

CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	Westfälischer Zoologischer Garten Münster GmbH
Project Title:	Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project (CBLCP)
Date of Report:	30 th July 2013
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CEPF Region: Indo-Burma

Strategic Direction: 1. Safeguard priority globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats

Grant Amount: US\$57,910

Project Dates: 1 January, 2010 to 31 May, 2013

Implementation Partners for this Project (please explain the level of involvement for each partner):

- Cat Ba National Park + Cat Ba Biosphere Reserve = close cooperation regarding protection, capacity building
- Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD, local authorities) = counterpart and support for the project in terms of content
- DARD + People's Committee of Hai Phong (local authorities) = responsible bodies in Vietnam in terms of approval of the working plan
- Zoological Society for the Conservation of Species and Populations (ZGAP) = technical advice and fundraising, networking

Conservation Impacts

Please explain/describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile.

The "Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project" (CBLCP) is a distinct species-focused conservation program that aims to prevent extinction of the Cat Ba or Golden-headed langur (*Trachypithecus poliocephalus*), a globally threatened primate species listed as Critically Endangered in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and Priority Species for CEPF investment in the Indochina Region (CEPF Ecosystem Profile: Indochina, 2007 and 2011) as well as to contribute to the conservation of the overall biodiversity of the Cat Ba Archipelago. The Cat Ba langur is endemic to the Cat Ba Archipelago, a part of the limestone karst formation 'Ha Long Bay', in the Gulf of Tonkin, North East Viet Nam. The area is nationally and internationally recognized for its importance to biodiversity conservation. During the development of the Ecosystem Profile for the Indochina Region, Cat Ba Island also had been considered as key biodiversity area in Viet Nam and potential Priority Site for CEPF investment. However, this key biodiversity area was then, at a later stage, classified to have only a medium need for additional conservation investment. As such, all components of the 'Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project' are in agreement with the CEPF Strategic Direction No 1, i.e. 'safeguarding priority globally threatened species in Indochina by mitigating major threats' and meets the CEPF Investment Priority No 1.1 'identification and securing of core populations of Priority Species from over-exploitation and

illegal trade by implementing a targeted, high-impact project'. In addition, as requested by the CEPF, the project devoted major efforts to build the capacity of local civil society and government institutions in species-focused research and action.

Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project.

The "Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project" (CBLCP) is focused on the conservation of the Cat Ba langur (*Trachypithecus poliocephalus*) and Cat Ba's overall biodiversity. The grant provided by the CEPF facilitated improved protection of the species and its habitat as well as capacity building for and cooperation with Cat Ba National Park. Furthermore, a research program in cooperation with IUCN and the Australian National University has been started recently to assess the baseline population and initiate a long-term research agenda.

Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal):

- Preservation of the Cat Ba Langur, i.e. a critically endangered primate species included in the priority list of globally threatened species in Indochina eligible for CEPF funding and in the "Top 25 Most Endangered Primates" since this list was first published in 2000 by IUCN and CI.
- Protection of the biodiversity and ecosystems in the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve "Cat Ba Archipelago", a unique karst landscape in the northeast of Vietnam.

Actual Progress Toward Long-term Impacts at Completion:

The conservation measures for the Cat Ba langur as well as the protection of the biodiversity and ecosystems have been continued and intensified. The Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project has continued to support the Cat Ba National Park whenever possible, particularly in regard to park protection and the provision of equipment, supplies and fuel for additional patrols.

Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal):

- Increased efficiency of ranger work (i.e. increased number, duration of and area covered by boat patrols; increased communication, improved skills).
- Intensification of communication and networking among all local protection forces.
- Reduction of impact on natural resources inside the Cat Ba Archipelago.
- Improved integration of conservation and environment protection in the local development agenda.

Actual Progress Toward Short-term Impacts at Completion:

Ranger efficiency has been increased by various measures which are aimed to be continued beyond the expiration of the CEPF grant. The CBLCP continues to support the Main Station's program of monthly inspections of all ranger sea stations, provides monthly phone credit for all ranger mobile phones, fuel allowances for selected ranger sea stations and a targeted extra patrol program based on GPS data, least patrolled areas and "hotspots".

On 26 March 2013 a meeting with all local government authorities and IUCN representatives took place in Hai Phong to discuss the future plans to continue the recovery of the Cat Ba langur.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: ca. 14000 ha

Species Conserved: Cat Ba langur (*Trachypithecus poliocephalus*)

Corridors Created: n/a

Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives.

The project has successfully achieved its short-term impact objectives and is progressing with the longer-term objectives, including langur population management and reduction of population fragmentation as well as intensifying research.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)? No

Project Components

Project Components: *Please report on results by project component. Reporting should reference specific products/deliverables from the approved project design and other relevant information.*

Component 1 Planned:

Ensuring strict protection of the remaining Cat Ba langur population through perpetuation and optimization of protection measures.

Component 1 Actual at Completion:

The implementation of Cat Ba National Park ranger work guidelines is secured and evaluated regularly together with the Main Station. Capacity building activities have been continued. Extra patrols have been established and are continued as well as the program established by the Main Station of unannounced monthly inspections of all ranger sea stations. The Community based Langur Protection Program has been maintained and optimized and monitoring of all langur subpopulations and of human impact in langur areas is secured (funded from non-CEPF sources). The education and general awareness program is to be continued, whereas the evaluation of the village meeting program identified this to be too ineffective and time-consuming to be continued (all funded from non-CEPF sources).

Component 2 Planned:

Capacity building for staff of governmental forest protection agencies, specifically of Cat Ba National Park, the supervising Department of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Hai Phong People's Committee and the management of the Biosphere Reserve Cat Ba Archipelago.

Component 2 Actual at Completion:

The Conservation Management Assistant continues to work closely with all of CBNP's rangers and the ranger main station in regard to use of GPS. Several training courses held increased and reinforced knowledge of the National Park rangers/ staff on scientific principles and biological survey & monitoring techniques as well as new regulations regarding forest and wildlife protection, fining, fining procedures and protocols. Various meetings and an educational field trip to the langur sanctuary led to improved information exchange among all relevant stakeholders.

Component 3 Planned:

Reduction of habitat fragmentation and destruction of natural forest in the buffer zones of Cat Ba National Park and the Biosphere Reserve Cat Ba Archipelago.

Component 3 Actual at Completion:

Forest and species protection activities of community based organization members have been intensified and extended, except for the Forest Protection Clubs (FPCs) which have been handed over officially at the beginning of 2013 to Cat Hai People's Committee/ FPD, as it was indicated that they are ready to administer this program on their own now and also will have the required budget to do so. The CBLCP will be ready to assist if and when additional support is required (funded from non-CEPF sources).

Component 4 Planned:

Langur population management - reduction of population fragmentation.

Component 4 Actual at Completion:

Two females which had been living isolated from the rest of the population on Dong Cong Island for several years were translocated into the Langur Sanctuary in November 2012 and have been monitored since. Preparations for a translocation of another all-female langur group have started.

A new research cooperation with the IUCN Vietnam/ Primate Specialist Group and the Australian National University has been initiated to determine the demographic profile and health of the langur population.

Were any components unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project? No

Please describe and submit (electronically if possible) any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results. n/a

Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building. Consider lessons that would inform projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.

Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings)

Project Implementation: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings)

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

The Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project (CBLCP) started in November 2000 and is an open-ended project, i.e. aimed for duration of about 20 years - and even longer if needed. The relationship to Cat Ba National Park and relevant authorities has grown all along and all components and measures planned by the CBLCP have been discussed and coordinated with the National Park. The capacity building activities have already resulted in substantial improvements; however, the respective bodies are still far from being able to fulfill their tasks without guidance, apart from lack of financial resources to maintain the necessary standard of protection.

There is an urgent need for long-term technical and financial investment in the taxon's conservation. Since the start of the Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project by Münster Zoo and ZGAP it has taken a multi-layered community-based approach to its activities. Interested villagers were engaged to monitor and protect remotely occurring langur sub-populations. Two different types of community forest protection programmes were established; one to protect buffer zones nearby known langur habitat and one to protect the community forests in the areas adjacent their villages for maximum sustainability. In 2010 an in-school environmental education program was established in all secondary schools on the island.

While these initiatives have been very successful, with no records of langurs hunted since 2001, there has been no rigorous population monitoring conducted. Langur births have been observed regularly, but to date there is no tangible evidence of an increase in population size. Ongoing population monitoring is required to better understand the population health of this most threatened primate species. A respective research program has been started only recently.

Additional Funding

Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of the CEPF investment in this project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
Westfälischer Zoologischer Garten Münster GmbH	A [Core funding (own resources and donations)]	210,000 USD	2010-2012
Westfälischer Zoologischer Garten Münster GmbH	A [In-Kind]	60.000 USD 15.000 USD	~ 35 % part-time for this project = approximately USD Technical expertise from other staff members and costs for administration, travel, reporting, fundraising, PR, material etc.
Seacology	A [Grant for translocation preparations]	4.700 USD	USD 10,500 one-time granted 2007 (mostly earmarked for preparation of translocation), given amount was used during CEPF grant period

***Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:**

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project.)*
- C** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

Sustainability/Replicability

Summarize the success or challenge in achieving planned sustainability or replicability of project components or results.

The CBLCP will continue support on Cat Ba as long as requested and considered necessary, but all activities ultimately aim for the handing over of the project's measures to the local bodies. Long-term sustainability will be reached through further strengthening of local conservation management capacity and development of sustainable conservation management structures on government level.

Regarding potential for replication, the project's approach is adapted to the local conditions, but may of course be transferred to other places in Vietnam or Southern China dealing with other critically endangered (primate) species. The approach of involving locals into the conservation measures and thus supporting ranger work, capacity building of relevant bodies, education and awareness raising as well as reduction of habitat fragmentation and increase of reproductive output may well be applied in other regions. Regarding the translocation of the two isolated females, the CBLCP has broken new grounds (e.g. with writing of an elaborate risk assessment and master plan) and serves as a model in the region. Support to other projects has already been provided.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

n/a

Safeguard Policy Assessment

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

Not required

Additional Comments/Recommendations
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None.

Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below:

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*****If your grant has an end date other than JUNE 30, please complete the tables on the following pages*****

Performance Tracking Report Addendum

CEPF Global Targets

(Enter Grant Term)

Provide a numerical amount and brief description of the results achieved by your grant.
Please respond to only those questions that are relevant to your project.

Project Results	Is this question relevant?	If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.	Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.	Describe the principal results achieved from July 1, 2012 to May 31, 2013. (Attach annexes if necessary)
1. Did your project strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.	No			Please also include name of the protected area(s). If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas did your project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?	No			Please also include name of the protected area. If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
3. Did your project strengthen biodiversity conservation and/or natural resources management inside a key biodiversity area identified in the CEPF ecosystem profile? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	Yes	14,000	14,000	Cat Ba National Park
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	No			
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.	No			

If you answered yes to question 5, please complete the following table

