

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	Centre for Environment and Development (CED)
Project Title:	Produce local-language materials on biodiversity conservation using results of ongoing and completed CEPF projects and other research outputs to disseminate among local ethnic communities, Forest Departments and other key stakeholders in the Anamalai part of Western Ghats
Date of Report:	
Report Author and Contact Information	Dr. K.H. Amitha Bachan, Dr. Babu Ambat, Dr. T.R Vinod and Dr. Maya Mohan

CEPF Region:

Strategic Direction: Strategic Direction 2: Improve the conservation of globally threatened species through systematic conservation planning and action

Grant Amount: \$ 18500

Project Dates: 1st November 2011 to 28th February 2013

Implementation Partners for this Project (please explain the level of involvement for each partner):

The project envisaged to produce local language based nearly 21 different publications to support biodiversity conservation in the Anamalai part of Western Ghats. The Centre for Environment and Development (CED), Thiruvananthapuram and the Western Ghats Hornbill Foundation (WGHF) took lead role in bringing nearly 25 different publications under seven categories. All these were expected to bring in hard copies with proper collaborations with other research organizations, Government Departments, local self Governments etc. The project succeeded in bringing four books and seven other publications in kind contribution from following organizations.

1. Kerala Forest department and Forest Development Agency Vazhachal forest division,
2. Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) Athirapilly Grama Panchayath,
3. Community Development Society (CDS) Athirapilly Grama Panchayath
4. Western Ghats Hornbill Foundation, and Centre for Environment and Development.

As continuation few other organizations (Periyar Foundation and FDA Periyar Tiger Reserve, FDA-Parambikulam Tiger Reserve, State Tribal Department, Kerala Forest Department, FDA Vazhachal Forest Division, Adivasi Gothra Mahasabha and Kavery Adivasi Vanitha Society, Waynad have become ready to contribute in bringing hard copies of more books under publication. Many experts from various organizations also contributed for developing content of the books and a detailed account of collaborating institutions, individuals and partners are provided in the **Technical Report**.

Conservation Impacts

Please explain/describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile.

The project was planned to contribute towards implementation of CEPF Ecosystem Profile strategic Direction **Strategic Direction 2: *Improve the conservation of globally threatened species through systematic conservation planning and action***

Investment Priority 2.4 *Support interdisciplinary efforts to analyze and disseminate biodiversity data*

- (i) *produce local-language materials and use them to disseminate the results of on-going and completed CEPF projects among local communities, Forest Departments and other key stakeholders;*

The publications envisaged through this project supposed to contribute towards better understanding of biodiversity, its values and role of various stake holders in conservation in the Anamalai corridor. As a result of the project we have released hard copies of four books, one poster, one calendar, one floor puzzles, and four different sets of flash cards to various stake holders ranging from ethnic community members to Govt officials.

This has created wide range of public awareness among local indigenous community members, VSS/EDC members, Tourists, Conservationists and students including tribal kids not only in Anamalai corridors but also in other parts of Southern Western Ghats. All these materials were published in multilingual incorporating Malayalam (Mother tongue), local tribal language and English.

The nature education series Education of tribal kids were prepared to suit Kadar ethnic communities and distributed among Eight Kadar Settlements of the Vazhachal Forest Division with the support of ICDS, Athirapilly Grama Panchayath. This has helped in empowerment of tribal children, non tribal students as well as Teachers of tribal and non tribal schools.

The book on Forest Rights Act 2006 and Community Forest Resource supported significantly in the empowerment of tribal Grama Sabhas, Government Officials such as Forest department, Tribal department and Revenue Departments, local Self Governments and public. The books, booklets and other ready to print materials also target to distribute among various strata of stake holders.

More than that the publications provided a public awareness on CEPF supported Western Ghats Conservation Grants among various stakeholders of the state.

Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project against the expected results detailed in the approved proposal.

The project envisaged to pool an essence of CEPF supported conservation projects in the Anamalai to produce local language based material supporting biodiversity conservation. This was envisaged to achieve through following steps.

1. Identify partners/contributors from CEPF-Anamalai Grantees,
2. Pool an essence of Biodiversity Related information,
3. Prepare matter-make translation into local language,
4. Designing and preparation of soft copy ready print material,
5. Establish partnership for publication,
6. Publish in hardcopy
7. Distribute Among Various Stakeholders.

The publications were categorized into seven in the approved proposal and work plan.

Category 1. Kids Books (Highly illustrated story book),

Category 2. Partly illustrated readable story books,

Category 3. Nature Education Series Books,

Category 4. Field Guides,

Category 5. Hand Books for Tribesmen,

Category 6. Natural History series/reports and

Category 7. Posters, pamphlets, stickers, puzzles, cards etc for public awareness.

In a broader assessment nearly 21 different themes were identified under the seven categories initially looking at nine different CEPF supported conservation projects and 10 other conservation/research outputs of the implementation organizations. 31 potential contributors were also identified from the area based on their expertise and involvement in conservation research in the Anamalai corridor of the Western Ghats.

Total 25 publications were finalized of which 13 are books or booklets and 12 are posters, puzzles, calendars, stickers flash cards etc. One book in Category I (illustrated Kids book)

1. Kuttium Vezhambalum (The Kid and the Hornbill), two books in category II (Partly illustrated readable story books)

2. The Elephant Calf and Wild Jackfruit Tree (Anakkuttium Kattuplavum),

3. Hornbill and Black Dammar seed (Vezhambalum Thellivithum), Three books under Category III (Nature Education Series Books) 3. My Home (Ente Veedu),

4. Forest My Land (Kadu Ente Nadu),

5. Learn from Nature- Activity book (Nammude Prakrithiyil Ninnulla Padanam), Three Books under Category IV. (Field Guides)

6. Mammals of Anamalais (Anamalaile Sasthanikal),
 7. Fishes of Anamalais (Anamalaile Matshyanagl),
 8. Forest Trees of Anamalais (Anamalaile Vanavrikshangal), One book and two booklets under category V (Hand Books for Tribesmen),
 9. Book on Forest Right Act and CFR,
 10. Booklet on CFR, CR and Community Reserve,
 11. Booklet on Procedures for CFR (Mapping, claiming and declaration),
- One book in Category VI Natural History series/reports:
12. A decade with Kadar, Hornbills and the rainforests of Anamalais). And 12 different publications under category VII (Posters, pamphlets, stickers, puzzles, cards etc for public awareness.

Out of the 25 materials (13 books/ booklets) developed, 11 materials (Four books, one poster, one calendar, one floor puzzles, and four different sets of flash cards) were published in hard copies and distributed to various stake holders. Three books and four stickers are soft copy ready, four books including field guides are soft copies on final stage and one book under the natural history series materials are on final stage.

Appendix 2 provides details and status of produced materials.

Six stakeholder workshops, two contributor's workshops including CEPF Anamalai Grantees workshop at Coimbatore were conducted prior to the finalization of materials. Three material release functions were held

1. Release of calendar in local language using pictures drawn by Tribal Kids on 14/1/2012 at Vettilappara tribal School by Mr. Baby K Thomas, President Athirapilly Grama Panchayath President.
2. Release of tribal language based educational package by Ms. P.K. Jayalakshmi, Hon. Minister of Tribal Welfare, Kerala State at Tribal School at Vazhachal on 21st July 2012 and
3. Release of Book on Forest Right Act by Prof. M.K. Prasad, Veteran environmentalist at Kerala Environment Congress, organized by CED, Thiruvananthapuram on 9/10/2014.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: NA

Species Conserved: NA

Corridors Created: NA

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

The project goal to bring partnerships and prepare different (nearly 25) publications in a year itself was a big challenge. But we succeeded in developing materials for nearly 25 publications including 13 books/booklets of which four already produced in hardcopy and six in softcopies and nine under final stages of publications. Also nearly 12 materials like calendars, posters, stickers etc were successfully produced and distributed to public. The major reason being collaborated efforts of the implementation team The CED and WGHF and CEPF-ATREE Team along with Kadar Tribal communities of Vazhachal, Kerala Forest Department, Tribal Department, Local Grama Panchayath and other major contributors chiefly the CEPF-Anamalai Grantees.

Voluntary inputs from many persons because of the project's inclusive approach to bring people and organizations together providing proper credits, role played by the CEPF-ATREE team to bring people together and commitment of all the partners, contributors for conservation outputs were the major reason for its success. More than a decade field level experience of the PI and implementation team in working with indigenous communities, forest and other Govt department, local self-governments and general public also helped to achieve its goal in time.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

The nature education series published as a multilingual education package distributed among Anganwadis of Vazhachal Forest area got wide attention and now it is being distributed among tribal communities in the Parambikulam Tiger Reserve Area and translated to other tribal languages Wayanad (four tribal language – Paniya, Adiya, Kattunaika and Kurumba, Malayar and Muthuvan of Anamalais, Mannan and Paliya of Periyar Tiger Reserve. The strategy to publish with an in-kind contribution from various agencies to distribute freely among various stakeholders ensured free access and empowerment of grass-root level conservationists and stake holders of the marginalized community.

Lessons Learned

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 projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.

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

- I. Inclusion of local language and also being multilingual
- II. Inclusion of content and material from the life, nature and biodiversity of the landscape

- III. Collaborated effort bringing partnership of wide range of experts, contributors and stake holders
- IV. Integration of science, local knowledge and natural history

Project Implementation: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings)

- I. Expertise and contribution for contents from various people with due credits
- II. Collaboration of various organizations, Govt. departments and local self governments in publication
- III. Free distribution of the published materials to various stakeholders chiefly indigenous community groups, schools and field level conservationists including officials through workshops and empowerment

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

Responses of various stakeholders and public towards local language materials in different formats indicate lack of enough local language based and local experienced based publications supporting biodiversity conservation. The inclusion of local languages, local experiences, stories from their surroundings and scientific publications with local names and language provides strong bondage for owning up of the content by stakeholders of various kinds.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
CDS, Athirapilly Grama Panchayth	Publication of Calendar using pictures drawn by Tribal Kids	Rs. 9,900.00	B
Kerala Forest Department, Vazhachal Forest Division	Poster on hornbill	Rs. 4,000.00	B
ICDS, Athirapilly Grama Panchayath	For Publication of Tribal Language based Education Package	Rs. 100,000.00	B
Western Ghats Hornbill Foundation	For Publication of Tribal Language based Education Package	Rs. 350,000.00	B
Centre For Environment and Development	Publication of Book on FRA and CFR	Rs. 49,000.00	B

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

A Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF 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 project.)

- C** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

Sustainability/Replicability

Summarize the success or challenge in achieving planned sustainability or replicability of project components or results.

11 hard copy publications out of the 25 ready to print materials itself provided a platform for sustainability of the 'local language based publication' beyond the project period. Hard copies are being distributed to various stakeholders through various workshops and awareness programs still now. The remaining 14 materials including story books and field guides provide an opportunity for future fruitful collaborations for publication and distribution among various stakeholders in and outside the Anamalai corridor. Fund raising through sale of materials published (50% of the hardcopy, 50% distributed free to the immediate stakeholders) provide opportunity for future replicability and sustainability of the process.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

Some publications such as tribal language based nature education series/ education package created a great demand from other indigenous communities of the state to get translated into other indigenous languages. The process is under discussion to translate the books into seven other tribal languages in the Wayanad and Periyar-Agasthyamala landscape.

The book on FRA and CFR got attention all over the state as well as in national level as an important resource material. Other ready to print materials also provides similar possibilities in an increased magnitude in the sustainability and replicability of the process beyond the project period.

Content of many books including field guides were being used by Tribal people, Forest officials and other officials for proper functioning of various conservation programs such as FRA implementation, CFR declaration, Ecological monitoring, identification of Flora and Fauna and effective survey and natural forest enumeration for Working Plan Preparations.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

Not applicable

Performance Tracking Report Addendum

CEPF Global Targets

(Enter Grant Term)

Provide a numerical amount and brief description of the results achieved by your grant.
Please respond to only those questions that are relevant to your project.

Project Results	Is this question relevant?	If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.	Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.	Describe the principal results achieved from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. (Attach annexes if necessary)
1. Did your project strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.	No			Please also include name of the protected area(s). If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas did your project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?	No			Please also include name of the protected area. If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
3. Did your project strengthen biodiversity conservation and/or natural resources management inside a key biodiversity area identified in the CEPF ecosystem profile? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	No			
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	No			
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.				

If you answered yes to question 5, please complete the following table. NA

Additional Comments/Recommendations

Acceptance of the programme 'local language based publication of materials supporting biodiversity conservation' by general public and various stakeholders indicate the need of useful local language based, practically useful publications based on conservation research outputs and biodiversity information are a necessity. Such publications has great relevance in effective implementation of conservation programs, policy implementation, developing pressure groups for better policy changes and bringing conservation in action along with scientific reports and papers. Such outputs have to be given priority at least for conservation Action researches in future.

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:

Name: Dr. Babu Ambat & Dr. K.H Amitha Bachan

Organization name: Centre for Environment and Development (CED)

Mailing address: Thozhuvancode, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala 695013

Tel: +91 471 2369720; 21 (O)

Fax: +91 9447553885

E-mail: director@cedindia.org, amithab@poetic.com