

CEPF Final Completion and Impact Report

Organization's Legal Name:	Associação Programa Tatô
Project Title:	Muala Kandja (Mulher Luz): Promover o Empoderamento Feminino em prol da conservação do meio ambiente na Ilha de São Tomé
Grant Number:	CEPF-112485
Hotspot:	Guinean Forests of West Africa
Strategic Direction:	4 Build the capacity of local civil society organizations, including Indigenous People's, women's and youth groups, to conserve and manage globally important biodiversity
Grant Amount:	
Project Dates:	October 01, 2021 - March 31, 2022
Date of Report:	

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

- Association of former women sea turtle traders "Quero Ter um Futuro com Destino" Programa Tatô has been working closely with this community-based productive group composed exclusively of former sea turtle women traders since 2016. During this project, this association has benefited from training, resources and technical support to diversify their products for the local market. These women were involved in the preparation and facilitation of the dialogue spaces between women from the 6 target communities.

- Fundação Príncipe

Fundação Príncipe participated in the training workshop focusing on the production of reusable menstrual pads organized in Sao Tome for the women productive groups in order to reduce the costs of the project developed by Fundação Príncipe and to promote the experience exchange between the organizations of São Tomé Island involved in the project. Also, a trip was organized for exchange of knowledge and experience, where 3 members of the women productive group of Sao Tomé went to Príncipe Island to value lessons learned on the capacity building of community groups of women involved in handicraft production and reusable products as an economic alternative of activities harmful to biodiversity. Together with Fundação Príncipe it was also promoted the first national meeting of the Network of Civil Society Women organizations of São Tomé and Príncipe (Rede das Mulheres da Sociedade Civil de São Tomé e Príncipe) a national women's movement for the sustainable development of São Tomé and Príncipe, to create a network of exchange, mutual assistance and learning.

- Association Missão Dimix

The Association Missão Dimix participated in this project by leading and facilitating the training workshop on the production of reusable menstrual pads.

- Association Mamã Catxina
Programa Tatô established a partnership with the Mamã Catxina Association, to value its extensive experience in communication and awareness-raising of santomean women.

CONSERVATION IMPACTS

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

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
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Unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

One negative unexpected impact, was the fact that we produced less menstrual pads than predicted in the project proposal. Although we expected to produce 1300 menstrual pads, due to several challenges and difficulties encountered and described below, only 314 reusable menstrual pads were produced during the project duration. Nevertheless, we will continue to produce these menstrual pads and sell them on the local market.

A positive unexpected impact was the invitation of the NGO Helpo and the Institute of Drugs and Drug addiction of Sao Tome, to Programa Tatô and the productive group of women to lead and facilitate two dialogue sessions on biodiversity conservation, reduction of pollution, health and menstrual education, in two coastal communities in the southern coast of São Tomé Island (Angra toldo and Ribeira Peixe) where 44 women and 37 men were present. At the end of the sessions, reusable menstrual pads produced by the association "Quero Ter Um Futuro Com Destino" were distributed for each woman participating in the meeting, purchased by the NGO Helpo.

PROJECT RESULTS/DELIVERABLES

Overall results of the project:

This project was very positive, interesting and useful, with an integrated approach, contributing not only to raise environmental awareness, promote biodiversity conservation, environmental protection and reduction of pollution, but also contributing to gender equality, the improvement of livelihoods and the quality of life of several members of local coastal communities, capacity building of civil society organizations led by women and partnerships between them.

This project was an important opportunity to diversify the activities of the group of former sea turtle women traders, helping them to be less dependent on the tourism sector to sell their handicrafts production (in the context of Covid19), making them more resilient and thus more committed to mitigating threats to sea turtles, thus contributing to the conservation of marine biodiversity and the reduction of marine pollution, thanks to the promotion to the use of reusable products.

The project took advantage of important opportunities and valued ongoing initiatives through the exchange of experiences and training mutual efforts by Associação Missão Dimix and Associação Mamã Catxina. These partnerships were very positive and allowed the women's productive group to increase their capacities both at the production level of a new product, as well as at the organizational, leadership and communication levels. 314 reusable menstrual pads were produced, 217 of which were freely distributed and are being used by

vulnerable women from the 6 target coastal communities and 97 were sold on the local market.

The partnership with Fundação Príncipe was very positive and allowed to promote the exchange of experiences and maximize the impact of our actions at the national level; thus strengthening the collaborations between the sea turtle conservation programs of the two islands of Sao Tome and Principe.

Several informative and awareness-raising tools and materials were designed and developed about environmental preservation and women's empowerment such as posters (50 posters), flyers (2500 units), t-shirts (200 units) and awareness-raising spots broadcasted on the national media (4); see the photographs and links of these awareness-raising media attached to the report. Surveys of women and young women in target communities (Morro Peixe, Fernão Dias, Micoló, Gamboa, Loxinga and Cruz) were carried out among women who participated in dialogue groups about their perceptions of threats to marine biodiversity, problems related to marine pollution and menstrual habits, in order to understand the dimension of the use of disposable products and the impacts associated with waste production on the island. The results demonstrated not only an opportunity in the production of other reusable products, but also demonstrated that there is a lot of work that needs to be done in terms of raising awareness on the indiscriminate waste disposal linked to intimate hygiene and other household activities in nature to minimize impacts on public health, environment and biodiversity.

The group of 17 former sea turtle women traders engaged in a process of professional reconversion since 2016 showed great interest and enthusiasm for the project and actively participated in both of the design of reusable pads, as well as raising awareness among coastal communities about the importance of reducing marine and terrestrial pollution and using adapted solutions to the women's needs like reusable menstrual pads. This contributed to strengthen the professional reconversion process and therefore mitigate impacts on sea turtle population. There was also a good level of participation and interest of women living in the 6 target coastal communities, in all the sessions of dialogue spaces between women, organized by the project This contributed to the adoption of more environmentally friendly practices for preserving the coastal and marine environment, improving women's menstrual health and empowering these women.

Results for each deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable

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

PORTFOLIO INDICATORS

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
1.4	Number of local communities targeted by sustainable livelihood/job creation activities or benefit-sharing mechanisms show tangible wellbeing benefits (target: At least 30).	6	Consolidation of the professional reconversion process of 17 women turtle traders from 6 communities in the production of ecological reusable products destined for the local market to prevent a recurrence of illegal practices by this vulnerable group	6	The women involved in the alternative livelihoods represent 6 communities in the coastal areas of Sao Tome, and led the community spaces of discussion through the project
4.2	Number of women-led conservation and development organizations, associations and networks are established and strengthened to foster gender equality in natural resource	1	Strengthening women's organisations to promote gender equality and biodiversity conservation, through capacity building and the training of the group of former women sea turtle	1	Programa Tatô has been accompanying, supporting and ensuring continuous training for this group of women since 2016 and is committed to continuing to monitor the development and growth of their activities so that they can gain autonomy and guarantee the sustainability

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
	management and benefit sharing (target: At least 20).		traders on the island of São Tome.		of their professional reconversion in the long term. Additionally, the women group "Quero ter um futuro com destino" integrated the National Network of Women for Sustainable Development of São Tomé will also guarantee the support, exchange, mutual assistance and learning from a network of women at national level.
4.3	Number of local civil society organizations demonstrate increased communication capacity in ways that support the delivery of their mission (target: At least 20).	1	The 17 women former sea turtle traders become community leaders able to sensitize their communities to women empowerment, environmental conservation and marine pollution reduction, and become agents of behaviour change in the 6 target communities.	1	The 17 women participated in training actions improving their skills and techniques in awareness-raising and communication. These women learned to create an environment of trust with coastal communities' members where everything could be shared without fear or judgment and all doubts cleared. 199 women and young women participated in the dialogue sessions and we presume that more than 500 women raised their environmental awareness through the radio spots transmitted in the National Radio.

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
3.1	Number of Critically Endangered and Endangered species with priority actions identified in Conservation Action Plans being implemented (target: for at least 15).	2	Implementation of the priorities identified in the Action Plan for the Conservation of CR Eretmochelys imbrica and EN Chelonia mydas Sea Turtle Species on the island of São Tomé, through the reduction of trade and consumption of these species.	2	By strengthening the productive women group professional reconversion process we have contributed to sea turtles conservation by preventing these women to return to their illegal activities of sea turtle trading.
3	Number of globally threatened species targeted by CEPF grants with populations stable or increasing (target: at least 30).	2	Decreased pressure on at least 2 sea turtle endangered species nesting on the beaches of Sao Tome Island through the eradication of illegal networks for the commercialization of endangered species via the reconversion of former women sea turtle traders	3	During this year, we were able to identify another sea turtle trading network in the north part of the island. we expect to create and involve this new group of traders in a conversion process and develop alternative livelihoods for these women like for the 1st group. As a result of our efforts, 3 sea turtle species' populations' nesting on STP beach have increased.

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
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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
	19	

- **Cash Benefits:**

Number of Men – Cash Benefits	Number of Women – Cash Benefits	Description of Benefits
	19	

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			
Morro Peixe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sao Tome and Principe	0	2
Fernão Dias	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sao Tome and Principe	0	3
Micoló	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sao Tome and Principe	0	3
Gamboa	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sao Tome and Principe	0	3
Loxinga	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sao Tome and Principe	0	3

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
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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
Programa Tatô - Quero ter um futuro com destino	2016	Sao Tome and Principe	No	Programa Tatô has been accompanying, supporting and ensuring continuous training of the women group " Quero ter um futuro com destino" (former sea turtle trader) since 2016 and is committed to continuing to monitor the development and growth of their activities so that they can gain autonomy and guarantee the sustainability of their professional reconversion in the long term.

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?
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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
Dermochelys	coriacea	Coffin-back	VU	Implementation of priorities identified in the Action Plan for the conservation of critically endangered and endangered sea turtle species present on the island of São Tomé, through the reduction of trade and consumption of these species.	Unknown
Eretmochelys	imbricata	Hawksbill Turtle	CR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduction of trade and consumption of the Hawksbill Turtle. - Protection of main nesting and feeding sites. 	Increasing
Chelonia	mydas	Green Turtle	EN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduction of trade and consumption of the Green Turtle. - Protection of main nesting and feeding sites. 	Increasing
Lepidochelys	olivacea	Pacific Ridley	VU	Implementation of priorities identified in the Action Plan for the conservation of critically endangered and endangered sea turtle species present on the island of São Tomé, through the reduction of trade and consumption of these species.	Increasing

LESSONS LEARNED

- a. To ensure that the dialogue sessions in the target communities had success, we did a participatory pre-assessment of the participants' expectations and the topics they would like to address before each dialogue session. The fact that each dialogue session was prepared in advance, selected an adequate environment for holding the meetings to ensure a good women group atmosphere, and the use of interactive games and facilitation techniques to build trust and confidence among the participants, was extremely positive.
- b. Midway through the project period we realized that the productive group of women had to be divided into tasks for an effective production of the reusable pads. So, a better organization of tasks and a longer period of adaptation were needed, since the sewing of the pads requires practice and experience, in order to guarantee their quality. After an analysis and assessment of each woman's abilities, the work was divided in specific tasks for each woman according to their individual skills and capacities in order to increase the production.

SUSTAINABILITY/REPLICATION

With this project implementation, Programa Tatô, together with its partner organizations (Fundação Príncipe, Missão Dimix and Mamã Catxina), trained, built capacity, shared experiences and diversified the activities of the women part of the productive group of former sea turtle traders "Quero ter um futuro com destino" (I want a future with destiny). The development of this new product, like the reusable menstrual pads, as well as the as well as the previous handicraft products already in production before the project start, will continue to be developed, benefiting from the partnerships developed during the project period, as well as their follow-up and supervision, so that this activity continues its effectiveness in the long term.

We expect to continue to develop new partnerships to support their business and to raise awareness among more people, like the partnership that was recently developed with the NGO Helpo and the Institute of Drugs and Drug addiction by the end of the project, where dialogue sessions on biodiversity conservation, reduction of pollution, health and menstrual education, were organized for 81 people (women and men) and distributed reusable menstrual pads made by the productive group and purchased by the NGO Helpo.

By investing in the diversification of handicraft products made by the women productive group and in products that can supply the local market, it allows us to respond to the needs of São Tomé society and consequently to achieve economic profitability more quickly and, therefore, the economic sustainability of these group of women.

In addition to the local sale, we are valuing the selling spots of both Programa Tatô and the productive group of women available to a target audience with greater financial capabilities and, therefore, can be sold at more competitive prices to improve the performance of this productive group.

Programa Tatô has been accompanying, supporting and ensuring continuous training for this group of women since 2016 and is committed to continuing to monitor the development and growth of their activities so that they can gain autonomy and guarantee the sustainability of their professional reconversion in the long term.

The integration of the productive group of women "Quero ter um futuro com destino" in the National Network of Women for Sustainable Development of São Tomé will also guarantee the support, exchange, mutual assistance and learning from a network of women at national level.

The project will also guarantee the construction of a relationship between the production group and local suppliers and stores to ensure that the production and value chain of their products takes place in a regular and smooth manner.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS/STANDARDS

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Total Amount of Additional Funding Actually Secured (USD)	\$5,905.00
Breakdown of Additional Funding	Co-funding (USFWS USD 3,436.00, Tusk Award USD 2,469.00)

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.