

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

Fifth Meeting of the Donor Council
World Bank Headquarters, Washington, DC
31 July 2003

Report on Decisions Taken at the Fourth Meeting of the CEPF Donor Council

List of Follow up Actions:

1. The CEPF Working Group will discuss progress on monitoring and evaluation.

Status: Monitoring and evaluation was an agenda item at the 15 April 2003 Working Group meeting. The discussion addressed evaluations at number of levels: the recent World Bank supervision visit in South Africa, the methodology of the CEPF monitoring and evaluation, and the external review of CEPF by Walter Arensberg, as required by the World Bank. The April mid-term review for Madagascar was briefly discussed. Themes that will be discussed during the CEPF Donor Council Meeting include:

*Discussion on the results of the independent mid-term evaluation required by the World Bank
Discussion on the progress of the CEPF mid-term portfolio review for Madagascar
Discussion on the methodology for CEPF mid-term reviews.*

*Possible objectives that may be discussed in a future CEPF Working Group retreat include:
Discussion and analysis of the various evaluation tools and systems currently being employed by CEPF
Analysis and discussion on the respective evaluation needs and requirements from each of the CEPF Donor Partners*

2. The CEPF Management Group will convene a series of discussions and exchanges with technical staff at the World Bank and CI on mining issues.

Status: Following the 12 February 2003 Donor Council Meeting, the CEPF Management Team worked with CI's Center for Environmental Leadership in Business (CELB) to assess the feasibility and strategic opportunity to discuss mining issues. Since then, CELB has contacted staff of the IFC environmental division and the Oil, Gas and Chemicals department of the World Bank to gauge interest in holding a round table on biodiversity and the extractive industries. The proposal is to hold a one-day discussion with representatives from the World Bank, the Extractive Industries Review, the Energy and Biodiversity Initiative and the Mining and Biodiversity Dialogue to discuss recent findings, conclusions and recommendations from these three related initiatives. Initial response to the proposal suggested that World Bank staff were suffering from 'consultation fatigue' and that a round table at this stage would not be appropriate. Nevertheless, CELB feels that it is vital for the World Bank to be aware of the recommendations coming out of the EBI and to be made aware of the developments in the MBD. With guidance and support from CEPF, the Center for Environmental Leadership in Business will continue to pursue opportunities for this engagement with the World Bank

3. The issue of replenishment for Madagascar will be discussed with the Working Group and then submitted to the Council for consideration.

Status: At the February CEPF Donor Council Meeting, the CEPF Management Group put forward a recommendation to replenish funding for Madagascar by \$2 million. This discussion/recommendation was stimulated by a letter from the Minister of Environment, Charles Sylvain Rabotoarison to the CEPF Donor Council on January 10, 2003 requesting consideration for CEPF replenishment in response to a delay in funding contemplated in the National Environmental Plan for Madagascar #3 that is now being considered by GEF and the World Bank. The Council Members expressed two concerns with original justification for the request. These concerns were 1. that CEPF is not meant to function to fill gaps left by other donors and that 2. CEPF is not meant to provide funding to governments, covering recurrent costs that should be funded by governments. The Council Members requested that CEPF discuss the probability of replenishing Madagascar in more detail during the next Working Group Meeting and provide a summarized decision in writing to the Council Members for consideration. Since then, CEPF staff sought input and

advice from technical staff at the World Bank, GEF and the MacArthur Foundation who focus primarily on Madagascar. These discussions form the basis of the evolved recommendation from the CEPF. Additionally, in April, the CEPF monitoring and evaluation team conducted a mid-term review of the CEPF portfolio in Madagascar. This revised recommendation has been drawn from the consultations with donor partners (World Bank, GEF, MacArthur Foundation) and with the initial results that emerged from the mid-term review. The revised recommendation is attached to this document.

4. An update on financial training and monitoring will be presented during the next CEPF Working Group Meeting.

Status: An update on progress towards financial training and monitoring will be presented to the CEPF Donor Council following the discussion on CEPF finances.

5. CEPF will continue to seek GEF Focal Point Endorsement in Namibia and South Africa for the Succulent Karoo Ecosystem Profile.

Status: GEF Focal Point Endorsement has been received from Namibia and South Africa for the Succulent Karoo ecosystem profile.

6. A series of meetings and introductions will be made in the next few months to advance CEPF's fund raising efforts.