

**Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund**  
No Objection Approval Pursuant to Section 4.1 of the Operational Manual

June 28, 2019

**Ecosystem profile for the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot**

**Recommended Action Item:**

The Donor Council is asked **to approve on a no-objection basis** the ecosystem profile for the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot. Similarly, the Donor Council is asked to increase CEPF's spending authority by \$10 million for the implementation of this profile.

The deadline for no-objection approval is **August 12, 2019**.

**Background**

The ecosystem profile for the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot was updated between January 2017 and March 2018, following the Donor Council's selection of the hotspot for reinvestment at its 29<sup>th</sup> meeting in June 2016.

This is intended to be a full reinvestment, following an initial investment phase between October 2010 and July 2016, during which CEPF provided a total of \$6.9 million in funding to conservation projects in the hotspot. The investment strategy set out in the updated ecosystem profile builds on the results achieved and lessons learned from these earlier investments.

The process to update the ecosystem profile was led by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), in collaboration with BirdLife International, and with technical support from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the New York Botanical Garden (NYBG). The ecosystem profiling process incorporated regional stakeholder expertise through three national workshops (in the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica), an online sub-regional meeting for the Bahamas and the Eastern Caribbean, national KBA expert groups and a regional consultation. The process engaged 175 stakeholders from 94 organizations representing civil society, government, the private sector and the donor community.

The updated ecosystem profile was shared with the Working Group for its review in July 2018. The document was subsequently revised, to address comments from the Working Group. At its 34<sup>th</sup> meeting in February 2019, the Donor Council was informed of the decision to invest the funding from the Government of Japan, managed by the World Bank, in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot. Consequently, the revised ecosystem profile was shared with the Working Group for review on 6 June 2019 and comments

were incorporated into the final draft. A matrix showing how comments from the two Working Group meetings have been addressed is attached, together with an extended technical summary of the profile. The full text of the ecosystem profile for the Caribbean Islands Hotspot can be downloaded [here](#). (PDF – 8.2 MB).