

## CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

<b>Organization Legal Name:</b>	Table Mountain Fund
<b>Project Title:</b>	Improving Project Development and Implementation through Support to New Entrants to Conservation and Community-Based Organizations in the Cape Floristic Region
<b>Date of Report:</b>	30 November 2011
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**CEPF Region:** Cape Floristic Region

**Strategic Direction:** Investment Priority 2, viz: “Improve Project Development and Implementation through Support to Grass Roots Communities: There is a great need to increase project development and implementation skills across the CFR, and especially in previously disadvantaged communities. Progress in this area will increase the ability of civil society to contribute to achieving conservation outcomes.”

**Grant Amount:** \$166,000.00

**Project Dates:** 2008/12/1-2011/9/30

**Implementation Partners for this Project (please explain the level of involvement for each partner):** South African National Biodiversity Institute (C.A.P.E. Coordination Unit)

### Conservation Impacts

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

*Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project.*

The project has supported the establishment of three project development nodes in three CAPE Landscape Initiatives: the West Coast, Gouritz and Baviaanskloof and through these nodes supported the development and implementation of 48 community run projects. Community groups had varying levels of capacity, and through the nodal system, TMF was able to provide opportunities for these communities to engage in project implementation that benefited both these communities as well as biodiversity conservation.

**Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal):** Broaden the engagement with and involvement of civil society in conservation action in the CFR.

**Actual Progress Toward Long-term Impacts at Completion:**

Civil society engagement has been broadened in two ways:

1. Through the creation of the Node structure which comprised of municipal and civil society partners and which provided a platform for building stronger relationships at the landscape level for conservation action. Node partners convened regularly to guide project implementation.

2. Through the nodal structure capacity development hubs were created which provided on-site mentorship and project development and implementation support to the civil society groups who benefited from the micro-grants.

**Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal):** Increase the ability of civil society to contribute to achieving conservation outcomes by improving their project development and implementation skills

**Actual Progress Toward Short-term Impacts at Completion:**

Civil society groups across the three landscape initiatives were supported to develop and implement projects that contributed to achieving conservation outcomes in their area. This support was provided through the node development hub created in each region.

**Please provide the following information where relevant:**

**Hectares Protected:**

While the project has focused mainly on socio-economic targets, there has been some contribution towards the better management of biodiversity. More detail on this will be provided in the detailed consolidated report submitted to CEPF shortly.

**Species Conserved:** not applicable

**Corridors Created:** not applicable

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

***Success:***

The Project has far exceeded the targets set at project design.

Through the three landscape initiatives (West Coast Biosphere Reserve, Gouritz and the Baavianskloof Mega Reserve) 48 micro grant projects have been supported. Criteria for project selection included a focus on conservation, environmental management and local economic development. Projects in support of municipal Integrated Development Plans and that met the above criteria were especially supported.

More than 35 civil society groups have received both on-site and remote (telephone mainly) support throughout the project cycle. These skills stand these groups in good stead for further project implementation. Due to the fluid nature of the process, different mechanisms for supporting project implementers could be experimented with, taking into consideration the local conditions in each region. For example, in the Baviaanskloof more regional support workshops were undertaken, whereas on the West Coast the emphasis was on on-site support.

The project provided opportunities for the skills development of the intern placed through the second CEPF investment at the West Coast Biosphere Reserve Company. The intern was able to gain first hand exposure to project development, implementation and management through the West Coast node and these skills will stand her in good stead into the future.

A new methodology has been piloted for capacitating civil society groups to take conservation action, especially with previously marginalized groups. This process has provided for the expansion of the number of civil society groups who are aware of opportunities linked to conservation and whose skills have been built to access support for such initiatives. It has also

helped to expand TMF's project implementation base - TMF has effectively doubled its client base through this intervention.

### **Challenges:**

Securing local municipal support for the project was at times difficult, especially where the local municipality was under capacitated (or under administration) and where the nodal coordinator did not already have strong working relationships with the key municipal officials.

The project started quite late as a result of not being able to secure project coordination support timeously.

Project support proved to be more time consuming than was initially anticipated as project implementers had varying levels of skills and resources to implement. In some instances, entering into a contractual agreement was too complicated and scary for project applicants and additional mentoring was required to support the implementer through the process.

### ***Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?***

In some nodes, e.g. the West Coast, stronger relationships have been built with relevant municipal officials at the district and local level. The municipalities see the node as a vital stakeholder in supporting its environmental management imperatives and have become more involved in the work of the West Coast Biosphere Reserve Company through its various committees.

## **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:** Node location and implementing structure identified in a minimum of two of the following localities: Baviaanskloof, West Coast and Gouritz

### **Component 1 Actual at Completion:**

Nodal structures were established in the three landscape initiatives: Baviaanskloof, West Coast Biosphere Reserve and the Gouritz.

**Component 2 Planned:** CBO partners are capacitated to motivate for, develop, implement and report on environmental projects

### **Component 2 Actual at Completion:**

48 projects have been supported through the project cycle and have received support and mentorship in project development; securing funding, contract management, implementation and project reporting. In total more than 35 community-based groups have benefited from this capacity development initiative

**Component 3 Planned:** CEPF programme/grant is effectively coordinated and managed to a successful conclusion

**Component 3 Actual at Completion:**

The grant has been successfully managed to conclusion.

**Component 4 Planned:** Project coordination/management capacity of Table Mountain Fund is increased

**Component 4 Actual at Completion:**

A project coordinator was appointed to manage and support the implementation this as well as CEPF's second investment in the TMF. The project coordinator has had her capacity developed through this process and has taken this learning on to her new position in a corporate social investment unit at a large South African company. TMF has made alternative plans to see the projects through to completion.

***Were any components unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?***

All the components have been realized

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

**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)***

While initial skepticism was expressed by nodal committees as to whether micro-grants of R15 000 (approximately \$ 2,000) might achieve any significant impact, all partners were surprised by the delivery, success and impact that these projects achieved.

Partners did not always fully comprehend the concept of the project, and this impacted on their ability to deliver. Nodal coordinators needed to be supported to understand their role and provide the necessary support required by the community implementers.

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

Having locally based partners that have already established links with relevant stakeholders and the local communities and understand the local dynamics has helped in the successful implementation of the project.

However, node coordination proved to be more strenuous and time-consuming than originally anticipated. Each project required weekly phone calls and monthly visits. The geographic spread

and differing start-up times for the projects meant that it was sometimes difficult to coordinate the support required for the projects.

***Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:***

**Lessons learned in working with municipalities:**

The request for support and participation in such a project must be addressed to the Municipal Manager, who will ensure that the right officials are engaged in the process. Municipal representatives play a valuable role in the success of this nodal mechanism in terms of the guidance and support offered to project implementers.

When securing representation on the nodal steering committee, it is useful to select representatives with different skill sets. The ideal is to have LED officers, tourism officers as well as conservation officers.

**Lessons learned in working with community implementers:**

The level of skills of the project applicants was sometimes at such a level that a contractual agreement was too complicated and scary for the project applicant. This led to some delays in some of the projects. As part of the capacity development process, a workshop could be facilitated with all project implementers to take them through the contracting process so as to help them to overcome their anxiety in this regard.

Node coordinators need to take each project implementer's context into consideration and match the support provided accordingly.

Both the capacity development hub and project implementers have to commit to a standard level of communication. This will ensure that all roll players are up to date with the progress of projects and can support each other where necessary.

The nodal approach was successful due to the strong partnerships and relationships that were formed. Where the approach worked well, the nodal committee played an important role in guiding and supporting projects in between the support provided by the node coordinator.

**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.***

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Type of Funding*</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Notes</b>
TMF	Grant for initiation assessment consultancy		The TMF manager undertook the initial assessment and met with representatives from the various regions in formulating the methodology for the project (TMF does not have activity based tracking technology so unable to quantify co-funding).

TMF	Project management and coordination, mentoring and project development support for nodes		The project management team (TMF and SANBI) provided a significant contribution to the project. These costs were absorbed within TMF
District municipality support: extensive co-financing did not materialize (parallel support from Another Way trust and WF) those projects most successful	B –	\$10,000	Both the West Coast and Eden District Municipalities contributed to some of the projects' costs. In the case of the West Coast, the municipality supported an additional 12 projects that could not be supported through the node.

**\*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.**

TMF has been thrilled by the successes achieved through the project and wishes to continue with this kind of intervention. However TMF will need to fundraise and adopt a stricter policy of securing co-financing from the relevant municipalities before proceeding.

**Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.**

### Safeguard Policy Assessment

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

Not applicable

### Additional Comments/Recommendations

## 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.cepfnetwork.org](http://www.cepfnetwork.org), 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.

<b>Project Results</b>	<b>Is this question relevant?</b>	<b>If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.</b>	<b>Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.</b>	<b>Describe the principal results achieved from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. (Attach annexes if necessary)</b>
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.	NO			
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.	YES		48 Community projects were supported that have an environmental aspect to them, are linked to the municipalities IDP and also have a socioeconomic benefit.	

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





Flamingo Bird Route																				
Signing and Upgrading of the Crayfish Hiking Trail							x			X										
Upgrading the Fryer's Cove Eco Garden							x			X										
Expansion of crayfish hiking trail							x			x										
Expansion of Hopefield picnic area	x									x										
Establishment of picnic sites and ablution facilities at Algeria							x			x										
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>3</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>		<b>3</b>	14	<b>1</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit:</b>																				

**Table 1. Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities**

Please complete this table if your project provided concrete socioeconomic benefits to local communities. List the name of each community in column one. In the subsequent columns under Community Characteristics and Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit, place an X in all relevant boxes. In the bottom row, provide the totals of the Xs for each column.

Gouritz	Community Characteristics							Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit														
	Small landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists/nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty rate	Other	Increased Income due to:				Increased food security due to the adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or agricultural practices	More secure access to water resources	Improved tenure in land or other natural resource due to titling, reduction of colonization, etc.	Reduced risk of natural disasters (fires, landslides, flooding, etc)	More secure sources of energy	Increased access to public services, such as education, health, or credit	Improved use of traditional knowledge for environmental management	More participatory decision-making due to strengthened civil society and governance.	Other	
									Adoption of sustainable natural resources management practices	Ecotourism revenues	Park management activities	Payment for environmental services										
Spekboom planting							X				X							X				
Road verge clearing of alien grass							X		X									X				
Roadside biodiversity							X		X													
Bishops Bird Hide and Dam									X													
Bitou Riverine Hiking Trail									X	X												
Garden Route Botanical Garden historical furrows			X						X	X			X						X			
Vegpots/wattle pots		X							x													
DVD: Gouritz Cluster Biosphere Reserve									X													
Kloof cleanup																					X	
De Rust Koppie:																			X	X		
Sun stoves										X												
Bird identification course										x												
Environmental Education camps									X										X			
Permaculture course									X			X							X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>				<b>3</b>			<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>2</b>			<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	

**Table 1. Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities**

Please complete this table if your project provided concrete socioeconomic benefits to local communities. List the name of each community in column one. In the subsequent columns under Community Characteristics and Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit, place an X in all relevant boxes. In the bottom row, provide the totals of the Xs for each column.

Baviaanskloof Mega-Reserve	Community Characteristics							Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit												
	Small landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists/nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty rate	Other	Increased Income due to:			Increased food security due to the adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or agricultural practices	More secure access to water resources	Improved tenure in land or other natural resource due to titling, reduction of colonization, etc.	Reduced risk of natural disasters (fires, landslides, flooding, etc)	More secure sources of energy	Increased access to public services, such as education, health, or credit	Improved use of traditional knowledge for environmental management	More participatory decision-making due to strengthened civil society and governance.	Other
									Adoption of sustainable natural resources management practices	Ecotourism revenues	Park management activities									
Spekboom Planting						X		X												
Upgrading and Training at Sewefontein Farm	X		x					X	X					X						
Baviaans Craft Shop			X					x	X									X		
Camera Hiking Trail	X								X											
Clean & Clear		X	x			x						X		X						
Wattle It Be		X	X									X								
Boskloof Trail Upgrade	x							X	X											
Youth Leadership Wilderness Camp theme 'Towerwater'																		X		
Green By Nature								X												
Litjie Katus Bestryding								X												
Permaculture Food Garden	X							X				x								
Environmental Training						x		x												
Spekboom planting Nursery			X								X									
Strengthening the Baviaans craft shop			X			x			x											
Traverse Baviaans	x								x											
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>			<b>4</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>				<b>2</b>			

**If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit:**