

**Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund  
33<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the CEPF Donor Council  
Agence Française de Développement  
5 Rue Roland Barthes, 75012 Paris  
10 September 2018  
2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Central European Standard Time**

**Partnership Highlights**

**Global Donors**

**L'Agence Française de Développement:**

AFD submitted a CEPF Concept Note, to the Green Climate Fund for a multi-country project titled “Strengthening Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change in Small Island Developing States through Civil Society,” covering a period of 10 years for a total amount of US\$80 million.

AFD and CI to sign the €6 million agreement for Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands Hotspot and Guinean Forests of West Africa Hotspot.

**The World Bank:**

Progress has been made regarding the implementation of the Action Plan. Details will be provided by the World Bank as part of the fourth item on the agenda.

Preliminary discussions have taken place between the World Bank and the CEPF Secretariat regarding the possible investment of the US\$15 million additional financing. It is likely that the additional financing will be directed to a single region, the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot, for which a new ecosystem profile has been formulated. However, no final decision has been communicated to the CEPF Secretariat.

**Regional Donors**

**MAVA:**

Discussions with MAVA are taking place for a financial contribution from the Swiss-based foundation to the CEPF investment portfolio for the second phase of Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot.

**Margaret A. Cargill Foundation:**

(I) CEPF continues to implement additional grant-making in the Indo-Burma and Wallacea hotspots with support from MACF as a regional donor. In both hotspots, the work is going well and adding value to the overall portfolio.

(II) In November 2017, Olivier and Jack traveled to Myanmar together with Alan Holt and Shelley Shreffler from MACF. They visited two CEPF grantees in Kachin State and jointly hosted a meeting of groups working on freshwater biodiversity conservation.

(III) CEPF and MACF have been collaborating on a number of strategic planning and priority setting exercises in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, which are aimed at establishing a platform for more effective collaboration among donors, funding intermediaries and implementing partners working on ecosystem conservation in the region. These include an initiative to document freshwater KBAs in the Mekong Basin and the development of a shared situational analysis of environmental conservation in the lower Mekong region. As part of this work, Jack and Shelley traveled to Vietnam in March 2018, to meet with common grantees of CEPF, MACF and other members of the Lower Mekong Funder Collaborative.

### **Prospects for Additional Funding**

#### **Germany:**

The CEPF Secretariat has been informed by KfW that €7 million will be made available to CEPF to be invested in Ecuador in the context of the current investment directed toward the Tropical Andes Biodiversity Hotspot. Discussions are currently taking place between KfW and the CEPF Secretariat and between KfW and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Ecuador to define the conditions for this funding to be made available to CEPF.

#### **Global Wildlife Conservation (GWC):**

The CEPF Secretariat was invited by GWC to present its work at the 2018 Conservation Philanthropy Retreat organized by the Milken Institute. This was an opportunity to introduce CEPF to the main donor of GWC. Negotiations are progressing for GWC to become a global donor of CEPF in the near term.

#### **Qatar:**

In the context of its investment portfolio in the Mediterranean Basin, the CEPF Secretariat had an initial contact with a high-ranked governmental official from the State of Qatar. An invitation has been extended to the CEPF Secretariat to present its work. A solid prospect exists for a regional investment in the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot that could benefit Lebanon and Morocco. There is also a possibility for a global investment in CEPF.

#### **Liz Clayborne and Art Ortenberg Foundation:**

This US-based foundation is resuming its investment in conservation. The CEPF Secretariat has engaged in a dialogue with this foundation to leverage its investment in Madagascar and possibly in other geographies of common interest.