



CRITICAL **ECOSYSTEM**
PARTNERSHIP FUND



2016 Annual Report





“CEPF has not only contributed to the conservation of biodiversity, but it has also contributed to the institutional development of my organization. We are developing local conservation strategies that will have global impacts.”

Sesar Rodriguez, executive director, El Consorcio Ambiental Dominicano (CAD), Dominican Republic and CEPF Hotspot Hero representing the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot

About CEPF

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) empowers people in developing and transitional countries to protect the world’s biodiversity hotspots—some of the most biologically rich yet threatened ecosystems that are vital to humanity.

By providing grants to civil society—nongovernmental, private sector and academic organizations—CEPF implements conservation strategies that are developed with local stakeholders. These investments are especially important because the hotspots are home to millions of people who are impoverished and highly dependent on nature for survival.

The fund is a joint program of l’Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan, the MacArthur Foundation and the World Bank.

Our Grants

- Are guided by ecosystem profiles—analyses of the biodiversity and socio-economic conditions in hotspots—that are produced through consultation with local stakeholders and result in regional conservation strategies.
- Go directly to civil society groups in the biodiversity hotspots to build this vital constituency for conservation alongside governmental partners.
- Are awarded on a competitive basis.
- Contribute to governments’ efforts to meet targets related to the U.N.’s Convention on Biological Diversity (the Aichi Targets), Framework Convention on Climate Change, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Create working alliances among diverse groups, combining unique capacities and eliminating duplication of efforts.
- Achieve results through an ever-expanding network of partners working together toward shared goals.

For more information, please visit www.cepf.net.

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Hotspot Strategies
Implemented

2,121

Grantees
Supported

US\$206M

Grants
Committed

US\$369M

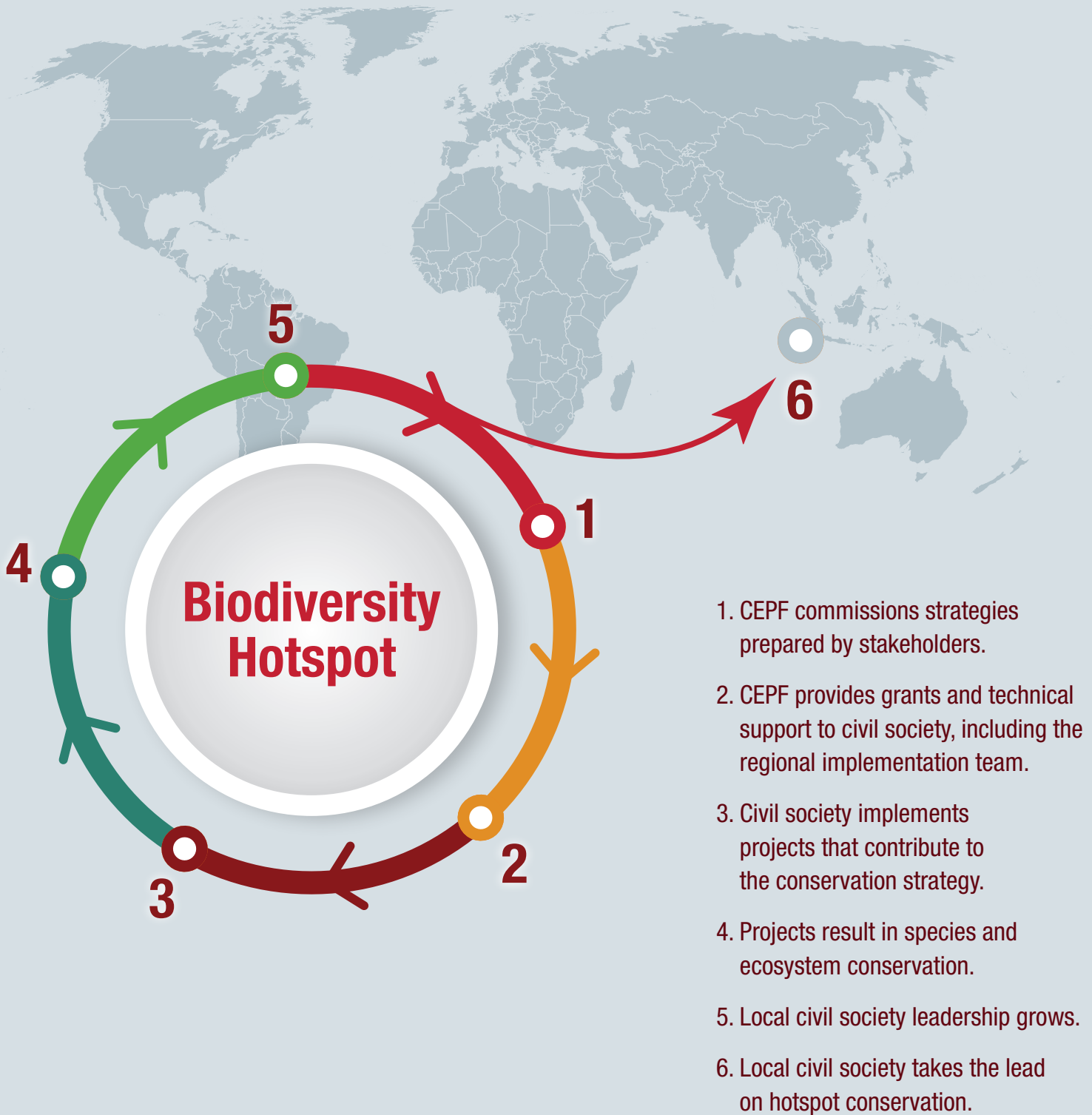
Amount Leveraged
by Those Grants

14.5M

Protected Areas
Created (hectares)

How CEPF Works





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CEPF Year in Review

August 2015

New granting for Tropical Andes begins

The new CEPF investment in the Tropical Andes Biodiversity Hotspot will provide US\$10 million in grants over five years, building on the results achieved and lessons learned from CEPF's previous investments in this hotspot from 2001 to 2006 and from 2009 to 2013. Bolivian organization Foundation for the Development of the National System of Protected Areas (FUNDESNA) was selected through a competitive process to lead the regional implementation team (RIT) that contributes to the execution of the conservation strategy in the hotspot.



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September 2015

Conservation International announces new support to CEPF

Conservation International announced its plan to contribute an additional US\$25 million to CEPF starting in 2016 and continuing over eight years, bringing its total funding to CEPF to US\$75 million since the fund's inception in 2000.



© Conservation International/
photo by Michele Zador

November 2015

Caribbean meeting details results

CEPF and the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), in its capacity as the regional implementation team for the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot, held the final assessment of CEPF's five-year funding phase in the hotspot. The final assessment included consultations in Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica. The meetings brought together more than 100 people representing a broad cross-section of CEPF grantees, stakeholders and donors.

CEPF provided US\$6.9 million in grants to civil society organizations in eight countries—Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, Haiti, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines—during the 2010 to 2015 investment.

Result highlights:

- Strengthened management of 30 Key Biodiversity Areas covering more than 850,000 hectares.
- New protection for more than 111,000 hectares in Key Biodiversity Areas.
- Ecosystem services and biodiversity concerns integrated into seven development plans, projects or policies.

December 2015

Long-term conservation vision drafted

CEPF began the process for developing a long-term conservation vision for the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot's Balkans subregion. The final workshop, held in December in Slovenia, was chaired by former European Commissioner for the Environment Janez Potočnik. The resulting vision sets targets for strengthening local nongovernmental organizations to the point where they are sustainable and empowered to take the lead in protecting Balkan biodiversity and ecosystems.



© Jaime Rojo/The Living Med

January 2016

Donors approve grant making in new hotspots

The CEPF Donor Council approved the ecosystem profiles—including CEPF's conservation strategy—for the Cerrado Biodiversity Hotspot with an investment of US\$8 million, and the Guinean Forests of West Africa Biodiversity Hotspot with an investment of US\$9 million. These investments will provide grants to civil society organizations working on conservation and sustainable development in the hotspots.

The Donor Council also approved reinvesting in the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot, and developing an ecosystem profile for a first-time investment in the Mountains of Central Asia Biodiversity Hotspot.



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March 2016

Five-year program yields results in southeastern Africa

CEPF's five-year investment in the Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany Biodiversity Hotspot came to an end, but with a strong legacy. CEPF invested US\$6.65 million in southern Mozambique, the eastern part of Swaziland, and the South African provinces of KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape. Of 58 organizations that received grants, 39 were small groups for whom the funding was their first from an international donor.

Result highlights:

- Management improved for more than 2 million hectares.
- Legal protection received or in process for 49 sites, totaling 546,000 hectares.
- Training provided for more than 2,800 people.
- Employment gained for more than 1,500 people.
- Contributions to the creation of 35 policies—typically locally-focused plans for better land management.
- Grantee-contributed in-kind labor or directly leveraged additional funds valued at over US\$17 million.



© Conservation International/
photo by Sarah Frazee

May 2016

Analysis and strategy development begin for the Mountains of Central Asia

CEPF formally took the first steps toward developing its ecosystem profile, including its conservation strategy, for the Mountains of Central Asia Biodiversity Hotspot by conducting a competitive bidding process and hiring Zoï Environmental Network of Geneva, Switzerland, to lead the profiling.

June 2016

Team hired to update Mediterranean Basin profil

Following a competitive bidding process, CEPF kicked off the effort to update the ecosystem profile for the Mediterranean Basin Hotspot by hiring BirdLife International to lead the profiling team. In support of the profiling effort, the MAVA Foundation and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation pledged US\$100,000 each to the process.

Donor Council decides on reinvestment for Caribbean Islands

During its June meeting, the CEPF Donor Council determined that CEPF would reinvest in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot. CEPF's first investment in the hotspot was completed in December 2016. The amount of funding and the conservation strategy will be determined as part of the development of an updated ecosystem profile for the hotspot in 2017.



© Université Saint-Joseph/
photo by Magda Bou Dagher
Kharrat

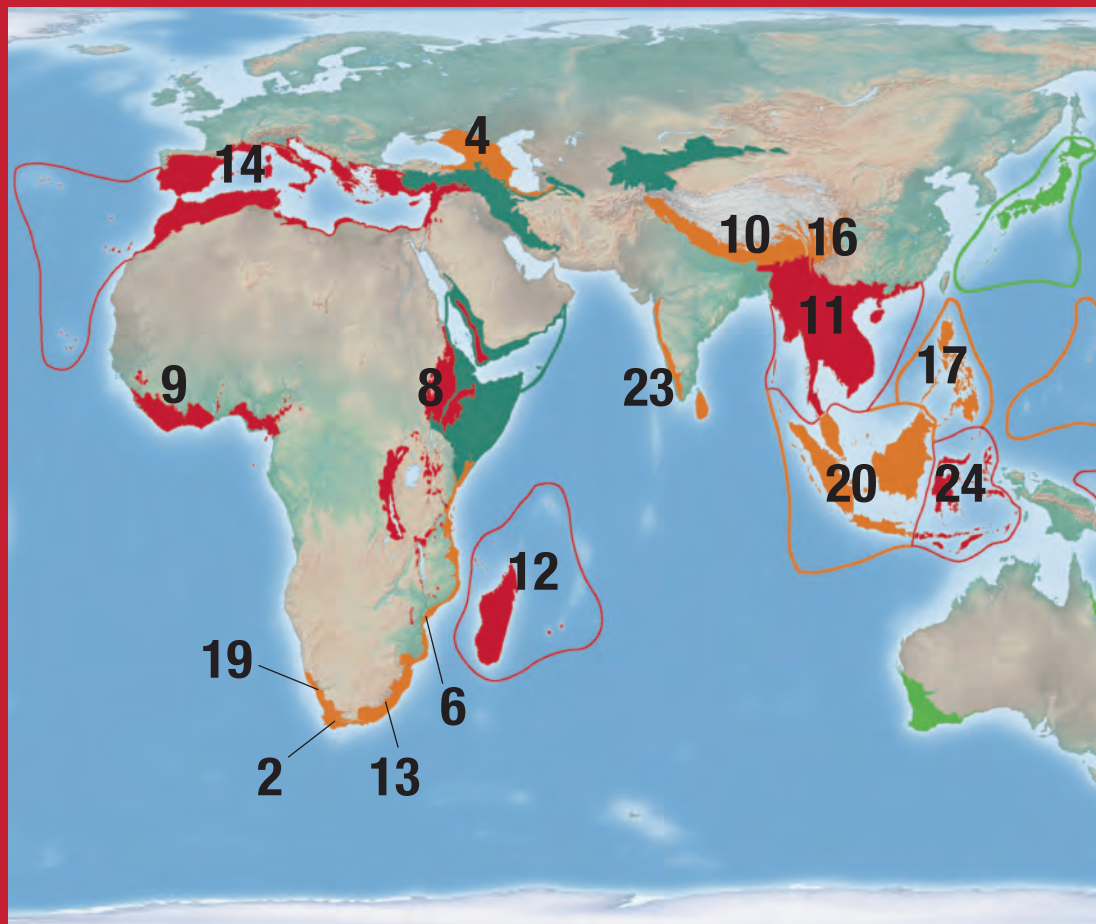
CEPF and the Biodiversity Hotspots

CEPF works in developing and transitional countries and territories within Earth's 36 biodiversity hotspots. These hotspots hold especially high numbers of unique species and provide services that are vital to human well-being, such as clean air and water; flood and climate control; soil regeneration, and food, medicines, and raw materials. The hotspots face extreme threats. Each hotspot has lost at least 70 percent of its original natural vegetation, and the remaining areas of natural habitat within the hotspots cover only 2.3 percent of the planet's land surface. But this relatively small area harbors 77 percent of the planet's terrestrial vertebrate species, many of which can only be found in the hotspots.

From its inception through fiscal year 2016, CEPF awarded grants to civil society partners in 24 hotspots to implement its stakeholder-informed strategies—known as *ecosystem profile*—for protecting the most critical ecosystems in the hotspots. During the 2016 fiscal year, CEPF launched its first investment in the Cerrado Hotspot found primarily in Brazil, and a new investment in the Guinean Forests of West Africa Hotspot.

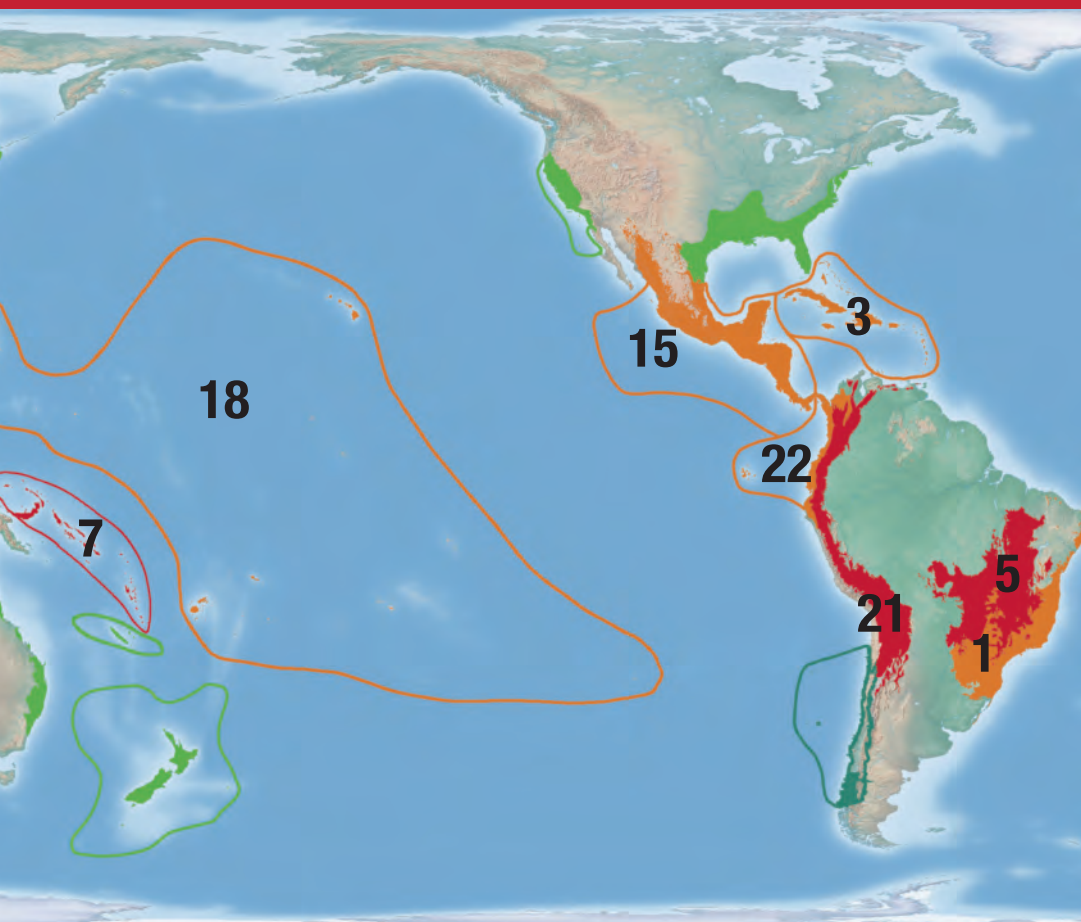
CEPF also pursued development of ecosystem profiles—stakeholder-informed analyses and conservation strategies—for a first-time investment in the Mountains of Central Asia Hotspot, and a reinvestment in the Mediterranean Basin Hotspot.

Note: The Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests of Tanzania and Kenya Hotspot was divided in 2005; a portion of it is now part of the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot, and the remainder is part of the Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa Hotspot. Before the separation, CEPF had initiated an investment in the original Eastern Arc Hotspot and, through that investment, awarded grants in portions of the hotspots that are now known as the Eastern Afromontane and the Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa.



Biodiversity Hotspots Where CEPF Has Invested

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Atlantic Forest | 7. East Melanesian Islands |
| 2. Cape Floristic Region | 8. Eastern Afromontane |
| 3. Caribbean Islands | 9. Guinean Forests of West Africa |
| 4. Caucasus | 10. Himalaya |
| 5. Cerrado | 11. Indo-Burma |
| 6. Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa | 12. Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands |



Biodiversity Hotspots

- Current CEPF Investment
- Past CEPF Investment
- Eligible for CEPF Investment
- Other Hotspots

Inception through fiscal
year 2016

- 13. Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany
- 14. Mediterranean Basin
- 15. Mesoamerica
- 16. Mountains of Southwest China
- 17. Philippines
- 18. Polynesia-Micronesia

- 19. Succulent Karoo
- 20. Sundaland
- 21. Tropical Andes
- 22. Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena
- 23. Western Ghats and Sri Lanka
- 24. Wallacea



Message from the Executive Director

Species—the base currency of biodiversity conservation

The olm (*Proteus anguinus*) is a pale, blind salamander that lives deep in cave systems found in the karst formations of the Balkans, part of the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot. Even though the olm is the world's largest exclusively cave-dwelling animal, at 20–30 centimeters long, detecting its presence in dark, cramped habitats poses serious challenges. Therefore, its only known wild populations were in a few locations in Slovenia, Croatia, where it is most common, as well as Bosnia-Herzegovina and Italy.

CEPF has been supporting a project conducted by Gregor Aljančič and Špela Gorički from the Tular Cave Laboratory at the Society for Cave Biology in Slovenia, to get a more accurate count of olms, a globally threatened species, through the detection of environmental DNA, also known as e-DNA, found in cave water. Using this modern tool, the presence of olms has been reported from seven new sites in Slovenia and Bosnia-Herzegovina, and, for the first time, in Montenegro.

It is great news that there are more olms in the wild than we previously thought, and we could end the story here. In this era of social media and reading via mobile devices, brevity is considered golden.

But as it often happens in conservation storytelling, we sell our audience short by not providing some vital context: how nature contributes to human well-being.



In the case of the olm, **this blind creature is opening our eyes to the importance of reducing pollution and preventing it from further degrading groundwater in this part of the water-stressed Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot.**

The olm and the 5 million people of the Balkans who live within this part of the hotspot share a need that is critical to their mutual survival and for which there is no substitute: clean water. The olm can survive for 10 years without eating and may live up to 100 years in total, but it is still dependent on the regular flow of clean fresh water. The water in its subterranean habitat is also the drinking water for people living in the area, and is hugely important to the region's primary economic driver: tourism.

In this story, the olm plays the role of the canary in a coal mine. If it is not thriving, it may signal a water problem that will affect people and the economy as well.

Today a majority of people live in urban areas and tend to forget that human society is highly dependent on nature to prosper. **Species are the main and indispensable currency of functioning natural systems that humanity relies on for their survival. Some, like the olm, provide an early warning of environmental problems that may impact humans. Other species are essential for food and agriculture through pollination or contribution to soil fertility, or contain the components of vital medicines. Some may simply offer us beauty and a sense of peace.**



Species are the main and indispensable currency of functioning natural systems that humanity depends on for survival.

The mission of CEPF is to conserve biodiversity—the amazing variety of the world’s species. As a result, the portfolio of projects funded by CEPF and executed by civil society groups engaged in protecting the world’s biodiversity hotspots factor in species, habitats, ecosystem services, and economic and cultural valuation of nature. All this, with species conservation as the core.

Let’s show we care for species by taking an interest in and telling their full stories, paying attention to their unique characteristics and individual and collective roles in the maintenance of healthy ecosystems. Through such stories, we promote behavior respectful of the intrinsic, aesthetic, cultural and economic values of the flora and fauna with which we share the planet, and we help ensure our future together.

– **Olivier Langrand**, *CEPF executive director*





Message from the Chairperson

Empowering local conservation champions in the biodiversity hotspots

I was especially pleased not only to join CEPF in 2016 as its new Donor Council chairperson, but also to make my debut in that role during CEPF's 15th anniversary celebration at the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress held in Hawaii. The event brought together 15 grantees whom CEPF designated "Hotspot Heroes" in recognition of their outstanding achievements in conservation of the world's biodiversity hotspots.

From a Bhutanese woman fighting to save one of the rarest birds in Asia; to a Peruvian landowner bringing together indigenous people, farmers and environmentalists to prevent illegal gold mining; to the founder of a Tunisian organization teaming up with local communities to halt overfishing—**CEPF's Hotspot Heroes truly stand out for their commitment, resilience and results. They represent the vitality and efficacy of local environmental leadership, which CEPF has been encouraging all along.**

Although I had long been acquainted with CEPF, hearing the Hotspot Heroes' stories was the best possible introduction to the partnership from my new perspective as chairperson. **Since it began grantmaking in 2001, CEPF has provided support to more than 2,100 civil society organizations, representing a multitude of heroes. These grantees, from 92 countries and territories, have delivered an invaluable return on investment, protecting some of the most biologically diverse areas on the planet and building their own ability to lead their countries to a sustainable future.**



CEPF grantees recognized as Hotspot Heroes for their outstanding contributions to conservation, from left: Victor Zambrano, George Mateariki, David Boseto, Andry Petignat, Ahmed Ghedira, Cesar Antonio Franco Laverde, Rebecca Pradhan, Milagre Nuvunga, Lipalesa Sissie Matela, Dao Thi Nga, Selete Nyomi, Sesar Rodriguez, Subbaiah Bharathidasan and Damaris Sanchez. Not pictured: Lu Zhi. © Conservation International/photo by Robin Moore

CEPF's grantees have shown that they have the knowledge, tools and heart to address the most pressing environmental challenges.

A few examples of what grantees have achieved collectively with more than US\$206 million in CEPF funding include:

- Contributing to the establishment of 14.5 million hectares of protected area.
- Leveraging nearly US\$369 million in additional funds for conservation.
- Supporting the survival of more than 1,200 globally threatened species.
- Establishing 119 partnerships and networks to strengthen conservation cooperation.

With such grantees and results in mind, I eagerly embrace the responsibility of helping CEPF and its donor partnership build on the successes of the initiative's first 15 years. **The need has never been greater for the unique role CEPF fills as a catalyst, empowering local and national NGOs to respond to the conservation challenges faced in the biodiversity hotspots.**

Pressures on biological diversity and ecosystems are tremendous and ever-growing, as is the need to preserve these natural assets for their economic and cultural value, and their critical role in climate change mitigation and resilience. **Earth needs champions to demonstrate to the public, governments and private sector operators that ecosystem conservation translates into improved quality of life.** CEPF's grantees have shown that they have the knowledge, tools, and heart to address the most pressing environmental challenges. The support that CEPF provides enables grantees to use their talents to benefit biodiversity conservation and, by this means, human society as a whole.

– **Julia Marton-Lefèvre, CEPF Donor Council chairperson, executive fellow, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University, and former director general of IUCN**



The Partnership

L'Agence Française de Développement

L'Agence Française de Développement (the French Development Agency) is a financial institution that is at the heart of France's Development Assistance Policy. It supports a wide range of economic, social and environmental projects in more than 60 countries.
www.afd.fr

Conservation International

Through cutting-edge science, innovative policy and global reach, Conservation International empowers people to protect the nature that we rely on for food, fresh water and livelihoods. With offices in more than 30 countries around the world, the organization works directly with the people who live closest to the forests, oceans and grasslands that benefit us all.
www.conservation.org

The European Union (EU)

Comprising 28 member states, the European Union is the largest single provider of development aid in the world. The EU development policy recognizes biodiversity as a crucial element for human well-being through the production of food, fish, fuel, fiber and medicines; the regulation of water, air and climate; and maintenance of land fertility. Through EuropeAid, the EU invests in biodiversity and development projects in more than 100 countries.
<http://europa.eu>

The Global Environment Facility (GEF)

The Global Environment Facility is the world's largest public funder of projects to improve the global environment. The GEF unites 182 member governments together with leading international development institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector in support of a common global environmental agenda.
www.thegef.org

The Government of Japan

The Government of Japan is one of the largest providers of development assistance for the environment. Japan seeks constructive measures and concrete programs to preserve unique ecosystems that provide people with important benefits and help reduce poverty.
www.env.go.jp/en

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation supports creative people, effective institutions, and influential networks building a more just, verdant, and peaceful world. MacArthur is placing a few big bets that truly significant progress is possible on some of the world's most pressing social challenges, including over-incarceration, global climate change, nuclear risk, and significantly increasing financial capital for the social sector. In addition to the MacArthur Fellows Program, the Foundation continues its historic commitments to the role of journalism in a responsible and responsive democracy, as well as to the strength and vitality of our headquarters city, Chicago.
www.macfound.org

The World Bank

The World Bank is the world's largest source of development assistance. It works in more than 100 developing economies to fight poverty and to help people help themselves and their environment.
www.worldbank.org

Message from Roberto Ridolfi, European Commission

As the countries of the United Nations strive to meet their commitment to end extreme poverty by 2030, one strategy must be to invest more in nature. Vibrant, biologically diverse natural ecosystems provide a foundation for human well-being, stable communities and sustainable economic development, making them an essential part of the solution. Nature provides vital resources such as fresh air, fertile soil, pollinators, food and the regular flow of clean, fresh water. Reverence for, and traditions based on, nature are often part of the cultural fabric that weaves communities together. Climate change experts also indicate that protection and restoration of tropical forests could make up 30 percent of the greenhouse gas emission reductions necessary to avoid climate disaster that will disproportionately impact the poor. Forests, wetlands and coastal zones are cost-effective solutions to mitigate the potentially devastating effects of climate change and extreme weather.



That is a primary reason why the European Union joined the CEPF donor partnership in 2012. CEPF supports civil society organizations in developing and transitional countries to conserve biodiversity and ecosystems while strengthening local communities' ability to manage their environments, influence development decision-making, and build a future that will allow them to thrive. Simultaneously, CEPF strengthens the ability of local organizations to emerge as trusted partners of government and the private sector.

With a relatively modest investment of more than US\$206 million over 15 years, CEPF is making a difference. The fund strategically directs its financial and technical support to key civil society actors in the world's biodiversity hotspots—some of Earth's most biologically rich yet threatened areas that are also home to millions of impoverished people. Indications of CEPF's impact include:

- Contribution to the establishment of 14.5 million hectares of protected area (similar to the size of Bangladesh) and strengthened management of 41.7 million hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas (larger than the size of Germany), securing vital watersheds and forest cover.
- Strengthened management of 6.4 million hectares of production landscapes—ecosystems that support agriculture, forestry or development of natural products.
- Training of 67,000 men and women in sustainable livelihoods, environmental education, financial management and/or leadership.
- Socioeconomic benefits for more than 2,600 communities, such as improved access to water and improved food security.
- Increased income for more than 33,800 people during fiscal years 2015 and 2016.

The EU is proud to have contributed, along with other donors, to these important results for ecosystems and people.

These encouraging results need to be pursued and sustained in order to achieve the U.N. Aichi targets and Agenda 2030 objectives. Scaling up investments would thus be required. Examples of innovative financial instruments exist, such as the EU External Investment Plan, which aims at leveraging public funds by mobilizing private investment in sectors such as natural resources, agriculture and renewable energy. **With poverty reduction and biodiversity conservation as guiding threads, we invite others who share our commitment to join the CEPF partnership and collectively build the foundation for a poverty-free future.**

– Roberto Ridolfi, director, Sustainable Growth and Development, Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development – DEVCO, European Commission

At least 40 percent of the world's economy and 80 percent of the needs of the poor are derived from biological resources. –The UN Convention on Biological Diversity





2016 Progress Report

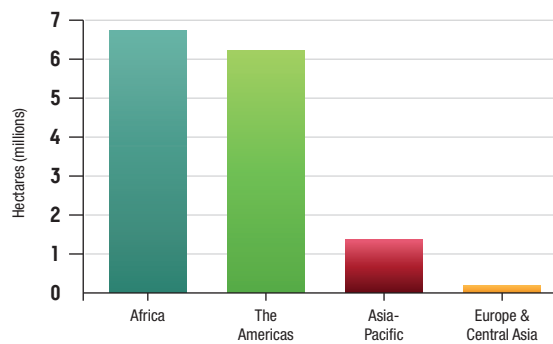
Since its inception in 2000, CEPF has strived to safeguard some of the world's most biologically rich ecosystems by supporting civil society in implementing stakeholder-informed conservation strategies in biodiversity hotspots. The following data demonstrate the impact CEPF has had on a global scale through the projects implemented by its grantees within four impact categories: **biodiversity, human well-being, civil society capacity and enabling conditions.**

Biodiversity

Protected Areas Created or Expanded

Total: 14.5 million hectares

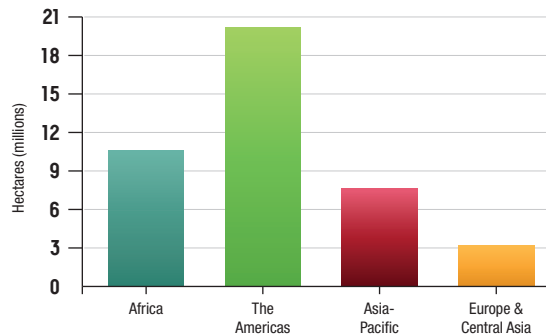
2001 through fiscal year 2016



Key Biodiversity Areas with Strengthened Management

Total: 41.7 million hectares

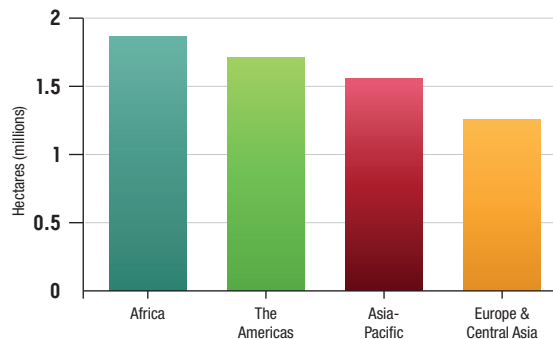
2001 through fiscal year 2016



Hectares of Production Landscapes with Strengthened Biodiversity Management

Total: 6.3 million hectares

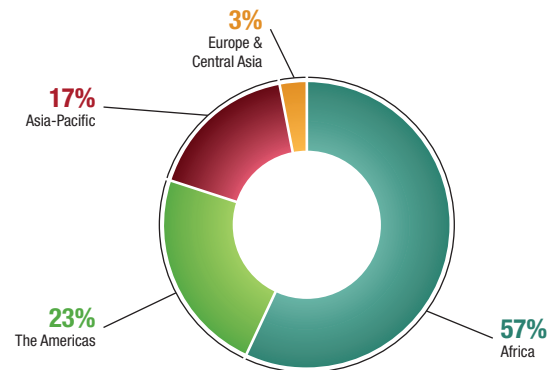
2001 through fiscal year 2016



Human Well-Being

Communities Directly Benefiting

Total: 2,612 communities



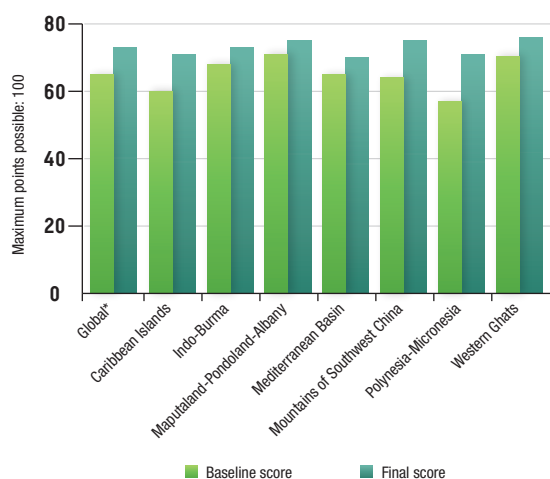
Since CEPF's inception, at least **67,000** people have benefited from training via CEPF-funded projects. This includes training that leads to improved nutrition, increased income and expanded production. Topics include beekeeping, gardening, horticulture, organic practices and sustainable fisheries

In fiscal year 2016, increased income was reported for nearly **34,000** people living in four selected biodiversity hotspots: Eastern Afromontane, Indo-Burma, Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands, and Mediterranean Basin.

Civil Society Capacity

Average Percentage Change in Civil Society

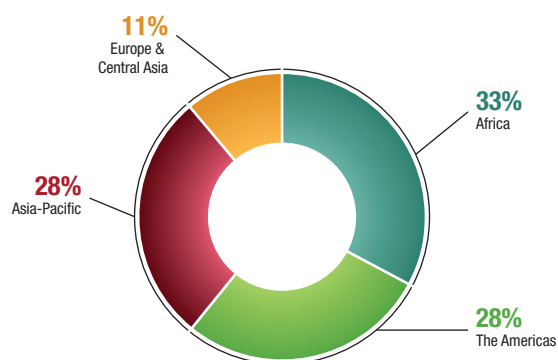
Overall average increase: 12 percent



* Note: CEPF gathers this data via the Civil Society Tracking Tool, which CEPF began using in 2010. The chart includes data for 117 grantees, the number of grantees who had completed assessments by the end of fiscal year 2016.

Number of Partnerships CEPF Has Helped Create

Total: 119



Note: CEPF defines "networks/partnerships" as a connection (alliance, network, partnership) among civil society groups and possibly other sectors. The relationship can be either formal or informal, but it must have a lasting benefit beyond the immediate project. Examples include an alliance of fisherfolk to promote sustainable fisheries practices; a network of environmental journalists; a partnership between an NGO and a private sector partner to improve biodiversity management on private lands; and a working group focusing on reptile conservation.

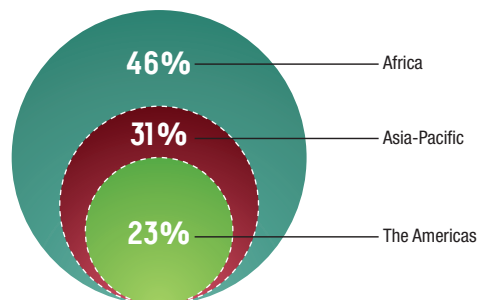
Enabling Conditions

Types of Policy Interventions

Total: 161 policies, laws or regulations influenced



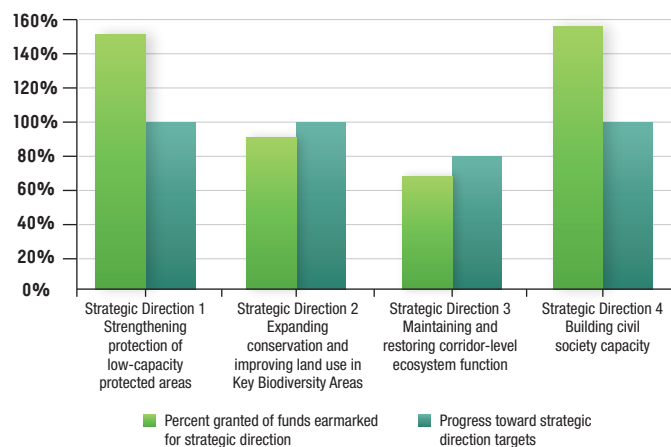
Policy Intervention by Region



Regional Results

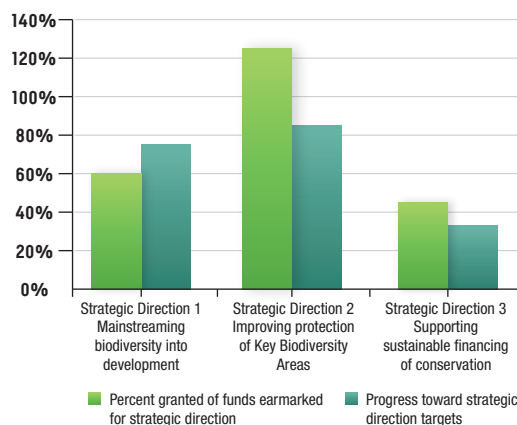
Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany

US\$6.65 million 2010–2015



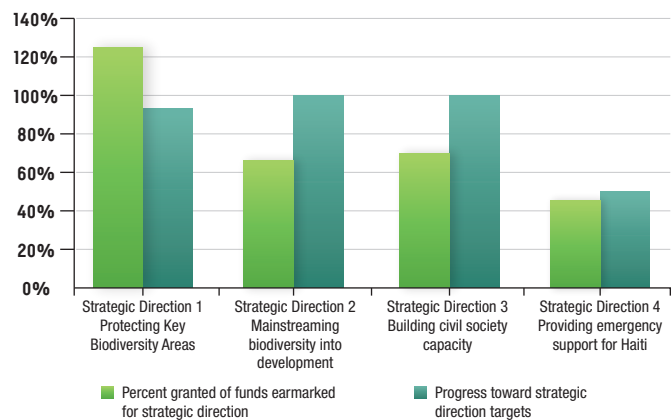
Eastern Afromontane

US\$9.8 million 2012–2017



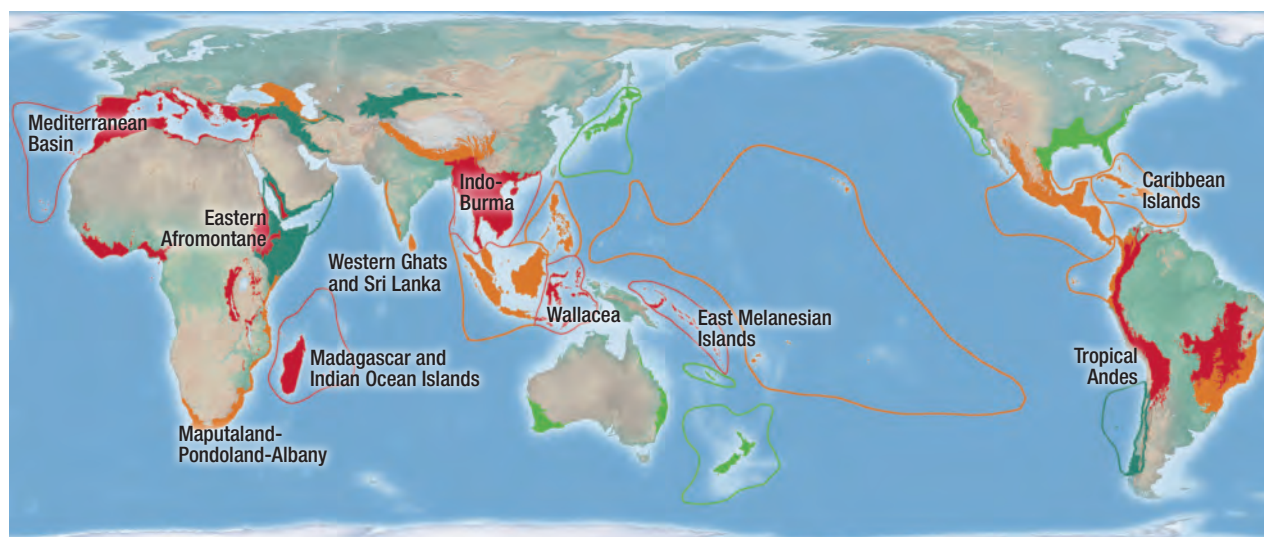
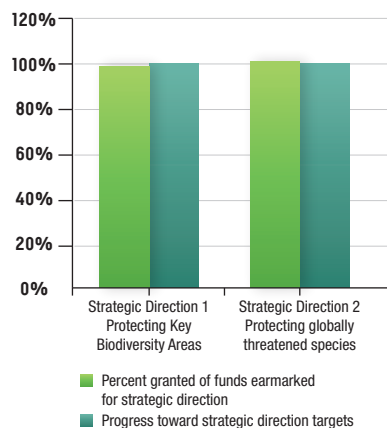
Caribbean Islands

US\$6.9 million 2010–2015



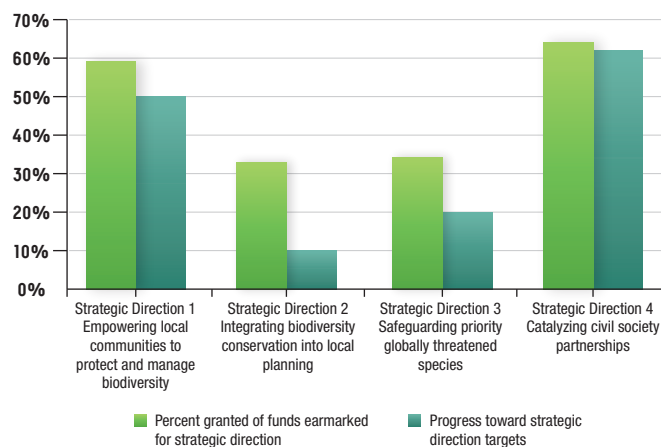
Western Ghats

US\$6 million 2008–2015



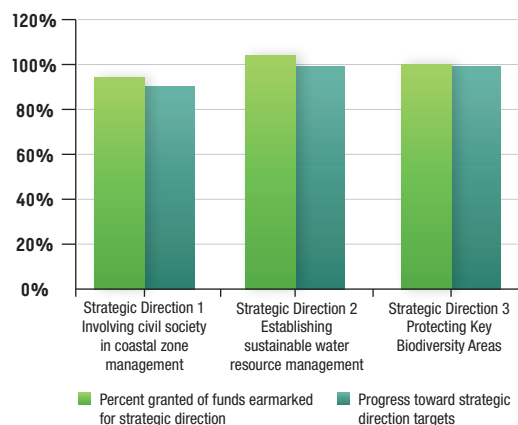
East Melanesian Islands

US\$9 million 2013–2021



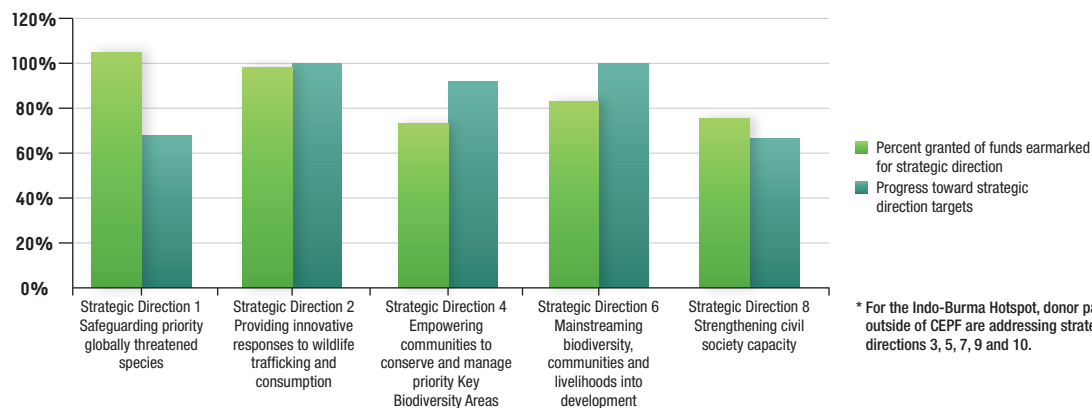
Mediterranean Basin

US\$11.2 million 2011–2016



Indo-Burma

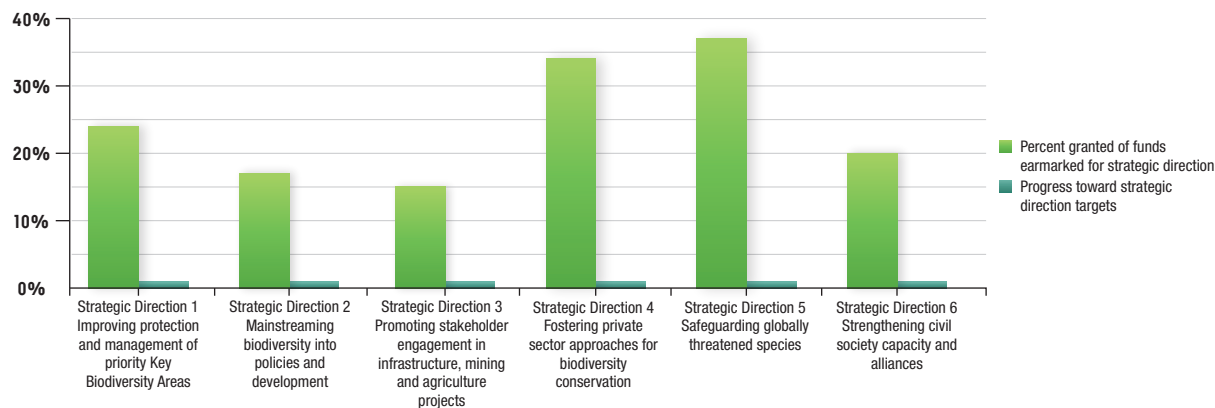
US\$10.4 million 2013–2018



* For the Indo-Burma Hotspot, donor partners outside of CEPF are addressing strategic directions 3, 5, 7, 9 and 10.

Tropical Andes

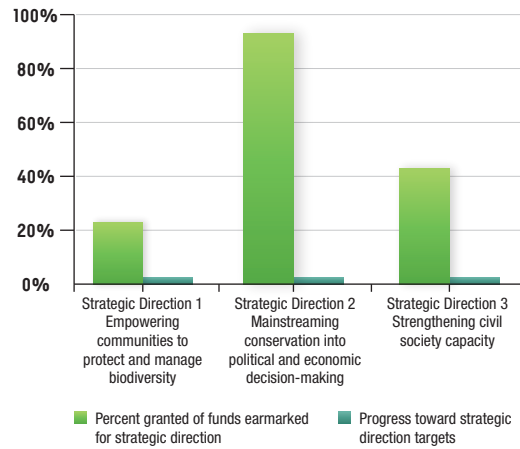
US\$10 million 2016–2021



Regional Results

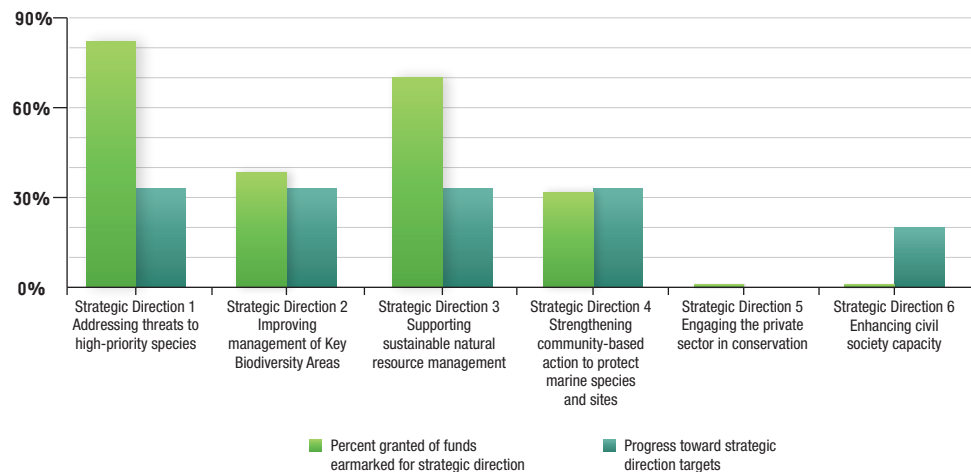
Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands

US\$7.5 million 2015–2020



Wallacea

US\$6 million 2015–2020



Sustainable Financing Mechanisms Benefiting from CEPF Support

Total: 24 active mechanisms

 indicates location of financing mechanism







2016 Highlights



Strengthening Local Conservation Leadership

CEPF grants are often designed to raise the capacity of organizations in the biodiversity hotspots to implement conservation in their own communities. Building up these organizations allows them to make the best use of their skills and local knowledge, and positions them to continue leading local conservation long after CEPF funding is complete.

Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot

Many coastal communities of Madagascar rely on fisheries for their food security and livelihoods. In 2003, Blue Ventures began working with fishing communities in southwest Madagascar that were reporting dramatic declines in their catches over recent decades. One village first experimented with closing off a small section of its octopus harvest area for several months. When the fishermen returned to the area, they found an increased number and size of octopuses, which led to a doubling of their incomes.

Communities nearby took notice and copied the technique. Building on the success of these closures, they were able to put in place a locally managed marine area (LMMA) overseen by nearby fishing villages. This approach spread around the country, ultimately growing to 64 LMMAs covering more than 12 percent of Madagascar's coastal shelf.



To give the LMMAs a say in high-level policy decision-making, **Blue Ventures helped the groups establish a formal network called MIHARI. The network allows LMMAs to advocate for themselves, builds the capacity of its members and raises the group's profile on a national level.**

"CEPF funding has allowed the network to develop to play a much greater role [in] representing the voices of fishing communities in the country," said Vatosoa Rakotondrazafy, the MIHARI Network coordinator. "CEPF funding also allowed us to provide training to community leaders. We are proud of their progress and we believe they will be the pillars of the management of Madagascar marine and coastal resources moving forward."



UN Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Targets



Target 19

By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.

UN Sustainable Development Goals

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Goal 4

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

“CEPF funding also allowed us to provide training to community leaders. We are proud of their progress and we believe they will be the pillars of the management of Madagascar marine and coastal resources moving forward.”

Vatosoa Rakotondrazafy, coordinator, the MIHARI Network

East Melanesian Islands Biodiversity Hotspot

In the East Melanesian Islands Biodiversity Hotspot, where civil society is still coming into its own, two recent CEPF grants trained local conservation leaders in a range of critical skills.

In the Solomon Islands, **University of Queensland, Australia, implemented the island nation's first-ever field training course focused on improving the skills of protected area managers and rangers.** Participants from seven priority sites attended presentations from local and foreign conservation groups, listened to expert lectures on resource management and environmental law, and received a guidebook and course syllabus that allow training to continue after the end of the project.

The training also fostered collaboration among those who took the course, as participants initiated a resource management network for Solomon Islands conservation sites.

In 2016, the **University of the South Pacific (USP) partnered with government, civil society and community organizations for a resource management course called the Pacific Islands Community-Based Conservation Course.** The goals of the course were to develop professional skills, encourage community participation in conservation, improve critical thinking skills and develop capacity for sustainable resource use.

The course was held in three phases. Phase one was a four-week educational conference in Honiara, Solomon Islands. Phase two constituted four- to five-month practical projects in the participants' home countries, in which they applied the knowledge gained at the conference in a real-world setting. In phase three, participants came together in Honiara again for a three-week, on-campus course during which topics covered in the first phase were reviewed, participants shared the projects they carried out in phase two, and additional modules were taught. Successful completion of the course resulted in a certificate and postgraduate credit at USP.

“This course was very timely, and we learned a lot from our course instructors and mentors,” said Lawrence T. Smith of Balel Conservation Group on Nissan Green Islands of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea. He added that he also benefited from the interaction with other course participants.

David Boseto, CEPF grantee and cofounder of Ecological Solutions, Solomon Islands, who was recognized as one of CEPF's Hotspot Heroes in 2016 for his outstanding contributions to conservation, taught the final component of the course with his mentor, William Aalbersberg, director of USP's Institute of Applied Science at the time of the course.

“The focus of the course is obviously capacity building, but with a specific focus on how to work with communities to achieve good resources management,” said Aalbersberg. “So there is an equal focus on personal skills as well as conservation and management tools.”





Conserving Species

Biodiversity conservation is the core of CEPF's work. The amazing array of species in the world's biodiversity hotspots has an intrinsic value, but is also critical to maintaining healthy ecosystems that people rely on for food, fresh water, fuel, medicines, climate change mitigation and more. The efforts of CEPF grantees to protect and learn more about species benefit us all.

Wallacea Biodiversity Hotspot

In Indonesia, the wildlife trade is decimating species populations and endangering the ecosystems where they live. The country is the largest supplier of wildlife products in Asia. Virtually countless exit and entry points from more than 17,000 islands make guarding source sites and borders difficult. Trade routes that lead from or pass through the region are controlled by both local people and organized criminal groups, some of whom have migrated to Indonesia in search of high-value species.

With support from a CEPF grant, the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) expanded its Wildlife Crimes Unit into the Wallacea Biodiversity Hotspot, specifically Indonesia's North Sulawesi and Nusa Tenggara Timur provinces. WCS has experience and expertise in safely and effectively dismantling large, complex trafficking and trade networks around the world.

By focusing on the hubs where illegal wildlife and products are collected before being moved, either around or out of the country, **the Wildlife Crimes Unit disrupts the illegal wildlife supply chain by targeting high-level middlemen, traders and dealers** as opposed to opportunistic and subsistence hunters and fishermen from local communities.

Through well-trained informants, **the crime unit gives information to local law enforcement agencies that results in arrests, and provides expert support to assist in prosecutions. WCS is working to build the capacity of local law enforcement agents** so that they are better able to take over investigating and prosecuting the perpetrators of illegal wildlife trade after the completion of the project. WCS also works with Indonesian journalists to ensure that information about high-profile cases is disseminated to increase public awareness.

Through the project, **strategic sting operations saved hundreds of animals—parrots, hornbills, manta rays and whale sharks among them. WCS-supported efforts by local law enforcement have resulted in the arrest of 27 people suspected of wildlife poaching, trading and smuggling.**

"During the CEPF project, our efforts to conduct arrests with the officers [have] increased five times," said WCS Wildlife Trade Manager Dwi Adhiasto.



UN Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Targets



Target 12

By 2020, the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.

UN Sustainable Development Goals



Goal 15

Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems; sustainably manage forests; combat desertification; halt and reverse land degradation; and halt biodiversity loss.

“CEPF support allowed the Wildlife Crimes Unit to increase efforts to recruit informants, and detect wildlife trafficking, and to increase the potential for arresting suspects, enabling collaboration among law enforcement. Most importantly, CEPF is helping Indonesia to protect magnificent allacea species through the Wildlife Crimes Unit.”

Dwi Adhiasto, wildlife trade manager, Wildlife Conservation Society

Mediterranean Biodiversity Hotspot

The northern bald ibis (*Geronticus eremita*) is one of the most threatened species in the world. Although the species was once likely spread across the Middle East and North Africa, there is now only one viable population of the Critically Endangered species, located in southern Morocco. Recognizing the importance of this last stronghold, Parc National de Souss-Massa (PNSM) and a neighboring biological and ecological protected area at the mouth of the Tamri River were, in part, created to help save the species. These efforts worked—the population size has increased to approximately 600 individuals and the species is expected to expand its range to new areas, likely chosen from those it had historically occupied.

With this in mind, **Groupe de Recherche pour la Protection des Oiseaux au Maroc (GREPOM), in collaboration with PNSM, conducted a CEPF-funded study to map the distribution of the ibis by habitat type.** The organization Noé Conservation, a former CEPF grantee, provided technical support.



“With this project, we were able to diagnose the ecological preferences of the Moroccan northern bald ibis population and to pinpoint the main threats to its survival,” GREPOM’s Mohamed Dakki said. These threats include illegal building and disturbance close to the birds’ breeding cliffs, and changes in farming—including increased use of pesticides—on the feeding grounds.

Following a workshop discussion attended by experts and government officials, project **participants proposed priority management measures to promote increasing the species’ range.** These measures will form the basis for further conservation action, led by the government of Morocco.



Using Small Investments for Large Conservation Impact

While CEPF provides relatively small grants, CEPF-funded projects, through their focus on relationship building and empowerment of civil society, can transform countries and landscapes at a larger scale.

Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot

Lebanon is home to a stunning variety of plant life. Of the almost 2,600 species of plants known to naturally grow there, 12 percent are found nowhere else on Earth. Its plant and habitat diversity, combined with its location in the heart of the African-Eurasian flyway, make Lebanon a prime resting and feeding stop for migratory birds.

Though illegal, hunting has taken a toll on bird populations, while pressure from growing human population, quarrying, urban development, overgrazing and climate change have led to significant habitat degradation and destruction.

Lebanese organizations have been combating such threats to their nation's nature, but historically, there has been little coordination. Since 2012, **CEPF has funded multiple projects led by civil society organizations in Lebanon, encouraging grantees to strengthen relationships with other nongovernmental entities that are working toward shared goals.** Grantees have been invited to exchange information, attend workshops and participate in joint trainings.

"The focus on relationships, shared capacity building, and data sharing has resulted in significantly strengthened collaboration among civil society organizations in Lebanon," said Sharif Jbour of BirdLife, who serves as the Middle East program officer for the CEPF program in the Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot.

The grantees' parallel and complementary actions have also put conservation on the radar of government. One example is work grantees have done to address illegal hunting. Grantee Environment for Life documented the benefits of sustainable hunting on cedar forest habitats, while the Lebanese Environment Forum established more open collaboration among nongovernmental organizations and government staff, including **establishment of Lebanon's first establishment hunting area, where regulations will be enforced by local authorities.**

Other examples:

- The University of St. Joseph and partners filled major knowledge gaps through a **first national assessment of Important Plant Areas, which resulted in a new Red List for the country's plants**, while the Arts, Sciences and Technology University in Lebanon produced the **first photographic guide of Lebanon's wildflowers.**
- Al-Shouf Cedar Society conducted the **first ecosystem valuation study, demonstrating the economic importance of maintaining Shouf Biosphere Reserve** and showing that protected areas are good investments.
- The Society for the Protection of Nature in Lebanon established a new **Hima, a traditional approach to sustainable land use** practiced in the Anti-Lebanon Mountains Key Biodiversity Area, in collaboration with local authorities.



UN Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Targets



Target 5

By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and, where feasible, brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation are significantly reduced.

UN Sustainable Development Goals



Goal 11

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

“We gave a voice to threatened plants vanishing in complete silence and anonymity.”

Magda Bou Dagher Kharrat, director of the Faculty of Science's Department of Life and Earth Sciences, University of St. Joseph, Lebanon

- The University of St. Joseph also established **the first Arabian micro-reserves, very small areas that hold globally important pockets of threatened endemic species**. The micro-reserve approach appeals to government agencies, private landholders and religious communities, all of whom have been open to working with the university to develop participatory management approaches in cooperation with local communities.

Eastern Afromontane Biodiversity Hotspot

The Sheka Forest in Ethiopia is one of the largest continuous stretches of forest remaining in the country, featuring rainforest, bamboo thickets and wetlands. These habitats support a variety of species, such as lions; African buffalo; and many birds, amphibians and reptiles. The forest is also home to rural settlements, towns and agricultural land, and local communities rely heavily on the forest for survival.

Ethiopian organization MELCA, a two-time CEPF grantee, has worked since 2004 to bolster both the forest and the people of Sheka. MELCA was invited by the Sheka zone government to nominate the area as a UNESCO biosphere reserve. After biosphere status was registered in 2012 and MELCA became a CEPF grantee, MELCA was invited to participate as a partner to the government in developing management plans for the reserve. In most countries and contexts, this is a government-led and government-managed process, but in Sheka, through MELCA-led stakeholder engagement processes, community members and their representative bodies have been key partners.

“MELCA's work in the Sheka Forest Biosphere Reserve both enhances people's livelihoods and ensures environmental sustainability at the same time, rather than focusing on one aspect as a solution,” said Bereket Weldegiorgis, program manager, MELCA-Ethiopia. MELCA trained local women and youth to form cooperatives for sustainable production and sale of non-timber forest products such as honey and spices.

Although declaration as a biosphere reserve offers some protection, 76 percent of the 238,750 hectare reserve is outside the most highly protected core areas, and is under threat of conversion for subsistence agriculture, charcoal production or small-scale coffee plantations. Development of private tea and coffee plantations threatens to lead to further degradation and infringement of customary land rights.

With CEPF funding, **MELCA is identifying and delineating additional core sites within the Sheka Reserve, seeking protection of sacred natural sites, and continuing to support alternative livelihoods, promote inter-generational learning, and facilitate learning networks** among biosphere reserve managers and other stakeholders.

Further, the exercise of developing the management plan for Sheka Forest provided lessons that the government is using to inform plans for the other three Ethiopian biosphere reserves, as well as wider conservation and development work in the country.





Communities Co-manage and Benefit From Sustainable Fisheries

Enhancing human well-being is one of the four pillars of CEPF, and a primary way to achieve that is by securing the ecosystems that provide the foundation for thriving human communities. In the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot, CEPF grantees are empowering fishing communities to sustainably manage their rivers, which provide vital food and income.

Cambodia

Northern Cambodia's Stung Treng Province contains a portion of the Mekong River Basin that is rich in biodiversity, but is also under serious threat. Poverty and food insecurity in the area have led to overfishing and the use of illegal fishing practices, both of which take a toll on the fish population. The situation is exacerbated by upstream development of hydropower dams, which has reduced biodiversity in the river. To address this, CEPF grantee WorldFish engaged local communities to protect their river resources.

With WorldFish's help, communities established five fish conservation zones, and participants from 14 nearby villages pitched in to maintain them. Members of community fisheries organizations from each of the 14 villages patrol the sites, raise awareness among other members of the community and share the lessons they learn managing the zones. The provincial Department of Environment in Stung Treng, the provincial Fisheries Administration Cantonment, local nongovernmental organizations and local authorities all participate in the program. This widespread support from the communities has provided an effective deterrent to illegal fishing methods—including use of explosive materials and electro-fishing (a high-voltage current used underwater to kill fish). Such practices damage the natural fish stock.

The cooperation among nongovernmental organizations, local fishing communities and the government has resulted in more empowered conservation advocates. Communities are making collective decisions about their local resources, nominating new areas that they want to see protected, and patrolling in larger numbers to combat illegal fishing. Communities report that the supply of fish has stabilized, and as of spring 2016, it may already be increasing. **This helps secure the livelihoods of more than 6,100 men and women who depend on fishing.**

"I think it is good to have people taking care of fish refuges and spawning grounds to ensure fish are there to support our livelihood," said Kong Chanthou of the village of O'Run, in a WorldFish video interview. "If all areas are destroyed, sustainable fish production will not be guaranteed, and not enough fish could be caught to exchange for rice and meet other needs."



UN Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Targets



Target 6

By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.

UN Sustainable Development Goals



Goal 2

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.

“At first, the local government was very reluctant. But having seen how the co-management groups have been actively protecting the area, they have come to support our work. The government even asked us to help them replicate the model, and neighboring districts came to ask us about starting co-management groups in their locations.”

Dao Thi Nga, director of WARECOD

Vietnam

In Tuyen Quang Province of northern Vietnam, the Vietnamese organization Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development (WARECOD) has established and implemented a model for co-management of fisheries by communities and government. **WARECOD helped community groups gain government permission to manage freshwater resources in two sites in the Gam River Basin.** Local villages also held conventions on the management of aquatic resources, with government support. These gatherings produced legally binding fishing provisions that were agreed upon by the affected communities. **The resulting provisions include prohibitions on destructive fishing methods and disposal of waste materials in the river, as well as guidelines on recording catches.**



In addition to applying sustainable fishing methods, communities received training in communication methods to raise awareness about the co-management approach and encourage its use throughout the river basin. The project featured innovative outreach activities, such as cookery competitions for fishing families and interactive plays.

The dedication and combined support from WARECOD, the management groups, local communities and the government were instrumental in the success of the project.

According to WARECOD Director Dao Thi Nga, knowing how to connect with the communities was the key to the project's success. “We formulate our activities surrounding what they believe and love. For example, we’ve learned that certain fish species and plants which are very valuable to them are now disappearing, so we, together with villagers, organize many discussions so they can discuss among themselves to identify problems and brainstorm what could be done to improve the situation.”

As a result of the positive impact of the project on the two sites where it was based and the communications outreach conducted by participants, **an agreement on long-term cooperation in water and aquatic resource co-management was signed by four provinces in December 2016.**



Bringing Conservation into Development Decision-Making

Persuading governments and industries to factor biodiversity-relevant data into development decision-making is an important component of the CEPF approach. Our strategies support grantees' work with government and the private sector to establish policies that incorporate conservation concerns into project planning. CEPF grantees in the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot provide strong examples of the difference such efforts can make.

Myanmar

Asia's karst landscapes—formed when limestone is eroded and dissolved over time to create dramatic peaks and caves—are reservoirs of unique biodiversity. The combination of limestone hills, dry soils and caves creates conditions that require plants and animals to adapt and evolve. Many species are restricted to a single hill or cave system, and limestone towers serve as a refuge for others.

One of the most significant threats to these unusual and vibrant ecosystems is limestone extraction for the cement industry. Environmental impact assessments (EIAs) for quarrying typically fail to fully represent the potential damage to biodiversity because the uniqueness of karst biodiversity is not understood by relevant actors, and because the species at risk from quarrying are frequently small; have no assessed threat status or protection; and lack wings, fur, or other “charisma.”

CEPF grantee Fauna & Flora International (FFI) has been working since 2014 to mainstream karst biodiversity conservation into policies, plans and business practices in Myanmar by identifying priority sites; preparing recommendations, guidelines and policy briefs in relation to the cement and tourism sectors; piloting best practices; introducing community-based cave management; and raising awareness of the value of biodiversity.

In 2016, **the Myanmar government and FFI hosted the first-ever stakeholder workshop on development in karst landscapes, convening government agencies that focus on environment, forests, heavy industry, mines and energy, as well as cement companies, civil society and development banks.**

At the conclusion of the workshop, **one cement company invited FFI to visit their existing quarry site and to critically review the EIA that had been completed.** Subsequent biodiversity surveys of the site revealed new species that likely have restricted distributions. **FFI is currently working with the company to produce a new EIA as a condition for a loan from the International Finance Corporation.** “I believe this is the first EIA for a major cement company that has expressly looked at limestone-restricted biodiversity,” said Tony Whitten, FFI's Asia-Pacific regional director and chair of the IUCN Cave Invertebrate Specialist Group.

As part of its CEPF grant, FFI continues to work with Myanmar's Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation to finalize EIA guidelines for cement companies to ensure that future development plans appropriately consider and protect these rare landscapes.



UN Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Targets



Target 2

By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.

UN Sustainable Development Goals



Goal 15

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

In 2016, the Chinese national government released the 13th five-year plan, which excluded previous plans to build a cascade of large hydropower projects along the mainstream of the Nu River, China's last major free-flowing river.

China

The Nu (Salween) River, originating in the Tibetan Plateau and winding through China, Myanmar and Thailand to the Andaman Sea, is China's last major free-flowing river. The Nu is part of the Three Parallel Rivers of Yunnan Protected Areas, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and an epicenter of biodiversity. This area is home to more than 6,000 species of plants and is believed to support more than 25 percent of China's animal species.

Since the early 2000s, the government of China has considered constructing dams to harness the hydropower from major rivers, including the Nu. **Chinese organizations, including Green Watershed and Green Earth Volunteers, have successfully led past grassroots efforts to protect the Nu River. But the Chinese government's 12th five-year plan, running from 2010 to 2015, once again called for dam development on the Nu.**

CEPF grantee International Rivers China has a long history of working closely with Chinese-based environmental groups. **To protect the biodiversity of the Nu River, International Rivers worked as part of a consortium with Chinese groups, including Green Earth Volunteers, Friends of Nature and Green Watershed—all former CEPF grantees** whose work to conserve the Nu River was supported as part of CEPF's investment in the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot in the mid-2000s. The consortium conducted key research, including a series of fact-finding trips. **Participants assessed plants and fauna, and conducted geological studies to estimate seismicity and earthquake risk. To develop the skills of the next generation of environmentalists, International Rivers organized a learning trip that paired prominent long-time leaders of the Nu's protection with young environmentalists.**

As a result of all these activities, numerous Chinese and international publications featured stories about the importance of the region to China and to Southeast Asia. Chinese scientists and civil society organizations became better connected, and channels were strengthened for flow of information between countries upstream and downstream from the Nu.

The consortium organized a meeting with the National Energy Administration to share its findings, providing overwhelming evidence against damming the river. "In 2016, the national government released the 13th five-year plan, which excluded previous plans to build a cascade of large hydropower projects along the mainstream of the river," said Stephanie Jensen-Cormier, China program director for International Rivers. "The provincial government announced that no further small hydropower stations could be built on tributaries of the Nu."

Keeping in mind that insufficient financial resources to build new dams was a factor in these plans, International Rivers will continue working to protect the Nu so that biodiversity and local communities continue to thrive.





Backing Nature-Based Solutions to Climate Change

Protection and restoration of tropical forests and other ecosystems could make up 30 percent of the greenhouse gas emission reductions necessary to avoid climate disaster that would disproportionately affect the poor, according to climate experts. CEPF supports projects that protect or restore natural forests, wetlands and coastal zones as cost-effective means for mitigating the potentially devastating effects of climate change and extreme weather.

East Melanesian Islands Biodiversity Hotspot

In March 2015, Cyclone Pam, a Category 5 storm with sustained winds of 280 km/h (175 mph), swept across the Pacific Island nation of Vanuatu, killing people, flattening homes, destroying crucial crops, and crippling infrastructure. A CEPF-funded project managed collaboratively by the New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) and local partner agencies was on the ground on Tanna Island, conducting baseline surveys of plant diversity, when the storm made a direct hit.

“Island floras—and peoples, too—are particularly susceptible to catastrophic events, and increased resilience and self-sufficiency are essential to maintaining livelihoods into the future,” said Michael J. Balick, NYBG project co-principal investigator. “But cumulative impacts in places like Vanuatu are making them increasingly vulnerable to the imminent effects of global change—social, economic, and environmental.”

In the aftermath of Cyclone Pam, the project team—including staff and students of the Vanuatu Department of Forests, local cultural organization Tafea Kaljoral Senta, the University of the South Pacific (USP), and NYBG—in close partnership with local community members, **recognized the need to set aside some portion of the communities’ forests to help preserve ecosystem services, especially water, over the long term. The partners worked first to identify forested areas that were also sources of clean water, and then helped install new water supply systems that would also protect these biodiversity-rich, intact forest habitats.**

The project also has a strong focus on **documenting plant biodiversity in Tafea Province, as well as the indigenous names and uses of these plants. All field studies have been conducted in partnership with local communities** across Tanna and more recently on Aneityum, with plans to expand efforts to other nearby islands. “We were very moved by the extraordinarily strong interest in this project expressed by leaders and members of the local communities, and their remarkable willingness to collaborate and contribute to the on-the-ground activities,” said Gregory M. Plunkett, NYBG project co-principal investigator.

Before Cyclone Pam, eight long-term ecological forest monitoring transects had been established on Tanna Island and surveyed by the international team of researchers. They resurveyed the plots eight months after the storm and will continue to do so at regular intervals during the planned decade-long timeline of the project.

This work will provide **information about the processes of ecosystem regeneration and forest resilience in the face of global change.**

The project also has a major focus on building local scientific capacity, including training students and foresters. These activities will ultimately enable local people themselves to conserve and sustain their natural and biocultural heritage.



UN Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Targets



Target 15

By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 percent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.

UN Sustainable Development Goals



Goal 13

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

“Given the prognosis for more frequent catastrophic weather events in the region, these forest monitoring plots will help track forest recovery, and determine the role of native and invasive species in this process. These insights can make substantial contributions to the ability of resource managers and policymakers in Vanuatu and the Pacific Island region to support environmental and community recovery, adaptation and resiliency.”

Gregory M. Plunkett, project co-principal investigator, New York Botanical Garden

Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot

Morocco's High Atlas Mountains are teeming with thousands of plant species, hundreds of which are found nowhere else on Earth. The remote and largely self-sustaining indigenous communities in the region depend on these plants, both to sell and for sustenance and medicinal use. But climate change-exacerbated droughts and floods, along with overharvesting and livestock overgrazing, have had a serious negative impact on this fragile ecosystem.

In response, CEPF grantee Global Diversity Foundation (GDF) chose two communities for a **pilot project that aimed to improve local livelihoods while simultaneously reducing the pressure on the mountain flora.**

“We are trying to develop best practices that can be disseminated to other communities,” said Mohamed Aboufirass, general director of the hydrology and environmental engineering firm Resing, which joined GDF and other partners to implement the project.

First, the organization produced **a study of the medicinal and endemic species to use as a baseline** for evaluating the impact of the project's other activities. Then project participants **established nurseries that house endemic species alongside income-generating ones.** Community members are now able to collect plants from the nursery and harvest them for their own needs.

By building new water basins, repairing traditional water canals and setting up drip irrigation systems, the project both enabled the irrigation of more land and extended the irrigation season by two to three weeks.

This shift to more efficient use of water for domestic and agricultural needs leaves sufficient water in the ground to nurture the revival of healthy vegetation in the area. As climate change is predicted to further reduce water availability in the High Atlas, maximizing water efficiency will be essential if families are to continue to make a living in the mountains.



Approved Grants

July 1, 2015—June 30, 2016

Caribbean Islands

Strategic Direction 3. Support Caribbean civil society to achieve biodiversity conservation by building local and regional institutional capacity and by fostering stakeholder collaboration.

Final Assessment of the CEPF Caribbean Islands Program in Haiti and Jamaica

US\$63,791

The Caribsave Partnership

Final Assessment of the CEPF Caribbean Islands Program in the Dominican Republic

US\$24,185

Kiunzi SRL

East Melanesian Islands

Strategic Direction 1. Empower local communities to protect and manage globally significant biodiversity at priority Key Biodiversity Areas underserved by current conservation efforts.

Baining Mountains Biological Survey on the Island of New Britain, Papua New Guinea

US\$20,000

Bishop Museum

Community-Based Management of Threats to Wetland Biodiversity at Lake Letas, Gaua Island, Vanuatu

\$20,000

Eco-Livelihood Development Association Inc.

Scoping the Potential for Payments for Ecosystem Services in Vanuatu

US\$20,000

Live and Learn Environmental Education

Sustainable Management of Ngali Nut Trees and Threatened Flying Foxes in the Solomon Islands

US\$79,644

The University of Queensland

Strategic Direction 2. Integrate biodiversity conservation into local land-use and development planning.

Training for Arnavon Community Marine Conservation Association to Ratify Protected Areas Act 2010 in the Arnavon Islands, Solomon Islands

US\$19,950

Arnavon Community Marine Conservation Association

Strategic Direction 3. Safeguard priority globally threatened species by addressing major threats and information gaps.

Beck's Petrel: Discovering Colonies as the Key to Its Conservation in Papua New Guinea

US\$113,720

BirdLife International

Building Capacity in Conservation Science and Environmental Education in Vanuatu

US\$93,282

Vanuatu Environmental Science Society

Building Coalitions in Solomon Islands to Enhance Resource Management and Sustainable Development

US\$140,000

International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management

Developing Conservation Champions: Community-Based Conservation Management Course in the East Melanesian Islands

US\$154,933

University of the South Pacific

Preparing and Implementing a Management Plan for Megapodes on Tongoa, Vanuatu

US\$78,750

BirdLife International

Strategic Direction 4. Increase local, national and regional capacity to conserve biodiversity through catalyzing civil society partnerships.

Financial Sustainability for the TasiVanua Protected Areas Network in Vanuatu

US\$19,925

Association Economics for Coral Reef Ecosystems (ECRE) – Bluefinance

Empowering Manus Environment Conservation Communities Network to Be a Civil Society Leader on Manus Island, Papua New Guinea

US\$20,000

Manus Environment Conservation Communities Network Inc.

Launching Solomon Islands Rangers Association to the Wider Solomon Islands

US\$19,500

Solomon Islands Rangers Association Trust Board Inc.

Strengthening the Governance and Capacity of Kahua Association for Biodiversity Conservation in Solomon Islands

US\$19,927

Kahua Association Trust Board Inc.

Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of The Kainake Project in Papua New Guinea

US\$19,920

The Kainake Project Inc.

Training in Cost-Benefit Analysis for Managing Invasive Alien Species in the East Melanesian Islands Biodiversity Hotspot

US\$20,000

Landcare Research New Zealand Ltd.

Eastern Afromontane

Strategic Direction 1.

Mainstream biodiversity into wider development policies, plans and projects to deliver the co-benefits of biodiversity conservation, improved local livelihoods and economic development in priority corridors.

The African Great Lakes Summit: Improving Conservation in the African Great Lakes Through Cross-Basin Collaboration

US\$150,000

The Nature Conservancy

Civil Society Engagement in and Around Cyamudongo Forest and Nyungwe National Park in Rwanda

US\$150,000

Resilience Now

Consolidating and Scaling Up Alternative Livelihoods and Forest Development and Protection, Sheka Forest Key Biodiversity Area, Ethiopia

US\$20,000

God for People Relief and Development Organisation

Enhancing Ecosystem Conservation and Sustainable Community-Based Ecotourism Development of Mount Guna, Ethiopia

US\$20,000

University of Gondar

Enhancing Public-Private Partnership for the Conservation of Sheka Biosphere Reserve, Ethiopia

US\$20,000

Organisation for Social Development – Ethiopia

Filling the Gap: Biodiversity Survey to Increase Long-Term Forest Sustainability in Sheka Forest Key Biodiversity Area, Ethiopia

US\$19,813

Biodiversity Inventory for Conservation

Finalizing the Kivu-Rusizi Intervention Plan to Enhance Climate Change Resilience for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

US\$99,698

Association pour la Conservation de la Nature au Rwanda

Institutionalizing Integrated Biodiversity Management and Sustainable Livelihoods Enhancement in Awi Zone, Amhara National Regional State (Phase 2: Consolidating and Scaling Up)

US\$20,000

Bees for Development Ethiopia

Mafinga Hills Conservation Program, Zambia

US\$19,982

Wildlife and Environmental Conservation Society of Zambia

Participatory Process for Conservation: Implementing a Socio-Ecological Baseline in Mount Chipirone Key Biodiversity Area, Mozambique

US\$10,140

Verde Azul

Strengthening Civil Society's Engagement with the Private Sector in the Eastern Afromontane

US\$19,775

Nature Uganda

Strategic Direction 2. Improve the protection and management of the Key Biodiversity Area network throughout the hotspot.

Bridging the Gap: Promoting the Integrity of Mount Marsabit Forest Ecosystem Through Community-Based Advocacy Around Environment Safeguards, Kenya

US\$9,857

Saku Accountability Forum

Developing a Web-Enabled and Geo-Referenced Database Solution for Yemen's Biodiversity

US\$115,491

Amjad and Majdi Salameh Company (Enviromatics)

Developing Tools and Methods for Community Participation to Protect the Ngorongoro Crater Rim of Tanzania from Tourism

US\$10,000

Indigenous Heartland Organization

Guide Biodiversity Conservation in the Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Areas in Uganda's Albertine Graben

US\$10,000

Nature Uganda

Increasing the Protection Status of a Highly Vulnerable Key Biodiversity Area Through Developing New Management Plan in Wadela, Ethiopia

US\$20,000

University of Gondar – Climate Change Research Center (CCRC)

Mapping Mara's Threatened Raptors: Emergency Action to Safeguard Sensitive Hotspots for Threatened Raptors in the Masai Mara National Reserve, Kenya

US\$10,000

The Peregrine Fund – East Africa Project

Study the Perceptions and Management of Customary Practices for Biodiversity in Communities Adjacent to Mount Namuli, Mozambique

US\$19,030

Khaiya Editores & Serviços

Supporting Implementation of the Sheka Forest Biosphere Reserve Management Plan, Ethiopia

US\$100,000

Movement for Ecological Learning and Community Action (MELCA) – Ethiopia



© Conservation International/
photo by Robin Moore

"For me, the most important result from [my CEPF-funded project] was seeing tribes come together, reconcile with each other and work together towards conserving one of the very last wildernesses in the country."

David Boseto, co-founder,
Ecological Solutions,
Solomon Islands

Approved Grants

Transboundary Cooperation in the Chimanimani Mountains of Zimbabwe and Mozambique

US\$65,000

BirdLife Zimbabwe

Transboundary Cooperation in the Chimanimani Mountains of Zimbabwe and Mozambique

US\$65,000

Fundacao MICAIA

Strategic Direction 3. Initiate and support sustainable financing and related actions for the conservation of priority Key Biodiversity Areas and corridors.

Assisting Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society with the Strategic Roll-Out of the CEPF Investment in Ethiopia

US\$20,000

ZESMAN Consultancy

Capacity-Building Workshops in Ethiopia for CEPF Grantees

US\$12,793

ZESMAN Consultancy

Chyulu Hills Landscape REDD+ and Multiple Payment for Ecosystem Services Project in Kenya

US\$100,000

Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust

Developing Payment for Ecosystem Service Scheme in the Bugoma Forest of Uganda

US\$99,995

Chimpanzee Sanctuary & Wildlife Conservation Trust

Kikuyu Escarpment Payment for Water Ecosystem Services Initiative in Kenya

US\$100,000

Kijabe Environment Volunteers (KENVO)

Water Payment for Ecosystem Service Scheme in Mount Kenya

US\$100,000

Nature Kenya

Indo-Burma

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

Building Sustainability for the Mekong Turtle Conservation Project in Kratie, Cambodia

US\$55,600

Conservation International Foundation

Capacity-Building of Local Communities and Promotion of Community Forestry Daweishan, Yunnan, China

US\$19,965

Natural Conservation Association Pingbian

Changing Perceptions for Active Biodiversity Conservation in Stung Treng Ramsar Site, Cambodia

US\$79,959

Cambodian Rural Development Team

Empowering Communities to Manage Natural Resources in the Mekong Central Section, Cambodia

US\$120,000

Cambodian Community Development

Establishing a Protected Area-Friendly System in Tropical China

US\$199,998

Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Fostering Community-Based Conservation in Nonggang Nature Reserve

US\$19,715

Liuzhou Bird Watching Society

Impacts of Khau Ca Species and Habitat Conservation Area Establishment on the Livelihoods of Local People – An Assessment from the Community Perspective in Vietnam

US\$20,000

Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development (WARECOD)

Strengthening Conservation and Management of Akpi Wat Praek Kampong Cham Community Fishery, Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia

US\$19,985

Cambodian Organization for Women Support

Strengthening of Community-Based and Led François' Langur Species and Habitat Conservation Initiatives in Northern Vietnam

US\$97,706

People Resources and Conservation Foundation (PRCF)

Sustainable Fisheries Conservation Management in Boeung Chhmar Moat Khla Area, Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia

US\$99,653

The Learning Institute

Testing Community-Managed Forests with Financing from Payment for Forest Environmental Services in Vietnam

US\$19,195

People Resources and Conservation Foundation

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

Addressing Vietnam's Ecological Footprint in the Lower Mekong Region

US\$244,920

Center for People and Nature Reconciliation

Biodiversity Information-Sharing Platform for Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Policy Making in China

US\$219,660

Shan Shui Conservation Center

Developing Biodiversity Guidelines for Rice Cultivation in the Tonle Sap Lake and Inundation Zone Priority Corridor, Cambodia

US\$189,772

Wildlife Conservation Society

Empowering Thai Journalists for Accountable Transboundary Investment

US\$99,910

Chumchon Thai Foundation

Ensuring Accountability for Ecosystems and Biodiversity Protection from Hydropower Development in the Mekong River Basin

US\$200,000

International Rivers Network

Environmental Study of the Lancang-Mekong Development Plan in Lao PDR and Thailand

US\$299,973

International Centre for Environmental Management

Establishing and Piloting a Payment for Ecosystem Services Model in Lao PDR

US\$299,908

Wildlife Conservation Society

Mainstreaming Biodiversity Values into Land-Use Decision-Making in Cambodia's Mekong Flooded Forest

US\$119,750

World Wide Fund for Nature

Upgrading the Value Chains of Eco-Labeled and Organic Products for Biodiversity Conservation in Stung Treng Ramsar Site, Cambodia

US\$60,000

Cambodian Institute for Research and Rural Development

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

Closing Conservation Gaps Through People and Priorities: The 4th Meeting of the Saola Working Group in Vietnam

US\$19,205

Global Wildlife Conservation

Community Networks for Gibbon Protection at Veun Sai Siem Pang Conservation Area

US\$99,968

Non-Timber Forest Products

Development and Efficiency Improvement for Thai Wetlands Foundation

US\$7,579

Thai Wetlands Foundation

Empowering Communities in Kompong Thom Province, Cambodia, for Conservation and Community Development

US\$20,000

Environmental and Health Education Organisation (EHEO)

Empowering Community-Based Organizations for Improved River Governance in Cambodia

US\$19,970

3S Rivers Protection Network (3SPN)

Empowerment of Local Communities to Address Problem of Illegal Hunting in South China

US\$39,998

The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society

Pha Tad Ke: Training the Trainers in Lao PDR

US\$19,290

Pha Tad Ke Botanical Garden

The Squirrel School's Guided Eco-Tours in Yangshan Wetland, Hainan, China

US\$19,980

Hainan Gao11 Culture Transmission Ltd

Strengthening Civil Society Networking to Combat Illegal Wildlife Trafficking in Southern China

US\$49,965

Beijing Normal University

Strengthening the Capacity of GreenViet to Design and Conduct Conservation Projects in Danang, Vietnam

US\$19,940

GreenViet Biodiversity Conservation Center

Strengthening the Capacity of the Lao Biodiversity Association, for Long-Term Sustainability

US\$19,897

Lao Biodiversity Association

Training for Myanmar Conservation Civil Society Organizations

US\$19,971

Friends of Wildlife

Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands

Strategic Direction 1. Empower local communities to protect and manage biodiversity in priority Key Biodiversity Areas

Conservation of Sakamena Complex: Green Belt Around Beza Mahafaly Protected Area

US\$16,244

Madagascar National Parks

Support Local Communities to Conserve and Protect Biodiversity by Tackling the Main Threats at the New Protected Area of Montagne du Français, Diego II in Madagascar

US\$18,034

Service d'Appui à la Gestion de l'Environnement



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photo by Robin Moore

"Funding from CEPF enabled us to engage with communities ... We realized they already had forest conservation in their myths and stories and we could work together to get the very people in these communities to become agents of their own change by harnessing their skills in music, dance and folklore."

Selete Nyomi, executive director,
AGORO Centre for Intercultural
Learning and Talent Development,
Ghana

Approved Grants

Strategic Direction 2. Enable civil society to mainstream biodiversity and conservation into political and economic decision-making.

Compilation and Dissemination of Plant Information for Priority Key Biodiversity Areas in Madagascar

US\$123,390

Missouri Botanical Garden

Conservation of Madagascar Fish Eagle through Capacity Building and Partnership Between Site Managers

US\$19,853

The Peregrine Fund

Developing National Management Guidance for Madagascar's Freshwater Wetlands

US\$62,575

Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust

Developing the Vision for Conservation of Saint Brandon, Mauritius

US\$19,817

Mauritian Wildlife Foundation

Expanding Rodrigues Dry Coastal Forest at Plaine Corail in Mauritius to Protect Threatened Biodiversity

US\$58,954

François Leguat Ltd.

Feasibility Study to Establish a Temporal Monitoring of Seychelles, Madagascar and Comoros Common Birds

US\$19,175

Société d'Etudes Ornithologiques de La Réunion

Fulfilling Madagascar's 'Sydney Promise' Through a National Process of Marine Protected Area Planning

US\$177,803

Madagascar Wildlife Conservation Society

Identifying and Monitoring Terrestrial Conservation Priorities in the Comoro Islands, and Building Results into Policy and Practice

US\$175,000

Dahari

Insects and People of the Southwest Indian Ocean: A Network of Researchers for Insect-Focused Approach to Conservation

US\$166,907

California Academy of Sciences, Madagascar

Integrated Management and Ecosystem Restoration Program for Silhouette Island, Seychelles

US\$150,000

Island Conservation Society

Madagascar's Protected Areas: A Bilingual Book and Associated Database Reviewing Their History, Biodiversity and Guiding the Future

US\$182,633

Association Vahatra

Mobilizing Freshwater Biodiversity Information for Better Representation within Protected Areas in Madagascar

US\$226,835

International Union for Conservation of Nature

Promote Sustainable Fisheries and Ecotourism with Private Sector to Reinforce the Management of Ambodivahibe Marine Protected Area, Madagascar

US\$153,899

Conservation International Foundation

Promotion of Private Sector Engagement in Ecotourism in Tsinjoriak Community-Managed New Protected Area, Southwest Madagascar

US\$95,900

Arboretum d'Antsokay

Promoting the Self Sufficiency of Reserves in the Ramena Complex, Antsiranana, Madagascar, by Conceiving, Developing and Testing New Tourism Products

US\$85,513

Missouri Botanical Garden

Protection of Key Biodiversity Area Biodiversity in Grand Police Wetland, Seychelles

US\$19,996

Marine Conservation Societ, Seychelles

Restoring Native Forest at Chamarel: Ecological Restoration, Species Reintroduction and Reconnecting the Public with Nature

US\$77,707

Ebony Forest Ltd.

Strengthening Coordination and Capacity of Communities, Local Authorities and Private Sector Actors, Co-Managers for Local Development and Sustainable Conservation of the Menabe Antimena Protected Area Ecosystem in Madagascar

US\$154,825

Association Fanamby

Toward a Rational, Equitable and Profitable Management of "Malagasy Baobabs" :Case of Menabe Region

US\$19,326

Madagasikara Voakajy

Towards a Blueprint for Locally-Managed Marine Conservation in the Comoros: Building the Knowledge Base and Capacity for Monitoring and Management

US\$149,846

Blue Ventures Conservation

Strategic Direction 3. Strengthen civil society capacity at local and regional levels through training, exchanges and regional cooperation.

ASTIRIA: Cooperation Program for the Conservation of Threatened Flora in Mauritius and Rodrigues Islands

US\$151,021

Arche aux Plantes

Building a Future for the Amphibians of Madagascar

US\$194,200

Global Wildlife Conservation

Strengthening the MIHARI Network to Support Community Management of Marine and Coastal Resources in Madagascar

US\$114,672

Blue Ventures Conservation

Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany

Strategic Direction 4. Create an enabling environment to improve conservation and management of Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany priority sites

Strengthening Izele, the Online Social Network for Conservationists in the Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany Hotspot

US\$3,200

Current Conservation Community Interest Company

Mediterranean Basin

Strategic Direction 1. Promote civil society involvement in Integrated Coastal Zone Management to minimize the negative effects of coastal development in three priority corridors (Southwest Balkans; Cyrenaican Peninsula; and Mountains, Plateaus, and Wetlands of Algerian Tell and Tunisia) and in 20 coastal and marine priority Key Biodiversity Areas in other corridors.

Effective Integration Approach of Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Countries of North Africa

US\$146,894

Living Planet Tunisia

Improve Knowledge on Integrated Management of Coastal Zones and Biodiversity Protection in Alqrbolli Area, Libya

US\$15,390

Libyan Wildlife Trust (LWT)

Integrating Conservation, Tourism and Local Community Development on Boa Vista Island

US\$19,660

BIOS.CV: Environmental Conservation and Sustainable Development

Integration of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Objectives and Nature Conservation in Algeria's El Kala National Park and Surrounding Areas: Training on Territorial Challenges and Sustainable Development

US\$17,600

Fondation Tour du Valat

Integration of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Objectives and Nature Conservation in the Local Development Plans of the Territories of El Kala National Park Including the Surrounding Areas in Algeria and Tunisia

US\$114,400

Association de Réflexion, d'Échanges et d'Actions pour L'Environnement et le Développement

Libyan Ecotourism Experience Exchange Visit to Jordan

US\$15,554

Sweimeh Association Charity (SAC)

Pilot Project for the Effective Integration of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Approach to the New Coastal Law: Case Corridor Ouranie and Moulaya

US\$19,406

Association des Enseignants des Sciences de la Vie et de la Terre (AESVT-MAROC)

Strategic Direction 3. Improve the conservation and protection status of 44 priority Key Biodiversity Areas.

Action for Ecological Valorisation of Montenegro's Buljarica Cove

US\$19,980

Crnogorsko društvo ekologija [Montenegrin Ecologists Society (MES)]

Assessment of the Endangered Subterranean Biodiversity of the Skadar/Shkodra Lake Basin on the Border of Montenegro and Albania

US\$19,992

Društvo za jamsko biologiju (Society for Cave Biology, SCB)

Bosnia and Herzegovina's Hutovo Blato Nature Park and Mostarsko Blato as Safe Breeding, Stop-Over, and Wintering Sites for Birds

US\$48,550

Ornitološko društvo naše ptice



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photo by Robin Moore

"The financial and technical support provided by CEPF and the local, national, regional and international linkages it enabled us to establish was critical for placing the Chimanimani Mountains in the center of national debates and decisions related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in Mozambique."

Milagre Nuvunga,
co-founder and executive director,
MICAIA, Mozambique

Approved Grants

Evaluating the Status of the Monk Seal Population in Lebanon

US\$4,700

Society for the Protection of Nature in Lebanon (SPNL)

Freshwater Key Biodiversity Area Refinement: Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot

US\$19,705

International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

Identifying Important Plant Areas in Cabo Verde

US\$65,598

International Union for Conservation of Nature Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation

Promoting Wetland Ecotourism for Local Development

US\$17,770

Reseau Enfant de la Terre (RET)

Save Ohrid Lake and Galičica National Park, Former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia

US\$43,320

Environmental Citizens Association "Front 21/42"

Strengthening Organizational Capacities and Field Research on Raso Islet, Cape Verde

US\$19,438

Biosfera I Association for Environment Protection

Study of Floral Diversity and Dynamics in Macta Marsh, Algeria: Application for Biodiversity Conservation

US\$18,090

Soudi Zahira

Tropical Andes

Strategic Direction 4. Promote and scale up opportunities to foster private sector approaches for biodiversity conservation to benefit priority Key Biodiversity Areas in the seven corridors.

Conserving Cotapata National Park by Promoting the Chasquimaraton Pre-Colombian Trail in Bolivia

US\$60,000

Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Ecología

Wallacea

Strategic Direction 1. Address threats to high priority species.

Community-Based Conservation of Critically Endangered Siau Scops Owl and Siau Island Tarsier in Indonesia

US\$19,995

Perkumpulan Celebes Biodiversity

Conservation of Endemic Species by an Indigenous Community in Taunusa Mountain, West Seram, Indonesia

US\$20,000

Toma Lestari

Conservation of Shorea Selanica and Vatica Flavovirens in Feruhumpenai Matano Protection Forest, Luwu District

US\$19,853

Andi Jemma University Faculty of Forestry

Indonesia Wildlife Crimes Unit: Dismantling Wildlife Trade Networks in Wallacea

US\$239,260

Wildlife Conservation Society

Save Sampiri

US\$20,000

Perkumpulan Kompak Talaud

Strategic Direction 2. Improve management of sites (Key Biodiversity Areas) with and without official protection status.

A Multidisciplinary Approach for Conservation of Coastal Forest Habitat and Komodo Dragons on Flores, Indonesia

US\$94,751

Yayasan Komodo Survival Program

Building Capacity on Community-Based Forest Management for Prosperity and Biodiversity Conservation in Pantar, Alor District, Indonesia

US\$19,127

Yayasan Kasih Mandiri Flores Lembata (SANDI FLORATA)

Collaborative Management of Watershed to Sustain Lake Poso's Ecosystem Services in Indonesia

US\$19,521

Perkumpulan Inovasi Komunitas

Collaborative and Sustainable Natural Resources Management on Indonesia's Kassa Island

US\$19,404

Lembaga Penelitian Universitas Pattimura, Ambon (LEMLIT UNPATTI)

Conservation of Indonesia's Sahendaruman Forest for the Protection of Globally Threatened Species and Provision of Ecosystem Services

US\$19,199

Perkumpulan Sampiri Kepulauan Sangihe

Improvement of Forest Management Model under Community Forestry Scheme in Ili Wengot, Indonesia

US\$19,932

Yayasan Ayu Tani Mandiri

Integrated Catchment Management Planning for the Malili Lakes, Sulawesi, Indonesia

US\$190,922

International Union for Conservation of Nature

Strategic Direction 3. Support sustainable natural resource management by communities in priority sites and corridors.

Buffer Zone Management in Indonesia's Karaeng-Lompobattang Key Biodiversity Area

US\$19,571

AMAN Sinjai

Community-Based Conservation for Komodo Dragon in Indonesia

US\$19,952

Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) SVD

Community-Based Conservation of Lake Matano Watershed

US\$19,918

Perkumpulan Wahana Lingkungan Lestari Celebes Area

Community-Based Management for Sustainable Buntini Fisheries at Lake Towuti

US\$19,487

Andi Jemma University Faculty of Fisheries

Community-Based Terrestrial Natural Resources Management in Mbeliling Forest Area, Tanjung Kerita Mese, West Manggarai District, Indonesia

US\$20,000

Yayasan Komodo Indonesia Lestari (YAKINES)

Improved Policy within Lompobattang Protected Areas in Indonesia

US\$19,422

Balang Institute

Improving an Indigenous Community's Role in the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Buffer Zone of Manusela National Park, Maluku, Indonesia

US\$19,514

Yayasan Sauwa Sejahtera

Improving Ecosystem Management and Livelihoods around Mount Egon in Flores, Indonesia

US\$99,648

Yayasan Wahana Tani Mandiri

Maleo Bird Nesting Site Conservation in Indonesia's North Halmahera

US\$16,901

Yayasan Perguruan Kristen Halmahera

Protection of Wallacea Biodiversity Hotspot through Community-Led Conservation and Sustainable Livelihood Action in Sangihe-Talaud Archipelago, North Sulawesi, Indonesia

US\$130,364

Yayasan IDEP Selaras Alam

Service and Nature Improvement Program for Sustainable Livelihoods in Indonesia's Flores National Park

US\$110,017

Yayasan Tananua Flores

Using Indigenous Knowledge for Better Management of Fritu Lands

US\$18,854

AMAN Maluku Utara

Strategic Direction 4. Strengthen community-based action to protect marine species and sites.

Community-Based Conservation of Marine Ecosystems and Coastal Habitat in Bahoi Village, North Sulawesi, Indonesia

US\$18,310

Perkumpulan Manengkel Solidaritas

Community Capacity-Building to Protect Turtle Population through Ecotourism in Buru, Indonesia

US\$57,171

Yayasan Wallacea

Conservation of Coastal Area Based on Lokal Wisdom in Pulau Buano Coastal

US\$20,000

Lembaga Partisipasi Pembangunan Masyarakat (LPPM)

Conservation of Coastal Ecosystem Based on Sasi Local Wisdom, at Haruku Village, Haruku Island, Central Maluku District, Indonesia

US\$19,608

Baileo Maluku Foundation

Improving Protection of Dugong Habitat through Development of Community-Based Marine Protected Areas and Ecotourism in Indonesia's Sangihe Islands

US\$99,100

Community Empowerment and Nature Conservation Education Association (YAPEKA)

Marine Biota Conservation by Fishermen at Hadakewa Bay, Lembata, Indonesia

US\$19,681

Lembaga Pengembangan Masyarakat Lembata (BARAKAT)

Rescue Marine Biodiversity in Indonesia's South Beach Lebau

US\$99,113

Yayasan Pengkajian dan Pengembangan Sosial

Strengthening Community-Based Coastal and Marine Resource Management in the North Sulawesi Corridor in Indonesia

US\$124,249

Wildlife Conservation Society

Strategic Direction 5. Engage the private sector in conservation of priority sites and corridors, in production landscapes, and throughout the hotspot.

Fostering Collaboration Among Stakeholders to Support Sustainable Management of Indonesia's Lake Poso

US\$18,233

Karsa Institute



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photo by Robin Moore

"The management committee of the reserve took our model at Tambopata and used it to strengthen the management of the huge neighboring reserve Bahuja Sonene. In addition, the project galvanized community attention against the gold mining and made the authorities pay attention to the issue for the first time."

Victor Zambrano, president,
Tambopata Management Committee,
Peru

Financial Summary



Financial Summary

During the 2016 fiscal year of July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, CEPF awarded US\$15 million in new grants, bringing the amount it has invested in conserving critical ecosystems since 2000 to more than US\$206.7 million. By the end of the fiscal year, 2,121 grantees had received support from the fund since its inception.

CEPF secured commitments of US\$15.2 million during the fiscal year, including US\$9.8 million of a US\$10.7 million grant from the GEF to enhance mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation factors into development decision-making and to expand and increase the effectiveness of CEPF grantee learning opportunities.¹ Additional commitments included US\$1.6 million from the World Bank, and US\$2.8 million for the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot and US\$1 million for the Wallacea Biodiversity Hotspot from the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation.

Teams completed ecosystem profiling—the stakeholder-informed analysis that includes development of our funding strategy—for the Cerrado and the Guinean Forests of West Africa hotspots, and began profiling the Mountains of Central Asia Biodiversity Hotspot.

CEPF finalized profiles for the Cerrado and Guinean Forests of West Africa hotspots and awarded grants for the regional implementation teams for those hotspots. The fund also continued active granting in the East Melanesian Islands, Eastern Afrotropical, Indo-Burma, Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands, Mediterranean Basin, Tropical Andes, and Wallacea hotspots.

Grants by Region
Awarded in Fiscal Year 2016



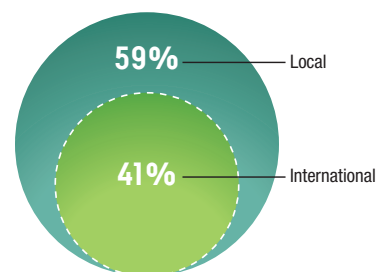
38% Africa & Madagascar
20% The Americas
38% Asia-Pacific
4% Europe & Central Asia

Grants by Region
Inception through June 30, 2016



30% Africa & Madagascar
25% The Americas
35% Asia-Pacific
10% Europe & Central Asia

Local vs. International
Grant funds awarded since 2007



¹ The GEF provided US\$200,000 in fiscal year 2015 for the preparation of this project, and US\$10.682 million in fiscal year 2016 for implementation, including the implementing agency fee paid to the GEF Implementing Agency.

CEPF Statement of Activities

For fiscal year ended June 30, 201

REVENUE	FY16	CUMULATIVE
Grants and Contributions	15,160,000	283,471,665
Gain (Loss) in Foreign Exchange	61,681	(1,550,798)
Interest Earned	411,321	3,130,444
TOTAL REVENUE	(US\$15,633,002)	US\$285,051,311
EXPENSES AND GRANTS AWARDED (Grants by funding region*)		
Atlantic Forest		10,010,403
Cape Floristic Region		7,551,147
Caribbean Islands	(114,794)	6,904,184
Caucasus	(7,187)	9,288,219
Cerrado	1,300,000	1,300,000
East Melanesian Islands	1,400,545	5,353,336
Eastern Afromontane	1,312,690	9,602,354
Eastern Arc Mountains & Coastal Forests	(22,891)	8,789,550
Eastern Himalayas		4,882,859
Guinean Forests of West Africa		8,072,696
Guinean Forests of West Africa Reinvestment	1,800,000	1,800,000
Indo-Burma		9,656,797
Indo-Burma Reinvestment	2,624,117	12,272,284
Madagascar		5,555,602
Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands	2,651,648	4,926,286
Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany	1,507	6,647,323
Mediterranean	615,652	11,141,188
Mountains of Southwest China		7,886,147
Northern Mesoamerica		7,079,430
The Philippines		6,970,399
Polynesia-Micronesia		6,828,576
Southern Mesoamerica		7,046,928
Succulent Karoo		9,220,999
Sundaland		9,901,465
Tropical Andes		8,287,386
Tropical Andes Reinvestment	1,803,272	3,603,272
Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena		6,797,978
Wallacea	1,744,596	3,343,985
Western Ghats & Sri Lanka	(38,457)	6,055,069
TOTAL GRANTS	US\$15,070,697	US\$206,775,862
Ecosystem Profile Preparation	352,800	10,823,720
Use of Interest: External Evaluations, Audit, and Special Projects	493,645	2,428,442
Donor-Funded Non-Recurring Activities (GEF-PPG)	74,466	200,000
Operations	3,034,884	37,425,660
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	US\$3,955,795	US\$50,877,823
TOTAL EXPENSES AND GRANTS AWARDED	US\$19,026,492	US\$257,653,685
Revenue Less Expenses	(3,393,490)	27,397,626
Fund Balance at Beginning of Period	31,321,285	
Fund Balance at End of Period	27,927,795	
FUND BALANCE AT END OF PERIOD CONSISTED OF:		
Cash & Interest Accrued, Net of Amount Due to or from CI		38,715,299
Accounts Receivable		14,629,804
Grants Payable		(25,417,307)
Fund Balance at End of the Period (Fully Earmarked for Investments)		27,927,795

*The grant expenses include new grants awarded in FY16. Negative amounts, in parentheses, represent deobligations.

Grantee Partners

2001–June 30, 2016

IKhwa Ttu	Alianza para las Áreas Silvestres	Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University	Asociación para el Desarrollo Económico y Social del Agro
3S Rivers Protection Network	Alicat Tours	Arts, Sciences and Technology University in Lebanon	Asociación para el Estudio y Conservación de las Aves Acuáticas en Colombia
Aaranyak	All Out Africa	Arulagam	Asociación para la Conservación de la Cuenca Amazónica
Acharya, Pushpa Raj	Allan, Tamryn	ASEAN Focus Group Pty. Ltd.	Asociación para la Conservación, Investigación de la Biodiversidad y el Desarrollo Sustentable
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