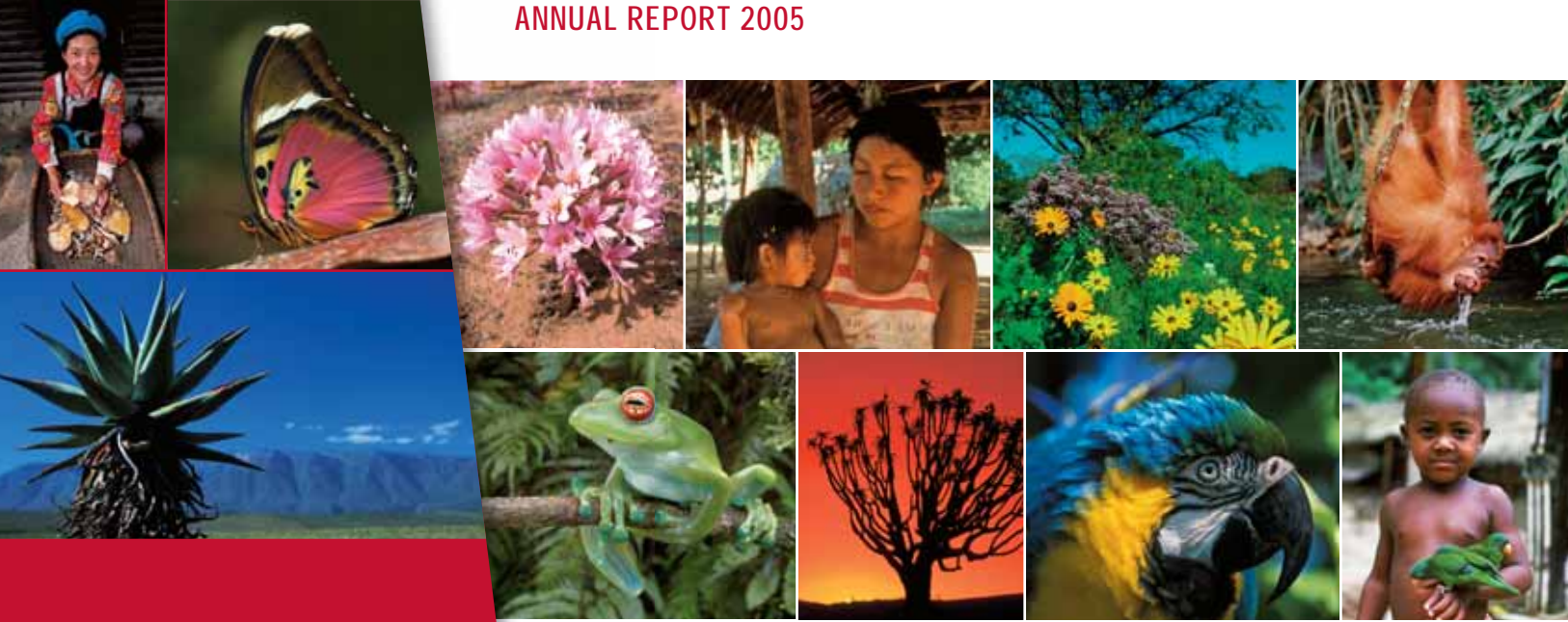


ANNUAL REPORT 2005



Protecting Nature's Hotspots for People and Prosperity

A joint initiative of Conservation International, the Global Environment Facility,
the Government of Japan, the MacArthur Foundation, and the World Bank

CRITICAL | **ECOSYSTEM**
PARTNERSHIP FUND



About the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) provides strategic assistance to engage nongovernmental organizations, community groups, and other civil society partners in conserving the most biodiverse yet most threatened regions.

These biodiversity hotspots are Earth's biologically richest places. They hold especially high numbers of species found nowhere else but face extreme threats: Each hotspot has already lost at least 70 percent of its original natural vegetation.

The convergence of critical areas for conservation with millions of people who are impoverished and highly dependent on healthy ecosystems for their survival is more evident in the hotspots than anywhere else.

CEPF focuses on hotspots in developing countries, providing funding and technical assistance to civil society groups to help preserve the diversity of life and healthy ecosystems as essential components of stable and thriving societies.

The program capitalizes on the rise in civil society taking place around the globe and nurtures it, building the capacity of local people to take part in decisions that affect their lives and livelihoods and, ultimately, our global environment.

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Message from the Partners

A landmark study by 1,360 experts, released in March 2005, found that humans have changed Earth's natural ecosystems more rapidly and extensively in the past 50 years than in any comparable period of time.

The authors of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment said the transformation has resulted in substantial net gains, but "not all regions and groups of people have benefited from this process—in fact, many have been harmed. Moreover, the full costs associated with these gains are only now becoming apparent."

Can the course of history detailed in the study be changed? We believe it can by building a global constituency for biodiversity conservation, from governments to ordinary citizens taking actions that benefit both nature and people.

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)—our joint initiative—is enabling nongovernmental organizations, community groups, and other civil society partners to participate in this vital global effort from the ground up.

This report highlights CEPF results from fiscal year 2005 (July 2004–June 2005) in some of Earth's biologically richest yet most threatened regions, many of which are also home to some of its poorest people.

In South Africa's Cape Floristic Region Hotspot, a South African National Biodiversity Institute program spurred 15 community groups to help conserve four pilot sites in the Cape Flats townships and created more than 80 income-generating opportunities, becoming a model for how to effectively engage the urban poor in conservation. The program proved so successful that Cape Town councilors recently voted to replicate it in other sites in the city's biodiversity network.

In the Philippines Hotspot, a Palawan Conservation Corps initiative equipped marginalized youths with new carpentry and biodiversity restoration skills, lifetime assets that can provide their families income and that they have since shared with communities near a nature park they helped create.

CEPF also expanded its global portfolio significantly during the year, committing \$23.3 million in new grants and bringing its total portfolio to \$678 million. These investments have leveraged more than \$100 million in additional funds for conserving the hotspots.

Among the new grants is renewed support to enable the Amazon Conservation Association to more than double the number of small-scale Brazil nut producers it works with in the Tropical Andes Hotspot. As part of CEPF's initial support, the association helped 130 producers win formal concessions from the Peruvian government, effectively ensuring protection for 225,000 hectares of primary tropical forest in tandem with the producers' own sustainable livelihoods.



Many of the results showcased in these pages exemplify how CEPF is extending our reach to civil society and how that constituency, given the right resources, can achieve conservation outcomes and further expand the global community of environmental stewards for the benefit of all. It's about securing a future for life.

We invite you to join this partnership effort.

Jonathan F. Fanton,

President, The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Leonard Good

Chairman and CEO, Global Environment Facility

Koichi Hasegawa

Director, Development Institutions Division, International Bureau, Ministry of Finance, Japan

Ian Johnson

Vice President, Environmentally & Socially Sustainable Development, The World Bank Group

Peter A. Seligmann

Chairman and CEO, Conservation International

Message from the Executive Director

When we launched CEPF five years ago, it marked a new and different blueprint for conservation. Today, enabling non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and community groups to help conserve and benefit from their natural wealth has become a clarion call.

It's a welcome evolution long in coming.

We talk of the groups we support as "partners." While we are their partners in a joint mission, we often stand behind rather than alongside the many groups we fund, inspired by their inspiration and guided by their local knowledge and vision. Our support is enabling hundreds of local people to turn our blueprint into tangible outcomes and a model for others.

In the Mesoamerica Hotspot, Centro Científico Tropical led a coalition of 20 NGOs working together with local municipalities and government agencies to design a new wildlife reserve covering 60,000 hectares of forest. The reserve, declared by the Costa Rican government in 2005, includes both strict conservation areas and zones allowing multiple uses.

In Armenia, a coalition of groups helped the government bridge the gap between development and conservation. Their joint effort resulted in the government's 2005 decision to redirect part of a transnational highway originally planned to cut through the nation's Shikahogh Reserve, a promising sign of the changes now afoot in the eastern region of the Caucasus Hotspot.

The collaboration itself is a milestone in a field where so many groups, both burgeoning and established, traditionally

designed and implemented efforts solo. United, their new voices and growing strength are creating more of an impact than ever before, with results at home and stretching beyond to our global environment.

The CEPF approach and results are also inspiring other important donors to join us.

This year, the Australian government's Regional Natural Heritage Program invested approximately \$1 million to enable us to launch an invasive species program in the Polynesia-Micronesia Hotspot as a first step toward implementing our full strategy for the region. In Colombia, our focus on helping local groups conserve the Chocó-Manabi conservation corridor prompted a local foundation to begin matching up to \$1 million for CEPF-supported initiatives.

Our donor partners also held a unique retreat this year, contemplating how CEPF could be strengthened even more. Special participants included the executive director and chief economist and the head of the Environment and Natural Resources at the French Development Agency (AFD), which expressed its interest in strengthening the links between CEPF and AFD.

We're enormously excited by these developments, and while proud of our own small role in them, we recognize the vital achievements of all those we support. Together, we are indeed changing the course of history.

Jorgen B. Thomsen

Executive Director, CEPF, and Senior Vice President, Conservation International



The Partnership

Conservation International is a leader and catalyst in biodiversity conservation, engaging partners in more than 40 countries on four continents to preserve threatened ecosystems. The organization administers CEPF. www.conservation.org

The Global Environment Facility is the largest source of funding for the global environment. It brings member governments together with leading development institutions and others in support of a common global environmental agenda. www.gefweb.org

The Government of Japan is one of the world's 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 is a private, independent grant-making institution dedicated to helping groups and individuals foster lasting improvement in the human condition. www.macfound.org

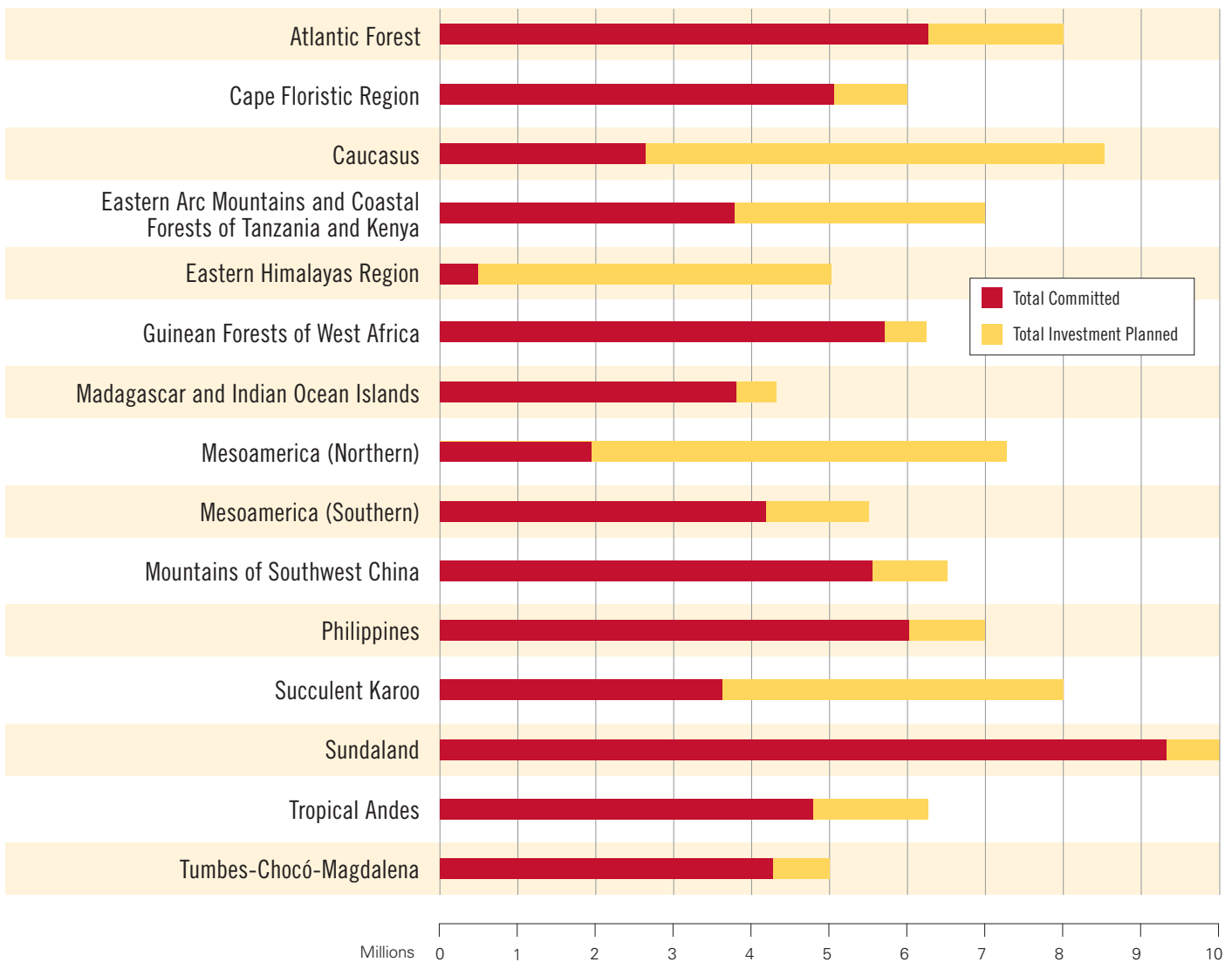
The World Bank is the world's largest source of development assistance. It works in more than 100 developing economies to fight poverty and to help people help themselves and their environment. www.worldbank.org



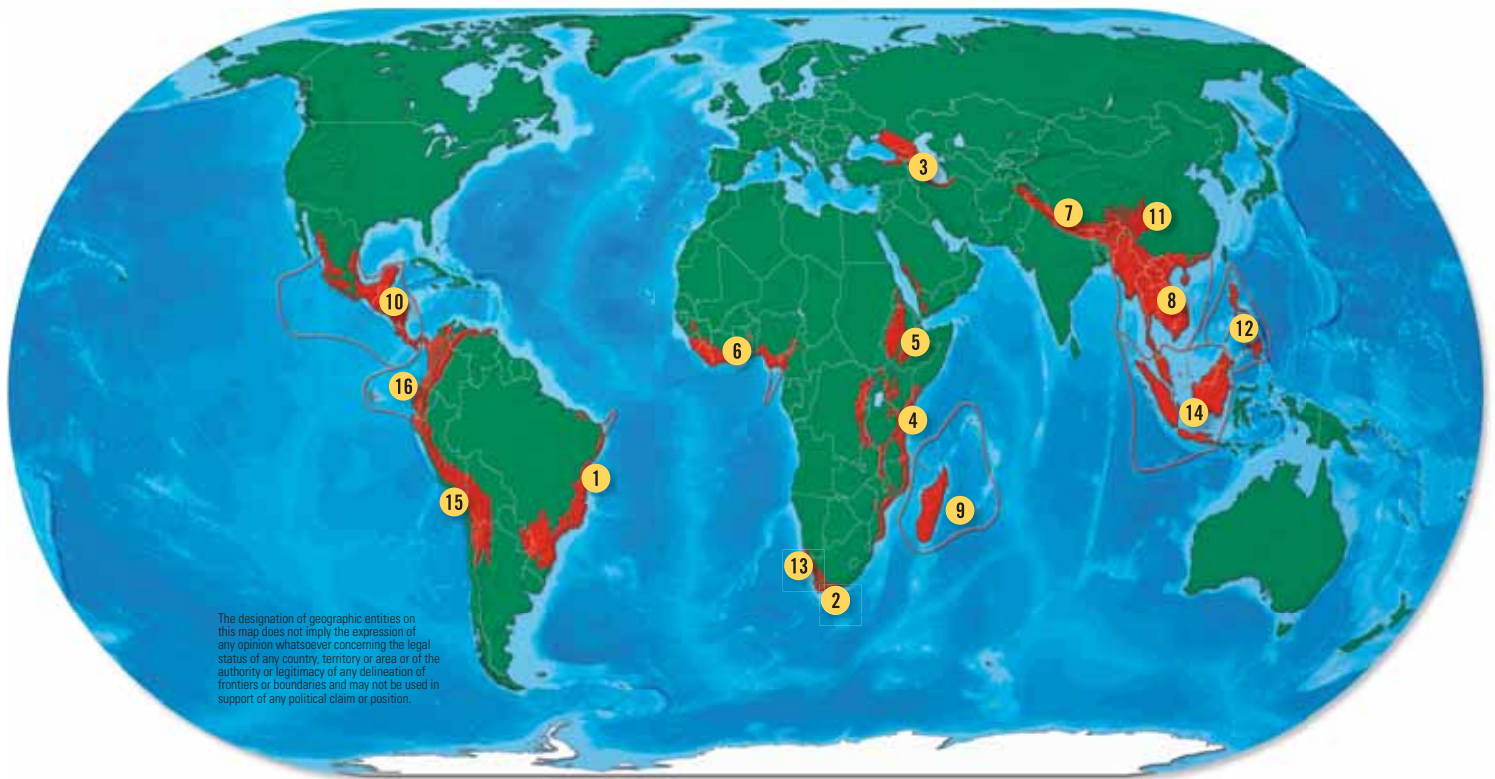
FY 05 Global Overview

- Approved \$23.3 million in new grants during FY 05, up nearly \$8 million from the previous year and bringing the global CEPF grant portfolio to \$67.8 million.
- Enabled local groups to manage small grants programs targeting specific components of our regional strategies in nine hotspots.
- Helped local communities and private landowners develop and benefit from natural resource management programs in multiple hotspots, such as the Atlantic Forest, Cape Floristic Region, Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands, Mesoamerica, Philippines, and Tropical Andes.
- Increased the number of groups working to conserve the hotspots with CEPF support to more than 550.
- Supported the creation of new protected areas safeguarding biologically rich land covering more than 170,000 hectares, bringing the total coverage of protected areas created or expanded with CEPF support to more than 7 million hectares.
- Won approval from the CEPF Donor Council to expand investments to the Eastern Himalayas Region, a biologically rich area encompassing Bhutan, parts of India, and eastern Nepal. The move brought the total number of active funding regions to 15 in 16 hotspots where CEPF supported civil society conservation initiatives during the year.

CEPF Investments in Civil Society as of June 2005



Hotspots Where CEPF Supported Civil Society, FY 05



- 1 Atlantic Forest
- 2 Cape Floristic Region
- 3 Caucasus
- 4 Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa
- 5 Eastern Afromontane
- 6 Guinean Forests of West Africa
- 7 Himalaya
- 8 Indo-Burma
- 9 Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands
- 10 Mesoamerica
- 11 Mountains of Southwest China
- 12 Philippines
- 13 Succulent Karoo
- 14 Sundaland
- 15 Tropical Andes
- 16 Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena

Hotspots Revisited

A hotspots reappraisal released in 2005 identified nine new hotspots, bringing the number of global biodiversity hotspots to 34. Combined, the hotspots harbor 75 percent of the planet's most threatened mammals, birds, and amphibians within habitat covering just 2.3 percent of the Earth's surface.

The new data also resulted in the reclassification of one hotspot where CEPF invested—the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests of Tanzania and Kenya Hotspot—as part of two new hotspots: Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa and Eastern Afromontane. Similarly, the Eastern Himalayas Region, where CEPF began preparing to launch investments in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, became part of both the new Himalaya and Indo-Burma hotspots. The analysis, which drew together the work of more than 400 specialists over four years, also resulted in the renaming of the Chocó-Darién-Western Ecuador Hotspot as the Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena Hotspot.

While recognizing these important changes, CEPF continues to invest in the original focal areas within the hotspots as agreed by stakeholders and approved by the CEPF Donor Council.



The golden-crowned sifaka (*Propithecus tattersalli*), one of the world's 25 most endangered primates, is found only in forest patches in northeastern Madagascar.

Africa & Madagascar

The Critically Endangered Kihansi spray toad (*Nectophrynoides asperginis*) is found in only 2 hectares around the Kihansi Falls in Tanzania's Udzungwa Mountains, and the golden-crowned sifaka (*Propithecus tattersalli*) is found only in fragmented forest patches in northeast Madagascar. Some of the world's most extraordinary species have evolved amid Africa's ecosystems, many of which are among the most imperiled. CEPF supported civil society groups in six of Africa's biodiversity hotspots during the year, awarding \$5.5 million in new grants and bringing its total Africa portfolio to \$22.1 million in committed grants. Their achievements include a program benefiting the urban poor and tools enabling farmers to more effectively manage their land. In addition, they formed a partnership with the Malagasy government engaging communities in the management of a new conservation site, creating a replicable model to help the nation realize its goal of tripling its protected area network by 2008.



- 1 Cape Floristic Region
- 2 Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa
- 3 Eastern Afromontane
- 4 Guinean Forests of West Africa
- 5 Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands
- 6 Succulent Karoo

Cape Flats Project Becomes Model for Urban Conservation

Many sites in the South African city of Cape Town's official biodiversity conservation network are in heavily deprived urban areas where people have historically had little awareness about conservation or benefits from it. The species-rich lowland areas in the Cape Flats were no exception until recently.

A partnership initiative introduced many of the Cape Flats' residents to conservation for the first time. The effort, designed and led by the South African National Biodiversity Institute's Urban Conservation Program with CEPF support, has proven so successful that Cape

Town city councilors approved a resolution supporting its rollout to other sites in the city's network.

The project focuses on four pilot sites located in densely populated townships that are home to the city's poorest people. They range from the Wolfgat Nature Reserve to Macassar Dunes, a surviving section of the city's coastal dune system supporting a spectacular array of Strandveld vegetation.

Each area now has an on-site nature conservation manager, and together the managers have attracted more than 15

community organizations in supporting and implementing conservation action at the sites.

"I wanted to bring something positive back to my community, but it's not easy," said Charline McKie, conservation manager at Wolfgat Nature Reserve and one of the new managers.

"The reserve is still a dangerous place—we have no fence, and people use it to deal in stolen goods. Bodies have even been found here. But we're building an environmental education center, and local people have been involved in it from the start."

The project also created more than 80 income-generating opportunities at the sites, such as projects to clear alien species and veld restoration poverty relief, bringing tangible and immediate benefits to the communities. It further benefits the communities through education: More than 8,000 youths participated in educational projects and 150 educators received training.

While the challenge of achieving conservation in the midst of the urban poor has rarely been addressed, this project has the potential to demonstrate that urban conservation is indeed possible in the Cape Floristic Region Hotspot and beyond. ■



Youths from the Cape Flats unite to clean and help preserve Wolfgat Nature Reserve.

Coordination Proves Key to Consensus in Taita Hills

The Kenyan Taita Hills are home to the Critically Endangered Taita thrush (*Turdus helleri*) and 31 other globally threatened species that survive in just tiny fragmented patches of forest. With only 2 percent of the original forest cover still intact, isolation poses a grave threat to these species as well as major challenges for conservationists.

This year, representatives of local and international organizations, 16 community groups, and the government developed a common vision and action plan for the area that also helped prioritize significant CEPF investments there. The participants' aim: to restore and enhance connectivity among the forest patches in ways that will also benefit people.

Chege Mwangi, the district commissioner for Taita Taveta District, characterized the effort as one of very few "where both communities and top-notch scientists sit around one table and reason out a common problem together."

The participants not only identified common priorities, such as development of livelihood options and participatory forest management plans. They also identified the groups best placed to address threats.

Prior to the action planning led by the East African Wild Life Society and supported by CEPF, the availability of CEPF grants prompted a large number of proposals.



The Critically Endangered Taita thrush (*Turdus helleri*) will benefit from increased connectivity between the isolated forest patches of Kenya's Taita Hills.

However, they often reflected business as usual, with groups planning separate and even similar or conflicting action.

Using the new consensus, CEPF awarded support to five organizations for priority projects that will enable the communities of Taita Hills to conserve their natural heritage more effectively.

The projects include setting up a resource and coordination center to ensure that research findings and technical advice are readily available in the area; identifying exotic tree plantations suitable for restoring to indigenous forest; and restoration to address needs

for fruit, firewood, building materials, and animal fodder.

"Easy availability of information for the local community-based organizations will play a big part in ensuring sustained commitment and interest by the people themselves," said Ali Kaka, the director of the East African Wild Life Society.

The participants also agreed to base future efforts on the recommendations of a scientific model for increasing forest connectivity, which is being developed by the University of Ghent with CEPF support. ■

Fanamby and Malagasy Government Take Steps to Increase Protected Areas

Stretching between the Loky and Manambato rivers in northeastern Madagascar, the fragmented forests of Daraina hold an extraordinary diversity of habitat in which plants and animals from different biogeographic regions coexist within a few square kilometers.

The forests are also the only area where the golden-crowned sifaka, one of the world's most imperiled primates, is found.

In May 2005, the Malagasy government designated the forests and their surround-

ing area as the Loky-Manambato Forest Station in a first step toward its commitment to triple the nation's protected area network by 2008. It also appointed the local organization Association Fanamby as the station manager for the 72,000-hectare area.

"Although it may not be a huge expansion in area, we're very excited with the model we've developed as it also draws in local communities," Association Fanamby Secretary General Serge Rajaobelina said. "Used elsewhere, it can hopefully give a (continued on next page)



The Manambato River borders Daraina's fragmented forests.

tremendous boost to reaching the 6-million-hectare target (for the national protected-area system)."

The forest station encompasses the Ambohitsitondroina-Antsahe-Binara, Ampondrabe-Antsaheingy, Bobankora, Bekaraoka, and Sahaka forests—the most important spots for conservation in the area.

It's the result of efforts by the Malagasy Ministry of Environment, Water, and Forests; local authorities and communities; and Association Fanamby with support from CEPF and other donors, such as the Global Environment Facility and the Global Conservation Fund at Conservation International.

Intermediary forest station status precedes classification as a full Conservation Site. As such, the forest will benefit with protection from commercial logging, slash-and-burn cultivation, and hunting, while local communities will be able to use its natural wealth under a special management plan for their basic needs such as construction wood or medicinal plants.

As station manager, Association Fanamby will oversee implementation of the management plan for the area and will also offer the communities training in establishing sustainable private businesses in ecotourism and sustainable agriculture or forestry, further strengthening the potential of conservation success by improving livelihoods. ■



Fanamby staff members help local villagers learn about sustainable livelihoods, such as melon farming.

Online Maps Put Landowners in Sync with Biodiversity

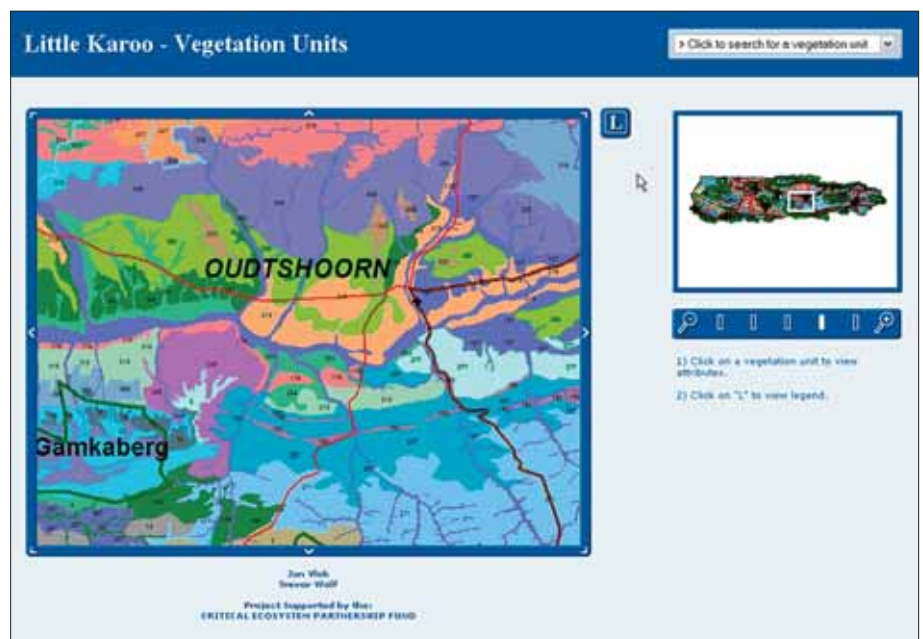
Despite the magnificence of many of the Little Karoo's plant species, few farmers or ranchers in this area of the Succulent Karoo Hotspot have been aware of their biological value or know how to farm in a sustainable way alongside them.

However, detailed mapping of the Little Karoo's vegetation recently completed with CEPF support is enabling landowners, land managers, environmental conservation agencies, and regional planners to better understand the complex and numerous vegetation types in the area and to make more effective land-use decisions.

In two related mapping projects, Regalis Environmental Services and Geo Terra Image captured and disseminated data on biodiversity patterns in the Little Karoo to help inform a pragmatic conservation plan for the region.

For example, landowners can now look at a map of their land online and see the location and condition of different vegetation types on it. They can also retrieve additional information on which vegetation types are most appropriate for different domestic animals, such as ostrich, goats, and sheep, and assess whether livestock numbers are at the right level to avoid overgrazing.

Enabling easy access to such a tool is pivotal—indeed urgent—in this region where many of the plant species and



Maps at www.elsenburg.com/resources.htm are an important new resource for landowners in the Succulent Karoo Hotspot.

their habitat types are globally threatened. The maps are also central tools for the Succulent Karoo Ecosystem Program (SKEP) and the Gouritz Initiative, key components of CEPF's strategic approach to retain and restore critical biodiversity in areas under the greatest land-use pressure.

"They capture the kaleidoscopically changing biodiversity patterns in the Little Karoo with breathtaking accuracy," said Professor Richard Cowling, professor of botany at Nelson Mandela

Metropolitan University and a scientific adviser to SKEP.

Work on the maps also spawned a network of local researchers. Known as the Little Karoo Study Group, they meet regularly to share their findings and views on conservation priorities in the area. Members include the South African National Biodiversity Institute, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research in South Africa, and the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, as well as a number of graduate researchers working in the region. ■

Africa & Madagascar

FY 05 Approved Grants

Cape Floristic Region Hotspot

Strategic Direction 1: Support civil society involvement in the establishment of protected areas and management plans in CFR biodiversity corridors

Co-authorship of a Book entitled *East of the Cape—Conserving Eden*

\$3,300
Shirley Pierce Cowling
This is a multiregional project covering two hotspots; the total grant amount is \$6,600.

Die Oog Rehabilitation and Improvement Project

\$3,500
Friends of Die Oog

Van der Kempkloof/Parsonsvlei Management Plan

\$10,000
Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa: Eastern Province Region

Strategic Direction 2: Promote innovative private sector and community involvement in conservation in landscapes surrounding CFR biodiversity corridors

Baviaans Conservancy: Feasibility Study to Investigate the Conversion of Land Use from Small Stock Farming to Sustainable Biodiversity-Based Ventures

\$37,300
Baviaans Conservancy

The Biodiversity & Wine Initiative

\$100,000
The South African Wine & Brandy Company

Development of a Business Plan for a Donkey Trekking Route in the Northern Cederberg

\$485
The Wupperthal Conservancy in partnership with the Pakhuis Conservancy

The Gouritz Initiative: Securing Biodiversity and Harnessing Social and Economic Opportunities in Key Corridors

\$237,489.50
Western Cape Nature Conservation Board
This is a multiregional project covering two hotspots; the total grant amount is \$474,979.

Western Baviaanskloof Initiative Community Planning Process

\$3,500
Western Baviaanskloof Initiative

Strategic Direction 3: Support civil society efforts to create an institutional environment that enables effective conservation action

Production of a Research Strategy to Support CFR Conservation

\$8,500
Fynbos Forum

Eastern Arc Mountains & Coastal Forests of Tanzania & Kenya

Strategic Direction 1: Increase the ability of local populations to benefit from and contribute to biodiversity conservation

Aerial Monitoring of Vegetation Quality, Cover, and Threats of the Forests of the Eastern Arc Mountains, Tanzania

\$147,000
Wildlife Conservation Society

Agroforestry Activities around Arabuko Sokoke

\$10,300
Mabuwani Women Group

Baseline Carbon Storage Assessment of Kenya's Coastal Forests

\$19,500
International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology

Business-Oriented Conservation and Agroforestry Initiatives in Muheza District, Tanzania

\$19,822
JPFfirst

Capacity Building to Empower Community Conservation

\$11,285
Kasigau Conservation Trust

Conservation and Management Policy Development

\$19,383
Kaya Muhaka Forest Conservation Organization

Conserving Coastal and Eastern Arc Forests through Community Access to Retail Markets for Good Wood Wood Carvings on the South Coast of Kenya

\$19,999
Wakuluzu: Friends of the Colobus Trust Ltd.

Do Payments for Environmental Services Offer the Potential for Long-Term Sustainable Financing?

\$19,800
World Wide Fund for Nature

Evaluation of Tanzania Forest Conservation Group's Participatory Forest Management Initiatives in the Eastern Arc

\$33,910
Tanzania Forest Conservation Group

Instituting a Standardized Sustainable Biodiversity Monitoring System in the Eastern Arc/Coastal Forests of Tanzania and Kenya

\$425,409
BirdLife International (\$351,947) and Conservation International (\$73,462)

Kaya Kinondo Community Ecotourism Project

\$19,915
Kaya Kinondo Conservation and Development Group and Coastal Forest Conservation Unit

Promotion of Nature-Based, Sustainable Businesses for Forest-Adjacent Communities in the East-Usambara-Tanga, Taita Hills, and Lower Tana River Forests

\$500,000
International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology

Strategic Direction 2: Restore and increase connectivity among fragmented forest patches in the hotspot

Army Ants in the Fragmented Forests of Taita Hills and Lower Tana River

\$10,000
Caspar Schöning

Facilitating a Process of Stakeholders Consultations on the Interventions Required to Restore and Increase the Connectivity of Forest Patches in Taita Hills

\$17,905
East African Wild Life Society

Facilitating the Process of Designing CEPF/GCF Connectivity Interventions in the Udzungwa Mountains

\$20,000
World Wide Fund for Nature

Rapid Environmental Impact Assessment of the Rehabilitation of the Tana Delta Irrigation Project with Design of Critical Primate Habitat Improvement, Increased Indigenous Forest Connectivity and Community

\$19,500
National Museums of Kenya

Rehabilitation and Restoration of Mwambirwa Forest

\$19,409
East African Wild Life Society

Rehabilitation of Chawia Forest for the Conservation of Its Flora and Fauna

\$18,990
East African Wild Life Society

Resource Center for the Provision of Information and Technical Advice to Local Stakeholders in Forest Restoration Work in Taita Hills

\$19,988
East African Wild Life Society

Restoration and Increase of Connectivity among Fragmented Forest Patches in the Taita Hills, Southeast Kenya

\$105,203
Ghent University

Restoration and Increase of Connectivity in Taita Hills Forests: Survey and Suitability Assessment of Exotic Plantations

\$20,000
East African Wild Life Society

Standardizing Forest Change Methodologies between Sokoine University and CABS to Assist in Identifying Connectivity Priorities across the Eastern Arc and Coastal Forests

\$7,203
Conservation International

Strategic Direction 3: Improve biological knowledge

Assessment of the Conservation Status of the Newly Discovered *Mangabey Lophocebus* sp. in the Udzungwa Mountains of Tanzania

\$18,692
Trevor P. Jones

Biodiversity Assessment and Monitoring of the Insect Fauna in the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests Using Ground-Dwelling Ants and Beetles as Indicator Groups

\$212,628
AfriBugs CC

Conservation Ecology of the Endangered Endemic Sanje Mangabey (*Cercocebus sanjei*) of the Udzungwa Mountains, Tanzania

\$13,000
Carolyn L. Ehardt

Conservation of Indigenous Forest and Endemic Species on Pemba Island

\$49,000
Fauna & Flora International

Coordination, Facilitation, and Dissemination of Research Works within the Critical Ecosystem Priority Sites, Tanzania

\$20,000
Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania

Documenting Four Thematic Issues of the *Journal of East African Natural History*

\$120,000
East Africa Natural History Society

Ethnobotanical Knowledge for Adaptive Collaborative Management at Mt. Kasigau, Kenya

\$19,900
Miami University

Field Guide to the Moist Forest Trees of Tanzania
\$19,697
University of York

Filling the Knowledge Gap: Surveys of Poorly Known Sites and Species in the Eastern Arc and Coastal Forests
\$237,870
Tanzania Forest Conservation Group

The Forgotten Coastal Forests of Mtwara: A Reconnaissance to Prioritize Biological Knowledge for Community Conservation Initiatives
\$69,037
The Society for Environmental Exploration

Making Data Available on the Species and Sites of the Eastern Arc and Coastal Forest Hotspot in Tanzania
\$75,000
University of Dar es Salaam

Overview of Butterfly Faunas of Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests: Biodiversity, Endemism, Conservation
\$19,700
African Butterfly Research Institute

Plant Conservation Assessment in the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests Mosaic of Kenya and Tanzania
\$410,001
Missouri Botanical Garden (\$318,001) and IUCN-The World Conservation Union (\$92,000)

"Scientific Adviser" for the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests of Tanzania and Kenya
\$90,400
Conservation International

Small Mammal Studies in Three Important Eastern Arc Mountains Sites for the Creation of Innovative Educational, Scientific, and Conservation Tools
\$150,000
The Field Museum of Natural History

The Forgotten Coastal Forests of Mtwara: A Reconnaissance to Prioritize Biological Knowledge for Community Conservation Initiatives
\$69,037
The Society for Environmental Exploration

Trends in the Health of Selected Forests in the Eastern Arc and Coastal Forest
\$45,519
West Chester University

Strategic Direction 4: Establish a small grants program in the hotspot that focuses on Critically Endangered species and small-scale efforts to increase connectivity of biologically important habitat

Survey of Microchiropteran Bats of Mafia, Pemba, and Unguja and the Subsequent Creation of Educational, Scientific, and Conservation Tools
\$19,954
The Field Museum of Natural History

Guinean Forests of West Africa Hotspot

Upper Guinean Forest

Strategic Direction 1: Strengthen institutional capacities for conservation

Biological Inventory and Ecological Study of the Southern Dassioko and Monogaga Forests (Southwest Coast of Côte d'Ivoire)
\$27,125
SOS-FORETS

Building Capacity for Conservation in Liberia
\$135,550
Conservation International

Bushmeat Hunting and Trade in the Nimba Mountains
\$49,946
Fauna & Flora International

Status of White-Necked Picathartes (*Picathartes gymnocephalus*) in Ghana
\$19,320
Ghana Wildlife Society

Stimulating a Coordinated and Informed Approach to Biodiversity Conservation in Sierra Leone through Capacity Building of EFA and the Forum for Environmental Action
\$96,700
Environmental Foundation for Africa-Sierra Leone

Strategic Direction 2: Establish a hotspot biodiversity monitoring system

West African Vulture Survey
\$13,642
Afrique Nature International

Strategic Direction 4: Public awareness

Echoes of the Rain Forest Project—Second Phase
\$44,958
AGORO Centre for Intercultural Learning and Talent Development

Support for the Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group
\$12,807
World Wildlife Fund, Inc.

Strategic Direction 5: Biodiversity Action Fund

Capacity Building of Local Riverine Communities for Biodiversity Conservation of Two Important Bird Areas: the Grande Chutes Forest at Kindia and the Kounoukan Forest at Forécariah (Guinea)
\$19,605
Guinee-Ecologie

Primate and Birds Diversity in the Fazao-Malfacassa National Park, Togo
\$6,110
University of Calgary

Madagascar & Indian Ocean Islands Hotspot

Madagascar

Strategic Direction 1: Integrate local groups and individuals in the management of protected areas and reserves

The Manambolomaty Conservation Project
\$10,000
The Peregrine Fund

Strategic Direction 3: Biodiversity conservation and management training

Core Support to WWF-Madagascar's Ecology Training Program
\$20,000
World Wide Fund for Nature—Madagascar

Developing the Antsoakay Arboretum as a Center for Biodiversity Study and Ecotourism in Southwest Madagascar
\$113,848
NGO Arboretum d'Antsoakay

Succulent Karoo Hotspot

Strategic Direction 1: Expand protected area corridors through public-private-communal partnerships in the priority areas of Bushmanland Inselbergs, Central Namaqualand Coast, Namaqualand Uplands, Knersvlakte, Hantam-Roggeveld, Central Little Karoo, and Sperrgebiet

A Feasibility Study for the Establishment of a Succulent Karoo Biodiversity Resource and Conservation Center with Satellite Information Centers
\$5,500
Western Cape Nature Conservation Board

The Gouritz Initiative: Securing Biodiversity and Harnessing Social and Economic Opportunities in Key Corridors
\$237,489.50
Western Cape Nature Conservation Board
This is a multiregional project covering two hotspots; the total grant amount is \$474,979.

Promoting and Supporting Conservation Action in the Sperrgebiet Priority Area and Namibia's Succulent Karoo Ecosystem
\$850,700
Namibia Nature Foundation

Strategic Direction 2: Engage key industrial sectors in meeting conservation objectives identified by SKEP

Aus Tourist Information Centre
\$97,350
Namibia Nature Foundation

Namaqualand Restoration Initiative: Bringing Mining, Biodiversity, and Local Communities Together
\$200,000
University of Cape Town

Strategic Direction 3: Retain and restore critical biodiversity in areas under greatest land-use pressure

Impacts of Herbivores on the Succulent Karoo Vegetation of Anysberg Nature Reserve
\$3,100
University of Cape Town

Restoring the Biodiversity of the Roggeveld-Renosterveld: Evaluation, Multiplication, and Establishment of Indigenous Plant Species on Old Agricultural Fields
\$20,000
Western Cape Animal Production Research Trust

Sharing Lessons from the Succulent Karoo on Conservation Assessment and Planning
\$2,800
Philip Desmet

Vegetation Classification, Mapping, Condition Assessment, and Monitoring of Sanbona Wildlife Reserve with Specific Emphasis on the Impact of the Mega Herbivores
\$11,539
Sanbona Game Reserve Pty Ltd.

Strategic Direction 4: Mainstream conservation priorities into land-use planning and policymaking

Developing a Fine-Scale Conservation Plan for the Kamiesberg Uplands
\$19,870
Philip Desmet

An Inventory of the Rare and Endemic Plants and Habitats of the Kamiesberg Uplands
\$18,695
Nick Helme

Strategic Direction 5: Increase awareness of the Succulent Karoo Hotspot

Co-authorship of a Book entitled East of the Cape—Conserving Eden
\$3,300
Shirley Pierce Cowling
This is a multiregional project covering two hotspots; the total grant amount is \$6,600.

Knersvlakte Biodiversity Awareness Raising Project
\$111,844
Masibambane Multi-Purpose Community Centre

Raising Awareness of the Unique Biodiversity of the Tanqua Karoo and Roggeveld Priority Region
\$50,000
South African National Parks

Strategic Direction 6: Create the capacity to catalyze the SKEP program

Environmental Education Program for the Succulent Karoo Hotspot in Namibia: Phase 1—Program Development
\$9,730
Namib Desert Environmental Education Trust

Supporting Innovation and Sustainable Financing of the SKEP Bioregional Program
\$112,153
Conservation International



In addition to its high biological diversity, the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot features rich cultural diversity. The hotspot is home to 16 ethnic groups.

Asia-Pacific

From the emerging nongovernmental groups in the Caucasus and the Mountains of Southwest China hotspots to the community groups of Sumatra's Aceh province, buffeted by the tragedy of the tsunami, CEPF's partners across Asia are as varied and unique as the region's biodiversity. CEPF supported civil society partners in six of Asia's hotspots during the year, awarding \$11.3 million in new grants and bringing its overall Asia portfolio to \$24.2 million in committed grants. These groups helped a coalition of more than 20 local NGOs secure 38,000 hectares of low-land forest on Sumatra while also engaging global business partners of Indonesian pulp and paper companies to take up sustainable purchasing and production policies. Others gained agreement from 37 groups to contribute to an ambitious monitoring and evaluation program to track conservation progress in China.



- 1 Caucasus
- 2 Himalaya
- 3 Indo-Burma
- 4 Mountains of Southwest China
- 5 Philippines
- 6 Sundaland

Closer Collaboration with Civil Society Emerges in Armenia

Bridging the gap between civil society and government on the complex issues of development and conservation is one of the most difficult tasks. Highway construction and other large-scale development projects in particular can cut across many different jurisdictions, affecting both people and wildlife.

The Armenian government's 2005 decision to redirect part of a transnational highway originally planned to cut through the nation's Shikahogh Reserve was therefore a promising sign of the changes now afoot in the eastern region of the Caucasus Hotspot.

Although the 10,330-hectare reserve's biodiversity has yet to be comprehensively catalogued because of its isolated location and mountainous terrain, the reserve shelters Armenia's only pristine oak forest. Experts believe it is home to more than 1,000 plant species, including many unique to the country. The reserve also has important populations of the globally threatened Mouflon (*Ovis orientalis*) and bezoar goat (*Capra aegagrus*).

The WWF Caucasus Program's Armenia office led a series of efforts to engage the government in looking at alternative routes for the highway. Building on its role as part of the coordination team for

CEPF in the hotspot, it pulled together a coalition of local NGOs, such as the Armenia Tree Project, the Armenian Forests, and the Armenian Society for the Protection of Birds, to help. CEPF also awarded a small emergency grant to help with the costs.

"It was certainly tough going, but we made great collaborative ground with the government, especially with the Ministry of Nature Protection and with regional authorities in the Syunik region, where most of our projects are focused," said Karen Manvelyan, director of the Armenia office.

"We also strengthened ties with local NGOs and with the Armenian diaspora in the U.S., which will be very important for our future development and activities. The campaign can hopefully also be used as a model for countries that are in a transitional period with newly established processes of democratization."

The result was a historic shift in governmental perspectives, which not only averted a direct threat to a key biodiversity area but also illustrated the important contribution that civil society can make to conservation through coordinated action and sharing of information. ■



Public concern at a proposed highway through the Shikahogh Reserve found an effective voice through a coalition of conservation NGOs.

Data Sharing Brings Together New Partners for Conservation

Few would dispute that scientifically sound monitoring and evaluation are vital cornerstones for effective conservation. Yet even initial identification of biodiversity threats can be seriously hampered by a lack of coordination between the major players in a given region.

In the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot, CEPF funding helped more than 20 nongovernmental organizations, academic institutions, and government agencies create an unprecedented alliance to counter this trend. Across the hotspot, the alliance is developing a systematic approach to defining and monitoring conservation outcomes and interventions, one of CEPF's strategic priorities for the region.

The alliance, Eco-Partners, first identified more than 500 species of globally threatened animals and plants from the region to monitor. Led by Conservation International's China Program, the alliance gathered 80,000 pieces of published data relating to species such as the Endangered Yunnan snub-nosed monkey (*Rhinopithecus bieti*), fewer than 2,000 of which are thought to survive in isolated populations.



The Yunnan snub-nosed monkey (*Rhinopithecus bieti*) is one of the Endangered species that will benefit from the new collaboration.

Eco-Partners then established quantifiable, transparent, and globally consistent conservation targets covering 49 key biodiversity areas and set up an

online database (www.ecopartners.cn) to enable public access to the information.

The alliance also gained agreement from 37 groups and individuals to contribute to the database. Local stakeholders, such as protected area managers, ecotourism developers, and regional planning authorities, will perform a vital role in expanding the online database with site-specific data and will be able to use the wealth of information to make informed decisions that favor biodiversity conservation.

"Cooperation is truly critical for the success of our work," said Ling Lin, head of WWF's Chengdu office. "Thankfully, we have a shared understanding and aim, and now we have found partners for future cooperation."

CEPF is supporting similar projects in the other hotspots as part of a wider Conservation International initiative to create a shared global database. The approach is part of a commitment to use conservation outcomes—targets against which the success of conservation efforts can be measured—as the scientific underpinning for CEPF investments. ■

Local-to-Global Coordination Secures Critical Landscape

Tesso Nilo Forest on the Indonesian island of Sumatra is one of the last havens for Sumatran tigers (*Panthera tigris*) and elephants (*Elephas maximus*). It also harbors one of the highest levels of lowland forest plant biodiversity known to science.

Indonesia's Ministry of Forestry declared 38,576 hectares of the forest as a national park in July 2004 as a result of a CEPF-supported program by WWF-Indonesia and Jikalahari, an alliance of 28 local groups.

Tesso Nilo and neighboring Bukit Tigapuluh National Park contain the largest patches of the island's remaining lowland forests and, together, are one of four focal areas for CEPF investment in Sumatra.

At the village level, Jikalahari and WWF worked together in (continued on next page)



Camera traps provide valuable data for monitoring species, such as the Sumatran tiger (*Panthera tigris*) caught on film here.

monitoring logging activities and gaining support for conservation from local communities. At the district and provincial levels, they work with government officials to ensure that land-use planning offers adequate protection.

At the national and international levels, WWF worked with its global network to engage business partners of Indonesian pulp and paper companies in Japan, Europe, and North America to help protect the area's biodiversity.

The new protected area and new sustainable purchasing and production policies show how successful WWF's local-to-global conservation approach in Tesso Nilo has been in implementing CEPF's strategy of nurturing alliances between conservation-minded groups and the private sector.

"Our Tesso Nilo experiences have encouraged us to apply similar approaches in other areas where the WWF network is active, sometimes engaging the same global corporations," said Nazir Foead,



Sumatra's forests are among the biologically richest yet most threatened in the Sundaland Hotspot.

director of WWF-Indonesia's Species Program. "It's particularly exciting to see how a project like this brings so many groups together, right across the world."

WWF has also leveraged more than \$1 million in additional funds for the Tesso Nilo program and hopes to ultimately

increase the size of the newly declared protected area nearly fivefold. The government of Indonesia is expected to soon expand the park by another 60,000 hectares, bringing the goal to create a 120,000-hectare protected area embedded in a sustainably managed conservation landscape significantly closer. ■

Marginalized Youths Learn as They Build

Motivation and opportunity are in short supply for marginalized youths in the rural villages around Puerto Princesa City on the Philippine island of Palawan.

In stepped the Palawan Conservation Corps (PCC). The group provided hands-on carpentry and biodiversity restoration training to 60 youths whose parents could not afford to keep sending them to school or who, in many cases, were asked to leave school.



A participant in the Palawan Conservation Corps' project helps create a nursery to house hardwood seedlings.

The result is a successful nature park on the grounds of the Rural Agricultural Center, as well as new vocational skills for the youths that can provide income for years to come.

With funds from an initial CEPF grant, the youths built an open-air information center and a 10,000-square-foot nursery for seedlings of endemic hardwood species such as narra (*Pterocarpus dalbergioides*) and the globally threatened kamagong (*Diospyros philippinensis*) and apitong (*Dipterocarpus grandiflorus*) trees.

The nursery has already contributed to replanting 5,000 native trees and is supplying seedlings to nearby villages for reforestation projects.

PCC also garnered support from governmental, nonprofit, and private partners for the project.

"The City Agriculture Office lent us the use of their tractor and got us hardwood seedlings," PCC Director Erwin Galido said. "We had volunteers from Earth-Corps, help from the Consuelo Foundation, a local educational charity, and



Youths put their new carpentry skills to the test as part of the project.

the Philippine Technical Education and Skills Development Authority. Without all these different partners, we wouldn't have done it."

A follow-on CEPF grant has enabled youths who participated in the course to take their new skills out to neighboring communities, working on watershed restoration and reforestation projects that also serve to further raise awareness of the need for sustainable use of natural resources.

"The response from the people was fantastic," Galido said. "We had more volunteers than we needed and finished the work in half the time. In Lucbuan and Bahile, the villagers are now going out to do these things on their own." ■

Asia-Pacific

FY 05 Approved Grants

Caucasus Hotspot

Strategic Direction 1: Support civil society efforts to promote transboundary cooperation and improve protected area systems in five target corridors

Building Capacity to Strengthen Conservation Alliances through CEPF Coordination and Grantmaking in the Caucasus
\$2,470,000
World Wide Fund for Nature

Strategic Direction 2: Strengthen mechanisms to conserve biodiversity of the Caucasus Hotspot with emphasis on species, site, and corridor outcomes

Regional Council for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Resource Use in the Caucasus
\$200,000
World Wide Fund for Nature

Strategic Direction 4: Increase the awareness and commitment of decisionmakers to biodiversity conservation in five target corridors

Conservation in the Caucasus: Reports from the Field
\$20,000
Center for Russian Nature Conservation

Eastern Himalayas Region

Strategic Direction 1: Restore connectivity and protect species in priority corridors

Save The Tiger Fund
\$500,000
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot

Strategic Direction 1: Develop and operationalize hotspot-wide monitoring and evaluation projects

Applied Ethnoecology for Biodiversity Assessment, Monitoring and Management in Northwest Yunnan
\$167,904
The Chinese Academy of Sciences

Assessment on Resource and Environment of Sichuan Partridge in Panzhuhua Area
\$19,555
Sichuan Normal University

Establishing Effective Conservation Information Service for Saving China's Biodiversity
\$120,000
Chinese Academy of Sciences

The Inspection of Three Rivers' Communication of Upper Reaches of Changjiang River
\$8,985
Environmental Volunteer Association of Sichuan University

Using Galliformes to Monitor Biodiversity in Southwest China
\$105,340
World Pheasant Association

Strategic Direction 2: Support site-related projects led by civil society to mitigate key threats to natural areas and species populations

Develop Conservation Strategies to Eliminate Yew Trade in Mountains of Southwest China
\$60,000
TRAFFIC International

Ecotourism Demonstration Project in Ganzi Prefecture, Sichuan Province
\$50,000
Beijing Shanmo Investment Consultancy Co.

Effective Public Evaluation on the Conservation Areas and Natural Heritages in China
\$20,000
Friends of Nature, China

Establishing White Pagodas as Landmarks of Critical Ecological Sites in Xiaozhongdian Town
\$11,464
Angweng Reincarnated Buddha

Feasibility Study for Establishing Panda Corridors in Min Mountain
\$150,541
World Wide Fund for Nature

Integrating a Range-wide Conservation Strategy for the Yunnan Snub-nosed Monkey
\$517,540
The Nature Conservancy

Motivating Governments to Address Illegal Wildlife in Southeast Asia
\$5,000
Conservation International
This is a multiregional project covering three hotspots; the total grant amount is \$15,000.

Natural Resources Protection and Community Development in Tuogushui Village, China
\$10,043
Baimaxueshan National Nature Reserve Management Office

Population Survey on Cedar Species (*Sabia pingii*) in Yele Nature Reserve
\$19,751
Yele Nature Reserve Management Office, Sichuan

Promote Public Participation in Conserving Nu River
\$16,800
Green Watershed

A Study of Feasibility and Effects of Ecotourism at Baoshan Gushi Cheng, Yunnan
\$20,000
Susie Lee Cecchi

The Conceptual Master Planning of Ecotourism for Baimaxueshan Nature Reserve
\$20,000
Southwest Forestry College

Strategic Direction 3: Build capacity of civil society to implement conservation efforts at a site and regionally

Building Conservation Alliance through Coordinating CEPF in the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot
\$854,100
Conservation International

Capacity Building for Yunnan Shangri-la County Alpine Botanic Garden
\$20,000
Construction Planning Office of Shangri-la Alpine Botanic Garden

Establishing Ecotourism Guidelines for Nature Reserves in South Ganzi Prefecture
\$20,000
Sichuan Wildlife Resource Survey and Conservation Management Station

Legal Initiative for Resource Management and Livelihood Development for Jisha Village
\$20,000
Center for Biodiversity and Indigenous Knowledge

Make a Difference in 10 Days: International Conference on Nature Reserve's Scientific Exchange and Capacity Building
\$19,960
Chen Youping

Monthly Conservation Forum among Chengdu-Kunming College Student Conservation Organizations
\$10,230
Green Student Organizations Society

Outdoor Preliminary School Environment Education Program—"Happy Nature"
\$16,446
Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding Center

Promoting Bird Watching in Chengdu City
\$9,744
Green Student Organizations Society

Voice of Deqin—Dynamics in Environment and Society through Local Peoples' Eyes
\$6,000
Zeren Pingcuo

Strategic Direction 4: Integrate biodiversity conservation concerns and benefits into the implementation of policies and programs at local, regional, and national levels

Feasibility Study for the Implementation of Forestry Conservation Concessions and Sustainable
\$20,000
Global Environmental Institute

Linking Tourism to Biodiversity Conservation in Southwest China—Khampa International Ecotourism
\$42,000
Conservation International

One World, One Health: The Threat of Emerging Diseases to Human Security and Conservation and the Implications for Public Policy
\$20,000
Wildlife Conservation Society

Strategic Direction 5: Develop and operationalize a small grants program focusing on conservation capacity-building and research projects

Managing CEPF's Small Grants Fund to Safeguard Endangered Species and Habitats in Southwest China
\$296,000
World Wide Fund for Nature

Philippines Hotspot

Strategic Direction 1: Improve linkage between conservation investments to multiply and scale up benefits on a corridor scale in Sierra Madre, Eastern Mindanao, and Palawan

Defining and Monitoring Conservation Outcomes for the Philippines
\$382,336
Conservation International

Eastern Mindanao Corridor Facilitation for the Philippines
\$290,000
Conservation International

Palawan Biodiversity Corridor Facilitation
\$200,000
Conservation International

Strategic Direction 2: Build civil society's awareness of the myriad benefits of conserving corridors of biodiversity

Enhancement of Educational Park as Reforestation Training Center (Phase II)
\$10,240
Palawan Conservation Corps

Strategic Direction 3: Build capacity of civil society to advocate for better corridor and protected area management and against development harmful to conservation

A 10-Year Framework Plan for Ecotourism in the Sierra Madre Biodiversity Corridor, Philippines
\$20,000
Miriam—Public Education and Awareness Campaign for the Environment

Building Civil Society's Capacity for Conserving Eastern Mindanao's Priority Sites
\$20,000
Mindanao Environment Forum

Building Critical Stakeholder Support for Conservation of the Philippine Eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*) Population along the Sierra Madre Mountain Range
\$121,058
Conservation International

Corridor Facilitation and Protected Area Management of Core Nuclei within the Sierra Madre Biodiversity
\$300,000
Conservation International

Design and Management of the Northeastern Cagayan Conservation Corridor
\$108,812
Cagayan Valley Partners in People Development

Empowering the Manobos of Mt. Magdiwata Forest Reserve Area to Effectively Manage Their Ancestral Domain Claim
\$10,000
Livelihood Enhancement in Agro-forestry Foundation, Inc.

Mobilizing Business Sector Resources to Support Watershed Management
\$20,000
Philippine Business for Social Progress

Participatory Biodiversity Assessment and Conservation of Mt. Hamiguitan Range, Davao Oriental and Its Environs for Development
\$20,000
Central Mindanao University

Project MAMBOOGOOK: Research and Conservation of Philippine Eagles in Central and Eastern Mindanao
\$250,000
Philippine Eagle Conservation Program Foundation, Inc.

Sierra Madre Forest Gardens Program
\$149,540
Counterpart International

Toward Biodiversity Conservation within the Eastern Mindanao Corridor: Biodiversity Archiving and Assessment Project
\$200,675
Philippine Eagle Conservation Program Foundation, Inc.

Strategic Direction 4: Establish an emergency response mechanism to help save Critically Endangered species

Building Conservation Capacity through Research of Threats to Key Birds in the Palawan Corridor
\$154,346
World Pheasant Association

Enlarged Scales: Strengthening Philippine Crocodile Conservation in the Sierra Madre Corridor
\$13,765
Mabuwaya Foundation Inc.

Motivating Governments to Address Illegal Wildlife in Southeast Asia
\$5,000
Conservation International
This is a multiregional project covering three hotspots; the total grant amount is \$15,000.

Southern Palawan Anti-Poaching Initiative
\$50,000
Katala Foundation, Inc.

Sundaland Hotspot
Sumatra

Strategic Direction 1: Enhance stewardship of forest resources at district level and below

Enhance Community Capacity through Rattan Product Development in Northern Siberut
\$14,913
Perkumpulan Uma Mentawai

Expansion of Bukit Tigapuluh National Park and Protection of Its Wider Ecosystem
\$199,547
Komunitas Konservasi Indonesia WARSI

First Anniversary Celebration for Batang Gadis National Park
\$13,210
Lembaga Swadaya Masyarakat Gerakan Masyarakat Madina Pemantau Apatur Negara

Strengthening Community Commitment to Protect Batang Gadis National Park
\$6,519
Lembaga Swadaya Masyarakat Harapan Madina

Studying and Preserving the Pleistocene Forest as a Means of Safeguarding Siberut's Ecosystem
\$107,000
Deutsches Primatenzentrum

Strategic Direction 2: Empower civil society to organize in favor of conserving biodiversity

Empowering Local People and Local Government to Support Batang Gadis National Park
\$260,000
Yayasan Bina Ketrampilan Desa

Motivating Governments to Address Illegal Wildlife in Southeast Asia
\$5,000
Conservation International
This is a multiregional project covering three hotspots; the total grant amount is \$15,000.

Partnership for the Conservation of Sumatran Natural Heritage
\$900,000
United Nations Foundation

Rapid Response Team for Conservation Investment in Sumatra
\$156,752
Conservation International

Strategic Direction 3: Build alliances among conservation-minded groups in civil society and the private sector

Batang Gadis National Park Development and Management Support
\$482,500
Conservation International

Strategic Direction 4: Assess impact of conservation interventions at the district level and below

Annual Forest Cover Change Analysis and Change Detection Map for Sumatra
\$50,000
Wildlife Conservation Society

Defining, Refining, and Monitoring Outcomes for Sumatra
\$300,000
Conservation International

Grantmaking and Partnerships on the Ground in Sumatra
\$307,077
Conservation International



The Sierra Madre landscape is one of four focal areas for CEPF investment in The Philippines Hotspot.



The Atlantic Forest Hotspot harbors an estimated 20,000 species of plants, 40 percent of which are thought to be unique to the hotspot.

Latin America

The tropical forests of Latin America contain much of the globe's plant and animal biodiversity. They provide important natural wealth to indigenous peoples and harbor key ingredients for tomorrow's medicines. CEPF supported civil society organizations in four of the region's hotspots during the year, awarding \$6.5 million in new grants and bringing its total portfolio to \$21.5 million in committed grants. These groups worked with landowners to create a 60,000-hectare national wildlife refuge. Containing strict conservation areas and multi-use zones for ecotourism and agroforestry, the Costa Rican park has been dubbed a "laboratory for sustainable development." In the Atlantic Forest Hotspot, a small grants program helped more than double the number of Private Natural Heritage Reserves. The CEPF focus on building civil society capacity to conserve the hotspots also helped leverage significant additional funds for conservation in Colombia.



- 1 Atlantic Forest Hotspot
- 2 Mesoamerica
- 3 Tropical Andes
- 4 Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena

Deal for \$1 Million Match Benefits Colombian Groups

The ecosystem profile developed for each region before CEPF investment begins guides CEPF in its grantmaking and civil society groups in applying for funds. In a number of cases, other donors are also using the profiles to determine how best to invest themselves.

In Colombia, the CEPF focus on building the capacity of local groups to help con-

match up to \$1 million in funding for CEPF-supported initiatives.

The deal includes up to a \$100,000 FPAA match for each CEPF grant awarded to local groups working on the Colombian side of the corridor, which stretches from the peaks of Colombia's western Andean cordillera to the Pacific Ocean.

In 2005, FPAA matched CEPF investments in six select projects by local organizations, enabling CEPF to leverage significant funds while supporting a wider variety of partners and projects with its existing funds under the CEPF strategy. Other matches are in the pipeline as part of the new agreement through 2008.

"The framework relationship with CI and CEPF goes from strength to strength," FPAA Executive Secretary José Luis Gómez said. "Not only do we share conservation objectives, but in the corridor strategy, we are both using the same path to get there."

The groups receiving FPAA matches are helping to implement each of CEPF's three strategic directions for the corridor. Their projects range from work with small-scale gold miners around Colombia's protected areas to improve the ways they make their livelihood, to testing models of payment for environmental services among landowners in the Valle de Cauca region.

Ultimately, the CEPF strategy is designed to attain greater harmony between development and conservation through decentralized management of the region's biological resources. ■

"The framework relationship with CI and CEPF goes from strength to strength. Not only do we share conservation objectives, but in the corridor strategy, we are both using the same path to get there."

—José Luis Gómez, executive secretary, Fondo para la Acción Ambiental y la Niñez

serve the Chocó-Manabi biodiversity conservation corridor helped spur the Fondo para la Acción Ambiental y la Niñez (FPAA, or the Fund for Environmental Action and Children), a Colombian private foundation, to agree to

A partnership between FPAA and Conservation International's Colombia Program, which coordinates implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile for the corridor in Colombia, laid the groundwork for the deal.

Costa Rica Declares New Wildlife Refuge

Running between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, the San Juan River was prized in the 19th century as one of the quickest routes across the isthmus of Central America. In 2005, it was finally time for the region's remarkable biodiversity to be recognized with the government of Costa Rica's declaration of the Maquenque National Wildlife Refuge.

Covering nearly 60,000 hectares of forest, the Maquenque National Wildlife Refuge will help ensure the survival of the great green macaw (*Ara ambigua*) and many other globally threatened species, as well as provide sustainable development opportunities.

Establishing the refuge has been an investment priority for CEPF in the Mesoamerica Hotspot. Since 2003, CEPF has supported a coalition of 20 NGOs that is led by the Centro Científico Tropical (CCT, or the Tropical Science Center) and is working with local municipalities and government agencies in preparations for the new protected area.

"CEPF's funding and the assistance we received from their local coordination unit was pivotal in getting the area recognized," said Guisselle Monge, coordinator of the San Juan-La Selva Biological Corridor, where the new refuge is located.



The great green macaw (*Ara ambigua*) is one of the many species found in the new Maquenque National Wildlife Refuge.

"Maquenque will truly be a great laboratory for sustainable development."

A three-year CEPF grant supported development of key documents required to obtain the legal protection of Maquenque, as well as land tenure surveys and initial steps toward development of a management plan.

Uniquely for Costa Rica, the refuge's establishment was based on extensive community outreach to achieve consensus with local communities and landowners. Initially, many landowners were opposed to the idea of a national park. Instead, they successfully proposed establishing a National Wildlife Refuge that contains both strict conservation areas and multi-use areas for environmentally friendly activities, such as ecotourism, agroforestry, and sustainable agriculture.

Benefits for landowners include access to Costa Rica's innovative system of paying for environmental services to maintain land under forest cover.

Beyond Maquenque's borders, the refuge acts as a critical part of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor along the San Juan River between the Atlantic forests of Costa Rica with southeast Nicaragua and the larger Indio Maiz Biological Reserve. ■

Grants Enable 50 Percent Increase in Private Reserves

As much of the land in the Atlantic Forest Hotspot is privately owned, increasing the number of private protected areas through civil society efforts is an important part of the CEPF strategy in the Brazilian part of the hotspot, where investments are focused in two conservation corridors.

A CEPF-supported small grants program helped more than 50 landowners establish private natural heritage reserves (*Reservas Particulares do Patrimônio Natural*, or RPPNs) on their land, increasing the number of these reserves in the Central and Serra do Mar corridors by 50 percent and bringing the total land under private protection to more than 18,000 hectares.

Recognized as official protected areas under Brazilian law, the RPPNs complement the country's public protected

areas system by connecting small and fragmented forest blocks and bringing additional priority areas into the network.

The small grants program, managed by the Aliança para a Conservação da Mata Atlântica of Fundação SOS Mata Atlântica and Conservação Internacional do Brasil, is a core part of the CEPF strategy implementation in this hotspot.

The alliance's approach is fundamental to the small grants program's success as it helps the landowners follow all the necessary steps required by the government for RPPN designation.

Luiz Nelson was one of the first landowners to create a private reserve in the early 1990s. He made it a personal mission to protect 494 biologically (continued on next page)



Landowner Luiz Nelson.

rich hectares of his 556-hectare holding. The process was not an easy one, and at one point his environmental activism at home and beyond led to death threats that received national press coverage.

“Every time something happened like this, something good would happen just afterward, and I took this as a sign that I had to go ahead,” Nelson said.

In addition to the newly created reserves, the program helped Nelson and other landowners improve the management of 29 existing reserves. Nelson’s RPPN, Fazenda Bom Retiro, now attracts about 2,000 visitors annually, who come to watch the more than 120 bird species and other wildlife, and to participate in environmental education programs.

The program has also become a model. It’s being replicated in a new Incentives Program for the Creation of RPPNs in the Pantanal region. ■



Luiz Nelson’s private reserve attracts 2,000 visitors annually.

Indigenous Peoples and Threatened Species Find Security within Alto-Purús

Peruvian NGO Asociación para la Conservación del Patrimonio Cutivireni (ACPC, or Association for the Conservation of the Cutivireni Patrimony) helped make possible one of the largest combined indigenous reserves and protected areas in the world.

The 2.7-million-hectare Alto-Purús National Park and Purús Communal Reserve combines a traditional national park, a communal reserve that will be jointly managed by indigenous communities and the state, and a territorial reserve for the indigenous

group Mashco-Piro, which lives in voluntary isolation from modern society.

“We are very happy about the establishment of the park and communal reserve because it will let our communities better manage our territories in a way that respects the traditions of our ancestors,” said Fredy Lopez Tranbeca, community chief of the 180-member Gasta Bala, one of the many other indigenous groups that live around the protected area.

The remote area in the Tropical Andes Hotspot contains enormous expanses of lowland tropical moist forests, unique flooded savannas dotted with palm trees, and extensive bamboo-dominated forests. Home to Endangered species such as the giant river otter (*Pteronura brasiliensis*), it is also one of the last refuges for large populations of globally threatened big-leafed mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*).

By engaging local people in the management of forest resources along the southwestern border of the national park, ACPC helped strengthen management of the area, a key CEPF strategy for the hotspot’s key biodiversity areas. Funding from CEPF through WWF also enabled the

organization to provide essential resources to sustain the effort for the area’s new status and to push against illegal logging of mahogany, often referred to as the “red gold” of the Amazon.



The national park shelters globally threatened species such as the Endangered giant river otter (*Pteronura brasiliensis*).

The group contributed to the creation of a participatory management committee that draws together indigenous groups and regional governments as well as other important civil society institutions in the Inuya and Sepahua watersheds. Together these stakeholders are developing sustainable forestry projects as part of a wider strategy to curtail threats.

The support to ACPC is part of a 2003 debt-for-nature swap between the U.S. and Peruvian governments. As part of the deal, Peru will save an estimated \$14 million in debt payments, and civil society groups will receive an estimated \$10.6 million for conservation projects. ■



Illegal mahogany extraction poses a big threat to the communities, fauna, and flora of Amazonian Peru.

Latin America

FY 05 Approved Grants

Atlantic Forest Hotspot

Brazil

Strategic Direction 1: Stimulate landscape management initiatives led by civil society in Central and Serra do Mar corridors

Biodiversity Conservation of the Restingas in the State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

\$14,537
Instituto de Pesquisas e Conservação da Biodiversidade dos Biomas Brasileiros

Consolidation of the Cabruca Commercialization Area—Cooperative of the Organic Producers of Southern Bahia (CABRUCA)

\$19,900
Cooperativa do Produtores Orgânicos do Sul da Bahia

Coordination of CEPF in the Atlantic Forest (Phase II)

\$885,490
Conservação Internacional do Brasil

Determination of Genetic Variables in Macaco-Prego-do-Peito-Amarelo (*Cebus xanthosternus*) for Their Management and Conservation

\$20,000
Mülleriana: Sociedade Fritz Müller de Ciências Naturais

Ecological Corridor of the South of Minas

\$225,270
Valor Natural

Ecology of Cave-Dwelling Invertebrates in the Atlantic Forest

\$10,000
Fundação de Desenvolvimento da Pesquisa, Departamento de Biologia Geral

Economics of the Conservation of Corridors in the Atlantic Forest

\$50,000
Conservation Strategy Fund

Protected Areas as Centers for Environmental Awareness in the Central Corridor of the Atlantic Forest

\$49,906
Associação dos Proprietários de Reservas Particulares do Estado da Bahia

Recuperation of the Atlantic Forest in the Watershed of Rio Caraiva

\$194,267
Instituto Cidade

Socioenvironmental Restoration of the Atlantic Forest of Minas Gerais, Brazil—Education, Research, and Environmental Restoration

\$159,822
Instituto Terra

Strategies and Actions for the Conservation of Biodiversity in the Atlantic Forest of Rio de Janeiro

\$360,432
Instituto de Pesquisas e Conservação da Biodiversidade dos Biomas Brasileiros

Study of Wildlife Animal Traffic in the Atlantic Forest and Its Implications for Conservation

\$174,829
Rede Nacional de Combate ao Tráfico de Animais Silvestres

Strategic Direction 2: Improve management of existing and future public protected areas through targeted civil society efforts

Biodiversity Corridor of the Costa do Cacau
\$250,000
Instituto de Estudos Sócio-Ambientais do Sul da Bahia

Increasing the Network of Protected Areas in the Bahian Portion of the Central Corridor of the Atlantic

\$20,000
Associação Flora Brasil

Protecting and Restoring the Três Picos Buffer Zone: A Corridor Approach to Conserving Forest-Based Services and Biodiversity

\$175,476
Instituto Rede Brasileira Agroflorestal

Socioenvironmental Management Plan for the Protected Areas of Mantiqueira

\$94,934
Crescente Fértil—Projetos Ambientais Culturais e de Comunicação

Mesoamerica Hotspot

Northern Mesoamerica

Strategic Direction 2: Collaborate with other donor-funded projects to facilitate and operationalize successful conservation activities in Northern Mesoamerica's eight most important key biodiversity areas

CEPF Coordination to Promote Development Policies, Investments, and Institutional Collaboration for Biodiversity Conservation in Northern Mesoamerica

\$1,549,644
Conservation International

Infrastructure Integration and Biodiversity Conservation in Mesoamerica

\$235,286
Conservation Strategy Fund

Sharing Experiences and Lessons Learned in Mesoamerica via the Eco-Index

\$49,769
Rainforest Alliance
This is a multiregional project covering Northern and Southern Mesoamerica; the total grant amount is \$97,769.

Strategic Direction 3: Support priority conservation actions in three priority key biodiversity areas

Implementation of a Special Protection System Based on Strategic Alliances with Civil Society and Organizations in the Eastern Sector of Laguna del Tigre National Park and Its Surrounding Biological Corridor

\$68,715
Wildlife Conservation Society

Needs Assessment for Conserving the Key Biodiversity Areas of Laguna del Tigre National Park and Chiquibul-Montañas Mayas

\$37,524
Asociación Trópico Verde/ParksWatch Guatemala

Updating the Master Plan for Laguna del Tigre National Park: Definition of a New Model for Internal Zoning

\$40,000
Wildlife Conservation Society

Mesoamerica Hotspot

Southern Mesoamerica

Strategic Direction 1: Strengthen key conservation alliances and networks within integral corridors

Capacity Building for Local Management of the Naso-Teribe Region

\$5,000
Alianza para la Conservación y el Desarrollo

Consolidation of the Protected Area System of Costa Rica

\$55,000
The Leatherback Trust

Strategic Direction 2: Integrate connectivity among key, critical areas through economic alternatives

Conserving the Forests of La Amistad International Park through the Promotion of Traditional Medicine in Three Communities of Naso Ethnicity

\$19,364
Asociación de Practicantes de Medicina Tradicional Naso

Establishing the Biological Boundaries of the Osa Biological Corridor through Data Compilation and Analysis—Phase II

\$100,000
Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad

Infrastructure Integration and Biodiversity Conservation in Mesoamerica

\$75,000
Conservation Strategy Fund

Sustainable Alternatives and Environmental Restoration and Protection of the Three Hills Quetzal Biological Corridor

\$15,742
Asociación de Turismo de Tres Colinas

Strategic Direction 3: Promote awareness and conservation of flagship species

Raising Awareness of Conservation of the Natural Ecosystems of Manatees (*Trichechus manatus*) through Environmental Monitoring in Local Communities

\$20,000
Asociación de Amigos y Vecinos de la Costa y la Naturaleza

Sharing Experiences and Lessons Learned in Mesoamerica via the Eco-Index

\$48,000
Rainforest Alliance
This is a multiregional project covering Northern and Southern Mesoamerica; the total grant amount is \$97,769.

Strategic Direction 4: Support improved management of key protected areas

Community Consultation and Institutional Strengthening for the Sustainable Management of the Rama Indigenous Territory Protected Area

\$5,000
Universidad de las Regiones Autónomas de la Costa Caribe Nicaraguense, Recinto de Bluefields-Raas

Conserving Biodiversity in Damani Wetlands Reserve, Ngobe Buglé Indigenous Territory

\$80,000
Centro de Estudios y Acción Social Panameño

Institutional Support to the Osa Conservation Area

\$19,956
Fundación Corcovado Lon Willing Ramsey Jr.

Mitigating Environmental Threats to La Amistad International Park (Costa Rica) by Strengthening Park Protection

\$159,656
Fundación de Parques Nacionales

Strengthening Biodiversity Conservation in Ecologically Sensitive Areas of La Amistad International Park—Panama

\$193,040
Asociación Nacional para la Conservación de la Naturaleza



The golden lion tamarin (*Leontopithecus rosalia*) is among the globally threatened species found only in the Atlantic Forest Hotspot.

Support to the Volunteer Park Guards of Mahogany Ecological Wetlands Park, Nicaragua

\$10,000
Bluefields Indian & Caribbean University

Tropical Andes Hotspot

Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor

Strategic Direction 3: Encourage community-based biodiversity conservation and natural resource management

Formalizing Forest Access and Implementing Sustainable Brazil Nut Management in Madre de Dios, Peru: Bridging Phase

\$200,000
Amazon Conservation Association

Small Grants Program for Species of the Vilcabamba-Amboró Conservation Corridor

\$99,999
Asociación Peruana para la Conservación de la Naturaleza

Strategic Direction 5: Strengthen environmental policy and legal frameworks to mitigate the impacts of extraction industries, transportation and infrastructure projects, and large-scale tourism

Comparing Methodologies for Improved Protected Area Evaluation in the Vilcabamba-Amboró Corridor

\$20,000
ParksWatch

Updating and Republication of Manual of Legal Tools for Private Conservation in Perú

\$3,800
Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental

Strategic Direction 6: Establish an electronic information exchange and coordinated information and data-gathering mechanism

Implementing Basic Infrastructure for Local Area Networks (LAN), Internal Telephone Communications, and a WAN Network between the National Herbarium of Bolivia and the Bolivian Fauna Collection

\$9,831
Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Ecología

Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena Hotspot

Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor

Strategic Direction 1: Establish/strengthen local and regional mechanisms to foster corridor-level conservation

Communication Strategy for the Chocó-Manabí Conservation Corridor (Phase 2)

\$111,734
Conservation International

Connectivity of the Golondrinas Protected Forest and the Awa Indigenous Territories of Northern Ecuador: Preparatory Phase

\$9,000
Fundación Altrapico

Development of the Payment of Environmental Services for the Conservation and Restoration of the Biological and Multicultural Corridor of the Munchique-Pinche National Park

\$200,000
Centro para la Investigación en Sistemas Sostenibles de Producción Agropecuaria

Effects of the Fragmentation of the Landscape and Indicators for the State of Biodiversity Conservation in the Chocó Ecoregional Complex

\$170,000
Fundación Ecotrópico Colombia

Pilot Experiences in Conservation Management of the Humid Coastal Forests of Punta Galeras, Southeastern Chocó, Ecuador

\$20,000
Fundación Ecuatoriana de Estudios Ecológicos

Southern Preparation Phase: Development of Latin American Proposals for the 2005 Forest Stewardship Council Assembly

\$10,000
Grupo de Trabajo sobre Certificación Forestal Voluntaria en Ecuador

Strategic Direction 2: Bring selected protected areas and species under improved management

Biodiversity Conservation and Management in the Territorial Lands of the Awá Indigenous Community of Ecuador

\$116,575
Federación de Centros Awá del Ecuador

Biological Monitoring of the Great Chachi Reserve, Esmeraldas, Ecuador

\$20,000
Fundación Ecuatoriana de Estudios Ecológicos

Community Management Plan for the Protected Area Refugio de Vida Silvestre

\$59,996
Fundación de Defensa Ecológica

Conservation and Integrated Management of Golondrinas Protected Forest

\$24,000
Fundación Altrapico

Consolidation of Territories, Establishment of Legal Jurisdiction, and Social Organization of the Ancestral Lands of the Chachi Nation within the Mache Chindul Ecological Reserve

\$60,763
Corporación para la Investigación, Capacitación y Apoyo Técnico para el Manejo Sustentable de los Ecosistemas Tropicales

Strengthening Sustainable Tourism in the Protected Areas of the Chocó-Manabí Machalilla National Park, Ecuador

\$61,666
Asociación Ecuatoriana de Ecoturismo

Strategic Direction 3: Identify and promote sustainable development practices in communities near selected protected areas

Green Gold Sustainable Production Alternatives: Analog Forestry for the Conservation of Choco, Colombia

\$99,979
Corporación Oro Verde



Flagship plant species that demonstrate the diversity of plants found in the Cape Floristic Region Hotspot include the king protea, South Africa's national flower.

Expanding Horizons

Sharing knowledge and hands-on skills is a powerful tool in the conservation toolkit, enabling others to avoid duplication of effort, make informed decisions, and help both themselves and their communities. Online, the CEPF newsletter readership grew by 62 percent, and visitors to CEPF's Web site accessed files in record numbers from the ever-growing library of resources available during the year. In the field, CEPF support to Rare enabled the organization to equip partners who shared its conservation marketing approach with more people than in its entire 18-year history. In multiple hotspots, targeted programs to improve the technical ability and management skills of conservation groups and communities also paved the way for more effective, replicable, and sustainable conservation outcomes in the long term.



Researchers set up an infrared camera to capture nocturnal wildlife activity.

Communications for Conservation

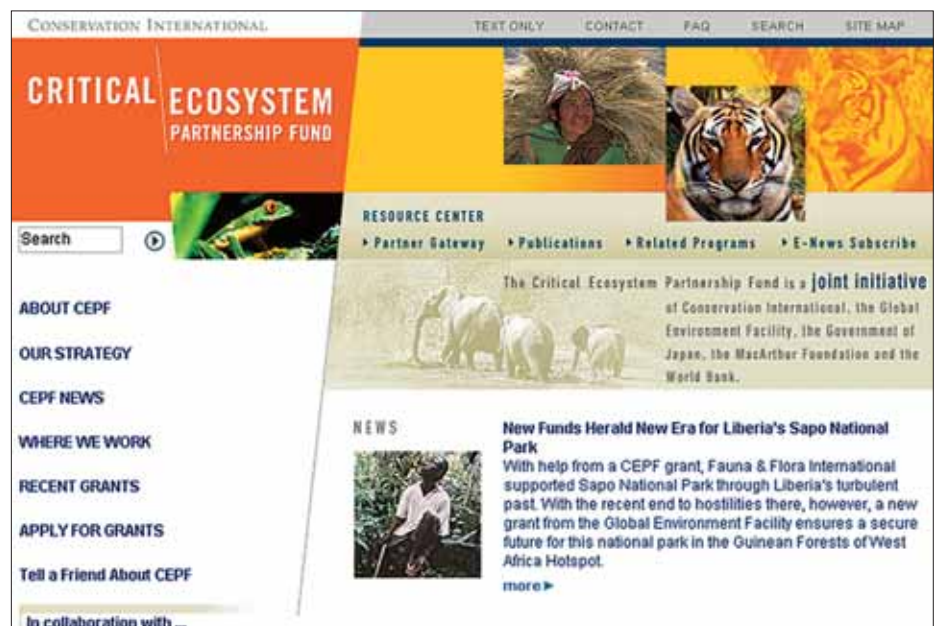
Communications are pivotal in the global CEPF program, helping to reach, grow, and connect the CEPF community in diverse and distant locations on a regular basis.

This year, CEPF surpassed its goal to increase by 25 percent the number of subscribers to its newsletter and visitors to its Web site. Subscribers to *CEPF E-News* increased by 62 percent, while the number of visitors to www.cepf.net grew by 42 percent. The number of pages viewed on the site jumped by 78 percent.

Backed by a diversity of communications approaches in the field, these tools play a prominent role in meeting the CEPF goal to disseminate results, lessons learned, and best practices.

Significantly expanded News and Resource Center sections on the Web site attracted a record number of visitors. The center's publications proved to be the most popular resources, particularly the final reports compiled by project leaders and detailing both results and lessons learned.

Among the other resources are a new booklet of best practice guidelines on minimizing impacts on the flora of the Southern Namib, produced by EnviroScience; a bimonthly newsletter put out by the coordination team in the Caucasus Hotspot; and a guide to legal tools for private con-



The number of visitors to www.cepf.net grew by 42 percent during the year.

servation in Peru, created by Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental.

Offline, CEPF joined five leading conservation and botanical organizations in a new initiative to support *Plant Talk*. The magazine, which specializes in grassroots conservation coverage, has subscribers in 120 countries.

Key aims for the new partnership are to convey the need for joint efforts at this

critical time for the global environment and to place a stronger emphasis on the conservation and sustainable use of plants by people in both traditional and modern societies. The other partners are ArtDatabanken (Swedish Species Information Centre); the Eden Project; Plantlife International; the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; and the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History and the United States Botanic Garden. ■

Rare Expands Partnerships to Global Scale

Big grants can prompt big reactions. CEPF's \$1.3 million grant to Rare equipped local leaders to develop and implement 13 environmental awareness campaigns in nine hotspots across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. It also inspired other donors and groups to commit nearly \$10 million for the organization to support more than 40 additional campaigns.

This year saw the organization's operations expand to a global scale with the CEPF-supported campaigns implemented in partnership with Conservation International. Each campaign focused on a Critically Endangered species. Together, they reached nearly one million people.

"CEPF's was the largest grant for multiple campaigns we'd ever had," said Paul Butler, Rare's vice president of programs. "With it, we could show other potential partners the power of pride."

The Nature Conservancy responded with a \$3 million pledge in October 2004 for 30 campaigns in its sites around the world. In addition, USAID pledged \$1.3 million for 12 campaigns in Indonesia, the Wildlife Conservation Society committed funds for three campaigns, and most recently the Grantham Foundation agreed to provide \$5 million toward grants over the next five years.

With the new funds raised, Rare has the resources to launch 70 campaigns—



Pride campaign leaders use puppets like these and many other tools to engage target audiences.

surpassing the total number of campaigns it has supported during its entire 18-year history.

The leveraging also enabled Rare to meet key deliverables in the original CEPF grant agreement to implement 15 additional campaigns alongside the CEPF campaigns, and to create a foundation for its long-term operations.

Rare's flagship approach includes a 12-week diploma course in conservation education, producing local campaign leaders with marketing skills employed

in Rare's highly successful "Pride" campaigns, which inspire residents in environmentally threatened areas to become conservationists in their communities. Each individual develops a yearlong campaign with stakeholders and implements it.

CEPF support enabled Rare to expand not only its own horizons but also those of the individuals and the many local groups they represent. In addition, an important part of the project post-campaigns is development of a learning portfolio for analyzing results and sharing lessons. ■



Edward Sesay.

"The campaign left me very fulfilled and refreshed. I feel great pride in my ability to bring conservation messages to my people, especially after our many years of struggle in Sierra Leone. The experience and lessons learned during the campaign will help me keep the momentum for change moving forward."

—**Edward Sesay**, *Pride campaign manager, Environmental Foundation for Africa, Sierra Leone*

BirdLife Strengthens NGOs across Upper Guinean Forest

The remnants of the Upper Guinean Forest of West Africa stretch across six nations. Fostering regional conservation efforts across them is extremely complex, a situation made worse by war, poverty, and the simple fact that, until recently, there was severe shortage of people and institutions to do the work.

The globally threatened white-necked picathartes (*Picathartes gymnocephalus*) was rediscovered during site surveys in Ghana, 40 years after it was last seen in the country.

Bird Area methodology to foster needed skills and a scientifically based standard of conservation across the region. Courses also covered project proposal writing, communication, participatory appraisal, database management, and fundraising.

“Most capacity-building projects focus purely on technical ability, yet the technical achievements of most institutions are a direct reflection of the level of their internal organization and management,” said Paulinus Ngeh, BirdLife’s West Africa coordinator, based in Ghana. “To get results, you must focus on both.”

The national organizations have since employed 15 of the participants who benefited from the various training courses. In addition, 25 graduates were recruited and trained and 20 volunteers were involved at other stages of the project, increasing the pool of conservationists from which the NGOs and others can draw.

Unexpected results also proved significant. Participants helped survey 56



Participants help survey the biodiversity of a Guinean Forest site as part of their training.

sites, revealing the rediscovery of the white-necked picathartes (*Picathartes gymnocephalus*) in Ghana 40 years after it was last seen in the country. In addition, BirdLife leveraged more than \$1.8 million in additional funding for conservation during the course of the project, a sum more than three times the project’s total budget. ■



However, work made possible by a three-year grant to BirdLife International significantly strengthened the hand of BirdLife partner organizations in Ghana and Sierra Leone and developed biodiversity conservation programs with SOS-FORETS in Côte d’Ivoire, Guinée Ecologie in Guinea, and the Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia.

Support for the program helped implement the CEPF investment priority to raise the capacity of civil society groups for conservation in the Guinean Forests of West Africa Hotspot.

Each organization now has biodiversity conservation programs that include components such as doing wildlife inventories, monitoring, establishing support groups in local communities, and helping develop national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

Seventy nationals in the five countries received training in BirdLife’s Important



Aerial view of forest and landscape, Côte d’Ivoire, West Africa.

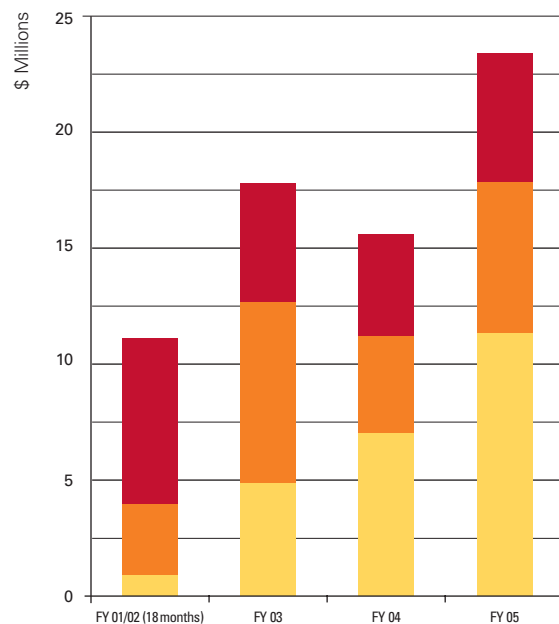
July 2004–June 2005

Financial Summary

FY 05 was a year of continuing robust growth, with CEPF committing \$23.3 million in new grants. With these new grants, the number of civil society partners CEPF has supported grew to more than 550, and its global portfolio increased to \$67.8 million.

CEPF investments in these groups—to develop, fund, and implement innovative conservation initiatives in step with its consensus-based regional strategies—now stretches across 15 active funding regions in the places where it matters most.

ANNUAL CEPF GRANT ACTIVITY



- Total Africa
- Total Latin America
- Total Asia-Pacific

Statement of Activities FY 05

REVENUE	
Funds received	\$ 29,452,947
Pledges receivable activity	(1,452,947)
Interest earned	197,175
Total revenue	28,197,175
EXPENSES AND COMMITTED FUNDING	
Grants	
Atlantic Forest	\$ 2,381,356
Cape Floristic Region	382,780
Caucasus	2,688,891
Eastern Arc Mountains & Coastal Forests of Tanzania & Kenya	3,094,919
Eastern Himalayas Region	500,000
Guinean Forests of West Africa	394,338
Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands	(201,306)*
Mesoamerica (Northern)	1,980,938
Mesoamerica (Southern)	823,731
Mountains of Southwest China	2,677,404
Philippines	2,602,472
Succulent Karoo	1,839,160
Sundaland	2,872,033
Tropical Andes	303,596
Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena	995,388
Total Grants	23,335,700
Ecosystem profile preparation	772,413
Business development, grantmaking, monitoring and evaluation, and knowledge management	2,987,584
Total Expenses	27,095,697**
Excess of revenue over expenses	1,101,478
Fund balance as of June 30, 2004	13,994,633
FUND BALANCE AT THE END OF THE PERIOD	15,096,111
FUND BALANCE AT THE END OF THE PERIOD CONSISTED OF:	
Cash	13,184,739
Pledges receivable	23,194,506
Grants payable (balance due on awarded grants)	(21,283,134)
Fund balance as of June 30, 2005	15,096,111
* Negative amounts in grants represent return of unspent grant funds.	
** The total grant expenses include new grants approved in FY 05 as well as financial amendments to grants committed in previous years.	

The CEPF Community

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Grantee Partners

Africa Environmental News Service
 African Butterfly Research Institute
 AfriBugs CC
 Afrique Nature International
 AGORO Centre for Intercultural Learning and Talent Development
 Alianza para la Conservación y el Desarrollo
 Amazon Conservation Association
 American Bird Conservancy
 Amigos del Museo de Historia Natural Noel Kempff Mercado
 Angweng Reincarnated Buddha
 Asociación Comercial y Agropecuaria de Chiriquí Grande
 Asociación de Amigos y Vecinos de la Costa y la Naturaleza
 Asociación de Desarrollo y Promoción Humana de la Costa Atlántica
 Asociación de Organizaciones del Corredor Biológico Talamanca Caribe

Asociación de Practicantes de Medicina Tradicional Naso
 Asociación de Turismo de Tres Colinas
 Asociación Ecuatoriana de Ecoturismo
 Asociación IXACAVAA de Desarrollo e Información Indígena
 Asociación Meralvis
 Asociación Nacional para la Conservación de la Naturaleza
 Asociación Peruana para la Conservación de la Naturaleza
 Asociación Trópico Verde/ParksWatch Guatemala
 Associação dos Proprietários de Reservas Particulares do Estado da Bahia
 Associação Flora Brasil
 Associação Mico-Leão-Dourado
 Association Fanamby
 Association of Environmental Lawyers of Liberia

Association pour la Gestion Intégrée et Durable de l'Environnement
 Baimaxueshan National Nature Reserve Management Office
 Baviaans Conservancy
 Beijing Shanmo Investment Consultancy Co.
 BirdLife International
 Bluefields Indian & Caribbean University
 Botanical Society of South Africa
 Brown Hyena Research Project
 Cagayan Valley Partners in People Development
 CARE Bolivia
 Susie Lee Cecchi
 Center for Biodiversity and Indigenous Knowledge
 Center for Russian Nature Conservation
 Central de Pueblos Indígenas de La Paz
 Central Mindanao University
 Centre Ecologique de Libanona

Emergency Funds Help Save Vital Habitat

Severe droughts in one of Guatemala's most valuable protected areas this year allowed isolated fires started to clear land and regenerate grassland pasture to spread out of control and sweep through nearly 50 percent of Laguna del Tigre National Park.

Swift support from CEPF, however, enabled local fire brigades to ensure the safety of 40,000 hectares of the park's most vital habitat. The area contains the nesting sites of more than half of Guatemala's 300 scarlet macaws (*Ara macau*) in the wild, as well as globally threatened species such as the Central American river turtle (*Dermatemys mawii*), Baird's tapir (*Tapirus bairdii*), and Morelet's crocodile (*Crocodylus moreletii*).

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and Alianza Kanteel, an alliance of local environmental NGOs, undertook the emergency action in partnership with the Guatemalan park

service and volunteers from local communities. They constructed four guard posts, organized permanent patrols by natural resource police and



Fire sweeps through Laguna del Tigre National Park's lush forests.

park guards, and mobilized community fire brigades to develop preventative fire lines around intact areas, among other activities.

"We are working hard to prevent continued loss in the area, but the best hope for the future is closer cooperation between all the different agencies here—government, NGOs, and community groups," WCS Project Manager Roan Balas McNab said.

The national park contains Central America's largest area of wetlands, which are important for many resident and migratory bird species. It also forms a vital part of the greater Selva Maya Forest, a key biodiversity area within the northern part of the Mesoamerica Hotspot.

Recognizing how halting further agricultural encroachment and colonization in Laguna del Tigre has much wider implications for the integrity and connectivity of the entire region, CEPF grants to WCS have also supported work to upgrade the management plan for the park in consultation with local communities and Alianza Kanteel. ■



“Up until now our partners have come from the public sector, but we have been introduced to a number of business networks and foundations through our work with CEPF. In fact, some of these partners are now seeking our help in implementing their social and environmental programs.”

—**Sonny Martires**, executive director of Yakap Kalikasan, a Philippine NGO working with Philippine Businesses for Social Progress to engage the private sector in supporting watershed conservation in the Sierra Madre Conservation Corridor.

Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza
 Centro Científico Tropical
 Centro de Estudios y Acción Social Panameño
 Centro para la Investigación en Sistemas Sostenibles de Producción Agropecuaria
 Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding Center
 China Youth Daily—Green Island
 Chinese Academy of Sciences
 Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli
 Concerned Environmentalists for the Enhancement of Biodiversity
 Conservation Management Ltd.
 Conservation Strategy Fund
 Conserve Africa Foundation
 Construction Planning Office of Shangri-la Alpine Botanic Garden
 Cooperativa do Produtores Orgânicos do Sul da Bahia
 Cornell University
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 Fan Enyuan
 Fauna & Flora International
 Federación de Centros Awá del Ecuador
 Federación Nacional de Cafeteros de Colombia, Comité Departamental de Cafeteros del Valle del Cauca
 The Field Museum of Natural History
 First Philippine Conservation, Inc.
 Flower Valley Conservation Trust
 Fondo Ambiental Nacional
 Fopspen Live Art
 Friends of Die Oog
 Friends of Nature, China
 Friends of the Environment for Development and Sustainability, Inc.
 Friends of Tokai Forest
 Fundação Biodiversitas para Conservação da Diversidade Biológica
 Fundação de Desenvolvimento da Pesquisa, Departamento de Biologia Geral
 Fundación Agro Ecológica Cotobuseña–Costa Rica

Fundación Altropico
 Fundación Amigos de la Naturaleza
 Fundación Amigos del Río San Juan
 Fundación Corcovado Lon Willing Ramsey Jr.
 Fundación de Defensa Ecológica
 Fundación de Parques Nacionales
 Fundación Ecotrópico Colombia
 Fundación Ecuatoriana de Estudios Ecológicos
 Fundación Jatun Sacha
 Fundación Neotropica
 Fundación para el Desarrollo Académico de la Universidad Nacional
 Fundación para el Desarrollo Agrario
 Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Ecología
 Fundación para el Desarrollo Integral del Corregimiento de Cerro Punta
 Fundación para el Desarrollo Sostenible
 Fundación para el Desarrollo Sostenible de Panamá
 Fundación para la Investigación y Conservación ProAves
 Fundación Rainforest Rescue
 Fundación San Marcos para el Desarrollo de la Ciencia y la Cultura
 Fundación Universidad Nacional
 Fynbos Forum
 Garden Route Botanical Garden Trust
 Garden Route Enviro Services
 Geo Terra Image (Pty) Ltd.
 Ghana Heritage Conservation Trust
 Ghana Wildlife Society
 Ghent University
 Global Environmental Institute
 Global Village Beijing
 Grand Gedeh Community Servant Association
 Green Earth Volunteers
 Green Law Institute for Action
 Green Student Organizations Society
 Green Watershed
 Greenomics Indonesia
 Grupo de Trabajo sobre Certificación Forestal Voluntaria en Ecuador
 Guinée-Ecologie
 Haribon Foundation for the Conservation of Natural Resources
 Nick Helme
 The Human Footprint
 Indigo Development and Change
 Indonesian Ecotourism Network
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 Sichuan Wildlife Resource Survey and Conservation Management Station
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 Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental
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 World Wildlife Fund Inc.
 Wupperthal Conservancy in partnership with the Pakhuis Conservancy
 Yakap Kalikasan Tungo sa Kaunlaran ng Pilipinas Inc.
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 Yayasan Rumpun Bambu Indonesia
 Yayasan Sikap Tulus Untuk Sesama
 Yele Nature Reserve Management Office, Sichuan
 Chen Youping
 Youth Volunteers Association of Yunnan University
 Yunnan Normal University
 Zeren Pingcuo
 Zhao Yao
 Zoological Society of Philadelphia

Regranting in the Field

CEPF has also enabled targeted regranting programs and initiatives that it supports to directly provide funding to more than 265 additional individuals and organizations, including:

Afrânio Silva Almeida
Esperanza Maribel G. Agoo
Agroecologia
Agropecuária Teimoso Ltda.
Agulhas National Park
Tamaryn Allan
Ambiente
Valmor Amorim
Mbolatiana Andriamiarinosy
Aristides de Oliveira Castro
Armenian Botanical Society
Armenian Tourist Association
Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment
Darnicio Assis
Associação Alerta Verde

Associação Baiana para Conservação dos Recursos Naturais
Associação Comunitária Alternativa
Associação de Apoio a Escola do Colegio Estadual José Martins da Costa
Associação de Certificação de Produtos Orgânicos do ES
Associação de Cultura e Educação Ambiental
Associação de Defesa do Meio Ambiente Vale Verde
Associação de Fomento Turístico e Desenvolvimento Sustentavel
Associação de Moradores do Marimbu, Santo Antônio e Rio Negro
Associação de Pescadores e Amigos do Rio Paraíba do Sul
Associação de Programas em Tecnologias Alternativas
Associação de Proprietários de Reservas Particulares da Bahia

Associação dos Agricultores Familiares de Alto Santa Maria, Rio Lamêgo e Barra do Rio Claro
Associação dos Amigos do Rio Piraquê-Açu em Defesa da Natureza e do Meio
Associação dos Moradores do Vale do Rio do Braço/Santana
Associação dos Pequenos Produtores Rurais de Aruanda
Associação dos Proprietários de RPPN e Reservas Privadas de Minas Gerais
Associação Pedagógica Dendê da Serra
Associação pelo Meio Ambiente de Juiz de Fora
Associação pró-Melhoramento Ambiental da Região do Caparaó
Associação Protetora da Infância Provincia do Paraná
Associação Vila-velhense de Proteção Ambiental
Association Fanamby
Association for Nature Protection and Sustainable Use—“Mta-Bari”
Association of Friends of Nature—“Tskhratskharo”
Association of Scientists-Ecologists—“Caucasian Ecohouse”
Association Journalists and the Society
Autonomous Noncommercial Organization
Institute of Environmental Economics and Nature Resources Account
Roger Bailey
Mandy Barnett
Amilcar Benetti
Binhi sang Kauswagan Foundation Inc.
Biodiversity and Landscape Conservation Union
Biodiversity Conservation Center
Biodiversity Conservation Foundation
BioResource Conservation Trust for the Philippines Inc.
BirdLife International
Bontebok National Park
Jannie Burrows
Cape Flats Nature
CapeNature (formerly Western Cape Nature Conservation Board)
Luiz Nelson Faria Cardoso
Caspian Institute of Biological Resources of the Dagestan Scientific Centre at the Academy of Science of Russia
Caucasus Center for Ethological Research
Cebu Biodiversity Conservation Foundation Inc.
Center for Biodiversity
Centre for Environmental Education
Centro Comunitário Rural da Colina
Centro de Desenvolvimento Agroecológico do Extremo Sul da Bahia TERRA VIVA



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Guaçu-Virá
Centro de Estudos e Pesquisas para o
Desenvolvimento do Extremo Sul da
Bahia
Centro de Estudos Ecológicos e Educação
Ambiental
The Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of
the University of Oxford
Charitable Foundation Biodiversity
Conservation Center
Chengdu Institute of Biology
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Ecology and Conservation of Birds
"Ecolur" Informative NGO
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"The results for the small NGOs are really significant. The money is not that much, but for them it represents a unique opportunity to get things like equipment, improve their capacity to implement a program, and show people that they are actually doing it."

—**Denise Marçal Rambaldi** of *Associação Mico-Leão-Dourado*, which manages a CEPF small grants program for institutional strengthening in the Atlantic Forest Hotspot.

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