CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Legal Name: Conservation International – Philippines

Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement): Corridor Facilitation and Protected Area Management of Core Nuclei within the Sierra Madre Biodiversity Corridor

Implementation Partners for this Project: Local Government Units, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Regional Line Agencies, Local NGOs and communities

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement): Jan 1, 2005-Jun 30, 2007

Date of Report (month/year): October 1, 2007

II. OPENING REMARKS

Provide any opening remarks that may assist in the review of this report.

The project provides Conservation International's (CI) lead role for the conservation of the Sierra Madre Mountain range through the approved Sierra Madre Biodiversity Corridor (SMBC) strategy. The strategy defined the conservation management units by establishing 9 networks of protected areas within the corridor through strategic partnerships with key stakeholders. This partnership facilitates and encourages stakeholders to actively participate in the creation and effective management of the protected areas to achieve connectivity of the landscape to maintain the ecosystems services it provides and for the survival of restricted range species found therein. It has also strengthened the collaboration and complementation efforts by various sectors of the society in addressing biodiversity conservation and sustainable development at the regional scale.

CI Philippines spearheaded the proclamations of two protected areas in the corridor, expansion of the Peñablanca Protected Landscape from 4,136 hectares to Peñablanca Protected Landscape and Seascape (PPLS) covering a total land area of 118,000 encompassing both terrestrial and marine habitat, and the creation of the Quirino Protected Landscape (QPL) with a total land area of 175,479 hectares in partnership with other stakeholders. Partners now lead the gazettal process of the other proposed protected areas in the corridor which is now in different stages to obtain the Presidential Proclamation. The Penablanca and Quirino protected areas are now being developed as model and demonstration sites for effective protected area management, development and biodiversity conservation through the mobilization all stakeholders including the local communities and private sector.

III. ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT PURPOSE

Project Purpose: Critical stakeholders adopt and implement the PA management plan of PPLS, and QPL--with special emphasis the local government unit's active role by appropriating counterpart funds from their annual Internal Revenue Allocations for PA management

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion	
Purpose-level:		
PA management plans approved and implemented a) Penablanca Protected Landscape and Seascape by December 2005 b) Quirino Protected Landscape by December 2006.	PPLS management plan finalized and approved on December 2005 while the QPL management plan was approved by the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) on August 2006 but with some refinements. The plan finally endorsed by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) central office on June 2007.	
PAs boundary demarcation including multiple use zones completed a) Penablanca Protected Landscape and Seascape by February 2006 b) Quirino Protected Landscape by December 2006	PPLS boundary in the western side of the park has already been demarcated and established billboards in strategic locations. QPL boundary demarcated and identified strategic locations for the establishment of billboards. Some partners have already committed to sponsor billboards for the protected area as part of the awareness campaign.	
Interim PAMB for PPLS and QPL craft and approve at least 4 resolutions related to PA management and protection and endorse the filing of PA bill for PPLS and QPL by end of December 2005	QPL and PPLS Protected Area Management Bureau (PAMB) passed already several numbers of resolutions pertaining to the management of the protected area. PPLS PA bill was indorsed but not enacted, now being refined for another re filing in the 14 th congress. For Quirino, PA bill now drafted for filing this 14 th congress by Congressman Cua.	
Conduct at least quarterly meetings for the 4 established LCUs and annual SMBC stakeholder conference convened by December 2006	With partner local NGOs facilitated quarterly meetings of the Local Coordinating Units (LCU) in the provinces of Cagayan, Aurora, Quirino and Nueva Vizcaya. These LCUs has evolved into councils or have been integrated into existing government structure. Among the LCUs, the Cagayan Council for SMBC (CCSMBC) has been the most successful and was created through a Provincial Executive Order No. 11 by the provincial governor to address the conservation and development issues of the province. It is through this council that the process of the establishment of the proposed North Eastern Cagayan Protected Landscape (NECPLS) was initiated following the steps required by the National Integrated Protected Area System (NIPAS) Law. Currently, all documents needed for the establishment of the protected have been submitted to the DENR – Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau for the National Review Committee to review the documents for endorsement to the DENR Secretary and to the Office of the president for proclamation. It also paved the way of the development of the Cagayan Province Environmental Code created in the entire archipelago. In addition, the LCUs conducted regularly its annual stakeholders conference (5 annual conferences conducted already) where they invited participants from the other corridor to participate in the annual conference.	
Partner NGOs and other stakeholders take on and initiate the process of establishing PAs in Aurora, Northeastern Cagayan and other priority	CI has provided technical assistance to the Cagayan Valley Partners in People Development (CAVAPPED) which is the lead NGO facilitating the	

conservation areas by December 2006	proclamation of the NECPLS (187,875 hectares). Currently, all documents pertaining to the
	establishment of the park have been submitted to the DENR-PAWB for further review and
	endorsement to the president for proclamation. While the proposed expansion of the Aurora
	Memorial National Park (77,279 hectares) lead by ARDIA Inc., an Aurora province based NGO, has
	already been incorporated in the Provincial
	Physical Framework Plan. This helps facilitates the propose expansion as it is now one of the target
	actions by the provincial government.
	Assisted also Yakap Kalikasan in facilitating the establishment of the Southern Sierra Madre
	Protected Landscape and Seascape (207,129
	hectares). All necessary documents pertaining to the proposed PA has been submitted to the DENR
	Region 03 office for review and endorsement to the DENR-PAWB. Furthermore, we provided technical
	assistance to FRENDS Inc, a local NGO in the
	province of Nueva Vizcaya that is currently conducting awareness campaign for an
	establishment of a protected area within the Mt. Palali-Mamparang Range.
	All proposed protected areas are identified Key
	Biodiversity Areas within the SMBC.

Describe the success of the project in terms of achieving its intended impact objective and performance indicators.

This project has lead to the integration of biodiversity conservation to the various plans of government at different levels such as, the Regional Physical Framework Plan, Provincial Physical Framework Plan and Municipal Comprehensive Land Use Plan. It has also paved the way of providing scientific inputs to the creation of the Environment Code of Cagayan province and the Riverine master plan of the Cagayan River basin in the Cagayan Valley Region. This project also substantially contributed to the creation of the Regional Geographic information Network (RGIN) of Region 2 (RGIN web site now operational) where the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) central office have a national policy to replicate this network in other Regions. Replication already started in CARAGA and Davao region covering the Eastern Mindanao Corridor and in Palawan covering the Palawan Corridor. The Regional Director of NEDA Region 2 who worked closely with CI Philippines for the establishment of the RGIN even received a national career executive award from the national government.

At site level, the creation of the PAMB and approval of the PPLS and QPL management plans paved the way to the smooth implementation of the management and protection of the park. This has lead to the entry of various partner NGOs and private sectors to implement conservation activities and the much needed livelihood projects for the community to win them away from destructive practices that exerts pressure to the natural resources of the park. In fact a private sector led (DANUM Ti Umili) sustainable financing mechanism has been created for the PPLS to ensure the sustained management of the park. Due to the active participation of the local communities and other stakeholders in the conservation and protection of the PAs, the latest that provide investment in the PPLS is the Toyota Motor Corporation of Japan to finance a 2,500 reforestation project. Another component of this project is research and development and climate change mitigation through a CCB certification. In QPL, the climate change (AR/CDM) feasibility study is ongoing in partnership with the Mitsubishi Research Institute Inc. of Japan. We are now developing a small pilot climate change project in QPL through reforestation and agro-forestry through the funding from RPD. The success and lessons learned from PPLS and QPL has become the model for other local NGOs and the DENR in protected area establishment and management.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

None

IV. PROJECT OUTPUTS

Project Outputs: Enter the project outputs from the Logical Framework for the project

Planned vs. Actual Performance

Indicator	Actual at Completion
Output 1: Penablanca Protected Landscape and	•
Seascape (PPLS) Management plan Approved by	
DENR and effectively implemented	
Penablanca Protected Landscape and Seascape approved by December 2005Public hearings and consultations conducted and PA management Plan endorsed by PAMB, LGU concerned, DENR local offices and approved by DENR Secretary for implementation	The PPLS Management Plan has been approved on December 2005 through a PAMB Resolution and was endorsed by the DENR Region 2 for implementation.
At least 50% of barangays covered by QPL completed and adopted their respective CRMDPs	Completed the target Community Resource Management and Development Plans (CRMDP) in QPL and integrated within the Forest Land Use Plans (FLUP) of the municipalities of Cabarroguis. In order to be consistent, we have adopted the FLUP of the 5 Municipalities and integrated in the QPL Management Plan. The FLUPs have undergone series of consultations and meetings facilitated by a partner organization, ECOGOV. These FLUPS been endorsed by the Local Government Units.
Penablanca LGU appropriated part of the	The Local Government Unit of Peñablanca has
20% development & environment fund from their annual budget as counterpart fund to implement the PPLS management plan	allocated about Php 100,000 from their 2007 20% development and environment fund for the establishment of a municipal nursery. Establishment of the nursery is on going. This nursery will be the source of seedlings by other barangays within the PPLS in their environmental projects.
Barangays covered by PPLS allocated part of their annual Internal Revenue Allocation to fund some activities stipulated in the PA management plan	Barangays provided counterpart through labor in the establishment of the barangay nursery and agro forestry project facilitated by CIP in barangays Sisim, Bugatay and San Roque. The nurseries are now integrated as part of the Reforestation project funded by Toyota. The labor was part of the IRA of the barangays.
Output 2: PPLS and QPL boundaries and multiple use zones demarcated and billboards installed in strategic locations in accordance with the NIPAS Act	
Boundary survey plans prepared and survey teams deployed	PPLS and QPL boundary have been mapped out, digitized and integrated in the protected area management plans.
Public hearings and consultations to the affected communities conducted	Public hearings and consultations conducted in the buffer zone of the Barangays to determine and

	identify occupants or farmlands located within the park. A series of meetings were conducted with the occupants to develop an agreement to avoid further expansion of their farmlands and to serve as guards to prevent encroachment and illegal settlers within the park.
Actual ground boundary survey, monumenting and/or demarcation, and establishment of bill boards completed	Actual demarcation of boundary within PPLS was conducted together with the local communities that reside adjacent to the park or have farms being cultivated adjacent and within the park. This is to ensure that all residents in the barangays will know the boundary. Billboards where also place in strategic locations within the park.
PA boundary survey and demarcation report including the required maps of PPLS and QPL submitted and approved by the DENR Secretary 2005	PPLS and QPL boundary maps were integrated in the park management plan.
Output 3: Capacity building plan for PAMBs (PPLS and QPL) developed and successfully implemented including PAMB administered projects within PA supported by counterpart funding from the LGU concerned	
Training needs assessment for PA stakeholders completed and capacity building plan developed	Training needs assessment for PAMB, teachers, local communities and DENR was conducted. Results of the Training Needs Assessment (TNA) are being used in the design and series of trainings for the various stakeholders.
All PAMB members, PA Admin. & LGU staff covered by PPLS and QPL attended at least 2 PA management related trainings	Facilitated and conducted various trainings and seminars for QPL and PPLS PAMB members. This includes paralegal, leadership and organizational management, Biodiversity Monitoring System, wildlife Identification and methods on biodiversity assessment. Seminars and orientations on the roles and responsibilities of PAMB members and seminars on biodiversity conservation were also conducted.
All PAMB members (PPLS and QPL) participate in at least one (1) cross learning trip to established PAs	Facilitated the conduct of cross learning visits for PPLS and QPL PAMB. This includes visits to existing protected areas within the country, agro- forestry model farms and successful ecotourism areas.
Women and/or youth groups and POs within PPLS, and QPL implementing at least 2 environment friendly small scale projects by end of the grant period	Small scale projects like vegetable gardens, backyard livestock through the support from other partners and LGUs are being implemented by the Peoples Organization (PO) within the protected areas.
Output 4: Partnership with NGOs and other institutions institutionalized and conservation initiatives within the corridor and PAs implemented like; the creation of PAs in Aurora, Northeastern Cagayan and other priority conservation areas and implementation of	
appropriate conservation intervention, etc. At least 3 partner NGOs access funds from CEPF and other funding donors and implement projects/activities that are consistent with the corridor strategy At least 5 project proposals by partners	Facilitated and provided technical assistance to CAVAPPED, YAKAP Kalikasan, FRENDS, ARDIA, Counterpart International and PROCESS Luzon to access funds from CEPF and other donors to implement conservation projects within SMBC. All partners have successfully implemented conservation related projects such PA establishment and conservation awareness campaign consistent with SMBC strategy. Provided technical assistance to REECS to access

and aroad for function and implementation	fundo from Quias Do. The project was approved
CBC orientations for corridor partners conducted and secured agreements with	funds from SwissRe. The project was approved and currently being implemented in two barangays within PPLS. In addition, technical assistance was also provided to the Rotary Club of Tuguegarao and DANUM Ti Umili to access funds from other donors to be implemented within PPLS. Endorsed also project proposals of YAKAP Kalikasan to Philip Morris, proposals of FRENDS to the Foundation for Philippine Environment (FPE) and proposals of CAVAPPED to the Tropical Forest Conservation Foundation. CBC orientations to all partners were regularly undertaken during the annual stakeholder conference. Cl Mission and Vision and its global
them to implement projects in line with the CBC/corridor strategy	conference. CI Mission and Vision and its global, national and corridor strategy were presented during the conference and in other seminars, symposiums and conferences.
Output 5: Capacity building efforts for LCUs continued and the 4rth annual stakeholders meeting conducted in collaboration with partners	
The 4rth annual stakeholders conference conducted with corridor partners	Conducted Annual SMBC Stakeholders Conference from 2001 to 2006. This conference provides the venue for sharing updates on conservation initiatives of the various stakeholders within SMBC and issues and concerns pertaining to the conservation and protection within Sierra Madre.
LCU meetings and relevant workshops for planning and monitoring conducted with concerned partners	Facilitated and provided technical support to CCSMBC meetings and consultations and other planning meetings with various stakeholders and partner NGOs within SMBC. This has lead to more integrated efforts in addressing issues and concerns within the corridor. CI is also a member of the Regional and Provincial Councils and committees within the Sierra Madre that put us in a position to integrate biodiversity inputs during deliberations and review, and provide technical assistance and guidance to various environmental initiatives of the different stakeholders. This has provided us an opportunity to be involved in the development of regional plan, provincial and municipal plans and ensure that conservation initiatives are integrated into the various plans.
Capacity building efforts for RGIN members to operationalize the GIS base information system based on the RGIN approved manual implemented in collaboration with NEDA and other partners	Facilitated and provided technical assistance to the NEDA Region 02 in the creation of the Regional Geographic Information Network (RGIN). The aim of the RGIN is to promote standardization of maps used in planning at the regional down to the municipal level. As part of the RGIN implementation, a series of trainings were conducted to strengthen the technical capacity of the RGIN members and NEDA technical staff in order to provide support effectively to the needs of the local government units in developing and updating of Local Government Units comprehensive land use plans. Trainings were even extended with the RGIN members of CARAGA and Davao Region in Eastern Mindanao corridor.
The establishment of a provincial (possibly Cagayan) GIS information system network	A MOU was signed between NEDA, Regional Line Agencies, Provincial and Municipal government
in collaboration with NEDA and provincial	Units of Region 2 encompassing 6 provinces as

	well as athen NOO to imply the left of the
LGU is facilitated	well as other NGO to implement and established the provincial GIS centers that will cater to the needs of the municipalities. CIP continuously provide technical support for trainings and orientations together with NEDA-RGIN for the establishment of Provincial Network. All the 5 provinces of Region 2 already established their provincial network and Palawan also established their own network. Aside form the provincial network, orientation also given to the Provincial and Municipal Planning and Development Office and local executives for them to appreciate the use of GIS in planning and to benefit from the technical assistance that will be provided by the Regional GIS Center house in the office of NEDA. The network was also supported by the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) to promote good governance among the municipalities and provinces in Region 02 through the refinement and updating of the comprehensive land use plans of the LGUs.
Output 6: Rapid biological surveys on the coastal side of PPLS and biological studies in other areas of QPL conducted and survey results incorporated in the PA database, management	
plan and species outcome monitoring	
Research design for marine and terrestrial completed	CIP in collaboration with DENR, Field Museum, Kansas University, UPLB Museum of Natural History and the Wildlife Conservation Society of the Philippines conducted a series of biological surveys within PPLS and QPL from lowland to the mossy forest within the park. Standardized methods on biological assessments were used during biological surveys done with the Sierra Madre.
Prior informed consent documents secured	Prior Informed consents (PIC) were gathered through consultations with the LGUs and communities were biological surveys are conducted prior to the field surveys. PIC is one of the basic requirements for application of Gratuitous Permit provided by the DENR for the collection of flora and fauna.
Team members identified and TORs drafted	Experts from various fields on flora and fauna were hired as consultants in the conduct of biological surveys.
Final report produced	Results of the biological surveys revealed the rich and unique biodiversity of the Sierra Madre. Several new species were discovered including species of forest rodents, bats, frogs, Gecko's and plants. New Island record and new country records were documented as well. All new findings and discoveries are currently being described for publication in technical journals for dissemination to the general public.
Biological survey results incorporated in the PA management plan and species outcome monitoring	Results of the surveys were incorporated to the PA database and management plans, Municipal and Provincial Land Use Plans, Regional Physical Framework Plan of Region 02 and in updating the Key Biodiversity Areas database.

Describe the success of the project in terms of delivering the intended outputs.

At the initial stages of the corridor program implementation, many have reservations that the approached was too ambitious as they said that putting protected area system or any

management regime in a large landscape to maintain its ecological functions is a great task. However, through a lengthy and persistent consensus building with the partners and all stakeholders including the local communities, we have managed to establish protected areas in critical habitats. Though the other proposed areas is still in the gazettal process, it is noteworthy to mention that all are working together to push for the complete establishment of the 9 networks of protected areas covering the entire Sierra Madre mountain range. The success in the establishment of the PPLS and QPL and the lessons learned and innovations in PA management has become the model not only in the Sierra Madre but also in other corridors where CI is currently working. The current initiatives even attracted the private sector like the water districts Danum Ti Umili, Toyota Motor Corporation funded reforestation in PPLS and other business establishments to support the management and protection of the protected areas.

Through partnership, sharing of information and resources and continues awareness raising and advocacy, we were able to get the interest of the stakeholders in the Sierra Madre about biodiversity conservation. A major achievement is the establishment of the Regional Geographic Information Network (RGIN) as a mechanism to integrate all conservation and development information for physical planning. The RGIN aims to integrate and standardized the different conservation and development information for easy data access for planning and monitoring of various national agencies and LGUs at various levels. Our membership to regional and provincial committees also provided us opportunities to promote biodiversity conservation and development among government agencies and local government units at the provincial and municipal levels.

Results of our biological surveys have highlighted the biological importance of the Sierra Madre nationally and at the international level with several new species and new distribution and country records being discovered. This has provided information in the identification of the Key Biodiversity Areas in the Sierra Madre.

Were any outputs unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?

The passage of Protected Area law for the PPLS and QPL were not realized as this is highly dependent to the Philippine congress where we don't have any control. However, the passage of the bill were not at all affected the management of the protected area as Presidential Proclamations were issued that put this areas into a permanent protected area status.

V. SAFEGUARD POLICY ASSESSMENTS

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

The project supports and facilitates the establishment and management of the protected areas and other conservation compatible management units for the benefit of the local communities and does not require undergoing environment impact assessments.

VI. LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PROJECT

Describe any lessons learned during the various phases of the project. Consider lessons both for future projects, as well as for CEPF's future performance.

The preparation of the management plan through local community and LGU participation foster cooperation and interest of the stakeholders in the implementation of project activities.

Sharing of information and lessons learned gains the trust, confidence and cooperation of the various stakeholders within the corridor.

Commitments to the local communities should be realized and making sure that the partners and communities understands the limitations of the project

Recognizing the capacity of each partner encourages more participation to the project and collaboration between government and non government organizations

Project implementation is a two way process. Each project participant and partner must identify clearly its role to be more effective and efficient in implementing various activities of the project

Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/failure)

The various consultations and meetings with all stakeholders to clearly define the roles of each project participant prior to the project, recognizing the strengths and weakness of each partner has foster collaboration.

Sharing of valuable information and lessons learned to different institutions and partners through the annual conference have gained the interest of organizations and donors to work towards conserving the unique biodiversity of the Sierra Madre.

Project Execution: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/failure)

Being able to demonstrate the benefits derived from biodiversity conservation and protected areas through partnerships at the regional, provincial and municipal level has gained the confidence and trust of the partners. This has also established the credibility of CI in the region as a conservation organization. This facilitated the various project activities within the corridor.

VII. ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
Regional Natural Heritage Program of the Australian Governnment Phase 1	C	\$48,427.90	April 2006 to September 2006
Regional Natural Heritage Program of the Australian Government Phase 2	C	\$159,839	December 2006 to August 2007
Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund	С	\$20,000	July 2007 to June 2008
RARE PRIDE CAMPAIGN	В	\$30,000	October 2005 to March 2007
Global Environment Center through the	С	\$82,000	September 2006 to February 2007

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Mitsubishi Research Institution-Japan			
Global Environment Center through the Mitsubishi Research Institution-Japan	С	\$30,000	October 2007 to February 2008
		\$	

*Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:

- A Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)
- **B** Complementary funding (Other donors contribute to partner organizations that are working on a project linked with this CEPF project)
- **C** Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)
- **D** Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)

Provide details of whether this project will continue in the future and if so, how any additional funding already secured or fundraising plans will help ensure its sustainability.

With the success of establishing the protected areas and its management plan, we were able to secure additional funds from Toyota Motor Corporation for the rehabilitation of degraded areas within PPLS and provision of alternative livelihood for the community within the park. In addition, the establishment of the DANUM TI UMILI in PPLS, a private sector initiative, provides additional funds for watershed rehabilitation and livelihood for local communities within the park.

We have also secured funding from the Global Environment Center through Mitsubishi Research Institute Inc. to facilitate the development of a climate change project (AR/CDM) within the Quirino Protected Landscape. The feasibility study is still on going and it is expected to create opportunities for ecosystem maintenance, climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation, and livelihood development for the local stakeholders.

The institutionalization of the Regional Geographic Information Network in the Cagayan Valley Region has ensured the sustainability and support for biodiversity conservation initiatives in the country. More replication of the RGIN initiatives will come in the future as NEDA central office already adopted the RGIN to be replicated in other regions of the country

Our success in the establishment of protected areas has provided an opportunity to demonstrate our capacity in engaging partners and local communities towards establishment and management of protected areas. This can be capitalized in the development of future project proposals such as in the case of the Toyota funded reforestation.

VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

CEPF will play a significant role in realizing the Sierra Madre Biodiversity Corridor goal towards integrating and harmonizing development and conservation initiatives at the regional level and putting in place protected areas or conservation compatible management units within critical habitat. At the same time, further support of CEPF will help us to sustain the effectiveness of CI facilitation role at the corridor level.

VIII. INFORMATION SHARING

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. One way we do this is by making programmatic project documents available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and by marketing these in our newsletter and other communications.

These documents are accessed frequently by other CEPF grantees, potential partners, and the wider conservation community.

Please include your full contact details below:

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