

CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	Arulagam
Project Title:	Right to soar high again: Establishing a Vulture Safe Zone in Southern India
Date of Report:	2015/5/21
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CEPF Region: Western Ghats

Strategic Direction: 2. Improve the conservation of globally threatened species through systematic conservation planning and action

Grant Amount: US \$ 59961

Project Dates: 2013/6/1 to 2015/04/30

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

Sl.No	Implementation partners	Contribution to the project
1	Saving Asia's Vultures from Extinction (SAVE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action plan for Vulture conservation in the state of Tamil Nadu prepared based on the 'Blue print for the Recovery of South Asia's Critically Endangered Gyps vultures' prepared by SAVE • Participated in stakeholders meeting with Pharmacists, Assistant Director (Drug Controls), Milk Inspector and Forest Department staff • Invited to share the Vulture Safe Zone initiative of Arulagam during the SAVE meeting which was held at Dhaka, Bangladesh, 2014 • 'Arulagam has been nominated as one of the first SAVE Associates Partner (It will give more visibility to its activities at the international conservation forum)
2	Care Earth Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gave guidance in preparing performance reports, attitude survey form, synchronized vulture survey and action plan • Participated in stakeholder meeting and awareness activity • Field station at Bhavanisagar mutually shared • Invited to share the Vulture Safe Zone activities in state level meeting

3	Malabar Natural History Society (MNHS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported in preparation of survey form, performance reports and action plan Provided technical expertise in ecological aspects Participated in nest survey, rally and review meeting Support through printing Malayalam pamphlets Undertook similar conservation effort in Kerala State in association with RASTA (Rural Agency for Social and Technological Advancement) Helped in interstate coordination
4	Forest Department (Tamil Nadu)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permitted to do research work on Vultures inside the forest (Forest guard and watcher were deputed while going inside the forest and also provided boarding and accommodation in forest rest houses) Forest guard/watcher were trained in Mudumalai and Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserves in identifying vulture species Monitoring and patrolling the breeding and nesting ground Conducted synchronized vulture survey Adopted management plan in Nilgiri North Forest Division and Mudumalai Tiger Reserve with a component for vulture conservation
5	Oriental Bird Club (OBC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported coordinated action among key stakeholders, based on the blue print of the SAVE (Saving Asia's Vultures from Extinction)
6	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported for propaganda material
7	Hill Area Development Programme (HADP), Government of Tamil Nadu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported for exhibition material

Tamil Nadu Generation of Electricity and Distribution Corporation (TANGEDCO), Government of Tamil Nadu, provided hall for meeting and allotted a housing quarter in Moyar Village for project field station

Conservation Impacts

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

Strategic direction:

2.2 Support efforts to conserve Critically Endangered and Endangered Vulture species in-situ through creation of species recovery & management plans.

Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project.

Arulagam’s work has raised the profile of vulture conservation in a region where conservation efforts had been hitherto focused mainly on tigers and elephants

Following had been achieved as a first time in the conservation history of Tamil Nadu, due to the project:

- Recovery plan for endangered Vulture species in the state of Tamil Nadu was prepared and submitted to policy makers and shared with the stakeholders
- Vulture Conservation agenda was included in the management plan of Mudumalai Tiger Reserve followed by the Nilgiri North Forest Division
- A resolution to declare diclofenac free villages and safeguarding Vulture population was passed in all the Gramasabhas (the local decision making bodies in villages) in Nilgiri, Erode and Coimbatore districts, the known home range of Vulture in Tamil Nadu
- All Veterinary Doctors practicing in Coimbatore, Nilgiri and Erode districts have been instructed against the misuse of the banned drug by Animal Husbandry
- Studied on “Status and Distribution of the Endangered Resident Gyps Vulture Species in Nilgiri Biosphere of Tamil Nadu” for the first time in this landscape (report attached)
- The first breeding record of Indian long-billed Vultures (five pairs) was recorded in Nilgiri North Forest Division.
- Two new breeding colonies of Oriental White Backed Vulture (OWBV) had been identified by vulture brigade members.
- Included the project site (Eppanadu in Nilgiri North) as a Important Bird Area (IBA)

Results of the Synchronized vulture survey:-

S.No	Year	OWBV	RHV	LBV
1	2013-14	102	1	3
2	2014-15	120	10	20

OWBV- Oriental White Backed Vulture /RHV- Red Headed Vulture/ LBV- Long Billed Vulture

- 2 Egyptian Vultures were occasionally recorded in the Hasanur area and Bhavanisagar dam site in Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve.

Nest Survey Success rate

S.No	Year	Hatching %	Nesting %	Nestling %
1	2012	81	81	66
2	2013	88	70	62
3	2014	88	75	72
4	2015 (January)			68

- Due to stricter monitoring and legal action by enforcement agencies (sensitized by the project), the number of shops selling diclofenac in large vials has reduced (from 34 to 5) pharmacy shops now sell safer drug Meloxicam and the sale of human diclofenac is presently being refused without a prescription to ensure it is not misused.

S.Nu	Year	Availability of large vials of diclofenac in pharmacies	Remarks
1	2011-12	34	Selling without prescription & safe drug Meloxicam was not available
2	2012-13	18	Selling without prescription & safe drug Meloxicam was not available
3	2013-14	9	Selling with prescription and safe drug Meloxicam made available
4	2014-15	5	Selling with prescription and safe drug Meloxicam made available

- Forest department has taken positive steps to leave wild animal carcasses for Vulture and other scavengers in Sathyamangalam and Nilgiri landscape.
- Media were sensitized and 167 report/articles had appeared regarding vulture conservation in various daily, weekly and monthly magazines in Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam and English languages. Wildlife photographers started posting Vulture pictures in face book and media through the outcome of this campaign
- Brigade members alerted us about Vultures death and carcass was sent to Salim Ali Center for Ornithology and Natural History Society (SACON) for the lab test with the support and guidance of Forest Department. Result shared with opinion builders.

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

Sustainable conservation of forest ecosystem through long term conservation of the Vultures by mitigating all possible threats to the Vultures in the Mysore-Nilgiri- Sathyamangalam landscape in Southern India.

Actual Progress Toward Long-term Impacts at Completion:

- Recovery plan for the endangered Vulture species for Tamil Nadu was accepted by the State Animal husbandry and Drug control departments. (Further dialogue initiated with Forest Department for adopting the Recovery plan)
- Synchronized survey conducted by the forest department of Tamil Nadu in 2014 and 2015 and report synthesized.
- Management plan for vulture conservation was included in the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve management plan in 2015 followed by the working plan of Nilgiri North Forest Division in 2013

Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal):

- All important stakeholders capacitated and equipped with appropriate knowledge, skills, positive attitude and suitable behavior and motivation to be vigilant against threats to Vulture conservation and to manage and maintain the systems in place
- Diclofenac vials above 3 ml banned in the working area and complete elimination of diclofenac for cattle usage in the designated zone demonstrated according to the accepted norms.
- Disease-free and diclofenac-free carcasses ensured at project site.
- Vulture safe zone established within the Mysore-Nilgiri-Sathyamangalam landscape in Southern India.

Actual Progress Toward Short-term Impacts at Completion:

- Importance of conserving the Vulture species across the entire horizontal and vertical sections of the community and the concerned government departments were stressed.
- Various programs conducted and news appeared frequently in mass media.
- Stakeholders have recognized the dwindling of Vulture populations during the conversation and recalled their earlier sightings of Vultures in their village/hometowns.
- The project has been successful in bringing general awareness among the stakeholders in Tamil Nadu on Vultures and their primary threat diclofenac and other harmful drugs such as ketoprofen, Aceclofenac, flunixin
- Information about other possible threats such as carcass poisoning and carcass unavailability also addressed
- About 60000 stakeholders were sensitized through Gramasabha meetings, street corner meetings, street theatre event, exhibition in temple festivals, cattle sandy (market), bike rally, Gyps carnivals, signature campaign, International vulture day etc.
- Indirectly sensitized about 200000 people through media and other activities
- Improved availability of disease free & diclofenac free wild carcass ensured by the forest department (Statement released by the forest veterinarian said that carcasses were left for vulture and scavengers after post mortem). It is a good sign. However in cases concerning carcasses of domestic cattle, we were unable to test the domestic carcasses on the spot for ensuring disease free and diclofenac free due to limited funds and duration of the testing procedures
- Raids in Pharmacy shops were conducted periodically by the drug inspectors.
- Appeal letter submitted to Prime Minister of India for withdrawal of above 3ml vials of diclofenac.
- Appeal letter was also submitted to diclofenac manufacturing companies for voluntary withdrawal of above 3ml vials
- Misuse of above 3ml vials brought attention to Drug Control General of India at national level with the support of Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) and Saving Asia's Vulture from Extinctions (SAVE). Results are expected at the earliest possible
- Resolution passed in Gramasabas meeting (Village Panchayath level) for establishing diclofenac free zone and protecting Vulture species.

- We are moving towards the path of permanent Vulture safe zone. It will be achieved in three years.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: NA

Species Conserved:

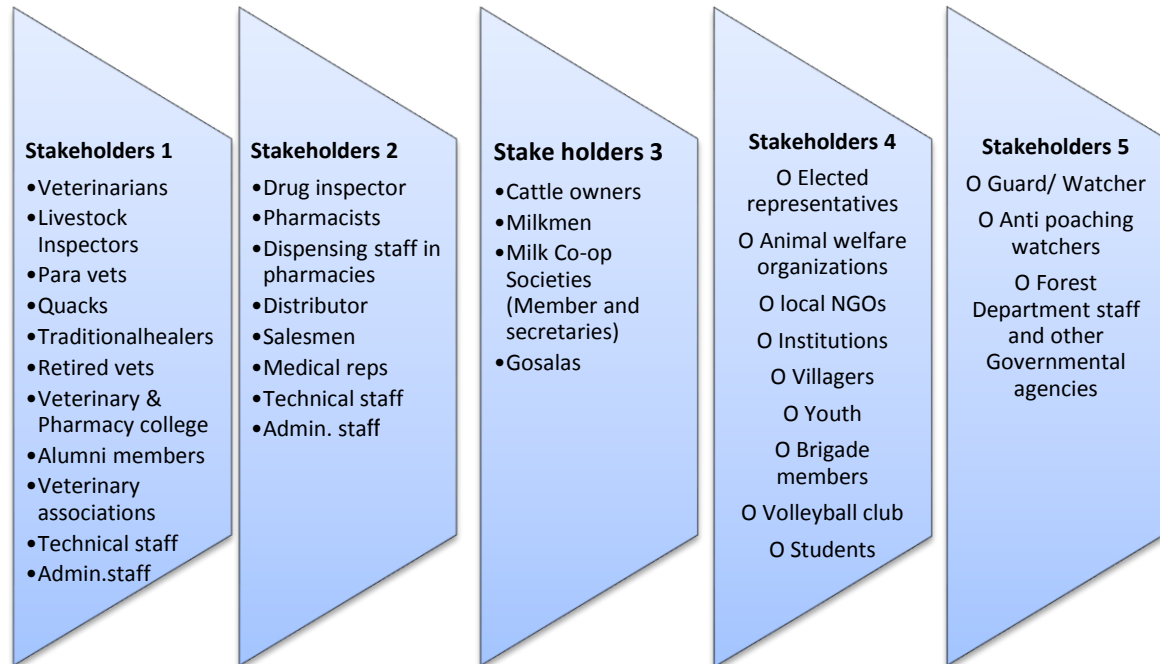
1. Oriental White-backed Vulture- *Gyps bengalensis*, CR
2. Indian Long-billed Vulture - *Gyps indicus*, CR
3. Red-headed Vulture – *Sarcogyps calvus* , CR
4. Egyptian Vulture – *Neophron percnopterus*, EN

Corridors Created: NA

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

- Recovery plan for endangered Vulture species necessitate action from various departments and it is a big challenge. Interestingly, Tamil Nadu State Animal Husbandry and Drug Control Departments favorably considered our appeal and initiated vulture-conservation actions.
- Convincing elected representatives and especially farmers & cattle owners was also a big challenge, but we were able to succeed at it by explaining the service of Vultures to the ecosystem.
- District collector, Coimbatore invited us to bring up the issue during farmers grievance day meet in Coimbatore.
- Selling diclofenac for human consumption is not an offence. Pharmacy shops claimed that they also not aware about the misuse of the drug. The misuse of the drug often gets unnoticed. It is a big challenge, as they couldn't be prosecuted.
- Another challenge is drugs and medicines are also available in petty shops in small villages. Monitoring those places is a big hurdle.
- This project needs attention from multiple stakeholders. Devising activities for each group of stakeholders, designing and printing IEC (Information, Education and Communication) materials in three different languages (Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam) in different and unique manner was a big challenge. More over area is also vast (100 sq.km) and organizing programme in hilly region is also somewhat tough. We overcame these hurdles with the support of partner organizations, well-wishers and volunteers. However, it was a time and money consuming effort
- Man-Animal conflict issue, confrontation with forest department by the local people, ransacking forest department jeep by agitated people, incidences such as Tiger attack in Gudalur and Kodanadu, Leopard attack in Kotagiri and Thimmam hindered the ongoing activity.

Different kind of stakeholders



Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Positive

- Sriguru Institute of technology has offered an engineering course free of cost to Vulture brigade members and tribal community in the project area.
- State Animal Husbandry Department, Government of Tamil Nadu announced a new cattle Insurance scheme
- Retired Livestock Inspector Association and Avin Milk Cooperative Society came forward to support our activities

Negative

- Unnatural death of five vultures was reported in time by one of the brigade members and alerted officials for further examinations. Tissue samples were collected and sent for lab test. Result was shared with the concerned people

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.

**P.C- Project Components*

P.C*	Planned (as stated in the approved proposal)	Actual at completion
1	Participatory Research conducted to make available to the stakeholders of the project and policy makers systematically arranged information, knowledge suitable for evolving a long-term strategy for successful conservation of Vulture species and preservation of nesting and roosting sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participatory research conducted by the Department of Zoology, Government Arts College, Coimbatore and Department of Wildlife Biology, Government Arts College, Udthagamandalam. • Salim Ali Center for ornithology and Natural History Society (SACON) supported for lab testing • Camera trap fixed and photos and videos gathered • Attention to be given in uploading Western Ghats portal and writing articles in scientific journals • Report & data synthesized and shared for wider audience and opinion builders
2	Vulture-related Information, Education, Communication (IEC) materials prepared and disseminated to various stakeholders in the area and policy makers with the support of likeminded organizations. Message conveyed among the stakeholders by using Short Messaging Systems (SMS), Eco alert, Face book, Orkut, Email and other social media	<p>IEC (Information, Education and Communication) material pertaining to Vulture conservation were printed and widely circulated such as,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vulture Safe Zone report 500 copies • Prescription pad for pharmacists and veterinarians 1000 copies • Vulture Identification brochure for forest field staff 3000 copies • Scientific articles for opinion builders and veterinarians 175CD's • Dotted line pictures 500 numbers, Label & sticker for students 3000 numbers each • Diclofenac warning message Gazette notification 5000 copies • Vulture mask, Signature card with oath messages for vets and pharmacists 500 each • And 20000 copies of handbills and bit notice for various occasions were prepared and shared with opinion builders • Wall painting at Siriur hamlet • Stencil work -warning message at milk society 300 locations

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vulture Safe Zone display board at Kodanadu • Permanent display board for repeated use in cattle sandy and village festivals 18 Panel boards • Messages through websites, mail, Whatsapp and face book were regularly sent to selected stakeholders. • Volunteers shared the Vulture related news through their network
3	Capacity-building programs for sensitization, knowledge enhancement, skill development and skill up gradation in all aspects of Vulture conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building program for forest guards, watchers and anti poaching watchers was conducted in Mudumalai and Sathyamangalam tiger reserves. 223 staff participated and got capacitated • Training workshop for identification of vulture conducted during the synchronized vulture survey and Animal census, 120 participants (staff and volunteer) attended • Vulture trophy volleyball tournament conducted twice and the role of youth towards conserving Vulture species were strengthened. Totally 32 team and including 630 audience were participated (Chief conservator of Forest and Field Director, Sathymangalam Tiger Reserve inaugurated the event) • Puppet show conducted at six locations and viewed by 400 persons • Human Chain Rally conducted in three towns and attended by 1100 participants • Gyps carnival 600 students & parents participated (an exclusive festival to celebrate the role of vultures in the ecosystem and their inspirational flight to encourage children to conserve and learn from nature) • International Vulture Day celebrated. 400 students and 150 employees from Southern Railways and volunteers participated • Art for nature workshop 2000 students participated, vulture mask making event conducted in 12 locations and 1400 students attended • Signature campaign (1200 signature received) • Vanishing vulture film and Gyps carnival video seen by 1800 stakeholders

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibition conducted in cattle sandy, Animal Health Camp & village festivals, Gosala meeting, Cow <i>pooja</i> and native cattle breeders mela, farmers grievance day meeting and association meeting such as livestock Inspectors, pharmacist association and Aavin milk society meeting • Street corner meeting and Street theatre programme were conducted. • All these programmes were witnessed by several thousand people
4	Networking, advocacy and campaign activities strengthened to influence and engage important stakeholders including government and local organizations and the public in Vulture conservation programs on important specific aspects such as importance of man-Vulture-culture relationships, inaction and negligence of enforcement authorities, uncontrolled use of diclofenac and prevention of 30(ml) vial of diclofenac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diclofenac warning message were depicted in 300 prominent locations by using stencils • Raids initiated in pharmacy shops by drug control department in the project area • Two new breeding colonies were identified by the brigade members • Immediate information on vulture deaths were made available to key personnel by the brigade members • Attitude survey conducted under 5 different categories of stakeholders (Forest, Animal husbandry, cattle owners/ milk association, Drug/ Pharmacy shops. And Elected representatives/ Youth/ villagers. There were 29.4 % people only knew about the banned drug diclofenac and importance of vulture before starting the project. Now the awareness level has increased to 70.2%.
5	Exposure visits conducted with local Drug inspector, Pharmacy Owners Association members, Veterinary Educational Institution faculty, and students, message bearers, Vulture brigade members, media personnel, volunteers and students and elected representatives of the local self government institutions to sensitize, motivate and engage them in the Vulture conservation activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 Exposure visits for selected stakeholders were organized. In total 58 stakeholders participated. • Vet for Vulture and oath taking program conducted (455 veterinarians and 730 livestock inspectors participated) • Bike rally conducted for sensitizing the banned drug diclofenac through vulture habitat by covering 500 K.Ms by covering Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka • 13 Students from Wildlife Institute of India, 28 students from Vels university and veterinary college were visited
6	Declaration of area as a safe habitat for Vulture. The activities, outputs, lessons learnt, insights gleaned and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution passed during the Grama saba meeting in 228 village panchayaths in Coimbatore and 230 and 35 panchayaths respectively in Erode

	expert comments received during the course of the project would be consolidated into a policy paper, which in turn would facilitate the conduct of a state level workshop to facilitate the declaration of the Mysore-Nilgiri-Sathyamangalam Landscape into a Vulture Safe Zone	<p>and Nilgiri districts for establishing diclofenac free village</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovery plan for the endangered Vulture species for Tamil Nadu were submitted to the Secretary, Director and Joint Director Animal Husbandry Department, Secretary, Director, Additional Director, Assistant Director and Drug Inspectors in Drug Controls Department, Secretary, Special Secretary, PCCF (wildlife), CCF, CF, Field Director Deputy Director and DFO's in 6 divisions in Forest Department. • Animal husbandry and Drug Control departments accepted the action point • High-level meeting proposed with Forest Department. Action plan will be discussed and adopted after the meeting
7	Compliance with CEPF Social Safeguard Policies monitored and reported to CEPF.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social safeguard policy monitored and followed

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

There was some difficulty noticed in organizing exposure visit and getting permission into tiger reserve core areas. Community conservation center was modified as an evening tuition center with the support of local volunteers due to limited funds. We were unable to test the domestic carcasses on the spot for ensuring disease free and diclofenac free due to limited funds and duration of the testing procedures.

Carcass poisoning and cattle compensation issues also not effectively tackled due to administrative reasons and legal issue. Other aspects of the projects were well covered and addressed and hence, didn't affect 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.

1. Recovery plan for endangered Vulture species in the state of Tamil Nadu
2. "Status and Distribution of the Endangered Resident Gyps Vulture Species in Nilgiri Biosphere of Tamil Nadu" for the first time in this landscape
3. Synchronized Vulture Survey Report- 2014
4. Video footage on Vulture and Culture during Gyps carnival
5. Vulture mask, tattoo, dotted line pictures and models were produced
6. Vulture Safe Zone report

Lessons Learned

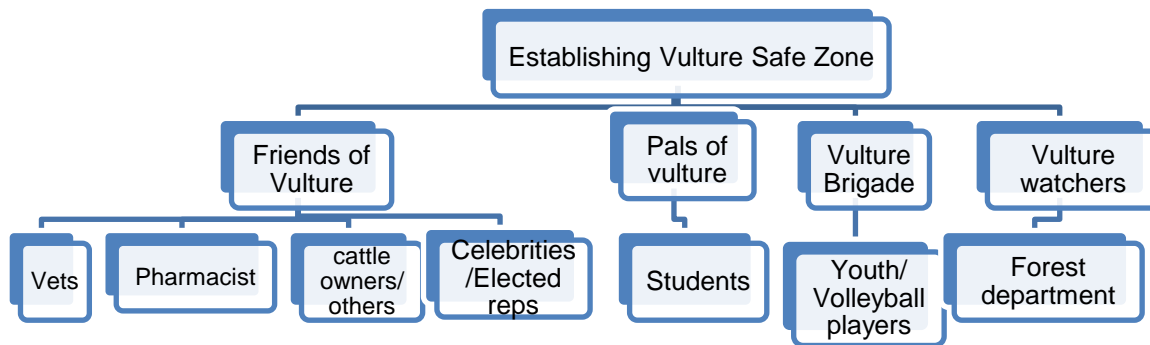
Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building. Consider lessons that would inform projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.

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

The project process was well designed with the experience of our earlier project “In-situ conservation of threatened vultures in the Moyar Valley of the Western Ghats”. Based on the long term and short-term impacts, project component and objectives were prepared. Then work chart (Activity/ Action owner/ Time line/ feedback/ Review) was prepared for our staff and volunteer team. Review meeting conducted for every month. Rescheduled some of the activities and included unplanned activities also based on the ground reality. There was some inconvenience felt during that time. We were able to overcome such short falls with the support of volunteers and members.

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

- We had already identified the stakeholders through the earlier CEPF supported project, and hence we were able to implement the project immediately.
- Demarked the area as grey area, vulnerable area and red spot and based on that, awareness activities, vigilance work and future course of action devised
- Good working relationship is maintained with wildlife based organizations
- Series of meetings, street theatre and street corner meeting conducted in following broad category in the project area



Learned

- Some of the activities need to be conducted outside the project area and non-relevant stakeholders also. It indirectly helps to lead towards our path. New volunteers have teamed up in the journey towards vulture safe zone.
- Some of the activity to be executed based on the ground reality, even if we would not include in the proposal and budget.
- Utilize the congregation of people for conveying messages rather than organizing them separately. Messages were effectively conveyed during the cattle sandy, village festivals and including the working site of MGNREGS (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme)
- Message were spread without speaking:- diclofenac warning message were written in the backside of our vehicle. Wherever we go the message was conveyed (Our team travelled 70000+ kilometers so far)
- Experience on conserving the species with people participation gained by the staff team. Through this experience our staff had easily got employment opportunity in ATREE and WWF- India programme after the project period
- This project gave identity to Arulagam as a conservation organization and our team members recognized and called as a *kalugu* (Vulture) team by forest department and others.
- We are receiving calls wherever vulture/ raptor are being sighted by individuals in other parts of Tamil Nadu. It is a good sign
- Arulagam gained knowledge on preparing species recovery plan
- Vulture related matters are referred, shared and interacted with Arulagam team by bird watchers and Medias in Tamil Nadu.
- From the valuable experience gained through this project, Arulagam are confident of taking forward this vision to conserve other endangered species

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

We learned that conservation work could be executed with the help of non-professional and sometimes problematic persons also. We identified a quack and employed him for vigilance work on diclofenac intrusion. He easily targeted other quacks in our working area and effectively conveyed the message. They turned positively and supported our initiative by not using diclofenac. Long term commitment is needed for implementing species conservation work

Targeted Veterinarians/ Pharmacy/ Cattle owners/ others

- For approaching veterinarians, our team members voluntarily helped in Animal Health Camp, vaccination camp and free cattle distribution programs organized by the department. By using this opportunity, messages were conveyed directly to both the cattle growers and vets.
- “Vet for vulture’ workshop conducted exclusively for targeting future veterinarians (Students) and professors
- Utilized the opportunity of social gathering of Vets and interact with them on diclofenac issues
- Mail ids and mobile numbers were gathered and keep communicating scientific reports and other messages including events organized by us in frequent intervals.
- Periodically met Secretary&Director, Animal Husbandry Department and Additional director, Drug control and Drug inspector about the ground situation and sought their support.
- Voluntarily attended the functions related with wildlife and cattle and spread message about diclofenac issue
- Established contact with milk cooperative societies and participated in their meetings and addressed diclofenac issue through a detailed presentation

Targeted elected representatives and sensitized them in conservation

- Elected representatives and village leaders were invited and honored to our programs as chief guest for gaining people’s support.
- Gramasabhas were approached through district administration/ Panchayath raj department for passing resolution during the gramasabha meeting.
- Initially District collector of Coimbatore was convinced and passed a resolution. Then we moved on to nearby districts Erode and Nilgiri based on the output of Coimbatore districts

Targeted Youth as volunteers:

We observed that tribal youth are very much interested in playing volleyball. We took this as a very-good opportunity to reach and create awareness among them. We supported a District level Volleyball tournament, which was titled as 'Vulture Trophy Volleyball Tournament'. 32 teams from all over Nilgiri and Sathyamangalam area took part in this tournament. Around 630 youth participated in the event.

Vulture conservation banners were displayed in the arena and the messages were spread about Vulture and forest conservation through repeated audio announcement. On and off we repeatedly appeal to the viewers to help conservation initiatives and stop purchasing and administering diclofenac to cattle. We encouraged them to administer Meloxicam and keep a strict vigilance on the usage of banned drug in their respective villages. After the event we grouped them as a Vulture brigade and now we are motivating them to monitor the leakage of diclofenac in their village.

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 USD	Notes
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	B	2000	Printing awareness materials and spotting scope & Binocular contribution and meeting expenses at Dhaka
Oriental Bird Club (OBC)	B	2500	Activities for opinion builders
Hill Area Development Programme (HADP)	A	1000	Printing awareness materials
MohamadbinZayed Species Conservation Fund	B	12500	Implement Permanent Vulture Safe Zone activity
Tirupur IT Association, Srigruru Institute of Technology, Vels University, Veterinary College-Namakal, Madras Veterinary College, KSIR School, Brookefield Mall, Volleyball club, Siruthuli Trust and SEEDS Trust	B	2000	Conducting various programme
Daily Thanthi News magazine	A	800	Publishing advertisements
Mr. BharathiGanapathy, Mr. Kalyanasundaram Perumal Ms. Pooja&Mr.Dinakaran	A	4500	Conducting awareness programme

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount USD	Notes
WWF- India & Shola Trust, Junglescapes, Wildlife Conservation Foundation (WCF), Symryna home	A	700	Conducting awareness activity
Arulagam, Care Earth Trust, MNHS,	B	2000	Staff salary and technical support
Miva& Mahindra & Mahindra	B	15000	Four wheel drive
Central Institute of Classical Tamil, Government of India	B	3000	For studying Birds in <i>Sangam</i> Literature
Cattle insurance scheme, State Animal Husbandry Department, Tamil Nadu	C	Amounts are allotted for entire State	
Forest Department, Tamil Nadu	B	Patrolling and monitoring roll initiated towards vulture conservation	

****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.

- Synchronized Vulture survey and nest survey conducted by the forest department. Consolidating the report was a challenge
- Vulture conservation agenda has been included in Nilgiri North forest division and Mudumalai Tiger Reserve.
- Recovery plan for endangered Vulture species for Tamil Nadu prepared and submitted. Funding mechanism was also included in that plan.
- Mohamadbin Zayed species conservation fund has come forward to support Arulagam initiatives for conserving Vulture species.
- SAVE has recommended Arulagam as an associate partner in SAVE consortium.
- All the findings and results shared in public domain.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

We realized that cattle insurance will reduce the incidence of carcass poisoning. But Insurance companies were reluctant to insure cattle in the forest area because of the following reasons:

- I. Cattle predation by carnivores is very high (monthly 45 cattle are lifted/attacked/injured by carnivores in Mudumali Tiger Reserve alone)
- II. Insurance companies fear they may incur loss due to low premium rate
- III. Even the low premium amount fixed by the insurance company is not affordable by the livestock owners
- IV. Forest law also doesn't permit the cattle grazing inside the forest

These issues were discussed during the special consultation meeting with Insurance Company organized by WWF- India at Ooty on July 16th , 2013. Arulagam also actively took part in it.

The agenda for meeting of the insurance companies were

1. To discuss about the insurance models adopted in various places in Western Ghats Landscape to protect tigers.
2. To come up with a model to suit the cattle holding people in and around protected areas
3. The cattle compensation schemes that establish link with the people through insurance.
4. Need to provide inputs in implementing the cattle insurance and compensation schemes in the villages near the protected areas and need to implement the same.

However Insurance companies were not ready to implement these agenda due to various reasons. Dr.Kalaivanan, Forest Veterinary officer, Mudumalai and Dr.K.Anbalagan, Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Masinagudi, highlighted these issues in the forest department.

Arulagam team shared the ground reality with the Animal Husbandry Department of Tamil Nadu. During the outbreak of foot and mouth disease, we made people aware that if vultures had been there in the numbers that mattered, they would have contained the disease. We've clearly informed that increasing the Vulture population by reducing carcass poisoning episodes and others would be the ideal solution. Higher officials from Animal Husbandry appraised this.

Animal Husbandry Department, Government of Tamil Nadu has announced a new cattle insurance scheme. It is a breakthrough. It is applicable for entire state. This will reduce the carcass poisoning issue in the long run and Vulture, Hyena, Dholes, Tiger and other species also will be benefitted.

S.Nu	Policy details	Premium %	Central Government Subsidy for tribes %	State Government Subsidy for tribes %	Cattle owners Share
1	One year policy loss of cattle and injured	2.9	40%	30%	30%
2	One year policy loss of cattle only	2.7	40%	30%	30%
3	Three year policy loss of cattle and injured	6.6	40%	30%	30%
4	Three year policy loss of cattle only	6.1	40%	30%	30%

We are motivating volunteers and brigade members to avail this opportunity and claim compensation. This scheme will help indirectly to vulture conservation.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project. Not Applicable

Additional Comments/Recommendations

- Vultures are slow breeders and lay only one egg and ten more years are needed for doubling the population. Hence long term monitoring and funding is needed. .
- Vulture populations are precariously small and Cattle populations are relatively high in the landscape. Numerous hamlets, multiple stakeholders, wider area and availability of drug in petty shop also big hurdles.
- Continuous monitoring is necessary to remove diclofenac totally from the Vulture food chain
- Other harmful NSAIDs such as ketoprofen, Aceclofenac, flunixin also to be addressed
- We were able to focus only 40% of the landscape. Karnataka side of Moyar valley was not covered in this project due to limited funds. This area is to be brought under thorough vigilance.
- The volunteers and bird watchers observed vulture sightings in new areas. This is to be explored.
- Carcass poisoning issue needs to give high priority
- The disappearance of vultures has led to cattle carcasses being disposed of in ways, such as burial, that may restrict the availability of carrion as food for a recovering vulture population in the future.

- Burial and burning practice are not completely withdrawn by the forest department of Tamil Nadu. New postmortem rules to be framed for improving the carcass availability
- This project focused mainly Government agencies, institutions and milk cooperative societies. We realized that corporate groups and private milk producing companies are to be brought under the stakeholders' network as well as vigilance network
- Enthusiastic encouragement received from **CEPF** and **ATREE** team
- Fund transfer also was very prompt and timely received
- We expect next phase of CEPF project.

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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*****If your grant has an end date other than JUNE 30, please complete the tables on the following pages*****

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, 2013 to May 30, 2014. (Attach annexes if necessary)
1. Did your project	No			Please also include name of the

strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.				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

Please complete this table if your project provided concrete socioeconomic benefits to local communities. List the name of each community in column 1 and the totals of the total number of communities in column 2.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics								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 resource management practices	Adoption of sustainable natural resource management practices

									sustainable resources management prac adoption of sustainable resources management prac adoption of sustainable resourrestry); tices (agricultural production, fishing, forestry); tices (agricultural production, fishing, forestry); ces(agricultural production, fishing, forestry); tices (agricultural production, fishing, forestry); tices (agricultural production, fishing, forestry); ices (agricultural production, fishing, forestry); ices (agricultural
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									production, fishing, forestry);
Total									

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