

# CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

## I. BASIC DATA

**Organization Legal Name:** WWF

**Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement):** Core Support to WWF-Madagascar's Ecology Training Program

**Implementation Partners for This Project:**

**Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement):** October 2004 - October 2005

**Date of Report (month/year):** November 2005

## II. OPENING REMARKS

**Provide any opening remarks that may assist in the review of this report.**

The mission of the Ecology Training Program (ETP) of WWF-Madagascar is to 1) train Malagasy scientists to meet human capacity needs with a mandate to advance biological, ecological, and education conservation practices; 2) provide academic and practical opportunities for educational exchange, research, and training to promising Malagasy students and researchers; 3) facilitate communication and exchange in the fields of biology and ecology amongst Malagasy students and researchers; 4) furnish logistical, financial, and supervisory support to Malagasy students in fields related to conservation, in collaboration with local universities; and 5) use the scientific data resulting from field inventories for the advancement of habitat protection and conservation of Madagascar's unique biota.

## III. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

1. What was the initial objective of this project?

The specific objective of this project, which is a year extension of a previous CEPF grant, was to provide the means for the advancement of young Malagasy field and conservation biologists in the context of their university studies. This was accomplished through a capacity building project of WWF-Madagascar known as "The Ecology Training Program" (ETP), which has played a critical role in the advancement of national researchers, particularly in terms of the transfer of scientific competence. The project focuses on giving long-term guidance, spanning theoretical, logistical to financial aspects, to master's (DEA) and Ph.D. students during the tenure of their graduate studies. Biological data obtained during the field inventory portion of this capacity building program continues to play an important role in the refinement of national decisions associated with the management of existing and creation of new protected areas, as well as the application of the CITES convention in Madagascar through a technical and

scientific assistance to the national scientific authority and the management unit of CITES -- Madagascar.

2. Did the objectives of your project change during implementation? If so, please explain why and how.

No

3. How was your project successful in achieving the expected objectives?

During the course of the second period of this project (March 2005 -- October 2005), several important research projects and field trips have been accomplished, as well as other activities. These are outlined here in largely chronological order:

1) During the period from March to May students and researchers associated with the ETP conducted a number of field projects related to thesis research or biological inventories. Between the months of May to September, when it becomes cooler and drier across the island, many animals become relatively inactive and this is a period that we conduct little fieldwork.

a) Fanja Ratrimomanarivo continued her surveys of synanthropic bat species across the island, completing a long transect between Vangaindrano and Ranomafana. Every 40 km or so, she conducts an appraisal of bat species living in houses and other man-made structures of villages. During a portion of the last survey she was joined by medical researchers from the Institut Pasteur de Madagascar to obtain material for an assortment of epidemiological studies, to examine the role of bats in dissemination of certain diseases.

The thesis of Fanja is to examine the distribution of synanthropic-living bat species across the island and overlay this information on bioclimatic parameters. Given that these transects run in both north-south and east-west directions and span the complete width and a considerable portion of the length of the island, she will be able to examine latitudinal and elevational factors associated with the distribution of these species.

b) Angelo Tianarifidy took part in a multidisciplinary field survey of the Montagne de Français region in the extreme north in February and the Analalava Forest in March. He was responsible for the small mammal and bat portion of the inventory. This field survey is associated with the Malagasy Government's program to promote the identification and creation of new protected areas according to the declaration of the President in Durban in late 2003.

c) The Rap Gasy team conducted an extensive tour of the extreme south from February to April. They were able to survey six sites in this region for reptiles, amphibians, small mammals, bats, and primates, which were

previously unknown or poorly known. During the course of this 2.5 month field trip they had regular contact with officials and agents from Eaux et Forêts and ANGAP and gave several mini-field courses. Further, different students had the opportunity to join the team. For example, Ericka Ranoarivony, a student finishing her DEA at the Université d'Antananarivo. This was specifically associated with inventory methodology and specimen preparation techniques for small mammals. New data from these surveys have been largely used to refine conservation strategy and planning and monitoring programs carried out by WWF-Ala Maiky Program. Moreover, suggestions and recommendations resulting from this research were taken into consideration by the regional representative of ANGAP in Toliara to develop new programs to ensure sustainable management and long-term conservation of the biodiversity of the region.

- d) In late April Steve Goodman and Mamy Ravokatra explored the limestone region between Anjajavy and Narinda to explore caves and look for bats. Important new data was obtained on the bats of this region, including specimens of two species new to science.
  - e) In late May Steve Goodman visited caves in the extreme southwest with a team from the Institut Pasteur de Madagascar to obtain additional specimen material to examine the role of bats as reservoirs and in disseminators of certain diseases.
- 2) During the first portion of April the IUCN held a Global Mammal Assessment in Antananarivo. Several current and former ETP students, as well as Steve Goodman, played active roles in this meeting.
  - 3) In mid-May Steve Goodman was in France to present his HDR (diplôme d'Habilitation à diriger les recherches) at the Université de Paris. This was successfully presented and defended. Within the French university system this is the highest diploma available in the sciences. Subsequently, he has been integrated into the French "Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique" (CNRS), which in the near future should provide opportunities to Malagasy scientists, especially ETP students, to extend relations with certain French institutions.
  - 4) In June ETP received a grant from the National Science Foundation, submitted through the Field Museum and Duke Primate Center, to study the role of rivers in western Madagascar as dispersal corridors or barriers in a variety of different vertebrates. The fieldwork will commence in January 2006.
  - 5) Two Malagasy students visited the USA during the northern summer of 2005.
    - a) Fanja Ratrimomanarivo was at the Field Museum for two months in July and August working on research associated with her thesis on the ecomorphology

of Malagasy bats, in collaboration with Steve Goodman. During this period she measured a considerable number of bat specimens and learned new techniques associated with numeric analysis of bat wing shape. She made considerable advances on aspects of her thesis research. During this period she was the first author of a paper, which was subsequently accepted without modifications, and was recently published. (F. H. Ratrimomanarivo & S. M. Goodman. 2005. The first records of the synanthropic occurrence of *Scotophilus* spp. on Madagascar. *African Bat Conservation News* 6:3-5). Further, two other manuscripts co-authored with Fanja were submitted for publication during this period (see below).

- b) Voahangy Soarimalala split her two months in the USA, between July and August, between the Field Museum and the Bell Museum at the University of Minnesota. In Chicago she worked with Steve Goodman on a paper related to a systematic revision of a genus of Malagasy rodents and in Minnesota in the laboratory of Sharon Jansa on a molecular phylogeny of the same group of rodents. Two manuscripts are near completion associated with this work.
- 6) The last week of August Achille Raselimanana participated in a Population and Habitat Viability Analysis (PHVA) workshop on the endangered radiated tortoise of southwestern Madagascar. Data collected during the Rap-Gasy inventories of this region constituted important new data in the workshop analysis.
- 7) In early September Steve Goodman was named a MacArthur Fellow at least in part associated with his work in Madagascar, including his role in the development of the ETP.
- 8) The latter portion of September a group from Bat Conservation International was in Madagascar with their "Founders Council" to visit various areas of the island and have a chance to see its bats. Fanja Ratrimomanarivo and Steve Goodman acted as their local guides. During this period Merlin Tuttle, the President of BCI, was able to obtain some extraordinary images of Madagascar bats.
- 9) From late September to early October three members of Rap-Gasy team carried out a rapid assessment of the land vertebrates of the Nosy Hara archipelago, a new proposed Marine Protected Area in the northwest of the island. This was the first biological investigation of the terrestrial vertebrates of the site. The information will be used to set up the conservation strategy and management plan for the new marine park.
- 10) The field season recommenced in October with a survey of a dry deciduous forest on sand to the north of Besalampy. This is a very poorly known portion of the island. Several significant range extensions for different vertebrates were made during this inventory. A large population of a new species of *Myzopoda*, an endemic family of bats to Madagascar that was previously thought to be monospecific, was found.

- 11) For the balance of 2005 and the first portion of 2006 a number of field projects are planned, including large scale series of multidisciplinary inventories in the Anjozorobe region to understand levels of biotic heterogeneity and to help determine the boundaries of a new protected area, the commencement of the western river project (NSF), field inventories in the Antsalova region, the bats of Nosy Be and Isle Sainte Marie, and bat inventories on islands in the western Indian Ocean (Comoros, Mayotte, Mascarenes, and Seychelles).

**Status of different ETP students with regards to their DEA mémoires or Ph.D. theses**

- 1) Marie Jeanne Raherilalao – Biogeography of birds, Ph.D. The thesis is now before the final lecture committee and will be presented in early 2006.
- 2) Voahangy Soarimalala – Biogeography of small mammals, Ph.D. The thesis has been submitted and has passed the stage of comments from jury members. This thesis should be presented before mid-2006.
- 3) Julie Ranivo – Ecomorphology of Malagasy bats, Ph.D. She is in the process of finishing the first draft of her thesis for submission to committee members. This should be completed before the end of 2005.
- 4) Nirhy Rabibisoa – Systematic review of a group of frogs, Ph.D. He has completed the data gathering stage of this project and is in the process of analyzing data and writing.
- 5) Fanja Ratrimomanarivo – Patterns of geographic variation in bats, Ph.D. She has nearly completed the field portion of this project and has advance considerably in data gathering and some analyses.
- 6) Narisoa A. Ramanitra – Ecology of couas, Ph.D. The thesis is now before the final lecture committee and will be presented in early 2006.
- 7) Martin Raheriasena – Small mammals of Daraina: Effects of habitat heterogeneity and fragmentation, Ph.D. At the final stages of data analysis and writing. The thesis supervisor has already corrected three of four chapters.
- 8) Hery Rakotondravony -- Reptiles and amphibians of Daraina: Effects of habitat heterogeneity and fragmentation, Ph.D. Submitted to the university and at the first stages of the review process. He will conduct his postdoc associated with the NSF project on the effects of rivers as corridors or barriers for the dispersal.
- 9) Jose Ralison – Biogeography of mouse lemurs, Ph.D. Still conducting fieldwork and has yet to start the analysis stage of this project.
- 10) Patricia Maminirina – Systematics of the bat genus *Miniopterus*, Ph.D. Currently formulating the thesis proposal and will start the research for this project in early 2006.
- 11) Zafimahery Rakotomalala – The effects of rivers as corridors or barriers for the dispersal of small mammals, Ph.D. This NSF project will commence in January 2006.
- 12) Angelo Tianarifidy – Small mammals of Andringitra and experiments associated with bait preference, DEA. Quasi-final text now before the university review committee.

- 13) Juilana Rasoma – Small mammals and their relation as prey to nocturnal predators, DEA. To be presented on 8 December.
- 14) Eddy Rakotonandrasana – Bats of coastal islands surrounding Madagascar, DEA. He will start the fieldwork for this project in January 2006.
- 15) Mialy Rakotoarivelo – Reptiles of the islands surrounding Madagascar, DEA. She is now about to submit the first version to the committee.

## **Publications**

1) A marked effort is being made for Malagasy students and researchers associated with the ETP, as well as our Malagasy scientific colleagues, to take the lead in the publication of their research. In many cases we provide guidance with regards to format, analyses, presentation, etc. Over the course of this CEPF project the following ms. have been submitted or published with Malagasy researchers as first authors.

2005. The diet of Malagasy Microchiroptera based on stomach contents. *Mammalian Biology* 70:312-316 (V. Razakarivony, B. Rajemison, S. M. Goodman).

2005. Suivi de la biodiversité de la forêt littorale de Tampolo. J. Ratsirarson et S. M. Goodman (eds.). Centre d'Information et de Documentation Scientifique et Technique, Antananarivo, Recherches pour le Développement, Série Sciences biologiques, No. 22: 1-134. (J. Ratsirarson, S. M. Goodman).

2005. Introduction. Dans Suivi de la biodiversité de la forêt littorale de Tampolo. J. Ratsirarson et S. M. Goodman (eds.). Centre d'Information et de Documentation Scientifique et Technique, Antananarivo, Recherches pour le Développement, Série Sciences biologiques, No. 22: 1-7 (J. Ratsirarson, S. M. Goodman).

2005. Les micro-mammifères (Rodentia et Lipotyphla) non-volants. Dans Suivi de la biodiversité de la forêt littorale de Tampolo. J. Ratsirarson et S. M. Goodman (eds.). Centre d'Information et de Documentation Scientifique et Technique, Antananarivo, Recherches pour le Développement, Série Sciences biologiques, No. 22: 69-79 (V. Soarimalala, S. M. Goodman).

2005. Les Oiseaux. Dans Suivi de la biodiversité de la forêt littorale de Tampolo. J. Ratsirarson et S. M. Goodman (eds.). Centre d'Information et de Documentation Scientifique et Technique, Antananarivo, Recherches pour le Développement, Série Sciences biologiques, No. 22: 89-103 (M. J. Raherilalao, S. M. Goodman, R. J. Emandy).

2005. Les Chauves Souris. Dans Suivi de la biodiversité de la forêt littorale de Tampolo. J. Ratsirarson et S. M. Goodman (eds.). Centre d'Information et de Documentation Scientifique et Technique, Antananarivo, Recherches pour le Développement, Série Sciences biologiques, No. 22: 81-88 (E. Ifticene, H. J. Razafimanahaka, S. M. Goodman).

2005. Conclusion. Dans Suivi de la biodiversité de la forêt littorale de Tampolo. J. Ratsirarson et S. M. Goodman (eds.). Centre d'Information et de Documentation Scientifique et Technique, Antananarivo, Recherches pour le Développement, Série Sciences biologiques, No. 22: 121-126 (J. Ratsirarson, S. M. Goodman).

2005. The first records of the synanthropic occurrence of *Scotophilus* spp. on Madagascar. *African Bat Conservation News* 6:3-5 (F. H. Ratromomanarivo, S. M. Goodman).

2005. L'avifaune de sous-bois de la forêt humide de montagne du couloir forestier entre les parcs nationaux d'Andringitra et de Ranomafana (Madagascar). *Revue d'Ecologie* 60: 167-178 (M. J. Raherilalao, S. M. Goodman).

In press. Contribution à l'étude zooarchéologique de la région du Sud-Ouest et extrême Sud de Madagascar, basée sur des collections du Musée d'Art et d'Archéologie d'Antananarivo. *Taloha* (L. M. A. Rakotozafy, S. M. Goodman).

In press. Modèles d'endémisme des oiseaux forestiers des Hautes Terres malgaches. *Revue d'Ecologie* (M. J. Raherilalao, S. M. Goodman).

In press. The small mammals of the Parc National de Masoala, northeastern Madagascar. *Acta Theriologica* (V. Andrianjakarivelo, E. Razafimahatratra, Y. Razafindrakoto, M. Rakotondratsima, S. M. Goodman).

submitted. Révision taxinomique des *Triaenops* Malgaches (Mammalia: Chiroptera: Hipposideridae). *Zoosystema* (J. Ranivo, S. M. Goodman).

submitted. Variation latitudinal de *Hipposideros commersoni* de la zone sèche de Madagascar (Mammalia: Chiroptera: Hipposideridae). *Mammalia* (J. Ranivo, S. M. Goodman).

submitted. Patterns of ecomorphological variation in the Microchiroptera of western Madagascar: Comparisons within and between communities along a latitudinal gradient. *Mammalian Biology* (J. Ranivo, S. M. Goodman).

submitted. Notes on the distribution and habitat preferences of *Galidictis grandidieri* Wozencraft, 1986 (Carnivora: Eupleridae), a poorly known endemic species of southwestern Madagascar. *Mammalia* (S. Mahazotahy, S. M. Goodman, A. Andriamanalina).

2) Considerable progress has been made on a French version of « The natural history of Madagascar », The University of Chicago Press, 2003. We have chosen the synthetic sections of that book for revision and translation from the English. About 90% of the text has been revised and translated at this point and we hope to submit the final ms. to the Muséum Naturelle d'Histoire Naturelle (Paris) press in the first quarter of 2006. This

new version of the book will have about 450 pages of text and an increased number of photos.

3) One important aspect of the ETP is to advance knowledge on Malagasy biota. Publications (other than those mentioned above) submitted or published during the period of this CEPF grant include:

2005. Updated estimates of biodiversity and endemism on Madagascar. *Oryx* 39: 73-77 (S. M. Goodman, J. P. Benstead).

2005. Novelty of conception in insectivorous mammals (Lipotyphla), particularly shrews. *Biological Reviews* 79: 891-909 (J. M. Bedford, O. M. Mock, S. M. Goodman).

2005. The distribution and conservation of bats in the dry regions of Madagascar. *Animal Conservation* 8:153-165 (S. M. Goodman, D. Andriafidison, R. Andrianaiivoarivelo, S. G. Cardiff, R.K.B. Jenkins, A. Kofoky, T. Mbohoahy, D. Rakotondravony, J. Ranivo, F. Ratrimomanarivo, J. Razafimanahaka, P. A. Racey).

2005. A multidimensional approach for detecting species patterns in Malagasy vertebrates. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, USA* 102:6587-6594. (A. D. Yoder, C. Hanley, K. Heckman, R. Rasoloarison, A. Russell, J. Ranivo, L. E. Olson, V. Soarimalala, K. P. Karanth, A. P. Raselimanana, S. M. Goodman).

2005. A new species of *Macrotarsomys* (Rodentia: Muridae: Nesomyinae) from the Forêt des Mikea of southwestern Madagascar. *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* 118: 450-464 (S. M. Goodman, V. Soarimalala).

2005. Aperçu historique de la population des mammifères des forêts littorales de la province de Toamasina. Dans Suivi de la biodiversité de la forêt littorale de Tampolo. J. Ratsirarson et S. M. Goodman (eds.). Centre d'Information et de Documentation Scientifique et Technique, Antananarivo, Recherches pour le Développement, Série Sciences biologiques, No. 22: 61-68. (S. M. Goodman, V. Soarimalala, J. Ratsirarson).

2005. Reconstruction of the colonisation of southern Madagascar by introduced *Rattus rattus*. *Journal of Biogeography* 32:1549-1559 (M. Hingston, S. M. Goodman, J. U. Ganzhorn, S. Sommer).

2005. A review of the genus *Scotophilus* (Chiroptera: Vespertilionidae) on Madagascar, with the description of a new species. *Zoosystema* (S. M. Goodman, R. B. Jenkins, F. Ratrimomanarivo).

2005. The description of a new species of rodent from the montane forest of central eastern Madagascar (Voalavo: Nesomyinae: Muridae). *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* (S. M. Goodman, D. Rakotondravony, H. N. Randriamanantsoa, M. Rakotomalala-Razanahoera).



2005. Rediscovery and redescription of the Malagasy dwarf gecko *Lygodactylus klemmeri*. *Zootaxa* 1073:31-35 (M. Puente, A. Raselimanana, M. Vences).

In press. Lemur biogeography. *Primate biogeography* (ed. by S. Lehman and J. G. Fleagle). New York: Plenum/Kluwer Press. (J. U. Ganzhorn, S. M. Goodman, S. Nash, U. Thalmann).

In press. The distribution and biogeography of the ringtailed lemur (*Lemur catta*). *Ringtailed lemur Biology* (eds. A. Jolly, N. Koyama, H. Rasamimanana, and R. W. Sussman). New York: Kluwer Academic/Plenum Publishers (S. M. Goodman, S. V. Rakotoarisoa, L. Wilmé).

In press. A new species of *Scotophilus* (Chiroptera: Vespertilionidae) from western Madagascar. *Acta Chiropterologica* (S. M. Goodman, F. H. Ratrimomanarivo, F. H. Randrianandrianina).

In press. Hunting of Microchiroptera in extreme southwestern Madagascar. *Oryx* (S. M. Goodman).

In press. The rediscovery of *Mungotictis decemlineata lineata* Pocock, 1915 (Carnivora: Eupleridae): Phenotypic characters and distribution. *Small Carnivore Conservation* (S. M. Goodman, H. Thomas, D. Kidney).

In press. A reappraisal of the geographical distribution of the genus *Pseudouroplectes* Lourenço (Scorpiones: Buthidae) in Madagascar. *Comptes Rendus Académie Science Paris, Sciences de la vie* (W. R. Lourenço, S. M. Goodman).

In press. Observations and re-description of *Zonosaurus boettgeri* Steindachner 1891 and description of a second new species of long-tailed *Zonosaurus* from western Madagascar. *Miscellaneous Publications Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan* (A. Raselimanana, A.R. Nussbaum, C.J. Raxworthy).

submitted. A new species of *Emballonura* (Emballonuridae: Chiroptera) from the dry regions of Madagascar. *American Museum Novitates* (S. M. Goodman, S. G. Cardiff, J. Ranivo, A. L. Russell).

submitted. A new species of the *Eliurus majori* complex (Rodentia: Nesomyinae) from south-central Madagascar, with remarks on emergent species groupings in the genus *Eliurus*. *Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington* (M. D. Carleton, S. M. Goodman).

submitted. A complex inter-species phylogeny reveals distinctive biogeographic patterns of diversification in trident bats (*Triaenops* spp.) in Madagascar. *American Naturalist* (A.L. Russell, E.P. Palkovacs, S. M. Goodman, J. Ranivo, A.D. Yoder)

submitted. Patterns of morphological, genetic, and vocal variation in *Myzopoda* (Myzopodidae: Chiroptera) and the description of a new species. *Journal of Zoology* (S. M. Goodman, R. K. B. Jenkins, A. Kofoky, F. Rakotondraparany, J. Russ, A. L. Russell).

submitted. First record of *Coleura* (Chiroptera: Emballonuridae) on Madagascar and identification and diagnosis of members of the genus. *Systematics and Biodiversity* (S. M. Goodman, S. G. Cardiff, F. H. Ratrimomanarivo).

submitted. A new species of *Microgale* (Family Tenrecidae) from the Tsaratanana Massif of northern Madagascar: Description, phylogeny and biogeography. *Journal of Zoology* (S. M. Goodman, C. J. Raxworthy, C. P. Maminirina, L. E. Olson).

submitted. The evolutionary history of Haemosporidia. *Nature* (L. Duval, V. Robert, V. N. Andriaholinirina, M. Gilbert, T. Nhim, G. Csorba, H. Sadones, F. Soula, V. Raharimanga, R. K. Barraclough, M. Randrianarivo, S. M. Goodman, J. B. Duchemin, D. Rousset, Y. Rumpler, F. Arieu).

submitted. Biogeographic evolution of Madagascar's microendemic biota. *Science* (L. Wilmé, S. M. Goodman, J. U. Ganzhorn).

submitted. A reappraisal of the geographical distribution of the genus *Opisthacanthus* Peters, 1861 (Scorpiones: Liochelidae) in Madagascar, including the description of four new species. *Spanish Journal of Arachnology* (W. R. Lourenço, S. M. Goodman).

submitted. Molecular systematics and evolution of Malagasy plated lizards. *Molecular Evolution*. (A. Raselimanana, P. Karanth, J. Gauthier, A.D. Yoder).

4. Did your team experience any disappointments or failures during implementation? If so, please explain and comment on how the team addressed these disappointments and/or failures.

None that is really notable.

5. Describe any positive or negative lessons learned from this project that would be useful to share with other organizations interested in implementing a similar project.

6. Describe any follow-up activities related to this project.

The ETP research group has received two grants in the previous year that will them to continue field studies.

- 1) Survey of microchiropteran bats of islands in the western Indian Ocean – CBC, Conservation International, 2005-2006
- 2) Testing the role of historical geology and rivers for shaping the distribution of land vertebrate biodiversity in western Madagascar, 2005-2008

7. Please provide any additional information to assist CEPF in understanding any other aspects of your completed project.

**IV. 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.**

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Type of Funding*</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Notes</b>
CBC	B, D	\$17,224	for research
NSF	B	\$159,997	for research

**\*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** *Complementary funding (Other donors contribute to partner organizations that are working on a project linked with this CEPF project)*
- C** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)*
- D** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

Provide details of whether this project will continue in the future and if so, how any additional funding already secured or fundraising plans will help ensure its sustainability.

The ETP is a long-term project that, when appropriate, will be turned over to a Malagasy NGO known as Vahatra. We are in the process of a considerable fund-raising campaign to create a trust fund for the long term financing of Vahatra and once this is in order the transformation of ETP will take place. It will take another few years to put in place this structure.

In general the ETP has few difficulties in raising funds for field research, but core support for salaries and infrastructure is another matter. Funding agencies are much less interesting in supporting such expenses. This is the reason that CEPF grants to ETP over the past few years have been so important, both for the general maintenance of the program, but also for help with the creation of Vahatra.

**V. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

## VI. INFORMATION SHARING

CEPF aims to increase sharing of experiences, lessons learned and results among our grant recipients and the wider conservation and donor communities. One way we do this is by making the text of final project completion reports available on our Web site, [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net), and by marketing these reports in our newsletter and other communications. Please indicate whether you would agree to publicly sharing your final project report with others in this way.

Yes

No

If yes, please also complete the following:

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