

ESS4 - Community Health and Safety



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

Community Health and Safety Plan

December 2023

Vermont Center for Ecostudies

CEPF-115350

Project Title: Conservation Standards Online Training Workshop Pilot Project

Grant Summary	
1. Grantee organization:	Vermont Center for Ecostudies
2. Sub project title:	Conservation Standards Online Training Workshop Pilot Project
3. Grant number:	CEPF-115350
4. Grant amount (USD\$):	\$US 49,861
5. Proposed dates of grant:	1 Jan 2024 to 31 Dec 2024
6. Countries where activities will be undertaken:	Antigua & Barbuda, The Bahamas, Jamaica, Saint Lucia and St Vincent & the Grenadines, Haiti, Dominican Republic.
7. Date of preparation of this document:	1 Dec 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

Component 1. VCE develops an online CS course

- VCE will develop a highly interactive online training workshop using the Conservation Standards framework, with case studies and other materials adapted to the Caribbean context.
- In this activity VCE develops presentations, instructional videos, reading materials, customized interactive whiteboard collaboration areas, and online quizzes to allow trainers to test their command of the material on their own, and tools to measure increases in practitioner capacity due to the training.

Component 2. VCE provides training 30 or more conservation practitioners in CSOs

- VCE provides online training workshops to at least 30 individuals from CSOs that are working in CEPFs target countries, protected areas and KBAs, and/or on CEPF target species in the Caribbean. The training will be free of cost to trainees. In this pilot project, the training will be in English. As soon as this pilot project can demonstrate the value of training and mentoring in CS to donors and secure funding, VCE will develop the same course in Spanish and Kreyòl to expand access to CS training to the vast majority of conservationists in the Caribbean.
- The training will encompass the full project cycle using the Conservation Standards framework: *Assess, Plan, Implement, Analyze & Adapt, Share*.
- VCE will provide an optional training session on using Miradi and [MiradiShare](#) software that greatly facilitates use of CS.

- The training will emphasize using Conservation Standards to develop funding proposals and conservation plans.
- Activities will include VCE staff leading six or seven 3hr workshop sessions per workshop series for a total of 20-25 hours of instruction in highly interactive sessions. Using a flexible format with 1-3 trainers, Workshops can accommodate as few as 5 or as many as 24 trainees. This flexibility will enable VCE to provide multiple workshop series in order to accommodate individuals and teams with different availability.

Component 3. VCE provides follow-up CS mentoring to develop plans and proposals

- VCE will provide follow-up training and mentoring in a series of flexible practitioner-led sessions, in which VCE trainers work with practitioners so that they can further develop skills and experience using CS principles and practices to address their own conservation challenges.
- VCE will explicitly focus on teaching and encouraging trainees to use the CS framework to develop fully-elaborated feasible conservation plans, as well as fundable proposals that are tailored to the donor's framework and terminology.
- VCE will monitor the number of plans and proposals that trainees develop, up to what stage, and if they are implemented or funded. However, since this is a pilot project, we explicitly do not set goals for numbers of plans or proposals developed.

Component 4. VCE mentors trainees to develop personal and organizational conservation capacity building plans.

- VCE will provide follow-up training and mentoring to enable each trainee to develop both personal and organizational conservation capacity building plans.
- To aid in this, VCE will develop a conservation capacity self-assessment tool adapted from published competency frameworks, and share it with trainees to enable them self-assess their individual and organizational conservation capacity strengths and weaknesses.
- VCE will then mentor trainees to develop CS-style personal and organizational strategic plans to build their own conservation capacity.

10. Risk mitigation measures

Anticipated risks to community health and safety for this project are unremarkable. See Table 10.1.

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

Key risks to Community Health & Safety	Risk probability	Level of Risk <i>(low / medium / high)</i>	Description	Mitigation Measures
Contraction/transmission of COVID-19	low	low	Airborne transmission is most common & more likely in confined spaces. Trainees may convene to participate in online training.	VCE will advise trainees to follow official local guidelines of their respective health systems to avoid transmission.

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.

Not applicable for online training.

12. Measures to avoid risk of COVID-19

VCE will advise trainees to follow official local guidelines of their respective health systems to avoid transmission.

13. Emergency preparedness and response plan

N/A

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 15.1: Implementation schedule and estimated resources

Action	Cost Estimate (USD)	Implementation Schedule			
		2024-2025			
Salary of direct workers to implement the CHSP (5% of Caribbean Conservation Coordinator	\$1100	x	x	x	x
Covid-19 preparedness	\$0	x	x	x	x

16. Monitoring arrangements

VCE will maintain contact with CSOs and trainees to be aware of trends of Covid transmission rates that could increase likelihood of transmission among trainees. VCE will advise trainees to follow official local guidelines of their respective health systems to avoid transmission

17. Disclosure

VCE will inform all project team members and stakeholders of the community health and safety plan at the beginning of the project. VCE will take concerns and feedback seriously, and will respond to them formally, as warranted.