CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	LUPA – Associação para o desenvolvimento comunitário
Project Title:	**NAMULI BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION PROJECT**
Date of Report:	2017 February
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CEPF Region: Mozambique; Eastern Afro Montane Hotspot, Mount Namuli, Gurue district, Zambezia province

Strategic Direction: 1

Grant Amount: 20.000 $

Project Dates: June 2016 – February 2017

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

- LEGADO/ USA NGO: promoted the training in conservations agriculture (permagarden) and have partnership with LUPA.
- DPASA (Direcção Provincial de Agricultura e Segurança Alimentar): Supervise SDAE – Gurué for activities of conservations agriculture (permagarden);
- DPTADR (Direcção Provincial de Terra, Ambiente e Desenvolvimento rural): superviser the environment activities and promote rural development in province.
- FORUM DE ZAMBEZIA (ENVIRONMENT): Coordinator our activities in provincial level;
- Gurue District Government: involved in facilitation process and planning together our works with the communities;
- SDAE Gurue: involved in training programs related to environmental education, agriculture of conservation (permagarden) and communities meetings;
- AMG (Associação dos Músicos de Gurué- local ONG): They were focused on environmental awareness and community activation, involved as collaborators at Participative Rural Appraisal activities and team group for discuss the achievements results as well as in community engagement and consultations. AMG was an active partner in the project, working directly with the field team in communities around Mount Namuli.
- Khaiya: shared the report of the study on the perceptions and customary practices of biodiversity management in the communities adjacent to Mount Namuli, which was a key contribution to the finalization of the PRA, as well as to the elaboration of the ecosystem profile.

Conservation Impacts

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

The project provided an overview of Namuli and the landscape in general which constitutes a necessary database for the implementation of the Ecosystem Profile. This assessment consisted of a participatory rural diagnosis that characterized the importance of biodiversity conservation, general conservation goals, the main threats, the political, biophysical, environmental, cultural and socioeconomic context of the Mucunha locality where the ecosystem is inserted, analyzing how these factors can affect conservation outcomes and how they can influence priorities for conservation actions. It was also crucial for the mapping and definition of priority conservation areas for biodiversity (High Conservation Value Areas above 1600 m altitude) where CEPF investments can be more effective, taking into account the conservation needs and the distribution of other investments.

The project supported the establishment of Community agreements with LEGADO/LUPA for the conservation of biodiversity and use of natural resources. This agreement was a community pre-consultation in the socio-environmental feasibility study for the establishment of a community conservation area in the region, in order to consult the community if it is willing to support the project of establishing a community-based protected area, in exchange for socioeconomic development projects. This pre-consultation was attended by 15 participants, of whom 3 were representatives of the district government of Gurué, highlighting the heads of the locality of Murrimo and Mucunha, as well as the representative of the Planning and District Infrastructures Services, responsible By the Environment area, and the rest were community leaders. The CEPF project increased local awareness of the importance of ecosystem conservation for socio-ecological resilience and economic benefits. It has therefore helped create an enabling environment for the establishment and dissemination of sustainable agriculture practices in the Numúli region.

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

Expected Results	Results
Raised awareness of importance of biodiversity conservation on Mt Namuli and options for developing community conservation areas.	The project raised awareness of the interdependence between the ecosystem socio-economic functions of Afromontane biodiversity, leveraging a remarkable contribution to the conservation of the Mts. Namuli, especially since the community itself called for the continuation of conservation agriculture projects (especially permagarden), and recommended the creation of natural resource management committees, and pledged themselves to in front of government during the community pre-consultation, in the scope of the socio-environmental feasibility study

	to establishment Protected Area, that would support initiatives to conserve biodiversity and natural resources in general.
PRA report provide to all the stakeholders to improve the understanding about the current use of natural resources in the area and the importance of conservation;	The results of the PRA show significant environmental damage to the flora, fauna, structure and composition of the soil, springs and watercourses as a result of the cyclical and vicious expansion of shifting cultivation, uncontrolled burning, population growth and the stimulation of the domestic Irish potato market and beans. Also the PRA was presented during 11st extraordinary section of the district government of Gurué, attended by members of government, NGOs and civil society in general. Aware of environmental degradation in the region, participants recommended the creation and strengthening of natural resource management committees, and intensification of environmental awareness, expansion of conservation agriculture as well as development of income generation alternatives.
A manual of permagarden techniques provide for trainers to use for another communities; and 4 demonstrations gardens provided. 10 community members, 5 field team members, 5 agricultural technicians and 5 local NGO staff trained (differentiate M/F)	The training of technical personnel was carried out, which were trained 19 participants of which 17 men and 2 women, being 6 community leaders from Namuli, 7 representatives of the Agriculture Institute of Gurué, 2 internal collaborators of the LUPA and 4 of the local civil society (AMG) for 4 days, in matters of conservation of water and soil in small home gardens and agricultural fields with the purpose of arm them in appropriate techniques of soil management, sustainable use of natural resources, water management and conservation
Communities around Namuli replicate the experience of permagarden in their homes and avoiding deforestation in the region. Permagarden replicate	The new practices transfer program covered 97 farmers of which 66 were men and 31 women (32%). After the training, a survey was conducted to assess the level of practice adoption. It was found that 72 farmers implement the practice and promote training, that is, they multiply the knowledge in the communities, of these are 47 men and 25 women

	corresponding to 72 and 81% of those trained in conservation agriculture, during the project.
Long term result (3-5 years): District Government submits a proposal about creation of and submits to the provincial level	We have submitted socio-environmental feasibility studies to creation a Protected Area to the donors but not yet approved. Therefore, the proposal didn't be submitted yet to provincial level.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: 0
Species Conserved: 0
Corridors Created: 0

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

Strengthening, training and qualification of civil society representation (AMG) And community leaders in training forums and seminars on issues related to the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources were essential for achieving the goals in any project strategy Long and / or short term. Cooperation, social dialogue and coordination with local government as well as the active involvement of the local community were initiatives that contributed positively to the integration of agriculture with biodiversity conservation and maintenance of ecosystem services. This work consisted in the training of the implementers and subsequent transfers of appropriate social technologies for the use of natural resources, with less environmental impact and greater income generation, to the other members of the community. This project has contributed to overcoming some of the regulatory barriers that prevent sustainable use of natural resources in Namuli from becoming a more efficient strategy for combining social development and biodiversity conservation, because conservation agriculture was the main strategy that stimulated and awakened Communities to take an interest in nature conservation.

However, ignorance, customary practices associated with resistance to change, as well as the lack of government technical assistance services to farmers were the main obstacles to the proper management of natural resources. The poor effectiveness of public policies and economic incentives to induce changes in production systems have also been major obstacles to achieving project goals. Lack of appreciation of the biological and social values of the mountainous ecosystem between communities. On the other hand, this project was the first initiative in the region that sought to reconcile conservation and socio-economic development.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

The project provided an overview of the ecosystem through a short documentary film that premiered during the Institutional Documentaries (INSTDOC) section of the Franco-Mozambican Center and around the world. This documentary helped to promote partnerships and mobilize financial resources (US$ 10630) from the Rainforest Trust to

implementation of socio-environmental feasibility study for the establishment of a community conservation area in Namúli.

In the same way, it has allowed to mobilize financing from Cooperation and cultural affairs services-French Embassy in Mozambique (25000 EUR), has already approved for project of strengthening Committees of Management of the Natural Resources. On the other hand, LUPA / LEGADO was asked to present the main threats to Biodiversity conservation on Mount Namúli during a Biodiversity Conservation Workshop carried out by the European Union, which took place on November 8, 2016, culminating in the selection of Namuli as one of the priority areas for EU Biodiversity Conservation investments. The results of the PRA were also shared in the Workshop on the Assessment of the Status of Endemic Species of Mount Namúli, organized by the Institute of Agricultural Research of Mozambique-IIAM in partnership with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and the National Biodiversity of South Africa, which took place on February 15-17, 2017 at the IIAM Campus and at the Pedagogical Complex of Eduardo Mondlane University.

From this project, the Namúli Mountains region is attracting more donor attention to conservation efforts, but funding totals are still far from necessary. It is therefore essential not only to mobilize more funds, but also to increase the participation of the Namúli Mountains region in existing sources of investment for the environment in the country.

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)

- Partnerships with local government and civil society in general were crucial to project implementation as they played an important role in the constant communication and awareness of local communities, as well as in the provision of information of the locality.

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

- Conservation projects need to be carried out by putting local communities to take ownership of them and to assume as owners and as actors in conservation and community development.

- The conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of natural resources requires the participation and commitment of all in the search for solutions to reconcile environmental conservation with economic and social production. Therefore, for this participation to be effective, it was necessary to clarify the local communities involved, informing them about the importance of biodiversity conservation, through programs that favor their involvement in education and environmental awareness processes.

- The involvement of a greater number of communities in the expansion of conservation agriculture has hampered the process of effective monitoring of demonstration fields on the farmer's farm, since communities are dispersed. Therefore, the project should have focused on two or three communities at most as pilot areas to facilitate monitoring of demonstration fields and subsequently be able to persuade other communities through the results obtained.

- There is a need to further explore the legislation on Conservation, Lands, and Wildlife Forests, as these still offer viable, inclusive and sustainable alternatives to conservation and rural development.

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

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
WWF	Small grants B	3.270 $	Permagarden training
Rainforest Trust	Small grant	10630 $	Socio-environmental feasibility study
French Embassy	PISCCA (Innovative projects of civil society and Actors)	25000 EUR	Creation and strengthening of committees of natural resources management

***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.

Strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations, and the local community at large, is critical to the long-term sustainability of the proposed actions. This strategy was adopted in the Mts. Namúli in the scope of CEPF's investment which has helped to promote partnerships and mobilize financial resources from Rainforest Trust to implement the socio-environmental feasibility study for the establishment of a community conservation area and from French Embassy in Mozambique for the project of strengthening Committees of Management of the Natural Resources. If the Rainforest Trust Project is approved, it would also allow strengthening and enhancing the skills of civil society and local communities for the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources.

Although awareness is a challenge, due to the low level of schooling associated with customary practices in the Mts. Namuli, there is a growing recognition of the importance of the environment in general including biodiversity, water and climate change. Therefore, if appropriate approaches continue to be used, emphasizing dialogue and the multiple mutual benefits of biodiversity conservation, the sustainability of conservation gains can be achieved in the medium and/or long term. However, due to the characteristics of the soil, climate and vegetation structure, the ecosystem restoration of the region still faces scientific and technological challenges that need to be overcome.

Some of the most profound and lasting changes in the environment and society could be achieved by changing the norms and rules that currently favor unsustainability. However, only the legislature can formulate, amend or repeal the laws themselves. Therefore, convincing the executive and legislative branches of government to change existing rules and rules requires knowledge of broader legal frameworks and legislative and administrative processes.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

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

LUPA did consultation directly in the community through interviews with different people, including the leaders of the region, during the fieldwork. The first day, a meeting with the all community was organized in order to explain the objectives of the work. After the meeting 3 groups were divided: men, women and young people. In each group elaborated a map of natural resources, infrastructures and the main problems affecting the area. After this activity all the groups joined in a plenary to present the results and coming to harmonization and consensus.

At that point, 10 people were selected by the community, 5 men and 5 women to assist the survey during the field work (interviews and visits crops field)-our representative group. Environmental education was carried out with the community and at school followed by an exercise on environmental monitoring action plan which was culminated with a construction of 2 latrines.

The representative group also visited the high camp with Ukalene productions and scientists and had a progress meeting and Q and A with the full project mid-way through the field time. Then, at the end of the field time the representative group, LUPA, and the full Lost Mountain team had a meeting with the whole community to close the fieldwork time with a presentation and question period.

Beside the social preparation done, several institutions in Gurúe were contacted with the objective of finding what were the actual situation of development in Namúli region and future plans. The institutions contacted were: Districts Services of Economic Activities-SDAE, Districts services of Planning and Infrastructure-SDPI, District Administration of Gurúe, Administrative Post of Gurúe and the Municipality. The main objective of these consultations with the institutions mentioned above was to present the project to them, and hearing from them the current and future situation with Namuli region in terms of development. These were done in May in Gurué with the heads of each institution.
In terms of letters or minutes of them meetings we did not have it. But notes were taken and written on the main report of the fieldwork (forthcoming).

Additional Comments/Recommendations

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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*****please complete the tables on the following pages*****

Performance Tracking Report Addendum

Project Results	Is this question relevant?	If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved for project from inception of CEPF support to date	Describe the principal results achieved during project period (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.	Yes	2025 ha	Increased environmental awareness, making farmers more sedentary thus reducing the opening of new agricultural areas.
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	yes	~1500 ha	Farmers trained in conservation agriculture (Permagarden) and prescribed / controlled burns.
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1below.	yes	6 Communities	Increased production and productivity of Irish potato crop yield (Average yield from 79 cans/ha to 173** cans/ha) resulting in improved family income. (1 cans = 16 kg).

** This value was estimated based on the average income of farmers involved in conservation agriculture training

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

Table 1. Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities

Please complete this table if your project provided concrete socioeconomic benefits to local communities. List the name of each community in column one. In the subsequent columns under Community Characteristics and Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit, place an X in all relevant boxes. In the bottom row, provide the totals of the Xs for each column.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics								Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit												
									Increased Income due to:												
	Small landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists/nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty rate	Other	Adoption of sustainable natural resources management practices	Ecotourism revenues	Park management activities	Payment for environmental services	Increased food security due to the adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or agricultural practices	More secure access to water resources	Improved tenure in land or other natural resource due to titling, reduction of colonization, etc.	Reduced risk of natural disasters (fires, landslides, flooding, etc)	More secure sources of energy	Increased access to public services, such as education, health, or credit	Improved use of traditional knowledge for environmental management	More participatory decision-making due to strengthened civil society and governance.	Other
Murabue		x							x				x						x		
Mucunha		x							x				x						x		
Nawitela		x							x				x						x		
Nicau		x							x				x						x		
Niwiri		x							x				x						x		
Mujaua		x							x				x						x		
Total																					

If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit:

Final considerations

This project provided an overview of the conservation status of biodiversity as well as the socio-economic context of the Namúli Mountains through a participatory rural appraisal, which has made it possible to analyze priorities for action and to identify ways to strengthen the actions of local communities and Society Civil in general for the conservation and protection of natural resources in the region.

The project also provided a database for the assessment of the conservation status of endemic species in the Montes Namúli region, carried out by the Institute of Agricultural Research of Mozambique-IIAM, in partnership with Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and the National Biodiversity of South Africa, which took place on February 15-17, 2017 at the IIAM Campus and at the Pedagogical Complex of Eduardo Mondlane University. Therefore, the project provided a database for the implementation of Afromontane ecosystem profile. On the other hand, this project allowed to define a wider conservation agenda in the region, with the general objective of establishing a community conservation area. This agenda has attracted funds from international organizations such as the Rainforest Trust ($ 10630) to implement a socio-environmental feasibility study and the French Embassy in Mozambique (25,000 EUR) to create and strengthen the Natural Resources Management Committees.

The project results showed Increased an increase of environmental awareness, making farmers more sedentary thus reducing the opening of new agricultural areas through training of farmers in conservation agriculture (Permagarden) and prescribed /controlled burns. Later, these practices were multiplied in the communities. The new practices transfer program covered 97 farmers of which 66 were men and 31 women (32%). After the training, a survey was conducted to assess the level of practice adoption. It was found that 72 farmers implement the practice and promote training, that is, they multiply the knowledge in the communities, of these are 47 men and 25 women corresponding to 72 and 81% of those trained in conservation agriculture, during the project. This practice has allowed the increase of production and productivity of Irish potato crop yield (Average yield from 79 cans/ha to 173[1] cans/ha) resulting in improved family income. (1 can = 16 kg).

The results of the PRA show significant environmental damage to the flora, fauna, structure and composition of the soil, springs and watercourses as a result of the cyclical and vicious expansion of shifting cultivation, uncontrolled burning, population growth and the stimulation of the domestic Irish potato market and beans.

[1] This value was estimated based on the average income of farmers involved in conservation agriculture training