

CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	Centre for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies
Project Title:	Conservation Planning of the Swinhoe's Softshell Turtle, <i>Rafetus swinhoei</i>
Date of Report:	March 30, 2015
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CEPF Region: Indo-Burma

Strategic Direction: Strategic Direction 8. Strengthen the capacity of civil society to work on biodiversity, communities and livelihoods at regional, national, local and grassroots levels

Grant Amount: \$4,520

Project Dates: 10-12 December, 2014

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

The Asian Turtle Program (ATP) and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) actively participated in the workshop organization, including arranging logistics for workshop attendees, giving presentations, and writing the workshop report. ATP and WCS helped develop a conservation strategy for the species based on the outcomes of the workshop.

Conservation Impacts

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

The project helps identify priorities for conservation actions for one of the world's most endangered species, the Swinhoe's Softshell Turtle (*Rafetus swinhoei*).

Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project.

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

The workshop results in a clear plan that coordinates efforts across three countries and assure that no part of the overall strategy for this species will go un-done. The document(s) produced from this workshop is used as a fund raising tool and as a basis for the fully participatory development of national plans for each country, as well as a tool to garner greater regional support through both government and non-government agencies.

The creation of multi-national strategic plan provides the needed structure to for project re-evaluation and adaptive management as this program continues past this initial phase of planning. A long-term conservation plan like this one helps secure the future of this critically endangered species.

The workshop also provides support for CRES in terms of taking a leadership role in international conservation planning. Such an experience is vital for a leading conservation institution in Vietnam in saving one of the world's richest biodiversity in a long run.

Actual Progress Toward Long-term Impacts at Completion:

The workshop produced a clear conservation plan for priority activities needed to save the species. The plan was developed based on inputs from workshop participants through a fully participatory process. The document can now be used as a fund raising tool for priority activities, as well as a means to gain support from government and non-government organizations.

Through its participation in the organization of the workshop, CRES acquired valuable experience in conservation planning for critically endangered species. It can now take a leading role in saving the country's threatened biodiversity.

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

The project helps develop a clear strategic plan for priority activities needed to secure the long-term survival of *Rafetus swinhoei*. However, many challenges still lie ahead, including raising enough funds to implement the planned activities, and make sure the activities will be successfully implemented

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Project Components

Project Components: *Please report on results by project component. Reporting should reference specific products/deliverables from the approved project design and other relevant information.*

Component 1 Planned: Organize a workshop in Hanoi for the leading global experts on *Rafetus swinhoei*, in order to address urgent threats to its survival

Component 1 Actual at Completion:

The workshop was held in Hanoi from 10-12 December, 2014 with the presence of 15 leading experts from around the world. A report was produced.

Component 2 Planned: Create a mechanism for improving prioritization, networking and coordination among leaders in conservation of *Rafetus swinhoei*

Component 2 Actual at Completion:

An strategic plan for the Swinhoe's Softshell Turtle was developed, which identifies the priority measures for the conservation of the species as well as steps for enhancing the coordination of conservation activities across three countries (China, Laos, and Vietnam)

Were any components unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?

Please describe and submit (electronically if possible) any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

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)

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

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

All participants at the workshop agreed that such a meeting should have organized at least a decade ago, when the conservation situation of the species was much better than now. Conservation planning for any critically endangered species therefore is recommended to take place sooner than later. Early planning could save much time and money, and most importantly has a greater chance of success in conserving targeted species.

Additional Funding

Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of the CEPF investment in this project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
WCS	B	\$5000	
WildCru	B	\$3000	

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

- A Project co-financing (Other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this 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 funded 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.

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.

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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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.	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 economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists/nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty rate	Other	Increased Income due to:				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					
									Adoption of sustainable natural resources management practices	Ecotourism revenues	Park management activities	Payment for environmental services														
Total																										

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

