

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	Pixels on Screen Photography
Project Title:	<i>Telling pictures for the Eastern Afromontane KBAs</i>
Date of Report:	15 August 2017
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CEPF Region: Afromontane in Eastern Africa

Strategic Direction:

- 1) Mainstream biodiversity into wider development policies, plans and projects to deliver the co- benefits of biodiversity conservation, improved local livelihoods and economic development
 - (a) Communication materials that show the beauty of the Eastern Afromontane hotspot / Eastern Afromontane KBA
 - (b) Materials that show the value of *specific KBAs*, and the impact of CEPF investment at these KBAs

Grant Amount: 20.000 USD

Project Dates: 01. February 2017 to 31. August 2017

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

The project would have been not possible without the local CEPF partners in Ethiopia, Kenya and Rwanda. They provided logistic support, including the required permits for taking picture and filming in the regions. Receiving the permits was a process that required much more time than envisaged and included lengthy activities in the host countries as well as at the embassies. I am particularly grateful for the support of Seralegin Abera and Prudence Ndabasanze. The local groups and enabled the contact to the interviewees and other essential partners on the ground. The contact persons also help in translation, and quite naturally knew the actually projects much better than a travelling photographer. Name the names: essential help was provided by:

1. Ethiopia: Seralegin Abera of the God for People Relief and Development Organization (GPRDO) and Zewditu Tessema at Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society (EWNHS, the RIT). Seralegin Abera was so kind to come with me on the long tour from Addis Ababa, via Jimma to the project area in the region of Mizan Tefri. He also connected me to the participants of the project and helped to find interview partners.
2. In Rwanda, Prudence Ndabasanze and his team from Nature Rwanda organised travel logistics and the contact to the Forest of Hope Association, Rwanda, that is working in the world-renowned Gishwati Forest. This forest becomes more and more a centre for

primatological research in the Eastern Africa. And it was a great pleasure being there and work with them. My base was set up at Gisenyi with a great view on the shores of Lake Kivu.

3. For Kenya, Anthony Ochieng took it upon himself to organise the travel logistics and the contacts to the local groups. In fact we visited two groups and projects. One was a project at Lake Bogoria on policies how to saveguard from intruding geothermal projects, that would threaten nature around the lake and thus the income through tourism, including visits from Kenyan schools, for the whole region. The partner in this project was Nature Kenya (The East African Natural History Society). Thereafter we visited the project of the East African Wildlife Society, that was working at Lake Ol' Bolossat. The lake is under pressure from all sites and the partners desperately try to safe it for birds and people alike.

I had the pleasure to visit theses projects and talk to the people, and could make many, many pictures and panoramas, and produce movies which hopefully help in promoting their cause.

Conservation Impacts

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

Despite their unquestioned ecological and scientific importance, the sites are visited and appreciated by Kenyans and internationals for their exceptional beauty. The landscape is breathtaking and the animals and plants spectacular, and in an ever shrinking world, often amongst the last places where you can see them. My photos – hopefully - capture this beauty and my fascination with nature, and helps to “infect” more people with their beauty, making them support the conservation effort of the groups on site. Regions where lakes meet mountains and trees gather water from the clouds. Thus, my photo project “Telling pictures” contributes to the CEPF implementation by providing CEPF with high class photos and video materials to advertise their cause and spread the information on the landscape and nature in the project sites.

The photos (incl. panoramas) and videos cover landscapes as well as animals and plants, especially flowering plants, on the project sites. The short period of visit prevented a full inventory of the important species, but great effort was taken to picture the most important plants and animals. This was the case e.g. for the Golden Monkeys in Gishwati (chimpanzees remained elusive), and Kudus and desert rose at Lake Bogoria. Ol' Bolossat was a bit more difficult but a fisherman e.g. presented a big fish, underlining the importance of the lake as food and income supply. In very many cases, the same situation was photographed as well as videographed. Thus the photos and panoramas can be used for printed products like posters and flyers, while the videos might go to webpages. Since the use of that material will develop, I chose not to process and trim them to make them perfect looking for me. As a matter of experience, you often need a few more margin here and there for a great layout, and I could not ignore the fact that different people look with different ideas at the same picture. So what's irrelevant to

me might be essential in another context. So I took a wide selection of the photos and video.

For the videos a wide range of people was selected, ranging from average participant to project leader and let them share the experiences, according to a structured interview. This was mixed with many of the nature shots, so some lively mixture of information on the project and project site could be produced in a very short time of about 7 min. In agreement with the project supervisors this short period of time was selected to keep attention high. Non-English speakers were translated and subtitled, and the videos are available to the project partners in the countries.

Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project against the expected results detailed in the approved proposal.

Beyond capturing the fascination with the Eastern African Afromontane landscape which is truly unique with its combination of a huge mountain range, deep lakes, and high land plains, all in constant transformation, my project provides essential information on future changes in the region. The project provides 1789 pictures and 119 panoramas as well as 280 videos (an estimated 180 of footage) from four sites in three countries in the Eastern Africa which allows CEPF to advertise the projects. However the great and longterm use come through the extensive GPS data that have been recorded on the trip. So all videos and pictures are georeferenced and the exact same spot can be revisited in 5 to 10 years time to see any change. This approach has not been done before, and CEPF has now a baseline information from 2017 against which the development and change can be compared with. Further the use of geolocation allows the accurate combination of my (necessarily) subjective impression I captured on the photo with objective data from satellites collected over the years.

Furthermore, my so-called "drive by shooting" taking pictures and street scenes from the driving car, gives information on very many levels, like the state of roads and kind of buildings along the road, the manufacturer of cars, in the sense of market penetration of e.g. Chinese products, also the kind of clothing of the pedestrians gives information on their income situation. All that is important information in a few years when we want to reconstruct the state and threats of nature today with that of coming years.

So subjective, objective and temporal data can be combined using the location information provided by simple coordinates. The photos will be informative and usable in very many contexts over the coming years...

Finally, a condensed 5-7 min video for each site was produced with interview sections, movie sequences and photos, were participants report on their experience with the respective CEPF projects.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: NA, not in the scope of "Telling pictures"

Species Conserved: NA

Corridors Created: NA

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

A 6 month projects has only short term objectives. An achievement was certainly to visit the project site and to meet and talk to a great variety of people in Ethiopia, Kenya and Rwanda. Logistics was sometime challenging but with the help of the local contacts everything went fine. After all, the project site are not in particularly remote places, all of them had road access. Photography today is much a matter of location and occasion, so you need to be at the right place at the right time, and this proved sometimes difficult, with sleeping place far from the project side, losing time on the road. Ideally a few days more on site, would be helpful, providing time for more extraordinary things to happen and to be photographed.

Due to external factors, especially the requirement of permits for the photo work and the project end (and a another job for Fabian Haas) the actual travel was moved further down the calendar, this restricting time on site. If better and more accurate information on the permit process had been available, better arrangements could have been done. However, the mess started with wrong or misleading information from the Embassies in Berlin, and a degree of uncertainty in the administration what this rather small project actually wants.

All in all, the project achieved its goal to provide communications material to CEPF. I am sure that CEPF will make good use of these images for its strategies and in public relations. The georeferenced pictures do provide an excellent base line to determine change.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

No, of course the weather was not always ideal, a car broke down and the issue with permits has already been described. No security issues occur, although Ethiopia was in a state of emergency and the Kenyan high crime rate.

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.

There are not many lessons to be learnt, beyond the expected “occasion and location”. Of course, photo and filming permits should be applied for right from the beginning of the project period, and with the gained experiences of the project partners this could be

arranges more elegantly than it used to be. I hope the partners in the visited countries can re-use this experience for projects and activities to come.

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

The whole project benefited greatly from my experience in Eastern Africa. Living in Kenya for more than 6 years made me aware of the regular difficulties and possibilities of travelling there, how to move in the countries and what not to do. I also had a good knowledge on the specific photo logistics, such as photographing without being able to recharge batteries and so on. I also have an idea how fast things can move there, and I had a good idea of the mentality of the local people.

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

The travelling to and from Europe was an advantage as it reduced the risks of data and camera loss. Well the camera might be lost anyways, but data would also be safe in Europe. Flights to and from Europe are in general fairly cheap compared to intra-Africa flights, so it is even economically acceptable. It offered me the opportunity for repairs and getting new equipment, in case some special lens or microphone was missing. As said elsewhere, the support of local CEPF groups and contact persons was essential!

Copies of a first selection of photos and panoramas was shared with the contact persons there by handing over DVDs.

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

Keep nature! And make it known to others! Share the beauty of your landscape and biota and people with others to make them support you.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
In kind Fabian Haas	Additional working time	3.000 USD	Image and movie processing is much more extensive than envisage, so more working time will be needed

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

- A** Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF 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 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.

Sustainability here means the prevention of data loss, which is a challenge and is achieved by a distributed storage of the photos, movies and gps data on servers in Germany and with CEPF. This may include storage in a computer cloud service, too. Data formats have stabilised over the past years, so it is fairly unlikely that images, videos and gps data become obsolete because the data format becomes unreadable. The project can be full replicated.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

None.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

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

None.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

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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*****please complete the tables on the following pages*****

Performance Tracking Report Addendum

Project Results	Is this question relevant?	If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved for project from inception of CEPF support to date	Describe the principal results achieved during project period (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.	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.	No.		

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

