

ESS4 - Community Health and Safety



CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM
PARTNERSHIP FUND



CANARI serves as CEPF's regional implementation team for the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot.

Community Health and Safety Plan (CHSP)

20 December 2022

CEPF Sub-Grant 113661

Southern Trelawny Environmental Agency (STEA)

Using Nature-Based Tourism to Strengthen Biodiversity Conservation in the Cockpit Country, Jamaica

Jamaica

Sub-Grant Summary

- 1. Sub-Grantee organization:** Southern Trelawny Environmental Agency
- 2. Sub-Project title:** Using Nature-Based Tourism to Strengthen Biodiversity Conservation in the Cockpit Country, Jamaica
- 3. Sub-Grant number:** 113661
- 4. Sub-Grant amount (USD\$):** \$50,000.00
- 5. Proposed dates of Sub-Grant:** 1 January 2023 – 31 December 2023
- 6. Countries where activities will be undertaken:** Jamaica
- 7. Date of preparation of this document:** 20 December 2022

8. Overview of the Caribbean Hotspot Project

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot Small Grants Mechanism is being implemented in the Caribbean Islands by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) acting as the Regional Implementation Team (RIT). After a successful first investment in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot between 2011 and 2016, the CEPF has returned to the region for a second phase of investment from August 2021 – July 2026, which totals US\$11.8 million.

The goal of the CEPF is to conserve biodiversity. Its approach is to build local conservation leadership and nurture sustainable development by developing locally driven conservation strategies and providing grants to civil society to implement those strategies. In the Caribbean, the CEPF aims to strengthen the protection and management of globally important biodiversity within 32 priority Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) and seven conservation corridors in Antigua and Barbuda; The Bahamas; Dominican Republic; Haiti; Jamaica; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

9. Project Components

This project seeks to engage community members of the Cockpit Country Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) in Jamaica, to bring awareness and tangible benefits to utilizing the biodiversity of the area for nature-based tourism rather than for exploitive means. The project seeks to do this through the following components (i) improving the capacity of STEA and their associated Cockpit Country Adventure Tours (CCAT) to market to more visitors; (ii) improve the knowledge and capacity of STEA to mainstream biodiversity conservation and ecosystem service values into their operations; (iii) support the replication of STEA's model of ecotourism for environmental conservation and advocacy; and (iv) engage with three additional communities to participate in the nature-based tourism activities.

Project workers will be interacting one on one with community members to convey project objectives, solicit their specific participation in implementation activities and work alongside in producing outputs defined. Workers will explore the physical landscape to identify potential attractions, assess their suitability, determine the ecological biodiversity significance, and gather data to support the quantification of conservation impact from the project. Project team members will be involved in developing training information, packaging content and presenting to community members in training sessions and seminars. Workers will be engaged in ongoing monitoring of the inputs, outputs and project targets as defined in conjunction with community members. Workers will be gathering photographs, film footage and baseline data to complement the data critical for appraising progressive outputs and enhancing the promotional and marketing of the eco attractions.

10. Risks to community health and safety and mitigation measures

There are a few anticipated risks to community health and safety for this project, with those identified listed below in Table 10.1.

Table 10.1: Potential Risks to Community Health & Safety and Mitigation Measures

Key risks to Community Health & Safety	Risk probability (low / medium / high)	Level of Risk (low / medium / high)	Description	Mitigation Measures
Transmission of communicable diseases, such as COVID-19, to local stakeholders.	Medium	Low	COVID-19 occurs globally and can be more likely to be transmitted through any work involving large meetings (e.g. training and communities and transfer of technical information from components 2-4)	Project workers interacting with the community/public will follow distancing and hygiene protocols as necessary. Direct workers are vaccinated and will follow distancing and hygiene protocols as necessary. Workers will be provided with safety supplies (masks, sanitizer). Any national declarations or guidance given by the Government of the Jamaica will be adhered to.
Hydrometeorological events (hurricanes, tropical storms) and other natural disasters, including earthquakes and volcanic eruptions	Medium	High	Over the life of the project, it is possible that the country could be severely impacted by a hydrometeorological event or other natural disasters. The Caribbean region is up to seven times more likely to experience a natural disaster than larger states, and when one occurs, it incurs as much as six times more damage.	Acknowledging the natural disaster risk, workers will maintain vigilance to all weather advisories and will conduct community activities in adherence to any natural disaster and emergency guidelines from Government of Jamaica. Where possible, activities such as community engagement will occur outside of known hurricane season.
Sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment	Low	High	Project workers will engage physically with communities at different levels (from purchasing supplies to participating in workshops) which presents an opportunity for sexual exploitation,	STEAM will implement a code of conduct, and training on the Grievance Mechanism of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and the Labor Management Plan, and other related areas. The documents will also be shared on SEA's website. Some of these activities will

			abuse and harassment.	be in partnership with government agencies to raise awareness of these issues and move towards reducing the occurrence of these issues.
Accidents involving persons and vehicles	Low	Medium	Hazards from travel during project activities (e.g., vehicle crashes while moving between sites)	To minimize risk to communities, the vehicles to be used under the project will be serviced regularly, properly maintained and insured. Authorized drivers of the vehicle will have the necessary licenses to operate the vehicle in question. All authorized drivers will be reminded of safe driving practices. workers will be licensed to operate vehicles and any other motorized equipment and will be determined to be in good health prior to departure.

11. Relevant laws in project countries

Table 11.1 below outlines the key law(s) in the project countries and their relevance to this Community Health and Safety Plan. STEA will ensure that staff adhere to these laws and guidelines.

Table 11.1: Relevant laws for community health and safety in Jamaica

Act	Description
Jamaica	
Public Health Act (2003)	Provides a list of communicable diseases that must be notified to the competent authorities.
Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management Act (1993)	Provides for disaster preparedness and emergency management measures.

12. Measures to avoid risk of COVID-19

Project workers interacting with the community/public will follow distancing and hygiene protocols as necessary. Workers will be provided with safety supplies (masks, sanitizer). Any national declarations or guidance given by the Government of Jamaica will be adhered to. STEA has internal COVID-19 guidelines which cover the basics of creating a healthy and sanitary work environment for COVID-19 and beyond (See Annex 1). Workers are required follow these rules diligently, to sustain a healthy and safe workplace while sharing common workspaces.

Any other relevant guidance from the World Bank as outlined in the technical note, "Public Consultations and Stakeholder Engagement in WB-supported operations when there are

constraints on conducting public meetings” (March 20, 2020)¹ will be followed, as relevant and appropriate.

13. Emergency preparedness and response plan

Project team members have means of communication with head office at all times and means of receiving public safety announcements and warnings. The Project Manager ensures that weather-related risks (e.g., hurricanes) are closely monitored prior to and during community visits. Workers are instructed to elevate personnel safety and health above other objectives and evacuate field sites as appropriate. Activities will adhere to any declarations or guidance provided by the Government of Jamaica.

14. Measures to mitigate risks relating to security personnel

Not applicable.

15. Timeline and resources

The implementation of mitigation measures will occur throughout the entire project time frame. The cost of implementing the plan is mostly included in the CEPF project.

Table 15.1: Implementation schedule and estimated resources

Action	Cost Estimate (USD)	Implementation Schedule			
		2023			
Salary of direct workers to implement the CHSP	\$496*	X	X	X	X
Purchase of COVID-19 safety supplies (masks, hand sanitizer, rapid test results)	\$580	X	X	X	X
Maintenance for vehicle rental	\$2,080.00	X	X	X	X

*= 5% of salary of Executive Director and Community Activities Coordinator

16. Monitoring arrangements

The Executive Director will conduct weekly meetings with other project workers. Issues can be raised in an open forum in the organization and resolved quickly. A log of issues that have the potential to negatively impact the project will be recorded. It will also include how the issues were dealt with. Reports will be made on the ESS implementation during the bi-annual progress reports.

18. Disclosure

The internal project launch meeting agenda will include a review of anticipated and possible community interactions, and review the code of conduct and safety measures that are required. Community members encountered will be given an explanation of the project and any concerns directed to the Project Coordinator. Should any stakeholders – project workers, community members, etc. – raise any concerns or provide feedback, these will be considered and responded to in a formal manner.

¹ https://biwta.portal.gov.bd/sites/default/files/files/biwta.portal.gov.bd/page/f3ca1ff6_95b0_4606_849f_2c0844e455bc/2020-10-01-11-04-717aa8e02835a7e778b2fff46f531a8c.pdf