Small Grants – Project Completion and Impact Report

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

Organization Legal Name	***Nature Palestine Society (NPS)***
Project Title	Assessment and conservation of *Iris atrofusca* in the North Eastern Slopes Region Key Biodiversity Area, Palestine.
Grant Number	CEPF-110674
Date of Report	10-09-2021

CEPF Hotspot: Mediterranean Basin Biodiversity Hotspot

Strategic Direction: 4- Strengthen the engagement of civil society to support the conservation of plants that are critically endangered or have highly restricted ranges

Grant Amount: $USD 19,910

Project Dates: 1-04-2020 to 1-07-2021

PART I: Overview

1. **Implementation Partners for this Project *(list each partner and explain how they were involved in the project)***
   a) **Environment Quality Authority (EQA):** 1) Supervised and participated in the project implemented activities, 2) provided the needed legislations advice, 3) Supported and facilitated the engagements of the governorate of project area (Tubas), stakeholders, the municipalities, farmers, and landowners.
   b) **Ministry of Agriculture:** 1) Provided the needed legal support to establish the In-situ conservations site, 2) Approved the allocated site for the In-situ conservation site, 3) supported the collaboration with the WeWorld-GVC organization (https://www.weworld-gvc.it/en)
   c) **Ministry of Education:** 1) provided the needed support to work with the four local schools and to establish the school's gardens. 2) Approved students' participation in planting the *Iris atrofusca*, field visits, and outdoor activities.
   d) **Governorate of Tubas:** 1) facilitate the engagement and participation of the local authorities, stakeholders, Tubas Scouts Commission, military orchestra of the governorate of Tubas.
   e) **Tubas municipality:** 1) provided needed legislations. 2) Facilitated the engagement of local community. 3) Preparation process of the outdoor activities.

f) **WW-GVC:** funded the fencing of the In-situ conservation site and supported the installation process of the fence on 14.2 dunums, instead of the proposed 3.5 dunums.

2) Summarize the overall results/impact of your project

The project contributed to filling major scientific knowledge gaps in the distribution, population size, local conservation status and main threats to the threatened *Iris atrofusca* in Palestine. Results also contributed to raising local awareness and implementation of innovative conservation approaches to protect and reduce pressures affecting the iris.

Research and monitoring of *Iris atrofusca:*

1) Conducting plant taxonomic survey that covers more than 70 km^2 within the North Easter Slopes Region KBA, during the spring seasons of 2020 and 2021.
2) More than 1500 clones of *Iris atrofusca* were located and documented within the study area.
3) Many populations of *Iris atrofusca* were located outside of the KBA, but close to its boarders.
4) Several new populations of *Iris atrofusca* were located and documented in eastern parts of Ramallah district, about 60 km to the south of the KBA.
5) NPS team discovered new populations of *Iris haynei* outside the boarder of the KBA and outside its known distribution range.
6) Nature Palestine Society team discovered new populations of *Iris lortetii* within the southern-eastern parts of the KBA, at Al Jabal Al Kabir Nature reserve.

Conservation measures

1. Establishment of an in-situ conservation site, for conserving and protecting 120 clones of *Iris atrofusca*, on 14.2 dunums instead of the proposed 3.5 dunums. The site is located within the North Eastern Slopes Region KBA boarders, and given the ***name "Iris Atrofusca"*** **Botanical garden**
2. Establishing three school's gardens for *Iris atrofusca* where an informative sign was installed at each garden, and an informative mural that represent the life cycle of the *Iris atrofusca* was created at the walls (30mx2.5m) of Muscat secondary boys' schools.
3. Establishing two marked trails (4.5km each) with 6 informative signs at Jabal Tammoun nature reserve, that lead to the in-situ conservation site "The *Iris atrofusca* botanical garden).

Awareness and Education

1) More than 400 people representing a wide spectrum of occupations participated in the three outdoor workshops, two hiking events, establishing three botanical gardens. The participants include Stakeholders, decision-makers, local authorities, local communities, schools and universities students (males and females), landowners, farmers, rangers, the director general of the EQA, representatives of the MoA and MoEd, municipality of Tammoun, Atuf village council, the Governorate of Tubas, military scouts, and Tubas Scouts Commission.
2) Four field visits to local schools and universities students conducted to raise interest and awareness about the iris.

Capacity development

The team of Nature Palestine Society (1 researchers, 3 volunteers), 1 representative from Tammoun municipality (female), 60 school students (from both genders), and 30 university students (from both genders), and the ranger of Jabal Tammoun Nature reserve received training on identification of *Iris atrofusca*, and other near endemic Iris species.

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

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
1) Contribute to the regional and global efforts of evaluating the distribution, status, and population size of *Iris atrofusca*	-A distribution map of *Iris atrofusca* clones within the North Eastern Slopes Region KBA and its adjacent areas is prepared and will be shared at the national and international level to relevant key stakeholders. -A new location of *Iris haynei* was discovered outside the boarders of the KBA. A distribution map prepared and will be shared at the national and international level. -A new location of *Iris atrofusca* was discovered in Ramallah district. A distribution map is prepared and will be shared at the national and international level.
2) The identified population of *Iris atrofusca* at the North-Eastern Slopes Region KBA will be conserved and protected.	-The Environment Quality Authority, Ministry of Agriculture, local authorities, the municipality of Tammoun, and the village council of Atuf (all within the iris range localities), agreed to establish an in-situ conservation site on about 14.2 dunums within the KBA boarders, to support conservation and protection efforts. The original plan was to create the in-situ conservation site on 3.5 dunums, only. -Identified locations of *Iris atrofusca* populations provide the needed information for stakeholders, decision makers, and conservation institutes (at the national and international level) to focus their efforts (management, planning, and conservation activities) to conserve and protect the located *Iris atrofusca* populations. - The level of understanding and awareness about the importance and values of endemic, near endemic, threatened and rare plant species, and conservation and protection of these species, improved significantly through the implementations of the project activities and the engagement of the local communities, stakeholders, and decision makers. Therefore, the anthropogenic threats on these species, specially the *Iris atrofusca* and its natural habitat within the North Eastern Slopes Region KBA is minimized, which will eventually

	effect positively of the status and distribution of the species.
3) The outcomes of the project will support the development of a future management plan and conservation framework for Jabal Tammoun nature reserve.	-Focusing the work on Jabal Tammoun nature reserve and the KBA, through conducting plant survey, establishing the in-situ conservation site, creating hiking trails, conducting outdoor workshops, field visits, and sharing collected data with the EQA and MoA, will contribute significantly to initiate and develop a conservation framework and management plan in the near future.
4) The team of Nature Palestine Society will be equipped with more knowledge and skills to identify threatened and near endemic plant species, as well as to implement similar project in other KBAs and nature reserves in Palestine.	- Nature Palestine Society team through the project period gained essential and important information, knowledge and enhanced its team's capacity and botanical skills through implementing the project's activities, getting the proper training on identification of plant species, especially near endemic ones (*Iris atrofusca*, *iris Haynei, and Iris lortetii)* -The team gained the needed information and skills to identify several near endemic and threatened plant species such as *Iris atrofusca*, *Iris Haynei*, *Iris lortetii*. - The team is now equipped with needed skills, knowledge, and experience to carry out similar plant conservation projects. - Nature Palestine Society built strong relationships with several governmental bodies, stakeholders, decision makers, and local authorities (EQA, MoA, MoEd, Governorate of Tubas, municipality of Tammoun and Atuf village council) that will support its efforts and activities in any similar projects or activities at the local and national level.

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

Impact Description	**Impact Summary**
1) New information regarding the distribution, population size, and status of *Iris atrofusca* will be documented and publicized at the national, regional, and global level.	-All collected data is organized, analyzed and documented in the final report. Nature Palestine Society team will submit this report to the EQA, CEPF, and BirdLife International. The finding will provide new insight into the current knowledge of the distribution, population size, and status of the near endemic *Iris atrofusca* at the national and global level. Nature Palestine Society team with the support of the CEPF and BirdLife will work on

	publicizing the current findings among conservation communities, institutes, and organizations. -Through the plant taxonomic survey conducted by Nature Palestine Society team, 1474 clones of *Iris atrofusca* with about 7300 flowers were identified and documented. -Several populations of *Iris atrofusca* were recorded and documented outside the study area and the KBA, which indicate that the distribution of *Iris atrofusca* can extend along the eastern slopes of the West Bank area from Hebron district in the south to Tubas and Jenin districts in the north.
2) Contribute to the conservation and protection of *Iris atrofusca* at the regional and global level.	- Nature Palestine Society team, in collaboration with EQA, MoA, Governorate of Tubas, and Municipality of Tammoun, and Atuf village council, established and created an In-situ conservation site to conserve and protect more than 120 clones of *Iris atrofusca* on 14.2 dunums of governmental land at Jabal Tammoun nature reserve. This site will contribute to the conservation and protection of *Iris atrofusca* populations, as well as increasing the public awareness.
3) Contribute to the efforts of monitoring, increasing public awareness, values, and important of *Iris atrofusca* and other threatened and near endemic plant species among Palestinian communities.	-More than 400 people participated and engaged in the project's implemented activities and public awareness campaigns, which included stakeholders, decision-makers, local authorities, local communities, 4 schools and 2 universities students (males and females), teachers and principals of 4 schools (males and females), local scouts NPS volunteers (males and females), and the rangers of Jabal Tammoun nature reserves. -Several activities were broadcasted at the local and national TVs, radio stations, and social media, which increase the number of people who indirectly became aware of the project's activities and objectives. Therefore, the public awareness and knowledge regarding conserving and protecting the populations of *Iris atrofusca* increased and enhanced significantly. -Small scale *Iris atrofusca's* gardens were established at three local schools and one large scale mural painting (2.5X23 m) was created at a fourth one. The mural represent the life cycle and habitat

	of *Iris atrofusca*. Students, principles and teachers participated in establishing the school's gardens, and the mural painting. -Representatives from the local communities, volunteers, and the ranger of Jabal Tammoun Nature reserve, received training on *Iris atrofusca* identification, participated in the outdoor workshops, and engaged in creating the In-situ conservations site and planting clones of *Iris atrofusca*.

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

1) Nature Palestine Society team was able to find an additional support to upscale, partially, the project activities. For example, the team was able create the In-situ conservation site on 14.2 dunums instead of the proposed 3.5 dunums with the support of EQA, MoA and WW-GVC organization. The site was fenced completely and declared as a national botanical garden for conserving and protecting clones of *Iris atrofusca*, were more than 120 clones were planted. The In-situ conservation site received tremendous support from the Director General of the EQA, Director General of Forests- MoA, municipality of Tammoun, and the village council of Atuf, as well as from the local communities. Therefore, the In-situ conservation site will support the national and international efforts of conserving and protecting the near endemic *Iris atrofusca.*
2) Nature Palestine Society team, after receiving the training on proper identification of Iris species, was able to conduct the plant taxonomic survey on a larger area than proposed, discovered new locations for *Iris atrofusca*, not only within the KBA but also in different places in the West Bank. In addition, the team found new locations for *iris Haynei*, and extremely rare colors (Yellow and White) for *Iris atrofusca*. These finding will provide new and additional information to the distribution, population size and status of *Iris atrofusca*, at the national and international level.
3) Engaging local communities, local authorities, EQA, MoA, MoEd, and governorate of Tubas, was key element to successfully implement the project activities, support increasing the public awareness, and to maintain the sustainability of the project goals of supporting the conservation and protection of *Iris atrofusca*.
4) The main challenge that the NPS team and our local partners (EQA, MoA) faced was the Pandemic (COVID-19), which created several limitations and challenges that we had to deal with. For example, the Palestinian government took several precautionary measures to avoid the spread of COVID-19 including complete lockdown for several months, restrictions on movement and people congregation. Therefore, we had to find new approaches to implement the project activates (e.g., outdoor workshops instead of indoor workshops), postpone some activates, and getting special permit from the Palestinian Government to facilitate our movement.

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

The unexpected positive impact was establishing the In-situ conservation site "*Iris atrofusca* Botanical Garden" on a governmental land with an area exceeded the original plan of fourfold, from 3.5 to 14.2 dunums. WW-GVC supported fencing the 14.2 dunums, which has perimeters of 525 m.

PART II: Project Components and Products/Deliverables

6) **Components (as stated in the approved proposal)**
7) Describe the results for each deliverable:

Note: Part II section 6 and 7 are merged as bellow:

Component 1: Taxonomic and distribution survey of *Iris Atrofusca*

Activity 1.1: Conducting plant survey to identify population of *Iris atrofusca* at the study area.

Distribution, Location, Population size, and maps are included in the final report, including a summary of the findings, in the form of text, tables, and maps.

Activity 1.2: Identify best patches of *Iris atrofusca* population for In-situ conservation.

The location of the In-situ conservation site included in the final report, with the exact location of planted clones of *Iris atrofusca*.

Activity 1.3: Identify the patch size of all located *Iris atrofusca* population.

The patch location and size included in the final report in the form of maps and the size of each patch.

Activity 1.4: Identifying other near endemic, restricted range or threatened plant species, whenever possible, at the study area.

A detailed checklist of all recorded plant species at Jabal Tammoun nature reserve is included in the final report.

Activity 1.5: Engage interested individuals of local communities in the plant survey, identification of *Iris atrofusca* and other plant species.

A minimum of 10 people from the local communities that include, school students (males and females, representative of Tammoun Municipality (female), and the ranger of Jebel Tammoun nature reserve were engaged in this activity. All information is documented in the final report.

Activity 1.6: Prepare process framework safeguarded document.

The process framework safeguarded document was prepared and submitted. However, since the in-situ conservation site is created on Governmental land, within Jabal Tammoun nature reserve, the document is no longer relevant.

Activity 1.7: Implementation of process framework mitigation.

Since the in-situ conservation site is created on Governmental land, within Jabal Tammoun nature reserve, there was no need to implement any of the framework mitigation

Component 2: In-Situ conservation of *Iris atrofusca*

Activity 2.1: Fencing the best-located patches of *Iris atrofusca* population.

The in-Situ conservation site was fenced taking into consideration that the original plan was to establish the in-situ conservation site on 3.5 dunums, but the team of Nature Palestine Society managed to establish the site on 14.2 dunums. The fenced area has perimeters of 525 m. All information is documented in the final report.

Activity 2.2: Engage landowners, farmers and local authorities in decision making of in-situ conservation sites and throughout the process.

The EQA, MoA, Governorate of Tubas, municipality of Tammoun, and the village council of Atuf, were all engaged in the selection process of the in-situ conservation site, facilitate all logistical requirements, establishing the site, and planting 120 clones of *Iris atrofusca* through three outdoor workshops. All information is documented in the final report.

Activity 2.3: Cooperate with local communities, landowners, farmers and local authorities to conserve and protect fenced patches of *Iris atrofusca* population, and other threatened and near endemic plant species.

Throughout the project period, more than 400 people participated and engaged in the project activities, and the major ones were broadcasted on local media, National TV and social media. Therefore, the local communities, landowners, farmers and local authorities were part of all implemented activities and became aware of the importance and values of conserving and protecting the near endemic plant species. All information and pictures are included in the final report.

Activity 2.4: Identify and engage key personnel from the local communities, farmers, and land owners to help protecting the fenced patches of *Iris atrofusca*.

From the beginning of the project, the team of Nature Palestine Society worked together with the EQA, and the MoA to identify and engage active people from the local community throughout the implementations of the project activities, and to support conserving and protecting *Iris atrofusca* populations, especially the ones located in the in-situ conservation site. Several people including the ranger of Jabal Tammoun nature reserve, the librarian of Tammoun municipality and a board member (both are females), representative of the governorate of Tubas district, representative of the EQA and the MoA offices in Tubas District were identified as key personnel in monitoring and protecting the in-situ conservation site. In addition, the environmental police department of Tubas District were part of the main implemented activities; they are aware of the importance and values of protecting the established in-situ conservation site and play a major role.

Component No. 3: Public awareness and capacity building

Activity 3.1: Conduct three workshops that focus on increase public awareness towards near endemic and threatened plant species (focusing on *Iris atrofusca*), KBAs and Nature reserves. And to facilitate the engagement of local community, local authorities, representatives of MoA, EQA, farmers and landowners in the project activities to ensure the sustainability of the project goals and targets.

Three main workshops and three school's events took place throughout the project period. Because of the pandemic, and to follow the governmental precautionary measures, Nature Palestine Society team organized these workshops to be outdoor events at Jabal Tammoun nature reserve. The focus of the workshops was to introduce the participants to the project goals and objectives, collaborators, donors, the importance and values of nature reserves, KBAs, plant conservation, endemic and near endemic plant species that can be recorded at the nature reserve and the North Eastern Slopes region KBA, focusing on *Iris atrofusca*. The participants were also introduce to the concept, purpose, and values of In-situ conservation sites, and how the engagement of the local communities can support such initiatives and rule that they can play in protecting these sites. All data regarding the outdoor workshops are documented in the final report.

Another three outdoor activities took place during the project; the first one is schools visits by Nature Palestine Society team to four local schools. The activities took place at the outside playground, where about 80 students introduced to project team, its mission and goals, to the project's goals and objectives, to conserve near endemic plant species focusing on *Iris atrofusca*, and to plant conservation. They were also introduced to the concept of in-situ conservation site, and to our plane of establishing school gardens. The second outdoor activity was the establishment of small botanical gardens at three schools, were several clones of *Iris atrofusca* were planted.

Activity 3.2: Conduct field visits for students of the two-local school (males and females), introducing them to the importance, values, and the in-situ conservation process and purposes for conserving and protecting *Iris atrofusca* and other threatened plant species.

Students of the environmental club of the four local schools participated in the third outdoor workshop. The students performed several activities at the opening of the mural painting at Muscat Secondary Boys School. Thereafter, the student and all participants enjoyed the 4.5 km hiking trail that cross Jabal Tammoun nature reserve in longitudinal section (West to East), which lead to the In-situ conservation site "*Iris atrofusca* botanical garden". All details are included in the final report.

Activity 3.3: Invite interested people, representatives of local communities, local farmers and landowners to the in-situ conservation activities to ensure their understanding of the conservation purposes and to guarantee their support and help to maintain and protect the selected sites.

Throughout the preparation of establishing the In-situ conservation representatives of local communities, local farmers and landowners, stakeholders, and decision makers were part of the whole process site from installing the fence, the informative sign, and planting clones of *Iris atrofusca*. All information are included in the final report.

Activity 3.4: Identify and engage key personnel from the local communities, farmers, and land owners, to be trained on identifying *Iris atrofusca* and some other threatened plant species, to help collecting data at the short and long term.

A minimum of 10 people from the local communities that include, students (males and females, representative of Tammoun Municipality (a female librarian, and a board member), two shepherded and the ranger of Jebel Tammoun nature reserve were engaged in this activity. The

shepherded helped Nature Palestine Society team to allocate several *Iris atrofusca* populations unknown to the team. All information is documented in the final report.

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

a) Involvement of stakeholder, policy and decision-makers in the establishment of the In-situ conservation site "Iris atrofusca Botanical Garden.
http://environment.pna.ps/ar/index.php?p=newsdetails&id=704

b) An Interview for the executive director of Nature Palestine Society Palestine- Dr. Anton Khalilieh at radio Shabab FM, about the project and the establishment of the In-Situ conservation site.
https://fb.watch/3vMIcAeAcQ/

c) An article written by Nature Palestine Society and published by the BirdLife International and CEPF: "Palestinian conservationists overcome adversity to research rare plant"
http://www.birdlife.org/middle-east/news/palestinian-conservationists-overcome-adversity-research-rare-plant?fbclid=IwAR1HwwhWKob9XgxZJPyRwuL3hQRSYusMV6igWzE6Uo-nn3ENPg1XFrL0_Bw

d) An article published by the BirdLife International and CEPF regarding implemented project in Palestine:
https://www.birdlife.org/middle-east/news/growing-hope-plant-conservation-palestine

e) Media coverage by the Palestinian National TV for implemented activities, include, the opening ceremony of the "Iris Atrofusca Botanical Garden", the mural painting of the Iris atrofusca (the life cycle) on the walls of Muscat Secondary Boys School, and walking the established trails within Jabal Tammoun Nature reserve:
https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=122341149803319

f) An article written by Nature Palestine Society in This week in Palestine regarding the project and using art in public awareness and conservation
https://thisweekinpalestine.com/a-picture-is-worth-a-thousand-words/

PART III: Lessons, Sustainability, Safeguards and Financing

Lessons Learned

9) **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

1) **Partnership and collaborators:** Nature Palestine Society team was very aware that to achieve the project's goals and objectives, several governmental bodies should play a major rule in implementing the project activities. These bodies including the EQA, MoA, MoEd, governorate of Tubas district, Municipality of Tammoun, the village council of Atuf, and local authorities. Therefore, the team worked very hard to make sure that all these governmental bodies are active partners in this project. This approach facilitated the engagement of related governmental bodies, local authorities, decision makers, and local communities. For example, the proposed plan was to establish an in-situ conservation site on 3.5 dunums on a privately owned land, but through deep discussions and negotiations with EQA and MoA, and since they are our partners in this project, we managed to allocate 14.2 dunums at Jabal Tammoun nature reserve to establish the In-situ conservation site. In addition, through our partnership with the MoA, specifically with the department of Forests, Rangeland and Wildlife, we collaborated with WW-GVC and they supported the project by fencing the in-situ conservation site as part of an ongoing project with the MoA.
2) **Hiring qualified plant taxonomist:** Nature Palestine Society was aware that part of the success of the project is to find a qualified plant taxonomist to conduct the plant taxonomic survey and to train the team, volunteers, and interested people on plant identification, specifically on Royal Iris Species. Mr. Banan Al Sheikh was Nature Palestine Society consultant for this project, he has more than 20 year of experience in conducting plant survey and identification. Al sheikh was hired by the IUCN to identifying the IPs and KBAs in Palestine. Therefore, our mission of conducting the plant taxonomic survey, identify Royal Iris species, the distribution and status of *Iris atrofusca* was completed successfully and new locations of several near-endemic, threatened, and rare plant species was recorded and documented.
3) **Working hand on hand with local communities:** engaging the local communities in the project activities was very important to support the project goals, objectives, sustainability, and to increase public awareness.

<u>Sustainability / Replication</u>

10) 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.

In order to ensuring the project sustainability and its replicability, Nature Palestine Society team engaged several governmental bodies, ministries, and local authorities in decision making, supervising the implementation of major activities, facilitating and encouraging local authorities and communities to be involve in implementing part of the project activities. In addition, to ensure the sustainability of the established in-situ conservation site, we engaged both the EQA and MoA, the governorate of Tubas, and local authorities to make the final decision on where to establish the site, how to protect it and to make it accessible to the local communities, and how it can be

an educational site. In addition, we managed to involve the WW-GVC organization in fencing the site, in collaboration with the MoA. The outcomes of this unplanned work, was to establish the in-situ conservation site on a governmental land (Jabal Tammoun nature reserve) instead of privately owned land, the size of the site enlarged by fourfold (from 3.5 to 14.2 dunums), and the site was totally fenced (perimeter of 525m) as a result of NPS partnership with the Moa and WW.GVC. In addition, the site became under the protection and supervision of the MoA, since it is located within the borders of the nature reserve, and under direct protection of the nature reserve ranger.
The established *Iris atrofusca* gardens, at the three local schools and the mural painting of the life cycle of the Iris at the walls of Muscat secondary boys' schools, which also were not part of the original objectives of the project, will support the sustainability of the project goals and will support increasing the public awareness.

Safeguards

11) **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.**

N/A

Additional Funding

12) **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$)
7500 US$

b. **Type of funding**
The additional funding was secured from the WeWorld-GVC (WW.GVC) through MoA, which allocated to fencing the in-situ conservation site. NPS is not aware of the total cost of installing the fence, but the total area that was fence is 14.2 dunums and the perimeter of this site is about 525m. Our estimate for the cost of installing the fence is about 7500 $USD.

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
WeWorld-GVC	In Kind	7500 US$	The WeWorld-GVC organization (WW.GVC) funded the fencing off the in-situ conservation site (The *Iris atrofusca* botanical garden) as part of an ongoing project with the Ministry of agriculture (MoA)

** 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

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

Nature Palestine Society is a new Palestinian NGO that was established in fourth quarter of 2017. The project was of great support for Nature Palestine Society at different levels (financially, capacity building, networking, partnership with governmental bodies and ministries, local authorities and local communities). Nature Palestine Society appreciate the help, support, guidance and flexibility of the Regional Implementation Team (RIT). They supported the organization at different levels (e.g., guidance, reporting, etc.).

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

14) 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
4.5 Number of locally endemic or highly threatened plant species for which improved knowledge is available Improved knowledge for at least 35 locally endemic or highly threatened plant species and improved information on plants for at least 15 KBAs.	Nature Palestine Society team, through conducted plant taxonomic survey, identified and documented two near endemic plant species; *Iris atrofusca and iris haynei*. More than 1500 clones of *Iris atrofusca* were documented within the North Easter Slopes region KBA, in addition to more than 50 clones outside of the KBA, 25 of them are 40 km to the south of the KBA. In addition, 50 clones of Iris haynei were discovered to the north western parts of the KBA. This population of

	Iris haynei is not known at the national or international level. More work is needed to evaluate the status of the newly discovered population of *Iris haynei*. Improved knowledge, population size and distribution range of Iris Atrofusca.
4.6 Number of KBAs for which information on plants is improved Improved management practices in at least 8 unprotected sites important for plants (including creation of micro-reserves, etc.).	An in situ conservation site was created at 14.2 dunums (1.42 hectares) of land within the KBA to conserve and protect 120 clones of *Iris atrofusca*. The site is under supervision of the ministry of agriculture, Environmental Quality authority, and the municipality of Tammoun, and the village council of Atuf village.
4.7 Number of young professionals with substantial experience in plant conservation gained At least 6 young professionals (at least 3 men, 3 women) gain substantial experience in plant conservation.	During the project period, a volunteer from Nature Palestine Society as well as the project manager of the project, gain substantial knowledge in plant conservation and identification of endemic, near endemic and rare plant species through conducted field survey and training, workshops and through the process of establishing the in-situ conservation site.

Contribution to Global Indicators

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

15) 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.

-The project does not include management of KBAs, however, the created in-situ conservation site on a total land of 14.2 dunums is located within the North Eastern Slopes region KBA, which partially and indirectly support the management of the KBA.

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
North Easter Slopes region KBA	1.42 hectares	*PP*

** 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.*

16) Protected Areas

16a. 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**

** 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).*

16b. 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.

17) 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

** 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.

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

# of men receiving structured training *	# of women receiving structured training *
2	1

**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	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.

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 benefitting	# of women and girls benefitting

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

18b. Geolocation of each community

Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the community, to the extent possible, or upload a map or shapefile. 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).

Name of Community	Latitude	Longitude
…		

19. Policies, Laws and Regulations

Please report on change in the number of legally binding laws, regulations, and policies with conservation provisions that have been enacted or amended, as a result of CEPF investment. "Laws and regulations" pertain to official rules or orders, prescribed by authority. Any law, regulation, decree or order is eligible to be included. "Policies" that are adopted or pursued by a government, including a sector or faction of government, are eligible.

19a. Name, scope and topic of the policy, law or regulation that has been amended or enacted as a result of your project

No.		Scope (mark with x)			Topic(s) addressed (mark with x)														
	Name of Law, Policy or Regulation	Local	National	Regional/International	Agriculture	Climate	Ecosystem Management	Education	Energy	Fisheries	Forestry	Mining and Quarrying	Planning/Zoning	Pollution	Protected Areas	Species Protection	Tourism	Transportation	Wildlife Trade
1																			
2																			
…																			

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					
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		
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						

2						
…						

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:

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