

CEPF Final Completion and Impact Report

Organization's Legal Name:	Centre for Environment and Community Assets Development
Project Title:	Conservation of Critically Endangered and Endemic Bent-toed Geckos in Vietnam
Grant Number:	CEPF-111890
Hotspot:	Indo-Burma III
Strategic Direction:	1 Safeguard priority globally threatened species by mitigating major threats
Grant Amount:	\$59,900.00
Project Dates:	July 01, 2021 - December 31, 2023
Date of Report:	March 01, 2024

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

The Center for Technology and Nature Conservation (CTNC): CTNC ran two SMART training courses in Ta Kou Nature Reserve and Ba Den Historical and Tourism Complex. With the new funding coming in, additional SMART training will be carried out at both sites.

Wildlife at Risk (WAR): Staff from WAR visited the project site and discussed about the possibility of establishing a breeding facility for Gia Lai bent-toed geckos. Funding for this activity is currently being raised.

Cologne Zoo: The zoo participated in designing conservation measures for all three gecko species. They are especially interested in setting up a captive breeding program for Gia Lai bent-toed geckos.

Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources (IEBR): IEBR were deeply involved in the project from designing field surveys, developing conservation measures to creating materials for raising awareness of the targeted species.

National University of Forestry (NUOF): NUOF supported the implementation of the scheme for payment for ecosystem service to protect Gia Lai bent-toed geckos and the arrangement of fieldwork in Chu Se, Gia Lai Province.

Institute of Tropical Biology (ITB): ITB assisted the field work in Ba Den and Ta Kou.

CONSERVATION IMPACTS

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Stable breeding populations of three critically endangered bent-toed geckos will be maintained within their native range in Vietnam by 2026.	Based on the results of our research, two species, the Ta Kou Bent-toed Gecko and the Black-eyed Bent-toed Gecko, seem to maintain stable breeding populations, although direct threats need to be mitigated to make sure the situation is not getting worse. For the Gia Lai Bent-toed Gecko, no stable population has been identified. We are working to locate priority areas with good habitat and also start a captive breeding program for the species.
At least two Vietnamese civil society organizations involve in long-term conservation actions of the three species by 2026.	Center for Technology and Nature Conservation and Wildlife at Risk have been involved in long-term conservation actions of the species. In addition, the Central Institute for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies has also engaged extensively in the project activities and been committed to support future activities to better conserve the three CR species.

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

Impact Description	Impact Summary
At the end of the project, population status, distribution range, and threat severity to three critically endangered bent-toed geckos, <i>Cyrtodactylus gialaiensis</i> , <i>C. nigriocularis</i> , and <i>C. takouensis</i> , will be updated through peer-review publications.	Two manuscripts focusing on population status of Gia Lai and Ta Kou bent-toed geckos have been completed and will be submitted to international journals after internal review.
One conservation strategy covering the three species will be developed with local stakeholders, partners, and experts to better conserve the species from anthropogenic threats by the end of the first year of the project.	Several conservation measures have been successfully implemented for the three targeted species at the end of the project. The conservation strategy is finalized based on the consultation workshop held between relevant stakeholders in December of 2023.
At least five priority conservation measures recommended in the conservation strategy to secure core populations of the three species will be implemented by the end of the project.	Five priority conservation measures, including raising local people and visitor awareness on the species, training protected areas' staff and rangers on using SMART for patrolling, designing patrol routes based on the survey results, setting up a payment-for-ecosystem-service scheme to protect the only confirmed habitat of Gia Lai bent-toed geckos, and listing three species in the Vietnam's Red Data Book, have been successfully implemented.
The top priority threat to each of the species will have been identified and significantly reduced at the end of the project.	Top priority threat to each species has been identified, but to reduce the threats need more time to achieve due to their complex nature, especially with the Gia Lai Bent-toed Gecko. However, additional efforts are made to identify natural habitat of the species and establish a breeding program for the species.

Impact Description	Impact Summary
At least three young researchers and/or conservation practitioners will gain skills and knowledge in conservation of reptiles.	Four young researchers have participated in conducting field surveys, writing reports, analyzing data, drafting scientific paper manuscripts, designing conservation activities, and presenting results in the final workshop.

Unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

No

PROJECT RESULTS/DELIVERABLES

Overall results of the project:

The project have been successfully implemented five priority conservation measures for three targeted species, i.e., raising awareness of relevant stakeholders, training protected areas' staff and local rangers in using SMART for patrolling, designing patrol routes based on the field survey results, protecting the only confirmed habitat of Gia Lai bent-toed geckos through a payment-for-ecosystem-service scheme, and listing the three species in the Vietnam's Red Data Book.

The population status of the three targeted gecko species have been greatly improved and threats to the taxa are better understood to help the development of effective conservation measures.

Young researchers have received hand-on experience in conducting field survey, analyzing data, designing conservation activities, and writing reports and scientific papers. They will continue conservation actions for the species in the coming years.

Local managers understand the conservation status of targeted species and are committed to protecting them from direct threats.

Results for each deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1.0	Determine population status, distribution range, and habitat suitability	1.1	Three technical reports summarizing findings from three field and interview surveys on three targeted species in three sites	Three reports were completed and disseminated to relevant stakeholders.
1.0	Determine population status, distribution range, and habitat suitability	1.2	One to two peer-reviewed papers published in national/international journals based on the results of the study	Two manuscripts have been completed pending internal review before being submitted to international journals.
2.0	Assess direct threats to the species	2.1	Three technical reports for three sites produced outlining the results of the threat assessment	Three reports were completed and disseminated to relevant stakeholders.
3.0	Develop a conservation strategy for targeted species	3.1	A conservation strategy developed for three bent-toed gecko species	The conservation strategy is finalized based on the results of the final consulting workshop.
4.0	Implement priority conservation measures	4.1	Three reports summarizing outcomes of conservation measure implementation for three species	Three reports were completed and disseminated to relevant stakeholders.
4.0	Implement priority conservation measures	4.2	At least four protected area members successfully trained in SMART as shown through SMART reports generated by the trainees	More than ten members of two targeted protected area were trained in SMART.
5.0	Advocate for the targeted bent-toed geckos to be	5.1	Targeted bent-toed geckos included in the national protected species list	Three species have now been listed in the Vietnam's Red Data Book, one as Endangered and two as Critically Endangered.

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
	included in Vietnam's protected species list			
6.0	CEPF compliance	6.1	Compliance with CEPF's Stakeholder Engagement Best Practice monitored and reported to CEPF	Compliance with CEPF's Stakeholder Engagement Best Practice monitored and reported to CEPF.
6.0	CEPF compliance	6.2	Baseline and final civil society tracking tools for CECAD	Baseline and final civil society tracking tools for CECAD have been submitted.

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

Two manuscripts have been completed and are currently reviewed internally.

PORTFOLIO INDICATORS

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
1	Number of civil society organizations, including domestic organizations, that actively participate in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile.	2	At least two civil society organizations, CECAD and CRES, will involve in implementing conservation measures to protect the targeted bent-toed geckos.		
1.1	Number of priority species with long-term conservation	3	Secure core populations of three critically endangered and endemic bent-		

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
	programs sustained until 2025.		toed geckos in Vietnam		

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

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

Benefits to Individuals

- **Structured Training:**

Number of Men Trained	Number of Women Trained	Topics of Training

- **Cash Benefits:**

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

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			

Characteristics of "Other" Communities:

Policies, Laws and Regulations

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

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

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

No.	Country/ Countries	Date Enacted/ Amended	Expected impact	Action Performed to Achieve the Enactment/ Amendment
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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
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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
Cyrtodactylus	gialaiensis	Gialai Bent-toed Gecko	CR	The project implemented a payment for ecosystem service scheme to protect its only confirmed habitat from harmful human activities, such as the use of pesticide and herbicide, change of crop plantation, soil excavation.	Decreasing
Cyrtodactylus	takouensis	Takou Bent-toed Gecko	CR	The project helped train Ta Kou Protected Area's staff and forest rangers in using SMART for the species monitoring. We were also involved in developing materials, such as posters and leaflets, to raise awareness of the visitors in the area.	Decreasing
Cyrtodactylus	nigriocularis		CR	The project helped train Ba Den Historical and Tourism Complex's staff and forest rangers in using SMART for the species monitoring. We were also involved in developing materials, such as posters and leaflets, to raise awareness of the visitors in the area.	Decreasing

LESSONS LEARNED

SUSTAINABILITY/REPLICATION

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS/STANDARDS

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Total Amount of Additional Funding Actually Secured (USD)	\$20,000.00
Breakdown of Additional Funding	13,000 from ASAP Foundation to support additional surveys of the Gia Lai Bent-toed Gecko and to raise awareness of local people and visitors in Ta Kou Nature Reserve. \$7,000 from Cologne Zoo to support SMART trainings in Ta Kou Nature Reserve and Ba Den Historical and Tourism Complex and a captive breeding program for the Gia Lai Bent-toed Gecko.

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.

Minh Le (minh.le.cres@gmail.com)