



Small Grants – Project Completion and Impact Report

Instructions to grantees: please complete all fields, and respond to all questions listed below.

Organization Legal Name	Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania
Project Title	Facilitate regional networking and develop the technical capacities of civil society through the 3rd Mediterranean Plant Conservation Week.
Grant Number	CEPF-112519
Date of Report	30/11/2021

CEPF Hotspot: Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot

Strategic Direction: SD5. Strengthen the regional conservation community through the sharing of best practices and knowledge among grantees across the hotspot.

Grant Amount: USD 24,803 [Twenty-four thousand, eight hundred and three US Dollars].

Project Dates: Start date 15 August 2021, termination date 15 November 2021

PART I: Overview

1. Implementation Partners for this Project (*list each partner and explain how they were involved in the project*)

Number	Name of partner	How they were involved in the project	Additional information
1	Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania (CIHEAM-MAICh)	Organiser of the 3rd Mediterranean Plant Conservation Week (3MPCW) conference and grantee of project	The 3MPCW is organised at the premises of CIHEAM-MAICh.
2	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)	Organiser of the 3rd Mediterranean Plant Conservation Week (3MPCW) conference and grantor of project via Birdlife International.	
3	IUCN/SSC Mediterranean Plant Specialist Group (MSPG)	Organiser of the 3rd Mediterranean Plant Conservation Week (3MPCW) conference	

4	Network of Mediterranean Plant Conservation Centres (GENMEDA)	Organiser of the 3rd Mediterranean Plant Conservation Week (3MPCW) conference	
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2. Summarize the overall results/impact of your project

The project facilitated the participation of 22 individuals, 8 in person (5 being CEPF grantees, and 3 members of the CEPF Med Plant Expert Group) and 16 virtually, in the 3rd Mediterranean Plant Conservation Week (3MPCW) in Chania, Crete 27 September - 1 October 2021 (www.medplantsweek.uicnmed.org/public_html/medplantsweek/en/3rd-mpcw).

The participants increased their knowledge on plant conservation through the plant conservation trainings and exchanges during the 3 sessions of the conference (oral presentations, workshops and side events including group discussions, poster presentations). The physical participants participated in both the main and optional post-conference field trips to two important sites for plant conservation (Imbros gorge and Elaфонisi).

In addition, the project facilitated the organisation of a side event in Session 1 and the whole of Session 3 of the 3MPCW by CEPF, as well as the possibility of virtual participation. In total, 123 participants, 84 in person and 39 virtually, from 20 different countries had the opportunity to learn and share experiences in the field of plant conservation in the Mediterranean ecosystems.

3. Briefly describe actual progress towards each planned long-term and short-term impact (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each long-term impact from your proposal

a. Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Increased capacity to fundraise and implement plant conservation projects	Participants acquired relevant knowledge for current and future use.
Improved plant conservationists network to share experience and challenges as well as realisation of new plant conservation projects	The 3MPCW with a total of 123 participants involved in plant conservation was an important meeting place, both physical and virtual, for participants to network with each other for the implementation of both current and future projects.

b. Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Participants knowledge on plant conservation is increased	Indicator: Conduct plant conservation trainings, field visits and group discussions on the Mediterranean ecosystems and project management best practices.

	<p>The 5 physical participant grantees attended 36 presentations, workshops, events, discussions and field trips all aimed at increasing capacities for implementing plant conservation projects and raising funds for this purpose.</p> <p>The 16 virtual participants were able to join all sessions remotely and participate in Q&A sessions.</p>
Networking of plant conservationists from around the region to foster new relationships	<p>Indicator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 selected practitioners have participated in relevant sessions, presented their projects to contribute to lessons learned and received relevant materials. • Members of the CEPF Plant Expert Group assist in the networking sessions and support CEPF grantees with project-specific questions. • Communication channels enabled.

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

The project successfully completed its objectives.

5. Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Yes: due to covid-19 pandemic restriction measures for travelers, a smaller number of physical participants was finally achieved, but other people who haven't managed to travel, they have been able to follow online all sessions of 3MPCW.

PART II: Project Components and Products/Deliverables

6. Components (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each component and product/deliverable from your proposal

6. Describe the results for each deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	Sub- #	Description	Results for Deliverable
1		1	10 practitioners (members of NGOs, CSOs, academia or local associations)	5 practitioners (members of NGOs, CSOs, academia or local associations) have attended the MPCW. The physical participants represented 5 different countries from

			have attended the MPCW	<p>around the hotspot (Albania, Montenegro, Cabo Verde, Jordan and Tunisia).</p> <p>14 virtual participants represented 9 countries (North Macedonia, Cabo Verde, Lebanon, Palestine, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Jordan and Montenegro).</p> <p>5 in-person participants produced posters for their projects, and presented their projects to all conference participants during the side event, as did 2 virtual participants.</p>
2		1	Each of 10 practitioners takes part in networking sessions, supported by members of the CEPF Plant Expert Group	5 practitioners (members of NGOs, CSOs, academia or local associations) took part in networking sessions, supported by members of the CEPF Plant Expert Group
3		1	Arrange meeting and side-event logistics for all participants	<p>Meeting and side-event logistics arranged for all participants including flight support, Covid information, accommodation, food and field trips.</p> <p>Side-event session was set-up and IT on-hand for technical support of in-person speakers, and for the virtual participants.</p>
4		1	Reports to CEPF are submitted on time	Reports to CEPF are submitted on time

7. Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

N/A

PART III: Lessons, Sustainability, Safeguards and Financing

Lessons Learned

8. 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:

- Project Design Process (*aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Project Implementation (*aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
- Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community

N/A

Sustainability / Replication

9. Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.

N/A

Safeguards

10. If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social or environmental safeguards that your project may have triggered.

Additional Funding

11. 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 CEPF investment

a. Total additional funding (US\$)

b. Type of funding

Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
CIHEAM	A	15,000 Euro	
GREEN FUND of the Greek Ministry of Environment	A	7,000 Euro	
REGION OF CRETE	A	4,000 Euro	

* Categorize the type of funding as:

- 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)*

Additional Comments/Recommendations

12. Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF.

PART IV: Impact at Portfolio and Global Level

CEPF requires that each grantee report on impact at the end of the project. The purpose of this report is to collect data that will contribute to CEPF's portfolio and global indicators. CEPF will aggregate the data that you submit with data from other grantees, to determine the overall impact of CEPF investment. CEPF's aggregated results will be reported on in our annual report and other communications materials.

Ensure that the information provided pertains to the entire project, from start date to project end date.

Contribution to Portfolio Indicators

13. If CEPF assigned one or more Portfolio Indicators to your project during the full proposal preparation phase, please list these below and report on the project's contribution(s) to them.

Indicator	Narrative
5.2. Number of Regional thematic experience-sharing events	Attending the 3 rd Med Plant Conservation Week (MPCW)
5.3. Number of cross-border networking relationship	Experienced exchanged from different countries
4.7 Number of young professionals with substantial experience in plant conservation gained	1 young professional has increased knowledge on plant conservation projects

Contribution to Global Indicators

Please report on all Global Indicators (sections 16 to 23 below) that pertain to your project.

14. Key Biodiversity Area Management

Number of hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) with improved management

Please report on the number of hectares in KBAs with improved management, as a result of CEPF investment. Examples of improved management include, but are not restricted to: increased patrolling, reduced intensity of snaring, invasive species eradication, reduced incidence of fire, and introduction of sustainable agricultural/fisheries practices. Do not record the entire area covered by the project - only record the number of hectares that have improved management.

If you have recorded part or all of a KBA as newly protected for the indicator entitled “protected areas” (section 17 below), and you have also improved its management, you should record the relevant number of hectares for both this indicator and the “protected areas” indicator.

Name of KBA	# of Hectares with strengthened management *	Is the KBA Not protected, Partially protected or Fully protected? Please select one: NP/PP/FP
N/A		

* Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were improved due to implementation of a fire management regime in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were improved due to invasive species removal in the second year, the total number of hectares with improved management would be 500.

15. Protected Areas

15a. Number of hectares of protected areas created and/or expanded

Report on the number of hectares of protected areas that have been created or expanded as a result of CEPF investment.

Name of PA*	Country(s)	# of Hectares	Year of legal declaration or expansion	Longitude**	Latitude**
N/A					

* If possible please provide a shape file of the protected area to CEPF.

** Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).

15b. Protected area management

If you have been requested to submit a Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT), please follow the instructions below. If you have not been requested to submit a METT, please go directly to section 16.

Should you want to know more about the monitoring of protected area management effectiveness and the tracking tool, please click [here](#).

Download the METT template which can be found on [this page](#) and then work with the protected area authorities to fill it out. Please go to the Protected Planet website [here](#) and search for your protected area in their database to record its associated WDPA ID. Then please fill in the following table:

WDPA ID	PA Official Name	Date of METT*	METT Total Score

** Please indicate when the METT was filled by the authorities of the park or provide a best estimate if the exact date is unknown. And please only provide METTs less than 12 months old.*

Please do not forget to submit the completed METT together with this report.

16. Production landscape

Please report on the number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity, as a result of CEPF investment. A production landscape is defined as a landscape where agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs. Production landscapes may include KBAs, and therefore hectares counted under the indicator entitled “KBA Management” may also be counted here. Examples of interventions include: best practices and guidelines implemented, incentive schemes introduced, sites/products certified and sustainable harvesting regulations introduced.

Number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity.

Name of Production Landscape*	# of Hectares**	Latitude***	Longitude***	Description of Intervention
N/A				

** If the production landscape does not have a name, provide a brief descriptive name for the landscape.*

***Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were strengthened due to certification in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were strengthened due to new harvesting regulations in the second year, the total number of hectares strengthened to date would be 500.*

**** Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).*

17. Beneficiaries

CEPF wants to record two types of benefits that are likely to be received by individuals: structured training and increased income. Please report on the number of men and women that have benefited from structured training (such as financial management, beekeeping, horticulture) and/or increased income (such as from tourism, agriculture, medicinal plant harvest/production, fisheries, handicraft production) as a result of CEPF investment. Please provide results since the start of your project to project completion.

N/A

17a. Number of men and women receiving structured training.

# of men receiving structured training *	# of women receiving structured training *
7	12

**Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men received structured training in beekeeping, and 3 of these also received structured training in project management, the total number of men who benefited from structured training should be 5.*

17b. Number of men and women receiving cash benefits.

# of men receiving cash benefits*	# of women receiving cash benefits*
N/A	

**Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men received cash benefits due to tourism, and 3 of these also received cash benefits from increased income due to handicrafts, the total number of men who received cash benefits should be 5.*

18. Benefits to Communities

CEPF wants to record the benefits received by communities, which can differ to those received by individuals because the benefits are available to a group. CEPF also wants to record, to the extent possible, the number of people within each community who are benefiting. Please report on the characteristics of the communities, the type of benefits that have been received during the project, and the number of men/boys and women/girls from these communities that have benefited, as a result of CEPF investment. If exact numbers are not known, please provide an estimate.

N/A

18a. Please provide information for all communities that have benefited from project start to project completion.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics (mark with x)							Type of Benefit (mark with x)							# of Beneficiaries			
	Subsistence economy	Small landowners	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists / nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Other*	Increased access to clean water	Increased food security	Increased access to energy	Increased access to public services (e.g. health care, education)	Increased resilience to climate change	Improved land tenure	Improved recognition of traditional knowledge	Improved representation and decision-making in governance forums/structures	Improved access to ecosystem services	# of men and boys benefiting	# of women and girls benefiting
N/A																		

*If you marked "Other" to describe the community characteristic, please explain:

19b. For each law, policy or regulation listed above, please provide the requested information in accordance with its assigned number.

No.	Country(s)	Date enacted/ amended MM/DD/YYYY	Expected impact	Action that you performed to achieve this change
1				
2				
3				

20. Sustainable Financing Mechanism

Sustainable financing mechanisms generate financial resources for the long-term (generally five or more years). Examples of sustainable financial mechanisms include 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.

All CEPF grantees (or sub-grantees) with project activities that pertain to the creation and/or the implementation of a sustainable financing mechanism are requested to provide information on the mechanism and the funds it delivered to conservation projects during the project timeframe, unless another grantee involved with the same mechanism has already been or is expected to be tasked with this.

CEPF requires that all sustainable financing mechanism projects to provide the necessary information at their completion.

20a. Details about the mechanism

Fill in this table for as many mechanisms you worked on during your project implementation as needed.

NO.	Name of financing mechanism	Purpose of the mechanism*	Date of Establishment**	Description***	Countries
1	N/A				
2					
3					

*Please provide a succinct description of the mission of the mechanism.

**Please indicate when the sustainable financing mechanism was officially created. If you do not know the exact date, provide a best estimate.

***Description, such as trust fund, endowment, PES scheme, incentive scheme, etc.

20b. Performance of the mechanism

For each Financing Mechanism listed previously, please provide the requested information in accordance with its assigned number.

NO.	Project intervention*	\$ Amount disbursed to conservation projects**	Period under Review (MM/YYYY -MM/YYYY)***
1			
2			
3			

*List whether the CEPF grant has helped to create a new mechanism (Created a mechanism) or helped to support an existing mechanism (Supported an existing mechanism) or helped to create and then support a new mechanism (Created and supported a new mechanism).

**Please only indicate the USD amount disbursed to conservation projects during the period of implementation of your project and using, when needed, the exchange rate on the day of your report.

***Please indicate the period of implementation of your project or the period considered for the amount you indicated.

Please do not forget to submit any relevant document which could provide justification for the amount you stated above.

21. Biodiversity-friendly Practices

Please describe any biodiversity-friendly practices that companies have adopted as a result of CEPF investment. A company is defined as a legal entity made up of an association of people, be they natural, legal, or a mixture of both, for carrying on a commercial or industrial enterprise. While companies take various forms, for the purposes of CEPF, a company is defined as a for-profit business entity. A biodiversity-friendly practice is one that conserves or uses biodiversity sustainably.

Number of companies that adopt biodiversity-friendly practices

No.	Name of company	Description of biodiversity-friendly practice adopted during the project
1	N/A	
2		
...		

22. Networks & Partnerships

Please report on any new networks or partnerships between civil society groups and across to other sectors that you have established or strengthened as a result of CEPF investment. Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable even if they do not have a Memorandum of Understanding or other type of validation. Examples of networks/partnerships include: an alliance of fisherfolk to promote sustainable fisheries practices, a network of environmental journalists, a partnership between one or more NGOs with one or more private sector partners to improve biodiversity management on private lands, a working group focusing on reptile conservation. Please do not use this tab to list the partners in your project, unless some or all of them are part of such a network / partnership described above.

Number of networks and/or partnerships created and/or strengthened

No.	Name of Network	Name of Partnership	Year established	Did your project establish this Network/ Partnership? Y/N	Country(s) covered	Purpose
1	Mediterranean Plant Conservation Week		2016	N	Regional	The Mediterranean Plant Conservation Weeks represent an opportunity to develop

						<p>framework for dialogue among stakeholders, to share successful examples of plant conservation initiatives with local communities, and to enhance capacity building. This event aims at becoming a gathering point for botanists; civil society institutions working in the plant conservation field; community members; and for those interested in including plant conservation programs into their conservation or sustainable development projects.</p>
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23. Gender

If you have been requested to submit a Gender Tracking Tool (GTT), please follow the instructions provided in the Excel GTT template. If you have not been requested to submit a GTT, please go directly to Part V.

Should you want to know more about CEPF Gender Policy, please click [here](#).

Download the GTT template which can be found on [this page](#) and then work with your team to fill it out. Please do not forget to submit the completed GTT together with this report.

Part V. 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:

- 17. Name:** Mr Ioannis Katsikandarakis
- 18. Organization:** Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania (CHEAM-MAICH)
- 19. Mailing address:** 1 Makedonias str, Alsyllo Agrokepio, P.O. Box 75, Chania 73100 Crete, GREECE
- 20. Telephone number:** 0030 28210 35000 (int.600)
- 21. E-mail address:** kats@maich.gr