

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization legal name:	People Resources and Conservation Foundation
Project title:	Community-based planning of the Lam Binh Forest Area Francois' Langur Conservation Landscape, Tuyen Quang Province, Vietnam.
Date of report:	October 2012
Report author and contact information:	L Fernando Potess Fpotess.prcf@gmail.com / fpotess@prcfoundation.org +84 91 8415622 / +66 87 7018037

CEPF region: Indo-Burma Ecosystem Hotspot

Strategic direction

Strategic Direction 1:

1.3 "Investigate the status and distribution of globally threatened plant species, and apply the results to planning, management, awareness raising and/or outreach."

Strategic Direction 2:

2.1: "Develop innovative, locally led approaches to site-based conservation at 28 key biodiversity areas."

Grant amount: USD 19,994.40

Project dates: Original 01 Oct 2011 to 31 Mar 2012. Extended to 30 Oct 2012

Implementation partners

People from local communities

- a) Village leaders assisted to select people involved in the construction of the three-dimensional model and associated mapping activities
- b) Participated in training activities on mapping, and actually constructed the three-dimensional model though facilitation by project staff
- c) Involved in awareness-raising concerning protection of Francois' Langur at the Lam Binh forest area and signing of forest user and Francois' Langur protection agreements
- d) Youth union members from two communes were directly involved in training of trainers workshops and thereafter in conservation awareness-raising activities of the project
- e) Schoolteachers from two communes participated on training of trainer and on conservation awareness-raising activities of the project

Tuyen Quang province and Lam Binh district Forest Protection Departments

- a) Review project activity work plans and back to office reports on project implementation
- b) Participated in monitoring visits to three dimensional mapping activities
- c) Two Lam Binh FPD rangers participated in the three dimensional mapping activity

Local Community Authorities

These stakeholders were involved in all aspects of the project including:

- a) Preparation and review of activity work plans and project back to office reports
- b) Participation in all project activities, inclusive those with youth union and schoolteachers
- c) Assistance to define selection criteria and participants for three dimensional mapping
- d) Providing official endorsement of the forest user Francois' Langur protection agreements
- e) Providing official endorsement of agreements with restaurant owners
- f) Endorsing conservation awareness activities with local schools
- g) Endorsing conservation awareness activities with members of the youth union
- h) Providing comments and endorsing all awareness materials produced by the project

Conservation Impact

How project has contributed to implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile

The project concerned to two Indo-Burma Ecosystem Profiles: Strategic Direction 1.3 “Investigate the status and distribution of globally threatened plant species, and apply the results to planning, management, awareness raising and outreach” and Strategic Direction 2.1: “Develop innovative, locally led approaches to site-based conservation at 28 key biodiversity areas.”

For Strategic Direction 1.3, the project complemented work that identified the status and distribution of the endangered Francois' Langur (a CEPF priority species) in the Lam Binh Forest Area (Sinh Long), Francois' Langur species conservation action planning, and a five-year conservation-monitoring plan. The project was focused entirely on community participation leading to conservation initiatives, directly supporting Strategic Direction 2.1. The project implementation site at Sinh Long is a priority site within the Indo-Burma Ecosystem Profile. Project implementation facilitated and supported community-based ground conservation to complementary activities carried out through another CEPF grant to PRCF and our partner organization Fauna & Flora International. The complementary projects have focused on the verification and location of remaining populations of Francois' Langur within the Lam Binh/ Sinh Long area, community-based conservation, and participatory planning activities.

- Through its implementation, the project has built collaborative relationships between local communities and forest protection department officials by engaging local stakeholders in conservation of forest resources and biodiversity in an area that is not part of Vietnam's protected area network.
- The project has engaged local communities in participatory planning to identify how they can be involved in future collaborative management activities, including on-ground benefit sharing and other conservation schemes from which they can gain benefits from forest protection.
- Through participatory mapping, the project has helped establish exactly where within the Francois' Langur conservation landscape community-based conservation monitoring activities are needed, and indeed through a complementary grant from Save Our Species such conservation monitoring is taking place.

- Through conservation awareness raising, the project tested awareness-raising ideas with groups aged between 15 – 30 years, and learned how the education initiatives could be applied at a broader and more sustainable scale, which are presently implemented through a complementary grant by Save our Species.
- Community-based activities supported by project activities have prompted additional funds into the site from conservation grants by Save Our Species and from conservation and development grants by The McKnight Foundation, with activities presently under implementation by PRCF and local partners.

Summary of overall results and impact of the project against the expected results

Component 1: Participatory Land Use Planning and mapping		
Defined outcome	Actual results	Impact
Three-dimensional map of the Lam Binh Forest Area with critical habitat zones for Francois' Langur and local land use areas.	<p>Constructed a three-dimensional land use-map that incorporated the Binh Dinh Francois' Langur Conservation Landscape, through local community representatives who actually build the map maquette.</p> <p>Within the model, key geographic and conservation features were included, such as defined critical habitat zones for conservation of the langur, and local land use by the local communities.</p>	<p>Areas of conservation importance to the Francois' Langur are locally recognized and documented.</p> <p>3D maps are actually used by villagers to discuss conservation activities under other initiatives (e.g. Francois' Langur species conservation action planning, funded by complementary grants.</p> <p>Villagers gain skills on:</p> <p>(a) reading topographic maps (b) locating and defining critical habitat zones for the Francois' Langur population groups (c) conducting truthing for accuracy of map features (d) recognizing conservation and livelihoods features in their living landscape</p>
Report on outcomes from the participatory land use planning activities with local communities.	<p>Report on 3D land use mapping completed together with village representatives.</p> <p>The report includes detailed description of the actual steps needed to building the three-dimensional map, and includes images of how things were done.</p> <p>Report was translated into Vietnamese and provided to local counterparts for future reference in case of wanting to repeat the exercise elsewhere.</p>	<p>Mapping results are documented for future reference.</p> <p>Mapping preparation and implementation procedures can be replicated elsewhere.</p>

Component 2: Conservation Agreements		
Defined outcome	Actual results	Impacts
At least 12 conservation agreements signed with forest users within the Francois' Langur critical habitat zones	Prepared Francois' Langur protection agreements, and secured binding signatures by 27 community members from ten Khuon Ha and ten Thuong Lam communes. Provided copies of conservation agreements to the district and provincial forest protection departments.	Local commitments help and join in conservation efforts for the local Francois' Langur population and its habitat. Awareness of local people joining in conservation objectives and enforcement of relevant national regulations protecting the species instills change of threatening behavior by peers.
At least five agreements signed with restaurants known to serve bush meat	Prepared Francois' Langur protection agreements, and secured binding signatures by ten local restaurant owners and food sellers. Signed community agreements were posted on a visible wall of corresponding restaurants.	Fallback agreement to build from for other community-related conservation activities
At least five signs erected in prominent locations within restaurants known to serve bush meat	Conservation agreement signs erected inside restaurants for easy view by customers.	Greater support for local conservation objectives through increased public awareness and peer support.

Component 3: Awareness Raising Activities		
Defined outcome	Actual results	Impacts
Education module prepared (Francois' Langur ecology/biology, habitat, threats, conservation needs, relevant legislation)	Prepared two education modules; one for schoolteachers, and one for members of youth union from two communes. Prepared six education lessons in Vietnamese (class level seven), with contents on Francois' Langur ecology, habitat, threats, conservation needs, relevant government policies, and descriptions of conservation agreements with local people and restaurants owners. Supported conduction of several education lessons by local schoolteachers to pupils, through a training of trainer modality.	Instilling of positive conservation behavior among young local community members in support of conservation of the Francois' Langur and its habitat.

<p>Information leaflets and/or stickers prepared on promoting the 'Environment Nature Vietnam' (ENV) Wildlife Crime Hotline</p>	<p>Design sticker to conservation Francois' Langur and use Hotline of ENV Vietnam, to be printed through co-financing from an IUCN Save Our Species grant.</p>	<p>General awareness to report conservation transgressions.</p>
<p>Two secondary school education workshops using project-prepared education modules for use in the region</p>	<p>Carried out secondary school education workshop, combining teachers of two secondary schools Thuong Lam and Khuon Ha communes, using project-prepared education modules for use in the region.</p> <p>Through the combined workshop, schoolteachers have acquired additional knowledge and skills to impart a conservation attitude amongst schoolchildren, therefore bolstering existing conservation initiatives amongst the growing generation.</p>	<p>A sense of ownership for the Francois' Langur has been created amongst local schoolchildren, therefore prompting a conservation attitude amongst local families.</p>
<p>Two education workshops for the Khuon Ha and Thuong Lam commune Youth Unions using the education modules</p>	<p>Conducted two education workshops with 22 youth union members Khuon Ha and Khuong La communes. Workshops included activities on how to use the environmental education modules produced by the project, and their dissemination amongst local communities.</p> <p>Workshop themes and materials increased the capacity of youth union members to promote langur conservation activities in the Lam Binh region, and provided awareness materials to help disseminate conservation plight for the species.</p> <p>The youth union members will continue to use acquired skills and to harness project awareness materials long after project finalization.</p>	<p>Involvement of youth members in local conservation, through gained skills to further long-term activities in support of biodiversity conservation and change of destructive behavior.</p>
<p>Final report on outcomes of education modules inclusive of recommendations and lessons learned to scale up the activity to more secondary school classes and a school program organized by the youth union</p>	<p>Produced two reports on outcomes of education modules inclusive of recommendations and lessons learned to scale up the activity to more secondary school classes and a school program organized by the youth union.</p>	<p>Reference material in Vietnamese, for local counterparts to further conservation objectives.</p>

List of formal products as a result of project implementation during this period

Participatory land-use planning

- a) Three dimensional map of the critical habitat zones and home range of each Francois' Langur group, including sleeping caves and adjacent forest areas in the Nhoi, The Chuot, and Chu Valleys, and Nghiu Lai forest within Khuon Ha commune. Map images are available.
- b) Back to office report on three-dimensional mapping activity with local people, titled: Participatory 3 Dimensional Model Construction for Land use Planning at Lam Binh Conservation Area of Francois' Langur. A copy of the report is attached to this document.

Conservation agreements

- c) Twenty-seven Francois' Langur protection agreements produced and signed by local community members. A sample of signed agreement, and the list of signatories are available.
- d) Nine Francois' Langur protection agreements signed by local restaurants and food sellers. A list of restaurant owners signing the document is provided below, the complete set of digital images of agreements is available upon request.

List of restaurant owners signing agreement on no selling of Francois' Langur parts

	Name of restaurant	Owner	Location
1	Cường Tứ Restaurant	Nguyễn Văn Cường	Lăng Can commune
2	Phong Bộ Restaurant	Nguyễn Thị Phong	Lăng Can commune
3	Kim Thuộc Restaurant	Vi Văn Thuộc	Thượng Lâm commune
4	Biên Vạn Restaurant	Nguyễn Thị Vạn	Thượng Lâm commune
5	Cây Mít Restaurant	Vi Văn Duy	Thượng Lâm commune
6	Hồng Ngọc Restaurant	Lâm Thị Ngọc	Na Hang commune
7	Hồng Thái Restaurant	Đỗ Thị Hồng	Na Hang commune
8	Hà Thơi Restaurant	Châu Thị Thơi	Na Hang commune
9	Chiến Bích Restaurant	Phạm Thị Bích	Na Hang commune

- e) Eleven Francois' Langur conservation signs erected at eleven local restaurants. Signs comprised restaurant agreements for each of the corresponding nine restaurants above, in addition to two additional restaurants, listed below.

1	Thanh Vui Restaurant	Nguyễn Thị Vui	Khuôn Hà commune
2	Nga Viên Restaurant	Trần Văn Viên	Na Hang commune

Awareness-raising activities

- f) Two education workshops with the participation of 22 youth union members from Khuon Ha and Khuong La communes.

Workshop One: Understanding of biodiversity and reasoning behind its conservation, with a focus on the Francois' Langur, participants from both communes.

Workshop Two: Why to protect the Francois' Langur and its habitat, and ways on how protect the species, including understanding and use of environmental education modules, participants from both communes.

- g) Six environmental education lessons prepared (Vietnamese) with contents on Francois' Langur ecology, habitat, threats, conservation needs, relevant government policies, and descriptions of conservation agreements with local people and restaurant owners. Lesson titles are provided below, further documentation is available upon request.

Lesson	Title
Lesson one	Local biodiversity
Lesson two	Food chain and food web
Lesson three	Role of forest in the environment and human life
Lesson four	Endangered species
Lesson five	General information on Francois' Langur
Lesson six	Habitat loss and biodiversity decline

- h) Design, production, and distribution of awareness-raising materials promoting Francois' Langur conservation, including 500 pens and 2055 calendars, and the design of conservation hotline stickers, to be printed by counterpart funds from Save Our Species.
- i) Two reports referent to outcomes of education modules and school education activities.
- Report 1: Biodiversity awareness and conservation education of Francois' Langur (*Trachypithecus francoisi*) for students of secondary schools in Lam Binh Watershed Protection Area Tuyen Quang Province.
- Report 2: Conservation Education of Biodiversity Conservation and Conservation of Francois' Langur (*Trachypithecus francoisi*) for Youth Union in Lam Binh Watershed Protection Area, Tuyen Quang Province.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares protected: None
Species conserved: Francois' Langur (*Trachypithecus francoisi*)
Corridors created: None

Success of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives

Long-term impacts

- 1) Participatory land-use planning and mapping, in the form of producing a three-dimensional map of the Lam Binh greater landscape. The map shows known sites of Francois' Langur groups and local community agriculture and forestry land areas.

The map will be used on an ongoing basis as a key reference for langur conservation activities in the landscape.

By knowing langur habitat and socioeconomic land use areas, conservation activities can be targeted more specifically, inclusive of helping to define locations for tree planting at the edge of Francois' Langur habitat in limestone forests, which can add a layer of habitat protection langur groups inhabiting near village agricultural and forestry areas.

The long-term conservation impact of this activity is an imprinted knowledge and general awareness of the location of Francois' habitat. This will help avoid habitat disturbance from local community agriculture and forestry activities.

The mapping exercise built local interest and ownership of local Francois' Langur populations, where the villagers helped define how to protect the species from agricultural expansion and unwanted disturbance. The map was also pivotal in defining a species conservation action plan for the Francois' Langur at the site.

- 2) Francois' Langur conservation agreements, in the form of protection agreements used as a topic for expansion of conservation activities with target forest user groups whose activities have a longer term and significant impact on the Francois' Langur.

Conservation agreements with local forest users and restaurant owners will have long-term impact on the species, through the change of destructive behavior towards the species.

Agreements were made with nine local restaurants for stopping the sale of langur products, such as bush-meat and parts. Similarly, agreements were made with 27 villagers from nine villages using forests corresponding to critical langur habitat areas.

Agreements were displayed in public locations to increase the level of awareness for agreed conservation measures.

Short-term impact

- 1) Francois' Langur conservation agreements have been used within criteria for the recruitment of community monitoring team members, and the definition of target audiences for awareness raising activities, inclusive of production of materials targeting hunters.

Agreements will have a direct impact on protection of the local species populations, and will support conservation activities at the site for years to come. Agreements are reinforced through endorsing activities by stakeholders, where local government agencies and commune offices are aware and supportive of langur conservation activities and measures.

- 2) Awareness raising activities and distribution of materials, including leaflets and stickers promoting conservation activities, will impact local behavior towards protection of Francois' Langur groups at the site.

Activities targeted final year secondary school students of ages between 15 – 16 years old, and members of the commune youth union, ages between 16 – 30 years old. In addition, education modules were prepared in collaboration with teachers of the Khuon Ha and Thuong Lam commune secondary schools.

The age of target activities correspond to members of the community who can influence behavior of entire families; that is schoolchildren exerting pressure on parents and otherwise adults to protect the langur, and the age-group between 16 and 30 years old, which corresponds villagers most likely to engage in activities impacting activities to the Francois' Langur, such as hunting, harvesting of non-timber forest products, and logging.

Unexpected impacts (positive or negative)

None as the project strategy was well prepared and build from a good foundation of knowledge and expectations.

Lessons Learned

Lessons learned during the design and implementation

PRCF is familiar with the operations of government partners before and after the lunar new year celebrations. We assumed incorrectly that working with schools would be different and discovered that at such time of year teachers and students also have large demands on their time. Before the holidays schools have exams and teachers must prepare for exams and mark exam results. Further, numerous additional activities are required to be organized by schools several weeks after reopening of the school year. The mistake resulted in scheduling problems and a delay in the implementation of project activities under the awareness-raising component.

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

None

Aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success

- 3) Francois' Langur conservation agreements were used as part of the criteria for recruiting community monitoring team members, and for the definition of target audiences for awareness raising activities, inclusive of production of materials targeting hunters.

Agreements will have a direct impact on protection of local species populations, and will support conservation activities at the site for years to come. Agreements are reinforced through endorsing activities by stakeholders, were local government agencies and commune offices are aware and supportive of langur conservation activities and measures.

- 4) Awareness raising activities and distribution of materials, including leaflets and stickers promoting conservation activities, will impact local behavior towards protection of Francois' Langur groups at the site.

Awareness activities targeted final year secondary school students of ages between 15 – 16 years old, and members of the commune youth union, ages between 16 – 30 years old. Education modules were prepared in collaboration with teachers of the Khuon Ha and Thuong Lam commune secondary schools, thus instilling a conservation behavior on mentors.

The age of target activities correspond to members of the community who can influence behavior of entire families; that is schoolchildren exerting pressure on parents and otherwise adults to protect the langur, and the age-group between 16 and 30 years old, which corresponds villagers most likely to engage in activities impacting activities to the Francois' such as hunting, harvesting of non-timber forest products, and logging.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Details on additional donors who supported this project and funding secured as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
Save Our Species	B	USD 90,000.0	Ongoing project at time of writing
The MacKnight Foundation	B	USD 100,000.0	Ongoing project at time of writing

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

A Project co-financing **B** Grantee and Partner leveraging **C** Regional/Portfolio leveraging

Sustainability/ Replicability

Success or challenge in achieving planned sustainability or replicability of project components or results.

No external assumptions or risks were identified for this project during the planning stage. No new risks have emerged since start of the project.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

Summary of the implementation of required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project

Actions taken to mitigate environmental or social safeguard issues

- Thee dimensional mapping activity:
 - A verbal summary of the project was provided to all participants
 - Participants were asked if they needed to have the project explained in Tay language
 - Consent by participants was sought and documented after they had the project explained (prior and informed consent was required) – PRCF used our standard consent form familiar to CEPF that briefly outlines the project, grievance/ complaint mechanism, and signature
 - PRCF provided opportunities to project participants to communicate any grievance or dissatisfaction throughout project implementation to staff, PRCF, and the CEPF-RIT team through verbal communication. Further, phone numbers with relevant contacts were provided via a video projection at the start of the project.
- PRCF project management conducted several field visits during project implementation to assess involvement of local communities, review implementation field procedures, and to ensure that activities dealing with local communities were in line with the original social assessment document prepared by PRCF for CEPF in support of the project proposal.
- No issues of project-related conservation interventions conflicting with social and economic safeguards have emerged during the course of implementing the project.
- After project completion, the same social and economic safeguards followed during project implementation have been applied for additional PRCF activities at the site, given funding by the Save Our Species fund, which follows similar safeguard requirements.

Performance Tracking Report Addendum

CEPF Global Targets

(One year)

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 June 30, 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, but not relevant to a particular number of hectares unless the entire landscape of intervention is considered. If so then this would correspond to approximately 25,000 hectares, but this measurement is irrelevant			
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	Yes, but not relevant to a particular number of hectares unless the entire landscape of intervention is considered. If so then this would correspond to approximately 25,000 hectares, but this measurement is irrelevant			
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

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

Name of Community	Community Characteristics								Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit												
	S m a l l a n d o w n e r s	S u b s i s t e n c e o n o m y	I n d i g e n o u s / e t h n i c p e o p l e s	P a s t o r a l i s t s / n o m a d i c p e o p l e s	R e c e n t m i g r a n t s	U r b a n c o m m u n i t i e s	C o m m u n i t i e s f a l l i n g b e l o w t h e p o v e r t y r a t e	O t h e r	Increased Income due to:				I n c r e a s e d f o r s e c u r i t y d u e t o t h e a d o p t i o n o f s u s t a i n a b l e f i	M o r e s e c u r e a c c e s s t o w a t e r r e s o u r c e s	I m p r o v e d a c c e s s t o i n l a n d o r o t h e r a t u r a l r e s o u r c e d u e t o t i t l i n g, r	R e d u c e d r i s k o f n a t u r a l d i s a s t e r s (f i r e s, l a n d s l i d e s, f l o o d i n g, e t c)	M o r e s e c u r e o f e n e r g y	I n c r e a s e d a c c e s s t o p u b l i c s e r v i c e s, s u c h a s e d u c a t i o n, h e a l t h, o r c r	I m p r o v e d u s e o f t r a d i t i o n a l k n o w l e d g e f o r e n v i r o n m e n t a l m	M o r e p a r t i c i p a t o r y d e c i s i o n m a k i n g d u e t o s t r e n g t h e n e d c i v i l	O t h e r
									A d o p t i o n o f s u s t a i n a b l e a t u r a l r e s o u r c e m a n a g e m e n t	E c o n o m i c r e v e n u e s	P a r k m a n a g e m e n t a c t i v i t i e s	P a y m e n t f o r e n v i r o n m e n t a l s e r v i c e s									
Total																					
If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit:																					

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.

Full contact details below:

Name: L Fernando Potess
Organization name: People Resources and Conservation Foundation
Mailing address: 255 Ivyhurst Circle, Amherst, New York 14226-3417
Tel: +1 716 445 4916 (USA) +84 91 841 5622 (Vietnam) +66 91 8415622
Fax: +1 716 445 4916 (USA) +84 4 37185677
E-mail: fpotess.prcf@gmail.com