

**Mediterranean Basin Hotspot
(Phase II)**

**Annual Portfolio Overview
Fiscal Year 2019**

(covering July 2018 to June 2019)

I. Introduction

The Mediterranean Hotspot is the second largest hotspot in the world, at 2,085,292 km², and the largest of the world's five Mediterranean-climate regions. It stretches from Cabo Verde in the west to Jordan and Turkey in the east, and from Italy in the north to Tunisia in the south. It also includes parts of Spain, France, the Balkan States, Greece, Turkey, and the nations of North Africa and the Middle East, as well as around 5,000 islands scattered around the Mediterranean Sea. West of the mainland, the hotspot includes the Canaries, Madeira, Selvagens, the Azores and Cabo Verde.



In 2012, CEPF launched a five-year program of investment in the hotspot, which resulted in the award of 108 grants to 84 different organizations in 12 countries, with a total value of US\$11 million. In 2016, the updating of the Ecosystem Profile was approved by CEPF donor council, and subsequently implemented by a consortium led by BirdLife International and IUCN. The updating process, in which more than 500 stakeholders participated, took into account the dramatic political changes in the region since the original ecosystem profile was prepared in 2010, and the large amounts of new information available on the hotspot's biodiversity, in part as a result of work funded by CEPF during the first phase. The new profile defined the strategy for CEPF investment for 2017-2022.

Annual Portfolio Overviews (APOs) aim at providing an update on progress of CEPF's investment strategy. This APO covers progress in the Mediterranean Basin Hotspot from June 2018 to June 2019.

For information concerning the progress of the first phase of CEPF investment in the Mediterranean Basin (2012-2017), please refer to the Final Assessment, available on www.cepf.net

II. Niche and Strategy for CEPF Investment

1) Strategic focus for the program, 2017-2022

Four strategic considerations shape the overall program:

Supporting local and national organizations in a regional context. CEPF will focus support on local and national civil society, with granting to international organizations limited to actions that either require specific expertise not yet available in the eligible countries, or have the main objective of transferring skills and capacities to local or national partners. Capacity building will be delivered as part of specific project grants, and through 'north-south' and 'south-south' exchanges between sites and CSOs.

Strategic engagement with the private sector. Lessons from Phase 1 are to: start at the local scale, with businesses that are rooted in the community and landscape; seek opportunities to promote the image of the industry/business at the same time as delivering conservation benefits; gather data that demonstrates to business the financial benefits of the action; and be more creative in seeking opportunities for in-kind support from business. The growing market for fair trade and sustainably produced goods may provide opportunities to incentivize farmers and land managers to adopt biodiversity-friendly approaches, although the limitations of eco-labeling are recognized and dependence on achieving a price-premium needs to be avoided.

Building on local actions to achieve policy impacts. There is a need for specific actions to build on site-based projects to address the wider policy, funding and programmatic issues, with roles for the RIT, partners and grantees. The program will facilitate links between grantees and decision makers, contribute to partnerships and on-going processes of planning and reform, and promote the role and acceptance of the value of CSOs more generally.

Managing risk. Two important risks for the program are committing resources to too many projects, and the volatile political and security situation in several countries of the hotspot. The profile proposes to manage these risks by: focusing on a limited set of high priority sites; focusing on site-based action; spreading the geographic risks by investing across the eligible countries; and creating opportunities for synergy among grants.

2) CEPF Strategic Directions and Investment Priorities

Strategic direction	Investment priorities
1: Support civil society to engage stakeholders in demonstrating integrated approaches for the preservation of biodiversity in coastal areas .	1.1: Engage local stakeholders in conservation actions that address threats to key elements of biodiversity in priority KBAs in the coastal zone.
	1.2: Engage private sector stakeholders to adopt sustainable practices that deliver positive impacts for conservation in priority KBAs in the coastal zone.
	1.3: Support civil society to engage with local or national governments to mainstream biodiversity conservation into integrated coastal zone management, land-use and development planning processes.
2: Support the sustainable management of water catchments through integrated approaches for the conservation of threatened freshwater biodiversity .	2.1: Enhance the knowledge base on freshwater biodiversity and the importance of freshwater ecosystem services.
	2.2: Take action to reduce threats and improve management of selected sites in priority freshwater catchments with the participation of local stakeholders.
	2.3: Engage with government, private sector and other stakeholders to support integrated river basin management practices that reduce threats to biodiversity in priority CMZs.
3: Promote the maintenance of traditional land use practices necessary for the conservation of Mediterranean biodiversity in priority corridors of high cultural and biodiversity value .	3.1: Support local communities to increase the benefit they receive from maintaining and enhancing traditional, biodiversity-friendly land-use and agricultural practices.
	3.2: Promote awareness of the value of traditional, biodiversity-friendly land-use practices among local community and government decision makers, to secure their recognition and support.
	3.3: Encourage business actors in the trade chain to support and promote traditional, biodiversity-friendly land-use practices.
4: Strengthen the engagement of civil society to support the conservation of plants that are critically endangered or have highly restricted ranges.	4.1: Increase knowledge and skills to support assessment and planning for the conservation of plants, and foster the emergence of a new generation of young professionals in plant conservation.
	4.2: Support integration of plant conservation into the management of protected areas.
	4.3: Support innovative actions for the conservation of important populations of plants, working with land owners and managers.
5: Strengthen the regional conservation community through the sharing of best practices and knowledge among grantees across the hotspot.	5.1: Support regional and thematically-focused learning processes for CSOs and stakeholders.
	5.2: Support grantees to understand and engage with international conventions and processes.
6: Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of CEPF investment through a Regional Implementation Team .	6.1: Build a constituency of civil society groups working across institutional and political boundaries toward achieving the shared conservation goals described in the ecosystem profile.
	6.2: Act as a liaison unit for relevant networks throughout the Mediterranean to harmonize investments and direct new funding to priority issues and sites.

3) Eligible Countries for CEPF investment

CEPF support is available for conservation action within the Mediterranean Basin Hotspot in those countries that are signatories to the CBD and also World Bank client members, excluding EU Member States and their territories and several independent countries of Mediterranean Europe (Andorra, San Marino, Monaco, etc.). The security situation in some countries also currently precludes effective grant making to civil society, although this may change during the coming five years. Finally, the national governments, represented by the GEF Focal Point, should endorse the CEPF Ecosystem Profile to allow for CEPF investment.

The following table summarizes the eligibility of hotspot countries for CEPF support as of June 2019.

Mediterranean Countries	CEPF Eligibility	Endorsement Date	Comments
Albania	Yes	September 2017	
Algeria	Yes	-	No endorsement to date. Discussions on-going with authorities. Algeria endorsed and was eligible during Phase 1.
Bosnia & Herzegovina	Yes	January 2018	
Cape Verde	Yes	December 2017	
Egypt	Yes	July 2018	Although endorsement secured, pending discussions on process for granting civil society organizations
Jordan	Yes	October 2017	
Lebanon	Yes	October 2017	
Libya	Yes	October 2017	Security situation implies specific measures to award grant in this country
Macedonia	Yes	September 2017	
Montenegro	Yes	December 2017	
Morocco	Yes	November 2017	
Syria	Yes	-	Current investments impossible due to political and security reasons.
Tunisia	Yes	October 2017	
Turkey	Yes	-	GEF focal point informed CEPF in January 2018 that the profile would not be endorsed. No investment planned for Phase 2.
Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain...	No	-	Not eligible as EU member States
Monaco, Andorra, San Marino...	No	-	Not eligible as not World Bank client

In July 2018, the Egyptian authorities, represented by Mohammed Shebab Abdel Wahab, Chief Executive Officer of the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) and GEF Focal Point, endorsed the Ecosystem Profile, hence allowing CEPF to support civil society in the country. Nevertheless, the actual process to secure access to funding for national organizations has not been

cleared by the Egyptian authorities, in spite of several requests for meetings. As such, CEPF is not in a position to launch calls for proposals and grant projects to national organizations.

The situation with Algeria has not progressed over the past year. Two meetings scheduled in Algeria have been cancelled for security reasons or unavailability of government officials. The political situation in Algeria, with pending presidential elections and social demonstrations, represents a challenge for establishing a dialogue with authorities on support to civil society. Efforts will continue in 2019-2020.

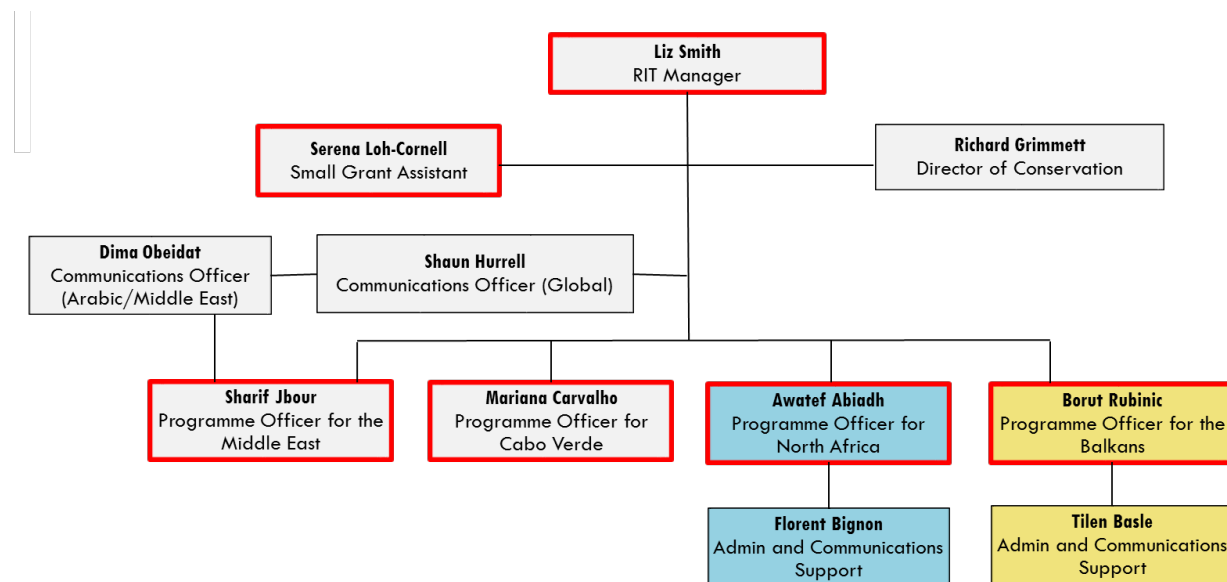
CEPF is also envisaging to start investment in the Palestinian Territories, and prepared in FY19 a note to the attention of our donors to expand our investment in this part of the Middle-East.

III. Coordinating CEPF Grant Making

Effective in October 2017, the Regional Implementation Team for the Mediterranean Basin Hotspot is comprised of BirdLife International including its Middle East Office, la Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux (BirdLife in France; covering North Africa), and DOPPS (BirdLife in Slovenia; covering the Balkans).

Most of the RIT members were already part of the RIT during the first phase, namely Liz Smith (RIT Manager), Borut Rubinic, Awatef Abiadh and Sharif Jbour (respectively Programme Officers for the Balkans, North Africa, and Middle East). Richard Grimmett also continues to provide line management and strategic support to the RIT Manager. The Programme Officers also each have part-time support in their respective office to provide translation and other admin support.

During the year, small changes have occurred to the RIT structure, with the departure of Senior Conservation Adviser Ivan Ramirez, while Mariana Carvalho, Programme Officer for Cabo Verde will be leaving the RIT as of 1st July – and is expected to be replaced in early FY20. Other major changes to the RIT are expected in the coming fiscal year as a result of an extension of the RIT role in the Balkans in relation with additional support from MAVA in this part of the hotspot.



 BirdLife International
 LPO (BirdLife France)
 DOPPS (BirdLife Slovenia)
 Core RIT Staff

IV. Portfolio Status to Date

1) Calls for proposals

Since October 2017, CEPF launched five Calls for Proposals. The first call received a total of 118 Letters of Inquiry (Lols) for Large Grants, which was a lot more than initially expected, based on the average response to Calls for Proposals in Phase I. This demonstrates that CEPF is now a well-known and well-established funding mechanism, and that funding needs are high in the region.

CfP	Release	Deadline	Specifications	Countries	Lols received	Proposal in the pipeline	Approved Projects
1	Dec. 2017	Feb. 2018	Large Grants SD 1 & 4	All eligible countries	118	-	17 (14%)
2	June 2018	Sept. 2018	Large Grants SD 2 & 3	All eligible countries	42	12	Pending
3	June 2018	Sept. 2018	Small Grants SD 1 & 4	All eligible countries	56	-	23 (45%)
4	June 2019	Aug. 2019	Large Grants SD 2	Bosnia & Hercegovina ; North Macedonia, Morocco, Tunisia	Pending		Pending
5	June 2019	July 2019	Small Grants SD 3	Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia	Pending		Pending

The Calls for proposals for Large Grants have been launched in:

- English,
- French
- Portuguese

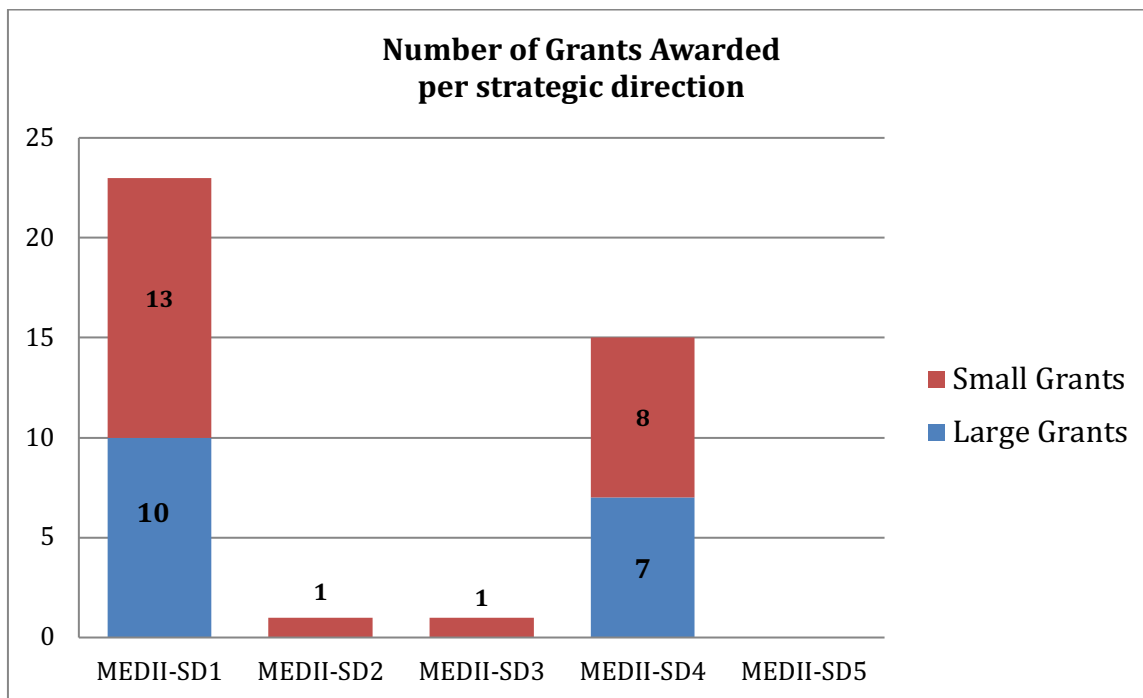
The Calls for proposals for Small Grants have been launched, depending on the countries concerned, in:

- English,
- French,
- Portuguese,
- Arabic,
- Serbo-Croatian.

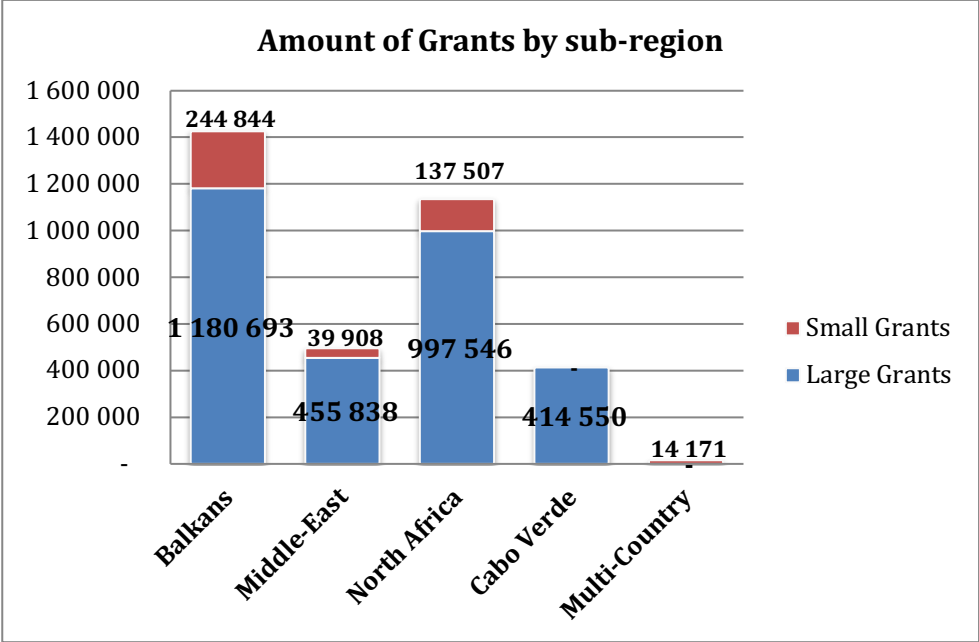
2) Portfolio Overview

During the July 2018-June 2019 period, 40 grants have been awarded by CEPF: 17 Large Grants and 23 Small Grants, for an overall budget of about \$ 3,15M. Including the grant issued in FY18 to BirdLife International for the Regional Implementation Team, about 48 percent of the initial budget for the investment phase has been committed.

Strategy	Allocated Budget (\$)	Contracted Grants			Budget Balance (\$)	Percentage Contracted
		Total Amount	Large Grants	Small Grants		
SD1 Coastal Areas	2,400,000	\$1 925 097	\$1 735 268	\$229,829	\$414 903	81.9%
SD2 Freshwater	2,270,000	\$19 660	\$0	\$19 660	\$2 250 340	0.9%
SD3 Cultural Landscapes	2,350,000	\$20 000	\$0	\$20 000	\$2 330 000	0.9%
SD4 Plant Conservation	900,000	\$1 143 559	\$990 799	\$152 760	-\$243 559	127.1%
SD5 Regional cooperation & Networks	430,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$430 000	0.0%
Regional Implementation Team	1,650,000	\$1 649 786	\$0	\$0	\$214	100.0%
TOTAL	10,000,000	\$4 798 112	\$2 726 067	\$422 259	5 201 888	48.0%

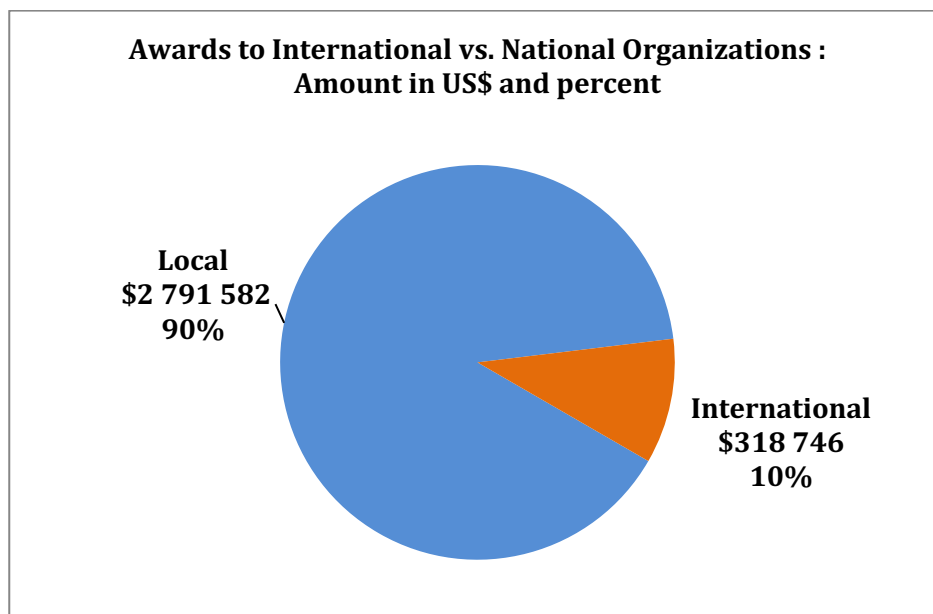


In terms of geographical coverage, the current commitments for each sub-region is commensurate with the initial expectations – with Balkans leading the way (about \$1.4M), followed by North Africa (about \$1.1M; with no investment to date in Algeria). Cabo Verde and Middle East are at the expected level of about \$0.5M each.



	All grants	Large Grants	Small Grants
Cabo Verde	414 550	414 550	-
Morocco	149 714	129 758	19 956
Algeria	-	-	-
Tunisia	928 368	867 788	60 580
Libya	56 971	-	56 971
Egypt	-	-	-
Jordan	165 943	165 943	-
Lebanon	329 803	289 895	39 908
Montenegro	291 743	232 376	59 367
Albania	675 724	543 786	131 938
Bosnia and Herzegovina	20 000	-	20 000
North Macedonia	101 339	81 971	19 368
Multi-Country	14 171	-	14 171
TOTAL	3 148 326	2 726 067	422 259

Eighty-seven percent of the grants (representing 90 percent of the budget) in the Mediterranean Basin have been awarded to local organizations of the eligible countries. Only one Large Grant have been awarded to international organization – although this grant includes a large sub-grant (over 50%) to a local Tunisian association. All the four small grants to international organizations are exclusively for support and raising capacities of local organizations.



V. Performance Assessment

The main objectives of the Fiscal Year 2019 were:

➤ **To build the portfolio of projects under Strategic Direction 1 (coastal zones)**

This strategic direction had been envisaged as a continuation of investment of the first phase (2012-2017) and as such a call for Large Grants was launched early 2018, allowing for first projects to be granted in the first months of FY19 (summer/fall 2018). To complement the portfolio, another call was launched for Small Grants in June 2018, allowing for small grants to be active during the winter 2018/2019. As a result, 23 grants have been awarded during the fiscal year, representing about 80 percent of the initial budget allocated for this strategic direction.

The large grants focus more on protected areas management and co-management, and integrated coastal zone management. In particular, important grants were awarded in the Balkans and Tunisia on coastal wetlands, habitats that are under major threats due to infrastructure development. Many of the beneficiaries of the Large grants are major national organizations, most of which already CEPF grantees in the first phase (sometimes as small grantees) – which is part of our commitment to build up the capacities of these organization in the long run.

The small grants primary focus is on species conservation action and/or science (inventories, monitoring of species etc.). For Libya, the RIT has conducted a series of hands-on focused workshops around specific needs of grantees, covering different elements from the Theory of Change to

completing the application forms (the first in June 2018, then February 2019 and a follow-up one planned for October 2019).

➤ **To build the portfolio of projects under Strategic Direction 4 (plant conservation)**

When this strategic direction was included in the Ecosystem Profile, there were concerns about the interest it would raise from civil society, noting that only about 6 projects out of 108 focused on plants in the first phase. It was therefore interesting to see a high level of response for this Strategic Direction – being under the Large and the Small Grants calls for proposals, which were launched in a sequence (to allow unsuccessful applicants under Large Grant call to reapply for Small Grants). As a result, 15 projects are currently supported, with several more in the pipeline. The quality of the proposals and their contribution to biodiversity conservation in the Mediterranean Basin, primarily a hotspot for plants, is also to be noted. This demonstrates either a growing interest in plant conservation among civil society organization, and/or the potential that a specific "window of funding" brings in steering conservation efforts.

The budget initially planned for this strategic direction is already overspent by 27 percent, while feed-back from the field calls for additional investment. This situation will need to be addressed during the mid-term review.

➤ **To launch Calls for Proposals for Strategic Direction 2 (freshwater biodiversity)**

The call for proposals for strategic direction 2 on freshwater biodiversity was launched in June 2018 for the Balkans only. The response was very positive, with a lot of high quality proposals. It is expected that about a quarter of the applicants will be successful for this call. Although no large grant was actually awarded during the fiscal year, about nine proposals are getting close to completion and are to start as early as July 1st or during the first quarter of fiscal year 2020. The finalization process for these grants, about 9 month from the submissions of Letters of Inquiry to project start, has been slightly longer than usual for CEPF (around 7 months in general), due in part to the technical complexity of some projects: in Bosnia & Herzegovina for instance, the RIT had to organize preliminary meetings with all applicants to ensure complementarity of projects and good collaboration. Some delays may also be attributed to administrative issues related to the new grant application system. Parallel to the coastal zone strategic direction, most large grants project will focus on integrated river basin management including advocacy work related to major threats such as infrastructure; while small grants are expected to focus more on science and inventories as well as mobilization of local stakeholders.

➤ **To launch Calls for Proposals for Strategic Direction 3 (cultural landscapes)**

For the strategic direction on Cultural Landscape, the results of the Calls for Proposals have been rather disappointing. Four proposals have been selected for large grants, but all of them require additional preparation work. Small grants will be provided to some of the organizations, in Morocco and Lebanon, to prepare biodiversity assessment and socio-economic studies to improve the design

of projects. There is generally a lack of conceptual understanding of the cultural landscape concept. Most of the proposals focused on pure agriculture development projects, often including organic agriculture, which are of course beneficial for biodiversity but with limited direct, tangible impact on important species.

Facing this situation, we decided not to rush for new projects under this strategic direction, but to support pilots (under preparatory action at this stage) on some products or landscapes: grassland & sheep products in the Atlas mountains (2 projects); hedges & cereal agriculture in Northern Tunisia, and terraces & olive products in Lebanon. Additionally, assessment studies on the link between biodiversity and agricultural landscapes will be supported to attract new stakeholders and help identifying project ideas in the four countries concerned – a call for proposals for small grants was launched in June 2019 for this purpose.

➤ **To communicate about CEPF, the Ecosystem Profile and associated strategy, and reach out to potential partners (applicants);**

The RIT and CEPF Secretariat have been communicating via email, in person during meetings and events (Wild Rivers Conference, Mediterranean Plant Week, Mediterranean Donors Round-Table etc.), via the [newsletter](#), social media, country factsheets, RIT magazines, and other channels of information through partners. The calls for proposals have been announced in multiple languages to the contact list of over 1,000 people. Key forms including technical forms have also been translated into different languages e.g. gender toolkit in Arabic.

VI. Collaboration with CEPF Donors and other funders

Several donors support biodiversity conservation in the Mediterranean Basin Hotspot, and regional initiatives and platforms exist to foster partnership and collaboration. CEPF has, over the past few years, strengthened relationship with the donor community working specifically with non-State actors in the field of conservation.

In particular, our Mediterranean Advisory Committee provides strategic advice to CEPF, and help identify opportunities for collaboration (see table). It is complemented by an Expert group on Mediterranean Plants (to advise on strategic direction 4) and an Expert group on Coastal Zones (for Strategic direction 1).

CEPF also participates in the Mediterranean Donors Roundtable, which brings together, once a year, representatives of the Funding Fish Foundation, Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial (FFEM), Adessium Foundation, Thalassa Foundation, MAVA Foundation, Prince Albert II Foundation, and Fundacion Biodiversidad. The 2019 round table was organized by Thalassa Foundation in Athens in February.

Ongoing discussions with the MAVA Foundation led to a concept note submitted by the CEPF Secretariat in April 2019, outlining plans for additional support to Balkan civil society in the form of small grants. With such funding in place the structure of the Regional Implementation Team will also be altered to fully manage the expanded program.

Discussions with MAVA also occurred in June on the 'cultural landscapes' strategic direction. This initial conversation with the head of the program for MAVA led to plans for the CEPF-RIT to attend MAVA's strategic meeting in February 2020, and feed into those discussions.

The RIT continued discussions on a sub-regional and project level with different initiatives to ensure synergies e.g. the PPI-OSCAN, SMILO in Cabo Verde, or the Plant KBA program in Jordan.

Advisory	
Committee Member	Organization
Fabrice Bernard	Conservatoire du Littoral
Constance Corbier	Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial (FFEM)
Bertrand de Montmollin	IUCN/SSC/MPSG - Mediterranean Plant Specialist Group
Paule Gros	MAVA Foundation
Raphael Cuvelier	Prince Albert II Foundation
Ricardo Pimenta Monteiro	The GEF Small Grants Programme Cabo Verde
Antonio Troya	The IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation
Jean Jalbert	Tour du Valat
Paolo Lombardi	WWF Mediterranean Programme Office
Verena Sommer	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Nedal M. Al Ouran	UNDP, Jordan

VII. Conclusion

As expected, the second year of implementation of this investment phase in the Mediterranean Basin was dominated by grant-making. We expect to grant about 70 to 75 percent of the budget allocation before the mid-term of the investment, which is expected to take place in the first semester of 2020. The portfolio is progressing well, with a comprehensive portfolio of mutually supportive grants for the strategic directions on coastal zones, freshwater biodiversity and plant conservation. The pace is slower for cultural landscapes, which is a new theme for CEPF and for most of our conservation partners in the region, hence the need to carefully prepare our future actions.

Our visits on the ground demonstrate an incredible commitment and tremendous will from the local partners, all over the Mediterranean Basin, and even in countries where it is sometimes hard to work, such as Libya. Most notable since the first phase of investment, we have witnessed a stronger feeling of being “Mediterranean” and a clear motivation to work together at the regional level – which makes it our responsibility to support exchanges and regional initiatives, towards a Mediterranean conservation community.

Annex 1: Progress against the Portfolio Logframe, as of June 30, 2019

Objectives	Targets	
Engage civil society in the conservation of globally threatened biodiversity through targeted investments with maximum impact on the highest conservation priorities.	45 Key Biodiversity Areas, covering 1,000,000 hectares, have new or strengthened protection and management.	Currently, projects are on-going on 48 Key Biodiversity Areas. Not possible to assess strengthened protection or management as of yet.
	8 sites, covering at least 120,000 hectares that were unprotected or under temporary protection gain officially declared permanent protected status.	<p>Expected new protected areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Brava in Cabo Verde ➤ Bcharri in Lebanon ; ➤ Byblos archaeological site in Lebanon (for plants) ➤ Extension of Zembra & Zembretta PA in Tunisia ➤ Kuriat Islands ➤ Orjen in Bosnia ➤ Katic in Montenegro ➤ Tulip Sites in Albania ➤ Jablanica ➤ Naqab in Jordan (Plant special conservation area) ➤ Plant reserve in Djerba (Tunisia) <p>Results of Phase 1 during Phase 2 time</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ulcinj Salina (Montenegro) - Babor NP (Algeria)
	At least 8 initiatives launched with private sector stakeholders resulting in adoption or maintenance of biodiversity-friendly practices.	Not assessible at current time
	10 land-use plans or land use management practices incorporate provisions for biodiversity conservation (e.g., integrated coastal zone management plans, river basin management plans, agricultural development plans, etc.).	Not assessible at current time
	5 partnerships and networks formed among civil society, and with government and communities, to leverage complementary capacities and maximize impact in support of the ecosystem profile.	Not assessible at current time

	At least 60 civil society organizations, including at least 45 local organizations, actively participate in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile, and increase their capacities to deliver long-term conservation benefits.	At end of FY19, 39 beneficiary organizations, not including sub-grantees and local partners, implementing conservation project guided by the ecosystem profile
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Intermediate Outcomes	Targets	
<p>1. Support civil society to engage stakeholders in demonstrating integrated approaches for the conservation of biodiversity in coastal areas.</p> <p>\$2,400,000</p>	<p>Multi-stakeholder approaches lead to improved management of at least 25 priority coastal KBAs, covering at least 600,000 hectares.</p>	<p>16 KBAs covered by projects (14 priority + 2 non priority)</p>
	<p>At least 8 private sector stakeholders, in at least 4 countries, improve their business practices with positive impacts on biodiversity.</p>	<p>Projects are currently working with 12 small/medium private sector stakeholders in five countries. Results in terms of impacts not yet available.</p> <p>Albania:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ small tourism industry in Karaburun (INCA) ➤ Wine industry and organic food Narta (PPNEA) ➤ Small ecotourism Narta (PPNEA) ➤ Small Ecotourism Butrint PPNEA) <p>Montenegro:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Small scale ecotourism, diving clubs and sport fishing, Katic (GreenHome) <p>Cabo Verde.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Local small Ecotourism, Taxis, Sal (PB) ➤ Small Artisanal Fishing (Biosfera) <p>Tunisia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ecotourism, pescaturism Kuriat, (NGB) ➤ Small Artisanal Fishing, Kuriat (NGB) ➤ Small Artisanal Fishing Zembra (PIM/ASPEN) ➤ Organic Farming, Sejoumi (RET) <p>Morocco</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Fishing, Mussels, expected 2020, Souss Massa (AGIR)
	<p>At least 2 mechanisms initiated for the private sector to contribute financially to conservation management costs of priority coastal KBAs.</p>	<p>Albania:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Karaburun; fees from tourism collected to support management ➤ Cabo Verde: Restaurants to pay a premium for sustainable fish from the protected area
	<p>Reduced pressure from unsustainable practices (hunting, fishing, over-harvesting) on at least 10 globally threatened species for which it is a significant threat.</p>	<p>Currently projects have specific actions on three species</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Albanian Frog ➤ Loggerhead Turtle ➤ Leatherback Turtle <p>➤ Date Shell (to be assessed in coming year, expected to be threatened)</p>

	<p>Improvement in the status (i.e., short-term increase in population and/or breeding success) of at least 15 threatened species in at least 20 priority coastal KBAs.</p>	<p>Currently projects have specific actions on five species</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Monk Seal ➤ Albanian Frog ➤ Loggerhead Turtle ➤ Leatherback Turtle ➤ Dalmatian Pelican <p>➤ Date Shell (while not assessed by IUCN, supposed to be endangered)</p>
	<p>At least 4 land-use planning and/or integrated coastal zone management processes show better integration of biodiversity conservation.</p>	<p>Projects currently working on 7 sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Albania/ Karavasta : preventing massive tourism complex construction / the project was abandoned following advocacy work in fall 2019 ➤ Albania/ Narta, in Process ➤ Albania/Karaburun: in process, integrating coastal plant conservation needs ➤ Tunisia: Sejoumi: in process (preventing/improving development on ramsar site) ➤ Tunisia: Katic, in process (first MPA to be created in the country) ➤ Tunisia: Farwa, in process (first MPA) ➤ Cabo Verde: Costa da Fragata, in process

Intermediate Outcomes	Targets	
<p>2. Support the sustainable management of water catchments through integrated approaches for the conservation of threatened freshwater biodiversity.</p> <p>\$2,270,000</p>	<p>Knowledge of freshwater biodiversity in at least 15 KBAs in priority Catchment Management Zones (CMZs) improved, documented and shared with decision-makers.</p>	<p>Morocco: 3 (proposal stage) Tunisia: 1 (proposal stage) Albania: 1 (proposal stage) North Macedonia: 2 (proposal stage) Bosnia & Hercegovina: 8 (proposal stage)</p>
	<p>Community stakeholders (e.g., fishers, farmers, etc.) in at least 20 sites in priority CMZs receive economic benefits from adopting practices with positive impacts on biodiversity.</p>	<p>1 in Skadar Lake: 10 local fishermen become guides, 2 engage in patrolling 3 to 4 sites in Bosnia where leisure fishing industry improved</p>
	<p>Improvement in the status (i.e. short-term increase in population and/or breeding success) of at least 12 globally threatened freshwater species.</p>	<p>Projects currently work on 7 species</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Albanian Frog ➤ Tooth Carp ➤ Dalmatian Pelican ➤ Ferruginous Duck ➤ Greater Spotted Eagle ➤ 2 plants Rumex tunetanus (Sejenane, plant species under SD4) - Potential other species in Bosnia, Morocco, Tunisia, Skadar Lake !!
	<p>Management plans and/or practices for at least 4 river basins integrate provisions for biodiversity conservation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ EL Barrak Tunisia (proposal stage) ➤ Oued Kheniffra, Morocco (proposal stage) ➤ Orhid Lake ➤ Skadar Lake ➤ Dojran Lake
<p>3. Promote the maintenance of traditional land-use practices necessary for the conservation of Mediterranean biodiversity in priority corridors of</p>	<p>At least 1,000 women and 1,000 men in at least 20 communities demonstrate improved economic wellbeing through maintenance of traditional, biodiversity-friendly land-use practices.</p>	<p>No progress to date.</p>
	<p>At least 6 traditional products that demonstrate positive impacts on biodiversity see a positive market trends (in terms increased production, price, access to new markets) through certification, etc.</p>	<p>No progress to date.</p>

high cultural and biodiversity value. \$2,350,000	Status (indicators of population or breeding success) of at least 8 globally threatened species dependent on traditional land-use practices improved at site level in at least 3 priority corridors.	No progress to date.
	Local authorities in at least 3 priority corridors recognize the importance of traditional, biodiversity-friendly land-use practices and engage in supporting their maintenance.	No progress to date.
4. Strengthen the engagement of civil society to support the conservation of plants that are critically endangered or have highly restricted ranges. \$900,000	Status of at least 12 threatened plant species improved at the site level (increased population or indicators of breeding success) in at least 4 different countries.	Currently, projects on-going work on 34 threatened species of plants (CR, EN, VU) – assessment of status improvement not yet possible. Note: Projects also work on many Site-restricted endemics.
	Improved management practices in at least 8 unprotected sites important for plants (including creation of micro-reserves, etc.).	Projects currently work on 16 sites in total
	At least 6 protected area management plans incorporate specific actions for plant conservation, and at least 10 protected area managers demonstrate improved skills and knowledge on plant conservation.	Expected results from on-going projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Morocco: 2 (Talassemtane, Toubkhal) ➤ Tunisia: 1 (Dar Fatma) ➤ Libya: 1 (Farwa under SD1) ➤ Lebanon: 5 Horsh Ehden, Jabal Moussa, Djaj, Byblos, Sarada (potentially 2 more: Anjar, Tyr) ➤ Jordan: 4 (Dana, Dermouk, Dbin, Hajnoun) ➤ Montenegro: 2 (Orjen, Lobcen) ➤ North Macedonia: 2 (Pellister, Jablanica) ➤ Cabo Verde: 1 Fogo (potentially 1 more if Brava created, check if Costa Brava) <p>Number of PA managers: to be monitored. Specific actions in Lebanon, Jordan and Cabo Verde, Montenegro</p>
	Improved knowledge for at least 35 locally endemic or highly threatened plant species and improved information on plants for at least 15 KBAs.	Achieved: in Jordan, improved information on 22 sites. Projects currently work on 35 endangered plants (IUCN) plus site restricted endemics.
At least 6 young professionals (at least 3 men, 3 women) gain substantial experience in plant conservation.	On-going projects currently improving capacity of young professionals: 7 male, 7 female (and 6 undefined...) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Tunisia, 1 female PhD 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Morocco, 2 female Master, 1 male young professional ➤ Lebanon, 2 female ➤ Jordan, 4 male students ➤ Cabo Verde: 6 university students (Brava and Fogo) ➤ Bosnia, 1 female, ➤ Montenegro, 1 female and 1 male ➤ Albania, 1 male
	At least 2 plans adopted at the national level with improved integration of plant conservation needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 1 large policy work In Jordan
Intermediate Outcomes	Targets	
5. Strengthen the regional conservation community through the sharing of best practices and knowledge among grantees across the region. \$430,000	At least 10 local organizations demonstrate increased knowledge of international and regional conservation agreements and take steps to engage in action at the local level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 1 organization in Tunisia (RET) participated to Ramsar conference and applied learning to site in Tunisia
	At least 5 regional thematic experience sharing events allow for informal and formal networking in the hotspot.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ IUCN Plant Week, 6 organizations participated ➤ <i>MedPAN meeting on marine protected areas: 6 organizations participated (not FY19)</i> ➤ <i>Protected Area Network Forum in Jordan: 4 Libyan NGOs participated (not FY19)</i>
	Grant support makes a significant contribution to catalyzing or sustaining at least 7 cross-border networking relationships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Montenegro & Bosnia: Orjen Mountains (Plants) ➤ Albania and Greece: Tooth Carp (Fish) ➤ Albania & Montenegro: Skadar Lake ➤ North Macedonia & Greece: Dojran Lake management
	Information on at least 15 funding opportunities for civil society disseminated to relevant organizations, resulting in at least 5 successful funding proposals for continuation or extension of CEPF-funded work.	<p>Information disseminated about</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The MED Fund - MedPAN Funding - Franklinia Foundation for grantees working on trees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Support application of NGB to The MED Fund for recurrent funding ➤ Support Biosfera (Cabo Verde) to get SMILO support (for fishermen) ➤ Support Bado (Libya) to get MEDPAN funding for sea turtles ➤ Support RSCN to get Prince Albert Foundation funding for Yarmouk PA

	At least 2 regional networks for biodiversity conservation in the Mediterranean Basin created or strengthened.	No progress to date
6. Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of CEPF investment through a Regional Implementation Team. \$1,650,000	At least 80% of local civil society organizations receiving grants demonstrate more effective capacity to design and implement conservation actions.	No assessable yet
	At least 30 grantees show at an improvement in gender mainstreaming tracking tool scores over the period of CEPF support.	Not assessable yet
	At least 2 participatory assessments undertaken, documenting lessons learned and best practices from the hotspot.	Not assessable yet
	Performance of the RIT assessed as satisfactory during the Mid Term and Final Assessments.	Not assessable yet

Annex 2. Active and Closed Grants (Phase 2) as of June, 2019

Strategic Direction 1 : Integrated Coastal Zone Management

Albanian Ornithological Society	Let's Make Divjaka Natural Again!	Albania	Develop alternative options for sustainable economic development, assess the ecosystem services of the wetland complex, associate the local stakeholders in monitoring and conservation actions and raise awareness on the natural heritage of this region of Albania, in order to prevent large tourism infrastructures to be developed within the national park.	\$187 000
Protection and Preservation of Natural Environment in Albania	Land of Eagles and Castles: Integrated Participatory Management for Albanian Coastal Biodiversity	Albania	Building upon CEPF funded project "Land of eagles and castles" (2012-2016), PPNEA will strengthen their relationship with local communities and expand support to local small nature-friendly businesses around Narta Lagoon and Butrint National Park, with the objective of ensuring alternative livelihood for local communities while preserving the rich biodiversity of the two unique sites.	\$166 503
Instituti për Ruajtjen e Natyrës në Shqipëri	From mountains to the sea	Albania	Work closely with the authorities in charge of national parks management to ensure participation of all local stakeholders and their engagement for protected areas. This include municipalities, tourism operators, academics, and the youth and general public.	\$190 283
Qendra për Ruajtjen e Ekosistemeve Natyrore në	Conserving the Albanian Water Frog in Vlora Bay	Albania	Assess the current situation, threats and necessary conservation measures for the Albanian water frog in Vlora Bay, Albania. The project aims to train local stakeholders in direct conservation actions and	\$20 000

Shqipëri (Eco-Albania)			techniques for the protection and conservation of the Albanian water frog, and to raise the public's interest the endemic amphibian and the area's biodiversity.	
Social Education & Environment Protection	Engage Key Stakeholders for the Conservation of the Date Shell and its Habitat in the Karaburun Peninsula, Albania	Albania	Create positive synergies between stakeholders for the conservation of the Date Shell and its ecosystem in Karaburun-Sazan Marine National Park in Albania. Project will establish a forum with all stakeholders to raise awareness, discuss, and collect ideas for sustainable ways of managing the coastline of the Marine Protected Area and nearby zones.	\$18 630
Archipelagos-ambiente e sviluppo	Sustainability, threats, presence and habitat use of the Mediterranean monk seal in Albania	Albania	Contribute to the overall conservation and survival of the Monk Seal by facilitating research and conservation actions in Vlora bay in Albania. Project outcomes will improve the knowledge of habitat availability and presence of the species along the coast of Albania, setting a data baseline on the threats that affect the quality of the Monk Seal habitat and explore possible mitigation measures.	\$20 000
Organizata e Menxhimit të Peshkimit Liqeni i Shkodrës	Working Towards a Sustainable Fishery on the Coast of Velipoja and in Buna Delta, Albania	Albania	Enhance the sustainability of the fishery activities in Velipoja coast and in Buna Delta Key Biodiversity Area, north west Albania. Formalizing the fishery will help improve the conservation status of rare and endemic fish species occurring in this area through their protection. The enforcement of regulations of the fishing activity in the project area will result in licensed fishermen, improved fishing regulations and identification of Fishing Protected Areas.	\$16 300
Royal Albania Foundation	Establishing a Rehabilitation and Education Centre for	Albania	Contribute to the recovery of sea turtles and generate wider awareness and training to local stakeholders. The project will take place in different parts of the Albanian	\$17 400

	Sea Turtles at Butrint in Saranda Bay, Albania		coast, with a pilot turtle recovery center being established in the Butrint area. Local veterinarians will be trained in sea turtle rehabilitation techniques, rangers trained on how to rescue injured turtles and the public will be informed about the widespread problem and how to protect them.	
Biosfera 1	Developing a Sustainable Model of Certified Fisheries for the Protection of Santa Luzia Marine Reserve Biodiversity.	Cabo Verde	Undertake a pilot study to evaluate options for developing sustainable fishing schemes inside and outside the Marine Protected Area of Santa Luzia, in Cabo Verde. The project will collect key information on the fishing activities, set up a participatory monitoring system and pilot a certification scheme with premium for fishermen adopting sustainable practices. A long-term expected outcome is to improve the conservation status of important fish species (including sharks) in the protected areas.	\$138 537
Associação Projetos Biodiversidade	Estabelecendo a Gestão Cooperativa da Área Marinha Protegida para Conservar a Área Chave para a Biodiversidade da Ilha do Sal, Cabo Verde	Cabo Verde	Restore marine and coastal ecosystem of Costa de Fragata Key Biodiversity Area on Sal Island, Cabo Verde, through support to the protected area management authority, and instauration of co-management practices supported by the local community. Develop partnership with local tourism operators and involve fishermen community to reduce threats on endangered species.	\$136 013
Libyan WildLife Trust (LWT)	Preparing a zoning plan for the Karabolli area, Libya	Libya	Prepare a participatory zoning plan for the Karabolli Key Biodiversity Area in Libya. The project will evaluate the standing capacity of the site and suggest a plan for the land use with relevant stakeholders and authorities.	\$17 771
Oxygen association for	Establishing a Social Environment Club in Karabolli, Libya	Libya	Create a social environmental club in partnership with the Korrabolli municipality in order to increase awareness about the degradation of the site. An innovative idea to	\$19 955

environmental protection			bring men and women together to discuss local environmental issues, and the organization of environmental events involving students from local schools.	
BADO Association for Environment	Establishing environmental awareness about the importance of Farwa Marine Protected Area, Libya	Libya	Protect and conserve biodiversity within the Farwa Marine Protected Area through increased environmental awareness and participatory action. The aim of this project is to organize different awareness campaigns and create environmental clubs within two primary schools in Zwara. Contribute to the elaboration of the management plan to be implemented by Libyan Society of Bird.	\$19 245
Zeleni Dom Green Home	Support local community's involvement in protection and promotion of the potential marine protected area – Katič	Montenegro	Building the capacity of and networking local actors to engage in the management of natural resources in the Katic area, and support the first potential marine protected area of Montenegro. Supporting ecotourism and livelihood activities based on sustainable use of natural resources. Monitoring of two important flagship species: monk seal and dusky grouper.	\$232 376
Crnogorsko društvo ekologa [Montenegrin Ecologists Society (MES)]	Inclusion of the Local Community in the Process of Protection and Improvement of the Habitat of the Endangered Skadar Frog in the Bojana Delta	Montenegro	Raise awareness of the rare and threatened Skadar frog (Albanian water frog). The project will work with local communities, children, students, decision makers and other stakeholders in one of the strongholds for the amphibian species – Bojana/Buna river Delta in Montenegro. They will establish monitoring of the species, create conservation guidelines and organize the first Montenegrin "Frog Day."	\$20 000
AGIR Association de Gestion	Involve Civil Society and Fishing Community in Integrating Biodiversity Conservation in Souss	Morocco	Prepare the national action plan for Northern Bald Ibis, a Critically Endangered species. Local civil society organizations and relevant stakeholders are involved actively in order to ensure its sustainability. The project	\$19 956

Intégrée des Ressources	Massa National Park and Tamri Key Biodiversity Area, Morocco		will help to establish a platform for all stakeholders and prepare a conservation project for the better future conservation of the species in Souss-Massa National Parc and Tamri Key Biodiversity Area.	
Notre Grand Bleu	Contribute to Integrated and Sustainable Management of the Coastal and Marine Protected Area of Kuriat Islands, Tunisia	Tunisia	Strengthening the co-management of Kuriat Islands, through a programme to increase capacities of Notre Grand Bleu and the authorities in charge of the protected area. Work with local stakeholders to promote good practices in terms of tourism and fishing. Promote the protected area, and support monitoring of endangered species.	\$199 114
Initiative pour les Petites Îles de Méditerranée	Vers la Mise en Place d'une Cogestion de l'Archipel de Zembra et du Jbel Haouaria, Tunisie	Tunisia	Create the conditions for an effective management of the Zembra Archipelago Marine Protected Area through ecological assessment and monitoring, strategic planning, establishment of a participatory management structure including all stakeholders, and strengthening local organization ASPEN to engage in co-management.	\$252 319
Association "Les Amis des Oiseaux"	Engager les parties prenantes nationales et internationales pour la conservation de Sebkhet Sejoumi et ses populations d'oiseaux	Tunisia	Analyze the importance of Sebkhet Sejoumi (ecosystem services, biodiversity), prepare alternative options for long-term preservation of the area, and work with national authorities to influence urban planning compatible with protection of site. Raise awareness of local communities and strengthen local organizations.	\$114 645
Réseau Enfants de la Terre	Engager la Société Civile pour la Protection de la Sebkhet Sejoumi, Tunisie	Tunisia	Raise awareness of the importance of Sebkhet Sejoumi Wetland, including the services it provides and the biodiversity it hosts, and engage local community members in the protection of the site.	\$118 478
Reseau Enfant de la Terre	Participation in COP 13 RAMSAR as part of the project "Promoting the	Tunisia	Improve knowledge about Sijoumi wetland situation in international level through the participation to 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties. This travel	\$ 8 325

	involvement of civil society in the protection process of Sabkhet Sijoumi"		grant allows Reseau Enfent de la Terre to be part of World Wetland Network and youth wetland network.	
Vertigo Lab	BlueSeeds: Explorer des méthodes innovantes pour le renforcement des capacités financières et organisationnelles des aires protégées en Tunisie - Pilote sur les Iles Kuriats	Tunisia	Build the capacity of local Tunisian organization Notre Grand Bleu in the medium and long term. Improve financial planning tools and train staff.	\$19 928
Fondation Tour du Valat	Suivre le Dynamique de l'évolution des Habitats Humides de Sebkhat Sejoumi en Tunisie en utilisant le Système d'Information Géographique	Tunisia	Improve knowledge around Sebkhet Sijoumi by setting up a geo-referenced database in Geographic Information Systems, integrating all the maps and indicators that will be produced. This will strengthen the establishment of a broader database on this Key Biodiversity Area, including all the information that will be collected, produced and synthesized.	\$12 329

Strategic Direction 2 : Freshwater Biodiversity

National Center for Environment, Tourism and Sustainable Development	Conducting a Multidisciplinary Initiative to Conserve the Critically Endangered Toothcarp in the Lake Butrint Catchment, Albania	Albania	Establishment of the extant range and status of the Corfu toothcarp Valencia letourneuxi in southern Albania. Project will gain new knowledge on this critically endangered species through intensive field surveys, cooperation and initiatives with local partners. The aim is a better understanding of the conservation needs of this fish, which should eventually lead to the recovery and establishment of a healthy sub-population in the Albanian part of its small range.	\$19 660
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Strategic Direction 3 : Cultural Landscapes

Environment For Life (EFL)	Assessing the Biodiversity Value of Olive Sites in Mount Hermon KBA and Identifying the Environmental Impacts of Various Agricultural Practices	Lebanon	Assess the biodiversity value of olive farms in Mount Hermon Key Biodiversity Area and identify the environmental impacts of agricultural practices that are shifting from traditional to new modern practices which are causing loss of biodiversity associated with traditionally inherited farming schemes.	\$ 20 000
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Strategic Direction 4 : Plant Conservation

Instituti i Politikave Mjedisore (IEP)	Conservation and propagation of the Albanian tulip	Albania	Ensure the survival of the endemic Albanian Tulip by conserving its habitat and creating a generation of skilled botanists and professionals to continue working on the protection of endemic species in north east Albania. The project aims to increase knowledge and skills through surveys and studies, to support assessment and planning for the conservation of the Albanian Tulip and to strengthen the engagement of stakeholders in supporting species conservation.	\$ 19 948
IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation	Support participation of civil society members in the "II Mediterranean Plant Conservation Week" to enhance plant conservation capacities and skills	Albania; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Cabo Verde; Jordan; Lebanon; Libya; North Macedonia;	Enabling CEPF grantees from around the region to attend the second Mediterranean Plant Conservation Week, in order to widen the network and liaise with other plant specialists, gain knowledge on approaches and techniques, present their plant projects and seek future collaborations with organizations working on similar themes and species.	\$ 14 171

		Morocco; Tunisia		
Udruženje za unapređenje životne sredine	Preservation of endemic plants on Orjen mountain in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Contribute to the formal protection of the biodiversity rich areas of Orjen and Bijela Gora in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The project aims at increasing the knowledge on conservation needs of selected endemic plant species and ensure their long-term protection by raising community awareness on their importance. Assessment of the status, presence, distribution, population numbers and area of occupancy will be done for selected endemic plant species.	\$ 20 000
Associação Projecto Vitó	Melhorar o Conhecimento pela Conservação das Espécies da Flora Ameaçadas de Extinção na Ilha do Fogo e Brava	Cabo Verde	Improve the knowledge about flora of Fogo and Brava Island, and build capacity of national park managers and local communities to enhance protection of rare and endangered endemic plants of Cabo Verde.	\$ 140 000
Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature	Mainstreaming Plant Key Biodiversity Areas into the national Conservation Planning Framework	Jordan	Identify and assess the Key Biodiversity Areas for Plants of the Mediterranean part of Jordan. The sites will then be included in the national land use planning, and conservation needs for plants mainstreamed in national nature protection regulations. The project will also work at strengthening plant conservation measures during the up-date of the management plan of three reserves.	\$ 165 943
Université Saint-Joseph	Conserving and valorizing the Unique Botanical Heritage of Lebanon	Lebanon	Support various stakeholders to improve conservation of rare, endemic plants of Lebanon. Support three existing reserves (Horsh Eden, Jaj and Jabal Moussa) in integrating plants in their management. Strengthen the micro-reserve of Sarada (established by USJ under a former project). Test circus-situ conservation approach in Archeological sites of Tyre and Anjar.	\$ 135 035

The Friends of Nature	Conservation of Lebanon Endemic Flora Through Community Engagement	Lebanon	Develop a participatory planning approach to ensure the conservation of endemic plants in Lebanon. Strengthen the capacities of protected area managers and improve management plans for plant conservation in Jabal Moussa and Eden Forest. Support local conservation action, possibly with micro-reserve, for rare plants of Kneisseh summit and Makmel heights	\$ 154 860
American University of Beirut (AUB)	Leveraging an Integrated Network: Bettering Conservation and Management of Rare Plants in and around Culturally Protected Sites (LINK)	Lebanon	Support the integration of plant conservation into the management of areas protected for their cultural heritage. By guiding vegetation management of such areas, the project aims to ecologically restore habitat patches of the UNESCO World Heritage Center of Byblos, and reverse ecological succession so that habitats conducive for the persistence of rare endemic plants can be encouraged.	\$ 19 908
NGO Living Green	Lovčenski zvončić – očuvanje razumijevanje i promocija / Lovcen Bell - Preservation, Understanding and Promotion	Montenegro	Protect and raise awareness of the endemic plant Lovćen bell in Montenegro. The project will undertake direct conservation measures to protect the plants from annual fires in the only known site where they occur, and establish long-term conservation measures in cooperation with the Lovćen Mountain National Park administration.	\$ 19 367
NVO Program za životnu sredinu (NGO Environmental Programme)	Conservation of endemic, rare and threatened plant species on Mount Orjen, Montenegro	Montenegro	Assess the threats and conservation needs of plants in Orjen Mountain Nature Park, and identify management guidelines for the long-term conservation of the most rare, endemic and threatened plant species. The grantee will apply scientific standards to plant research and conservation, increase the capacities of their own organization and park staff, and initiate cross-border	\$ 20 000

			and cross-sectoral cooperation in order to conserve plant diversity of this site.	
Nature Solutions	Préserver les Plantes Menacées dans le Parc National de Talassemtane au Maroc	Morocco	Integrate plant conservation in the management of Talassemtane National Park. Nature Solutions will assess the flora of the area, initiate a monitoring system, and work with inhabitants and park authorities to improve practices (including agriculture, grazing etc.) to preserve the most endangered plants of the area.	\$ 129 758
Macedonian Ecological Society	Working Together for Conservation of National Endemic Plants in Macedonia	North Macedonia	Assess the current status and distribution of several rare and endangered plants of Jablanica and Dojran Lake regions, and set up a monitoring system. Support protected area managers and local organizations to improve plant conservation, and raise awareness on the botanical heritage of the country.	\$ 81 971
Company for Applied Research and Permanent Education in Agriculture	Assessment and Conservation of Endemic and Endangered Plant Species in National Park Pelister	North Macedonia	Improve assessment, protection and conservation of endemic, rare and endangered species of plants in National Park Pelister, Northern Macedonia. Improved management will also be reached through developing an inventory list of targeted plant species, focused in-situ conservation measures, increased capacity of protected area managers and rangers and increased awareness of the importance of conservation of rare plants.	\$ 19 368
WWF Mediterranean-North Africa	Conserver les plantes patrimoniales de Garâa Sejenane et Dar Fatma-Tunisie	Tunisia	Strengthen the management of two important sites for plant conservation in Tunisia, through establishment of long-term monitoring system and support to land managers and local users to adopt practices beneficial to local flora. The project, also aims at supporting young professional in botany and conservation sciences, and to establish a network of plant conservationists in Tunisia.	\$ 183 233

Association Tunisienne de Développement Durable: La Recherche en Action	Améliorer des connaissances sur la flore de l'île de Djerba et de l'état de conservation de ses espèces patrimoniales	Tunisia	Improve knowledge and conservation of the flora in Djerba Island, especially the endemic <i>Limonium formosum</i> . A participatory plan for the creation of a micro-reserve will be conducted for the conservation of <i>L. formosum</i> . The project will also contribute to the emergence of a young botanist through the preparation of a master, in partnership with the agriculture institute, support the capacity building of five local NGOs and improve public awareness about plant conservation in Djerba.	\$ 19 998
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Strategic Direction 6 : Regional Implementation team

BirdLife International	Regional Implementation Team for the Mediterranean	All Hotspot	Lead the Regional Implementation Team (RIT) in partnership with BirdLife partners in France (for North African countries) and Slovenia (for the Balkans). Together, this consortium leads the grant solicitation and award process, builds the capacity of grantees, and is responsible for liaison with donors and host country government agencies.	\$ 1,649,786
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