

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	MELCA-Ethiopia
Project Title:	Fostering collaboration for research and future common initiatives between biosphere reserves in the Western Ethiopian Afromontane forest corridor
Date of Report:	January 15/2015
Report Author and Contact Information	Befekadu Refera, e-mail- befekadurefera@yahoo.com

CEPF Region: Ethiopia

Strategic Direction: strategic direction 1, Investment Priority 2

Grant Amount: USD 19,980.00

Project Dates: 1 January 2014 – 31 December 2014

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

- Ministry of science and Technology (high):- Co-organizer of the meeting and official invitation letter was signed by state minister of Science and Technology
- Jimma University(high): - Providing meeting hall with free of charge and host the meeting),
- Addis Ababa University (high): - Co-chairing the meeting)
- Kafa Coffee Forest Biosphere Reserve, Yayu Coffee Forest Biosphere Reserve and Sheka Forest Biosphere Reserves have actively participated and present the progress of the biosphere reserve activities in their localities
- The representatives of Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Ethiopian wildlife conservation Authority, Ethiopian Biodiversity institute, Metu University, Jimma agriculture research centre, the forthcoming Majang Forest Biosphere reserve were actively participate on the meeting

Conservation Impacts

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

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

- With this project intervention three strategic objectives were outlined. The first one is focused on increasing collaboration and coordination. The

second one was focused on coordination of research strategies with relevant universities and research institutes/centers and the third one is focused on formation and strengthening database information sharing and networking on key research projects'

- **Result Obtained:** - It was able to create joint collaboration among three universities namely; Addis Abba, Jimma and Metu universities, two agricultural research centers (Jimma and Teppi agricultural centers). It was also possible to create joint working relationship and experiences exchange among three biosphere reserves (Kaffa, Yayu and Sheka forest biosphere reserves) and the new candidate Majang Forest Biosphere reserves. Research strategies with relevant universities and research institutes/centers have been created. Moreover, information data base formed and information sharing and networking on key research projects become functional

Please provide the following information where relevant: Not relevant

Hectares Protected:

Species Conserved:

Corridors Created:

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

Success

Three federal ministries (Science and Technology, Culture and Tourism, Environment and Forestry, Agriculture); two federal Authorities (Ethiopian wildlife conservation Authority and Ethiopian Biodiversity institute) and honorable guests who are invited from UNESCO-Man and Biosphere Secretariat and representatives from four biosphere reserves participated. South-West Ethiopian Biosphere reserves stakeholders meeting was prepared for first time. It was unique by its kind and composition. After this joint meeting it was able to establish information exchange network among all participant organizations. It was also become successful to jointly prepare and implement scientific researches inside the South-west biosphere reserves'

Because of CEPF small grant intervention, it was able to jointly meet and discuss about the current and future condition of South-west Ethiopian biosphere reserves. On the consultative meeting, three universities (Addis Abeba, Jimma and Metu) were expressed their keen interest to participate in research and development activities inside the biosphere reserves. Similarly the two agricultural research centers (Jimma and Teppi) have expressed their interest to participate in research activities and technically support all of the three officially recognized Biosphere reserves and the new one.

Challenge.

It was very difficult to agree on stakeholders meeting date. When some of the participants agree on proposed day other participants were not agree. After several attempt and time taking process, it was possible to conduct the meeting in Jimma University.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Research institutes and universities were happy by the established network and also it has created a great research opportunities to propose and implement research ideas both for prospective graduate and undergraduate students, as well as, for all possible researchers in country and abroad.

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)

The project proposal was designed based on the three major functions of biosphere reserves namely; (conservation, Logistic/research and development functions). By this project intervention, it was planned to fulfill the Logistic/research functions of the South–West Ethiopia biosphere reserves with particular attention to Sheka forest biosphere reserve. During planning phase, it was able to discuss with major stakeholders to set venue, discussion agenda and meeting dates. Getting this endorsement by stakeholders had made easy to implement the project as agreed up on agenda.

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

During project implementation phase, because of stakeholders were invited from different areas and institutions it was difficult to agree on the common workshop date. After several attempt and regular telephone communications it was able to conduct the workshop by keeping its standard and participating variety of relevant institutions. From this project implementation we have learned that anybody who plans to organize wide variety of participants, it is better to give a bit relaxed and flexible time as well as to be patient as much as possible.

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
NPA	Co-funding	Birr 154,200	Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)

***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.

For sustainability of the started joint implementation project Jimma University took a responsibility to coordinate the research work inside biosphere reserves. Each organization (MELCA-Ethiopia, NABU-Kafa Project and ECFF) took responsibility to host annual level south–west Biosphere reserves partners and stakeholders meetings **turn by turn**.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

No.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

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

There is no problem that is against safe guard policy

Additional Comments/Recommendations

No

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: Befekadu Refera

Organization name: MELCA-Ethiopia

Mailing address: - MELCA-Ethiopia , 1519 code 1250:

Tel:+251-11-550-71-72

Fax:+251-11-554-45-56

E-mail:befekadurefera@yahoo.com

*****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	238, 750 hectare
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices	No		

outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.			
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1below.	No		

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													
	Small landowners Subsistence	Indigenous/ ethnic	Pastoralists/nomadic	Recent migrants	Urban communities Communities facing below the poverty	Other		sustainable natural resources	Ecotourism	Park management	Payment for environmental services	adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or more secure access to water	land or other natural resource due to reduction of natural disasters (fires, landslides,	More secure sources of energy increased access	to public services, such as education, traditional knowledge for community due to	strengthened civil	Other				
Total																					
If you marked “Other”, please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit:																					

