

# CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

## I. BASIC DATA

**Organization Legal Name:** Man And The Environment

**Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement):** Emergency Intervention to Prevent Slash and Burn and to Ensure the Sustainability of the Income Generating for Conservation Program

**Implementation Partners for this Project:**

**Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement):** November 1, 2005 – February 28, 2006

**Date of Report (month/year):** August 30, 2006

## II. OPENING REMARKS

The project has been conducted on the Vohimana forest biodiversity hot spot diversity in Madagascar (more than seventy species of endemic frogs, eleven species of lemurs, etc) which had still no conservation status in 2002. The Vohimana forest is surrounded by local populations but is the key part of the corridor between the Mantadia National Park and its southern forests.

The CEPF has supported the launch of the Vohimana forest conservation program based mainly on local people implication and private sector partnership. The project had very encouraging results even if it is obvious that starting from nothing a program need time to ensure its sustainability. Investment are still needed for certain needed activities such as ecotourism and environment management but a key urgent need appeared in 2005 to support agriculture development activities. It was much needed to make sure the local people would not lose their faith in the sustainable development approach adopted in opposition to the destructive slash and burn agriculture practices they were having before the start of the program.

## III. ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT PURPOSE

**Project Purpose:** The project was intending to support a slash and burn agriculture season with no fire on natural forest in Vohimana and also to finalize involvement of the local population in no use of fire for agriculture.

### Planned vs. Actual Performance

| Indicator                         | Actual at Completion   |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Purpose-level:</b>             |  |
| A ginger production               | Ginger production has been developed has planed and can now be confirmed as a true alternative to slash and burn cultivation although promotion still needs to be carried out to more farmers. |
| Incomes for the local populations | Local people have been employed and ginger seeds bought for all the interested farmers. This income has been key to motivate people to stop slash and burn agriculture.                        |
| Slash and burn practices stoped   | Although some farmers have slashed some parcels the incomes have allowed to get a general agreement and local pressure on these farmers from the traditional authorities.                      |

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| Anti erosive practices developed         | Demonstration on the use of vetiver for ginger plantation has shown to the farmers who have shown to be able to use this technique quite easily. The use of vetiver will need to be a request from the buyers but this seems feasible. |
| Planned long term production development | Buyers have been found for the ginger interested in long term development of an environmental but also social friendly ginger confirming that some options of alternative to slash and burn agriculture can be concretely set up.      |

***Describe the success of the project in terms of achieving its intended impact objective and performance indicators.***

The project was intending to support a slash and burn agriculture season with no fire on natural forest in Vohimana and also to finalize involvement of the local population in no use of fire for agriculture.

In General this CEPF emergency project has played its expected important role. There has still been some fire in natural forest but the involvement of the local and administrative authorities has been strong to make the point with the local people that it would not be accepted for the next year. The ginger production development has been a key factor to have the local population to support the statement. Partners have been found attracted by the environmentally friendly presentation of the ginger and local populations should be able to develop with no fear this production for the coming years.

***Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?***

**IV. PROJECT OUTPUTS**

**Planned vs. Actual Performance**

| Indicator  | Actual at Completion   |
|--|--|
| Output 1:  |  |
| <b>Environment friendly ginger production in place</b> | Production of ginger has been developed in order to produce around 40 tons of ginger in 2006. Use of vetiver has been promoted and used by local farmers. Use of vetiver still needs to be enforced but it has been made clear with farmers that the use of vetiver is along term obligation.  |
| Output 2:  |  |
| <b>No slash and burn parcels</b>                       | Some farmers have not been convinced and have slashed some parcels of forests despite the new opportunity offer. Impact of the project has however been very positive for this output as the new opportunity offered brought the traditional and legal authority to be convinced to take new steps. All farmers have officially agreed not to burn any more the year after in front of the community which is a first. |
| Output 3:  |  |
| <b>Long term income generating opportunity</b>         | The production development has been achieved but it has also been possible to motivate a large cosmetic company to get involved in supporting the social and environmental friendly production. It will therefore be possible to develop the production but also to offer a fair price for the products and may be to go for some transformation on site. This sure ensures a maximum benefit for the local            |

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | populations and also to show them the interest of the buyer in the environment. |
|--|---|

**Describe the success of the project in terms of delivering the intended outputs.**

Supporting the local population during the critical phase of the slash and burn period has been very important and has proven to be key for the implementation of the conservation program of Vohimana. More time will be needed to take the population out of their misery and to convince all of them of the interest of conservation but this first step has allowed to bring the farmers to agree together to stop future slash and burn practices on the forest zones.

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

If some farmers have still done slash and burn agriculture they have been identified by the local and administrative authorities and have agreed not to carry on in front of the community also. The surfaces destroyed are limited and would not jeopardize the conservation program.

**V. SAFEGUARD POLICY ASSESSMENTS**

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

Ginger production can be a main environmental problem in mid altitude rainforest due to potential important erosion impact. In order to avoid any negative environmental impact the cultivation promotion has been done under the strict requirement of use of vetiver for soil fixation for any parcel.

Rules to guaranty social consideration have been taken by ensuring the respect of rules between international buyers and local populations including a production contract to guaranty the buying of the ginger produced as well as a fixed price.

**VI. LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE PROJECT**

**Describe any lessons learned during the various phases of the project. Consider lessons both for future projects, as well as for CEPF's future performance.**

The project has shown the importance of developing income activities for the local population to motivate them to respect conservation measures. The failure to have all the farmers to respect the non slash and burn rule is with no doubt due to their lack of trust in the long term project. On the other hand the trust of the most of them is due to the trust in the long term aspect of the project by the implication of private sector lead activities (versus project donations that might stop).

Long term project consideration appears therefore as important as income generating activities development linked to the private sector.

**Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/failure)**

The project was short and simple and therefore the simplicity of the project design was important as it has avoided losing unnecessary time. Planning of the project earlier would have been usefull.

**Project Execution: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/failure)**

The possibility to start quickly the project was very important as it was before the slash and burn season. If it would have started even a bit earlier it would probably have been possible to convinced more farmers.

## VII. 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   |
|--------|------------------|-------------------|---|
| FFEM   | C                | Euro<br>30,000.00 | Success of local people and private sector enterprises motivated the FFEM to launch a project to improve the program and find other private partners. |
| CHANEL | C                | Euro<br>11,000.00 | Supporting the development of new products and the ginger production.   |
|        |                  |                   |   |
|        |                  |                   |   |

*\*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 funded 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 funded 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 environmental friendly ginger production launch has been very successful in its sustainability aspect with a firm implication of the very famous Chanel fragrance company. Chanel has offered to support long term production of ginger essential oil from the local communities of Vohimana and as a start to buy all the production of 2006. All the needed fund to ensure the sustainability of the income generating activity has therefore been secured.

In terms of sustainability of the conservation program, mainly ensuring that local populations will not carry out any more slash and burn cultivation, it appears clearly that control and other economic activities are still needed. This protected area has been initiated thanks to the CEPF and is a very good example of successful innovative programs (aiming before all at sustainability of the intervention) but to be realistic probably two more years of permanent support would be needed to ensure the sustainability of this biodiversity hot spot.

## VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

What about us submitting a proposal to ensure two years of support to the local communities in order to allow them to be able to manage properly the conservation aspects of the site.

## IX. 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**

If yes, please also complete the following:

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