

CEPF Final Completion and Impact Report

Organization's Legal Name:	Dahari
Project Title:	Developing a conservation agreements scheme to restore Anjouan's forests
Grant Number:	CEPF-112561
Hotspot:	Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands
Strategic Direction:	2 Enable civil society to mainstream biodiversity and conservation into political and economic decision-making.
Grant Amount:	\$168,685.00
Project Dates:	December 01, 2021 - June 30, 2022
Date of Report:	September 26, 2022

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

Bat Conservation International - supported monitoring of Livingstone's fruit bat population and development of sampling protocols for tree monitoring in protected plots. Also provided cofunding.

Natura Bolivia - consultancy on development of a robust conservation agreements scheme was undertaken including two visits to the Comoros by key staff.

Reseau National des Aires Protégées (RNAP) - Dahari started scaling its reforestation approach through training of park guards.

World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) - consultancy on development of agroforestry regimes was put back to post-project due to issues over availability of the lead researcher.

CONSERVATION IMPACTS

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
By 2030, at least 800 hectares of forest in priority watersheds on Anjouan island will have been restored, ensuring increased climate resilience for 5000 people due to improved water security, and for endemic biodiversity due to habitat improvement	Reforestation was undertaken by farmers in 1364 fields covering at least 340 hectares of priority watersheds in Anjouan. These watersheds collectively provide water to over 5000 people, and certain directly about biodiversity hotspots in the Moya forest KBA

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
By the end of project lessons from Natura Bolivia will have been integrated into the development of a locally-adapted conservation agreements scheme	Two visits from senior Natura Bolivia staff led to a set of recommendations informing the development of a conservation agreements scheme adapted to the local context, based also on a literature review and research with farmers participating in Dahari's pilot scheme
By the end of the project, participating farmers will have planted at least 30,000 tree seedlings in priority watersheds on Anjouan	43000 tree seedlings were planted by farmers between December 2021 and March 2022 in priority watersheds on Anjouan
By the end of project, a study from ICRAF will identify potential high-value agroforestry crops for export compatible with forest restoration that could underpin the conservation scheme economically	This study was delayed due to issues with the availability of the lead researcher at ICRAF. A new lead researcher has been identified and the study will go forwards post-project from September 2022. This work will therefore come as a result of the arrangements put in place for this CEPF project, even if it will now be funded through other sources.
By the end of the project, numbers of Critically Endangered Livingstone's fruit bats at seven roost sites protected by participating farmers will be stable or increased, compared with a baseline at the project start	Population monitoring undertaken in December 2021 (wet season) and June 2022 (dry season) showed a stable population compared to the counts in 2020-2021 and as compared to long-term population variations between years

Unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

The number of trees planted at 43000 was well above the target of 30,000 thanks to expansion of CEPF-funded reforestation to a new area of Anjouan.

Dahari's unique participatory and sustainable approach to reforestation for the Comoros started to expand its reach beyond Dahari's own intervention zone thanks to training of national park teams on Anjouan. This is evidence of strong collaboration with RNAP, which bodes well for greater impact and wider adoption of approaches in the future.

The consultancy with ICRAF was delayed due to issues over availability of the lead researcher. A new lead has been identified and contracts signed for the work to start in September.

The institutional development support accessed through a cost-extension was a major boost to Dahari's operations during 2022, as well as supporting the development of systems that will enhance institutional performance and programme delivery in the future.

PROJECT RESULTS/DELIVERABLES

Overall results of the project:

This project ensured key progress in the development of Dahari's conservation agreement scheme towards forest restoration on Anjouan whilst maintaining current reforestation and Livingstone fruit bat conservation and research programmes and contributing to Dahari's institutional development.

The expertise of Natura Bolivia, who have restored over 500,000 hectares of forests through conservation agreements, was integrated into the design of Dahari's conservation agreements scheme thanks to two visits from the Directors of Natura Bolivia and other senior staff. A thorough literature review and a report with recommendations are provided, including the results of interviews with the seven current beneficiaries of Dahari's pilot scheme around roost sites of the Livingstone's fruit bat. Darwin Initiative funding has been accessed to take forwards this research and development phase for the conservation agreements scheme thanks to the involvement of Bangor and Oxford Universities in the UK.

The results of the Natura Bolivia trips and research will feed directly into this next phase of programme design.

Whilst the study planned with ICRAF to identify agroforestry regimes to support the scheme was delayed due to issues around the availability of the senior researcher, this is now going ahead in September led by another researcher. Whilst this will be with alternative funding as it comes outside of the CEPF time period, this still comes as a result of the arrangements agreed for this CEPF project.

Concurrently, 43000 trees were planted by farmers in key watersheds during Dahari's latest tree-planting campaign, and population counts of the Livingstone fruit bat and conservation of roost sites were maintained. This was critical funding to ensure continuity of field programmes, and Dahari was able to access additional funding for the rest of 2022 to keep these activities going in anticipation of longer-term funding from 2023.

Finally, a cost-extension from March 2022 funded institutional development priorities identified by Dahari in its new strategic plan for 2022-2027, including communications and administrative support and coaching of senior staff. This jump-started the shift into the new strategic plan and helped to improve internal systems for delivering impact post-project.

Results for each deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
4.0	Maintaining PES scheme to protect 23% of the population of Livingstone's fruit bat	4.1	Annual count data on bat roost site populations	Bat roost site population counts submitted for wet season (December 2021) and dry season (June 2022)
3.0	Farmers plant 30,000 trees in critical watersheds	3.1	Excel database recording trees planted by farmers	Excel database for tree-planting campaign from December 2021 to March 2022 submitted, accompanied by screenshot of a PowerBi dashboard example used for monitoring and analysis
2.0	Study into agroforestry regimes to promote in the highlands that are compatible with water and biodiversity conservation and resilient to climate change	2.1	Study report by ICRAF	Cancelled due to delays with contracting because of issues with availability of lead researcher as per exchanges with CEPF - study will go forwards post-project from September 2022
1.0	Lesson learning towards developing a robust conservation agreements scheme to restore Anjouan's forest	1.1	Report by Natura Bolivia with lessons to adapt from their experiences, the status of the conservation scheme following their support, and proposals for next steps	Report submitted as well as initial literature review
4.0	Maintaining PES scheme to protect 23% of the population of Livingstone's fruit bat	4.2	Data on tree numbers and regeneration in PES plots	The sampling regime and kobo protocol for this survey was developed and an example is attached. However, given the importance of getting the methods set up to allow for future repeats and comparison, a decision was taken to delay surveying until a mission from Prof Owen Lewis of Oxford University planned for

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
				October 2022. Methods will be finalised during this trip and first data collected since previous surveys undertaken in 2019 under the previous CEPF project.

Tools, products or methodologies that resulted from the project or contributed to the results:

Most of the tools and methods were submitted under the previous CEPF project 66087. However, the tools supporting our reforestation approach continued to evolve with the development of dashboards on PowerBi helping to analyse and monitor the data around tree-planting. Two examples are provided to show how data is collated and displayed to technicians around the content of tree nurseries, tree planting, and tree monitoring.

PORTFOLIO INDICATORS

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
0	At least 10 partnerships and networks formed among civil society, government and communities to leverage complementary capacities and maximize impact in support of the ecosystem profile.	2	Key partnerships developed between Dahari and Natura Bolivia	3	Partnerships established with Natura Bolivia and ICRAF as planned (the latter delayed in implementation). Collaboration with the National Parks Agency (RNAP) also created and strengthened through delivering training to their agents for replication of the reforestation approach.
1.1	Threat levels to at least 25 priority sites reduced through locally relevant	1	The Moya forest KBA through maintenance and development of the PES scheme protecting the	1	

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
	conservation actions implemented by local communities.		Livingstone's fruit bat and reforestation		
1.2	Awareness of the values of biodiversity and the nature of threats and drivers raised among local communities in at least 25 priority sites.	1	The Moya forest KBA through maintenance and development of the PES scheme including social research with farmers about engaging with the updated scheme	1	
1.5	Economic tools and models improving livelihoods while preserving natural capital and biodiversity (ecotourism, payments for ecosystem services, conservation agreements, etc). piloted and implemented in at least eight priority sites.	1	The Moya forest KBA through maintenance and development of the PES scheme contributing to improved livelihoods for participating farmers	1	
3.3	At least 12 organizations engaged in a lasting mentoring or partnering relationship at the regional level.	2	ICRAF at the regional level. The project also proposes a south-south mentoring and lasting partnership relation with Natura Bolivia, which is equally	2	

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
			valuable given the lessons to be learnt.		

GLOBAL INDICATORS

Protected Areas

Protected areas that have been created and/or expanded as a result of the project. Protected areas may include private or community reserves, municipal or provincial parks, or other designations where biodiversity conservation is an official management goal.

Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID*	Latitude	Longitude	Country	Original Total Size (Hectares) **	New Protected Hectares ***	Year of Legal Declaration or Expansion
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*World Database of Protected Areas

**If this is a new protected area, 0 should appear in this column

*** This column excludes the original total size of the protected area.

Key Biodiversity Area Management

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) under improved management—where tangible results have been achieved to support conservation—as a result of the project.

KBA Name	KBA Code	Size of KBA	Number of Hectares with Improved Management
Moya Forest	COM1		340

Production Landscapes

Production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity as a result of the project.

A production landscape is defined as a site outside a protected area where commercial agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs.

Name of Production Landscape	Latitude	Longitude	Hectares Strengthened	Intervention
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Benefits to Individuals

- Structured Training:**

Number of Men Trained	Number of Women Trained	Topics of Training
55	15	Reforestation approach workshops, tree nursery manager trainings, Livingstone's count trainings, Professional coaching, administrative training, communications training

- Cash Benefits:**

Number of Men – Cash Benefits	Number of Women – Cash Benefits	Description of Benefits
6	1	Improved agricultural benefits and cash income as part of conservation agreements conserving roost sites of the Livingstone's fruit bat

Benefits to Communities

View the characteristics column below with the following corresponding codes:	View the benefits column below with the following corresponding codes:
1- Small Landowners	a. Increased Access to Clean Water
2- Subsistence Economy	b. Increased Food Security
3- Indigenous/ Ethnic Peoples	c. Increased Access to Energy
4- Pastoralists / Nomadic Peoples	d. Increased Access to Public Services
5- Recent Migrants	e. Increased Resilience to Climate Change
6- Urban Communities	f. Improved Land Tenure
7- Other	g. Improved Use of Traditional Knowledge
	h. Improved Decision-Making
	i. Improved Access to Ecosystem Services

Community Name	Community Characteristics							Type of Benefit									Country	Number of Males Benefitting	Number of Females Benefitting
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i			
Villages in Moya forest KBA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Comoros	658	400

Characteristics of "Other" Communities:

Policies, Laws and Regulations

View the topics column below with the following corresponding codes:			
A- Agriculture	E- Energy	I- Planning/Zoning	M- Tourism
B- Climate	F- Fisheries	J- Pollution	N- Transportation
C- Ecosystem Management	G- Forestry	K- Protected Areas	O- Wildlife Trade
D- Education	H- Mining and Quarrying	L- Species Protection	P- Other

No.	Name of Law	Scope	Topics																
			A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	

“Other” Topics Addressed by the Policy, Law or Regulation:

No.	Country/ Countries	Date Enacted/ Amended	Expected impact	Action Performed to Achieve the Enactment/ Amendment

Companies Adopting Biodiversity-friendly Practices

A company is defined as a for-profit business entity. A biodiversity-friendly practice is one that conserves or uses natural resources in a sustainable manner.

Name of Company	Description of Biodiversity-Friendly Practice	Country/Countries where Practice was Adopted

Networks and Partnerships

Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable.

Name of Network/Partnership	Year Established	Country/ Countries	Established by Project?	Purpose
Natura Bolivia	2022	Bolivia;Comoros	Yes	Exchanges and advice on developing a successful conservation agreements scheme

Sustainable Financing

Sustainable financing mechanisms generate funding for the long-term (generally five or more years). These include, but are not limited to, conservation trust funds, debt-for-nature swaps, payment for ecosystem services (PES) schemes, and other revenue, fee or tax schemes that generate long-term funding for conservation.

Name of Mechanism	Purpose	Date Established	Description	Country/Countries	Project Intervention	Delivery of Funds?
Conservation agreements scheme	Conservation of the Livingstone's fruit bat and wider forest restoration	2015	Incentive scheme to support farmers to maintain mature trees in their fields and restore native forest	Comoros	Supported an existing mechanism	Yes - 7 pilot farmers maintaining Livingstone's fruit bat roost sites were supported during the project with agricultural development and small cash payments

Globally Threatened Species

Globally threatened species (CR, EN, VU) on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, benefitting from the project.

Genus	Species	Common Name (English)	Status	Intervention	Population Trend at Site
Pteropus	livingstonii	Comoro Black Flying Fox	CR	Conservation of 23% of the species' population through a conservation agreements scheme protecting roost sites	Stable

LESSONS LEARNED

The high-level commitment from Natura Bolivia was critical to the success of that consultancy, with the contract being managed at the Director level, and the two Directors of Natura Bolivia visiting Comoros. There was also enthusiasm and dynamism around south-south exchanges between NGOs. Fully funding this consultancy facilitated the engagement of the Directors from Natura Bolivia.

The contract with ICRAF got delayed because the main contact was too high-level, and thus too busy, and direct contact with the lead researcher was put in place belatedly. The lead researcher then had availability issues, at which point the decision was taken in concertation with CEPF to cancel that project component. This proved to be a difficult but much better decision than squeezing a reduced study into the last few months as co-funding was identified to fund the full study with a new lead researcher post-project.

The partnership development with RNAP is very promising, and Dahari's patient efforts to develop that collaboration and offers to fund training of staff are helping to develop a closer partnership.

The institutional development components funded as a cost-extension have been critical to the smooth transition into Dahari's new strategy. Detailing these priorities in the strategic plan enabled clear presentation to CEPF with clear justification, and it was a real boost to have them funded in the first year of the plan.

SUSTAINABILITY/REPLICATION

As per previous questions, the work with RNAP provides a real opportunity towards expansion of Dahari's impact nationwide through adoption of our approaches and methods. This is concentrated for now on the reforestation approach, with further trainings and actions planned.

A post-doc who has worked six years with Natura Bolivia has been recruited to support the development phase of Dahari's conservation agreements scheme under Darwin Initiative funding. The DI project run through Bangor University with the support of Oxford University will build on the success of this phase to take forwards research and development of the scheme to end 2023. Further funding is being sought for this R&D phase and then to sustain and roll out the scheme from 2024.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS/STANDARDS

n/a

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

This short project was critical to maintain Dahari's momentum towards implementation of our new strategic plan whilst maintaining continuity in the field, and we are very grateful for both the initial support and subsequent cost-extension.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Total Amount of Additional Funding Actually Secured (USD)	\$40,000.00
Breakdown of Additional Funding	20,000 from Bat Conservation International towards maintenance and development of the PES programme \$20,000 from FFEM via Initiative Développement for the reforestation activities

INFORMATION SHARING AND CEPF POLICY

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. For more information about this project, you may contact the organization and/or individual listed below.

www.daharicomores.org; Dahari; contact@daharicomores.org; +269 7714048