

ROM Report

ROM review	
Id	ROM-575
Title	ROM Review Contribution to the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)
Year	2023
Geographical Implementation	Multi-country
Planned date for draft report/Draft report date	08/12/2023
Planned date for final report/Final Report date	13/01/2024
ROM Experts	
Countries visited	Bolivia, Kazakhstan, Tunisia, United States
ROM expert(s) name(s)	Nunez Gabriela, KRAJCOVIC Roman, AVAGLIANO Eleonora, KRAJCOVIC Roman
Field phase start date	30/10/2023
Field phase end date	24/11/2023
Intervention	
Synopsis	
Reference	INTV-18320
Title	Contribution to the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)
Operational card	
DAC purpose codes	Bio-diversity
Benefitting Zone	Western Sahara, Serbia, Monaco, Montenegro, US Virgin Islands, British Virgin Islands, Vanuatu, Vietnam, Samoa, Wallis and Futuna, Mayotte, Yemen, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Sint Maarten, South Sudan, Tonga, Réunion, Trinidad and Tobago, Türkiye, Taiwan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, Tanzania, United States Minor Outlying Islands, Uganda, Svalbard and Jan Mayen, Uruguay, United States, the Holy See/ Vatican City State, Curaçao, Uzbekistan, Clipperton, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, United Arab Emirates, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Afghanistan, Albania, Anguilla, Armenia, Antarctica, Angola, American Samoa, Argentina, Egypt, Estonia, Spain, Eritrea, Finland, Jersey, Ethiopia, Falkland Islands, Fiji, Isle of Man, Faroes, Micronesia, Gabon, France, Georgia, Grenada, China, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Colombia, Cabo Verde, Cuba, Cyprus, Christmas Island, Germany, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Dominica, Guernsey, Ecuador, Algeria, Bahamas, Brazil, Bouvet Island, Bhutan, Belarus, Botswana, Canada, Belize, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Congo, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Switzerland, Chile, Cook Islands, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Aruba, Barbados, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belgium, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Bahrain, Bermuda, Benin, Bolivia, Brunei, Luxembourg, Lithuania, Libya, Latvia, Moldova, Morocco, Kosovo *, Marshall Islands, Madagascar, Mali, Republic of North Macedonia, Mongolia, Myanmar/Burma, Northern Mariana Islands, Macau, Mauritania, Kiribati, Cambodia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Comoros, South Korea, North Korea, Cayman Islands, Kuwait, Laos, Kazakhstan, Saint Lucia, Lebanon, Sri Lanka, Liechtenstein, Lesotho, Liberia, Hungary, Haiti, Ireland, Indonesia, India, Israel, Iraq, Iceland, Iran, Jamaica, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Kenya, Gibraltar, Ghana, The Gambia, Greenland, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, Guam, Guatemala, Guyana, Guinea-Bissau, Heard

Island and McDonald Islands, Hong Kong, Croatia, Honduras, Somalia, Senegal, São Tomé and Príncipe, Suriname, Syria, El Salvador, Eswatini, French Southern Lands, Chad, Thailand, Togo, Tokelau, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Qatar, Paraguay, Russia, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Sweden, Sudan, Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Niue, Nauru, Oman, New Zealand, Peru, Panama, Papua New Guinea, French Polynesia, Pakistan, Philippines, Saint Pierre and Miquelon, Poland, Palestine *, Palau, Portugal, Mauritius, Malta, Malawi, Maldives, Malaysia, Mexico, Namibia, Mozambique, Niger, New Caledonia, Nigeria, Norfolk Island, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nepal, Norway

Financial card

EU Contribution €13,000,000.00

Executive summary

Biodiversity, fundamental to thriving ecosystems and communities, is under tremendous threat, with global populations of several species declining at alarming rates. The loss/ extinction of species impacts ecosystem health and associated supplies of food, fresh water, raw materials, and medicines. The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) is a joint initiative of Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan and the World Bank. The Intervention Contribution to the CEPF engages civil society in the conservation of globally threatened biodiversity through targeted investments with maximum impact on the highest conservation priorities. CEPF is well-designed, addresses adequately the needs of the targeted countries within the biodiversity hotspots identified worldwide, and is executed by the CEPF Secretariat. The analysis of the biodiversity and socioeconomic conditions in each hotspot, presented in a corresponding Ecosystem Profile, recommends broad Strategic Directions for investment into civil society-guided projects that contribute to biodiversity conservation. CEPF grantees are its implementing partners and direct beneficiaries, demonstrate ownership and the willingness to be actively involved in the implementation. The Intervention builds on the continuous commitment of the EU towards civil society capacity-building and biodiversity protection. CEPF has been designed and is implemented within a broader framework of interventions supporting biodiversity sector policies and institutional development worldwide. There is a robust results chain that is detailed in hotspot/ Ecosystem Profile (EP) logframes, but with shortcomings in the descriptions of results and indicators. There is a comprehensive and well-developed monitoring and evaluation system for capturing the results of the funded conservation projects. A fully electronic reporting system allows the aggregation of results in each hotspot and globally. and production of reports that can present portfolio and global results for all projects. A global monitoring system facilitates the overseeing of the Intervention by the CEPF Donor Council, which receives the CEPF Annual Impact Report. The contractual arrangements and the Regional Implementation Teams and Country Coordinators, located in biodiversity hotspots and each targeted country respectively, facilitate the efficient Intervention implementation. The envisaged financial resources are adequate for implementing the planned activities. The set Intermediary Outcomes in each EP logframe (practically CEPF Outputs) are likely to be achieved, leading to the realistic assumption that the set CEPF Specific Objectives will be also achieved at the end of the Intervention. The ROM review mission field visits to Bolivia, Kazakhstan and Tunisia found out in few occasions lack of built partnerships/ networks among grantees to facilitate the attainment of EP objectives. The available institutional, human and financial capacities to sustain the Intervention-generated benefits are adequate. The support for capacity building enhances the professionalism of grantees, facilitates the replication of results achieved and mainstreams biodiversity into practice among private and public sector agents and at landscape scales. Cross-cutting issues, including promoting gender equality and empowering women, are appropriately covered, considering the focus of the Intervention the environment. A Communication and Visibility Plan for the Intervention has been developed; however, several communication/visibility materials elaborated by grantees do not adhere to the set visibility requirements. Recommendations to the CEPF Secretariat: (i) strengthen networking among grantees implementing CEPF-funded projects in similar sectors, possibly by stipulating such effort contractually; (ii) enhance EU visibility by enforcing relevant guidelines among CEPF grantees.