

Final Assessment of CEPF's Consolidation Portfolio in the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot

June 2015

Introduction

The Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot stretches over 262,400 square kilometers of mountains between the Tibetan Plateau and the Central Chinese Plain. Although it only covers about 10 percent of China's geographical area, it is home to about 50 percent of the country's birds and mammals and more than 30 percent of its higher plants. The hotspot also supports great cultural diversity and delivers ecosystem services of high economic value.

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund's (CEPF's) engagement in the Mountains of Southwest China began with the development of an ecosystem profile¹ for the hotspot in 2002. This was followed by a five-year investment program from 2003 to 2008, under which CEPF supported 80 projects led by civil society, with a total investment of \$6.5 million.

In 2002, civil society in southwest China was at a very early stage of development. Grassroots organizations and local nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) were just beginning to take greater advantage of opportunities to conduct and disseminate analyses of environmental problems, convene to publicly debate development scenarios, and link local conservation issues to national policies and programs. Recognizing this, CEPF focused on catalyzing growth in civil society's capacity, networking and influence. CEPF took advantage of the fact that civil society was increasingly being viewed by local government as a resource for incorporating community input and technical advice into the development process. CEPF maximized this opportunity during the initial investment phase by disbursing funding and sustained technical guidance through three small grants mechanisms. In some ways, southwest China was the most challenging of investment climates for CEPF to date, given that there was so little local civil society when investment began in 2002. Over the initial investment period, there was a significant increase in civil society engagement on environmental issues in the hotspot, although some of these gains were reversed due to a more restrictive operating environment for NGOs post-2008.

CEPF Consolidation Phase

Overview

While much was achieved during the initial investment phase in the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot, the gains were fragile. Many challenges remained to ensuring that the

¹ Mountains of Southwest China Ecosystem Profile: English, www.cepf.net/Documents/final.china.southwestchina.ep.pdf (PDF - 1.1 MB) / Chinese, www.cepf.net/Documents/final.chinese.china.southwestchina.ep.pdf (PDF - 645 KB)

conservation efforts initiated with the help of CEPF were placed on a solid footing. These challenges were accompanied by new opportunities to amplify the results of CEPF investment by influencing policy and planning at provincial and national levels. Responding to these challenges and opportunities, CEPF made an additional investment of \$1.35 million in the hotspot, from November 2011 to May 2015, to consolidate the results of the initial investment. The focus of this “consolidation” phase was to ensure the financial, social and institutional sustainability of CEPF’s key achievements, strengthen nascent civil society networks, and leverage experience from pilot projects to effect policy change.

CEPF investment during the initial investment phase focused on three conservation corridors: the Giant Panda corridor in Sichuan and Gansu provinces; the Snub-nosed Monkey corridor in Yunnan province and Tibet Autonomous Region; and the Species-rich Sacred Landscape in Qinghai, Sichuan, Tibet and Yunnan. Within these corridors, CEPF supported efforts to establish and strengthen formal nature reserves, and to link them through Community Conservation Areas (CCAs). CEPF support demonstrated the effectiveness of CCAs as a means of enhancing landscape integrity. At the end of the investment phase, it was determined that, in order to consolidate CEPF investments in these corridors, there was a need for the pilot CCAs to be strengthened, legally recognized, incorporated into provincial nature reserve development plans, and sustained through long-term financing mechanisms.

As well as supporting work on the ground, CEPF also funded work to tackle two of the most severe threats undermining conservation efforts in the hotspot: illegal trade in wildlife; and infrastructure development. Civil society efforts to tackle the illegal wildlife trade were coordinated through the Save Wildlife in Trade Coalition, which encouraged its members to assume complementary roles in field information collection, education, government relations and international convention processes. The coalition had a number of notable successes, such as successfully advocating for strengthened controls on trade in tiger parts. Although individual actions by coalition members continued beyond the end of the initial investment period, it was determined that there was a need to formally constitute the coalition and support it to undertake strategic actions aimed at promoting cooperation with and among government agencies, and strengthening key wildlife protection legislation.

Another key niche for CEPF was mainstreaming biodiversity into development planning and policy. CEPF supported the emergence of a new network of environmental groups, law practitioners and legal researchers to address environmental justice issues related to major development projects. This ground-breaking work introduced legal approaches as tools for biodiversity conservation in the hotspot, and CEPF projects had several notable successes in this regard. In 2008, Yunnan piloted ‘environmental courts’, an experimental legal mechanism to address major environmental violations, and expanded them to the entire province the following year. Very few cases were brought by civil society groups, however, due to a lack of mobilization among legal practitioners and limited capacity among NGOs. It was determined, therefore, that the civil society networks working on environmental law required further support to take full advantage of available legal mechanisms to address negative biodiversity impacts of development projects.

During the initial investment phase, CEPF supported various innovative approaches to conservation, including four pilot CCAs, an initiative to empower local communities to take legal action to prevent unsustainable infrastructure development, and a pioneering payment for ecosystem services project. Such projects generated invaluable experience and insights, relevant to other actors interested in replicating successful approaches, as well as to the development of policy. It was determined that there was a need to share more broadly the rich pool of experience

and lessons learned, to help consolidate the achievements of the initial investment phase and promote replication. In particular, opportunities were identified to use results from the initial phase to influence several key pieces of legislation, including the Property Law, the Wildlife Protection Law and the Protected Areas Law.

Building on the final assessment of the initial investment phase² and a review of opportunities to integrate CEPF’s results into planning and legislation, four mutually reinforcing themes were selected to consolidate CEPF’s initial investment: sustaining and scaling up investments in CCAs; strengthening collaboration among government and civil society actors to address wildlife trade; strengthening civil society participation in promoting development policies and plans consistent with biodiversity conservation; and integrating experience from CEPF investments into targeted legislation processes. The consolidation plan was finalized in April 2011. The phase was scheduled to run for three years, from November 1, 2011 to October 30, 2014. However, following a no-cost extension to one of the grants, it was extended by seven months until May 31, 2015.

Portfolio Status

The consolidation phase began on November 1, 2011, with the award of the first grant. Five grants were awarded in total (Table 1), all of which had begun by January 1, 2012. As this was a consolidation phase, the grant review and contracting process was coordinated by the CEPF Secretariat. For each grant, the entire process, from submission of letter of inquiry to contracting, took from five to seven months. Considering the number of steps involved, the time taken for the review and contracting process was considered acceptable and consistent with that in other hotspots. The five consolidation grants covered the four outcomes of the consolidation phase, such that there were no gaps in the coverage of the portfolio from the outset.

Table 1: CEPF Consolidation Grants in the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot

Grantee	Project title	Grant amount*
Shan Shui Conservation Center	Promoting community conservation areas and civil society’s involvement in development planning in the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot	\$399,245
The Nature Conservancy - China Program	Promoting community participation in Yunnan snub-nosed monkey conservation by strengthening management of community conservation areas	\$250,000
Beijing Normal University	Consolidating civil society’s participation in the prevention of illegal wildlife trafficking in China	\$350,999
Center for Legal Assistance to Pollution Victims	Building legal capacity to protect biodiversity in the Mountains of Southwest China	\$99,811
Conservation International – China Program	Integrating experiences gained from community conservation areas into China’s protected area legislation processes	\$250,674
TOTAL		\$1,350,729

Note: * = the grant amounts have been adjusted to reflect some minor changes due to cost extensions and deobligations.

² Final assessment report: http://www.cepf.net/Documents/final_mswchina_assessment_aug08.pdf

Performance Assessment

There was a three-year gap between the end of the initial investment phase in 2008 and the start of the consolidation phase in 2011. This was due to several factors, including the aftermath of the devastating earthquake that hit Sichuan province in May 2008 and complications regarding endorsement of the consolidation plan. However, a few changes to pilot sites notwithstanding, the outcomes of the consolidation program remained relevant, and initiatives supported by CEPF under the initial investment phase maintained sufficient momentum to be continued during the consolidation phase.

As soon as it became possible to move ahead with implementing the consolidation phase, the CEPF Secretariat solicited and processed the five grant applications swiftly and efficiently. This was aided by the small size of the consolidation portfolio and the support provided by the Conservation International China Program (the former Coordination Unit for the initial CEPF investment phase) to facilitate grant making to civil society organizations in China. Implementation of the five grants proceeded smoothly, with four being completed within the three-year duration of the consolidation phase and one requiring an extension to mid-2015. Monitoring of grant implementation was also satisfactory, as all grantees met their financial and programmatic reporting obligations. The CEPF Secretariat conducted supervision missions to China in May 2013 and January and September 2014, during which each grantee was visited at their office and/or in the field. No significant concerns were identified.

Portfolio Investment Highlights by Strategic Direction

The consolidation grants achieved most of their expected impacts. In general, progress was better with regard to impacts that were fully within grantees' control than with regard to impacts that depended on external factors, such as integrating the results of CEPF-supported work into provincial and national policy. Nevertheless, some important impacts were observed in this area.

The purpose of the consolidation grant to Shan Shui Conservation Center was to sustain and amplify the results of CEPF investments in CCAs from the initial investment phase by building capacity at the community level and promoting incorporation of CCAs within provincial nature reserve development plans. The grant also aimed to consolidate and expand the network of civil society organizations piloting CCAs through communication and experience sharing, and to facilitate civil society's involvement in development planning by means of an on-line information platform.

The grantee was successful in all three areas. Conservation initiatives were strengthened at three pilot CCAs: Tangqiao- Gexigou in Sichuan province; Liziba in Gansu; and Nianbaoyuze in Qinghai. At the same time, the project developed a strategy for endangered plant conservation at Gonggashan Nature Reserve. The project amplified demonstration models for community-based conservation, by promoting their adoption into local government policies. In particular, an incentive-based model for community-based conservation of non-commercial forest was adopted across 700,000 hectares of collective forest land in Lixian county of Aba prefecture, Sichuan province. Decision makers from other provinces and the central government were exposed to this and other models through study tours, conferences and production of a book of case studies. These activities emphasized the relevance of these models to the implementation of national policies on ecological compensation. Finally, the project broadened political, financial and technical support for conservation efforts within two conservation corridors, including by leveraging significant amounts of funding from Chinese foundations and other non-traditional sources.

The purpose of the consolidation grant to The Nature Conservancy (TNC) China Program was to strengthen the management capacity of three CCAs in the Snub-nosed Monkey Corridor in northwestern Yunnan province. In common with the grant to Shan Shui Conservation Center further north, this grant also aimed to document lessons learned from pilot CCAs, establish a broad coalition of civil society groups to facilitate replication of the CCA model, and promote the integration of the CCA model into the provincial biodiversity conservation strategy.

The project strengthened on-the-ground conservation efforts for Yunnan snub-nosed monkey (*Rhinopithecus bieti*) populations at Bamei, Liju and Tuoluoding CCAs, while providing local communities with incentives to participate in conservation and monitoring actions through promoting sustainable livelihoods. These actions demonstrated the value of the CCA model as an alternative and complementary approach to conventional nature reserves. Although an opportunity to integrate the CCA model into the provincial biodiversity strategy and action plan for Yunnan did not present itself during the project period, the model *was* successfully integrated into the provincial Yunnan snub-nosed monkey conservation action plan, which will guide conservation efforts for the species in the province.

The project also made important contributions to strengthening civil society networks promoting the CCA model. This included engaging and supporting local NGOs at each of the project sites, two of which demonstrated improvements in organizational capacity over the course of the project, as well as establishing a wider coalition to facilitate experience-sharing and CCA model promotion. Finally, the project took an important step towards securing long-term financial sustainability for Yunnan snub-nosed monkey conservation efforts by launching an online platform in collaboration with the Yunnan Green Environment and Development Foundation, Tencent and Alibaba, which raised more than \$35,000 in public donations over the project period.

The grant to Beijing Normal University aimed to consolidate networks among civil society organizations and government agencies combating the illegal wildlife trade by strengthening the Save Wildlife in Trade Coalition, which was established during the initial CEPF investment phase. Specifically, the project aimed to enhance the coalition's role through instituting a system of financial contributions from its members, strengthening collaboration among government agencies at national and provincial levels, and supporting the finalization and implementation of key policies related to wildlife trade.

The project was largely successful in these aims. It strengthened collaboration among civil society organizations working on wildlife trade related issues in China and built a bridge between them and concerned government agencies, such as the CITES National Management Authority. The Save Wildlife in Trade Coalition was consolidated, with meetings moving from a quarterly to a monthly or bimonthly basis over the course of the project, and membership increasing to 18 official members: 12 international NGOs; four Chinese NGOs; and two research institutions. The grantee was able to overcome differences in outlook and approach among members, and thereby keep the coalition together. Significant commitments of follow-on funding were secured to keep the coalition active beyond the end of the CEPF grant.

In addition to facilitating collaboration among different organizations working to combat illegal wildlife trade, the project also delivered tangible results in terms of strengthening the legal protection afforded to globally threatened species. Informed by three threatened species assessments undertaken with support from the project, the National Protected Species List was updated, with 58 species upgraded from Category II to Category I, 40 species newly added to Category I, and 548 species newly added to Category II. These include many globally threatened species distributed in the Mountains of Southwest China and Indo-Burma Hotspots, including

several for which hunting and trade are the principal threats to their survival, such as yellow-breasted bunting (*Emberiza aureola*), spoon-billed sandpiper (*Eurynorhynchus pygmeus*), Chinese pangolin (*Manis pentadactyla*) and big-headed turtle (*Platysternon megacephalum*).

The grant to Center for Legal Assistance to Pollution Victims (CLAPV) aimed to reduce negative impacts of development projects on biodiversity by applying environmental law to resolve conflicts between development and conservation agendas. CLAPV's approach was to build networks of local civil society organizations, strengthen their capacity to use the law to protect biodiversity through training and hands-on support in legal cases, and publish a handbook on biodiversity conservation law. Progress with this grant was slower than with the others, due to difficulties with finding plaintiffs willing to take up public interest litigation in relation to biodiversity conservation. Nevertheless, important results were achieved.

Linkages and networks were built among legal professionals (including academics and lawyers) and conservation practitioners (including scientists, local NGO staff and committed individuals). Specifically, the project established a social media platform, through which NGOs were able to identify legal counsel from public interest lawyers in relation to environmental protection cases. Three of these NGOs went on to take up public interest litigation with support of volunteer lawyers contacted through the platform.

The grantee became directly engaged in three cases in the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot: one in Qinghai; one in Sichuan; and one in Yunnan. Despite many obstacles, the case in Qinghai was successful, with increased attention being paid to the impacts of a construction project on Xiaopo Lake, through legal analysis and public mobilization. This led to the project being dropped by the developer before the case came to court, resulting in avoided impacts on threatened and endemic wildlife, such as Przewalski's gazelle (*Procapra przewalskii*), black-necked crane (*Grus nigricollis*) and Qinghai Lake naked carp (*Gymnocypris przewalskii*).

The project also produced a biodiversity conservation law handbook, filled with case studies and practical advice, and disseminated it to conservationists, legal professionals and academics. This handbook will be an important reference for persons interested in the application of environmental law to biodiversity conservation in China.

The grant to the Conservation International (CI) China Program complemented the others (all of which had a strong focus at the field level) by working at the national and provincial levels to promote incorporation of the results of the initial investment phase into policy. Specifically, the grant aimed to identify and pursue opportunities to establish long-term financing mechanisms in support of CCAs, and to promote the recognition of the conservation agreement model by at least one provincial or national policy.

At the national level, although a proposal for legislation on CCAs was submitted to the National People's Congress, policy reform proceeded slowly, meaning that tangible results were not observed within the lifetime of the project. At the provincial level, on the other hand, there was some inclusion of Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) and CCAs into policy papers, as a basis for future policy making. For example, a policy paper on CCA establishment in Sichuan province was recognized by the provincial vice-governor, who instructed the Forestry Department and Agriculture Department of Sichuan to consider the adoption of CCA approach in their future work. Similarly, the Policy Research Office for Qinghai province published guidance on establishing CCAs in Qinghai province. Furthermore, the Yunnan Wetland Conservation Regulations, implemented from January 2014, included CCAs as a model for wetland conservation in the province.

At the prefectural level, the CCA concept was incorporated into the Forest Resource Protection Regulations of Aba Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, issued in 2013. This drew on experience with CCAs and PES from Li County, which was also used as a reference by Qinghai province for its ecological compensation policy towards Sanjiangyuan National Nature Reserve.

Collaboration with CEPF Donor Partners

Several of the consolidation grants linked to or built upon investments by CEPF's global donor partners. One of the largest single investments in the conservation of China's biodiversity by an international funder to date was the European Union-China Biodiversity Project (ECBP). Between 2005 and 2011, the ECBP funded 17 field projects in western China, to test innovative and replicable mechanisms for biodiversity management, policy implementation and partnership. The CEPF consolidation grant to TNC built upon an earlier ECBP field project to develop a legal and administrative framework for satisfying local development needs and safeguarding biodiversity resources in northwestern Yunnan province. Similarly, the CEPF consolidation grant to Shan Shui Conservation Center built upon an earlier ECBP field project to develop and demonstrate community-based approaches to conservation in Qinghai and Sichuan provinces.

The MacArthur Foundation's Conservation and Sustainable Development Program previously supported a number of grants in Yunnan province, as part of its Eastern Himalayas portfolio. Building on these achievements, in 2011, the MacArthur Foundation launched a nine-year investment program for the Upper Mekong Basin, which overlaps significantly with the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot in both Yunnan and Qinghai provinces. To guide this program, the foundation prepared an investment strategy for the Upper Mekong Basin, following the format of a CEPF ecosystem profile, and incorporating baseline data and lessons learned from earlier CEPF investments. The foundation's investment strategy created tangible opportunities to reinforce and amplify results emerging from CEPF investments in the region. For instance, it made explicit reference to improving the legislative framework for biodiversity conservation, supporting replication of the CCA model, supporting civil society's involvement in the EIA process, and demonstrating the value of ecosystem services through market-based conservation payments. At the time of writing, the MacArthur Foundation was mid-way through implementing this strategy.

Conclusion

Despite a three-year delay between the end of the initial investment period and the start of the consolidation phase, and in spite of challenges encountered by some grantees, especially with influencing policy at the national level, the CEPF consolidation program was, overall, very successful at consolidating the results of earlier investments in the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot. There were substantive results on the ground, with six pilot CCAs benefitting from strengthened management. Results of CEPF investments were also incorporated into policy and planning at provincial and national levels, especially regarding community-based conservation and financial incentives, although such work is inevitably slow, and the full impacts may only be observed several years after the end of the consolidation phase. Finally, the consolidation grants revitalized networks of civil society groups active in the hotspot, around three key issues: community-based approaches to conservation; combatting the illegal wildlife trade; and balancing development needs and biodiversity conservation goals. In this way, the consolidation grants helped reinvigorate the civil society constituency for biodiversity conservation in the Mountains of Southwest China that was originally stimulated during the initial investment phase.

Charts – CEPF Investment in the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot as of June 30, 2015

Chart 1. Approved Grants by Strategic Direction

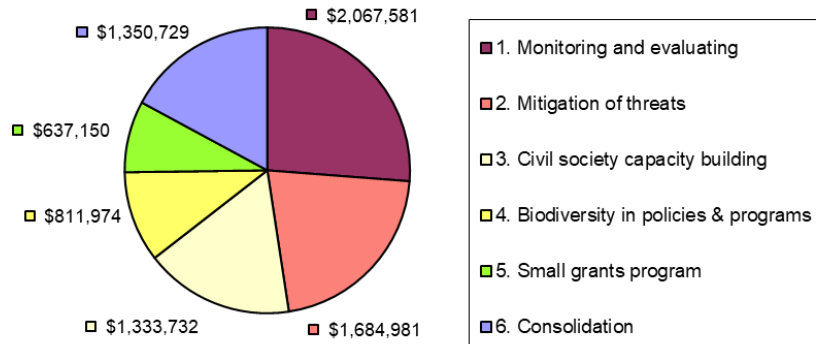


Chart 2. Approved Grants by Corridor

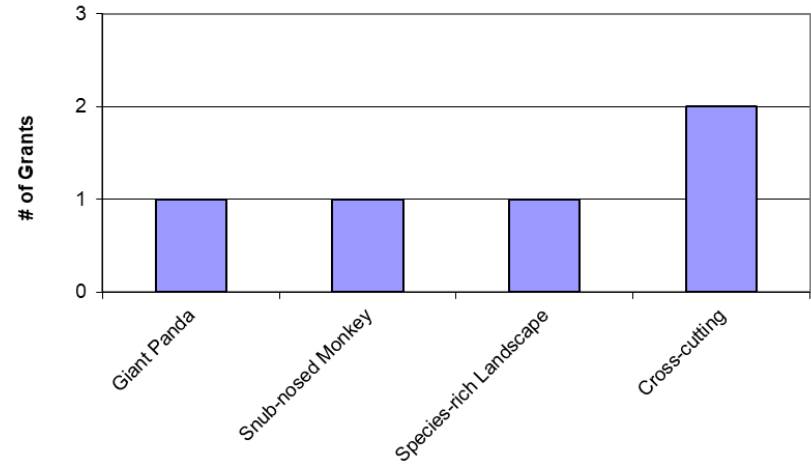


Chart 3. Portfolio Status by Strategic Direction

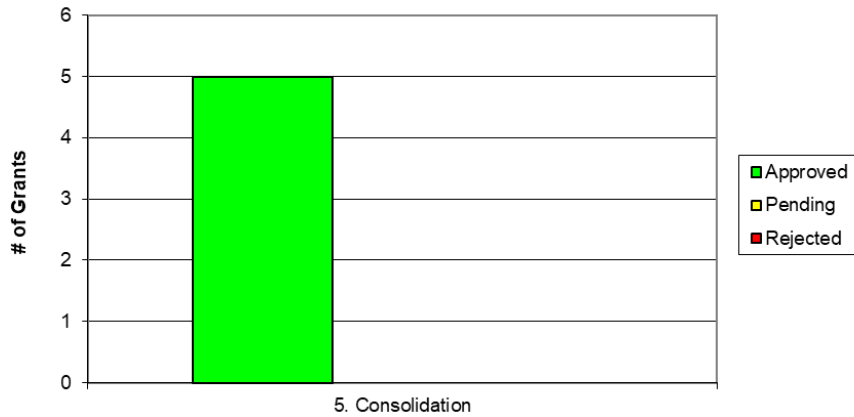
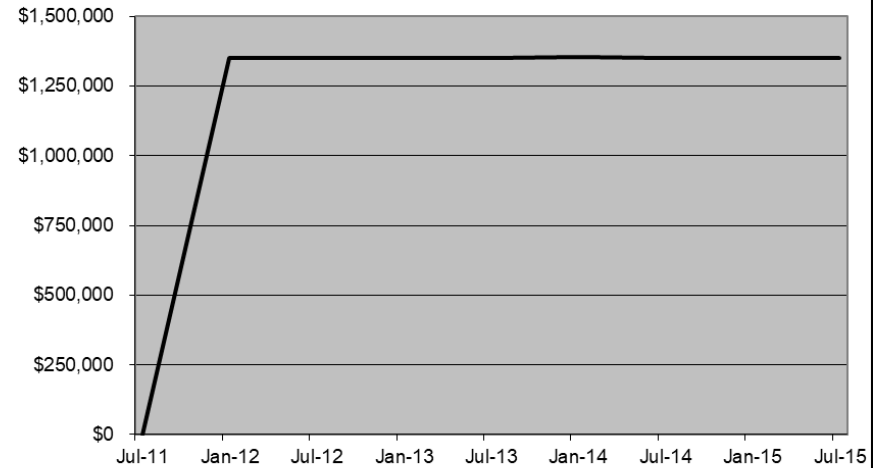


Chart 4. Combined Value of Grants Awarded



Annex 1 – Update of the Logical Framework for Consolidation in the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot

Objective	Targets	Progress
<p>Reinforce and sustain the conservation gains achieved as a result of previous CEPF investment in the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot.</p>	<p>Three civil society networks strengthened to support long-term conservation action by replicating and scaling up CEPF achievements.</p> <p>Six Community Conservation Areas (CCAs) totaling more than 25,000 hectares with strengthened protection and management.</p> <p>Six CEPF conservation results replicated and/or scaled up.</p> <p>At least \$1 million leveraged for long-term financing of CEPF conservation outcomes.</p>	<p>Three civil society networks were strengthened to support long-term conservation action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A broad coalition of civil society organizations promoting the CCA model. • A network of academics, lawyers, scientists and local NGOs working on legal aid to local communities. • The Save Wildlife in Trade Coalition. <p>Six CCAs totaling 52,300 hectares received strengthened protection and management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jiuzhi Nianbaoyuze (30,000 hectares). • Yajiang Tangqiao-Gexigou (7,000 hectares). • Wenxian Liziba (6,500 hectares). • Deqin Bamei (4,000 hectares). • Yulong Liju (4,000 hectares). • Weixi Tuoluoding (800 hectares). <p>The CCAs model for community-based conservation of collective forest land in Lixian county, Sichuan province, was scaled up from two pilot sites to 81 CCAs, covering 700,000 hectares. The Yunnan Wetland Conservation Regulations, implemented in 2014, included CCAs as a model for wetland conservation in Yunnan province.</p> <p>Shan Shui Conservation Center leveraged more than \$2.6 million from private companies and Chinese foundations for conservation programs at its project sites. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) raised more than \$35,000 in public donations for Yunnan snub-nosed monkey conservation via an online platform.</p>

Intermediate Outcomes	Intermediate Indicators	Progress
<p>Outcome 1: CEPF investments in CCAs in the Species-rich Sacred Landscape, Giant Panda and Snub-nosed Monkey Corridors sustained and scaled up through community capacity building and legal recognition.</p> <p>Allocation: \$500,000</p>	<p>Strengthened management of six existing CCAs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nianbaoyuze CCA, Qinghai province. • Yajiang Pamuling CCA, Sichuan province. • Wenxian Liziba CCA, Gansu province. • Deqin Bamei CCA, Yunnan province. • Yulong Laojunshan CCA, Yunnan province. • Weixi Tuoluoding CCA, Yunnan province. <p>A training manual, strategy and at least eight trainers available for building the capacities of CCA management bodies.</p> <p>Six CCAs included within provincial nature reserve development plans.</p> <p>At least 10 civil society organizations, government agencies, and protected areas participate actively in CCA coalitions, including by contributing case studies.</p>	<p>Management of six existing CCAs was strengthened:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical and legal support was given to Jiuzhi Nianbaoyuze, Yajiang Tangqiao-Gexigou and Wenxian Liziba CCAs by local forestry departments and nature reserves. • Resource management regulations and community patrol mechanisms were established for Deqin Bamei, Yulong Liju and Weixi Tuoluoding CCAs. <p>A training manual on CCA leadership building was developed, and training was provided for 30 trainers.</p> <p>Deqin Bamei and Weixi Tuoluoding CCAs were officially recognized by the respective county forestry bureaus in April 2012. Integrating the CCAs into provincial nature reserve development plans was discussed.</p> <p>10 partners actively participated in CCA coalitions: Baima Snow Mountain Nature Reserve; Baishuijiang National Nature Reserve; Chengdu Biology Institute; Deqin Community Co-management Association; Gansu Forestry Department; Qinghai Forestry Department; Sanjiangyuan National Nature Reserve; Shangrila Yunnan Golden Monkey Conservation Association; Sichuan Forestry Department; and Yulong Wildlife and Plant Conservation Association.</p>

<p>Outcome 2: Policies and legislation related to trade in wildlife approved and implemented, and networks initiated under phase I CEPF investment formalized and placed on a sustainable footing.</p> <p>Allocation: \$350,000</p>	<p>Membership and financing mechanisms for the Save Wildlife in Trade Coalition formally constituted.</p> <p>National Wildlife Trade Management and Enforcement Committee constituted with participation of civil society and key government agencies.</p> <p>At least 40 currently unprotected CEPF priority species receive legal protection under China's Wildlife Protection Law.</p>	<p>A system of financial contributions from the Save Wildlife in Trade Coalition's members was formally constituted. A working group to review applications from new members was constituted, and membership of the coalition increased from 6 to 18 members.</p> <p>Civil society groups were invited to participate in National Wildlife Trade Management and Enforcement Committee meetings, and coalition members worked closely with government agencies on the committee to co-host at least 10 trainings and five joint events at national and provincial levels.</p> <p>Three assessments of threatened species were carried out, resulting in the National Protected Species List being updated, with 40 species being newly added to Category I, 548 species being newly added to Category II and 58 species being upgraded from Category II to Category I,</p>
<p>Outcome 3: Civil society participation in promoting development policies and plans that are consistent with biodiversity conservation increased through strengthening grassroots capacity and replicating the successes of phase I CEPF investment.</p> <p>Allocation: \$250,000</p>	<p>10 community groups and NGOs involved in phase I CEPF investment participate actively in civil society networks to reconcile biodiversity conservation and development objectives.</p> <p>10 law practitioners and legal researchers trained in environmental issues and given first-hand experience of CEPF projects.</p> <p>Four provincial or national policies influenced as a result of CEPF consolidation grants.</p>	<p>Six community representatives and local NGOs participated in an informal network for environmental advocacy coordinated by the Centre for Legal Assistance to Pollution Victims.</p> <p>Forty legal professionals and NGO staff from local civil society organizations in the hotspot were trained in environmental issues, biodiversity-related laws and legal skills.</p> <p>CCA and payment for ecosystem services models piloted under CEPF grants were incorporated into the wetland conservation policy of Yunnan province. Results of the consolidation grant to TNC were incorporated into a draft conservation action plan for Yunnan snub-nosed monkey commissioned by the Yunnan provincial government. Revisions were made to the National Protected Species List under the Wildlife Protection Law.</p>

<p>Outcome 4: CEPF investments in Community Conservation Areas (CCAs) consolidated by integrating experience gained into targeted legislation processes.</p> <p>Allocation: \$250,000</p>	<p>CCA recognized as a category of protected area under the national Law on Protected Areas.</p> <p>Conservation agreements model recognized by at least one national or provincial policy.</p> <p>At least one long-term CCA financing mechanism established with initial capital secured.</p>	<p>A protected area legislation working group supported the drafting of a national protected area law, which included a category of CCA. The draft law was submitted to the National People’s Congress but had not been approved as of June 2015.</p> <p>The conservation agreements model in Lixian county was adopted by Aba Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan province, in its forest resource protection regulations in 2013.</p> <p>TNC partnered with the Yunnan Green Environment and Development Foundation, Tencent and Alibaba, to develop an online platform to raise sustainable funding for Yunnan snub-nosed monkey conservation. The platform raised more than \$35,000 in public donations over the project period. It is hoped that the platform could raise as much as \$100,000 per year.</p>
<p>Strategic Funding Summary</p>	<p>Amount</p>	
<p>Spending Authority</p>	<p>\$1,350,000</p>	