CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND

Final Assessment

CEPF Investment in the Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot

November 2020

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1. Introduction

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) is designed to safeguard the world's biologically richest and most threatened regions known as biodiversity hotspots. It is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Conservation International (CI), the European Union (EU), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Government of Japan, and the World Bank

Encompassing more than 2 million square kilometers of tropical Asia, Indo-Burma is the largest and one of the most geographically diverse of Earth's 36 biodiversity hotspots. The hotspot encompasses a number of major mountain ranges, including the Annamite Mountains and eastern extensions of the Himalayas, as well as extensive areas of limestone karst and five of Asia's largest rivers: the Ayeyarwady, Salween (Nujiang), Mekong, Red and Pearl (Zhujiang). Its sweeping expanse of level lowlands embraces several fertile floodplains and deltas and includes Tonle Sap Lake in Cambodia, Southeast Asia's largest and most productive freshwater lake.

As a result of a high diversity of landforms and climatic zones, Indo-Burma supports a wide variety of habitats and, thus, high overall biodiversity. This diversity has been further increased by the development of endemism due to the hotspot's geological and evolutionary history. Centers of plant and animal endemism include the Annamite Mountains and the highlands of southern China and northern Vietnam. Consequently, the Indo-Burma Hotspot ranks in the top 10 hotspots for irreplaceability. Unfortunately, it is also ranked in the top five for threat, with only 5 percent of its original natural habitat remaining.

Indo-Burma holds more people than any other hotspot, the vast majority of whom depend for their livelihoods on the services provided by the hotspot's natural ecosystems. Of particular importance, in a region where paddy rice and fish protein provide the staple diet of more than 300 million people, are hydrological services and provisioning of fish and other freshwater products. The issues of poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation are inextricably linked.

In common with many of the world's biodiversity hotspots, a combination of economic development and human population growth is placing unprecedented pressures on Indo-Burma's natural capital. This is compounded by a lack of effective systems to manage these pressures and a dearth of environmentally sustainable development models. An extensive stakeholder consultation exercise conducted by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) in 2011 identified hunting and trade of wildlife as the highest ranked threat to biodiversity in the hotspot. Conversion of natural habitats into agro-industrial plantations of rubber, oil palm, tea and other cash crops was identified as the next highest threat, followed by proliferation of hydropower dams, which is the major threat to riverine ecosystems in the hotspot. The broad consensus from the stakeholder consultations was that all three threats are getting more severe, and will continue to do so, at least in the short-term. In every case, these threats have major implications for national economies and the livelihoods of rural people, both of which depend upon the services provided by natural ecosystems.

The 2000s saw a gradual reduction in the amount of funding available for biodiversity conservation in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, as donors shifted focus to other issues (most notably climate change) or withdrew from countries altogether. At the

same time, changing political and economic conditions facilitated increased private and public investment in hydropower, agroindustry, mining and other industries with potentially large environmental footprints. While these trends present ever-greater conservation challenges, one positive development has been the growth of local civil society groups engaged in biodiversity conservation and related issues of sustainable development, poverty alleviation and social equity.

The emergence of these groups presents new opportunities to engage civil society, in collaboration with private and public sector partners, in addressing the urgent conservation challenges facing the hotspot. To this end, CEPF launched an investment program in Indo-Burma in 2013, building on the results of an earlier program, from 2008 to 2013. The program was initially expected to run until 2018 but, thanks to additional commitments of funding by Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies and the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, it was extended until 2020.

This report aims to assess attainment of the objective and outcomes set in the Indo-Burma Hotspot ecosystem profile and to summarize lessons learned arising from the grant portfolio over the 2013-2020 investment phase. It draws on experience, lessons learned and project reports generated by civil society groups implementing CEPF grants. In addition, it builds upon previous Annual Portfolio Overview reports as well as the results of the Mid-Term Assessment conducted in 2015.

2. CEPF Niche and Strategy

2.1 CEPF Niche

CEPF investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot focused on Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam, plus parts of southern China (Figure 1). The current investment program was informed by the ecosystem profile for the hotspot, which was prepared in 2011, through an extensive consultation process coordinated by the CEPF Secretariat, in collaboration with BirdLife International in Indochina, the CI-China Program, Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden, the Samdhana Institute and the Yunnan Green Environment Development Foundation. The process engaged more than 470 stakeholders from civil society, government, and donor institutions.

The ecosystem profile presented an overview of the Indo-Burma Hotspot, in terms of its biodiversity conservation importance, and socioeconomic, policy and civil society contexts. It defined a suite of measurable conservation outcomes, at species, site and corridor scales, and assessed the major direct threats to biodiversity and their root causes. This analysis was complemented by assessments of current conservation investment, and the implications of climate change for biodiversity conservation. The ecosystem profile articulated an overarching investment strategy for funders interested in supporting conservation efforts led by civil society, including a niche where CEPF's investment can provide the greatest incremental value.

The investment niche for CEPF built on the experience of the earlier phase of investment, from 2008 to 2013, by focusing on approaches that had demonstrated success, moving from pilot projects to longer-term interventions, and integrating results more concretely into government programs and policies. At the same time, the CEPF niche responded to conservation issues that were emerging at the time the ecosystem profile was prepared, such as wildlife trade, hydropower development and

expansion of agro-industry, with strategies developed through extensive consultation with practitioners in the field. These strategies were focused on the corridors where these conservation issues were most acutely felt: the Mekong River and its major tributaries; Tonle Sap Lake and its inundation zone; the limestone highlands along the Vietnam-China border; and the mountains of Hainan Island. The geographic scope of the CEPF niche also embraced Myanmar, to take advantage of opportunities to strengthen capacity among civil society organizations in the country and enable them to undertake priority conservation actions in a rapidly changing political and development context.

Within these priority geographies, CEPF investment in site-scale interventions concentrated at Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs): sites that contribute significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity. Seventy-four KBAs were identified in the ecosystem profile as priority sites for CEPF investment. The CEPF niche also had a taxonomic element, as 151 globally threatened species in the hotspot were identified as priority species for CEPF investment (six additional species were added to the list following the mid-term assessment).

Figure 1. Boundaries of the Indo-Burma Hotspot Followed by CEPF Investment

2.2 Investment Strategy

In line with this niche, the ecosystem profile defined an investment strategy for CEPF in Indo-Burma, comprising 21 investment priorities[1] grouped into six strategic directions:

1. Safeguard priority globally threatened species by mitigating major threats.

2. Demonstrate innovative responses to illegal trafficking and consumption of wildlife.

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

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

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

11. Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of conservation investment through a regional implementation team.

The ecosystem profile was approved by the CEPF Donor Council in October 2012, with a total spending authority of US$10.4 million. The Donor Council subsequently approved the appointment of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Asia Regional Office (ARO) as the regional implementation team (RIT) for the hotspot. IUCN ARO began work as the RIT in July 2013, thus beginning the second phase of CEPF investment in the hotspot. The spending authority for Indo-Burma was subsequently raised to almost US$15.8 million, thanks to additional commitments by CEPF's global and regional donors. These funds were used to support two types of grants: "large grants", typically over US$20,000, awarded directly by the CEPF Secretariat; and "small grants" of up to US$20,000, awarded by the RIT.

3. Regional Implementation Team

IUCN served as the RIT for the second investment phase in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, in partnership with Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden (KFBG) and Myanmar Environment Rehabilitation-conservation Network (MERN). Overall coordination of the team was provided by an RIT Manager, based at the IUCN Asia Regional Office in Bangkok. The RIT Manager was supported by a Senior Technical Adviser, a Finance Manager, a Communications Manager and an Admin Officer, all also based in Bangkok. At the national level, implementation was supported by IUCN staff based at the relevant country programs, as well as by staff of KFBG in China and MERN in Myanmar. Every country had a National Coordinator, who was a local country national, able to work in the main local language. In most countries, the National

[1] Following the mid-term assessment in 2015, the number of investment priorities was increased to 24.

Coordinator was supported by a Finance Officer. Most of the RIT staff worked on the program part time, alongside other duties, which ensured good integration of the RIT functions within the overall programs of IUCN, KFBG and MERN.

As well as establishing an experienced, integrated team, IUCN and its partners put in place necessary structures to ensure transparency and technical rigor in the proposal review process, and facilitate uptake of the results of CEPF-supported pilot projects into national policy processes, through the establishment of National Advisory Committees. These committees brought together representatives of government, civil society and the donor community in each country, and had an advisory role in the review process for applications in their respective countries. This process also involved voluntary peer reviewers from the conservation community in Indo-Burma, and drew on expertise from within IUCN's commissions, especially the Species Survival Commission and its specialist groups. IUCN also put in place the necessary processes to ensure compliance of small grants with CEPF's financial management policies, and environmental and social safeguards.

Towards the end of the RIT grant, an independent evaluation was carried out by the consulting firm Integrated Sustainability Solutions. The evaluation involved a virtual inception workshop, desk research, key informant interviews, post-research verification of initial conclusions, and triangulation of various data sources. The overall rating given to the RIT by the independent evaluation was Highly Satisfactory, reflecting the good performance of the RIT with managing a large portfolio, making grants accessible to small, local organizations, and achieving impact at the portfolio scale. Nevertheless, the evaluation identified several areas with room for improvement. It recommended that a more decentralized approach, with an expanded role for the National Coordinators, would have enabled greater connections at national level and decreased the burden on the RIT Team Leader. It also recommended that the RIT should have considered awarding fewer small grants to cut down on management burden.

4. Impact Summary

The impacts of the second CEPF investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot were assessed at a final assessment workshop held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, in May 2019. At that point, one-in-four grants were still active. Results from these grants were verified as they closed, based on information provided in their final completion and impact reports, correspondence with grantees and, in some cases, site visits. These results were then incorporated with those collated at the final assessment workshop to produce a complete picture of the impacts of the investment phase.

The second investment phase was initially expected to run for five years, from July 2013 to June 2018. Thanks to the additional commitments of funding for CEPF's global and regional donors, it was extended until June 2020. All small grants ended by December 2019 and it was planned that all large grants would end by June 2020. Due the COVID-19 pandemic, however, five large grants were granted no-cost extensions, to allow them time to complete project activities postponed due to restrictions on travel and meetings. At the time of writing (November 2020), three of these grants were still active. For the purposes of this report, it is assumed that the anticipated results of these grants will be achieved and the CEPF funding will be fully utilized.

The impacts of the CEPF investment phase are described in Sections 6 to 9 and Annex 1. Key impacts included the following:

- Long-term conservation programs put in place for core populations of 31 priority species.
- Initiatives to reduce wildlife trafficking across the Cambodia-Vietnam, Lao PDR-Vietnam, Vietnam-China and Myanmar-China borders piloted, resulting in intelligence-led seizures of major shipments of ivory, pangolin scales and other illegally traded products, and public commitments by private companies of zero tolerance towards illegal wildlife trade.
- Strengthened protection and management of 1.4 million hectares within 55 KBAs.
- Community-based conservation models piloted at 16 KBAs, including community forests, community fisheries and community-managed protected areas.
- Tangible wellbeing benefits gained by 162 local communities, including improved land tenure, food security and access to ecosystem services.
- Impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services of 13 development policies, plans and programs analyzed and mitigating measures proposed.
- Public debate and awareness of 10 key environmental issues increased through coverage in domestic media.
- Five pilot models for biodiversity-friendly production established, including rice farming, medicinal plant collection and cement manufacture.
- Establishment or strengthening of 51 civil society networks, enabling collective responses to priority and emerging threats.
- Strengthened capacity of 135 civil society organizations working on conservation issues.

5. Implementing Strategy

5.1 Collaboration with CEPF's Donors and other Funders

The CEPF investment program in the Indo-Burma Hotspot was informed by the ecosystem profile, which was updated in 2011 as a joint activity of CEPF, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies and the McKnight Foundation. The four funders used the ecosystem profile to guide their investments in the hotspot, and in particular the Lower Mekong Region (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam). The investment niches of the funders were differentiated by grant size, grantee type and strategic direction. CEPF's niche focused on six strategic directions and used a mix of small and medium-sized grants to engage both local and international civil society organizations.

As well as using the ecosystem profile as a guide, the four funders established an informal donor collaborative (the 'Lower Mekong Funders Group'), which was later expanded to include the Chino Cienega Foundation and the McConnell Foundation. The funders met several times per year (virtually and in-person) to coordinate and better align their support to civil society organizations working on issues of biodiversity, communities and sustainable livelihoods. The grantees and staff of the funders were invited to participate in the mid-term and final assessment workshops, to facilitate exchange of experience and identify new opportunities for collaboration. Lastly, the funders participated in joint efforts to establish the Lower Mekong Network among implementing organizations, funders and their intermediaries. The

purpose of the network is to provide a platform on which to build common understanding; to learn, share, and discuss strategies; and to pursue common purposes and address common challenges so that each individual organization's position will be strengthened, aiding them in achieving their goals in the Lower Mekong Region. Since its establishment in 2016, the network has grown and four annual regional meetings have been held.

In addition to participating in the Lower Mekong Funders Group, CEPF participated in a similar collaboration with conservation funders for Myanmar. This involved the Arcus Foundation, the blue moon fund, the Chino Cienega Foundation, the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, and Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies. The meetings of this group were discontinued in 2018, after some members ended their grant-making in Myanmar.

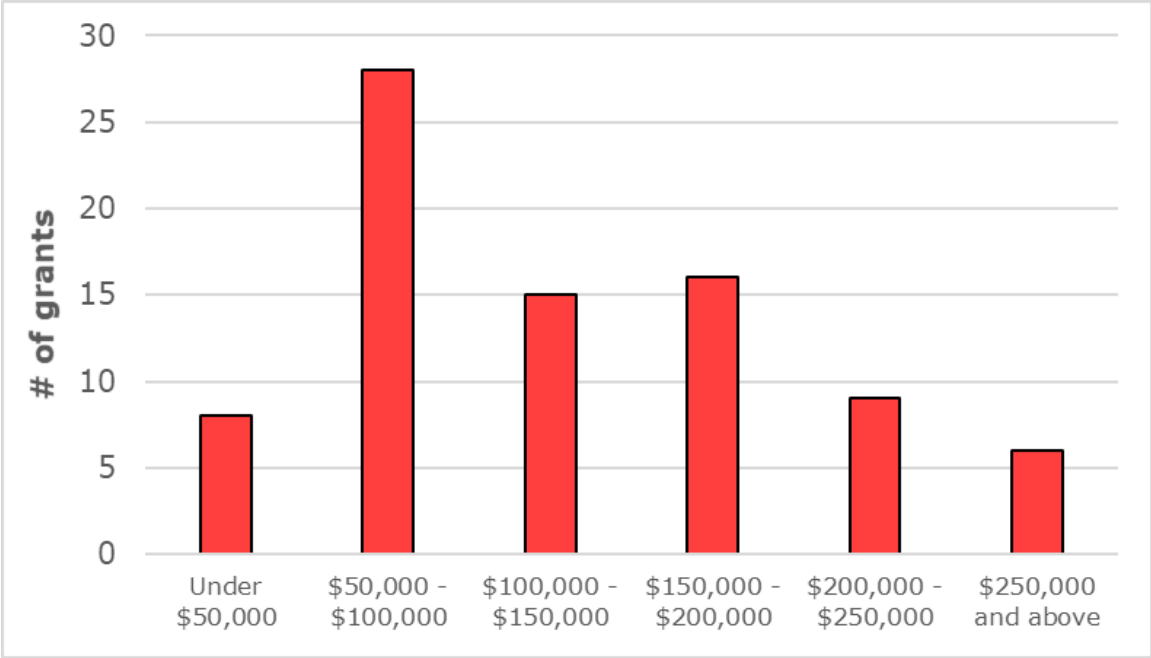
The CEPF Secretariat and RIT also liaised with the offices of CEPF's global donors in the hotspot, to inform them about the program. Visits were made to their offices during supervision missions, and staff from these offices with an environmental brief were invited to attend the mid-term and final assessment workshops, as well as to participate in National Advisory Committee meetings. Due to practical challenges, such as conflicting schedules and staff turnover, as well as a limited focus of the donor's national portfolios on biodiversity conservation and civil society, these collaborations did not extend beyond information sharing.

5.2 Resource Allocation

During the CEPF investment phase, 10 calls for proposals were issued, with the last being launched in April 2017. These calls were widely advertised, and they generated 1,056 letters of inquiry, comprising 346 for large grants and 710 for small grants. Overall, one in four large grant applications and one in seven small grant applications was successful. In addition to awarding grants through competitive calls, five grants were made on an invitation basis, to respond to a time-limited opportunity or to facilitate a change in implementing organization.

Including the grants generated through open calls for proposals, the two RIT grants and the four grants by invitation, a total of 189 grants were awarded, with a total value of US$15.4 million. These comprised 84 large grants (including two to IUCN to serve as the RIT), with a total value of $13.6 million, and 105 small grants, with a total value of US$1.8 million. Excluding the RIT grants, the mean large grant amount was US$142,310. The distribution of large grants by amount is shown in Figure 2. Only six large grants greater than US$250,000 were awarded, of which the largest was US$533,637. This was for a four-and-a-half-year project at multiple priority sites. The mean small grant amount was US$17,015. This reflected the fact that the maximum small grant award was US$20,000; most applicants requested the full amount and some then went on to return unspent funds at the close of their grants.

Figure 2. Distribution of Large Grants* by Grant Amount



Note: * = excluding the two large grants awarded to IUCN to serve as the RIT.

Apart for the five grants by invitation, all grants were awarded on a competitive basis. In line with CEPF's mission to strengthen and engage civil society in conservation of biodiversity in the global hotspots, preference was given to projects demonstrating a leading role for local organizations and/or an explicit focus on capacity building for local civil society. Other than during the third and fourth calls, which were restricted to local organizations, international organizations were not excluded from applying for grants. However, they were expected to demonstrate a clear competitive advantage and/or to possess unique capabilities. Even then, to the extent possible, international organizations receiving CEPF grants were expected to transfer skills to national organizations and staff.

Excluding the two RIT grants, 129 of the 187 grants awarded (69 percent) were to local organizations. Because of the smaller average grant award to local organizations, they received only 43 percent of the total funding awarded by value. If the situation for large and small grants is compared, the importance of small grants in making CEPF funding accessible to local actors is highlighted. Local organizations received 88 of the 105 small grants (84 percent) and 82 percent of the funding, compared with 41 of the 82 large grants (50 percent) and only 37 percent of the funding.

During the first CEPF investment phase (2008-2013), local organizations received only 37 percent of the grants and 19 percent of the funding. It can be seen, therefore, that local civil society was able to access a much greater proportion of CEPF support during the second phase. There are two main explanations for this trend. First, the RIT was proactive in reaching out to local organizations, especially small organizations with little previous experience of managing grants from international donors, and assisting them to apply, including through focused trainings in project design and proposal writing. Second, there has been a significant growth in

the number and capacity of civil society organizations working on biodiversity conservation and related fields in the hotspot over the last decade.

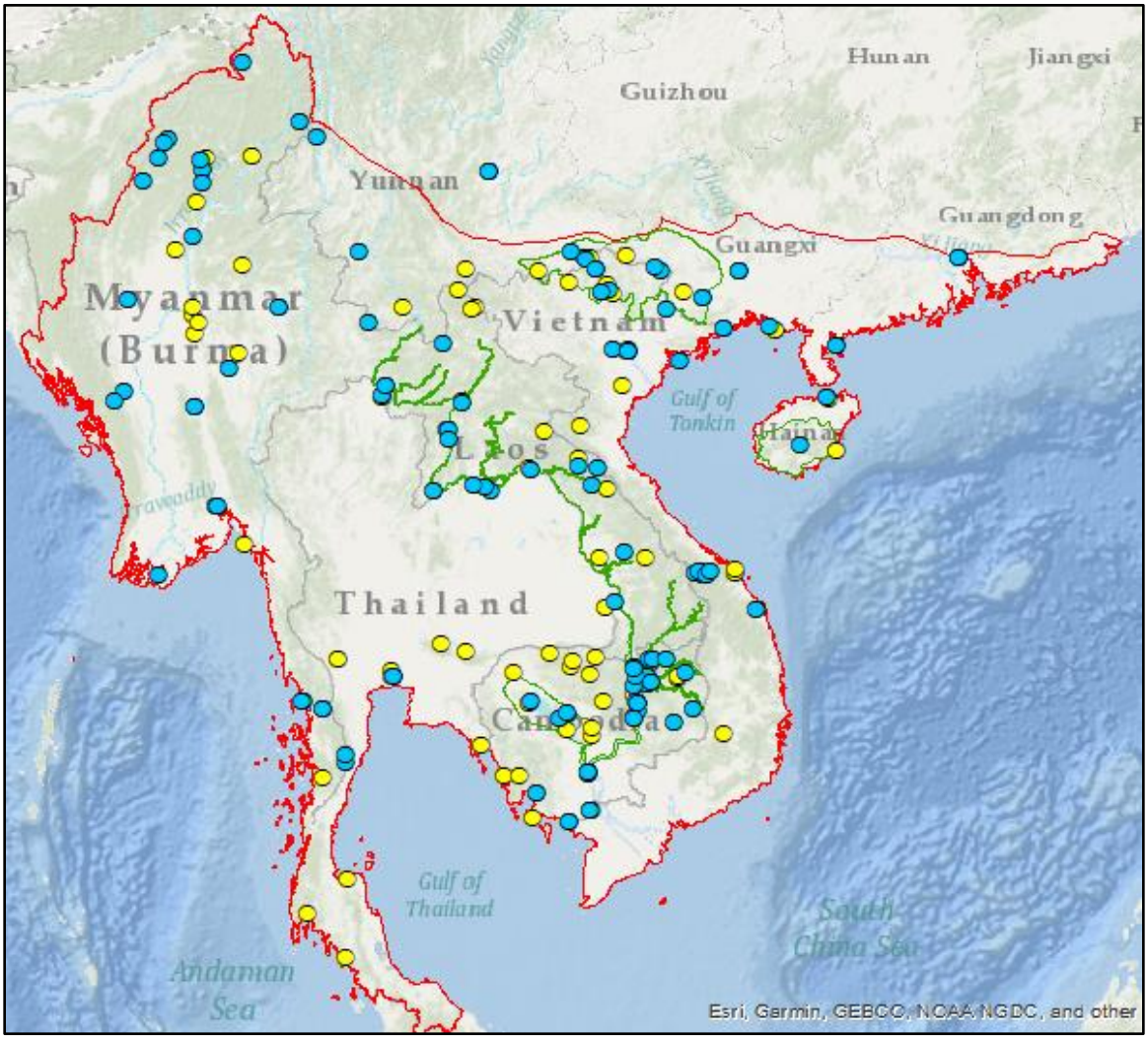
No targets for number of grants or amount of funding were set for individual countries within the hotspot. Rather, the geographic distribution of grants was determined by the quality and quantity of applications received in different countries, the degree of fit with the CEPF investment niche, and the cost of different activities. The distribution of the grant portfolio by country is given in Table 1. As can be seen, the country that received the greatest amount of investment, both in terms of number of grants and funding amount was Cambodia. Cambodia contains two priority corridors and 14 priority sites, and also has a large number of civil society organizations. In comparison, Thailand, which contains part of one priority corridor and only one priority site, received the lowest amount of funding and the fewest individual grants. Eight grants had a geographic focus on more than one country. In addition to the two RIT grants, these comprised six grants that focused on transnational conservation issues, such as hydropower dam development and wildlife trade.

Table 1. Distribution of CEPF Investment by Country

Country	# of grants	% of total	Funding amount	% of total
Cambodia	51	27	$4,428,866	29
China	27	14	$1,428,112	9
Lao PDR	22	12	$1,574,677	10
Myanmar	33	17	$2,114,958	14
Thailand	19	10	$523,407	3
Vietnam	29	15	$2,317,057	15
Multi-country	8	4	$3,041,854	20
Total	**189**	**100**	**$15,428,930**	**100**

Figure 3 shows the locations of the principal project sites of CEPF grantees supported during the investment phase. The number of points does not correlate directly to the number of grants, because some grants had multiple project sites. Also, some grants were implemented at the same sites; these are overlayed in the map and do not show up as separate points. Moreover, some grants comprised wholly or mainly activities that were not field based (e.g., desk studies, communication, financial capacity building); the project sites for these grants are mapped to the relevant national or (in the case of China) provincial capital. What can be seen from Figure 3 is that, while there is a concentration of project sites in the four priority corridors, CEPF investment was distributed throughout many parts of the hotspot. This can be explained by the fact that grants under Strategic Directions 1, 2 and 8 were not restricted to priority sites and corridors. With regard to the priority geographies for CEPF investment, there were significant concentrations of grants in the Mekong River and Major Tributaries (42), Sino-Vietnamese Limestone (20) and Tonle Sap Lake and Inundation Zone (11) corridors, and Myanmar (35) but only four grants in Hainan.

Figure 3. Project Sites of CEPF Grantees



Notes: project sites of small grants are shown in yellow; those of large grants are shown in blue; priority corridors are shown in green; the hotspot boundary is shown in red.

Regarding thematic priorities, a funding allocation was set for each strategic direction when the ecosystem profile was approved by the CEPF Donor Council. The original allocations were later supplemented by additional commitments of funding from global and regional donors. Overall, the distribution of CEPF investment by strategic direction followed the (revised) allocations (Table 2). For four of the six strategic directions, the total value of grants awarded was within two percentage points of the funding allocation. Significant variation from the funding allocation was only observed for two strategic directions; in both cases the allocation was underspent. For Strategic Direction 2, the underspend was due to a large grant that ended prematurely and returned a large amount of unspent funding. For Strategic Direction 8, four small grants in China were awarded under this strategic direction but the grantees were unable to receive the funding, due to changes in the local regulatory environment. After prolonged efforts, it was decided to close these grants and de-obligate the full grant amounts. By this stage, it was too late to make use of the de-obligated funding for other grants.

Table 2: Distribution of CEPF Investment by Strategic Direction

Strategic Direction	Funding Allocation	Awarded Grants			Amount Under/(Over) Budget	% of Funding Allocation
		Total Amount	# of large grants	# of small grants		
SD1	$2,121,203	$2,152,257	15	13	($31,054)	-1.5
SD2	$1,200,000	$1,056,010	5	1	$143,990	12.0
SD4	$4,200,000	$4,167,517	28	22	$32,483	0.8
SD6	$4,355,000	$4,351,798	25	10	$3,202	0.1
SD8	$1,890,000	$1,728,444	9	59	$161,556	8.5
SD11	$2,000,000	$1,972,904	2	0	$27,096	1.4
Total	**$15,766,203**	**$15,428,930**	**84**	**105**	**$337,273**	**2.1**

5.3 Portfolio Investment Description by Strategic Direction

The investment strategy for the Indo-Burma Hotspot comprised 24 investment priorities, grouped into six strategic directions. Investment was distributed across the six strategic directions, in line with the funding allocations approved by the CEPF Donor Council (Table 2). Investments under one strategic direction often addressed investment priorities under others. For instance, an intervention at a priority site under Strategic Direction 4 might also address the conservation of a priority species under Strategic Direction 1, while strengthening the capacity of a local civil society organization under Strategic Direction 8.

CEPF investment under Strategic Direction 1 aimed to safeguard priority globally threatened species by mitigating major threats. The 15 large and 13 small grants that were awarded supported targeted conservation actions for priority species, in particular by addressing the threat of over-exploitation. Pilot interventions for core populations of priority species were transitioned into longer-term programs, best-practice approaches were developed for conserving highly threatened and endemic freshwater species, and long-standing information gaps about the status of key species were filled. CEPF aimed to support existing funds to become effective tools for the conservation of priority species in the hotspot, in order to enhance the financial sustainability of species conservation efforts in the hotspot. However, this remained a gap, because the main opportunity pursued made slower progress than anticipated and was not in a position to receive investment by the end of the investment phase.

CEPF investment under Strategic Direction 2 aimed to demonstrate innovative responses to illegal trafficking and consumption of wildlife. This strategic direction received the smallest amount of investment, with only one small and five large grants being awarded. Enforcement agencies were supported to unravel high-level wildlife trade networks, and introduced to global best practice with investigations and informants. These efforts were complemented by facilitating collaboration among enforcement agencies and non-traditional actors to reduce cross-border trafficking of wildlife, and working with private sector companies to promote the adoption of voluntary restrictions on transportation, sale and consumption of wildlife. Finally, the general public was engaged through campaigns, social marketing, hotlines and other

long-term communication programs to reduce consumer demand for wildlife and build public support for wildlife law enforcement.

CEPF investment under Strategic Direction 4 aimed to empower local communities to engage in conservation and management of priority sites. The 28 large and 22 small grants that were awarded supported a range of approaches across the four priority corridors and Myanmar. Awareness about conservation legislation was raised among target groups, community forests, community fisheries and community-managed protected areas were piloted and amplified, while, within protected areas, co-management mechanisms were developed that enable community participation. In addition, KBA gap analyses were undertaken to guide expansion of the protected area network in Myanmar.

Under Strategic Direction 6, CEPF investment aimed to engage key actors in mainstreaming biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into development planning in the priority corridors. The 25 large and 10 small grants that were awarded employed a wide range of approaches. The impacts of development policies, plans, and programs on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods were evaluated, and alternative development scenarios and appropriate mitigating measures were proposed. The biodiversity and ecosystem service values of priority corridors were integrated into land-use and development plans and financial decision making. Models for biodiversity-friendly production, including certification and eco-labelling, were piloted, and protocols and demonstration projects for ecological restoration were developed. The enabling conditions for biodiversity conservation were improved by engaging mainstream media to increase awareness and inform public debate of environmental issues.

CEPF investment under Strategic Direction 8 aimed to strengthen the capacity of civil society to work on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods at regional, national, local and grassroots levels. Nine large and 59 small grants were awarded, indicating that small grants are particularly well suited to capacity building, as they are more accessible to small organizations with limited experience of managing international-donor-funded projects. Networking activities were supported, to enable collective responses to priority and emerging threats, and core support was provided to local civil society organizations for organizational development. CEPF also aimed to support the establishment of clearing house mechanisms that match volunteers to civil society organizations' training needs but this remained a gap at the end of the investment phase.

Finally, CEPF investment under Strategic Direction 11 aimed to provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of conservation investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot. This strategic direction provided for the establishment of the RIT, which was supported through two large grants: one to operationalize and coordinate CEPF's grant-making processes and procedures, and the other to build a broad constituency of civil society groups working towards the shared goals in the ecosystem profile.

6. Biodiversity Conservation Results

6.1 Threatened Species

The ecosystem profile identified 151 globally threatened species as priorities for CEPF investment, comprising 103 vertebrates and 48 plants. CEPF grants supported

species-focused actions for 35 of these species (Table 3), while at least 10 others benefited indirectly from site-focused or policy actions. All but three of the targeted species were vertebrates. This reflects a bias towards conservation of vertebrates, which exists among conservation organizations in the hotspot, as well as the fact that most plants (and invertebrates) have conservation needs that can be addressed by general habitat conservation and, hence, have less need for species-focused interventions.

Table 3: Priority Species Benefiting from Species-focused Actions

Priority Species	English Name	Pilot interventions transformed into long-term conservation programs	Best practice approaches developed for threatened and endemic freshwater species	Improved knowledge on status and distribution
MAMMALS				
Axis porcinus	Hog Deer	X		
Muntiacus vuquangensis	Large-antlered Muntjac	X		X
Nomascus nasutus	Cao Vit Crested Gibbon	X		
Orcaella brevirostris	Irrawaddy Dolphin	X	X	
Prionailurus viverrinus	Fishing Cat			X
Pseudoryx nghetinhensis	Saola	X		
Pygathrix nemaeus	Red-shanked Douc	X		
Rhinopithecus avunculus	Tonkin Snub-nosed Monkey	X		
Rucervus eldii	Eld's Deer	X		
Trachypithecus francoisi	François's Leaf Monkey	X		
Trachypithecus germaini	Indochinese Silvered Leaf Monkey	X		
Trachypithecus poliocephalus	White-headed Leaf Monkey	X		
BIRDS				
Eurynorhynchus pygmeus	Spoon-billed Sandpiper	X		
Grus antigone	Sarus Crane	X		
Gyps bengalensis	White-rumped Vulture	X		
Gyps tenuirostris	Slender-billed Vulture	X		
Heliopais personata	Masked Finfoot			X

Houbaropsis bengalensis	Bengal Florican	X		
Leptoptilos dubius	Greater Adjutant	X		
Leptoptilos javanicus	Lesser Adjutant	X		
Lophura edwardsi	Edwards's Pheasant			X
Pseudibis davisoni	White-shouldered Ibis	X		
Sarcogyps calvus	Red-headed Vulture	X		
REPTILES				
*Batagur affinis**	Southern Mangrove Terrapin	X	X	
Batagur trivittata	Burmese Roofed Turtle	X	X	
Crocodylus siamensis	Siamese Crocodile		X	
Geochelone platynota	Burmese Star Tortoise	X		
Mauremys annamensis	Vietnamese Pond Turtle	X		
Morenia ocellata	Burmese Eyed Turtle			X
Pelochelys cantorii	Asian Giant Softshell Turtle	X	X	
Rafetus swinhoei	East Asian Giant Softshell Turtle	X		X
FISH				
Probarbus jullieni	Jullien's Golden Carp	X	X	
Probarbus labeamajor	Thick-lipped Barb	X	X	
PLANTS				
Cycas debaoensis	Debao Fern Cycad	X		
Vatica guangxiensis	Guangxi Vatica	X		X
Xanthocyparis vietnamensis	Golden Vietnam Cypress	X		

Notes: * = treated as conspecific with *Batagur baska* in the ecosystem profile.

Pilot interventions for 31 priority species supported during the first phase of CEPF investment were transformed into longer-term conservation programs. For example, efforts to conserve Cambodia's three Critically Endangered vulture species under the auspices of the Cambodia Vulture Conservation Project were transformed into a permanent Cambodia Vulture Working Group, which was connected to the Saving Asia's Vultures from Extinction (SAVE) initiative for long-term support. Also in Cambodia, a decade-long program of conservation action for the population of Asian giant softshell turtle (*Pelochelys cantorii*) along the central section of the Mekong River was successfully transferred to long-term management by Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and the Fisheries Administration (FiA). Another example comes from Lao PDR, where a decade's worth of conservation effort for the population of Eld's deer (*Rucervus eldii*) in Savannakhet province was consolidated through expansion of integrated spatial development planning, capacity building for

local government staff and village conservation teams, and leveraging of GEF funding for long-term management of the Eld's Deer Sanctuary.

Also, best practice approaches were developed and demonstrated for highly threatened and/or endemic freshwater species. It was originally anticipated that these would mainly be fish species but, despite 27 fishes being included on the list of priority species, surprisingly few proposals to work on these species were received. Consequently, the seven species that benefited comprised three turtles, one crocodilian, one cetacean and only two fishes. The best practice approaches developed for the three turtles were all variants of the same model, featuring *in situ* protection of breeding individuals and nesting sites and *ex situ* 'head-starting' of turtle hatchlings, to increase survivorship, combined with measures specific to the local context. For example, after sand mining was identified as a threat to the nesting habitats of southern mangrove terrapin (*Batagur affinis*), the project team used scientific data to advocate for the introduction of a decree and circular by the Ministry of Mines and Energy banning sand mining throughout the majority of the Sre Ambel river system. For the two fishes, the best practice approach was based upon the fish conservation zone model developed elsewhere in Lao PDR. This model was adapted to the local context and combined with local innovations, such as using Buddhist ceremonies and spirit houses to consecrate fish conservation zones.

As well as directly addressing threats to populations of priority species, CEPF grantees also undertook research to improve knowledge of the status and distribution of seven priority species. In some cases, this led to the discovery of new populations. For example, one of the two most important populations globally of large-antlered muntjac (*Muntiacus vuquangensis*) was found in Lao PDR. In other cases, for instance Burmese eyed turtle (*Morenia ocellata*), studies shed new light on the distribution of the species, its ecological requirements and/or its seasonal movements, allowing protection efforts to be targeted better and potential sites for reintroduction to be identified.

These investments by CEPF, in combination with those by other funders, enabled civil society organizations and their local community and government partners to make sustained, evidence-led interventions aimed at addressing threats to priority species. In many cases, these interventions led to a measurable decrease in threat levels over the period of CEPF support, and to some populations of priority species stabilizing or increasing. For example, the population of Eld's deer in Savannakhet, Lao PDR, mentioned above increased from under 20 individuals in the late 2000s to around 100 in 2017. In Vietnam, the population of Tonkin snub-nosed monkey (*Rhinopithecus avunculus*) at Khau Ca KBA increased from 90 individuals in 2009 to 144 in 2019, while the population of François's leaf monkey (*Trachypithecus francoisi*) at Lam Binh and Sinh Long KBAs increased from 88 individuals in 2017 to 139 in 2020. In Cambodia, the population of greater adjutant (*Leptoptilos dubius*) breeding at Prek Toal KBA increased from 120 nests in 2008 to 180 in 2018. In Myanmar, the number of Burmese roofed turtle (*Battagur trivittata*) hatchlings from wild nests along the Chindwin River increased from 0 in 2015 to 63 in 2019. One of the most notable results was seen in Cambodia, where the population of Irrawaddy dolphin (*Orcaella brevirostris*) in the Mekong River increased from 80 individuals in 2015 to 92 in 2017: a remarkable reversal of fortune for a population whose decline, at one point, seemed inexorable. For many of these populations, a plausible case can be made that they would have disappeared absent conservation action over the last two phases of CEPF investment; in some cases, this would have meant the extinction of the species in the wild.

6.2 Strengthened Biodiversity Management within Production Landscapes

CEPF grantees strengthened the management of 1.4 million hectares of terrestrial, freshwater and coastal ecosystems across 55 KBAs. To qualify as "strengthened," an area had to benefit from one or more of a range of actions that contribute to improved management, such as increased patrolling, strengthened legal protection, or introduction of sustainable natural resource management practices. These results were distributed across the hotspot, as shown in Table 4.

Table 4: KBAs with Strengthened Management as a Result of Site-based Actions

Country	Area of KBAs (ha)	Number of KBAs	KBA Names
Cambodia	400,002	14	Ang Tropeang Thmor; Boeung Chhmar/Moat Khla; Dei Roneat; Kampong Trach; Mekong River from Kratie to Lao PDR; Prek Toal; Sekong River; Sesan River; Sre Ambel; Stung Sen/Santuk/Baray; Stung/Chi Kreng/Kampong Svay; Stung/Prasat Balang; Upper Stung Sen Catchment
China	100,090	12	Bangliang; Chongzuo; Daweishan; Diding; Guangtouling; Leizhou Peninsula; Longhua; Longhushan; Malipo; Nangunhe; Wuzhishan; Xidamingshan
Lao PDR	528,532	6	Chonabuly; Dong Phou Vieng; Mekong River from Louangphabang to Vientiane; Nakai-Nam Theun; Upper Xe Bangfai; Xe Sap
Myanmar	229,811	11	Central Tanintharyi Coast; Chatthin; Gulf of Mottama; Hpa-an; Hponkanrazi; Indawgyi Grassland and Indaw Chaung Wetland; Indawgyi Wildlife Sanctuary; Irrawaddy Dolphin; May Hka Area; Moyingyi; Nam San Valley
Thailand	2,620	2	Ko Li Bong; Salak Phra
Vietnam	88,961	10	A Luoi-Nam Dong; Binh Khuong; Dong Mo Lake; Khau Ca; Lam Binh; Northern Hien; Sinh Long; Tat Ke; Trung Khanh; Tung Vai
Total	**1,350,016**	**55**	

As well as reporting on their contributions to strengthening management of KBAs, CEPF grantees were also asked to report on conservation impacts within production landscapes, such as agricultural land, production forests, community fisheries, mines and quarries. The total area of production landscape with strengthened biodiversity management was 189,268 hectares, of which 91,197 hectares were within KBAs. The remaining 98,071 hectares were located outside of KBAs and can, thus, be considered additional to the figures presented in Table 4.

In Cambodia, CEPF grantees strengthened management of biodiversity within production landscapes covering 133,774 hectares. A major focus was on promoting biodiversity-friendly agricultural production. For example, Sansom Mlup Prey

promoted sustainable production of paddy rice in the Northern Tonle Sap Conservation Landscape, using the Sustainable Rice Platform standard. Various climate-resilient and wildlife-friendly farming practices were promoted among 500 rice-farming households who cultivated a total area of 1,050 hectares. These practices included field leveling, to reduce dependence on chemical pesticides, and use of legumes as cover crops, which improve soil nutrition and provide cover for the Critically Endangered Bengal florican (*Houbaropsis bengalensis*). The participating farmers sold 1,400 metric tons of paddy in 2018 and 1,700 metric tons in 2019. The rice was milled by BRICO, a Cambodian rice mill, and sold to Mars Foods.

Apart from agricultural land, the other major focus in Cambodia was on community fisheries around Tonle Sap Lake and along the Mekong River and its major tributaries. For example, the Learning Institute revived two community fisheries that had become inactive, thereby strengthening the management of 9,788 hectares within Boeung Chhmar-Moat Khla KBA. The project supported the management committees of the two community fisheries to develop management plans, by-laws and regulations, and to designate and demarcate fish conservation areas. The capacity of the patrolling teams for the two community fisheries was strengthened, and they were empowered by the Fisheries Administration to arrest people breaking community fisheries regulations.

In China, CEPF grantees strengthened management of biodiversity within production landscapes covering 97 hectares. These comprised agricultural land within and around Nangunhe National Nature Reserve in Yunnan province and Wuzhishan National Nature Reserve in Hainan province, where biodiversity-friendly management practices were introduced for the cultivation of tea and rice. The products were then marketed under the Protected Area Friendly ecolabel, bringing a price premium to the farmers.

In Myanmar, CEPF grantees strengthened management of biodiversity within production landscapes covering 30,326 hectares. The main focus was on community forests, such as four community forests adjoining Indawgyi Wildlife Sanctuary, where The Northern Green Lights tested a community-based model for the conservation of eastern hoolock gibbon (*Hoolock leuconedys*). The grantee assisted indigenous communities in four villages to designate gibbon conservation areas, initiate patrolling and monitoring, and conduct awareness raising activities in surrounding villages. As a result, 1,332 hectares of gibbon habitat was placed under community management, and incidence of hunting and forest fire declined significantly.

In Thailand, CEPF grantees strengthened management of biodiversity within production landscapes covering 1,217 hectares. These areas comprised community forests in the basin of the Ing River, a tributary of the Mekong, where Living River Siam Association and Mekong Community Institute Association empowered local civil society networks to implement a range of activities, including ordination of forests by local religious leaders, habitat improvement and reforestation of degraded areas.

In Vietnam, CEPF grantees strengthened management of biodiversity within production landscapes covering 23,854 hectares. For example, Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development (WARECOD) helped fishing communities around Na Hang lake to develop (and update) co-management regulations for aquatic resources, in collaboration with relevant local authorities, and establish co-management groups for two designated areas. By combining patrolling and

awareness raising activities, these groups were able to improve management of aquatic resources in their areas, leading to a reduction in destructive fishing practices, such as electro-fishing.

There were no relevant results reported by grantees in Lao PDR, where CEPF investments focused on protected areas, ranging from large national protected areas to small-scale community co-managed fish conservation zones.

6.3 Creation and Improved Management of Protected Areas

During the second investment phase, CEPF grantees supported the creation of 39 protected areas, covering a combined area of 256,024 hectares. A heavy emphasis was placed on supporting community-based conservation designations, such as fish conservation zones and community conservation areas, which are typically smaller in area than conventional, government-managed protected areas. For this reason, four conventional protected areas comprise 95 percent of the total area.

The largest of these was Imawbum National Park (156,280 hectares) in Kachin State, Myanmar, which was officially gazetted in March 2020. The new national park protects the only known population of the Critically Endangered Myanmar snub-nosed monkey (*Rhinopithecus strykeri*), which was unknown to science before its discovery in 2010. The notification of this new national park was the culmination of years of effort by Fauna & Flora International (FFI), in partnership with the Myanmar Forest Department and local communities in Kachin State. CEPF supported the community consultations and agricultural land mapping necessary to verify that the proposed boundary for the national park did not contain any farmland. This was essential to ensuring that the national park designation did not have inadvertent adverse impacts on local livelihoods, which could have undermined support for it.

In Cambodia, two new protected areas were gazetted by government sub-decree in October 2018: Sambour Wildlife Sanctuary (50,093 hectares); and Prek Prasob Wildlife Sanctuary (12,770 hectares). The former site supports important bird nesting areas within Mekong River from Kratie to Lao PDR KBA, while the latter has conservation of the Endangered hog deer (*Axis porcinus*) as its primary management objective. The two protected areas were created at the culmination of a long process of support for conservation planning and management in Kratie province by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), funded by CEPF since 2010.

In Vietnam, the designation of François's Langur Pilot Community-based Conservation Area (24,252 hectares) was endorsed by Tuyen Quang provincial government in October 2019. This site protects the last remaining population of François's leaf monkey in Vietnam, and constitutes the first officially recognized pilot of a conservation area directly managed by local communities. The establishment of the site was promoted by CEPF grantee People Resources and Conservation Foundation (PRCF), which also supported the preparation of a Five-Year 2020-2025 Conservation and Development Plan and an Operational Management Plan, and explored long-term funding options, including voluntary carbon credits, biodiversity offsets and contributions from the provincial payments for ecosystem services scheme. Officials from central government and other provinces were exposed to the pilot activities, to promote their wider replication.

Apart from these four larger sites, the other protected areas established with the support of CEPF grantees were considerably smaller and all followed community-based models. In Cambodia, three community-managed fish conservation areas and two community protected areas were established, with a combined area of 5,457 hectares. These included two community protected areas (CPAs) established by indigenous communities in northeastern Cambodia with the support of Non-timber Forest Products (NTFP): O Kapin CPA in Stung Treng province (3,514 hectares); and O Kasieb CPA in Ratanakiri province (1,668 hectares). The two CPAs were officially recognized by the Ministry of Environment in February 2019, following endorsement at different administrative levels. These sites are important for the conservation of the Endangered northern yellow-cheeked gibbon (*Nomascus annamensis*) and other threatened wildlife species.

In China, four CPAs, with a combined area of 3,478 hectares, were designated in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region. These sites were established by local communities in 2014 and 2015 for globally threatened primates. The communities were supported by FFI, which also assisted them to establish management committees and voluntary patrol teams and prepare and implement management plans. Experience from the CPA pilots was captured and disseminated widely, to promote replication of the model.

In Lao PDR, five community co-managed fish conservation zones were designated along the section of the Mekong River between Vientiane and Luang Prabang, covering a combined area of 157 hectares. These included Ang Noi (16 hectares) and Sa Kai (74 hectares) fish conservation zones, which were established in 2019 with support from FISHBIO Lao.

In Myanmar, 13 community-managed fish conservation zones with a combined area of 603 hectares were designated at various locations in Kachin State. Local communities were supported to designate these zones by FFI, which went on to promote their official notification by the state department of fisheries. Technical support was provided by FISHBIO, which drew on relevant experience from Lao PDR, adapting it to the local context in Myanmar. In this way, civil society organizations partnered to transfer good practice from one country to another.

Community managed fish conservation zones were also promoted in Thailand, along major tributaries of the Mekong River. For instance, with the support of Living River Siam Association, two community fish conservation zones (covering 31 hectares) were established along the lower Ing River and 11 existing fish conservation zones were ordained by local religious leaders. Four other fish conservation zones, with a total area of 323 hectares were established with support from Mekong Community Institute Association. Elsewhere, a new protected area was established off the coast of Koh Libong in Trang province. Save Andaman Network Foundation supported the establishment of a dugong conservation area, comprising an intensive conservation area of 1,120 hectares and a secondary conservation zone of 1,460 hectares.

As well as promoting the creation of new protected areas, CEPF grantees also supported the improved management of existing protected areas. For example, in Cambodia, Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust strengthened the management of Anlung Pring and Boeung Prek Lapouv Sarus Crane Reserves by supporting patrolling by local conservation groups, facilitating collaboration among responsible agencies to address illegal fishing methods and land encroachment, and undertaking water level

monitoring to inform decision making on water management. Also in Cambodia, WCS supported management of the Bengal Florican Conservation Areas (subsequently incorporated into the Northern Tonle Sap Protected Landscape) by enhancing and formalizing community involvement in conservation through Community Protected Area Committees, as well as training local community members to participate in emerging community-based ecotourism ventures, and establishing supply chains for biodiversity-friendly rice.

In Vietnam, WWF supported strengthened management of the Saola Nature Reserves in Quang Nam and Thua Thien Hue provinces. This included supporting teams of community forest guards, who contributed to broader anti-poaching efforts by removing thousands of wire snares and destroying illegal hunting camps. The nature reserve managers were supported to adopt the SMART system for evidence-based management. To ensure the sustainability of the community forest guard model, WWF secured a financial commitment from HSBC Vietnam, plus contributions of payment for ecosystem services funding from the two provincial governments. These achievements set an important precedent for other site conservation initiatives in Vietnam, for which financial sustainability is a major challenge.

Baseline and endpoint tracking tools were completed for 17 protected areas supported by CEPF grantees (Table 5). Fourteen protected areas (82 percent) showed an increase in METT score over the period of CEPF support, averaging 10 points. Three protected areas (18 percent) showed a decrease, averaging four points. These sites were the focus of unsuccessful efforts to introduce community co-management mechanisms.

Table 5: Baseline and Endpoint Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool Scores for Protected Areas Benefiting from Site-based Actions

Protected Area	Baseline		Endpoint		Change
	Year	Score	Year	Score	
CAMBODIA					
Ang Trapeang Thmor Protected Landscape	2014	54	2018	59	5
Anlung Pring Protected Landscape	2013	70	2017	79	9
Boeung Prek Lapouv Protected Landscape	2013	58	2017	68	10
Northern Tonle Sap Protected Landscape	2016	59	2018	67	8
Prek Toal Core Area	2014	67	2018	68	1
CHINA					
Bangliang National Nature Reserve	2015	58	2017	64.5	6.5
Chongzuo National Nature Reserve	2014	50.5	2017	49.5	-1
Daxin Encheng National Nature Reserve	2014	51	2017	43	-8
Daxin Xialei Prefecture Nature Reserve	2014	45	2017	42	-3
Malipo Laoshan Prefecture Nature Reserve	2016	49	2019	52	3
Nangunhe National Nature Reserve	2016	59	2019	64	5
Wuzhishan National Nature Reserve	2016	67	2019	75	8

LAO PDR					
Eld's Deer Sanctuary	2013	56.5	2016	58	1.5
VIETNAM					
Cao Vit Gibbon Species and Habitat Conservation Area	2013	53	2020	64	11
Khau Ca Species and Habitat Conservation Area	2013	44	2020	70	26
Quang Nam Saola Nature Reserve	2012	45	2016	70	25
Thua Thien Hue Saola Nature Reserve	2012	45	2016	68	23

7. Strengthening Civil Society Results

7.1 Type of Organization Supported

CEPF provided direct support, in the form of grants, to 111 civil society organizations, including 87 local (i.e., national, sub-national and grassroots) organizations and 24 international organizations. CEPF awarded grants to local organizations from all hotspot countries, with the greatest number coming from Cambodia (26), moderate numbers from China (17), Myanmar (14), Thailand (13) and Vietnam (11), and the fewest from Lao PDR (six). This reflects both the variation that exists across the hotspot regarding the number and capacity of local civil society organizations working on biodiversity conservation, and the distribution of geographic and taxonomic priorities for CEPF investment. It is notable that several local organizations implemented projects in neighboring countries, thereby strengthening regional cooperation among civil society. For example, the Vietnamese NGO Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development (WARECOD) promoted collaboration among Lao civil society working on rivers issues, sharing experience from the Vietnam Rivers Network, while the Chinese NGO Global Environmental Institute (GEI) strengthened the capacity of four Myanmar NGOs working on community-based conservation and promoted the Community Conservation Concessions Agreement model.

The majority of CEPF grantees (97) were nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), ranging from grassroots groups, such as the Pga K'Nyau Association for Social and Environmental Development, and Sympathy Hands Community Development Organization, to big, international NGOs, such as WCS and WWF. Eight CEPF grantees were academic/research institutions, such as King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi in Thailand, Royal University of Phnom Penh in Cambodia, and Beijing Normal University, China. The remaining six CEPF grantees were private enterprises, including environmental consulting companies and social enterprises.

7.2 Trainings Given

Although this was the second phase of investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, it was the first time that CEPF had invested in the Chinese part of the hotspot or in Myanmar. Moreover, although Thailand was included in the first phase, uptake of CEPF grants by civil society organizations there was very limited. Consequently, local civil society organizations in these three countries were prioritized for training in proposal writing and project cycle management, to help them access CEPF grants.

These trainings were designed and delivered by the RIT, and helped increase the number and quality of proposals received from local groups.

Between 2014 and 2018, a series of nine trainings were organized in Myanmar, with a total of more than 200 participants. These trainings focused on improving the quality of funding proposals and overall project design, and participants were given hands-on support with developing actual project concepts. Similar trainings, albeit smaller in scale, were held in China and Thailand, involving more than 30 participants from a variety of civil society organizations in each country.

In addition to the trainings provided by the RIT, the CEPF Secretariat organized a refresher training for four local and one international grantee in Myanmar. This training covered CEPF's expectations regarding financial management, as well as gender mainstreaming and environmental and social safeguards. Although this was the only in-person training delivered directly by the CEPF Secretariat, all large grantees participated in an online orientation at the start of their grants.

7.3 Analysis of Civil Society Tracking Tool Results

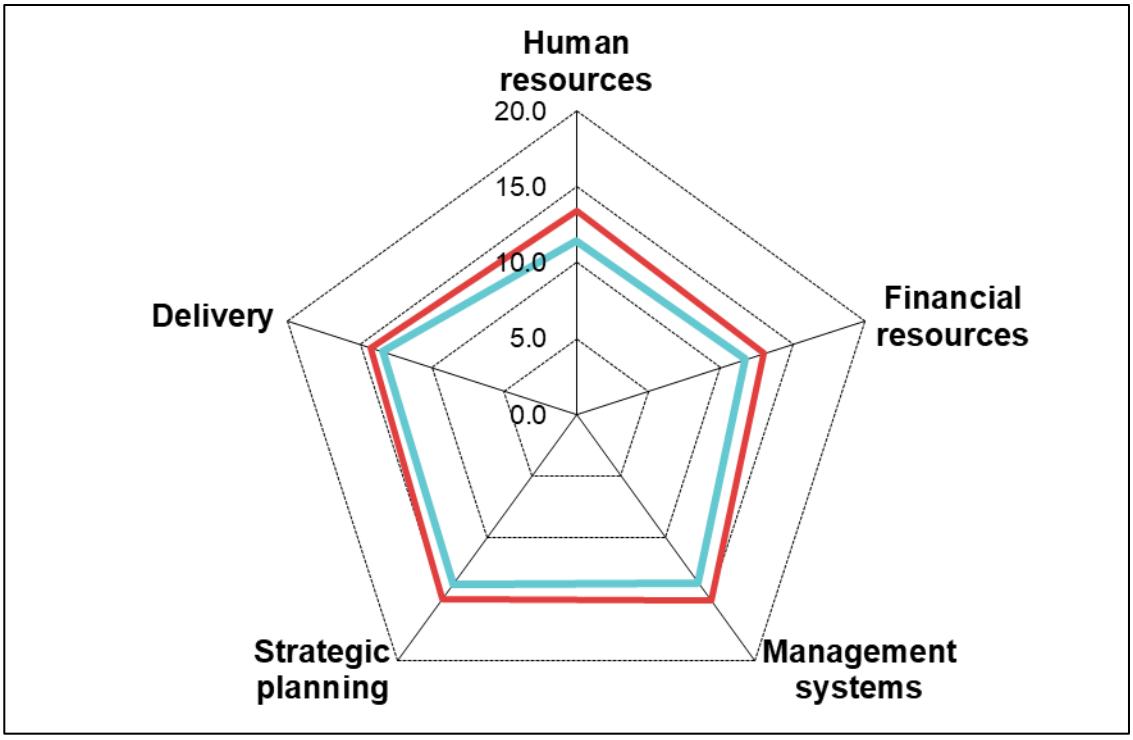
All local organizations receiving CEPF grants are required to complete a self-assessment tracking tool to monitor changes in their organizational capacity over the period of CEPF support. The civil society tracking tool (or CSTT) was the main tool used by CEPF and the RIT to monitor impacts with regard to civil society capacity building, and to identify shared needs and opportunities for training or other forms of support. Baseline CSTTs were completed by 87 local organizations, of which 82 completed end-point tools (the other five were grantees whose grants were terminated or otherwise ended prematurely). Figure 4 shows the aggregated results from these 82 organizations.

The CSTT measures five dimensions of organizational capacity. Organizations gave themselves a score of between 0 and 20 for each dimension (according to series of questions), giving an overall score of between 0 and 100. Baseline scores ranged from 18 to 94, with a mean of 64, reflecting the diversity of organizations engaged by the CEPF program. End-point scores ranged from 38 to 96, with a mean of 71, suggesting that organizational capacities increased across the cohort of CEPF grantees as a whole. This general pattern hides variation among different organizations. Sixty-one organizations (74 percent) recorded an increase in their overall score, while 13 (16 percent) recorded a decrease and eight (10 percent) recorded no overall change. The organizations whose scores decreased came from all hotspot countries apart from Lao PDR (the country with the fewest local grantees). Of the organizations whose scores increased over the period of CEPF support, the mean increase was 10.4 points, although six organizations recorded increases of more than twice this amount.

Regarding the five dimensions of organizational capacity, the greatest improvement was reported in relation to human resources (which covers aspects such as number, experience and skill level of staff, and human resources development) and management systems (which covers aspects including organizational structure, administration procedures, and financial management and reporting). These dimensions are tractable to the types of interventions in capacity strengthening typically supported by CEPF grants, such as recruitment and training of financial management staff, and development of institutional policies). The dimension along

which local organizations recorded the least improvement was delivery, which covers aspects such as successful delivery of project outputs, geographical reach and collaboration with other organizations. This suggests that alternative approaches may be required to strengthen local organizations capacity to deliver sustained and relevant conservation results.

Figure 4. Change in Mean CSTT Scores for 82 Local Organizations over Period of CEPF Support



Notes: baseline CSTT scores are shown in blue; end-point scores are shown in red.

8. Human Wellbeing Results

8.1 Communities Benefiting

At least 162 local communities at project sites received tangible wellbeing benefits from CEPF grants. Ninety-two of these beneficiary communities were in Cambodia. They included 17 villages within Stung Treng Ramsar Site, where farmers were supported to produce organic rice under EU and USDA certification, which was sold to the exporter for a premium price 30 percent above the market price. They also included 34 communities at various sites along the Mekong River and its major tributaries and around Tonle Sap lake who benefited from improved land tenure, food security and/or access to ecosystem services following the establishment or reestablishment of community forests or community fisheries. Another type of benefit was received by nine communities within Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary, where a zonation plan was prepared that provided legal recognition of local people's rights to land and natural resources, which is a precondition for their sustainable management.

Ten of the beneficiary communities were in China. They included Nanlang village at Nangunhe National Nature Reserve in Yunnan province, where local agricultural products were branded as "elephant-friendly" tea and rice, and sold at a premium price under the Protected Area Friendly System ecolabel. In return for this benefit, at least 30 percent of households began to transition from sugar cane cultivation (associated with human-elephant conflict) to cultivation of traditional crops, while villagers assisted nature reserve staff with monitoring and anti-poaching patrols. Another example from China was Longheng village near Nonggang National Nature Reserve, which was promoted as a destination for bird tourism. The annual number of visitors coming to the village for birdwatching, photography and nature observation increased to more than 50,000. Villagers benefited economically by becoming tour guides or turning their homes into bed and breakfasts, others provided private transport services or food to tourists and local hotels. As villagers began to earn more economic income from the presence of wild birds, including the globally threatened Nonggang babbler (*Stachyris nonggangensis*), they paid more attention on protecting their natural resources, and levels of hunting and logging decreased.

Eleven of the beneficiary communities were in Lao PDR. They included nine villages along the Mekong River who benefited from strengthened natural resource rights and increased food security as a result of the introduction of community fisheries management and the establishment of fish conservation zones. The other two villages participated in a pilot payment-for-ecosystem-services scheme, where they received cash payments linked to their performance with protection of designated forest areas in the catchment of Theun-Hinboun hydropower project in Bolikhamxai province.

Twenty-seven of the beneficiary communities were in Myanmar. They included 20 villages that participated in pilot Community Conservation Concession Agreements (CCCAs) at four sites in different ecological zones. Under the CCCAs, villagers received training and material support in income-generating activities, such as livestock raising, organic fertilizer use and handicraft production. Revolving funds were established to distribute pigs, goats, ducks and organic fertilizer. In return, the communities established community conservation areas or community forests, initiated patrolling and biodiversity monitoring, and conducted conservation awareness raising activities. Through these activities, support for conservation was increased at each site and reductions in threats to biodiversity were reported.

In Thailand, there was a single beneficiary community. The residents of Wang Mee village outside of Thap Lan National Park benefited from reduced human-elephant conflict, through the planting of thorny and unpalatable plants as barriers to crop raiding and establishment of a rapid response system. As a result, levels of crop damage decreased and interactions between the community and the park management became more positive, with community members reporting cases of malfeasants damaging habitats, poaching wildlife or harming wild elephants.

Finally, in Vietnam, there were 21 beneficiary communities. These included five communities who benefited from strengthened natural resource rights and improved access to ecosystem services following the establishment of five community forests at Sinh Long KBA in Tuyen Quang province. Elsewhere in the same province, two communities reported increased food security and improved access to clean water due to community co-management of fisheries on Na Hang lake.

8.2 Gender

All CEPF grantees (international as well as local organizations) are required to complete a self-assessment tracking tool to monitor changes in their performance regarding gender mainstreaming over the period of CEPF support. The gender tracking tool (or GTT) is a more simplified tool than the CSTT but it also works on the principle of self-assessment. The GTT was introduced mid-way through the investment phase and was only completed by organizations whose grants began in mid-2016 onwards. Baseline GTTs were completed by 57 grantees, of which 56 completed end-point tools (the remaining grantee had a grant that was extended due to the COVID-19 pandemic and still active at the time of writing).

Grantees completing the GTT gave themselves a score of between 0 and 20, based on their responses to a series of questions. Grantees reported a very wide range of scores, reflecting a great diversity among organizations regarding the level of priority and attention given to gender mainstreaming. Baseline scores ranged from 0 to 19, with a mean of 7.9, while end-point scores ranged from 38 to 96, with a mean of 10.3. Thirty-four organizations (61 percent) recorded an increase in their GTT score, 20 (36 percent) recorded no overall change, and only two (3 percent) recorded a decrease. Of those organizations whose scores increased over the period of CEPF support, the mean increase was 4.1 points, although four recorded increases of more than twice this amount.

8.3 Livelihood Improvement

CEPF grantees delivered a range of benefits to local people at project sites, including strengthened natural resource rights, training, improved access to ecosystem services and increased resilience to climate change and extreme weather events. A subset of the beneficiaries received direct livelihood improvements, in terms of increased household income and/or food security. Livelihood activities supported by CEPF grantees were not an end in themselves but were linked to biodiversity conservation goals in various ways.

One of the most common forms of livelihood improvement supported by CEPF grantees was the establishment or reestablishment of community forests and community fisheries, where local people's rights to manage natural resources (either alone or collaboratively with relevant government agencies) were formally recognized, and sustainable harvesting of resources was managed under some form of management plan and local governance structure. In the case of fisheries, these approaches typically involved the designation of fish conservation zones, fish sanctuaries or similar areas, where populations of fish and other aquatic resources were protected, enabling them to recover and "spill over" into nearby areas, where they could be harvested. For example, two fish conservation areas (Chrouy Thom, covering 224 hectares and Ches Koes covering 11 hectares) were designated within Boeung Chhmar Core Area in Cambodia, and the management structures for the surrounding community fisheries were reestablished. These measures had observable impacts in terms of livelihood improvement: fish catch monitoring indicated an increase in fisheries yield, fish size and species composition, while 150 people reported modest increases in household income. The increased fish populations enabled the two community fisheries to introduce a sustainable financing mechanism, whereby people from outside of the community were charged a US$5

entrance fee per boat, and the income generated was used to support patrolling and protecting the fish conservation areas.

Another approach to linking livelihood improvement to biodiversity conservation widely adopted by CEPF grantees was some form of agreement or conditionality to participate in the activity. For example, a network of self-help groups was established in three villages around Anlung Pring Sarus Crane Reserve, to promote a program of integrated livelihood interventions, including improved rice production techniques and community-based ecotourism. A commitment not to engage in any illegal activities and to support conservation interventions was built into the self-help groups' bylaws. More elaborate agreements were developed with the 20 villages in Myanmar that participated in pilot CCCAs, described in Section 8.1 above.

Similar forms of conditionality were used by the ibis rice scheme, which was implemented in communities around Ang Trapeang Thmor Protected Landscape and the Bengal Florican Conservation Areas (later incorporated into the Northern Tonle Sap Protected Landscape). Under this scheme, participatory land-use plans were prepared, under which communities agreed on where they would conserve and where they could farm and expand farmland in future. Households who followed the plans and complied with other agreed conservation measures were entitled to sell, at a premium price, rice that was certified as wildlife friendly and EU and USDA organic, and sold under the IBIS Rice brand. A key feature of this initiative was developing a market for wildlife-friendly products, in order to build financial sustainability into the incentives for participating farmers and, over time, reduce reliance on grant funding.

A similar approach was adopted in China, where wildlife-friendly products, such as the "elephant-friendly" tea and rice mentioned in Section 8.1 above, were marketed under the Protected Area Friendly System ecolabel. Other products marketed under this label included frog tea and Sanlan rice produced by farmers at Wuzhishan Nature Reserve on Hainan Island, and ecologically friendly orchids produced by local people at Malipo-Laoshan Provincial Nature Reserve, Yunnan province. The Protected Area Friendly System was promoted to the general public and, over the course of the project, products worth more than CNY 17 million (US$2.5 million) were sold, mainly by the producers themselves.

One of the most direct approaches to linking livelihood improvements to conservation goals was to pay local people directly to undertake conservation actions. For example, in the Mekong Fisheries Biodiversity Conservation and Management Area, Cambodia, local people were paid to protect the nests of threatened bird species. Under the CEPF grant, 238 nests of six species were protected, resulting in 408 chicks successfully fledging. Within this total, 159 chicks of white-shouldered ibis (*Pseudibis davisoni*) fledged, making a major contribution to the recovery of this Critically Endangered species.

9. Enabling Conditions Results

9.1 Policy Improvement and Implementation

CEPF grantees analyzed the impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services of 13 development policies, plans and programs, and proposed mitigating measures. For example, International Centre for Environmental Management (ICEM) assessed the

potential impacts on biodiversity and local livelihoods of the Lancang-Mekong Development Plan, which envisioned blasting of rocks and rapids, port development and other river engineering projects along the mainstem of the Mekong, in order to improve navigability between Simao in China and Luang Prabang in Lao PDR. ICEM went on to formulate a series of recommendations to avoid, reduce or offset negative impacts and enhance positive impacts. The results of the study were written up in a series of accessible reports and disseminated to key decision makers in the Mekong River Commission Secretariat and the respective national governments, ensuring that more complete information on ecological sustainability is available to decision makers in the consideration of the plan.

In China, Yi Tai Rui Wo Environmental Consulting Company Limited engaged local civil society organizations and individual experts to evaluate the biodiversity of the valley of the Nu (Salween) River (one of the last remaining major undammed rivers in Asia), strengthen the capacity of local NGOs and undertake geological research. The results of these studies were disseminated to key audiences provincially, nationally and internationally, through a range of communication products. In this way, the project placed in the public domain additional information about the values of the Nu River, and contributed to a climate in which the central and provincial governments adopted positions in favor of environmental protection for the Nu River valley, at least in the short term. Specifically, China's 13th Five-year Plan (2016-2020) did not include plans to develop hydropower on the Nu River, and the provincial government announced a moratorium on small hydropower projects on the Nu River's tributaries, as well as approving the designation of the Nu River Grand Canyon National Park and Dulong River National Park.

Through the work of CEPF grantees, often in combination with other efforts by civil society organizations, government agencies and development partners, six development plans and policies were influenced. For example, in Cambodia, the experience of WCS and its partners on community co-management approaches at Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary and other sites was incorporated into national zoning guidelines for protected areas, which were adopted by the Ministry of Environment in December 2017. These guidelines set out a clear process for designating community and sustainable zones within protected areas, which permit and regulate small-scale agriculture, fishing and NTFP collection.

Also in Cambodia, CEPF grantee Vishnu Law Group supported the development of the Environment and Natural Resources Code for Cambodia: a piece of primary legislation that establishes the overall legal basis for environmental protection, biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the country. Some of the key provisions of the code were tested at three collaborative management pilot sites, and experience was fed back into the development of the code through study tours for ministry officials and other activities. At the time of writing, the code was still awaiting submission to the National Assembly.

9.2 Networks and Partnerships

In view of the magnitude and complexity of many of the conservation issues facing the Indo-Burma Hotspot relative to the capacity of individual civil society organizations to respond to them, CEPF invested heavily in building partnerships and other linkages among civil society organizations, and between them and other sectors. CEPF grantees supported 51 civil society networks and partnerships to enable collective responses to priority and emerging threats. In some cases, the

grantee helped to create a new network or partnership, in other cases it supported an existing network to grow and/or achieve greater impact.

In Cambodia, CEPF grantees supported 10 networks and partnerships. These included several networks of grassroots groups or Indigenous People's organizations, such as a grassroots civil society network in Anlong Veng district, Oddar Meanchey province, an indigenous women's network and an indigenous youth network for indigenous land, forest resource and fisheries in Stung Treng province, and an Indigenous Peoples' association and a community natural resources protection and conservation network in Ratanakiri province. They also included networks of NGOs, such as a community of practice around natural resource management in the Cambodian Mekong Basin, and an alliance of civil society organizations to respond to the threat of economic land concessions in northeastern Cambodia.

CEPF grantees in China supported 11 networks and partnerships. For example, the Hou Niao Volunteer Network, a regional volunteer network for coastal conservation action, was established covering three coastal cities in Guangxi province. Also in coastal southern China, a network of local NGOs and volunteer teams was established at key sites along the South China shorebird flyway, to enable a collective response to threat of shorebird hunting. At the national level, a network focused on citizen science, named the China Nature Watch Association, was established with over 10 partners.

Two networks were established in Lao PDR. The first was the Lao Natural and River Resources Network, which brought together organizations working on water resources governance to share information about natural resources and river resources management, good governance, and the positive and negative impacts of development policies. The second was a civil society network for the management of fish conservation zones along the section of the Mekong River between Luang Prabang and Vientiane, which was developed among nine communities to enable collective responses to such threats as overfishing. The limited number of networks in Lao PDR reflects the limited number of local civil society organizations, compared with other hotspot countries.

The situation in Myanmar is comparable to that in Lao PDR, with civil society (at least in the conservation sector) being at a relatively early stage of development. Again, only one network was supported: the Myanmar CCCA Partnership, which aimed to implement and promote the CCCA model in Myanmar, to contribute to ecosystem conservation and sustainable community development.

CEPF grantees in Thailand supported 13 networks. The largest concentration had a focus on the conservation of the Mekong River and its major tributaries, for example the Mekong Youth Network, the Love the Mekong Community Network, the Thai People's Network in Eight Mekong Provinces, the Peoples Council of the Ing River Basin, and the Ing Women Network for Environmental Conservation. Elsewhere, CEPF grantees: strengthened a network of civil society organizations and individuals to monitor Thailand's Important Bird Areas; established a youth network around Trat Bay, Trat province, as volunteers for conservation of marine and coastal resources, especially dolphins; and established an informal network of four sub-districts for watershed management and biodiversity conservation in Phang-Nga province.

In Vietnam, eight networks were supported by CEPF grantees. These ranged in scale from the local, such as a network of village self-help groups around Lam Binh KBA,

to the national, such as the Vietnam Rivers Network. Vietnamese civil society organizations were also involved in several regional networks and partnerships with groups in other hotspot countries, to address transnational conservation issues. There were six of these in total, including: the Save the Mekong Coalition, which addressed the issue of mainstream dam development on the Mekong River; the Saola Working Group, which coordinated conservation efforts for one of the hotspot's flagship species; and the Mekong Fish Network, which facilitate exchange of information among organizations working on community fisheries.

While the majority of networks and partnerships supported by CEPF grantees were among civil society organizations and individuals, some strengthened collaboration between civil society and government. The Save Wildlife in Trade Coalition, for example, coordinated joint responses to illegal wildlife trade by civil society organizations and government agencies in China. Under the auspices of the coalition, a group of civil society organizations worked closely with the Chinese national CITES management authority and government enforcement agencies in southern China to develop training tools to build capacity for wildlife law enforcement. Specifically, a wildlife law enforcement training manual was produced, a species identification smartphone app (called Wildlife Defender V2.0) was developed, and training in wildlife law enforcement was delivered for 650 frontline officers.

9.3 Private Sector Engagement

While it was not the principal focus of any of the strategic directions under the CEPF investment strategy, several CEPF grantees reported important results in relation to private sector engagement. Selected examples are presented in this section.

In Cambodia, Sansom Mlup Prey and WCS piloted the Sustainable Rice Platform standard for environmentally and socially sustainable rice cultivation. In terms of cultivated area and number of farmers, these projects became the largest SRP pilot in Cambodia, which enabled the grantees to have traction with both national policy and international rice importers. For instance, Mars Foods, one of the world's largest rice buyers, plans to purchase all of its Thai fragrant rice from Sustainable Rice Platform-compliant farmers. This commitment is expected to drive adoption of the standard (and, thus, wildlife-friendly practices) well beyond the project sites.

In China, TRAFFIC International, in collaboration with the Postal Bureau and the National CITES Management Authority, engaged with the logistics and courier industry to elicit its support in combating illegal trade in wildlife. In March 2015, representatives of 17 leading courier companies (including SF-Express, DHL, FedEx and TNT), which account for around 95 percent of the market, made a public declaration of zero tolerance towards illegal wildlife trade. This was followed up by training for the companies in CITES, species identification and online illegal trade. TRAFFIC also cooperated with Tencent, the operator of the online messaging platform WeChat, to clamp down on online sales of wildlife.

In Myanmar, FFI engaged with Shwe Taung (Apache) Cement to promote best practices in environmental impact assessment (EIA) and low-biodiversity-impact quarry management. Technical support was provided for the preparation of the environmental management plan and biodiversity offset management plan of Apache cement's Shwe Taung Cement limestone concession area in Mandalay Region. The offset plan was approved by the International Finance Corporation (a financing

partner), and a letter of intent was signed between Apache Cement and the Myanmar Forest Department to implement the plan, which involves Panlaung-Padalin Cave Wildlife Sanctuary being expanded by 6,475 hectares. This work establishes a good practice model that other companies in Myanmar can follow.

In Sagaing Region, Myanmar Environment Institute engaged with Environment Myanmar Cooperative Co. Ltd., which was looking for locations near Alaungdaw Kathapa National Park for commercial cultivation of beans and pulses. Thanks to this engagement, the company adopted voluntary guidelines prohibiting any activities destructive to plant and animal species and their habitats.

In Vietnam, Center for People and Nature Reconciliation (PanNature) developed a set of voluntary guidelines on mitigating socio-environmental risks for Vietnamese outward investors in the agriculture sector. These guidelines were adopted by five companies, including Vietnam Rubber Group, which went on to publish a strategic plan for sustainable development. This is significant due to the scale of Vietnam Rubber Group, which has more than 100 subsidiaries and manages more than 30 percent of the total area of rubber plantations in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam. At the local level, PanNature created a strong connection with the BirdLife International Cambodia Programme, Vietnam Rubber Group and its subsidiary Krongbuk Ratanakiri. A plan for long-term partnership among the parties was developed.

9.4 Public Engagement

Given its focus on strengthening and engaging civil society, the CEPF investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot had a strong focus on engagement of the general public. One of the approaches adopted by grantees was to promote increased public debate and awareness of environmental issues through coverage in domestic media. For example, Trans-boundary Journalists and Communicators Association increased coverage of several key environmental issues in the Thai media, thereby contributing to more active and informed public debate. Among other issues, the project focused on the Lancang-Mekong Navigation Channel Improvement Project along the Lao-Thai border, the Pak Beng dam on the Mekong mainstream, the Salween Water Diversion Project on the Thai-Myanmar border, and the Dawei Special Economic Zone in southern Myanmar. This helped to shine a light on the "hidden" social and environmental costs of Thai overseas investment. Over the course of the project, 68 news articles were produced and posted online, and a media bridge activity was held that forged links among journalists from Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. These links will be valuable because the environmental issues affecting the Indo-Burma Hotspot are increasingly regional in scope.

Also in Thailand, Mekong Community Institute Association established the Mekong Youth Network, which aimed to exchange information and experiences on Mekong ecosystems, voice the concerns of youth, and provide support for youth with capacity building and organizing activities. The project gave young people opportunities to voice to their concerns by documenting local environmental issues and communicating them to the public. In all, 439 youths received training, and an impressive range of films and other communication products was prepared and disseminated through mainstream and social media.

In Vietnam, PanNature organized a series of 12 media bridge programs, during which more than 300 journalists received briefings on current environmental and development issues. Particular emphasis was placed on using these programs to

raise public awareness about the potential downstream impacts of hydropower development in the Mekong Basin. Many of the media briefs and articles generated by the project were used by the Vietnam National Mekong Committee in related fora, including the Procedures for Notification, Prior Consultation and Agreement (PNPCA) processes for the Pak Beng and Don Sahong dams. Other issues raised through the media bridge programs helped place pressure on the relevant authorities to address environmental concerns regarding issues as diverse as development projects in protected areas, industrial waste management, and urban tree cutting. For instance, after articles were published on mining in Bac Kan province, the provincial authorities suspended mining activities harmful to transportation infrastructure and productive land, such as rice fields, vegetable gardens, and fishponds.

Another area where CEPF grantees used public engagement was in communication programs to reduce consumer demand for wildlife and build public support for wildlife law enforcement. For example, in Cambodia, Wildlife Alliance built public support for combating the illegal wildlife trade through an integrated outreach campaign, involving community night shows, billboards along major highways, and classroom activities for students. This campaign led to measurable increases in awareness of the issues among target audiences, which translated into a 61 percent increase in calls to a 24-hour wildlife trade hotline by members of the public.

A wildlife trade hotline was also operated by Education for Nature-Vietnam (ENV), which received more than 2,000 calls each year from members of the public reporting wildlife products on sale in shops, restaurants or hotels. Under this project, a network of more than 5,000 national wildlife protection volunteers was recruited, mainly from among university students. Organized into 15 clubs throughout the country, these volunteers monitored nearly 600 business establishments that had been reported as selling wildlife products in the past.

FREELAND Foundation and its local partners, including ENV, implemented a social marketing campaign, which made measurable contributions to ongoing collective efforts to change attitudes and behavior towards consumption of wildlife products in southern China and Vietnam. The project engaged more than 40 influential opinion leaders to speak out against illegal trade and consumption of threatened wildlife, and partnered with private companies to secure free or reduced cost advertising space. Sustainability of impact was ensured by empowering members of the public to add their voices, through creating toolkits, events and online platforms. Many of the young people engaged in this way went on to join volunteer networks, through which they continued to support conservation.

Other forms of public engagement were adopted by CEPF grantees across the hotspot. For example, Turtle Survival Alliance recruited and trained a cadre of more than 30 community conservation volunteers from villages along the upper Chindwin River in Myanmar. The volunteers assisted with turtle conservation efforts in the field and served as "conservation ambassadors" in their communities.

The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society strengthened and engaged a network of local NGOs and volunteer teams at key sites along the South China shorebird flyway, to support wildlife conservation efforts. Good working relationships were catalyzed between these civil society groups and government agencies to address the bird trapping issue. This led to coordinated actions, resulting in a substantial decrease in the density of mist nets. The results in southwestern Guangdong province were

particularly impressive, with the total number of mist nets recorded at nine coastal sites declining from 2,081 in 2013 to 12 in 2016/2017: a reduction of 99 percent.

One of the most notable achievements by civil society in Vietnam was the campaign to protect Son Tra Nature Reserve and its population of red-shanked douc (*Pygathrix nemaeus*). CEPF grantee GreenViet formed a network of champions who worked together as a powerful voice of concerned citizens, and convinced the local authorities to carry out an investigation into the tourism master plan for Son Tra, which threatened to divert around 4,000 hectares of lowland forest to other uses. As a result of the campaign, the forest was put back under protection and the number of planned resorts was massively scaled back, thereby reducing impact on the red-shanked douc population.

9.5 Leveraging Additional Resources

In order to make CEPF grants accessible to as wide a range of organizations as possible, there was no requirement for grantees to demonstrate co-financing. Nevertheless, CEPF grantees leveraged a total of US$31.4 million in additional funding, matching the CEPF investment of US$15.4 million by a ratio of 2:1. US$3.0 million of this funding was in the form of in-kind contributions of staff time, office space, transportation, etc. by the grantees and their implementing partners. The remaining US$28.4 million was in the form of grants and donations from more than 150 different donors. While this suggests that CEPF grantees as a whole have a diversified funding sources, it is notable that more than two-thirds of the total amount of leveraged funding came from just eight donors: l'Agence Française de Developpement; KfW; the MacArthur Foundation; Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies; the McKnight Foundation; the UK Darwin Initiative; USAID; and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. In this context, it is concerning that the MacArthur and McKnight Foundations, which provided a combined US$6.8 million in co-financing to CEPF grants, have both discontinued their support to conservation projects in the hotspot.

Looking at the large and small grants separately, large grants leveraged, on average, US$337,026 in additional funding, with only five grants not demonstrating any co-financing. The largest amount leveraged by a single grant was US$5,220,000; this was for the largest grant in the portfolio (US$533,637), representing a ratio of co-financing to grant of 10:1. Small grants leveraged on average US$26,777, with 25 grants not demonstrating any co-financing. This highlighted the greater challenges faced by small grantees in leveraging co-financing, and suggested that, had co-financing been a requirement, some small grantees (which were mainly local organizations) may have been unable to access CEPF funding.

10. Progress toward Long-term Conservation Goals

Biodiversity hotspots are, by definition, the biologically richest and most threatened terrestrial ecoregions on the planet. As such, biodiversity faces threats on a scale that is, on average, greater than elsewhere. Also, most hotspots are located in the developing world, where conservation efforts tend to be constrained by limited capacity among conservation organizations, unsupportive operating environments, and unreliable funding. Thus, conservation in the biodiversity hotspots is a long-term endeavor, requiring the combined efforts of many actors over long periods, to achieve the systematic changes necessary to reverse entrenched processes of biodiversity loss.

In order to better evaluate and focus its contributions to long-term, collaborative conservation efforts, CEPF has developed a set of long-term goals for the hotspots where it invests. These goals are an expression of five key conditions that must be met in order for conservation efforts to meet with enduring success:

1. Global conservation priorities (i.e., globally threatened species, KBAs and conservation corridors) and best practices for their management are identified, documented, disseminated and used by public sector, civil society and donor agencies to guide their support for conservation in the region.

2. Local and national civil society groups dedicated to conserving global conservation priorities collectively possess sufficient organizational and technical capacity to be effective advocates for, and agents of, conservation and sustainable development for at least the next 10 years.

3. Adequate and continual financial resources are available to address conservation of global priorities for at least the next 10 years.

4. Public policies, the capacity to implement these, and the systems of governance in each individual country are supportive of the conservation of global biodiversity.

5. Mechanisms exist to identify and respond to emerging conservation issues.

The attainment of all five goals would not necessarily mean that biodiversity was no longer threatened but only that government, civil society and donors were able to respond effectively to all present threats and any potential future threats that could reasonably be expected to arise. Periodic assessment of progress towards these goals can help identify areas most in need of additional investment from CEPF.

To this end, the participants at the final assessment workshop in May 2019 were asked to assess progress towards the five goals, using the criteria and indicators provided, which they were free to adapt to the specific context of Indo-Burma. Participants were asked to apply the criteria and indicators based on the prevailing situation across the hotspot as a whole, taking into account variation in conditions among countries. The results were then compared with the situation in 2013, which was assessed during the final assessment of the first investment phase. This allowed an assessment of change over time to be made with respect to each criterion. The results are summarized in Annex 6.

Comparing the results from 2020 with those from 2013, it needs to be recognized that some criteria may have been changed (or not changed) due to differences in composition and perception of participants at the two assessments. At each workshop, each goal was assessed by around 20 participants, covering most but not necessarily all of the hotspot countries, and with different perspectives on the issues addressed by the criteria. This ensured that a broad but, by no means comprehensive, range of views on each criterion was heard. Nevertheless, based on the justifications provided by the participants, it is reasonable to assume that most of the changes in participants' assessments reflect underlying changes in progress towards the five goals.

Out of the 25 criteria, 15 remained unchanged between 2013 and 2019, a positive change occurred in six cases, and in four cases there was a negative change. The

greatest number of positive changes occurred under Goal 3 on sustainable financing, where participants assessed three criteria as having improved from "Not Met" in 2013 to "Partially Met" in 2019. This reflected increases with respect to: financial resources available to public sector conservation agencies in the hotspot countries; payments for ecosystem services and other conservation incentive schemes, facilitated by policy change in China and Vietnam; and number of pilot initiatives delivering income-generating activities that provide genuine alternatives to unsustainable natural resource use that are supportive of or complementary to conservation goals. These include wildlife-friendly rice production, nature-based tourism and small-scale livestock raising. It is only with respect to this last criterion that the improvement can be partly attributed to CEPF support.

The greatest number of negative changes occurred under Goal 5 on responsiveness to emerging issues, where two criteria were assessed as changing from "Partially Met" to "Not Met" and one was assessed as changing from "Fully Met" to "Partially Met". The criteria concerned were biodiversity monitoring, threats monitoring and level of discussion of conservation issues in the public sphere. In each case, the changes may be at least partly attributable to differences in composition and perception between the groups of participants who assessed them in 2013 and 2019.

Overall, there remains a long way to go before the long-term conservation goals for the Indo-Burma Hotspot are met. Of the 25 criteria, only one was assessed as "Fully Met" in 2019: education and training. This was one of the criteria to have improved since 2013, with participants observing that the number of domestic educational programs on environmental management and conservation is increasing, and national staff now occupy senior leadership positions at most conservation agencies in the hotspot. Sixteen criteria were assessed as "Partially Met" in 2019, while eight were assessed as "Not Met": the lowest category. The goal with the greatest number of criteria assessed as "Not Met" was Goal 5 on responsiveness to emerging issues, suggesting that there is a need for further investment by CEPF and other conservation donors, to strengthen monitoring systems, place conservation efforts on a stronger evidence basis, and enable civil society to respond in a timely fashion to emerging issues rather than being behind the curve. Overall, the clear message from participants at the final assessment workshop was that investment from CEPF and other donors will be needed for the foreseeable future.

11. Lessons

The overall performance of CEPF grantees during the second investment phase was strong. Each grant in the portfolio was evaluated at its close, and the majority (63 percent) were assessed as having "Met Expectations", with smaller proportions having "Exceeded Expectations" (12 percent) or "Significantly Exceeded Expectations (2 percent). Therefore, more that three in four grants were found to have at least met the expected results defined in their proposals. Twenty percent of grants were assessed as having "Failed to Meet Expectations in Some Regards", while only five grants (3 percent) were assessed as having "Completely Failed to Meet Expectations" (most of these had been terminated due to non-compliance with terms of the grant agreement).

Regardless of the magnitude of their impacts or the extent to which they met their expected results, all grants generated lessons about success factors and/or challenges. These lessons were documented in the grantees' final completion

reports, which were made publicly available via the CEPF website. Grantees were also invited to reflect on lessons learned during the final assessment workshop. A summary of lessons from the grant portfolio is presented in this section.

11.1 Project Design

"Local issues need local solutions."

"Design projects based on the local context."

"Stakeholders' engagement in project design is very important."

"Regular coordination meetings among partners/stakeholders can be helpful in solving common problems/issues."

"Build adaptive management and accountability into project design."

"Set clearly defined objectives."

"Be practical, be less ambitious."

11.2 Timeframe

"Long-term commitment is essentially required for making a positive change."

"One year is not enough to fully initiate grassroots organizations and at least two years should be allowed."

"A medium or long-term project rather than a short-term one would better support improvement of community awareness and sustainable forest management."

"The project timeframe was given as three plus years but a more realistic time frame would be 25-100 years."

11.3 Grant Size

"The size of the CEPF grants need to be increased in certain situations, as the problems projects are trying to address are large."

"Short-term funding is a challenge to be addressed by donors."

"Continuous support may be better than big money."

11.4 Co-management of Protected Areas

"Involvement of local community in conservation can reduce risk of resource use conflict and create partnerships between the protected area management agency and local communities."

"Factors important for the success of community-based conservation include: genuine participation; dedicated community leadership; good communication; incentives to link conservation goals with local livelihoods, such as community-based ecotourism or sustainable NTFPs; and support and guidance from local authorities and protected area management.

"Community-based forest guards can be an effective proxy for government rangers but, without approval for payment for ecosystem services funds, they will remain financially dependent on NGOs."

"Multi-stakeholder engagement in protected area management through management advisory committees has demonstrated the potential, and value, of community engagement in decision-making processes. However, this model needs to have more representatives of local communities around the protected area to ensure voices of local communities will be addressed more in all decisions made."

"Community conservation teams are not recognized under national law. Therefore, they lack a legal mandate to enforce protected area regulations and their authority is not 100 percent recognized by local communities. This can be helped by local-level decisions to give them official mandates, and by joint patrols with government staff."

"Staff of protected areas should be involved more in biodiversity monitoring, community development and community outreach activities, rather than just law enforcement, as currently the case, especially in smaller protected areas."

"Motivation for field level rangers remains poor, due to lack of incentives and disincentives."

"Motivation is key to success of enforcement initiatives; of upper management and field team leaders."

"Long-term devoted mentoring is needed to support co-management initiatives."

"Zoning can be the biggest challenge in conservation management. Think on it and plan wisely before taking any steps forward."

11.5 Community Fisheries

"Local knowledge is fundamental to the development of community fisheries. The local community knows best the condition of their resources."

"Fish conservation zones can be a social tool for conflict resolution, capacity building and networking."

"Empowering communities to lead fisheries management is a process that requires support."

"Government needs to support community-based enforcement to address widespread illegal fishing."

"Management of large, transboundary fish conservation zones in the mainstem Mekong River presents unique challenges of size, distance and governance."

"Collaboration and lessons sharing through networks can strengthen the capacity, skills and motivation of community fisheries management committees."

"Financial and institutional sustainability of community fisheries operations is a key condition for a successful conservation initiative."

11.6 Community Forests

"Communities' forest ownership is crucial for the success of conservation measures."

"A priority measure is to build the capacities of the community."

"It is important to identify clear responsibilities of state agencies and communities."

"Building local ownership to the conservation initiative and gaining legitimacy of the decisions made improve compliance."

"Exchange learning visits to other community forests can be very inspiring for communities to change their behavior in protecting and conserving their natural resources."

11.7 Conservation Incentives

"Conservation incentives is the best tool to engage people in conservation, especially poor and resource-dependent households".

"Local communities are pro-forest protection and willing to conserve primates but only where there is no direct loss of livelihood."

"Supporting local community livelihoods can be a good option to gain their participation in conservation."

"Providing a premium price on organic rice for those who signed contracts with conservation commitments is very useful because it can attract more and more people to join in biodiversity protection activities."

"Payment for ecosystem services schemes are welcomed by communities, as they share the benefits of conservation. Selection of sites is a key step to ensure that all criteria are met. In particular, the targeted area should align with village forest lands and/or customary uses."

"Direct payments to nest guardians is an expensive approach, which can create jealousy at some key sites".

"The community conservation concession agreement concept is easily acceptable in areas where the communities want to manage the forest mainly for water resource

management and erosion control. In areas near production forests, it can be difficult to convince the communities to sign the agreements, due to the opportunity cost."

"Communities may have different expectations about livelihood activities. For example, communities expressed wanting to raise livestock or engage in larger scale agriculture. However, some of their ideas may not align with the objective of promoting sustainable, small-scale enterprises that complement conservation activities."

11.8 Species Conservation

"Outside NGO support demonstrated that the species can respond rapidly to management actions; but the sustainability of these population responses without further government agency buy-in is uncertain."

"Size matters: patrolling too big an area may be impractical to implement effective threat reduction."

"The targeted communities may have very different ideas about protection and conservation of target species. We need to be flexible and tailor our approach to what is appropriate for each community."

"Donors to the conservation community often provide considerable funds to support training courses and consumer demand reduction campaigns, which are necessary but law enforcement is often overlooked as a critical component, and thus underfunded, to achieving the goal of increased awareness, reduction in demand, and other behavior changes."

"Nest protection and head-starting of hatchlings are the key success maintaining populations of large riverine turtles."

"Numbers count; monitoring is essential."

"Be adaptive."

"A long-term commitment is required."

11.9 Media

"Media exposure of the project is important and should be included in the project plan."

"Social media is a good way to disseminate news to build community support."

"Social media speed up the response from authorities."

"The multitude of new smartphone apps can be applied to organize volunteers and catalogue information."

"Combine traditional and new media to maximize the communication impacts."

"Maintain long-term and regular online platforms to build public trust and confidence in NGOs' messages."

"NGOs have valuable resources for journalists in terms of networks, knowledge of local issues, etc."

"It is important to support/empower media's roles and fact-finding."

11.10 Capacity Building

"New organizations need experienced mentoring to fast track establishment."

"Involve trainees in your planning and adjust the content of trainings to their needs".

"The number of people who are passionate about nature and willing to work on biodiversity conservation is low. Therefore, capacity building, mentoring and inspiring youth to engage in conservation is important."

"Although delivering on conservation goals is important, it can be very worthwhile to provide NGO with dedicated funding to support organizational strengthening, so staff can have a break to focus on strategy, quality and efficiency."

"Organizational reflection, review and restructuring is necessary to ensure effectiveness."

11.11 Networking

"We need to build up our capacity, networks and alliance to address complex issues."

"Networks and working group do not work effectively unless a capable coordinator is in place."

"Activities and timelines cannot be rigorously enforced when relying on volunteer participation, as members have main occupations and project activities are secondary to these. A solution can be to employ a paid (or partially paid) coordination focal point inside the group."

"It can be a challenge to keep people and partners active."

"Network strengthening resulted in greater collective action to address conflict issues, leading to organizations working in support of each other for conservation."

"We have much to teach, and much to learn, from one another."

11.12 Advocacy

"There is a disconnect between evidence and decision-making in many development projects."

"It can be very valuable to connect with scientists and set up formal partnerships with research institutes."

"Strengthening of the voice of local people is important to advocate with the government."

"Building local voice and power is key."

"If communities at the local level and NGOs at the national and regional levels can find a common voice, they can take a strong stance."

"Science–policy–media interface helps enrich the quality of media reports for gaining public trust."

"Consider engaging economists in discussions about environmental impacts: internalize externalities into economic thinking."

"Lawsuits and official complaints are important but can be time and resource-intensive."

"It can be difficult to talk about sensitive issues, such as hydropower, so integrating them with topics such as fisheries management is better."

11.13 Financial Sustainability

"Income diversification is essential for NGOs to reduce dependency on external funding and financial insecurity."

"Local NGOs still find it difficult to secure funding from donors, because their capacity is still limited, and their profile and reputation is low."

""It can be hard to ensure sustainability for species conservation projects because donors who invest in species conservation are limited."

"The new model of savings groups or self-help groups making financial contributions to community fisheries to support patrolling activities and pilot youth group activities can help make them more sustainable."

"Without substantial investment, nature-based tourism will not grow to the levels required to provide sustainable project finance."

11.14 Cooperation with Communities

"Community participation is very important."

"The ultimate decision-makers for biodiversity are the stakeholder communities."

"Local stakeholders often have a better idea of what solutions will work."

Community awareness raising was more effective that we'd expected.

"Implementation has to be suitable to social context of each community."

"NGOs should disclose their results to the community."

"Working with youth/women can help ensure long term sustainability."

"Communities wanted to participate in biodiversity conservation but most of them were poor and they only focused on their survival to fulfill their needs."

11.15 Cooperation with Government

"Building trust and long-term commitment is a key success factor."

"Good cooperation and relationship with the provincial and district government officials are necessary to ensure their participation and support in the project implementation."

"Cooperation with local authorities will support our project better; they (and communities) will be remain long after we have left."

"Forest protection departments and protected area staff were highly supportive of the initiative but getting higher-level decision makers to allocate meaningful funding was difficult."

"Strengthening the relationship between community groups and local authorities can be helpful in conservation activities".

11.16 Engaging with the Private Sector

"Even a local business doesn't follow NGO language. Talk in business language!"

"Pushing companies to adopt international standards on outbound investments is a new point of dialogue and debate."

"Engaging the business sector has two sides: long-term impacts and support versus moral hazard and reputation risk."

12. Conclusion

CEPF has now completed two phases of investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, engaging more than 100 civil society organizations, ranging from community groups to big international NGOs. The second phase, which ran for seven years from 2013 to 2020, was the largest CEPF investment in any hotspot to date. A record 187 grants were awarded, of which more than two-thirds went to local civil society organizations. Thanks to the work of the RIT at IUCN, and taking advantage of the growth in number and capacity of civil society organizations in the hotspot, CEPF support was made accessible to a wider range of organizations than ever. The grantees themselves were strengthened, with three-quarters of local organizations reporting an increase in their organizational capacity scores. They were also supported to collaborate more, both with each other and with partners from other

sectors: government agencies, private companies and local communities. Fifty-one networks were established or strengthened to enable collective responses to conservation issues, at grassroots, national and, increasingly, regional levels.

This growth in civil society capacity and connectiveness contributed to successful project implementation, with more than three-quarters of grants meeting their expected results. This, in turn, translated into important impacts in terms of biodiversity, human wellbeing, civil society capacity and the enabling conditions for conservation. Headline impacts included: long-term conservation programs put in place for core populations of 31 priority species; strengthened protection and management of 1.4 million hectares within 55 KBAs; tangible wellbeing benefits gained by 162 local communities, including improved land tenure, food security and access to ecosystem services; and strengthened capacity of 135 civil society organizations working on conservation issues. These impacts have started to move the needle on the species extinction crisis in the hotspot, with monitoring data showing that a small but increasing number of core populations of globally threatened species have stabilized or begun to increase following decades of decline.

Welcome though these results are, they need to be viewed against a background of accelerating biodiversity loss across the hotspot, which remains one of the most threatened in the world and on the frontlines of the twin biodiversity and climate change crises. The final assessment workshop provided an opportunity to reflect on the changing nature of these crises and the role that civil society can play in responding to them. The efficacy of current approaches was reviewed, and new strategies were explored, informed by lessons from the CEPF grant portfolio and those of other funders supporting biodiversity conservation in the hotspot. This analysis fed into the updated ecosystem profile for the Indo-Burma Hotspot, which provides a roadmap for support to civil society over the next five years.

While it would be easy to reflect on the achievements of the last seven years and conclude that conservation efforts are moving in the right direction, the scale of the challenges facing the Indo-Burma Hotspot mean that there is no cause for complacency. However, considering the energy, ideas, commitment and innovation that exists within the conservation movement as a whole, there is cause for hope.

Annex 1. Results Against Objective and Outcomes in the Portfolio Logframe

Objective	Targets	Results
Engage civil society in the conservation of globally threatened biodiversity through targeted investments with maximum impact on the highest conservation priorities	At least 50 civil society organizations, including at least 30 domestic organizations actively participate in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile.	111 civil society organizations were awarded CEPF grants, including 87 domestic organizations.
	At least 8 alliances and networks formed among civil society actors to avoid duplication of effort and maximize impact in support of the CEPF ecosystem profile.	24 alliances and networks were formed among civil society organizations; examples include: • Grassroots civil society network in Anlong Veng district, Cambodia. • Mekong Youth Network, Thailand. • Network of local champions to conserve Son Tra peninsula, Vietnam.
	At least 25 KBAs targeted by CEPF grants have new or strengthened protection and management.	55 KBAs received new or strengthened protection and management, comprising 14 in Cambodia, 12 in China, 6 in Lao PDR, 11 in Myanmar, 2 in Thailand and 10 in Vietnam.
	At least 5 development plans or policies influenced to accommodate biodiversity.	6 development plans and policies were influenced: • Spatial development plans for 12 villages in Savannakhet province, Lao PDR. • The Mekong River Commission's Regional Procedures for Notification, Prior Consultation, and Agreement process. • National policy on domestic sale of ivory, China. • Zoning guidelines for protected areas, Cambodia. • Environment and Natural Resources Code, Cambodia. • Biodiversity and Protected Area Law, Myanmar.
	Improved management for biodiversity conservation or sustainable use within production landscapes in 4 conservation corridors covering 109,976 square kilometers or 5 percent of the hotspot.	Improved conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity was observed in production landscapes in 4 conservation corridors plus Myanmar.

Intermediate Outcomes	Intermediate Indicators	Results
Outcome 1: Priority globally threatened species safeguarded by mitigating major threats	Pilot interventions for core populations of at least 20 priority species transformed into long-term conservation programs.	Long-term conservation programs were put in place for core populations of 31 priority species: 11 mammals; 9 birds; 6 reptiles; 3 plants; and 2 fishes.
	At least 3 best practice approaches for conservation of highly threatened and endemic freshwater species developed.	Best practice approaches were developed and demonstrated for 7 highly threatened and/or endemic freshwater species: 3 turtles; 2 fishes; 1 crocodilian; and 1 cetacean.
	Knowledge of the status and distribution of at least 10 priority species improved through research.	Knowledge of the status and distribution of 7 priority species was improved through research.
	Funding for the conservation of priority species in the hotspot from existing funds increased by at least 25 percent.	A study of non-traditional sources of funding for species conservation was completed but no grant was awarded to pursue the identified opportunities.
Outcome 2: Innovative responses to illegal trafficking and consumption of wildlife demonstrated	At least 1 high-level wildlife trade network unraveled by enforcement agencies employing global best practice with investigations and informants.	Intelligence on 2 high-level wildlife trade networks along the Lao-Vietnam-China trade route was gathered and analyzed and relevant authorities were pressed to act.
	At least 2 initiatives to reduce cross-border trafficking of wildlife piloted by enforcement agencies in collaboration with non-traditional actors.	5 initiatives to reduce wildlife trafficking across the Cambodia-Vietnam, Lao PDR-Vietnam, Vietnam-China and Myanmar-China borders were piloted. These resulted in intelligence-led seizures of major shipments of ivory, pangolin scales and other illegally traded products.
	At least 5 private sector companies promote the adoption of voluntary restrictions on the international transportation, sale and consumption of wildlife.	17 leading courier companies, accounting for around 95 percent of the market in China, made public declarations of zero tolerance towards illegal wildlife trade.
	At least 3 campaigns, social marketing programs, hotlines or other long-term	5 communication programs to reduce consumer demand for wildlife and build public support for wildlife law enforcement

	communication programs implemented to reduce consumer demand for wildlife and build public support for wildlife law enforcement.	were implemented. These included hotlines to facilitate reporting of wildlife crime by members of the public in Cambodia and Vietnam, a smartphone app in China, and a social marketing campaign involving key opinion leaders in China and Vietnam.
Outcome 3: Local communities empowered to engage in conservation and management of priority Key Biodiversity Areas	Awareness of biodiversity conservation legislation raised among target groups within at least 10 priority sites. Community forests, community fisheries and/or community-managed protected areas piloted or replicated within at least 15 priority sites. Co-management mechanisms that enable community participation in management of formal protected areas developed for at least 10 priority sites. Gap analysis of Key Biodiversity Areas in Myanmar conducted, and protected area network expanded through the creation of at least 5 new protected areas using community-based models. At least 75 percent of local communities targeted by site-based projects show tangible well-being benefits.	Awareness of conservation legislation was raised among local communities and other target groups at 10 priority sites, comprising 5 in Cambodia, 4 in Vietnam, and 1 in Lao PDR. Community-based approaches were piloted or replicated at 16 priority sites, including community forests at 2 priority sites in Vietnam, community fisheries at 5 priority sites in Cambodia, 1 in Lao PDR, 1 in Thailand and 1 in Vietnam, and community-managed protected areas at 4 priority sites in China, 1 in Cambodia and 1 in Vietnam. Protected area co-management mechanisms were put in place at 11 priority sites, comprising 5 in Cambodia, 3 in China and 3 in Vietnam. KBA gap analyses were conducted for the Chin Hills Complex, Rakhine Yoma Range and Western Shan Yoma Range Corridors, plus freshwater ecosystems in the upper Ayeyarwady Basin. 24 protected areas were established at KBAs using community-based models, including fish conservation zones, and community-managed protected areas. 162 local communities targeted by site-based projects received tangible well-being benefits, including improved land tenure, food security and access to ecosystem services. These comprise 95 percent of the 171 communities targeted by these grants.

Outcome 4: Key actors engaged in mainstreaming biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into development planning in the priority corridors.	At least 5 development policies, plans or programs analyzed, with impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services evaluated and alternative development scenarios and appropriate mitigating measures proposed.	13 development policies, plans and programs were analyzed for their impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and mitigating measures were proposed: • Hydropower development on the Mekong mainstream. • Hydropower development in the 3S Basin, Cambodia. • Hydropower development on the Nu (Salween) River, China. • Hydropower development in the Red River valley, China. • Hydropower development on the Nam Ou, Lao PDR. • Hydropower development at Pak Beng, Lao PDR. • River navigation along the Mekong River, Lao PDR and Thailand. • Cement manufacture in limestone karst ecosystems, Myanmar. • Vietnamese overseas investment in rubber plantations. • Tourism development in limestone karst ecosystems, Myanmar. • Tourism development at Xiaohai lagoon, Hainan, China. • Tourism development at Tonle Sap lake, Cambodia. • Environment and natural resources code, Cambodia.
	The biodiversity and ecosystem service values of at least 2 priority corridors integrated into land-use and/or development plans.	A model for integrated land, forest and water resources management has been adopted by district and provincial authorities in the Mae Chaem River Basin within the Mekong River and Major Tributaries Priority Corridor. In the same corridor, biodiversity values have been integrated into land-use plans for the central section of the Mekong mainstream in Cambodia. Wildlife-friendly practices have been integrated into the rice sector within the Tonle Sap Lake and Inundation Zone Priority Corridor. Biodiversity and ecosystem services values were incorporated into development decision-making processes for the Chindwin River Basin in Myanmar.
	New protocols for ecological restoration demonstrated in the priority corridors and integrated into the national forestry programs of at least 1 hotspot country.	Protocols for rewilding seasonally inundated forests with large waterbirds were developed and demonstrated in Cambodia, albeit not integrated into national forestry programs.

	Public debate and awareness of at least 3 key environmental issues increased through coverage in domestic media.	Public debate and awareness of 10 key environmental issues was increased through coverage in domestic media: • Hydropower development in the 3S Basin, Cambodia. • Hydropower development on the Mekong mainstream. • Mining in the northern mountains of Vietnam. • Forest management and financing mechanisms in the Sino-Vietnamese Limestone Corridor. • Tourism development on Son Tra peninsula, Vietnam. • Impacts of Vietnamese overseas trade and investment on other hotspot countries. • Navigation channel improvement project on the Mekong mainstream. • Water diversion project on the Salween River, Myanmar and Thailand. • Special economic zone development at Dawei, Myanmar. • Update of list of nationally protected plant and animal species, China.
	*At least 3 pilot models for biodiversity-friendly production, including certification and eco-labelling established.	5 pilot models for biodiversity-friendly production were established, comprising 3 different models for rice in Cambodia, 1 for medicinal plants in China and 1 for cement production in Myanmar.
	*The biodiversity and ecosystem service values of at least 1 priority corridor integrated into financial decision making by governments, private investors and development banks	The biodiversity and ecosystem service values of forests in the catchment of the Theun-Hinboun Hydropower Project in Lao PDR (Mekong River and Major Tributaries Priority Corridor) were integrated into financial decision making.
Outcome 5: Civil society capacity to work on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods strengthened at regional, national, local and grassroots levels.	At least 5 civil society networks enable collective responses to priority and emerging threats.	51 civil society networks enabled collective responses to priority and emerging threats. Examples include: • An alliance of civil society organizations responded to the threat of economic land concessions in northeastern Cambodia. • A biodiversity and governance expert group analyzed the threat of hydropower development on the Nu River. • The Save Wildlife in Trade coalition coordinated joint responses to illegal wildlife trade by civil society organizations and government agencies in China.

	At least 20 domestic civil society organizations demonstrate improvements in organizational capacity. At least 1 clearing house mechanism established to match volunteers to civil society organizations' training needs.	135 domestic civil society organizations demonstrated improvements in organizational capacity, including grantees, sub-grantees and beneficiaries of capacity building activities. Despite several attempts, a clearing house mechanism to match volunteers to civil society organizations was not established.
Outcome 6: A Regional Implementation Team provides strategic leadership and effectively coordinates CEPF investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot.	At least 50 civil society organizations, including at least 30 domestic organizations actively participate in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile. At least 80 percent of domestic civil society organizations receiving grants demonstrate more effective capacity to design and implement conservation actions. At least 2 participatory assessments are undertaken and documented.	111 civil society organizations were awarded CEPF grants, including 87 domestic organizations. Baseline and final civil society tracking tools were completed by 82 domestic civil society organizations receiving grants or sub-grants. Among these, 61 organizations (74 percent) demonstrated increased capacity over the period of CEPF support. 2 participatory assessments were undertaken and documented: a mid-term assessment in March 2015; and a final assessment in May 2019.

Note: * = new indicator, added following the mid-term assessment in 2015.

Annex 2. List of Awarded Grants

No.	Grantee	Project Title and Link to CEPF Website	Countries	Amount	Start Date	End Date
Strategic Direction 1: Safeguard priority globally threatened species by mitigating major threats						
1	BirdLife International	Securing the Long-Term Future of Vulture Conservation in Cambodia	Cambodia	$139,936	4/1/2014	3/31/2017
2	BirdLife International	Re-Wilding Western Siem Pang: Ecological Restoration in the Deciduous Dipterocarp Forests of Cambodia	Cambodia	$249,999	5/1/2014	10/31/2018
3	Central Institute for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies	In Search of Edwards's Pheasant in the Annamese Lowlands of Vietnam	Vietnam	$90,000	10/1/2014	6/30/2017
4	Centre for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies	Strengthening Conservation of the Most Critically Endangered Turtles in Vietnam	Vietnam	$19,164	9/1/2014	3/31/2016
5	Chamroen Chiet Khmer	Embedding Sustainable Community Management Practices in Key Sarus Crane Wetlands: Environment and Livelihoods Enhancement at Boeung Prek Lapouv Sarus Crane Reserve	Cambodia	$72,000	4/1/2014	6/30/2017
6	Charles Darwin University	Ecology and Population Trends of the Eastern Sarus Crane	Cambodia	$19,780	4/1/2014	11/30/2015
7	Conservation International Foundation	Giant Soft Shell Turtle Protection in the Kratie Region, Cambodia	Cambodia	$117,161	5/1/2014	4/30/2017
8	Fauna & Flora International	Long-term Research and Conservation Field Station in Nakai-Nam Theun National Protected Area	Lao PDR	$18,306	10/1/2014	9/30/2015
9	Fauna & Flora International	Development of a Holistic Approach to the Conservation of the Cat Ba Langur	Vietnam	$65,500	7/1/2014	6/30/2016
10	Friends of Wildlife	Conservation of Vultures in Myanmar	Myanmar	$19,946	10/1/2014	9/30/2015

11	Friends of Wildlife	Promoting the Conservation of Eld's Deer in Chatthin Wildlife Sanctuary Through Core Zone Management and Community Participation	Myanmar	$19,816	11/1/2014	10/31/2016
12	Global Wildlife Conservation	Finding Saola, Saving Saola: Transforming Saola Conservation in Key Sites in Lao PDR and Vietnam	Lao PDR; Vietnam	$199,070	4/1/2014	4/30/2018
13	Indo-Myanmar Conservation	Securing Endangered Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles in the Indo-Burma Region	Vietnam	$150,000	11/1/2014	10/31/2017
14	King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi	Understanding and Inspiring Conservation of Saola and Other Endemic Species in Lao PDR	Lao PDR	$17,418	4/1/2014	1/31/2015
15	Kunming Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Freshwater Turtle Conservation in the Karst Area of Yunnan and Guangxi	China	$16,000	6/1/2014	5/31/2016
16	Lao Biodiversity Association	Assessing the Status of Northern White-Cheeked Crested Gibbon	Lao PDR	$19,878	6/1/2014	5/31/2015
17	Mlup Baitong	Embedding Sustainable Community Management Practices at Key Sarus Crane Wetlands in the Cambodian Lower Mekong: Environment and Livelihood Improvements at Anlung Pring Sarus Crane Reserve	Cambodia	$69,949	7/1/2014	9/30/2016
18	Royal University of Phnom Penh, Centre for Biodiversity Conservation	Investigating the Status of Masked Finfoot in Cambodia	Cambodia	$19,996	6/1/2014	1/31/2015
19	Royal University of Phnom Penh, Centre for Biodiversity Conservation	Identifying Priority Sites and Conservation Actions for the Fishing Cat in Cambodia	Cambodia	$19,998	11/1/2014	6/30/2015
20	Southeast Asian Nepenthes Study and Research Foundation	Emergency Conservation Measures to Avoid the Extinction of *Nepenthes suratensis**	Thailand	$0	6/1/2015	8/31/2015
21	The Lao Wildlife Conservation Association	Conservation Initiatives for the Indochinese Silvered Leaf Monkey in Dong Phou Vieng National Protected Area	Lao PDR	$19,995	5/1/2014	4/30/2015

22	The Lao Wildlife Conservation Association	Mitigating Threats to CEPF's Priority Globally Threatened Species in Nam Mo-Nam Thong Provincial Protected Area	Lao PDR	$19,592	5/1/2014	4/30/2015
23	Turtle Survival Alliance	Building a Comprehensive Chelonian Conservation Program in Myanmar	Myanmar	$60,000	10/1/2014	2/29/2016
24	Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust	Embedding Sustainable Community Management Practices at Key Sarus Crane Wetlands in the Cambodian Lower Mekong	Cambodia	$200,000	4/1/2014	3/31/2017
25	Wildlife Conservation Society	Protection of River Tern and Black-Bellied Tern in Myanmar	Myanmar	$20,000	1/1/2020	5/31/2021
26	Wildlife Conservation Society	Emergency Funding for Recovery of the Critically Endangered Siamese Crocodile	Lao PDR	$19,956	5/1/2014	9/30/2015
27	Wildlife Conservation Society	Restoring the Wild Population of Southern River Terrapin in Cambodia: Nest Protection, 'Head-Starting', Reintroductions, and Sustainable Financing	Cambodia	$69,285	6/1/2014	5/31/2017
28	World Wide Fund for Nature	Stimulating Sustainable Saola Snare Removal: Leveraging Long-Term Support for Saola Conservation in the Central Annamites of Vietnam	Vietnam	$199,528	1/1/2015	12/31/2016
29	World Wide Fund for Nature	Enhancing Integrated Spatial Development Planning as an Effective Conservation Tool: Safeguarding Lao's Last Eld's Deer Population	Lao PDR	$199,985	4/1/2014	12/31/2016
Strategic Direction 2: Demonstrate innovative responses to illegal trafficking and consumption of wildlife						
30	Education for Nature-Vietnam	Mobilizing Public Action in Reducing Demand for Wildlife Products and Combating Wildlife Crime in Vietnam	Vietnam	$121,935	7/1/2014	6/30/2017
31	FREELAND Foundation	iTHINK: a Joint Campaign Platform to Tackle Wildlife Consumption	China; Vietnam	$243,149	3/1/2014	1/31/2017

32	GreenViet Biodiversity Conservation Center	Reducing Wildlife Consumption in Da Nang City	Vietnam	$19,742	9/1/2014	8/31/2015
33	TRAFFIC International	Starving the Supply: Interventions to Curb Illegal Wildlife Trade from Southeast Asia into Southern China	China	$166,634	7/1/2014	6/30/2017
34	Wildlife Alliance, Inc.	Stemming the Tide: A Coordinated Community and Law Enforcement Response to the Illegal Wildlife Trade in Cambodia	Cambodia	$180,000	5/1/2014	7/31/2016
35	Wildlife Conservation Society	Breaking the Chain: Building a Transnational Partnership Between Civil Society and Governments to Combat Major Wildlife Trade Networks in Lao PDR, Vietnam and China	China; Lao PDR; Vietnam	$324,550	10/1/2014	9/30/2016
Strategic Direction 4: Empower local communities to engage in conservation and management of priority Key Biodiversity Areas						
36	Association for Community Training and Development	Pilot Dissemination of the Lao Biodiversity Conservation Law to Four Communities at Priority Site Pakxan Wetland	Lao PDR	$17,286	10/1/2016	9/30/2017
37	Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association	Involving Communities in Southern Tanintharyi Region in Conservation of Gurney's Pitta	Myanmar	$18,807	11/1/2017	7/31/2018
38	Cambodian Community Development	Empowering Communities to Manage Natural Resources in the Mekong Central Section, Cambodia	Cambodia	$74,753	6/1/2016	5/31/2019
39	Cambodian Organization for Women Support	Strengthening Conservation and Management of Akpi Wat Praek Kampong Cham Community Fishery, Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia	Cambodia	$18,194	11/1/2015	10/31/2016
40	Cambodian Rural Development Team	Changing Perceptions for Active Biodiversity Conservation in Stung Treng Ramsar Site, Cambodia	Cambodia	$79,372	7/1/2015	6/30/2017

41	Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development	Enhancing Co-Management for Sustainable Aquatic Resources in Tuyen Quang Province, Vietnam	Vietnam	$100,000	4/1/2015	12/31/2016
42	Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development	Impacts of Khau Ca Species and Habitat Conservation Area Establishment on the Livelihoods of Local People: an Assessment from the Community Perspective	Vietnam	$19,999	4/1/2016	11/30/2016
43	Centre for People and Nature Reconciliation	Feasibility Study on the Establishment of a Community-Managed Protected Area in Na Chi	Vietnam	$18,686	10/1/2014	9/30/2015
44	Centre for Plant Conservation	Enhancing the Role of Local Communities in Conserving Threatened Plant Species in Bat Dai Son, Ha Giang Province, Vietnam	Vietnam	$19,581	3/1/2018	9/30/2019
45	China Volunteer Service Foundation	Development of a Community-NGO-Government (CNG) Conservation Network in Daweishan, Yunnan*	China	$0	1/1/2019	9/30/2019
46	Community Development Action	Using Community-Based Forestry Programs to Promote Conservation in Myanmar's Moyingyi Watershed	Myanmar	$82,330	4/1/2018	10/31/2019
47	Community Economic Development	Empowering P'nong and Kuoy Indigenous Communities for Natural Resource Management and Biodiversity Conservation Along the Mekong River	Cambodia	$20,697	6/1/2014	5/31/2017
48	Community Observer Association	Mainstreaming Karst Biodiversity Conservation into Policies, Plans and Business Practices in Kayin State	Myanmar	$20,000	10/1/2018	9/30/2019
49	Community Resource Improvement for Development	Strengthening Conservation of Beoung Rom Per Biodiversity Area to Improve Livelihoods of Taing Krasaing Community Members, Santuk District, Kampong Thom Province	Cambodia	$13,585	7/1/2017	6/30/2018

50	Conservation International Foundation	Building Sustainability for the Mekong Turtle Conservation Project in Kratie, Cambodia	Cambodia	$7,798	6/1/2016	5/31/2017
51	Ecosystem Conservation and Community Development Initiative	Ecosystem Conservation and Community Development around Inle Lake, Myanmar	Myanmar	$82,495	4/1/2018	1/31/2020
52	Fauna & Flora International	Community-based Fish Conservation in the Upper Ayeyarwady Basin	Myanmar	$20,000	11/1/2017	12/31/2018
53	Fauna & Flora International	Participatory Gazettement of Key Biodiversity Areas for Primate Conservation in Myanmar	Myanmar	$179,998	4/1/2018	6/30/2021
54	Fauna & Flora International	Promoting a Community-Based Limestone Biodiversity Conservation Network in Guangxi	China	$199,999	6/1/2014	6/30/2017
55	Fauna & Flora International	Empowering Local Communities to Engage in Conservation and Management of Priority Key Biodiversity Areas and Threatened Primate and Plant Species in the Sino-Vietnamese Limestone Corridor	Vietnam	$400,000	7/1/2014	6/30/2017
56	Fauna & Flora International	Transitioning to Sustainable and Equitable Protected Areas for Vietnam's Primates	Vietnam	$200,000	3/1/2018	6/30/2020
57	Fauna & Flora International	A Gap Analysis for the Conservation of Freshwater Biodiversity in the Upper Ayeyarwady Basin	Myanmar	$147,456	10/1/2014	3/31/2017
58	FISHBIO	Establishing Co-Managed Fish Conservation Zones to Help Communities Protect Endangered Probarbus Fish in the Mekong River in Northern Lao PDR	Lao PDR	$20,000	3/1/2014	5/31/2015
59	FISHBIO Lao Sole Co., LTD	Strengthening Sustainable Community Management of Fish Conservation Zones for Endangered Probarbus Fishes at Kengmai Rapids, Lao PDR	Lao PDR	$20,000	9/1/2017	3/31/2019

60	FISHBIO Lao Sole Co., LTD	Strengthening Community Co-Management of a Mekong River Fish Conservation Zone Network	Lao PDR	$99,999	5/1/2018	9/30/2020
61	FISHBIO Lao Sole Co., LTD	Establishing Multi-Community Co-Management of an Aquatic Biodiversity Hotspot with Probarbus Fish and Soft-Shell Turtles in the Mekong River at Keng Mai Rapids, Lao PDR	Lao PDR	$20,000	5/1/2015	8/31/2016
62	Hainan Gufeng Environmental Consulting Co.Ltd	Community Co-management for Threatened Bird Habitat Restoration in Hainan: the Red-breasted Parakeet as a Case Study*	China	$0	1/1/2019	9/30/2019
63	Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Establishing a Protected Area Friendly System in Tropical China	China	$200,038	7/1/2015	12/31/2018
64	International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management	Stung Treng Ramsar Site in Cambodia: Integrating Fisheries Management and Wetlands Conservation (Phase II)	Cambodia	$179,997	4/1/2014	7/31/2016
65	Kadu Youth Development Association	Conserving the Biodiversity of the Smaller Indaw Lake, Sagaing Region, Myanmar	Myanmar	$16,297	3/1/2017	2/28/2018
66	Liuzhou Bird Watching Society	Fostering Community-based Conservation in Nonggang Nature Reserve	China	$16,125	10/1/2015	12/31/2017
67	Myanmar Bird and Nature Society	Identifying Priorities for Wetland Conservation in the Dry Zone, Upper Myanmar	Myanmar	$14,932	5/1/2017	8/31/2019
68	Myanmar Environment Institute	Ecological Conservation and Community Development Around Alaungdaw Kathapha National Park	Myanmar	$82,207	2/1/2018	12/31/2019
69	Myanmar Forest Association	Community-Based Conservation and Development in Khanti and Pyin Bu Nge Islands, Tanintharyi Region, Myanmar	Myanmar	$82,294	4/1/2018	12/31/2019

70	Natural Conservation Association Pingbian	Capacity-building of Local Communities and Promotion of Community Forestry Daweishan, Yunnan	China	$19,965	10/1/2015	12/31/2016
71	OSMOSE	Environmental Education Program in Peck Kantiel Floating Village	Cambodia	$18,315	7/1/2014	6/30/2016
72	OSMOSE	Environmental Education Program in Floating Villages around the Prek Toal Core Area of Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve	Cambodia	$17,555	8/1/2016	7/31/2018
73	People Resources and Conservation Foundation	Strengthen Co-Management Measures at Nam Xuan Lac SHCA and Establish Forest Benefit-Sharing in its Ban Thi Extension	Vietnam	$19,978	8/1/2017	12/31/2019
74	People Resources and Conservation Foundation	Testing Community-managed Forests with Financing from Payment for Forest Environmental Services in Vietnam	Vietnam	$19,195	5/1/2016	10/30/2017
75	People Resources and Conservation Foundation	Strengthening of Community-based and Led François's Langur Species and Habitat Conservation Initiatives in Northern Vietnam	Vietnam	$97,706	3/1/2016	3/31/2019
76	People Resources and Conservation Foundation	Reinforced Community-Based Conservation Initiatives in the Lam Binh Landscape, Vietnam	Vietnam	$132,432	1/1/2018	9/30/2020
77	Royal University of Phnom Penh	Strengthening Community Based Bird Biodiversity Conservation and Monitoring through Local Livelihood Improvement and Capacity Building in 3S River Basin, Cambodia	Cambodia	$177,000	10/1/2014	9/30/2017
78	Sansom Mlup Prey	Conservation Livelihoods in the Tonle Sap	Cambodia	$170,843	2/1/2018	6/30/2020
79	The Learning Institute	Sustainable Fisheries Conservation Management in Boeung Chhmar Moat Khla Area, Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia	Cambodia	$99,080	6/1/2016	6/30/2019

80	The Northern Green Lights	Piloting Community-based Initiatives for Conservation of Hoolock Gibbon in the Indawgyi Watershed	Myanmar	$35,841	2/1/2017	12/31/2018
81	The University of Minnesota	Ecology and Conservation of Sandbar-Nesting Birds in Cambodia	Cambodia	$18,871	3/1/2014	6/30/2015
82	Turtle Survival Alliance	Securing Local Participation in Conservation of River Turtles in Myanmar	Myanmar	$95,368	2/1/2017	12/31/2018
83	Wildlife Conservation Society	Phase II: Building Sustainability for the Mekong Turtle Conservation Project in Kratie, Cambodia	Cambodia	$44,584	5/1/2017	6/30/2018
84	Wildlife Conservation Society	Conducting a Key Biodiversity Area Gap Analysis to Promote Protected Area Expansion in Three Little Known Corridors in Myanmar	Myanmar	$99,994	9/1/2014	11/30/2016
85	Wildlife Conservation Society	Community Incentives for Conservation in the Tonle Sap	Cambodia	$533,637	4/1/2014	9/30/2018
Strategic Direction 6: Engage key actors in mainstreaming biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into development planning in the priority corridors						
86	Cambodian Institute for Research and Rural Development	Upgrading the Value Chains of Eco-labeled and Organic Products for Biodiversity Conservation in Stung Treng Ramsar Site, Cambodia	Cambodia	$60,000	4/1/2016	5/31/2018
87	Center for People and Nature Reconciliation	Addressing Vietnam's Ecological Footprint in the Lower Mekong Region	Vietnam	$244,920	7/1/2015	9/30/2019
88	Center for People and Nature Reconciliation	Advancing Environmental Media and Communications for Navigating the Public Discourse on Development and Conservation	Vietnam	$199,994	7/1/2014	6/30/2017
89	Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development	Evaluation of Co-Management as an Alternative Model for Aquatic Resource Conservation with Greater Participation by Local People in Northern Vietnam	Vietnam	$19,985	7/1/2014	2/28/2015

90	Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development	Networking for Collective Civil Society Responses to Priority and Emerging Threats to Lao Rivers	Lao PDR	$20,000	5/1/2014	12/31/2014
91	Chumchon Thai Foundation	Empowering Thai Journalists for Accountable Transboundary Investment	Thailand	$63,643	3/1/2016	2/28/2018
92	Conservation International	Mainstreaming Natural Resource Management for Fisheries in the Cambodian Mekong Basin	Cambodia	$248,077	7/1/2016	1/31/2019
93	East West Management Institute, Inc.	Myanmar Biodiversity Open Data Network	Myanmar	$19,947	2/1/2018	12/31/2018
94	Fauna & Flora International	Mainstreaming Karst Biodiversity Conservation into Policies, Plans and Business Practices in Myanmar	Myanmar	$149,920	10/1/2014	12/31/2016
95	Fauna & Flora International	Mainstreaming Karst Biodiversity Conservation into Policies, Plans and Business Practices in the Ayeyarwady Basin, Myanmar	Myanmar	$189,979	4/1/2017	10/31/2019
96	Fisheries Action Coalition Team	Strengthening Community Advocacy in the 3S Basin	Cambodia	$120,000	6/1/2014	8/31/2016
97	Hainan Hele-crab Conservation Center	Biodiversity, Community and Development of Sustainable Livelihoods in Xiaohai, Hainan	China	$19,887	6/1/2015	5/31/2016
98	Hainan Hele-crab Conservation Center	Demonstration Project on the Eco-Farming of Hele-Crab in Mangrove Forest	China	$13,340	4/1/2017	3/31/2018
99	Harrison Institute	Developing Policies for Sustainable Tourism in the Upper Ayeyarwady River Corridor, Myanmar	Myanmar	$20,000	6/1/2014	5/31/2015
100	International Centre for Environmental Management	Environmental Study of the Lancang-Mekong Development Plan	Lao PDR; Thailand	$299,973	3/1/2016	12/31/2018
101	International Rivers Network	Ensuring Better Biodiversity and Community Outcomes in the Nam Ou, Lao PDR	Lao PDR	$20,000	10/1/2016	4/30/2017

102	International Rivers Network	Same Company, Two Dams, One River: Using Hydrolancang's China Domestic Practice to Mainstream Biodiversity, Fisheries and Livelihood Protection for the Lower Sesan 2 Dam Project	Cambodia; China	$19,221	3/1/2014	2/28/2015
103	International Rivers Network	Protecting the Mekong River's Critical Ecosystems and Biodiversity from Hydropower Development	Cambodia; Lao PDR; Thailand; Vietnam	$181,251	3/1/2014	2/29/2016
104	International Rivers Network	Ensuring Accountability for Ecosystems and Biodiversity Protection from Hydropower Development in the Mekong River Basin	Cambodia; Lao PDR; Thailand; Vietnam	$200,000	3/1/2016	12/31/2018
105	Living River Siam Association	Strengthening Local Community Networks for Restoration of Fish Habitats in Northern Thailand	Thailand	$89,938	4/1/2015	3/31/2017
106	Mekong Community Institute Association	Strengthening Mekong Local Youth Networks for Riverine Biodiversity Conservation	Thailand	$79,998	5/1/2015	4/30/2017
107	Mekong Watch	Enhancing Civil Society Capacities to Work on Biodiversity, Communities and Livelihoods in Regional Networks Across Major Tributaries in the Lower Mekong River Basin	Cambodia; Lao PDR; Thailand	$100,000	4/1/2014	3/31/2016
108	Rising Phoenix Co. Ltd.	Flight of the Phoenix: A Pilot Trial to Re-wild a Cambodian Forest	Cambodia	$249,739	7/1/2016	12/31/2019
109	Shan Shui Conservation Center	Biodiversity Information-Sharing Platform for Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Policy Making	China	$219,741	7/1/2015	7/31/2018

110	Stockholm Environment Institute	Empowering Civil Society and Governmental Agencies to Mainstream Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service Values into Development Plans for the Chindwin River Basin, Myanmar	Myanmar	$349,446	4/1/2017	6/30/2019
111	TRAFFIC International	Sustainable Trade in Wild Medicinal and Aromatic Plants in the Sino-Vietnamese Limestone Corridor	China	$208,697	7/1/2016	12/31/2018
112	Trans-boundary Journalists and Communicators Association	Empowering Thai Journalists for Accountable Transboundary Investment (Phase 2)	Thailand	$32,654	1/1/2018	6/30/2018
113	Vishnu Law Group	Facilitating Civil Society Participation in the Implementation of Cambodia's Environmental Code	Cambodia	$119,998	4/1/2017	6/30/2018
114	Wild Cambodia Organisation	Providing Incentives for Conservation in the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve, Stung Seng and Boeung Tonle Chhmar Core Zones through Sustainable Livelihoods in Responsible Tourism	Cambodia	$19,824	7/1/2016	6/30/2017
115	Wildlife Conservation Society	Mainstreaming Effective Conservation Models into Cambodia's Environmental Code	Cambodia	$79,997	7/1/2017	6/30/2018
116	Wildlife Conservation Society	Establishing and Piloting a Payment for Ecosystem Services Model in Lao PDR	Lao PDR	$299,908	4/1/2016	5/31/2021
117	Wildlife Conservation Society	Developing Biodiversity Guidelines for Rice Cultivation in the Tonle Sap Lake and Inundation Zone Priority Corridor, Cambodia	Cambodia	$189,772	4/1/2016	9/30/2018
118	World Wide Fund for Nature	Mainstreaming Biodiversity Values into Land-Use Decision Making in Cambodia’s Mekong Flooded Forest	Cambodia	$119,750	3/1/2016	6/30/2018

119	Yi Tai Rui Wo Environmental Consulting Company Limited	Nu River Biodiversity: Increasing Knowledge and Capacity on Infrastructure Impacts	China	$61,982	5/1/2015	4/30/2017
Strategic Direction 8: Strengthen the capacity of civil society to work on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods at regional, national, local and grassroots levels						
120	3S Rivers Protection Network	Empowering Community-Based Organizations for Improved River Governance	Cambodia	$17,403	11/1/2015	10/31/2016
121	Andaman Organization for Participatory Restoration of National Resources	Enhancing Community Participation in Watershed Management and Biodiversity Conservation in 4 River Basins, Phang Nga Province	Thailand	$20,000	1/1/2017	6/30/2018
122	Australian Volunteers International	Myanmar Volunteer Clearing House: Feasibility Study	Myanmar	$16,461	9/1/2018	12/31/2018
123	Beihai Citizen Volunteer Association	Supporting the Growth of Environmental Societies at Colleges in Beihai, China	China	$14,629	6/1/2015	5/31/2016
124	Beihai Citizen Volunteer Association	Rural School Environment Protection Course by Trained College Volunteer in Beihai, Guangxi, China	China	$18,953	7/1/2018	8/31/2019
125	Beijing Normal University	Strengthening Civil Society Networking to Combat Illegal Wildlife Trafficking in Southern China	China	$48,424	3/1/2016	2/28/2018
126	Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association	Training for Monitoring Spoonbill Sandpiper in the Gulf of Mottama	Myanmar	$17,869	8/1/2014	5/31/2015
127	Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association	Strengthening the Capacity of Biodiversity Conservation in Kelatha Wildlife Sanctuary, Myanmar	Myanmar	$19,844	1/1/2019	12/31/2019
128	Bird Conservation Society of Thailand	Building Local Conservation Groups to Protect Important Areas for Bird Conservation in Thailand	Thailand	$19,999	11/1/2014	10/31/2015
129	BirdLife International	Handing over BirdLife International Mission to Cambodian Non-government Organization	Cambodia	$18,406	7/1/2016	6/30/2017

130	Bring the Elephant Home Foundation	Conservation Leadership Program	Thailand	$19,896	5/1/2015	4/30/2016
131	Bring the Elephant Home Foundation	Conservation Leadership Program – Phase II	Thailand	$9,822	11/1/2017	10/31/2018
132	Cambodian Rural Development Team	Supporting the Development of a Cambodian Nongovernmental Organization Specializing in Sustainable Livelihood Development	Cambodia	$20,000	4/1/2014	3/31/2015
133	Center for Environmental and Rural Development, Vinh University	Creating Conservation Leaders for the West Nghe An Biosphere Reserve	Vietnam	$19,961	7/1/2014	6/30/2015
134	Centre for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies	Conservation Planning for Swinhoe's Softshell Turtle	China; Lao PDR; Vietnam	$3,194	12/1/2014	1/31/2015
135	Centre for Supporting Green Development	Developing and Implementing GreenHub's Strategies and Plans for Conservation	Vietnam	$19,906	12/1/2017	1/31/2019
136	Centre for Sustainable Water Resources Development and Adaptation to Climate Change	Building Civil Society Capacity to Assess the Impacts of Hydropower Development on the Biodiversity in Vietnam's Srepok River	Vietnam	$19,618	6/1/2015	5/31/2016
137	Conserve Indigenous Peoples Languages	Indigenous Community Media	Cambodia	$19,305	4/1/2017	3/31/2018
138	Cooperation Committee for Cambodia	Strengthening Non-Governmental Organizations' Governance in Cambodia	Cambodia	$20,000	7/1/2018	9/30/2019
139	Dali Biodiversity Conservation and Research Centre	Establish a Conservation Network for the 'Skywalker' hoolock gibbon (*Hoolock tianxing*) in Yunnan Province, China*	China	$0	1/1/2019	9/30/2019
140	Day Ku Aphiwat	Managing Natural Resources to Safeguard Livelihoods in Oddar Meanchey, Cambodia	Cambodia	$15,102	6/1/2015	5/31/2016
141	Environmental and Health Education Organisation	Empowering Communities in Kompong Thom Province, Cambodia, for Conservation and Community Development	Cambodia	$19,130	1/1/2016	12/31/2016
142	FISHBIO Lao Sole Co., LTD	Developing Best Practices for Evaluating Fish Conservation Zone Effectiveness in Lao PDR	Lao PDR	$109,961	5/1/2015	6/30/2019

143	FREELAND Foundation	Forward Together, Phase II – Developing a Grassroots Network of Wildlife Guardians to Support the Dong Phayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex	Thailand	$20,000	7/1/2016	6/30/2017
144	FREELAND Foundation	Fostering Wildlife Guardians for Thap Lan National Park	Thailand	$19,839	7/1/2014	6/30/2015
145	Friends of Wildlife	Supporting the Development and Sustainability of a Local Conservation NGO, "Friends of Wildlife"	Myanmar	$20,000	1/1/2019	9/30/2019
146	Friends of Wildlife	Training for Myanmar Conservation Civil Society Organizations	Myanmar	$19,228	12/1/2015	5/31/2016
147	Global Environmental Institute	Enhance Myanmar Nongovermental Organizations' Capability on Community-based Conservation and Development	Myanmar	$74,818	4/1/2018	12/31/2019
148	Global Wildlife Conservation	Closing Conservation Gaps through People and Priorities: the 4th Meeting of the Saola Working Group	Vietnam	$19,205	11/1/2015	1/31/2016
149	Green Community Alliance	Networking for Collective Civil Society Responses to Priority and Emerging Threats to Lao Natural Water Resources	Lao PDR	$19,547	9/1/2018	9/30/2019
150	Green Kunming	Building an Online Platform for Conservation Volunteers in Yunnan	China	$1,819	6/1/2014	5/31/2015
151	GreenViet Biodiversity Conservation Center	Strengthening the Capacity of GreenViet to Design and Conduct Conservation Projects in Danang	Vietnam	$18,597	5/1/2016	4/30/2017
152	GreenViet Biodiversity Conservation Center	Emergency Actions to Protect the Endangered Red-Shanked Douc Langur and its Habitat	Vietnam	$18,253	8/1/2017	1/31/2018
153	Guangxi Biodiversity Research and Conservation Association	Hou Niao Volunteer Program – Promoting a Coastal Wetland Volunteer Network in Guangxi	China	$19,923	10/1/2016	9/30/2017

154	Guangxi Nanning Dipper Sports Culture Co. Ltd.	Establishing a Birdwatching Society in Guangxi	China	$5,376	7/1/2014	6/30/2015
155	Hainan Gao11 culture transmission Ltd.	The Squirrel School's Guided Eco-tours in Yangshan Wetland, Hainan	China	$19,533	9/1/2015	8/31/2016
156	Highlanders Association	Mobilization of Indigenous Communities for Resource Protection and Indigenous Peoples Rights	Cambodia	$90,000	7/1/2014	6/30/2017
157	Inn Chit Thu Social Development and Ecotourism Group	Building Capacity for Community-Based Tourism and Environmental Awareness-Raising at Indawgyi Wildlife Sanctuary	Myanmar	$10,465	9/1/2017	9/30/2019
158	Lao Biodiversity Association	Strengthening the Capacity of the Lao Biodiversity Association, for Long-term Sustainability	Lao PDR	$19,705	5/1/2016	4/30/2017
159	Living River Association	Strengthening Fish Conservation Area Network for Food Security in the Ing River Basin	Thailand	$19,966	4/1/2014	3/31/2015
160	Living River Association	Strengthening Local Communities and Networks for the Restoration and Protection of Fish Habitats in the Lower Mun and Mekong Rivers	Thailand	$20,000	9/1/2017	8/31/2018
161	Mekong Community Institute Association	Strengthening Woman Network for Riverine Biodiversity Conservation in Ing River Basin	Thailand	$20,000	7/1/2016	6/30/2017
162	Mekong Community Institute Association	Strengthening a Women's Network for Riverine Biodiversity Conservation in the Ing River Basin (Phase 2)	Thailand	$20,000	9/1/2017	8/31/2018
163	Mother Nature (Meada Thoamajeat)	Empowering Khmer Daeum Communities in the Areng Valley	Cambodia	$12,612	6/1/2014	5/31/2015
164	My Village Organization	Empowering Indigenous Women's and Youth Networks for Natural Resource Management in Cambodia	Cambodia	$20,000	9/1/2018	9/30/2019

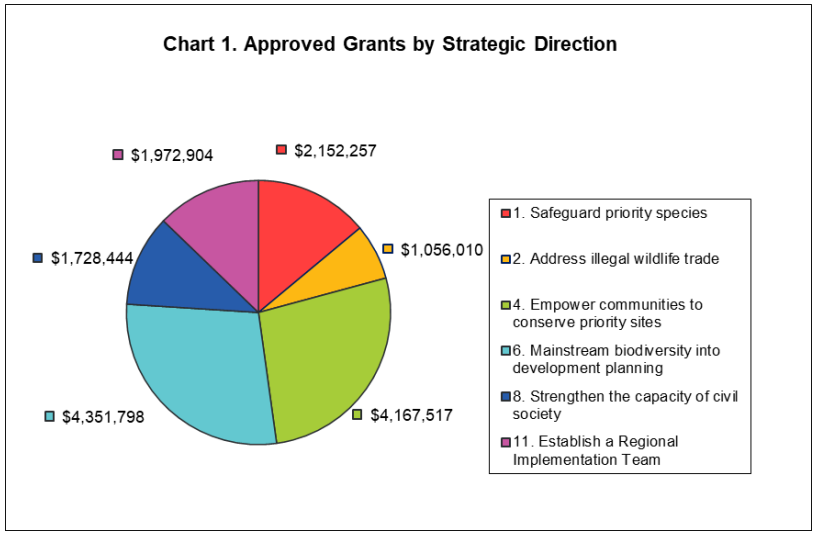
165	Natural Greening Development Association	Enhancing Effective Engagement of Myanmar's Civil Society in Environmental Conservation	Myanmar	$17,373	12/1/2018	9/30/2019
166	Non-Timber Forest Products	Community Networks for Gibbon Protection at Veun Sai Siem Pang Conservation Area	Cambodia	$144,910	3/1/2016	2/28/2019
167	Pha Tad Ke Botanical Garden	Core Capacity Building for Pha Tad Ke Botanical Garden	Lao PDR	$74,810	3/1/2015	9/30/2016
168	Pha Tad Ke Botanical Garden	Pha Tad Ke - Training the Trainers	Lao PDR	$19,290	5/1/2016	1/31/2017
169	Ponlok Khmer	Establishing a Cambodian Buddhist Sangha Conservation Network to Safeguard Biodiversity	Cambodia	$10,895	1/1/2018	9/30/2019
170	Sansom Mlup Prey	Growing More Than Just Rice: Enabling a Local Civil Society Organization to Increase its Conservation Impact	Cambodia	$19,990	10/1/2017	9/30/2018
171	Save Andaman Network Foundation	Strengthening Women Networks and Community for Biodiversity Conservation in Trang Province	Thailand	$20,000	1/1/2017	12/31/2017
172	Save Vietnam's Wildlife	Strengthening the Capacity of Save Vietnam’s Wildlife	Vietnam	$19,986	8/1/2016	6/30/2017
173	Southeast Asia Development Program	Providing Appropriate Support to Cambodian Nongovernmental Organizations and Peoples Groups Working on Sustainable Resource Management	Cambodia	$122,588	7/1/2014	12/31/2016
174	Southeast Asia Development Program	Ongoing Support to Strengthen Financial Management of Cambodian NGOs Working on Biodiversity, Communities and Livelihoods	Cambodia	$19,714	9/1/2017	12/31/2018
175	Sustainable Development Foundation	Network Building for Community-Based Approaches to Natural Resources Management in Trat Province	Thailand	$20,000	1/1/2017	5/31/2018

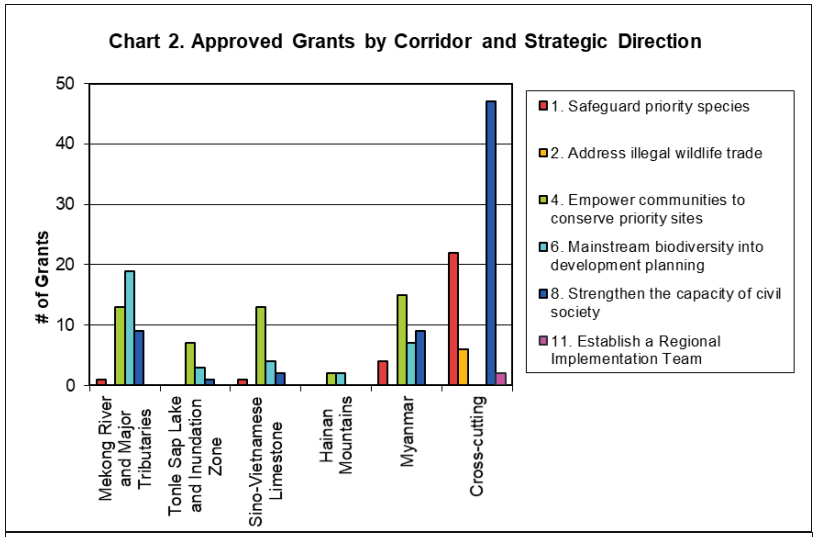
176	Sympathy Hands Community Development Organization	Building the Capacity of Local Biodiversity Conservation Groups in Shan State, Myanmar	Myanmar	$15,513	8/1/2017	6/30/2019
177	Tengchong Rare Flora and Fauna Protection Association	Capacity building of Tengchong Rare Flora and Fauna Protection Association*	China	$0	1/1/2019	9/30/2019
178	Thai Wetlands Foundation	Development and Efficiency Improvement for Thai Wetlands Foundation	Thailand	$7,579	10/1/2015	9/30/2016
179	The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society	Capacity Building of Local Conservation Groups in Guangdong and Guangxi Provinces to Address Illegal Shorebird Trapping Problem	China	$84,453	6/1/2014	4/30/2016
180	The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society	Empowerment of Local Communities to Address Problem of Illegal Hunting in South China	China	$39,998	4/1/2016	9/30/2017
181	The Pga K'Nyau Association for Social and Environmental Development	Integrated Biodiversity Conservation by Highland Communities	Thailand	$20,000	1/1/2019	12/31/2019
182	The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust	Strengthening the Capacity of Community-Based Institutions Instrumental to Conservation of Seasonally-inundated Grasslands in the Mekong Delta in Cambodia	Cambodia	$19,996	11/1/2018	9/30/2019
183	Vietnam National Park and Protected Area Association	Strengthening the Capacity of VNPPA to Coordinate and Support Conservation in Vietnam's Protected Areas	Vietnam	$19,993	2/1/2018	12/31/2018
184	WahPlaw Wildlife Watch	Development of Community-Based Models for Biodiversity Conservation in Tanintharyi	Myanmar	$76,237	4/1/2018	3/31/2020
185	Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Hunting for Solutions in Southwest China	China	$19,719	12/1/2017	9/30/2019
186	Yingjiang Taoyuanxiaozhu Farm	Collective Forest Conservation in Tongbiguan, Yingjiang County, China*	China	$0	1/1/2019	9/30/2019

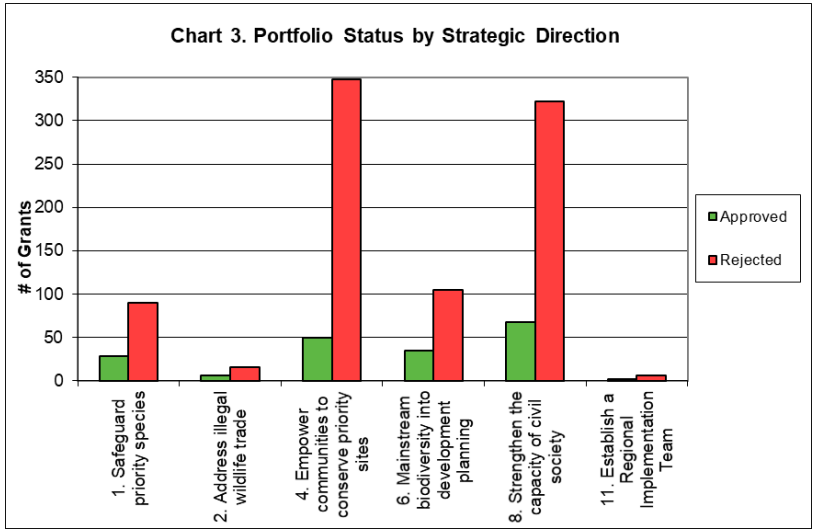
187	Zoological Society of Yunnan Province	Capacity Building of Local Communities in Bird Conservation in Huang Lianshan	China	$12,998	8/1/2014	12/31/2016
Strategic Direction 11 Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of conservation investment through a regional implementation team						
188	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources	Indo-Burma II-1: Regional Implementation Team-Administration	Cambodia; China; Lao PDR; Myanmar; Thailand; Vietnam	$1,077,069	7/1/2013	4/30/2020
189	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources	Indo-Burma II-2: Regional Implementation Team-Programs	Cambodia; China; Lao PDR; Myanmar; Thailand; Vietnam	$895,835	7/1/2013	4/30/2020

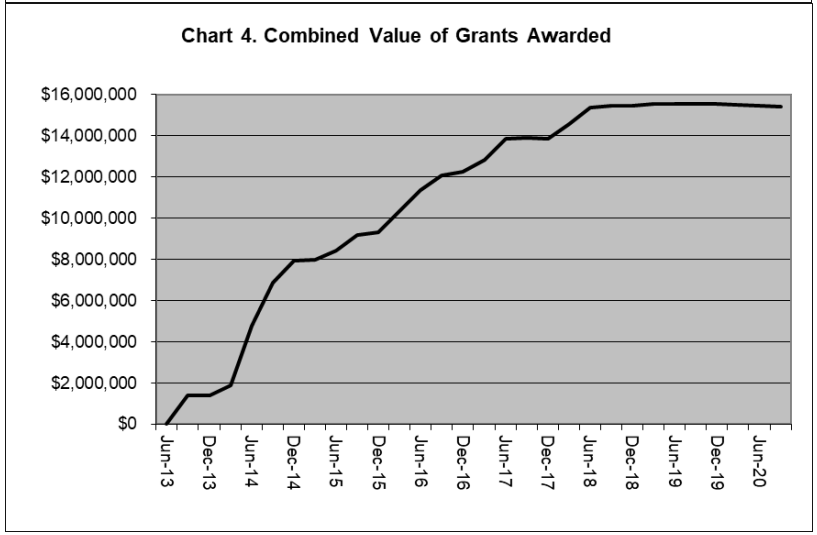
Note: * = grant awarded but not implemented; no webpage available.

Annex 3. CEPF Investment in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, 2013-2020









Annex 4. Funding Leveraged by CEPF Grantees in the Indo-Burma Hotspot

No.	Grantee	Project Title	CEPF Grant	Leveraged Funding
Strategic Direction 1: Safeguard priority globally threatened species by mitigating major threats				
1	BirdLife International	Securing the Long-Term Future of Vulture Conservation in Cambodia	$139,936	$214,788
2	BirdLife International	Re-Wilding Western Siem Pang: Ecological Restoration in the Deciduous Dipterocarp Forests of Cambodia	$249,999	$0
3	Central Institute for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies	In Search of Edwards's Pheasant in the Annamese Lowlands of Vietnam	$90,000	$3,500
4	Centre for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies	Strengthening Conservation of the Most Critically Endangered Turtles in Vietnam	$19,164	$2,800
5	Chamroen Chiet Khmer	Embedding Sustainable Community Management Practices in Key Sarus Crane Wetlands: Environment and Livelihoods Enhancement at Boeung Prek Lapouv Sarus Crane Reserve	$72,000	$28,810
6	Charles Darwin University	Ecology and Population Trends of the Eastern Sarus Crane	$19,780	$45,960
7	Conservation International Foundation	Giant Soft Shell Turtle Protection in the Kratie Region, Cambodia	$117,161	$30,290
8	Fauna & Flora International	Long-term Research and Conservation Field Station in Nakai-Nam Theun National Protected Area	$18,306	$141,779
9	Fauna & Flora International	Development of a Holistic Approach to the Conservation of the Cat Ba Langur	$65,500	$26,439
10	Friends of Wildlife	Conservation of Vultures in Myanmar	$19,946	$0

11	Friends of Wildlife	Promoting the Conservation of Eld's Deer in Chatthin Wildlife Sanctuary Through Core Zone Management and Community Participation	$19,816	$49,990
12	Global Wildlife Conservation	Finding Saola, Saving Saola: Transforming Saola Conservation in Key Sites in Lao PDR and Vietnam	$199,070	$281,700
13	Indo-Myanmar Conservation	Securing Endangered Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles in the Indo-Burma Region	$150,000	$111,900
14	King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi	Understanding and Inspiring Conservation of Saola and Other Endemic Species in Lao PDR	$17,418	$25,450
15	Kunming Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Freshwater Turtle Conservation in the Karst Area of Yunnan and Guangxi	$16,000	$0
16	Lao Biodiversity Association	Assessing the Status of Northern White-Cheeked Crested Gibbon	$19,878	$1,200
17	Mlup Baitong	Embedding Sustainable Community Management Practices at Key Sarus Crane Wetlands in the Cambodian Lower Mekong: Environment and Livelihood Improvements at Anlung Pring Sarus Crane Reserve	$69,949	$79,245
18	Royal University of Phnom Penh, Centre for Biodiversity Conservation	Investigating the Status of Masked Finfoot in Cambodia	$19,996	$7,630
19	Royal University of Phnom Penh, Centre for Biodiversity Conservation	Identifying Priority Sites and Conservation Actions for the Fishing Cat in Cambodia	$19,998	$10,210
20	Southeast Asian Nepenthes Study and Research Foundation	Emergency Conservation Measures to Avoid the Extinction of *Nepenthes suratensis*	$0	$0
21	The Lao Wildlife Conservation Association	Conservation Initiatives for the Indochinese Silvered Leaf Monkey in Dong Phou Vieng National Protected Area	$19,995	$0

22	The Lao Wildlife Conservation Association	Mitigating Threats to CEPF's Priority Globally Threatened Species in Nam Mo-Nam Thong Provincial Protected Area	$19,592	$0
23	Turtle Survival Alliance	Building a Comprehensive Chelonian Conservation Program in Myanmar	$60,000	$145,166
24	Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust	Embedding Sustainable Community Management Practices at Key Sarus Crane Wetlands in the Cambodian Lower Mekong	$200,000	$467,819
25	Wildlife Conservation Society	Protection of River Tern and Black-Bellied Tern in Myanmar	$20,000	$8,500
26	Wildlife Conservation Society	Emergency Funding for Recovery of the Critically Endangered Siamese Crocodile	$19,956	$15,481
27	Wildlife Conservation Society	Restoring the Wild Population of Southern River Terrapin in Cambodia: Nest Protection, 'Head-Starting', Reintroductions, and Sustainable Financing	$69,285	$66,655
28	World Wide Fund for Nature	Stimulating Sustainable Saola Snare Removal: Leveraging Long-Term Support for Saola Conservation in the Central Annamites of Vietnam	$199,528	$253,000
29	World Wide Fund for Nature	Enhancing Integrated Spatial Development Planning as an Effective Conservation Tool: Safeguarding Lao's Last Eld's Deer Population	$199,985	$85,100
Strategic Direction 2: Demonstrate innovative responses to illegal trafficking and consumption of wildlife				
30	Education for Nature-Vietnam	Mobilizing Public Action in Reducing Demand for Wildlife Products and Combating Wildlife Crime in Vietnam	$121,935	$66,310
31	FREELAND Foundation	iTHINK: a Joint Campaign Platform to Tackle Wildlife Consumption	$243,149	$1,449,200

32	GreenViet Biodiversity Conservation Center	Reducing Wildlife Consumption in Da Nang City	$19,742	$0
33	TRAFFIC International	Starving the Supply: Interventions to Curb Illegal Wildlife Trade from Southeast Asia into Southern China	$166,634	$68,000
34	Wildlife Alliance, Inc.	Stemming the Tide: A Coordinated Community and Law Enforcement Response to the Illegal Wildlife Trade in Cambodia	$180,000	$538,742
35	Wildlife Conservation Society	Breaking the Chain: Building a Transnational Partnership Between Civil Society and Governments to Combat Major Wildlife Trade Networks in Lao PDR, Vietnam and China	$324,550	$499,000
Strategic Direction 4: Empower local communities to engage in conservation and management of priority Key Biodiversity Areas				
36	Association for Community Training and Development	Pilot Dissemination of the Lao Biodiversity Conservation Law to Four Communities at Priority Site Pakxan Wetland	$17,286	$3,600
37	Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association	Involving Communities in Southern Tanintharyi Region in Conservation of Gurney's Pitta	$18,807	$5,072
38	Cambodian Community Development	Empowering Communities to Manage Natural Resources in the Mekong Central Section, Cambodia	$74,753	$36,000
39	Cambodian Organization for Women Support	Strengthening Conservation and Management of Akpi Wat Praek Kampong Cham Community Fishery, Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia	$18,194	$0
40	Cambodian Rural Development Team	Changing Perceptions for Active Biodiversity Conservation in Stung Treng Ramsar Site, Cambodia	$79,372	$37,178

41	Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development	Enhancing Co-Management for Sustainable Aquatic Resources in Tuyen Quang Province, Vietnam	$100,000	$11,650
42	Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development	Impacts of Khau Ca Species and Habitat Conservation Area Establishment on the Livelihoods of Local People: an Assessment from the Community Perspective	$19,999	$0
43	Centre for People and Nature Reconciliation	Feasibility Study on the Establishment of a Community-Managed Protected Area in Na Chi	$18,686	$0
44	Centre for Plant Conservation	Enhancing the Role of Local Communities in Conserving Threatened Plant Species in Bat Dai Son, Ha Giang Province, Vietnam	$19,581	$0
45	China Volunteer Service Foundation	Development of a Community-NGO-Government (CNG) Conservation Network in Daweishan, Yunnan	$0	$0
46	Community Development Action	Using Community-Based Forestry Programs to Promote Conservation in Myanmar's Moyingyi Watershed	$82,330	$0
47	Community Economic Development	Empowering P'nong and Kuoy Indigenous Communities for Natural Resource Management and Biodiversity Conservation Along the Mekong River	$20,697	$207,807
48	Community Observer Association	Mainstreaming Karst Biodiversity Conservation into Policies, Plans and Business Practices in Kayin State	$20,000	$0
49	Community Resource Improvement for Development	Strengthening Conservation of Beoung Rom Per Biodiversity Area to Improve Livelihoods of Taing Krasaing Community Members, Santuk District, Kampong Thom Province	$13,585	$11,389

50	Conservation International Foundation	Building Sustainability for the Mekong Turtle Conservation Project in Kratie, Cambodia	$7,798	$48,000
51	Ecosystem Conservation and Community Development Initiative	Ecosystem Conservation and Community Development around Inle Lake, Myanmar	$82,495	$0
52	Fauna & Flora International	Community-based Fish Conservation in the Upper Ayeyarwady Basin	$20,000	$187,000
53	Fauna & Flora International	Participatory Gazettement of Key Biodiversity Areas for Primate Conservation in Myanmar	$179,998	$230,000
54	Fauna & Flora International	Promoting a Community-Based Limestone Biodiversity Conservation Network in Guangxi	$199,999	$259,017
55	Fauna & Flora International	Empowering Local Communities to Engage in Conservation and Management of Priority Key Biodiversity Areas and Threatened Primate and Plant Species in the Sino-Vietnamese Limestone Corridor	$400,000	$267,755
56	Fauna & Flora International	Transitioning to Sustainable and Equitable Protected Areas for Vietnam's Primates	$200,000	$839,500
57	Fauna & Flora International	A Gap Analysis for the Conservation of Freshwater Biodiversity in the Upper Ayeyarwady Basin	$147,456	$115,000
58	FISHBIO	Establishing Co-Managed Fish Conservation Zones to Help Communities Protect Endangered Probarbus Fish in the Mekong River in Northern Lao PDR	$20,000	$1,650
59	FISHBIO Lao Sole Co., LTD	Strengthening Sustainable Community Management of Fish Conservation Zones for Endangered Probarbus Fishes at Kengmai Rapids, Lao PDR	$20,000	$4,700

60	FISHBIO Lao Sole Co., LTD	Strengthening Community Co-Management of a Mekong River Fish Conservation Zone Network	$99,999	$86,445
61	FISHBIO Lao Sole Co., LTD	Establishing Multi-Community Co-Management of an Aquatic Biodiversity Hotspot with Probarbus Fish and Soft-Shell Turtles in the Mekong River at Keng Mai Rapids, Lao PDR	$20,000	$20,000
62	Hainan Gufeng Environmental Consulting Co.Ltd	Community Co-management for Threatened Bird Habitat Restoration in Hainan: the Red-breasted Parakeet as a Case Study	$0	$0
63	Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Establishing a Protected Area Friendly System in Tropical China	$200,038	$65,000
64	International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management	Stung Treng Ramsar Site in Cambodia: Integrating Fisheries Management and Wetlands Conservation (Phase II)	$179,997	$89,508
65	Kadu Youth Development Association	Conserving the Biodiversity of the Smaller Indaw Lake, Sagaing Region, Myanmar	$16,297	$135
66	Liuzhou Bird Watching Society	Fostering Community-based Conservation in Nonggang Nature Reserve	$16,125	$0
67	Myanmar Bird and Nature Society	Identifying Priorities for Wetland Conservation in the Dry Zone, Upper Myanmar	$14,932	$2,150
68	Myanmar Environment Institute	Ecological Conservation and Community Development Around Alaungdaw Kathapha National Park	$82,207	$0
69	Myanmar Forest Association	Community-Based Conservation and Development in Khanti and Pyin Bu Nge Islands, Tanintharyi Region, Myanmar	$82,294	$0

70	Natural Conservation Association Pingbian	Capacity-building of Local Communities and Promotion of Community Forestry Daweishan, Yunnan	$19,965	$1,600
71	OSMOSE	Environmental Education Program in Peck Kantiel Floating Village	$18,315	$7,400
72	OSMOSE	Environmental Education Program in Floating Villages around the Prek Toal Core Area of Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve	$17,555	$9,400
73	People Resources and Conservation Foundation	Strengthen Co-Management Measures at Nam Xuan Lac SHCA and Establish Forest Benefit-Sharing in its Ban Thi Extension	$19,978	$3,500
74	People Resources and Conservation Foundation	Testing Community-managed Forests with Financing from Payment for Forest Environmental Services in Vietnam	$19,195	$39,155
75	People Resources and Conservation Foundation	Strengthening of Community-based and Led François's Langur Species and Habitat Conservation Initiatives in Northern Vietnam	$97,706	$441,988
76	People Resources and Conservation Foundation	Reinforced Community-Based Conservation Initiatives in the Lam Binh Landscape, Vietnam	$132,432	$110,000
77	Royal University of Phnom Penh	Strengthening Community Based Bird Biodiversity Conservation and Monitoring through Local Livelihood Improvement and Capacity Building in 3S River Basin, Cambodia	$177,000	$69,128
78	Sansom Mlup Prey	Conservation Livelihoods in the Tonle Sap	$170,843	$654,107
79	The Learning Institute	Sustainable Fisheries Conservation Management in Boeung Chhmar Moat Khla Area, Kampong Thom Province, Cambodia	$99,080	$29,948

80	The Northern Green Lights	Piloting Community-based Initiatives for Conservation of Hoolock Gibbon in the Indawgyi Watershed	$35,841	$29,600
81	The University of Minnesota	Ecology and Conservation of Sandbar-Nesting Birds in Cambodia	$18,871	$0
82	Turtle Survival Alliance	Securing Local Participation in Conservation of River Turtles in Myanmar	$95,368	$110,000
83	Wildlife Conservation Society	Phase II: Building Sustainability for the Mekong Turtle Conservation Project in Kratie, Cambodia	$44,584	$97,000
84	Wildlife Conservation Society	Conducting a Key Biodiversity Area Gap Analysis to Promote Protected Area Expansion in Three Little Known Corridors in Myanmar	$99,994	$65,246
85	Wildlife Conservation Society	Community Incentives for Conservation in the Tonle Sap	$533,637	$5,220,000
Strategic Direction 6: Engage key actors in mainstreaming biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into development planning in the priority corridors				
86	Cambodian Institute for Research and Rural Development	Upgrading the Value Chains of Eco-labeled and Organic Products for Biodiversity Conservation in Stung Treng Ramsar Site, Cambodia	$60,000	$10,500
87	Center for People and Nature Reconciliation	Addressing Vietnam's Ecological Footprint in the Lower Mekong Region	$244,920	$210,666
88	Center for People and Nature Reconciliation	Advancing Environmental Media and Communications for Navigating the Public Discourse on Development and Conservation	$199,994	$95,710
89	Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development	Evaluation of Co-Management as an Alternative Model for Aquatic Resource Conservation with Greater Participation by Local People in Northern Vietnam	$19,985	$0

90	Center for Water Resources Conservation and Development	Networking for Collective Civil Society Responses to Priority and Emerging Threats to Lao Rivers	$20,000	$0
91	Chumchon Thai Foundation	Empowering Thai Journalists for Accountable Transboundary Investment	$63,643	$18,400
92	Conservation International	Mainstreaming Natural Resource Management for Fisheries in the Cambodian Mekong Basin	$248,077	$1,700,000
93	East West Management Institute, Inc.	Myanmar Biodiversity Open Data Network	$19,947	$0
94	Fauna & Flora International	Mainstreaming Karst Biodiversity Conservation into Policies, Plans and Business Practices in Myanmar	$149,920	$8,420
95	Fauna & Flora International	Mainstreaming Karst Biodiversity Conservation into Policies, Plans and Business Practices in the Ayeyarwady Basin, Myanmar	$189,979	$4,080
96	Fisheries Action Coalition Team	Strengthening Community Advocacy in the 3S Basin	$120,000	$66,426
97	Hainan Hele-crab Conservation Center	Biodiversity, Community and Development of Sustainable Livelihoods in Xiaohai, Hainan	$19,887	$233,744
98	Hainan Hele-crab Conservation Center	Demonstration Project on the Eco-Farming of Hele-Crab in Mangrove Forest	$13,340	$0
99	Harrison Institute	Developing Policies for Sustainable Tourism in the Upper Ayeyarwady River Corridor, Myanmar	$20,000	$66,169
100	International Centre for Environmental Management	Environmental Study of the Lancang-Mekong Development Plan	$299,973	$51,500
101	International Rivers Network	Ensuring Better Biodiversity and Community Outcomes in the Nam Ou, Lao PDR	$20,000	$0

102	International Rivers Network	Same Company, Two Dams, One River: Using Hydrolancang's China Domestic Practice to Mainstream Biodiversity, Fisheries and Livelihood Protection for the Lower Sesan 2 Dam Project	$19,221	$15,000
103	International Rivers Network	Protecting the Mekong River's Critical Ecosystems and Biodiversity from Hydropower Development	$181,251	$860,000
104	International Rivers Network	Ensuring Accountability for Ecosystems and Biodiversity Protection from Hydropower Development in the Mekong River Basin	$200,000	$840,000
105	Living River Siam Association	Strengthening Local Community Networks for Restoration of Fish Habitats in Northern Thailand	$89,938	$51,684
106	Mekong Community Institute Association	Strengthening Mekong Local Youth Networks for Riverine Biodiversity Conservation	$79,998	$54,834
107	Mekong Watch	Enhancing Civil Society Capacities to Work on Biodiversity, Communities and Livelihoods in Regional Networks Across Major Tributaries in the Lower Mekong River Basin	$100,000	$119,000
108	Rising Phoenix Co. Ltd.	Flight of the Phoenix: A Pilot Trial to Re-wild a Cambodian Forest	$249,739	$175,000
109	Shan Shui Conservation Center	Biodiversity Information-Sharing Platform for Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Policy Making	$219,741	$200,000
110	Stockholm Environment Institute	Empowering Civil Society and Governmental Agencies to Mainstream Biodiversity and Ecosystem Service Values into Development Plans for the Chindwin River Basin, Myanmar	$349,446	$100,507

111	TRAFFIC International	Sustainable Trade in Wild Medicinal and Aromatic Plants in the Sino-Vietnamese Limestone Corridor	$208,697	$16,860
112	Trans-boundary Journalists and Communicators Association	Empowering Thai Journalists for Accountable Transboundary Investment (Phase 2)	$32,654	$1,547
113	Vishnu Law Group	Facilitating Civil Society Participation in the Implementation of Cambodia's Environmental Code	$119,998	$140,000
114	Wild Cambodia Organisation	Providing Incentives for Conservation in the Tonle Sap Biosphere Reserve, Stung Seng and Boeung Tonle Chhmar Core Zones through Sustainable Livelihoods in Responsible Tourism	$19,824	$16,680
115	Wildlife Conservation Society	Mainstreaming Effective Conservation Models into Cambodia's Environmental Code	$79,997	$376,312
116	Wildlife Conservation Society	Establishing and Piloting a Payment for Ecosystem Services Model in Lao PDR	$299,908	$236,893
117	Wildlife Conservation Society	Developing Biodiversity Guidelines for Rice Cultivation in the Tonle Sap Lake and Inundation Zone Priority Corridor, Cambodia	$189,772	$4,030,000
118	World Wide Fund for Nature	Mainstreaming Biodiversity Values into Land-Use Decision Making in Cambodia’s Mekong Flooded Forest	$119,750	$115,000
119	Yi Tai Rui Wo Environmental Consulting Company Limited	Nu River Biodiversity: Increasing Knowledge and Capacity on Infrastructure Impacts	$61,982	$53,161

Strategic Direction 8: Strengthen the capacity of civil society to work on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods at regional, national, local and grassroots levels				
120	3S Rivers Protection Network	Empowering Community-Based Organizations for Improved River Governance	$17,403	$87,500
121	Andaman Organization for Participatory Restoration of National Resources	Enhancing Community Participation in Watershed Management and Biodiversity Conservation in 4 River Basins, Phang Nga Province	$20,000	$0
122	Australian Volunteers International	Myanmar Volunteer Clearing House: Feasibility Study	$16,461	$0
123	Beihai Citizen Volunteer Association	Supporting the Growth of Environmental Societies at Colleges in Beihai, China	$14,629	$0
124	Beihai Citizen Volunteer Association	Rural School Environment Protection Course by Trained College Volunteer in Beihai, Guangxi, China	$18,953	$0
125	Beijing Normal University	Strengthening Civil Society Networking to Combat Illegal Wildlife Trafficking in Southern China	$48,424	$261,000
126	Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association	Training for Monitoring Spoonbill Sandpiper in the Gulf of Mottama	$17,869	$19,071
127	Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association	Strengthening the Capacity of Biodiversity Conservation in Kelatha Wildlife Sanctuary, Myanmar	$19,844	$3,941
128	Bird Conservation Society of Thailand	Building Local Conservation Groups to Protect Important Areas for Bird Conservation in Thailand	$19,999	$23,000
129	BirdLife International	Handing over BirdLife International Mission to Cambodian Non-government Organization	$18,406	$28,209
130	Bring the Elephant Home Foundation	Conservation Leadership Program	$19,896	$13,098

131	Bring the Elephant Home Foundation	Conservation Leadership Program – Phase II	$9,822	$0
132	Cambodian Rural Development Team	Supporting the Development of a Cambodian Nongovernmental Organization Specializing in Sustainable Livelihood Development	$20,000	$1,000
133	Center for Environmental and Rural Development, Vinh University	Creating Conservation Leaders for the West Nghe An Biosphere Reserve	$19,961	$13,000
134	Centre for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies	Conservation Planning for Swinhoe's Softshell Turtle	$3,194	$8,000
135	Centre for Supporting Green Development	Developing and Implementing GreenHub's Strategies and Plans for Conservation	$19,906	$743,949
136	Centre for Sustainable Water Resources Development and Adaptation to Climate Change	Building Civil Society Capacity to Assess the Impacts of Hydropower Development on the Biodiversity in Vietnam's Srepok River	$19,618	$0
137	Conserve Indigenous Peoples Languages	Indigenous Community Media	$19,305	$50,000
138	Cooperation Committee for Cambodia	Strengthening Non-Governmental Organizations' Governance in Cambodia	$20,000	$42,862
139	Dali Biodiversity Conservation and Research Centre	Establish a Conservation Network for the 'Skywalker' hoolock gibbon (*Hoolock tianxing*) in Yunnan Province, China	$0	$0
140	Day Ku Aphiwat	Managing Natural Resources to Safeguard Livelihoods in Oddar Meanchey, Cambodia	$15,102	$0
141	Environmental and Health Education Organisation	Empowering Communities in Kompong Thom Province, Cambodia, for Conservation and Community Development	$19,130	$30,000
142	FISHBIO Lao Sole Co., LTD	Developing Best Practices for Evaluating Fish Conservation Zone Effectiveness in Lao PDR	$109,961	$43,681

143	FREELAND Foundation	Forward Together, Phase II – Developing a Grassroots Network of Wildlife Guardians to Support the Dong Phayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex	$20,000	$81,191
144	FREELAND Foundation	Fostering Wildlife Guardians for Thap Lan National Park	$19,839	$23,169
145	Friends of Wildlife	Supporting the Development and Sustainability of a Local Conservation NGO, "Friends of Wildlife"	$20,000	$105,600
146	Friends of Wildlife	Training for Myanmar Conservation Civil Society Organizations	$19,228	$455
147	Global Environmental Institute	Enhance Myanmar Nongovermental Organizations' Capability on Community-based Conservation and Development	$74,818	$30,612
148	Global Wildlife Conservation	Closing Conservation Gaps through People and Priorities: the 4th Meeting of the Saola Working Group	$19,205	$5,000
149	Green Community Alliance	Networking for Collective Civil Society Responses to Priority and Emerging Threats to Lao Natural Water Resources	$19,547	$6,615
150	Green Kunming	Building an Online Platform for Conservation Volunteers in Yunnan	$1,819	$0
151	GreenViet Biodiversity Conservation Center	Strengthening the Capacity of GreenViet to Design and Conduct Conservation Projects in Danang	$18,597	$7,263
152	GreenViet Biodiversity Conservation Center	Emergency Actions to Protect the Endangered Red-Shanked Douc Langur and its Habitat	$18,253	$0
153	Guangxi Biodiversity Research and Conservation Association	Hou Niao Volunteer Program – Promoting a Coastal Wetland Volunteer Network in Guangxi	$19,923	$16,500

154	Guangxi Nanning Dipper Sports Culture Co. Ltd.	Establishing a Birdwatching Society in Guangxi	$5,376	$0
155	Hainan Gao11 culture transmission Ltd.	The Squirrel School’s Guided Eco-tours in Yangshan Wetland, Hainan	$19,533	$54,000
156	Highlanders Association	Mobilization of Indigenous Communities for Resource Protection and Indigenous Peoples Rights	$90,000	$306,000
157	Inn Chit Thu Social Development and Ecotourism Group	Building Capacity for Community-Based Tourism and Environmental Awareness-Raising at Indawgyi Wildlife Sanctuary	$10,465	$0
158	Lao Biodiversity Association	Strengthening the Capacity of the Lao Biodiversity Association, for Long-term Sustainability	$19,705	$0
159	Living River Association	Strengthening Fish Conservation Area Network for Food Security in the Ing River Basin	$19,966	$11,500
160	Living River Association	Strengthening Local Communities and Networks for the Restoration and Protection of Fish Habitats in the Lower Mun and Mekong Rivers	$20,000	$4,180
161	Mekong Community Institute Association	Strengthening Woman Network for Riverine Biodiversity Conservation in Ing River Basin	$20,000	$9,000
162	Mekong Community Institute Association	Strengthening a Women’s Network for Riverine Biodiversity Conservation in the Ing River Basin (Phase 2)	$20,000	$400
163	Mother Nature (Meada Thoamajeat)	Empowering Khmer Daeum Communities in the Areng Valley	$12,612	$20,000
164	My Village Organization	Empowering Indigenous Women's and Youth Networks for Natural Resource Management in Cambodia	$20,000	$95,279

165	Natural Greening Development Association	Enhancing Effective Engagement of Myanmar's Civil Society in Environmental Conservation	$17,373	$0
166	Non-Timber Forest Products	Community Networks for Gibbon Protection at Veun Sai Siem Pang Conservation Area	$144,910	$49,034
167	Pha Tad Ke Botanical Garden	Core Capacity Building for Pha Tad Ke Botanical Garden	$74,810	$100,010
168	Pha Tad Ke Botanical Garden	Pha Tad Ke - Training the Trainers	$19,290	$3,430
169	Ponlok Khmer	Establishing a Cambodian Buddhist Sangha Conservation Network to Safeguard Biodiversity	$10,895	$16,838
170	Sansom Mlup Prey	Growing More Than Just Rice: Enabling a Local Civil Society Organization to Increase its Conservation Impact	$19,990	$179,968
171	Save Andaman Network Foundation	Strengthening Women Networks and Community for Biodiversity Conservation in Trang Province	$20,000	$279
172	Save Vietnam's Wildlife	Strengthening the Capacity of Save Vietnam’s Wildlife	$19,986	$1,000
173	Southeast Asia Development Program	Providing Appropriate Support to Cambodian Nongovernmental Organizations and Peoples Groups Working on Sustainable Resource Management	$122,588	$3,315,000
174	Southeast Asia Development Program	Ongoing Support to Strengthen Financial Management of Cambodian NGOs Working on Biodiversity, Communities and Livelihoods	$19,714	$5,059
175	Sustainable Development Foundation	Network Building for Community-Based Approaches to Natural Resources Management in Trat Province	$20,000	$75,888

176	Sympathy Hands Community Development Organization	Building the Capacity of Local Biodiversity Conservation Groups in Shan State, Myanmar	$15,513	$0
177	Tengchong Rare Flora and Fauna Protection Association	Capacity building of Tengchong Rare Flora and Fauna Protection Association	$0	$0
178	Thai Wetlands Foundation	Development and Efficiency Improvement for Thai Wetlands Foundation	$7,579	$0
179	The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society	Capacity Building of Local Conservation Groups in Guangdong and Guangxi Provinces to Address Illegal Shorebird Trapping Problem	$84,453	$84,100
180	The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society	Empowerment of Local Communities to Address Problem of Illegal Hunting in South China	$39,998	$25,195
181	The Pga K'Nyau Association for Social and Environmental Development	Integrated Biodiversity Conservation by Highland Communities	$20,000	$0
182	The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust	Strengthening the Capacity of Community-Based Institutions Instrumental to Conservation of Seasonally-inundated Grasslands in the Mekong Delta in Cambodia	$19,996	$99,800
183	Vietnam National Park and Protected Area Association	Strengthening the Capacity of VNPPA to Coordinate and Support Conservation in Vietnam's Protected Areas	$19,993	$0
184	WahPlaw Wildlife Watch	Development of Community-Based Models for Biodiversity Conservation in Tanintharyi	$76,237	$12,400
185	Xishuangbanna Tropical Botanical Garden, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Hunting for Solutions in Southwest China	$19,719	$15,000
186	Yingjiang Taoyuanxiaozhu Farm	Collective Forest Conservation in Tongbiguan, Yingjiang County, China	$0	$0

187	Zoological Society of Yunnan Province	Capacity Building of Local Communities in Bird Conservation in Huang Lianshan	$12,998	$0
Strategic Direction 11 Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of conservation investment through a regional implementation team				
188	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources	Indo-Burma II-1: Regional Implementation Team-Administration	$1,077,069	$498,000
189	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources	Indo-Burma II-2: Regional Implementation Team-Programs	$895,835	$770,991
TOTAL			**$15,428,851**	**$31,406,452**

Annex 5. Contributions to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

The following table shows the contributions of the CEPF grant portfolio in the Indo-Burma Hotspot towards the targets of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, also known as the Aichi Targets.

Goal / Target	Contribution
Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society	
Target 1. By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably	Awareness of the values of biodiversity and legislation regarding its conservation was raised among local communities and other target groups at 10 priority sites. For example, daily environmental education activities were organized for children in floating villages around Prek Toal Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) in Cambodia.
Target 2. By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems	Biodiversity values were integrated into six development plans and policies. A further 13 development policies, plans and programs were analyzed for their impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and mitigating measures were proposed.
Target 3. By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions	Wildlife-friendly rice production was promoted through financial incentives at multiple sites in Cambodia. In Myanmar, guidelines for best practice in limestone quarrying were developed and adopted by Shwe Taung Cement Company, leading to investment in biodiversity offsetting. In Vietnam, a set of voluntary guidelines on mitigating socio-environmental risks for outward investors in the agriculture sector were developed and adopted by five companies, including Vietnam Rubber Group, which manages more than 30 percent of the total area of rubber plantations in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam.

Target 4. By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits	Five pilot models for biodiversity-friendly production were established by CEPF grantees, comprising three different models for rice in Cambodia (Ibis Rice, Ramsar Rice and Sustainable Rice Platform), one for medicinal plants in China and one for cement production in Myanmar.
Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use	
Target 5. By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced	Management of biodiversity in 1,355,492 hectares within KBAs was strengthened. At selected sites, analysis of remote sensing data showed a reduction in habitat degradation and loss compared with baseline levels.
Target 6. By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits	19 community fish sanctuaries/fish conservation zones were established, covering a total area of 792 hectares. Sustainable management of stocks of fish and/or aquatic invertebrates was introduced or strengthened within 35 community fisheries, covering a total area of 100,928 hectares.
Target 7. By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity	Management of biodiversity was strengthened within 402,484 hectares of production landscapes, including community fisheries, community forests and agricultural land (mainly rice).
Target 8. By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity	Organic rice cultivation was promoted over 406 hectares of agricultural land in the buffer zone of Stung Treng Ramsar Site, Cambodia, reducing pollution to aquatic habitats from excess nutrients.

Target 9. By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment	The CEPF grant portfolio did not contribute directly to this target.
Target 10. By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning	1,120 hectares of seagrass and other marine ecosystems were protected through establishment of a dugong conservation area and promotion of rules for responsible fishing and sustainable utilization of marine and coastal resources off Koh Libong, Thailand.
Strategic Goal C: Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity	
Target 11. By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes	72,475 hectares of terrestrial and freshwater habitats were afforded protection through the creation of 28 new protected areas, including community conservation areas and fish conservation zones, as well as conventional, government-managed protected areas.
Target 12. By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained	Long-term conservation programs were put in place for core populations of 32 priority species: 13 mammals; 8 birds; 6 reptiles; 3 plants; and 2 fishes. For those species with available monitoring data, populations increased or remained stable in most cases, although in no case did the IUCN Red List status improve as a result of conservation action. No IUCN Red Listed species targeted by CEPF grants became extinct during the investment phase.

Target 13. By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.	The CEPF grant portfolio did not contribute directly to this target.
Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services	
Target 14. By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable	Protocols for rewilding seasonally inundated forests in Cambodia were developed and demonstrated.
Target 15. By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification	Management of biodiversity in 1,355,492 hectares within KBAs was strengthened. At selected sites, analysis of remote sensing data showed a reduction in habitat degradation and loss compared with baseline levels. However, the contribution of these grants to avoided greenhouse gas emissions was not systematically assessed.
Target 16. By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation	The CEPF grant portfolio did not contribute directly to this target.

Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building	
Target 17. By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan	Data on KBAs and other conservation priorities identified as part of the development of the CEPF ecosystem profile were incorporated into the Vietnam National Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 and Vision to 2030, and referenced in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Actions Plans for Cambodia and Myanmar.
Target 18. By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels	Seven Indigenous Peoples associations by language were established in Cambodia's Ratanakiri province, to mobilize people for protecting land and natural resource rights. These seven associations were brought together as Ratanakiri Indigenous People's Alliance (RIPA): an umbrella organization to promote Indigenous People's rights, protection of natural resources, and social, cultural and economic development.
Target 19. By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied	Knowledge of the status and distribution of seven globally threatened was improved through research. Best practice approaches were developed and demonstrated for seven highly threatened and/or endemic freshwater species.
Target 20. By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties	189 grants were awarded to civil society organizations, for a total investment of $15.4 million. These grants leveraged a further $30.8 million in co-financing, including in-kind support.

Annex 6. Progress towards Long-term Goals for CEPF in the Indo-Burma Hotspot

Goal 1: Conservation priorities

Criterion	2013		2015		2019		Notes
i. ***Globally threatened species.*** Comprehensive global threat assessments conducted for all terrestrial vertebrates, vascular plants and at least selected freshwater taxa.		Not met		Not met		Not met	In 2013, comprehensive Red List assessments had been carried out for all mammals, birds and amphibians plus five major freshwater taxa. Also, assessments had been carried out for 607 vascular plants. However, an estimated 20,000 vascular plant species remained unassessed, while a comprehensive Red List assessment of reptiles was lacking. In 2019, near-comprehensive assessments had been completed for reptiles and fishes, and the situation had improved for plants and some invertebrate taxa, although most species in these groups remained unassessed.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	
ii. ***Key Biodiversity Areas.*** KBAs identified, covering, at minimum, terrestrial, freshwater and coastal ecosystems.		Not met		Not met		Not met	A comprehensive analysis of KBAs, in terrestrial and coastal ecosystems was conducted in 2003, as part of the ecosystem profiling process. By 2013, this analysis had been updated, and an initial analysis of freshwater KBAs had been undertaken for the hotspot. In 2019, stakeholders assessed this criterion as only partially met, because a new global standard for KBAs had been introduced. Existing KBAs need to be re-assessed against the new standard, which has more rigorous thresholds and documentation requirements.
		Partially met	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
	X	Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	

iii. ***Conservation corridors.*** Conservation corridors identified in all parts of the region where contiguous natural habitats extend over scales greater than individual sites, and refined using recent land cover data.		Not met		Not met		Not met	A system of conservation corridors was defined across part of the hotspot through a WWF-led ecoregion-based conservation assessment in 2001. This analysis was extended to the entire hotspot in 2003, under the ecosystem profiling process. In only a few cases is there broad-based support for these corridors, although stakeholders from Lao PDR and Thailand gave some examples of corridors that are in place and endorsed by government through transboundary collaborations. In 2019, stakeholders felt that this criterion was fully met for Cambodia and Thailand.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	
iv. ***Conservation plans.*** Global conservation priorities incorporated into national or regional conservation plans or strategies developed with the participation of multiple stakeholders.		Not met		Not met		Not met	At the regional level, conservation corridors form the basis for the spatial priorities under the ADB's Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Initiative for the Greater Mekong Sub-region. The level of integration of global conservation priorities into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) varies from good total to negligible. Notably, the IUCN Red List and Key Biodiversity Areas are explicitly recognized in the NBSAPs for Cambodia, Myanmar and Vietnam. In 2019, stakeholders felt that this criterion could be considered fully met in these countries.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	
v. ***Management best practices.*** Best practices for managing global conservation priorities (e.g., participatory approaches to park management, invasive species control, etc.) are introduced, institutionalized, and sustained at priority KBAs and corridors.	X	Not met	X	Not met		Not met	Examples of management best practices (e.g. community co-management, use of SMART patrolling, conservation incentives, etc.) have been piloted at a growing number of sites but they have yet to be replicated at the majority of priority KBAs. Stakeholders felt that this goal may be overambitious, as there is a gap in terms of recognition of what are best practices. Stakeholders also observed that best practices may be institutionalized at the community level but their use is dependent upon external funding, which is difficult to maintain over the long term.
		Partially met		Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	

Goal 2: Civil society capacity

Criterion	2013		2015		2019		Notes
i. ***Human resources.*** Local and national civil society groups collectively possess technical competencies of critical importance to conservation.		Not met		Not met		Not met	Local civil society organizations rate their knowledge and capacity as satisfactory or better for most of the technical competencies considered as priorities in the hotspot. Nevertheless, a number of significant gaps remain for local groups, most notably securing long-term financing, successfully influencing government policies, developing science-led actions for threatened species, and implementing site-based conservation actions. Stakeholders consulted in 2019 felt that this dimension of civil society capacity had increased since 2013 but the criterion was not yet fully met.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	
ii. ***Management systems and strategic planning***. Local and national civil society groups collectively possess sufficient institutional and operational capacity and structures to raise funds for conservation and to ensure the efficient management of conservation projects and strategies.		Not met		Not met		Not met	There has been greater focus by civil society organizations on conservation action for priority species and sites. At the same time, a significant minority of the priority sites and species in the Indo-Burma Hotspot still receive no focused conservation attention from civil society organizations. Since 2013, there has been an overall improvement in the management systems and strategic planning of local and national civil society organizations, especially in Myanmar. Nevertheless, this remains a major constraint on the development and impact of many organizations.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	

iii. ***Partnerships.*** Effective mechanisms exist for conservation-focused civil society groups to work in partnership with one another, and through networks with local communities, governments, the private sector, donors, and other important stakeholders, in pursuit of common objectives.	X	Not met		Not met		Not met	In 2013, fully institutionalized and sustainable partnerships dedicated to coordinating conservation actions among key stakeholder groups were in place for only two CEPF priority sites. By 2019, this number had increased to five. Although civil society organizations can find it difficult to work in partnership, in part due to competition for funding, there are encouraging signs of greater collaboration in recent years. Under the CEPF portfolio alone, 48 civil society partnerships were established or strengthened since 2013. Moreover, the Lower Mekong Network was established in 2016, to facilitate greater collaboration on transnational conservation issues.
		Partially met	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	
iv. ***Financial resources.*** Local civil society organizations have access to long-term funding sources to maintain the conservation results achieved via CEPF grants or other initiatives, through access to new donor funds, conservation enterprises, membership, endowments, and/or other mechanisms.	X	Not met	X	Not met	X	Not met	In 2013, none of the CEPF priority sites had access to stable and diversified long-term funding sources for conservation through support to local civil society organizations. By 2019, the situation had not improved markedly; even international NGOs remain dependent on short-term grant funding to support their work at priority sites. Local groups face strong competition for funding from international NGOs, who pursue the same opportunities if they are allowed. Although the GEF Small Grants Program and some other schemes are only accessible to local groups, their support is short-term.
		Partially met		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	
v. ***Transboundary cooperation***. In multi-country hotspots, mechanisms exist for collaboration across political boundaries at site, corridor and/or national scales.	X	Not met	X	Not met	X	Not met	There are only a few examples of effective mechanisms for transboundary conservation, such as on primate conservation between China and Vietnam. Good examples of wider regional collaboration among civil society are emerging, however, such as the Save the Mekong Coalition, the Lower Mekong Network and the Asian Species Action Partnership (ASAP). Stakeholders consulted in 2019 noted that, while a growing number of cooperation mechanisms exist, their effectiveness remains unproven.
		Partially met		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	

Goal 3: Sustainable financing

Criterion	2013		2015		2019		Notes
i. ***Public sector funding.*** Public sector agencies responsible for conservation in the region have a continued public fund allocation or revenue-generating ability to operate effectively.	X	Not met	X	Not met		Not met	In 2013, the financial resources available to the three largest public sector agencies responsible for conservation in each hotspot country were considered a serious impediment to their effective functioning. By 2019, the situation had improved in all hotspot countries. Nevertheless, biodiversity conservation remains a low spending priority for national governments, and the limited budget allocations that are made are strongly skewed towards infrastructure and staff salaries.
		Partially met		Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	
ii. ***Civil society funding.*** Civil society organizations engaged in conservation in the region have access to sufficient funding to continue their work at current levels.		Not met		Not met		Not met	Around half of the largest civil society organizations engaged in conservation in the hotspot have access to sufficient secured funding to continue their work for at least the next five years. Most civil society organizations working on biodiversity conservation remain heavily dependent upon grant funding, although a few have secured funding from other sources, such as private companies and donations from high-net-worth individuals.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	

iii. ***Donor funding.*** Donors other than CEPF have committed to providing sufficient funds to address global conservation priorities in the region.	X	Not met	X	Not met	X	Not met	Funding levels for conservation from the major donors remain broadly unchanged from the situation in 2013, i.e. they remain vastly below the level needed, given the scale and intensity of threats to biodiversity. Some international donors have made significant commitments to conservation in the hotspot over the next five years. These include several Chinese philanthropic foundations, which have begun to emerge. At the same time, other donors that had been important sources of funding for civil society have scaled down their support to biodiversity conservation or switched to other priorities, such as climate change.
		Partially met		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	
iv. ***Livelihood alternatives.*** Local stakeholders affecting the conservation of biodiversity in the region have economic alternatives to unsustainable exploitation of natural resources.	X	Not met		Not met		Not met	In 2013, local communities at only a handful of CEPF priority sites had access to economic alternatives to unsustainable exploitation of natural resources. The situation had improved somewhat by 2019, with an increasing number of initiatives delivering income-generating activities that provide genuine alternatives to unsustainable natural resource use that are supportive of or, at least, complementary to conservation goals. These include wildlife-friendly rice production, nature-based tourism and small-scale livestock raising.
		Partially met	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	
v. ***Long-term mechanisms.*** Financing mechanisms (e.g., trust funds, revenue from the sale of carbon credits, etc.) exist and are of sufficient size to yield continuous long-term returns for at least the next 10 years.	X	Not met	X	Not met		Not met	Long-term conservation finance is an emerging field in the hotspot. Some experience exists with private sector partnerships, especially in Lao PDR and Myanmar, as well as environmental trust funds in Cambodia, China, Thailand and Vietnam. The period from 2013 to 2019 witnessed a growth in payments for ecosystem services and other conservation incentive schemes, facilitated by policy change in China and Vietnam; revenue for these schemes is starting to support work of community conservation teams at some CEPF priority sites. If this trend continues, dependence on grant funding may decrease.
		Partially met		Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	

Goal 4: Enabling environment

Criterion	2013		2015		2019		Notes
i. ***Legal environment for conservation.*** Laws exist that provide incentives for desirable conservation behavior and disincentives against undesirable behavior.		Not met		Not met		Not met	In all hotspot countries, international commitments under multilateral environmental agreements are reflected in national laws, which are often elucidated through detailed regulations. However, these laws and regulations do not provide for sufficient incentives and disincentives to encourage behavior consistent with them. In particular, there are few financial incentives for conservation and few effective deterrents to over-exploitation and conversion of natural ecosystems. At the regional level, frameworks for inter-governmental collaboration on natural resources, such as the Mekong River Commission, are consider ineffectual, and better multi-stakeholder processes and platforms are needed for regional decision-making, especially given the transboundary nature of many environmental problems.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	
ii. ***Legal environment for civil society.*** Laws exist that allow for civil society to engage in the public policy-making and implementation process.		Not met		Not met		Not met	In 2013, local civil society organizations all countries in the hotspot were legally allowed to convene, organize, register, receive funds and engage in conservation activities. In 2019, the situation is broadly similar, although there has been some tightening of regulations governing the operations of civil society organizations, which have had the effect of constraining the political space open to them. This has been the case especially in China. In every country, there remain politically sensitive issues that are seen as "off limits" to civil society.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	

iii. ***Education and training.*** Domestic programs exist that produce trained environmental managers at secondary, undergraduate, and advanced academic levels.		Not met		Not met		Not met	In 2013, the proportion of senior leadership positions in conservation agencies staffed by local country nationals was estimated to be more than 50 percent but less than 90 percent, as many senior positions were staffed by expatriates. By 2019, the situation had improved, and nationals now occupied senior leadership positions at most conservation agencies in the hotspot. Conservation is starting to be seen as a viable career choice, which provides a pathway to a professional development opportunities. The number of domestic educational programs on environmental management and conservation continues to increase.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met	X	Fully met	
iv. ***Transparency.*** Relevant public sector agencies use participatory, accountable, and publicly reviewable process to make decisions regarding use of land and natural resources.	X	Not met	X	Not met	X	Not met	Neither public agencies responsible for biodiversity at the national level nor those controlling individual conservation areas regularly hold public meetings, or document their decisions and make them available to the fullest extent possible. There is a general lack of accountability in public administration, and the environment sector is no exception. Civil society organizations face restrictions on access to information held by public agencies. Such information that is in the public domain is generally placed there by civil society not public agencies.
		Partially met		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	
v. ***Enforcement.*** Designated authorities are clearly mandated to manage the protected area system(s) in the region and conserve biodiversity outside of them, and are empowered to implement the enforcement continuum of education, prevention, interdiction, arrest, and prosecution.	X	Not met	X	Not met	X	Not met	Protected area management bodies have varying but typically limited jurisdiction over the areas nominally under their management, and very limited influence over activities occurring in their buffer zones. In each country, less than half (and in some cases much less) of protected areas are estimated to have their boundaries demarcated on the ground and to be patrolled at least one week each month. In Cambodia, there has been some progress since 2013 with regard to protected area demarcation, zoning and patrolling but enforcement effectiveness varies widely from site to site, and is often dependent on external support from NGOs.
		Partially met		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	

Goal 5: Responsiveness to emerging issues

Criterion	2013		2015		2019		Notes
i. ***Biodiversity monitoring.*** Nationwide or region-wide systems are in place to monitor status and trends of the components of biodiversity.		Not met		Not Met	X	Not met	National governments have established systems to monitor status and trends in forest cover. Other habitat types are generally not monitored at the national or regional scale, although there are some site-specific initiatives. A small but growing number of species populations benefit from systematic monitoring efforts, which is enabling a move towards evidence-based conservation. Some protected areas have introduced the SMART monitoring system, with support from NGOs, but financial sustainability remains an issue.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	
ii. ***Threats monitoring.*** Nationwide or region-wide systems are in place to monitor status and trends of threats to biodiversity.		Not met		Not met	X	Not met	Systems are in place to monitor certain threats (e.g. forest fire, land conversion) at the national scale in some countries. There is also systematic monitoring of wildlife crime at the regional level, although information sharing still tends to be reactive rather than proactive. For other threats, such as invasive species, wildlife trade and hydropower dam impacts, nationwide or regionwide data are not available.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	

iii. ***Ecosystem services monitoring.*** Nationwide or region-wide systems are in place to monitor status and trends of ecosystem services.	X	Not met	X	Not met	X	Not met	In 2013, there were no systems in place to monitor status and trends in ecosystem services at the national or regional scale. Global datasets were available that could be used to infer trends in such services as water provision and carbon storage but these were not ground-truthed within the region. In 2019, this remains a major gap. A particular challenge is the need for long-term financial support for monitoring systems.
		Partially met		Partially met		Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	
iv. ***Adaptive management.*** Conservation organizations and protected area management authorities demonstrate the ability to respond promptly to emerging issues.		Not met		Not met		Not met	There are numerous examples of conservation organizations adapting their missions or strategies to respond to emerging issues, such as agro-industrial plantations, mining and climate change. At the same time, there are other emerging issues, such as sand mining and hydrocarbon exploration, that conservation organizations have not yet responded to systematically. Stakeholders noted that some funders were too rigid and did not allow their grantees to change course from the objectives in their grant agreements.
	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
		Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	
v. ***Public sphere.*** Conservation issues are regularly discussed in the public sphere, and these discussions influence public policy.		Not met		Not met		Not met	In 2013, this criterion was considered fully met, because there was greater discussion of conservation issues in the public sphere, and these discussions had been seen to influence policy in some cases. In 2015, stakeholders revised this assessment to partially met, arguing that, while conservation issues in the hotspot gain lots of attention in the international media, they tend to receive less coverage in local media, in particular those with local-language content. In 2019, stakeholders retained this assessment, noting that, although there is greater discussion of conservation issues in mainstream and social media, examples of this influencing public policy remain limited.
		Partially met	X	Partially met	X	Partially met	
	X	Fully met		Fully met		Fully met	