

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

No Objection Approval Pursuant to Section 2.1 of the CEPF Operational Manual

30 April 2024

CEPF Financial Summary, Twenty-fifth Spending Plan**Recommended Action Item:**

The Donor Council is asked to **review and approve** the Twenty-fifth Spending Plan on a **no-objection basis**. The plan sets out the budget for grants and operations totaling \$31,745,582 for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025.

The deadline for no-objection approval is **14 May 2024**.

Background:

In accordance with the CEPF Operational Manual (Section OM 2.1 Rev), CEPF shall prepare an annual spending plan no later than 30 April of each year for review and approval by the Donor Council. The plan describes the proposed funding levels of the spending categories for CEPF during the next fiscal year.

The Twenty-fifth Spending Plan provides for CEPF's operational budget for the fiscal year 2025. The Plan will increase the authority to grant and commit funding to \$337,417,808.

The Secretariat has included in the Ecosystem Grants spending category (page 1) the projected disbursement and new grant award amount for eight active hotspots, including one new investment in the Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa. The grant commitment budget increased from \$11,200,000 in FY24 to \$27,150,000 in FY25, reflecting upcoming new investments in the Cerrado, Guinean Forests of West Africa, and Mediterranean Basin biodiversity hotspots, plus expanded investments in the Caribbean Islands, Indo-Burma and Tropical Andes Hotspots. The expected grant disbursements increase from \$12,800,000 in FY24 to \$19,260,079 in FY25 due to growth in the grant portfolios in several hotspots, including Indo-Burma, Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands and the Tropical Andes. The 49% increase in grant disbursement from FY24 to FY25 is due to the new anticipated grant agreement with the Government of Canada.

The Secretariat Operations & Management Fee budget (page 2) reflects an increase of 5% from \$4,362,576 in FY24 to \$4,595,582 in FY25. The primary increase is due to two positions are added, a director and a manager, to support the Program Management and the Monitoring, Evaluation, & Outreach Unit.

The Ecosystem Profile Preparation work planned in FY25 is to update the ecosystem profiles for the Cerrado, East Melanesian Islands, Indo-Burma and Mountains of Central Asia Hotspots.

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

Twenty-fifth CEPF Spending Plan for the Period July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Spending Category: Ecosystem Grants

	FY25 Expected Disbursement	FY25 New Grant Awards	FY24 Expected Disbursement	FY24 New Grant Awards
Active Regions				
Caribbean II	2,200,000	2,000,000	2,700,000	2,000,000
Cerrado	-	-	-	-
Cerrado II	2,400,000	4,000,000	-	-
Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa	200,000	850,000	-	-
Guinean Forests of West Africa III	800,000	1,500,000	-	-
Indo-Burma II	-	-	-	-
Indo-Burma III	3,360,079	2,000,000	2,600,000	600,000
Madagascar & Indian Ocean Islands Reinvestment	-	-	-	-
Madagascar & Indian Ocean Islands Reinvestment II	3,040,000	5,200,000	1,800,000	5,000,000
Mediterranean II	190,000	-	800,000	500,000
Mediterranean III	800,000	3,600,000	-	-
Mountains of Central Asia	1,050,000	-	1,600,000	400,000
Multiple	-	-	-	-
Tropical Andes II	-	-	-	-
Tropical Andes III	5,000,000	8,000,000	2,500,000	2,000,000
Wallacea II	220,000	-	800,000	700,000
Total Active Regions	19,260,079	27,150,000	12,800,000	11,200,000
Total All Regions	\$ 19,260,079	\$ 27,150,000	\$ 12,800,000	\$ 11,200,000

Note on Disbursements vs Awards: Disbursements represents actual payments disbursed to grantees. Awards is the target for new agreements signed with grantees.

% Spent, Ecosystem Grants

Authority to Grant & Commit Funding	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III	Total Authority
Atlantic Forest	8,000,000	2,395,259	-	10,395,259
Cape Floristic Region	6,000,000	1,584,910	-	7,584,910
Caribbean Islands	-	6,900,000	-	6,900,000
Caribbean Islands II	-	11,800,000	-	11,800,000
Caucasus	8,500,000	997,502	-	9,497,502
Cerrado	-	8,000,000	-	8,000,000
Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa	-	-	-	-
East Melanesia Islands	-	9,000,000	-	9,000,000
Eastern Afromontane	-	12,000,000	-	12,000,000
Eastern Arc Mountains & Coastal Forests	7,000,000	1,749,473	-	8,749,473
Eastern Himalayas	5,000,000	-	-	5,000,000
Guinean Forests of West Africa	6,200,000	1,907,209	-	8,107,209
Guinean Forests of West Africa II	-	12,000,000	-	12,000,000
Guinean Forests of West Africa III	-	-	-	-
Indo-Burma	-	9,656,797	-	9,656,797
Indo-Burma II	-	15,966,203	-	15,966,203
Indo-Burma III	-	-	11,958,581	11,958,581
Madagascar & Indian Ocean Islands	4,250,000	1,385,800	-	5,635,800
Madagascar & Indian Ocean Islands II	-	12,540,000	22,570,000	35,110,000
Maputaland-Pondoland-Albany	-	6,650,000	-	6,650,000
Mediterranean	-	11,016,744	-	11,016,744
Mediterranean II	-	-	14,080,000	14,080,000
Mediterranean III	-	-	-	-
Mountains of Central Asia	-	-	8,000,000	8,000,000
Mountains of Southwest China	6,500,000	1,350,738	-	7,850,738
Multiple	-	600,000	-	600,000
Northern Mesoamerica	7,300,000	-	-	7,300,000
The Philippines	7,000,000	-	-	7,000,000
Polynesia-Micronesia	-	6,828,576	-	6,828,576
Southern Mesoamerica	5,500,000	1,636,402	-	7,136,402
Succulent Karoo	8,000,000	1,387,405	-	9,387,405
Sundaland	10,000,000	-	-	10,000,000
Tropical Andes	6,150,000	2,157,414	-	8,307,414
Tropical Andes II	-	10,000,000	-	10,000,000
Tropical Andes III	-	-	14,000,000	14,000,000
Tumbes-Chocó-Magdalena	5,000,000	1,846,270	-	6,846,270
Wallacea	-	6,850,000	-	6,850,000
Wallacea II	-	-	2,100,000	2,100,000
Western Ghats & Sri Lanka	-	6,077,000	-	6,077,000
Consolidation (balance of \$20M authority)	-	25,525	-	25,525
Total Authority	100,400,000	164,309,227	72,708,581	337,417,808

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

Twenty-fourth CEPF Spending Plan for the Period July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

Spending Category: Ecosystem Grants

	FY24 Spend Plan Disbursement	FY24 Actual Disbursement thru 03/31/24	FY24 Spend Plan New Grant Awards	FY24 Actual Grant Awards thru 03/31/24
Active Regions				
Caribbean II	2,700,000	1,362,704	2,000,000	302,701
Cerrado	-	31,115	-	(5,048)
Cerrado II				
Coastal Forests of Eastern Africa	-	92,701	-	-
Guinean Forests of West Africa III	-	-	-	-
Indo-Burma II	-	-	-	-
Indo-Burma III	2,600,000	1,747,967	600,000	940,291
Madagascar & Indian Ocean Islands Reinvestment		-	-	-
Madagascar & Indian Ocean Islands Reinvestment II	1,800,000	1,526,621	5,000,000	2,016,020
Mediterranean II	800,000	866,979	500,000	803,383
Mediterranean III				
Mountains of Central Asia	1,600,000	1,590,262	400,000	(150,717)
Multiple	-	19,946	-	(1)
Tropical Andes II		(9,119)		(20,792)
Tropical Andes III	2,500,000	1,387,937	2,000,000	1,146,154
Wallacea II	800,000	586,803	700,000	(19)
Total Active Regions	12,800,000	9,203,916	11,200,000	5,031,972
Total All Regions	\$ 12,800,000	\$ 9,203,916	\$ 11,200,000	\$ 5,031,972

Note on Disbursements vs Awards: Disbursements represents actual payments disbursed to grantees. Awards is the target for new agreements signed with grantees.

% Spent, Ecosystem Grants	Disbursements:	72%	Grant Awards:	45%
---------------------------	----------------	-----	---------------	-----

Spending Category: Operations (Secretariat)

	FY24 Budget	FY24 Actual to 3/31	% Spent
Executive Management			
Personnel	402,667	325,558	
Travel, Meetings & Events	24,507	35,836	
Professional Services	-	13	
Other Direct Costs	34,591	28,549	
Subtotal	461,765	389,956	84%
Program Management			
Personnel	692,861	627,668	
Travel, Meetings & Events	104,066	48,478	
Professional Services	3,000	5,423	
Other Direct Costs	64,941	46,740	
Subtotal	864,868	728,309	84%
Grant Management			
Personnel	632,753	463,466	
Travel, Meetings & Events	87,808	28,422	
Professional Services	2,500	30,085	
Other Direct Costs	44,903	30,102	
Subtotal	767,964	552,075	72%
Monitoring, Evaluation, & Outreach			
Personnel	406,933	224,528	
Travel, Meetings & Events	139,982	146,448	
Professional Services	26,500	5,276	
Other Direct Costs	21,013	14,691	
Subtotal	594,427	390,943	66%
Communications			
Personnel	224,379	164,837	
Travel, Meetings & Events	11,527	7,924	
Professional Services	385,500	72,445	
Other Direct Costs	30,558	31,194	
Subtotal	651,963	276,400	42%
Finance & Operations Management			
Personnel	243,824	140,854	
Travel, Meetings & Events	3,736	2,287	
Professional Services	45,000	-	
Other Direct Costs	17,692	8,842	
Subtotal	310,252	151,983	49%
Operations Total	3,651,240	2,489,666	68%
Spending Category: Management Fee (CI's audited indirect cost rate or donor restriction)	711,336	393,961	55%
Total Operations & Management Fee	4,362,576	2,883,626	66%
Spending Category: Preparation	200,000	0	0%
Total FY24 Spending Plan	\$ 15,762,576	\$ 7,915,598	50%

Spending Category: Operations (Secretariat)

	FY25 Budget	FY24 Budget
Executive Management		
Personnel	416,114	
Travel, Meetings & Events	40,506	
Professional Services	-	
Other Direct Costs	35,939	
Subtotal	492,559	461,765
Program Management		
Personnel	1,001,263	
Travel, Meetings & Events	135,222	
Professional Services	-	
Other Direct Costs	106,904	
Subtotal	1,243,390	864,868
Grant Management		
Personnel	664,061	
Travel, Meetings & Events	96,865	
Professional Services	2,500	
Other Direct Costs	38,575	
Subtotal	802,001	767,964
Monitoring, Evaluation, & Outreach		
Personnel	449,390	
Travel, Meetings & Events	15,780	
Professional Services	70,000	
Other Direct Costs	32,157	
Subtotal	567,326	594,427
Communications		
Personnel	231,827	
Travel, Meetings & Events	5,854	
Professional Services	281,370	
Other Direct Costs	28,779	
Subtotal	547,830	651,963
Finance & Operations Management		
Personnel	232,518	
Travel, Meetings & Events	6,068	
Professional Services	38,500	
Other Direct Costs	10,560	
Subtotal	287,645	310,252
Operations Total	3,940,750	3,651,240
Spending Category: Management Fee (CI's audited indirect cost rate or donor restriction)	654,832	711,336
Total Operations & Management Fee	4,595,582	4,362,576
Spending Category: Preparation	800,000	200,000
Total FY25 Spending Plan	\$ 32,545,582	\$ 15,762,576