

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

Twenty-Sixth Meeting of the Donor Council
Brussels, Belgium
27 January 2015
10 a.m.-5p.m. CET

Progress Update

**Consultant Preparing Long-Term Strategic Vision for Graduating Civil Society
from CEPF Support in the Albertine Rift and the Eastern Arc Mountains**

Donor Council is asked to review the approach for building the long-term vision for the Eastern Afromontane as the first example of its kind implementing the Phase III Strategy.

Background

As part of implementing the CEPF Strategy for Phase III, and an input to the Project Preparation Grant for the GEF bridge grant that CEPF received in 2014, CEPF identified the Eastern Afromontane and the Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspots as the first locations to develop a long-term strategic vision for graduating civil society from CEPF support. CEPF developed detailed terms of reference, with specific deliverables, to define the shape of such long-term visions. The terms of reference specify the following tasks:

1. Establishment of a senior advisory group.
2. Review of literature, government and donor strategies.
3. Consultation with a diversity of stakeholders.
4. Determination of “graduation” criteria.
5. Determination of targets and milestone.
6. Prioritization of actions.
7. Development of a financing plan to implement the long-term vision.

The terms of reference specify the following deliverables:

1. 15-page background chapter with socioeconomic context, state of civil society, review of conservation financing mechanisms, review of policies, and review of private sector in the hotspot.

2. A table with the long-term vision criteria and targets across five parameters.
3. A table with a baseline for graduation over five-year periods starting in 2016, 2021 and 2026.
4. A table identifying actions to be taken by CEPF.
5. A 5-page financing plan.
6. A 5-page theory of change linking CEPF actions to graduation targets.

The terms of reference are ambitious and broad, even more so for a multi-country hotspot. Thus, for the Eastern Afromontane, CEPF decided to make the scope marginally smaller by focusing only on the Albertine Rift and Eastern Arc Mountains, consisting of the Nile Basin/Albertine Rift lakes (Kivu, Edward, Albert), Lake Tanganyika and Lake Victoria. This includes parts of South Sudan, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya and Tanzania, per the figure attached. “Completing” the long-term vision exercise in the Eastern Afromontane region will necessitate a separate exercise for the montane “islands” to the south (i.e., Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique), a different effort for Ethiopia, and possibly other efforts for Yemen and Eritrea. As is perhaps evident, the challenge is consideration of a very different “civil society” in each of these countries.

CEPF determined that the most efficient way to complete the exercise in the Albertine Rift and Eastern Arc Mountains would be to engage an independent consultant or firm working with the logistical support of the EAM Regional Implementation Team, BirdLife International and IUCN, based in Nairobi, Kenya.

In September 2014, CEPF opened a competitive procurement process, and in November, awarded a contract of \$49,926 to Future Dialogues International (FDI) of Kampala, Uganda, headed by Alex Muhweezi. The contract runs through April 2015.

Progress to Date

Alex Muhweezi mobilized in November 2014 and traveled to Nairobi to ensure close collaboration with the RIT for the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot. He then established a Planning and Advisory Group (PAG), consisting of:

Biodiversity conservation

Julius Arinaitwe, BirdLife International (Nairobi, Kenya)

Mine Pabari, IUCN ESARO (Nairobi, Kenya)

Institutional support for CSOs

Nancy Chege, national coordinator UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme for Kenya (Nairobi, Kenya)

Sam Kanyamibwa, executive director, ARCOS (Kampala, Uganda)

John Salehe, consultant for WWF Eastern and Southern Africa Programme and African Wildlife Foundation (Arusha, Tanzania)

Francis Sabuni, executive director of Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund (Morogoro, Tanzania)

Private sector

Elly Karuhanga, chairman, Uganda Chamber of Mining; former president of Tullow Uganda

Eldad Tukahirwa, retired, and former deputy executive director of Association of Agricultural Research Organizations in East and Central Africa (ASARECA) and former regional director for IUCN ESARO (currently based in Kampala, Uganda).

Rural development

Agnes Kalibakate, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (Nairobi, Kenya)

Regional development and cooperation

Jessica Eriyo, deputy secretary general of East African Community (Kampala, Uganda)

Patricia Mbote, professor of law, University of Nairobi

The Planning and Advisory Group held its first meeting in Nairobi on 19 December 2014.

FDI has identified several dozen stakeholders from the seven countries with whom to consult either electronically, on an individual basis, or in the context of a larger workshop to be held in Nairobi on/about 20 February 2015.

The planned deliverable schedule is as follows:

12 January 2015	First draft long-term vision
20 February 2015	Regional workshop leading to validation of draft
28 March 2015	Final draft long-term vision

CEPF will present the long-term vision to the Working Group in April and the Donor Council in June.

Figure 1. Delineation of Long-Term Vision Geography

