

CEPF Final Completion and Impact Report

Organization's Legal Name:	Tropical Biology Association LTD - Kenya
Project Title:	Sustaining CEPF's investment in the East Melanesian Islands Hotspot
Grant Number:	CEPF-111806
Hotspot:	East Melanesian Islands
Strategic Direction:	4 Increase local, national and regional capacity to conserve biodiversity through catalyzing civil society partnerships
Grant Amount:	\$130,301.32
Project Dates:	June 01, 2021 - April 30, 2022
Date of Report:	June 30, 2022

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

Tropical Biology Association (TBA) – Grantee and implementer. Responsible for the project's overall management, coordination, delivery and reporting.

IUCN Oceania – the Regional Implementing Team for the hotspot. Through Hellen Pippard, provided support and guidance in the project implementation process. The RIT linked TBA with relevant partners and contacts, and helped TBA procure and engage with the target CSO.

Zola Sangga – TBA contact and project coordinator for Papua New Guinea. Coordinated procurement and communication with in country CSOs, Was in-charge of in country logistics (sourcing workshop venues, speakers and participants/delegates) for the project's online masterclass, and the blended face-to-face/virtual hotspot workshop. Support in country project reporting.

Vatu Maraga Molissa – TBA contact and project coordinator for Vanuatu. Coordinated procurement and communication with in country CSOs, Was in-charge of in country logistics (sourcing workshop venues, speakers and participants/delegates) for the project's online masterclass, and the blended face-to-face/virtual hotspot workshop. Support in country project reporting.

Ravin Dhari – TBA contact and project coordinator for Solomon Islands. Coordinated procurement and communication with in country CSOs, Was in-charge of in country logistics (sourcing workshop venues, speakers and participants/delegates) for the project's online masterclass, and the blended face-to-face/virtual hotspot workshop. Support in country project reporting.

CONSERVATION IMPACTS

Planned Long-Term Impacts: 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
<p>Enhanced conservation of globally threatened biodiversity in the East Melanesia Islands hotspots through stronger civil society capacity: a legacy of CEPF investment</p>	<p>The project strengthened CSOs capacity to communicate and sustain conservation impacts in the EMI hotspot for the long term</p> <p>The transferable skills in strategic fundraising, and in communication that the CSOs gained places them at a better place to grow their profile, attract collaborators and supporters, and win funding they need to deliver priority conservation actions in the hotspot.</p> <p>By giving the CSOs access to the case for sustainability, and lessons learnt documents, the project provides them an important reference for their future conservation pursuit, and confidence and knowledge on what it needed, and what works or does not work. This is key in ensuring future conservation delivers impacts for endangered species and habitats, as well as for people, and means the CEPF legacy will be sustained</p>

Planned Short-Term Impacts: 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
<p>CSO's in the EMI with increased capacity for biodiversity conservation through guidance from the Case for Sustainability that highlights the impact and lessons learnt of past CEPF projects: at least 30 CSO's demonstrate they have been guided by the Case for Sustainability in their strategic plans for ongoing and future conservation actions.</p>	<p>35 participating CSOs will have access to a case for sustainability to that will guide their future work. The CSOs contributed to the case's development meaning they are already informed of the challenges and solutions to achieving the desired state of biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>Already, the CSOs have shown promise. For instance, a number of organizations that started small (as small grantees) reported remarkable growth and are now more established, meaning the Case for sustainability and lessons learnt documents gives a good launching pad to deliver more impacts</p>
<p>CSO's sustainability increased through gaining skills in strategic planning, funding proposal writing and communicating conservation impacts: by the end of 2021 at least 30 CSO's will demonstrate they have a new or revised strategic fundraising plan, a new draft funding proposal, and a communications output on conservation impacts.</p>	<p>CSO staff attending the masterclass on sustainability reported knowledge improvement of between 44% (in proposal development), and 62% (in strategic Fundraising), and by the close of project, the CSOs produced;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15 new draft funding proposal (project rationale) that they committed to submit by end of 2022. Angela Mageto of University of Papua New

Impact Description	Impact Summary
	<p>Guinea confirmed that she learnt new useful guideline for proposal writing that she will also use for teaching in the university.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 11 strategic fundraising plans all of which were new. Our review encouraged the participants to adapt the plans to their own situations since the template we provided is flexible. 75% reported that they made some or a lot of progress as a result of attending the masterclass. - 5 communications output on conservation impacts from CSOs own work. Ivy Kiele of FORCEP (Forests for Certain: Forests for Life!) acknowledged this was very useful to their work and have since adopted graphic communication for their community <p>(See knowledge change figure for reference)</p>
<p>Strengthened networking between EMI CSO's through participating in the thematic and final workshops and in the capacity building activities. At least 15 CSO's demonstrate closer links between complementary CSO's in their region.</p>	<p>By participating on project activities together, 34 CSOs (15 in Papua New Guinea; 12 in Solomon Islands and 7 in Vanuatu) shared contacts relevant for networking – mainly at in country level, but also internationally.</p> <p>During the regional workshop, these CSOs met and interacted virtually with representatives of donor communities, government agencies, and conservation consultants. The event was a valuable nucleus for future networking.</p> <p>At personal level, the events were an opportunity for the participants to meet, for example Wilko Bosma said that he had been looking for an opportunity to meet Myknee Sirikolo a government official in forestry department and a member of Technical advisory committee. Due to the challenging geographical expanse in the EMI region, the participant found the events of the project a valuable opportunity for networking.</p>

Unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Due to the fact that the masterclasses and the workshops happened in different time zone, synchronizing session (e.g., zoom teaching) times was a challenge. TBA consulted with the in-country partners and RIT in selecting the most appropriate time, in some instance this meant the TBA staff for instance worked overnight as happened during the workshops.

Covid 19 -related curfew in Solomon Islands affected masterclass participation by staff of CSO, as they had to attend from home with limited or no internet access. TBA responded by extending the masterclass periods to ensure that all participants get enough time to access all the modules and complete their tasks.

The national workshop in Vanuatu was originally designed to be face to face. However, due to covid-19 lock down we reverted to virtual event, after postponing the event several times in the hope that the lock down would be lifted. We also collated workshop resources (as well as feedback from CSOs) needed for virtual discussions in advance. This allowed us to shorten the event from two to one day. Even then, only a small number could attend. The

lock down also affected masterclass attendance by CSOs from Vanuatu. Overall, this approach worked well.

PROJECT RESULTS/DELIVERABLES

Overall results of the project:

The project had four components and were all successfully achieved as described below.

a) Validation of projects impacts and contextualization of results
TBA reviewed grantee impacts captured in the RIT-maintained impact summaries database in Excel, and counterchecked those with detailed from 48 small and 34 large grantees project completion reports. Additional impacts that were not captured in the completion reports (either because they did not fit in the reporting template, or were observed after the reporting period) were solicited from the grantees through an online survey.

All the impacts were ground truthed (during national workshops) under four broad themes; (i) Community conservation, (ii) biodiversity conservation, (iii) financing, practice and policy, (iv) capacity development. The TBA settled on these because they captured all the impacts contained in the CEPF summary database

Additional documents attached are;

- impacts report
- impacts in the feedback from online survey
- figure showing analysis of masterclass participants change

b) Documenting and communicating lessons learned

We compiled reported lessons learned from about 70 large and small grant project completion reports submitted to CEPF. The reports represented feedback from 52 local and international civil society organizations working in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea or across the hotspot, and funded between 2013 and 2022. The result was 366 generic lessons that were compiled into an Excel Database.

We reviewed, and analyzed the lessons learnt gathered - rephrasing the original wording both for clarity, and to cluster common ideas – can came up with a final list of 135 lessons, which were categorized into 19 themes. Of these, 21 lessons (in 13 themes) were most cross-cutting; we used this list of 21 to ground-truth the lessons during the national workshops held in Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea.

Additional documents attached are

- Lessons learnt report
- Excel database of Lessons learnt
- list of 135 lessons learnt,
- 21 top Lessons Learnt
- Overview presentation of lessons learnt.

c) Facilitating hotspot workshops

We organized and facilitated three national (in Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands) workshops, attended by grantee CSOs working in each host country, and a regional- final assessment – workshop. The latter brought together all the grantees,

partners and stakeholders including donors and government agencies working or interest in the in the hotspot.

Workshop delegates and grantee CSOs synthesized and validated impacts of the CEPF conservation investment at national and hotspot levels. They also discussed the vision for conservation in the hotspot, and highlighted barriers and solutions to achieving that vision, drawing lessons learnt over the nine years of CEPF investment.

A key outcome of the hotspot workshops is a case for sustainability document; a reference document for civil society, donors and conservation practitioners in the EMI hotspot.

Additional documents attached:

- Proceedings of the three national workshops
- Proceedings of EMI regional workshop report
- Programme/Agenda of the 4 workshops
- Case for sustainability
- list of participants of the different events

d) Capacity building

We designed and delivered two masterclasses on;

(i) Communicating conservation impacts (6th to 30th December 2021). 21 staff (52% being women) from 11 grantee CSOs attended. The participants were from Solomon Islands (43%), Papua New Guinea (38%) and Vanuatu (19%).

(ii) Sustaining civil societies' conservation actions in the hotspot (16th February to 9th March 2022). The 28 attendees (39% being women) were staff nominees from 16 grantee CSOs. Majority (54%), from Papua New Guinea, followed by Solomon Islands (39%), then Vanuatu (7%).

The masterclasses were online (and self-paced) on the TBA Moodle learning platform but included virtual teaching sessions on Zoom. Participants worked on and submitted tasks based on course content, and they received feedback on the tasks to help them improve.

The participants received certificates of completion, and an additional month of access of each course materials at the end of each masterclass.

Additional documents attached are communication pieces, project rationales and strategic fund raising plans - all produced by the CSO staffs that participated in the masterclasses

Results for each deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1.0	Validation of projects impacts and contextualization of results	1.1	A database of CEPF impacts for the EMI	The database with recorded impacts from CEPF investment was reviewed and gaps identified. Any missing or unclear information was verified from RIT. The CSOs also shared with us in a survey some additional impacts that may not have been captured in the report. These have been incorporated in the impacts report.
1.0	Validation of projects impacts and contextualization of results	1.2	Detailed plan (include travel, approach, potential numbers of participants and facilitators, etc) and work schedule for components 3 and 4 activities.	A detailed plan and schedule of the workshops and capacity building activities was developed in consultation with RIT and in country partners from the three countries. The plan was adapted as situations and circumstances changed in the different countries. All the events were carried out as was best for each case. Local travels and venues of the face to face events was managed by the in country partners. The dates of the events were 3rd to 30th December 2021 Masterclass on Communicating conservation impacts in the EMI hotspot, 16th February to 9th March 2022 the Masterclass on Sustaining civil societies' conservation actions in the EMI hotspot. The two master classes were self paced and had weekly synchronized zoom sessions. The National workshops for validating impacts and lessons learnt were held; 21st and 22nd March in Solomon Island, 31 March and 1st April in Papua New Guinea, both were hybrid with face

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
				to face and virtual participants; while the Vanuatu national workshop that was fully virtual due to Covid-19 Pandemic restrictions was held on 14th April. The Final Assessment workshop was held on 20th and 21st April 2022. The participants and outline of activities in these events was co designed by TBA, CEPF/RIT and in-country partners who hosted the face to face hubs.
2.0	Documenting and communicating lessons learned	2.1	Lessons Learned knowledge resource	A lessons learnt report was produced as reference document conservation practitioners (including CSOs) and for Donors interested in delivering conservation in the hotspot. The lessons were presented to, and received input from delegates attending the hotspot's workshops. The report is attached
2.0	Documenting and communicating lessons learned	2.2	Lessons Learned training materials	A list of the 135 lessons learnt, and a summary of the top 21 conservation lessons, as well as a PowerPoint presentation explaining how the lessons we gathered and analysed were produced, and are attached. These reports a valuable reference material for training.
2.0	Documenting and communicating lessons learned	2.3	Excel database on EMI lessons learned	An Excel database with all the 366 generic lessons, and a reviewed clustering of the same to a final working list of 135 lessons is attached for reference
3.0	Facilitating thematic and final workshops	3.1	Report on a virtual thematic workshop, including dates, agendas, materials presented, participant	Three reports are attached. Virtual thematic workshops were renamed to national workshops which were held in the three countries, attended by grantees, technical

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
			details, and summary notes and next steps	assistance group in the counties and other conservation stakeholders. The workshops discussed the impacts of the conservation work achieved with CEPF investment of 9 years and the lessons learnt over the period. The workshops also discussed about the conservation vision for EMI region and discussed the barriers that would hinder that, and how they could overcome them to achieve sustainability.
3.0	Facilitating thematic and final workshops	3.3	final case for sustainability for the hotspot	From the discussions at the national workshops and regional workshop, we compiled the priority focus for conservation in the EMI Hotspot into a reference document called Case for Sustainability which is attached. The CSOs, donors and conservation stakeholders will find this document useful since it outlines the areas where they could invest in as viewed by the CSOs working in the EMI hotspot.
4.0	Capacity building: sustainability and communicating impact	4.2	At least 10 communication pieces on EMI grantees impacts or work	EMI grantees developed 5 communication pieces during the masterclass on communicating conservation impacts. These are attached
4.0	Capacity building: sustainability and communicating impact	4.1	At least 10 CSOs' strategic fundraising plans	11 CSOs developed a strategic fundraising plans that they intend to adapt in their CSOs strategic management
1.0	Validation of projects impacts and contextualization of results	1.3	Detailed budget for the delivery of components 3 and 4 activities	The detailed budget was co-developed by TBA, RIT and in-country partners depending on the nature of event and the participants. This supported the travel, venue, face to face

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
				participants workshop costs, and internet support for CSOs that participated in the workshop virtually.
3.0	Facilitating thematic and final workshops	3.2	Report on final assessment workshops, including dates, agendas, materials presented, participant details, and summary notes or next steps.	The final Assessment workshop was successfully held on 20th and 21st April 2022, was attended by 48 participants representing 30 organizations the report is attached.
5.0	Grievance Mechanism	5.1	Examples demonstrating posting or publication of grievance mechanism	The grievance mechanism was published at the beginning of the project and shared with all the CSOs. It contains a guideline of how grievances would be managed and resolved. During the project period we did not have any arising grievances. The published Grievance Mechanism is attached.
5.0	Grievance Mechanism	5.2	Reports on grievances, if any, and resolutions	There was none through the project implementation period.

Tools, products or methodologies that resulted from the project or contributed to the results:

We responded to the covid 19 pandemic, by delivering most project activities remotely. The national workshops and the final Workshop for the hotspot were virtual but we adopted a hub approach; a few participants in each of Papua New Guinea, and Solomon Islands, and TBA staff in Nairobi attend the virtual meetings together. This approach allowed face-to-face interactions in each and outcome afterward. Event facilitation was shared between TBA staff (managing online attended) and in persons facilitators at the hubs. We applied technology (zoom, and webcams, address systems) to ensure workshop outcomes were effectively communicated to both virtual and face to face attendees.

TBA also adopted and applied its TBA Moodle e-learning platform to effectively deliver online masterclass. This was an innovative approach in response to the covid travel restrictions.

PORTFOLIO INDICATORS

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
5	At least 10 partnerships and networks formed among civil society, government and communities to leverage complementary capacities and maximize impact in support of the ecosystem profile.	3	We will catalyze these through the hotspot workshop and master classes. For instance, we expect participants to form working groups that will continue sharing experiences and ideas beyond the specific events	6	We catalyzed networks through 2 masterclasses which comprised different organizations from Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands the people networked through zoom sessions and on WhatsApp. We also catalyzed through national workshops in each of the three countries where the CSOs networked with other conservation stakeholders at the face to face meeting hubs. A final network was catalyzed at the regional workshop where CSOs from the three countries, different donors in the region and government representatives met virtually and in the countries through the face to face hubs. We expect participants to continue sharing experiences and ideas beyond the specific events.
6	At least 40 civil society organizations, including at least 30 domestic	30	We expect at least 30 grantee CSOs to develop ideas guided by the Ecosystem profile. The case for	9	The grantee CSOs developed project rationale/proposal for projects they intend to implement in the hotspot.

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
	organizations, actively participate in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile.		support will help them in this.		All have ideas that are guided by the Ecosystem profile. The CSOs also contributed to the ideas and recommendations that are captured in the case for sustainability which largely guides the conservation work in the hotspot. The project rationales are attached.
4.1	Number of civil society networks that enable collective responses to priority and emerging threats	3	-ditto- network resulting from the hotspot workshops and masterclasses	0	There was no civil society networks that enabled collective responses to priority and emerging threats, however the individual networking was resourceful. For example Wilko Bosma met one of the government officials in the project events and together they planned on how to move forward issues around climate change and carbon market in Solomon Islands.
4.2	Number of local civil society organizations that demonstrate improvements in organizational capacity.	30	These CSOs will be better in the strategic planning and in communicating the impacts of their work.	22	Target CSOs improved their strategic fundraising skills as demonstrated by the new or improved fundraising plans, and project rationales they developed as a results of attending the sustainability masterclass. The CSOs' on the sustainability

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
					<p>masterclasses, reported upto 62% knowledge improved in strategic fundraising (comparing before and after knowledge levels). 92% said the made some or a lot of progress in the target the set for themselves (to develop a well-structured grant proposal) at the start of the masterclass. Brenda Wasiraro (staff of Mai-maasina Green Belt), said she learnt from the masterclass that "strategic planning towards fundraising is very important. It enables one to plan ahead with regards to priority areas and approach the right funders or donors, understanding them better, syncing with the same objectives of potential donors"</p> <p>The CSOs also learned how to strategically plan their communication (including from an advocacy point of view) with their audience in mind. They applied their new skills in developing</p>

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
					communication pieces to showcase the impacts of their work. Having good communication skills is essential for effective fundraising. This means, the suites of skills gained from the masterclass grounded the CSOs capacities, and will help them in growing their profile and attracting collaborators and supporters, and ultimately achieve sustainability.
5.2	Number of domestic civil society organizations receiving CEPF grants that demonstrate more effective capacity to design and implement conservation actions.	30	All target CSOs are local and we expect their capacity to improve as a result on project actions	27	27 domestic civil society organizations that were funded by CEPF in the EMI participated in the project activities including National workshops, regional workshop also referred to as the final assessment workshop, and two masterclasses. The build their capacity and opportunity for future collaboration in the countries and EMI region.
5.4	Number of participatory assessments undertaken with lessons learned and	1	A key focus will be on lesson learned	1	The project held a final assessment regional workshop for the EMI hotspot. A total 48 local and international delegates, including staff of grantee

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
	best practices documented.				<p>CSOs, donor community, conservation stakeholders, CEPF and RIT attended the event. The delegates represented 30 organizations from Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, UK, USA, Fiji, Kenya, and Australia, among other countries. The event followed a hybrid approach with some delegates attending in persons (at national hubs in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Kenya), and the rest joined virtually. The workshop heard outcome from the national workshops (held in Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, and Vanuatu) and discussed conservation lessons as well as solutions relevant to the hotspot. The delegates projected a vision to sustainable conservation in the EMI hotspot, with donors in attendance sharing their interests and ideas for the hotspot.</p> <p>Building on outcome of the regional workshop (as well</p>

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
					as results from the 3 national workshop), the TBA finalised a case for sustainability for the hotspot, and a lessons learnt document; both of which will be important in informing future conservation practice in the hotspot.

GLOBAL INDICATORS

Protected Areas

Protected areas that have been created and/or expanded as a result of the project. Protected areas may include private or community reserves, municipal or provincial parks, or other designations where biodiversity conservation is an official management goal.

Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID*	Latitude	Longitude	Country	Original Total Size (Hectares) **	New Protected Hectares ***	Year of Legal Declaration or Expansion
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*World Database of Protected Areas

**If this is a new protected area, 0 should appear in this column

*** This column excludes the original total size of the protected area.

Key Biodiversity Area Management

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) under improved management—where tangible results have been achieved to support conservation—as a result of the project.

KBA Name	KBA Code	Size of KBA	Number of Hectares with Improved Management

Production Landscapes

Production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity as a result of the project.

A production landscape is defined as a site outside a protected area where commercial agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs.

Name of Production Landscape	Latitude	Longitude	Hectares Strengthened	Intervention

Benefits to Individuals

- **Structured Training:**

Number of Men Trained	Number of Women Trained	Topics of Training
24	18	Masterclass on Communicating conservation impacts in the EMI hotspot covered 1. Principles of Communication and 2. Sharing conservation successes (including communication for advocacy) Masterclass on Sustaining civil societies' conservation actions in the EMI hotspot covered 1. Principles of Fundraising and 2. Strategic fundraising for sustainability

- **Cash Benefits:**

Number of Men – Cash Benefits	Number of Women – Cash Benefits	Description of Benefits

Benefits to Communities

View the characteristics column below with the following corresponding codes:	View the benefits column below with the following corresponding codes:
1- Small Landowners	a. Increased Access to Clean Water
2- Subsistence Economy	b. Increased Food Security
3- Indigenous/ Ethnic Peoples	c. Increased Access to Energy
4- Pastoralists / Nomadic Peoples	d. Increased Access to Public Services
5- Recent Migrants	e. Increased Resilience to Climate Change
6- Urban Communities	f. Improved Land Tenure
7- Other	g. Improved Use of Traditional Knowledge
	h. Improved Decision-Making
	i. Improved Access to Ecosystem Services

Community Name	Community Characteristics							Type of Benefit									Country	Number of Males Benefitting	Number of Females Benefitting
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i			

Characteristics of "Other" Communities:

Policies, Laws and Regulations

View the topics column below with the following corresponding codes:			
A- Agriculture	E- Energy	I- Planning/Zoning	M- Tourism
B- Climate	F- Fisheries	J- Pollution	N- Transportation
C- Ecosystem Management	G- Forestry	K- Protected Areas	O- Wildlife Trade
D- Education	H- Mining and Quarrying	L- Species Protection	P- Other

No.	Name of Law	Scope	Topics															
			A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P

“Other” Topics Addressed by the Policy, Law or Regulation:

No.	Country/ Countries	Date Enacted/ Amended	Expected impact	Action Performed to Achieve the Enactment/ Amendment
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Companies Adopting Biodiversity-friendly Practices

A company is defined as a for-profit business entity. A biodiversity-friendly practice is one that conserves or uses natural resources in a sustainable manner.

Name of Company	Description of Biodiversity-Friendly Practice	Country/Countries where Practice was Adopted
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Networks and Partnerships

Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable.

Name of Network/Partnership	Year Established	Country/ Countries	Established by Project?	Purpose
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Sustainable Financing

Sustainable financing mechanisms generate funding for the long-term (generally five or more years). These include, but are not limited to, conservation trust funds, debt-for-nature swaps, payment for ecosystem services (PES) schemes, and other revenue, fee or tax schemes that generate long-term funding for conservation.

Name of Mechanism	Purpose	Date Established	Description	Country/Countries	Project Intervention	Delivery of Funds?
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Globally Threatened Species

Globally threatened species (CR, EN, VU) on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, benefitting from the project.

Genus	Species	Common Name (English)	Status	Intervention	Population Trend at Site
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LESSONS LEARNED

Working in the EMI was both challenging and exciting. A majority of project beneficiaries were new contacts for TBA, and a few were old acquaintances (eg staff New Guinea Binatang Research Center) whom we reconnected with. It was a rewarding experience learning the richness of the conservation space, and conservation issues in the EMI. More pertinent to us, we learnt a lot about the existing capacity gaps among conservation practitioners and managers; some of them we addressed through the this project, and others that we can help plug in future investment phases.

Because we delivered much of the project activities remotely (partly due to the covid 19 pandemic), success depended a lot on us being adaptive. This approach benefitted a lot from:

- having in-country coordinators; they knew a lot about local environments, the people, and the CSOs we were targeting. These contacts (and the RIT) provided us with valuable advice, and made project logistics easier, leaving us to worry mainly about the core issues like formulating programmes for project events. Without them, it would have been difficult for the project to take off.
- Going virtual. While this was challenging, it was a great adaptive strategy that helped TBA achieve its project objectives, and was largely effective.
- Effective relationship building and past experience. We joined the EMI scene towards the end of CEPF investments, place many of the organization we targeted had long closed their CEPF projects. Getting everyone and the CSOs about the project took time. However, TBA past network and contacts, the RIT, and the choice of in-country coordinators among people with experience in the hotspot and CEPF enhanced our entry phase.
- Being flexible and planning well. This was critical especially because we were working with many small CSOs; small CSOs are limited by resources, and time, and often require more support. Many of the CSOs we worked with required support with internet to participate in online activities

SUSTAINABILITY/REPLICATION

The project through the validation of impacts and lessons learnt has affirmed that the CSOs are well aware and acknowledge the contribution of all the conservation stakeholders in the EMI. Through national workshops, we managed to bring the CSOs together and speak in voice about future of conservation in the hotspot, and this resulted into a well informed case for sustainability document

Looking ahead, there are some useful innovations and lessons we learnt through this project that can be replicated.

- For instance, to capture a wider range of impacts, the perspective of CSOs beyond their project completion reports provided rich information.
- the hybrid approach of workshops with virtual and face to face hubs needs intensive planning, is technology heavy, but worked well. This was an adaptation to overcome the challenges of pandemic and the fact that all participants could not attend events face to face.

- overall sustainability of conservation in EMI hotspot requires building a pool of conservation experts distributed across the vast remote area. This will help overcome the challenging geographical conditions.

The project activities catalyzed a variety of networks at individual level, country level and regional level. These, at the beginning, were focused on the event but since there was sharing about the work each does, we expect them to persist beyond the project.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS/STANDARDS

The project did not trigger any social or environmental safeguards

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

TBA would like to sincerely appreciate the enormous and continuous support that We received from both CEPF and RIT, in particular we worked very closely with Dan Rothberg and Helen Pippard. We innovated and overcame challenges together and maneuvered how to schedule our joint meetings despite the very different time zones. We recognize that the support you gave us contributed significantly to the success of the project.

We also appreciate the in country coordinators that played an important role of representing the project on the ground in the three countries

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Total Amount of Additional Funding Actually Secured (USD)	\$0.00
Breakdown of Additional Funding	N/A

INFORMATION SHARING AND CEPF POLICY

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. For more information about this project, you may contact the organization and/or individual listed below.

Tropical Biology Association <programmes@tropical-biology.org>