane. This work builds on past work funded by CEPF, and will be implemented in partnership with the National University of Laos.

Amount: \$20,000

Grant Term: 03/14 - 05/15

Grantee: FISHBIO

Establishing Multi-Community Co-Management of an Aquatic Biodiversity Hotspot with Probarbus Fish and Soft-Shell Turtles in the Mekong River at Keng Mai Rapids, Lao PDR

Address ongoing declines in populations of Jullien's golden carp (*Probarbus jullieni*) and thicklipped barb (*P. labeamajor*) in the Mekong River of northern Lao PDR by establishing a community-managed Fish Conservation Zone (FCZ) at Keng Mai Rapids, Xayaburi and Vientiane provinces, and taking steps to ensure the support of local communities and local government in enforcing FCZ regulations.

Amount: \$20,000

Grant Term: 05/15 - 08/16

Grantee: FISHBIO Lao Sole Co., LTD

Stung Treng Ramsar Site in Cambodia: Integrating Fisheries Management and Wetlands Conservation (Phase II)

Reconcile conservation of critical habitats and species with sustainability of local livelihoods in Stung Treng Ramsar Site in Cambodia through ecosystem-based fisheries co-management. Consolidate and amplify the fish conservation zone approach within Stung Treng Ramsar Site;

establish a learning network of community fisheries in the Ramsar site and beyond; and facilitate long-term engagement of local communities in the Ramsar site's management planning and implementation.

Amount: \$179,997

Grant Term: 04/14 - 07/16

Grantee: International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management

Environmental Education Program in Peck Kantiel Floating Village

Reduce threats to the biodiversity of the Prek Toal Core Area of the Tonle Sap in Cambodia, particularly egg and chick poaching within water-bird colonies, by delivering an environmental education program and other awareness-raising efforts in Peck Kantiel, a floating village on the Tonle Sap.

Amount: \$18,315

Grant Term: 07/14 - 06/16

Grantee: OSMOSE

Strengthening Community Based Bird Biodiversity Conservation and Monitoring through Local Livelihood Improvement and Capacity Building in 3S River Basin, Cambodia

Increase populations of sandbar-nesting bird and turtle species in Cambodia's 3S River Basin by implementing conservation incentives for nest protection; raising community awareness of conservation issues; creating community fisheries or community-managed protected areas at key nesting areas and promoting their formal recognition by government; and strengthening capacity of community members, NGO staff and university students to monitor and conserve biodiversity.

Amount: \$177,000

Grant Term: 10/14 - 09/17

Grantee: Royal University of Phnom Penh

Ecology and Conservation of Sandbar-Nesting Birds in Cambodia

Empower communities along the Mekong, Sekong and Sesan rivers of Cambodia to engage in biodiversity conservation through a community-based conservation incentives program that focuses on protection of nest sites for sandbar-nesting birds and includes training for community members in conservation methods. This work will be implemented in partnership with WWF Cambodia and the Royal University of Phnom Penh.

Amount: \$18,871

Grant Term: 03/14 - 06/15

Grantee: The University of Minnesota

Conducting a KBA Gap Analysis to Promote Protected Area Expansion in Three Little Known Corridors in Myanmar

Conduct a gap analysis of the protection status of Key Biodiversity Areas within Myanmar's Western Shan Yoma Range, Chin Hills Complex and Rakhine Yoma Range conservation corridors, based upon a synthesis of available information on species, ecosystems, threats, existing management and socioeconomic context. Work with relevant government agencies and local stakeholders to expand the protected area network using community-management approaches.

Amount: \$99,994

Grant Term: 09/14 - 11/16

Grantee: Wildlife Conservation Society

Community Incentives for Conservation in the Tonle Sap

Empower local communities around Tonle Sap Lake in Cambodia to engage in conservation of priority key biodiversity areas (KBAs) by creating an appropriate operating environment for community engagement in management of formal protected areas; supporting communities to sustainably manage KBAs outside formal protected areas; scaling-up proven conservation incentive programs; and enabling two local civil society groups to become financially and operationally sustainable.

Amount: \$533,637

Grant Term: 04/14 - 09/18

Grantee: Wildlife Conservation Society

Strategic Direction 6. Engage key actors in mainstreaming biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into development planning in the priority corridors.

Advancing Environmental Media and Communications for Navigating the Public Discourse on Development and Conservation

Strengthen the capacity of PanNature to implement communication initiatives, and advance the capacity of journalists to report on environmental issues in Vietnam and neighboring countries. Focus public attention on the environmental impacts of development, especially the impacts of Vietnam's domestic and overseas investment on natural ecosystems, and elicit policy responses. Share lessons learned with regional civil society and stakeholders.

Amount: \$199,994

Grant Term: 07/14 - 06/17

Grantee: Center for People and Nature Reconciliation

Evaluation of Co-Management as an Alternative Model for Aquatic Resource Conservation with Greater Participation by Local People in Northern Vietnam

Improve the equitable management of aquatic resources in Tuyen Quang Province, Vietnam, by developing a better understanding of the effectiveness of the Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development co-management model being implemented in Na Hang District, and the strengths, weaknesses, and effectiveness of implementation of Decision No. 01/2013/QĐ-UBND and related policy documents among local authorities in Tuyen Quang Province.

Amount: \$19,985

Grant Term: 07/14 - 02/15

Grantee: Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development

Networking for Collective Civil Society Responses to Priority and Emerging Threats to Lao Rivers

Foster the development of a future Lao Rivers Network by convening potential members, providing technical assistance, and building consensus between Lao civil society organizations. This will enable a collective response to the environmental and sociological threats associated with the development of hydropower and extractive industries along the rivers of Lao PDR.

Amount: \$20,000

Grant Term: 05/14 - 12/14

Grantee: Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development

Mainstreaming Karst Biodiversity Conservation into Policies, Plans and Business Practices in Myanmar

Mainstream the conservation of karst biodiversity into policies, plans and business practices in Myanmar, by identifying priority sites for karst conservation in Shan State and Tanintharyi Region; preparing recommendations, guidelines and policy briefs for mainstreaming karst biodiversity into the cement and tourism sectors; piloting best practices for limestone quarries;

introducing community-based cave management; and raising awareness of karst biodiversity values.

Amount: \$149,920

Grant Term: 10/14 - 12/16

Grantee: Fauna & Flora International

Strengthening Community Advocacy in the 3S Basin

Strengthen networking among affected communities and grassroots civil society organizations in Cambodia's 3S River Basin and Tonle Sap Lake to enable effective and full participation in public consultations related to hydropower dam development. Encourage informed public debate of hydropower development plans, as well as closer scrutiny of current economic development policies and decisions, through public campaigns, mobilization and media engagement.

Amount: \$120,000

Grant Term: 06/14 - 08/16

Grantee: Fisheries Action Coalition Team

Biodiversity, Community and Development of Sustainable Livelihoods in Xiaohai, Hainan

Promote the sustainable development of agriculture and tourism around Xiaohai in Hainan, China, by developing and building political support for a biodiversity and ecosystem protection and restoration plan, promoting eco-friendly hele crab farming practices, and ensuring that the Xiaohai tourism development plan recognizes the potential for ecotourism in Hainan.

Amount: \$19,887

Grant Term: 06/15 - 05/16

Grantee: Hainan Hele-crab Conservation Center

Developing Policies for Sustainable Tourism in the Upper Ayeyarwady River Corridor, Myanmar

Improve the capacity of Myanmar civil society to understand and shape national policy and strategy for tourism development in the Upper Ayeyarwady River Corridor of Myanmar by evaluating the challenges posed by the current rapid expansion of river-based tourism, proposing alternative development scenarios that maximize benefits for supporting rural development while minimizing detrimental impacts on the environment and biodiversity, and working with the domestic media to raise public awareness and inform public debate on the issue.

Amount: \$20,000

Grant Term: 06/14 - 05/15

Grantee: Harrison Institute

Same Company, Two Dams, One River: Using Hydrolancang's China Domestic Practice to Mainstream Biodiversity, Fisheries and Livelihood Protection for the Lower Sesan 2 Dam Project

Improve the provision of environmental mitigation strategies for hydro-power development along the Mekong River and its major tributaries in Cambodia, with a focus on the potential development of the Lower Sesan 2 dam, by researching measures used at dams along the Upper Mekong (particularly the Manwan and Nuozhadu dams), and assessing if and how these or similar measures might be appropriate in the context of Cambodia.

Amount: \$19,221

Grant Term: 03/14 - 02/15

Grantee: International Rivers Network

Protecting the Mekong River's Critical Ecosystems and Biodiversity from Hydropower Development

Provide technical, strategic and coordination support to the Save the Mekong Coalition for their efforts to challenge the building of destructive dams on the Mekong River mainstream in Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. Raise awareness among the public, funders and regional decision-makers of the value of healthy, free-flowing rivers and the risks associated with mainstream dam development. Explore and promote alternative energy solutions for the Mekong Region.

Amount: \$181,251

Grant Term: 03/14 - 02/16

Grantee: International Rivers Network

Strengthening Local Community Networks for Restoration of Fish Habitats in Northern Thailand

Improve people's participation in riverine-ecosystem management in Thailand by strengthening networking mechanisms for local communities and engaging them in fish habitat restoration in the Ing and Upper Mae Chaem river basins; building the capacity of the network's members and secretariat; preparing a people's master plan and good practices for water resource management, based on the principle of integrated water resource management; and engaging in national decision-making on water resources management.

Amount: \$89,938

Grant Term: 04/15 - 03/17

Grantee: Living River Siam Association

Strengthening Mekong Local Youth Networks for Riverine Biodiversity Conservation

Strengthen local youth networks in eight provinces of Thailand to play significant roles in environmental conservation of the Mekong River by building capacity for production and dissemination of knowledge on riverine biodiversity conservation. Assist youths to document local environmental issues and communicate them to the public. Support the development of three community-learning centers as models for other river basins in Thailand.

Amount: \$79,998

Grant Term: 05/15 - 04/17

Grantee: Mekong Community Institute Association

Enhancing Civil Society Capacities to Work on Biodiversity, Communities and Livelihoods in Regional Networks Across Major Tributaries in the Lower Mekong River Basin

Empower communities affected by hydropower dams in northeastern Cambodia, southern Lao PDR and eastern Thailand to influence development decision-making by increasing their access to communication channels for articulating their perspectives; increasing their knowledge of natural resource values, development impacts and alternatives in the Mekong Basin; and promoting mutual support among community and civil society organizations domestically and regionally.

Amount: \$100,000

Grant Term: 04/14 - 03/16

Grantee: Mekong Watch

Nu River Biodiversity: Increasing Knowledge and Capacity on Infrastructure Impacts

Increase knowledge of the biodiversity values of the Nu River Region in Myanmar and the anticipated impacts of large infrastructure development in the area, strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations and local community representatives to influence government decision

making around natural resource development, and generate broader public awareness of the scientific findings and key conclusions of the project.

Amount: \$61,982

Grant Term: 05/15 - 04/17

Grantee: Yi Tai Rui Wo Environmental Consulting Company Limited

Strategic Direction 8. Strengthen the capacity of civil society to work on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods at regional, national, local and grassroots levels.

Supporting the Growth of Environmental Societies at Colleges in Beihai, China Stimulate awareness and involvement in environmental conservation in Beihai, China, by supporting environmental protection associations at local colleges, and training college students to provide courses in environmental protection at primary and middle schools.

Amount: \$14,629

Grant Term: 06/15 - 05/16

Grantee: Beihai Citizen Volunteer Association

Training for Monitoring Spoonbill Sandpiper in the Gulf of Mottama

Improve conservation of the spoon-billed sandpiper (*Eurynorhynchus pygmeus*) and other threatened shorebirds in the Gulf of Mottama, Myanmar, by building the capacity of four local community-based conservation groups to monitor bird populations, and implementing conservation education and other outreach activities in the nearby communities.

Amount: \$17,869

Grant Term: 08/14 - 05/15

Grantee: Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association

Building Local Conservation Groups to Protect Important Areas for Bird Conservation in Thailand

Improve monitoring and protection of the Important Bird Area (IBA) system in Thailand by establishing a network of civil society organizations and individuals in Thailand to monitor IBAs, identify potential new IBAs, and highlight issues and trends of national concern, strengthening the capacity of Bird Conservation Society of Thailand to monitor and review the status of IBAs, and raising awareness of IBAs and the issues facing them among the general public in Thailand.

Amount: \$19,999

Grant Term: 11/14 - 10/15

Grantee: Bird Conservation Society of Thailand

Conservation Leadership Program

Promote the conservation of Asian elephants in Salakpra Wildlife Sanctuary, Thailand, by establishing a "Conservation Leadership Program" (a local network of conservation leaders who will carry out forest restoration and human-elephant conflict mitigation initiatives) and by building the institutional capacity of Bring the Elephant Home.

Amount: \$19,896

Grant Term: 05/15 - 04/16

Grantee: Bring the Elephant Home Foundation

Supporting the Development of a Cambodian Nongovernmental Organization Specializing in Sustainable Livelihood Development

Support the organizational development of a local NGO based in Kratie, Cambodia, that will specialize in sustainable livelihood development in critical biodiversity hotspots by completing a process of management restructuring, providing project management and other training for staff members, and developing a fundraising/marketing strategy for the organization.

Amount: \$20,000

Grant Term: 04/14 - 03/15

Grantee: Cambodian Rural Development Team

Creating Conservation Leaders for the West Nghe An Biosphere Reserve

Build capacity of the Center for Environmental and Rural Development (CERD) as a center for knowledge and expertise on community-based biodiversity conservation in Nghe An Province, Vietnam, by training CERD's staff; synthesizing lessons learned from past community-based conservation initiatives in West Nghe An Biosphere Reserve; and generating a community-based conservation strategy for the Biosphere Reserve, informed by input from key provincial and local stakeholders, and the findings of CERD's field research.

Amount: \$19,961

Grant Term: 07/14 - 06/15

Grantee: Center for Environmental and Rural Development, Vinh University

Conservation Planning for Swinhoe's Softshell Turtle

Improve coordination and prioritization of global conservation efforts led by civil society for the Critically Endangered Swinhoe's softshell turtle (*Rafetus swinhoi*) by holding a conservation planning workshop for the leading global experts on this species, and creating a conservation action plan that identifies priority measures and steps for enhancing coordination of conservation activities across China, Laos and Vietnam.

Amount: \$3,194

Grant Term: 12/14 - 01/15

Grantee: Centre for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies

Building Civil Society Capacity to Assess the Impacts of Hydropower Development on the Biodiversity in Vietnam's Srepok River

Equip civil society organizations with the knowledge and skills needed to assess the impacts of hydropower development on the aquatic biodiversity of rivers and to meaningfully participate in environmental impact assessment processes for hydropower dam development in Vietnam. Establish a communication and capacity-building network and test guidelines for the rapid assessment of impacts on aquatic biodiversity on the Srepok River in Yok Don National Park.

Amount: \$19,618

Grant Term: 06/15 - 05/16

Grantee: Centre for Sustainable Water Resources Development and Adaptation to Climate Change

Managing Natural Resources to Safeguard Livelihoods in Oddar Meanchey, Cambodia

Empower communities in Oddar Meanchey, Cambodia, to protect their collective interests and sustainably use natural resources by supporting effective natural resource management mechanisms and by increasing capacity to advocate to national and local authorities on natural resource management and land rights issues.

Amount: \$15,102

Grant Term: 06/15 - 05/16

Grantee: Day Ku Aphiwat

Developing Best Practices for Evaluating Fish Conservation Zone Effectiveness in Lao PDR

Equip civil society organizations in Lao PDR with tools to manage Fish Conservation Zones (FCZs) to maximize their effectiveness for conservation and food security. Develop a best practices guidebook for monitoring and establishing FCZs, test it in the field, and then

disseminate it to practitioners. Provide training to civil society organizations in developing fisheries monitoring plans.

Amount: \$109,961

Grant Term: 05/15 - 06/19

Grantee: FISHBIO Lao Sole Co., LTD

Fostering Wildlife Guardians for Thap Lan National Park

Empower communities along the northern edge of Thailand's Thap Lan National Park to become a positive, integrated partner in the protection of Thap Lan's fauna and flora by facilitating the development of a Thap Lan National Park grassroots conservation NGO, and working with the newly established NGO and park officials to identify local conservation priorities and pilot mitigation measures.

Amount: \$19,839

Grant Term: 07/14 - 06/15

Grantee: FREELAND Foundation

Building an Online Platform for Conservation Volunteers in Yunnan

Build the capacity of civil society organizations in Yunnan Province, China, to operate effectively by developing and managing an online platform pairing skilled volunteers with suitable positions in organizations, and working in close partnership with selected organizations to help them develop their volunteer management systems.

Amount: \$1,819

Grant Term: 06/14 - 05/15

Grantee: Green Kunming

Establishing a Birdwatching Society in Guangxi

Build the internal capacity of the Guangxi Birdwatching Society by facilitating its legal registration, building its reputation among those interested in bird conservation in Guangxi Province, China, and conducting birdwatching, awareness-raising and conservation activities aimed at reducing threats to bird species in Guangxi.

Amount: \$5,376

Grant Term: 07/14 - 06/15

Grantee: Guangxi Nanning Dipper Sports Culture Co. Ltd.

Mobilization of Indigenous Communities for Resource Protection and Indigenous Peoples Rights

Support the development of Cambodia's Ratanakiri Indigenous Peoples' Association, which will represent indigenous groups as a unified network, raise their concerns and claim their rights. Strengthen the capacity of Highlanders Association to provide secretariat support to the network. Advocate against the granting of economic land concessions and other threats in forests and lands on which indigenous communities depend.

Amount: \$90,000

Grant Term: 07/14 - 06/17

Grantee: Highlanders Association

Strengthening Fish Conservation Area Network for Food Security in the Ing River Basin

Scale up community-based conservation of natural resources, including fish species such as Jullien's golden carp (*Probarbus jullieni*), along the Ing River in northern Thailand by strengthening the People's Council of the Ing River Basin, a community-based conservation network, and establishing community-managed Fish Conservation Zones.

Amount: \$19,966

Grant Term: 04/14 - 03/15
Grantee: Living River Association

Empowering Khmer Daeum Communities in the Areng Valley

Build the capacity of civil society organizations working in the Areng Valley, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia, so that they may coordinate collective responses to the threats posed by proposed hydropower development in the region. This will include strengthening the internal capacity of local NGO Mother Nature, improving their ability to effectively coordinate and collaborate with other Cambodian organizations working at the site, and empowering local community leaders to lead the emergence of grassroots community-based organizations.

Amount: \$12,612

Grant Term: 06/14 - 05/15

Grantee: Mother Nature (Meada Thoamajeat)

Core Capacity Building for Pha Tad Ke Botanical Garden

Assist the emergence of Pha Tad Ke Botanical Garden as a national center for botanical research and education in Lao PDR through provision of training in horticulture and herbarium techniques, field botany, ethno-botany, propagation techniques and nursery management, development of a master plan for herbarium and seed bank management, establishment of a botanic garden database and installation of a reference library for staff and visiting researchers.

Amount: \$74,810

Grant Term: 03/15 - 09/16

Grantee: Pha Tad Ke Botanical Garden

Providing Appropriate Support to Cambodian Nongovernmental Organizations and Peoples Groups Working on Sustainable Resource Management

Strengthen governance, management and collaboration of Cambodian NGOs and people's groups working on biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource management in Cambodia by revising their governance, management and financial systems; establishing a service and support program for NGO boards; catalyzing collaboration among NGOs to support people-led development; and linking together peoples groups to address major root causes of natural resource depletion.

Amount: \$122,588

Grant Term: 07/14 - 12/16

Grantee: Southeast Asia Development Program

Emergency Conservation Measures to Avoid the Extinction of *Nepenthes suratensis*

Undertake emergency conservation measures to protect the last wild population of *Nepenthes suratensis*, a Critically Endangered tropical pitcher plant found only in Thailand, from imminent development pressures by recovering cuttings, seeds and root masses from the development area and moving them to an on-site conservation area, and other ex-situ conservation research programmes.

Amount: \$0

Grant Term: 06/15 - 08/15

Grantee: Southeast Asian Nepenthes Study and Research Foundation (SEANSRF)

Capacity Building of Local Conservation Groups in Guangdong and Guangxi Provinces to Address Illegal Shorebird Trapping Problem

Develop a civil society network for bird conservation in coastal southern China. Train at least five local groups in awareness-raising, monitoring and advocacy to government. Support local groups to put this training into practice, thereby leading to changed attitudes and behavior among local

communities and increased action by government agencies to tackle illegal trapping and trading of wild birds.

Amount: \$84,453

Grant Term: 06/14 - 04/16

Grantee: The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society

Capacity Building of Local Communities in Bird Conservation in Huang Lianshan

Build capacity for schools and community groups around Huang Lianshan Nature Reserve in Yunnan, China, to play an active role in bird conservation at the site by holding training courses in survey techniques, encouraging active participation in biodiversity surveys, developing and publishing a textbook on community-based bird conservation in China, and planning other education and outreach events.

Amount: \$12,998

Grant Term: 08/14 - 12/16

Grantee: Zoological Society of Yunnan Province

Strategic Direction 11: Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of conservation investment through a Regional Implementation Team

Indo-Burma II-1: Regional Implementation Team-Administration

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.

Amount: \$1,104,118

Grant Term: 07/13 - 04/20

Grantee: International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

Indo-Burma II-2: Regional Implementation Team-Programs

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 coordinating and communicating CEPF's investment in the region; assisting civil society groups in designing, implementing, and replicating successful conservation activities; and building the capacity of civil society organizations.

Amount: \$895,882

Grant Term: 07/13 - 04/20

Grantee: International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources