

CEPF Final Project Completion Report

Organization Legal Name:	Population Health and Environment Ethiopia Consortium
Project Title:	Network Creation and Capacity Building in Yayu Biosphere Reserve
Grant Number:	64404
CEPF Region:	Eastern Afromontane
Strategic Direction:	1 Mainstream biodiversity into wider development policies, plans and projects to deliver the co-benefits of biodiversity conservation, improved local livelihoods and economic development in priority corridors.
Grant Amount:	\$214,789.00
Project Dates:	July 01, 2014 - June 30, 2017
Date of Report:	July 27, 2017

Implementation Partners

List each partner and explain how they were involved in the project

The following were our implementation partners

- 1. Oromia Forest and wildlife enterprise (OFWE) :** Directly has involved in co-implementation of project activities, monitoring and evaluation. The office also take over project impacts to sustain them
- 2. Oromia, Environment, forest and Climate Change Authority (OEFCCA) :** has Involved in giving direction, guide, monitoring and facilitation.
- 3. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), UNICK :** Implement the project in partnership, contribute money to some of the activities, technical support, and joint activity implementation
- 4. Oromia regional state, Ilu Aba Bora Zonal Administration :** has played leadership and coordination role during project implementation
- 5. Oromia mass media agency :** in raising awareness among the community and promoting innovations such as fuel briquette from coffee husks and soap manufacturing from tree leaves
- 6. Ethiopian Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) :** National coordination role and linking with UNESCO
- 7. Ethiopian Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MEFCC) :** Policy and strategy support. considered some of the project innovations for scale up

Conservation Impacts

Summarize the overall impact of your project, describing how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile

The overall impacts of the project could be summarized as follows

- 1. The overall management and protection of Yayu biosphere has been improved. Yayu biosphere had weak or ineffective management before the project intervention. Only one government enterprise which has a profit making mission was responsible to manage the Biosphere reserve. During the time, the biosphere was exposed to threats such as poorly managed forest fire, investments which disregard the importance of the biodiversity resource in the area, extensive and unsustainable use of the forest resource including charcoal production, timber production etc. Deforestation for expansion of coffee plantations was common in the area. After the project interventions all these problems have been improved. Participatory management which involves government sector offices, civil societies, CBOs, private sectors and institutions has been replaced. These stakeholders have come in the form of taskforce from kebele to zonal level and actively engaged in the management of the biosphere. The taskforces were able to reduce the threats levels of the above and make positive contribution for the sustainability of the biosphere. Examples include: New investments are under serious review before they get licenses using EIA procedures, forest fire has almost stopped for the last three years, coffee expansion activities by deforesting forest in the core area has been dramatically reduced, charcoal production from forest wood reduced etc. Moreover, Yayu biosphere has now a biosphere management plan. Many stakeholders involved in the development of the management plan and implementation structures are under development. The management plan includes provisions for sectors and for other stakeholders including investments and activities to be implemented within the biosphere has to be guided by the management plan.**
- 2. Community livelihood has been improved in Yayu. Five youth groups with a total number of seventy five have been involved in fuel briquette production and marketing. These youths didn't have any income previously and now they can earn up to 1200 birr monthly income which is about 60 USD. About 480 jobless women have also been benefited from this business by participating in distribution and marketing. In another intervention, coffee production and marketing improvement, three coffee producer cooperatives improve their production process and add value to their product. As a result, their annual income has been reported to increase. Training on post harvest product handling and storage techniques have been given to the members of the cooperatives and package materials for marketing have also been supported. Overall, about 17% more sales and value have been reported in the previous year. This improvement is recorded, of course, not only by the project effort. Government support and market opportunities have also contributed. Another youth group has also established to involve in soap production in collaboration with government and other stakeholders, and they are actively involved in the market. The soap is being produced from various tree leaves. The income they are generating is to be recorded. With regards to income generation, the project is able to draw other development actors with huge resources and they are implementing various initiatives and benefiting the community. GIZ UNIQUE, Partnership for Forest, Packard foundation are some of the donors drawn to and investing on Yayu biosphere.**
- 3. The biodiversity conservation status of the biosphere could also be reported as on progressive improvement. Wide scale awareness raising initiatives on the importance of the biodiversity resource inside the biosphere has improved the community's sensitivity towards**

resource protection. In many areas, illegal forest cutting, timber and charcoal production have been stopped by the community. Oromia Forest and Wild life Enterprise (OFWE) which is a responsible agency to take of the biosphere has reported that community report on illegal activities inside the biosphere have improved by 63%. Awareness raising and sensitization of students by school clubs have increasing events of conservation activities such as tree plantation inside the biosphere and environmental competitions in schools.

4. Government attention towards yayu biosphere reserve have been significantly grown and resulted on the formation of new structures and systems. Government officials from local to federal level were targeted to draw more attention of the government towards yayu. kebele, woreda, zonal, regional and federal level relevant officials have been taken to the biosphere at different times and observed opportunities, threats and developments on biosphere. The results of this initiative includes: they took part the leadership of the management plan preparation, assign officials at different level to be focal person for the biosphere, assign significant resources for the biosphere conservation activities etc. Although not finalized, biosphere management structure is developed and under endorsement process.

Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
<p>1. Improved management of the biosphere reserve via participatory procedures that allow for power-sharing between government agencies, communities, the private sector, NGOs, and other stakeholders.</p>	<p>As it is stated previously, the overall management and protection of Yayu biosphere has been improved. Yayu biosphere had weak management structure before the project intervention. Only one government enterprise was responsible to manage the Biosphere reserve. By the the biosphere was exposed to threats such as poorly managed forest fire, investments which disregard the importance of the biodiversity resource in the area, extensive and unsustainable use of the forest resource including illegal charcoal and timber production etc. Deforestation for expansion of coffee plantations was common in the area. After the project interventions all these problems have been improved. Participatory management which involve government sector offices, civil societies, CBOs, private sectors and institutions have been in place. These stakeholders have come in the form of taskforces from kebele to zonal level and actively engaged in the management of the biosphere. The taskforces were able to reduce the threats levels of the above and make positive contribution for the sustainability of the biosphere. Examples include: New investments are under serious review before they get licenses using EIA procedures, forest fire has almost stopped for the last three years, coffee expansion activities</p>
<p>2. Improved biodiversity as measured by metrics in the biosphere reserve management plan.</p>	<p>The biodiversity resources of yayu biosphere are progressively improving. The resources inside the core zone are now completely protected. No one is living</p>

	<p>inside the core zone. Wide scale awareness raising initiatives on the importance of the biodiversity resource inside the biosphere has improved the community's sensitivity towards resource protection. In many areas, illegal forest cutting, timber and charcoal production have been stopped by the community. Oromia Forest and Wildlife Enterprise (OFWE) which is a responsible agency to take of the biosphere has reported that community report on illegal activities inside the biosphere have improved by 63%. Awareness raising and sensitization of students by school clubs have increasing events of conservation activities such as tree plantation inside the biosphere and environmental competitions in schools. However, as the management plan is only under development, it is not possible to discuss these impacts based on the metrics for now.</p>
<p>3. 30 school environmental clubs functioning and raising awareness in their broader communities.</p>	<p>This one is doing great. 36 school clubs have been active in raising awareness, environmental activities and education. many schools are using the mini media club they have to raise awareness about the biosphere inside the school. tree planting events and parent assemblies have also used for environmental education. About 23 school clubs have received promise to continue working with GIZ UNIQUE and others are already being supported by their respective schools</p>
<p>4. Use of family planning methods increases and fertility and population growth decrease beyond established baseline in June 2017.</p>	<p>Family planning service enhancement and awareness raising were taking place during the first phase of the project. Peer educators were involved to raise awareness among the community in collaboration with health extension workers. Peer educators were raising awareness about contraceptive methods, link community members with contraceptive providers and health extension workers. Health departments provided training for these peer educators first and also involved during their establishments. Health extension workers have Supported them to conduct continues and regular awareness raising activities at village level as well as in event organization. The exact fertility rate reduction will be assessed by the government as a national initiative in two monhs time.</p>
<p>5. 150 formerly unemployed women and 50 formerly unemployed men engaged in the business of making fuel briquettes from coffee husks.</p>	<p>As summarized above, about 480 jobless women have been involved and benefitting from fuel briquette business. A total of 68 youths are involved in production process.</p>
<p>6. Coffee producer cooperative producing products that meet international certification</p>	<p>Coffee producing cooperatives have improved their product handling and improve their income due to the</p>

standards.	post harvest handling training they have provided and also from the support of packaging materials for their product. Their income is reported to be improved and the quality of the coffee they are supplying have also received a better grade from the National ECX. Certification initiative was not successful as the price of the certification is found to be beyond the project scope. However, other partners taking over the project initiatives are working towards certifying some cooperatives.
7. Coffee cooperative income triples over 2017 baseline.	As reported above, the income level of three cooperatives targeted by the project have been improved significantly. But it is found difficult to determine the same exactly as cooperatives are sensitive to make this matter official for various reason.
8. Honey producer associations producing products that meet international certification standards.	Honey producing association have received product handling and packaging training. The project linked them with a livelihood improvement initiative in the area and the initiative facilitated market linkage for them. As a result, they are selling their product at zonal as well as at regional cities. Packaging and labelling initiatives have also supported them to access market easily. However, receiving international certification for the same was found beyond the scope of the project.
9. Honey association income triples over 2017 baseline.	As it has been reported above, income of these association have been increased because of market opportunity, better product value and improved product handling. Some members have found to increase their income by five times before but reporting the income variant at association level is found difficult.

Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
3. Each youth group selling 90,000 kilograms/year of coffee husk fuel briquettes at value of 630,000 Ethiopian birr.	At the moment, the value of money getting by the youth groups vary. some are getting higher amount, some are medium amount and others are even not gaining any as they are under trial period. But in average, individual in the groups are getting 1200 birr per month which is about 60 USD. When it compare to the above target it is about half of the value.
4. 125 people per youth group employed in fuel briquette business.	It was targeted to involve 125 people per youth group, 25 in the production and another hundred in distribution and marketing. But while implementing the same, only 15 youths were practical to be involved in the production process. The number of women trained and involved in the distribution and marketing however is almost per the plan. In average therefore, about 115

	people involved in the business per group. However, it doesn't mean that 115 people are in one group. Each youth group is with 15 or 13 members. The women simply involve by purchasing the product from the group and selling it with profit.
5. Fuel-wood collection from the biosphere reserve drops by 360,000 cubic meters/year.	Fuel wood collection is reported to be declining. This report is received from OFWE observation. However, to determine exactly how much has been dops since the project intervention needs assessment.
1. Youth groups engaged in conservation and livelihood activities formed and function in four woredas.	The five youth groups involved in the fuel briquette business have also involving in conservation activities. In addition to their contribution to reduce deforestation for charcoal, they are also active in awareness raising events and in preventing illegal charcoal production. Their raw material, coffee husk is being used to produce charcoal which was one of the primary water pollutant in the area.
2. Youth groups producing fuel briquettes from coffee husks in lieu of charcoal/wood.	Five youth groups with a total number of seventy five have been involved in fuel briquette production and marketing. These youths did not have any income previously and now they can earn upto 1200 birr monthly income which is about 60 USD. About 480 jobless women have also been benefited from this business by participating in distribution and marketing. This initiative have received recognition from government and other stakeholders and to be replicated in a wider scale. European Union supported project in Bale is working to introduce this initiative in the bale area, government allocated budget from world bank grant to replicate the same in Bonga biosphere etc.


Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives

The success of the project has been described above. with regards to challenges, coffee certification is the main challenge towards achieving targets of income increment for coffee cooperatvs. The reasons include: the unexpected high price for coffee certification, difficulty to find appropriate certifying body which could also create market at international level and institutional and policy level problems.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Unexpected positive impacts include:

1. Draft structure for the managment of the biosphere: this sturcture is accepted by responsible gvernment offices and under review to be endoresed by all. Accordigly, especial strucure, staffing and



finance will be allocated from government to specifically manage the biosphere. This structure will work in collaboration with the taskforces that the project established

2. National level discussion is taking place to have a separate policy for biospheres in Ethiopia. The initiation is started by CEPF project. The discussion includes whether to include biosphere under national protected areas or treat separately.

3. In the transition zone of the biospheres, areas are identified and proposals are under preparation to introduce participatory forest management PFMs.

4. More than 10,000 community members participated in the preparation of management plan for the biosphere which results community to propose resolving community level problems by the community itself which was unexpected. Accordingly, community members are discussing and convincing those illegally performing practices inside the biosphere.

Project Components and Products/Deliverables

Describe the results from each product/deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1	Baseline data and Stakeholder analysis report	1.1	One baseline analysis report that describe the existing situation in Doreni, Alge Sachi, Nopha, Hurumu, Yayu and Chora woredas developed by a consultant in the first quarter	Baseline is conducted and used as a benchmark during the project lifetime. The report includes the items listed in the description
2	Multi-sectoral taskforces	2.2	One zonal multisectoral task-force, in Illu Abba Bura zone, established and continue its meetings and discuss matters at zonal level and actually engaging in the day-to-day management of the reserve.	Zonal task force is established and is active in supporting the overall management of the biosphere. TOR produced, regular agenda and action plan drawn and report is being reviewed in the taskforce meetings
3	PHE School clubs	3.1	36 school clubs in six woredas (Hurum, Chora, Alge Sachi, Nopha, Doreni and Yayu) established to	36 school clubs have been established and active in raising awareness, environmental activities and education. They are using the mini media club they have to raise awareness about the biosphere inside the school and use tree planting events and parent assemblies for environmental education.

			promote knowledge among the community and themselves and work with the task force to fulfill the objective of the project.	
3	PHE School clubs	3.2	One School PHE Club toolkit in 200 copies developed by a consultant to help as a guide and reference for the students in the second quarter	This one also customized to benefit school clubs based on their specific context. Some, used materials for their mini media, others use printed materials to share with school communities
4	Capacity building trainings	4.1	Training components on forest and biodiversity conservation and the need for EIA identified by a consultant for Woreda and zonal task-forces. The EIA training will include practically reviewing existing EIA reports of projects in the biosphere.	EIA training conducted per the description above. During the training existing EIA reports have also reviewed
4	Capacity building trainings	4.2	Activity report on forest and	EIA training given to responsible government officials and other stakeholders. Report has been produced. After the

			biodiversity conservation and the need for EIA training developed by the project coordinator to help for monitoring	fact information is being collected such as how many investment licence requested, how many investors requested EIA for their project, how many receive approval etc.
4	Capacity building trainings	4.3	Training program on forest product certification identified by a consultant. Coffee and honey are the targeted forest products for certification	The raining has been provided. However, the Certification process is take over by a partner which is receiving some of the project initiatives for continuity.
4	Capacity building trainings	4.4	Activity report for forest product certification training developed by the project coordinator in the fourth quarter to help for monitoring	This report has been developed and documented
4	Capacity building trainings	4.5	Training program for fuel briquette production identified by a consultant. Six youths groups will be trained and involved in the fuel briquette production and more than	Fuel briquette production is started as described above and involved youth groups and women. Because of budget constraints and other factors five such youth groups have been involved and about 460 women in distribution and marketing

			one hundred women will be involved in the product distribution and marketing.	
4	Capacity building trainings	4.6	Support the production of fuel briquettes from coffee husks and organize women to engage in marketing and distribution	fuel briquette production is started and well producing results for youth groups and for about 460 women involving in distribution and marketing
4	Capacity building trainings	4.7	Training program for coffee and honey post harvest management and value addition identified by a consultant. Four coffee cooperatives and three honey producer association will be trained by his project.	Post harvest training is given for three coffee cooperatives and five honey cooperatives. Value addition initiatives have also been made by improving packaging and labeling
4	Capacity building trainings	4.8	Activity report for post harvest management and value addition training developed by the project coordinator.	The training is conducted, report produced and follow up informations collected

4	Capacity building trainings	4.10	Activity report for reproductive health and family planning training developed by the project coordinator in the fourth quarter to help for monitoring	Reproductive health and family planning training has been conducted in a wider scale, peer educators cascades the same to village level. Report also produced and documented
5	Knowledge and experience sharing	5.1	Agenda for the workshop that communicate the lessons learned form the project to be conducted in Metu in the last quarter of the project	The lesson learning workshop is conducted in Metu, Awasa and Bonga
5	Knowledge and experience sharing	5.2	Proceeding for workshop at Metu developed and disseminated through all possible channels.	This one is not produced for budget limitation. Instead, report is produced and shared among all members, partners and stakeholders. Budget limitation happen because some budget as been used for media engagement. The event is recorded by the national TV and broadcasted
5	Knowledge and experience sharing	5.3	Agenda for workshop that communicate the lessons learned form the project to be conducted in Addis Ababa	This workshop is also conducted by merging with other initiatives of PHE EC in other parts of the country
5	Knowledge and experience sharing	5.4	Proceeding for the workshop in Addis Ababa developed and disseminated	This one is developed and shared among participants and partners

			through all possible channels.	
5	Knowledge and experience sharing	5.5	Agenda and schedule for parliamentarian visit of Yayu biosphere to help guide the field visit.	Parliamentarian were too busy to participate in field trip. instead other policy makers from federal and regional offices participated in field trips. Participants include, directors from ministry of environment, forest and climate change, directors from the national REDD+ secretariat, OFWE vice director, Oromia Environment, forest , and climate change authority vice director, regional REDD+ focal person, etc
5	Knowledge and experience sharing	5.6	Report of the visit organized by project coordinator to help in monitoring the project	Report has been developed as described above
5	Knowledge and experience sharing	5.7	one project brief 200 copies developed by project coordinator in the third quarter to help for documentation and dissemination of knowledge and experience	Project brief is prepared printed and being distributed for all relevant actors
5	Knowledge and experience sharing	5.8	one Multisectoral Biosphere Management Guideline 200 copies developed to help for documentation and dissemination of knowledge	This document is prepared in different form than guideline as the management plan would do the same.

			and experience	
6	Development of a management plan for the Yayu Biosphere Reserve.	6.1	Draft management plan developed and discussed at multiple levels.	The draft management plan is under development by participating more than 10000 community members, 17 sector offices and many stakeholders. the discussion will begin in the coming week
6	Development of a management plan for the Yayu Biosphere Reserve.	6.2	Monitoring plan developed and implemented to enrich the management plan.	It is under development
7	Ensure Application of CEPF Safeguard on Involuntary Restriction on Access to Resources	7.1	Report on application of safeguards per Process Framework	Safeguard report is produced and shared per process framework
1	Baseline data and Stakeholder analysis report	1.2	one stakeholder analysis report that describe the potential stakeholders for biodieristy conservation, forest management, envestment developmen and community livelihood development developed by a consultant in the first quarter	Stakeholder analysis is conducted and the result have been used to establish task forces at various level. The report includes the items listed in the description
2	Multi-sectoral taskforces	2.1	Six multisectoral	Six woreda level taskforces have been active throughout the project lifetime. They were having meeting every

			<p>Woreda taskforce one at each woreda continue discussing matters about the biosphere at grassroots level, have the capacity to engage in the day-to-day management activities of the Biosphere Reserve.</p>	<p>quarter with action plans reports and plans. Their engagement with the day to day management of the biosphere has been significant.</p>
4	Capacity building trainings	4.9	<p>Training program for reproductive health and family planning. About two hundred households targeted for this activity and about 60 peer educators and 46 community health extension workers take part in the training and involve with the targeted households.</p>	<p>Reproductive health and family planning training has been given in a wider scale. The number of health extension works involving on the same are about 69 and about 72 peer educators participated.</p>

Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building.

Consider lessons that would inform:

- Project Design Process (*aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Project Implementation (*aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community

Lessons learned includes:

1. It is very important to conduct detail local level (Woreda and Kebele level) assessment at project design phase as we faced unexpected challenges in the course of implementation like increased number of Woredas by the same budget as strictly commented OFWE which is mandated to manage the BR.
2. Local contexts like infrastructure situation (road and transportation services) have high impact on project implementation.
3. Beneficiaries' expectation is on 'physical investment' than focusing on 'soft components' of project activities could be a challenge
4. Participation is key in resource management. During management plan preparation participating local community facilitated easy information access and cooperation. At higher level, stakeholder participation increased acceptance of interventions and results

Sustainability / Replication

Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.

As a result of intensive engagement at different level to draw attention of stakeholders, donors are coming to yayu biosphere. For example GIZ/UNIQUE is investing in the area and supporting the project initiatives. They supported the management plan preparation even financially and the management plan implementation is going to be further supported by them.

As we were working with OFEW since the start of the project, all of the project initiatives will be sustained by OFWE.

Some results, like the fuel briquette business is going to be replicated across various levels.

Government has shown interest to replicate the same in Bonga Biosphere and European funded project, SHARE project has also shown to take the same to Bale eco region

Safeguards

If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social, environmental, or pest management safeguards

With regards to safeguards, we have limited our activities not to involve in legal or any social safeguard issues. In our previous reports, we have explained that some individuals tried to establish temporary shelters inside the core zone and went out of the area willingly by taking some time for their own. In this reporting period there was no such activity but the enterprise managing the biosphere presented some illegal individuals to court for production of timber. There was argument about the possibility of certain activities inside the buffer and core zone based on Biosphere principles. The enterprise is using the region's forest law and the same as the regions justice department. Finally, there was a consensus about biosphere principles and the region's forest law. There were no conflicting ideas between the two and UNESCO's MAB principles are not laws. The project has nothing to do with this however. The only contribution of the project is the awareness it creates among various actors including the legal and justice department. This awareness has been found positive and constructive from any side.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF

Drastic closing and phase outting of projects from a nation has negative impacts on project sustainability. CEPF should think again on this five year round of phase in and phase out!

Additional Funding

Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment


Total additional funding (US\$)

Type of funding

Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:

- A Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B Grantee and Partner Leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project)*
- C Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)*

Information Sharing and CEPF Policy



CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

1. Please include your full contact details (Name, Organization, Mailing address, Telephone number, E-mail address) below

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