

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	Fauna & Flora International
Project Title:	Securing long-term sustainable financing of Community Conservation Teams for the protection of Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys in Khu Ca, Northern Vietnam
Date of Report:	31 st November 2013
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CEPF Region: Indo-Burma

Strategic Direction: 1 – Safeguard priority globally threatened species by mitigating major threats

Grant Amount: \$19,994.24

Project Dates: April 1st – October 31st 2013.

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

Local Government Partners.

Ha Giang Province's Forest Protection Department and Khu Ca SHCA MB has partnered on all activities under this CEPF grant. The MB manages the Community Conservation Teams (CCTs) funded under this grant and is therefore responsible for workplanning and monitoring of the CCTs with technical backstopping and funding from FFI raised through donor funds.

Local Communities in the buffer zone of Khu Ca SHCA.

Local communities were directly engaged in this project through the support of a community-based conservation team (CCT), which is a group of six members of local communities living in the buffer zone of Khu Ca SHCA who conduct patrol work in collaboration with commune police and forest rangers. The engagement of these community members has additional impacts through environmental education of other village members.

University of Colorado Boulder.

University of Colorado Boulder supports patrol and monitoring efforts within the core zone of Khu Ca SHCA. CCT members and MB members liaise with this monitoring team on a regular basis during monthly meetings.

Conservation Impacts

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

This project addressed the continued protection of a CEPF Priority Species, the Tonkin snub-nosed monkey (*Rhinopithecus avunculus*), at a CEPF Priority Site, Khu Ca Species & Habitat Conservation Area (KBA VNM50), in the Sino-Vietnamese Limestone Priority Corridor (Corridor 3). It addressed Strategic Priority 1: Safeguard priority globally threatened species by mitigating major threats; specifically CEPF Investment Priority 1.1: *Transform pilot interventions for core populations of priority species into long-term conservation programs.*

CEPF has placed a strong emphasis on conservation of Vietnam's threatened primate species as priorities for investment. This grant has helped to secure one of the highest priority primate taxa

globally, the Tonkin snub-nosed monkey, in the species global stronghold, Khau Ca SHCA. With the largest global population, estimated at approximately 113 individuals, this site represents a key investment area for avoiding global mammal extinctions. This can only be achieved through long-term financial and technical investment in community-based approaches to conservation, which has been the theme of the grant provided. CEPF investment in this priority corridor, KBA and species represents a significant step towards meeting the objectives of the CEPF funding round in Indo-Burma as described in the ecosystem profile.

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

Support Community Conservation Teams:

The central objective of this project was to provide ongoing salary and technical support for six members of the Khau Ca Community Conservation Team, a group of local community members under management of the Ha Giang Forest Protection department conducting patrol work in Khau Ca Species Habitat Conservation Area. The CCT successfully conducted monthly patrols between April and October 2013. Monthly patrol meetings were held to assess the finding of patrol work. FFI continued support of the management board of Khau Ca and conducted a Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool Assessment in May 2013. FFI also provided field equipment including two new GPS units to the CCT during this period to aid in facilitation of their field work.

Number of days patrolling April 1st – October 30th = 924 days of patrol effort including approximately 5544 km of patrol effort inside of Khau Ca SHCA. Patrols resulted in the detection and reporting of ten instances of illegal activity, including; (1) one instance of local people collecting NTFPs reported to MB of Khau Ca SHCA and Du Gia NR; (2) six instances of illegal logging in Khau Ca – no violator present, reports made to MB with follow up site assessment by forest rangers in one instance; (3) one instance of the patrol team being assaulted by violators throwing stones – reported to police in Tung Ba Commune PC – currently under investigation; (4) one report from Minh Son Commune PC of illegal logging made to MB in Khau Ca.

Secure Sustainable Financing for CCTs:

The major initiative for raising in additional funding for CCTs, based on FFI's previous successes working with Zoos for long-term enforcement funding, was to ensure a strong FFI presence at the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) conference "Zoos and Aquariums Committing to Conservation Conference" - July 8-12, 2013. FFI presented a poster detailing our community conservation work there, "Community-based *in-situ* Conservation of Critically Endangered Primate in Northern Vietnam", and liaised with multiple donors during the conference to explore options for funding for community-based conservation teams. Donors/Institutions approached included Margot Marsh Biodiversity Fund, Mohammed bin Zayed Foundation, Wildlife Conservation Network, San Francisco Zoo, Sea World Parks and Entertainment, North Carolina Zoo and Disney Conservation Fund. To date no additional sustainable financing for supporting CCTs has been secured however we continue to look for options through these and other donor institutions. Additionally, FFI Vietnam has made the commitment to looking at alternative options for sustainable financing through the hire of a Programme Development Officer whose role it is to seek sustainable financing revenue for FFI Vietnam's primate conservation projects.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: 2,000 hectares; Khau Ca SHCA (KBA VNM50)

Species Conserved: Tonkin snub-nosed monkey (*Rhinopithecus avunculus*)

Corridors Created: none

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

The Community Conservation Team (CCT) model continues to provide significant additionality to government funded enforcement efforts in Khau Ca SHCA through engaging local community members in conservation activities, providing alternative livelihoods for conservation-based activities and by providing disincentives to infringements on regulations for natural resource management within the Species Habitat Conservation Area. The challenges for a CCT-based model include lack of ability to cite offenders unless supported by authorities.

Under this grant FFI also continued to support the Management Board of the Khau Ca SHCA which involved planning of patrols, working towards co-management mechanisms and general technical support. FFI's ongoing support of the Management Board has led to an increase in their Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) score from 41 in December 2011 to 44 in May 2013.

These short-term impacts in improved protection and management effectiveness are part of longer-term initiatives of FFI and our Management Board partners to improve conservation outcomes for Tonkin snub-nosed monkeys at this site. FFI continues to invest in the site both before and after the term of this CEPF grant to ensure that this population stronghold has a long-term future.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

None

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.

Fixed patrol lines may result in incomplete coverage of the area and make enforcement effort predictable. Implementation of SMART software and more focus on adaptive management in relation to threats may improve value of patrol effort by focusing on additional areas and reducing predictability of patrol effort.

Current approaches for monitoring patrol effort and coverage may be insufficient for determining impact of Community Conservation Teams sufficiently accurately and may not adequately feed into adaptive management. While key elements are present such as significant monthly investment of time in the field by CCT members and monthly meetings to assess extent of illegal activities, additional inputs including more formal reporting systems of findings through SMART may be appropriate. FFI is working to implement SMART in all sites where we engage in primate conservation activities within Vietnam by the end of 2013.

Community Conservation Teams do not have sufficient jurisdiction to cite or arrest in instances where forest crime is observed. Ensuring patrol teams contain individuals with sufficient jurisdiction to enforce forest law should be ensured.

Securing sustainable financing continues to be a significant issue for community conservation teams. While in recent years FFI has secured significant funding for CCTs, unfunded elements represent a considerable burden for fundraising. Looking outside of traditional donors for such funds (e.g. CSR) needs to be more fully explored.

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

The project design was relatively simple and represented a continuation of existing activities, namely to continue support of community conservation teams to patrol Khau Ca SHCA and to look for additional funding to do so beyond the life of the CEPF grant. Therefore, project design followed an existing approach which had been tried and tested, leading to effective implementation (see below).

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

Activities under this grant represented a continuation of existing activities and therefore implementation was not problematic as existing relationships and structures were already in place at grant inception. Patrolling by the CCT was therefore effectively implemented during the grant period as planned. Sourcing additional sustainable funding was more problematic, despite efforts made to do so. Additional efforts in fundraising during the project period may have resulted in additional opportunities, however FFI experience shows that opportunities in this respect are somewhat unpredictable.

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

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
USFWS	A	\$2,710	FFI Primate Programme Manager
USFWS	A	\$1,112	FFI Field Officer
Margot Marsh	A	\$4,695	FFI Primate Programme Manager
Margot Marsh	A	\$1,780	FFI Field Officer
FFI	A	\$1,500	FFI Office Rent
FFI	A	\$1,800	FFI Finance and Admin
FFI	A	\$750	FFI Asia Pacific Technical Support
Totals		\$14,347	

****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.

The Community Conservation Team (CCT) model continues to be one used by FFI in Vietnam as well as many other NGOs engaged in natural resource management within the Indo-Burma region. It represents a relatively low-cost approach to enforcement within protected areas or community areas where government-led initiatives are insufficient, with the additional benefits of providing a link between conservation and local livelihoods. However, NGO funding of enforcement efforts is problematic in terms of long term sustainability as funding gaps may result in lapsed efforts and donor fatigue may lead to loss of interest in such approaches which require long-term timeframes to be successful and see rebound of highly threatened wildlife populations. The model is therefore widely replicated but also generally unsustainable and should represent a stop-gap measure until government funding mechanisms for effective enforcement can be implemented.

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.

NA

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, 2013 to June 30, 2014. (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.	YES	2,000	2,000	Khau Ca Species Habitat Conservation Area
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	2,000	2,000	
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.

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.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

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