

ESS4 - Community Health and Safety



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

Community Health and Safety Plan

May 2023

CEPF Grant 113721

Northern Cockpit Country Local Forest Management Committee Benevolent Society

Maintaining Biodiversity Through Sustainable Livelihoods and Environmental Awareness in Northern Cockpit Country, Jamaica

Grant Summary

- 1. Grantee organization:** Northern Cockpit Country Local Forest Management Committee Benevolent Society
- 2. Sub project title:** Maintaining Biodiversity Through Sustainable Livelihoods and Environmental Awareness in Northern Cockpit Country, Jamaica
- 3. Grant number:** 113721
- 4. Grant amount (USD\$):** \$47,022
- 5. Proposed dates of grant:** 1 June 2023 – 31 May 2024
- 6. Countries where activities will be undertaken:** Jamaica
- 7. Date of preparation of this document:** 24 May 2023

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

Linton Park Mountains is a designated Forest Reserve in Cockpit Country Protected Area, Jamaica supporting several CEPF Trigger Species and CEPF Priority Species. Typical of other forest reserves across Jamaica the Linton Park Mountains are threatened by habitat loss and fragmentation associated with deforestation. Specifically, the Forest Reserve is threatened by forest fires as a result of the slash and burn land clearing technique used by some farmers and illegal logging for charcoal and in influx of additional farmers as a result of the decline in the sugar cane product that sustained many of them for decades.

The Northern Cockpit Country Local Forest Management Committee Benevolent Society (NCCLFMCBS) aims to address these threats through the following:

Component 1: Building capacity for community-based forest reserve management. Ten NCCLFMCBS members and local community members will be trained in reforestation and circle weeding techniques and will be engaged to plant and maintain 4 hectares of forest reserve. Additionally, 160 community members – especially those residents from the communities who contribute to the degradation of the forest - will benefit from 4 environmental awareness sessions.

Component 2: Increasing the NCCLFMCBS's organizational capacity. This component not only includes the preparation of the sustainable financing strategy but will also undertake the training of at least 12 members of the LFMC in viable economic activities identified.

Component 3: Increased stakeholder awareness of forest conservation through livelihood opportunities. This component seeks to improve communities' awareness and willingness to support biodiversity conservation activities by using practical experiences with real benefits to demonstrate the importance of biodiversity to their livelihoods. This will be done through two separate streams – beekeeping and youth agro-forestry - and will include awareness sessions as well as facilitating practical experiences.

10. Risk 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 <i>(low / medium / high)</i>	Level of Risk <i>(low / medium / high)</i>	Description	Mitigation Measures
Transmission of communicable diseases, such as COVID-19, to local stakeholders.	low	low	Several components will involve the gathering of small groups of persons – e.g., training for bee keeping, educational awareness sessions and reforestation training sessions.	The guidelines of the Jamaican government on Covid-19 at the time of the fieldwork and community engagement will be followed.
Risks related to hurricanes, earthquakes and other natural disasters.	medium	low	Jamaican is located in an area that experiences hurricanes.	The Project Manager and Project Assistant will monitor the weather very carefully. If there is a threat of a hurricane field activities will not occur. Typically sufficient advance notice for hurricanes is given and thus people have always been able to evacuate well in advance of a threatening situation.
Sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment	low	low	Men and women work together on this project.	A grievance mechanism has been developed to address these issues and will be shared with all members of the project prior to the start of the project. All complaints will be taken seriously and resolved as quickly as possible.
Accidents involving persons and vehicles	low	low	Movement by vehicle will be necessary to conduct several project activities.	To minimize risk to communities, the vehicle to be used under the project will undergo routine maintenance. 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.
Bee stings from apiculture projects	medium	low	Component 3 which seeks to establish an apiculture project can expose those involved to bee stings. It is very unlikely for other community members to be stung by the bees, as their awareness would promote necessary actions of precaution. Most apiaries are established away from public thoroughfares and though people may have them in their backyard gardens these are in rural areas that are not clustered	The effects are generally very mild but may be a bit more serious for those who have allergic reactions to bee stings. The project will procure personal protective equipment for all persons as well as antihistamines for itching and swelling, acetaminophen for pain relief and epipen in the event of a severe allergic reaction.

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. The NCCLFMCBS will ensure that members adhere to these laws and guidelines.

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

Law	Relevance to ESS4
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

The Grantee will follow the guidelines of the Jamaican government on Covid-19 at the time of the fieldwork and community engagement. 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

In case of general emergencies while in the field or during community gatherings, the Project Manager will be immediately notified, and action will be taken following the government guidelines. The Project Manager and Project Assistant will monitor the weather very carefully. If there is a threat of a hurricane field activities will not occur.

14. Measures to mitigate risks relating to security personnel

N/A

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 16.1: Implementation schedule and estimated resources

Action	Cost Estimate (USD)	Implementation Schedule				
		2023			2024	
Salary of direct workers to implement the CHSP (5% of Project Manager and 5% of Project Assistant)	\$250	x	x	x	x	x
Covid-19 preparedness, including cleaning of venues maintaining COVID-19 protocols etc.	\$200	x	x	x	x	x
Personal Protective Equipment, medications for bee stings	\$1500	x	x	x	x	x
Maintenance of NCCLFMCBS vehicle	\$440	x	x	x	x	x

16. Monitoring arrangements

The Project Manager and Project Assistant will consult with each other on a regular basis to share all health and safety concerns. If any threat to health and safety is identified they will act immediately to ensure everyone remains safe. Any amendments to existing plans will be made as necessary.

17. Disclosure

The Grantee will provide all project team members and stakeholders with the community health and safety plan at the beginning of the project. Should any stakeholders – project workers 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