

# CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

## I. BASIC DATA

**Organization Legal Name:** Conservation International

**Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement):** Building Conservation Alliance through Coordination CEPF in the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot

**Implementation Partners for this Project:** **Coordination Partners:** Sichuan Planning Commission, WWF, Sichuan Forestry Department, Center for Biodiversity and Indigenous Knowledge, TNC and Yunnan Forestry Department; Center for Community Development Studies

**Initiatives addressed to threats:** Peking University, WWF, Sichuan Forestry Department, Center for Biodiversity and Indigenous Knowledge, TNC, IFAW, State Environment Protection Agency, Yunnan Forestry Department and Sichuan Academy of Social Science, Green Khampa, Snowland Great Rivers, GGF,

**Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement):** August 1, 2004-February 28, 2008

**Date of Report (month/year):** 04 May 2008

## II. OPENING REMARKS

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

This project is the continuation of CI China's previous two CEPF coordination grant, 'Establishing partnerships in Lasting Conservation in Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot', from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004 and 'Building Best Biodiversity Conservation Strategies in the Mountains of Southwest China', This grant funded CI China to cover a three-year CEPF coordination work in China, and aims to achieve a broad conservation alliance in the Mountains of Southwest China through grant making and networking.

In the three and half year extension, CI China coordinated CEPF's investment in SW China, refined CEPF's strategy, promoted the civil society's network for conservation and sought the additional funding for the sustainability of CEPF.

CI China has organized an implementing team to take charge of these projects; 4 full-time staff members have worked with CI China's senior management team to conduct this grant. In the end of 2007, CI China recruited an independent consultant to evaluate CEPF's portfolio in SW China.

## III. ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT PURPOSE

**Project Purpose:** A broad conservation alliance with active participation of civil society is in place and able to respond to key threats outlined in the Ecosystem Profile for the Mountains of SW China Hotspot, and able to demonstrate the ability to act together to secure major conservation outcomes.

**Planned vs. Actual Performance**

Indicator	Actual at Completion
<b>Purpose-level:</b>	
Major threats identified in the hotspot region reduced through collaboration of government and civil society	Through the coordination of CEPF investment in SW China, the major threats have been identified and specific projects funded to respond to the threats. The results can be found in the evaluation report of CEPF's portfolio in The Mountains of SW China.
With support from civil society, the government's environmental policies on reforestation, sustainable economic development and management of protected areas and corridors, etc. result in lasting sound ecological benefits and social equity.	With the fund of CEPF, the civil society groups in SW China have been trained to integrate the biodiversity concerns into the policy at National and provincial levels. CEPF's grantee has formed the network of policy advocacy and legal aid which is playing an emergent role for the public's participation in policy making process.
Conservation capacity of, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector within and beyond the hotspot are enhanced and partnerships are formed	Through the coordination of CEPF, a group of dedicated conservationists has been organized and had the opportunity to attend the program of capacity building. The capacity of civil society in SW China and the networking for civil society organizations were enhanced. The results can be found in the Evaluation report of CEPF's portfolio.

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

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

**IV. PROJECT OUTPUTS**

**Project Outputs:** Enter the project outputs from the Logical Framework for the project

**Planned vs. Actual Performance**

Indicator	Actual at Completion
<b>Output 1: CI China ensures that CEPF coordination mechanism in China is operating smoothly, adaptively, in a timely manner and with broad participation. CI China facilitates monitoring and evaluation of CEPF funded projects to ensure the effectiveness of the CEPF implementation in the field.</b>	

<p><i>Roles and responsibilities of CI China team and the CEPF coordination committee are well defined to manage different aspects of CEPF work with the evolution of CEPF's tasks, and is adaptive to geographical and strategic focus for CEPF's work.</i></p>	<p>4 full staff were on board. The CEPF manager and Beijing Coordinators are in charge of CEPF's overall management and project management for crosscutting projects. There are 2 coordinators based in Kunming and Chengdu to coordinate the projects for Northwest Yunnan and Western Sichuan. Two review committees were formed, including the representatives of Governmental agencies, NGOs, and research academies. Which reviewed CEPF's portfolio and proposals regularly.</p>
<p><i>Part II application training is well facilitated and timely reviewed.</i></p>	<p>Offered a part 2 training to most of the applicants in year of 2004 during the all grantee meeting. and offered the assistance to all of the applicants for their part 2 application.</p>
<p><i>Small grant making facilities are connected with other CEPF grants to avoid duplication and enhance efficiency</i></p>	<p>CEPF RIT in SW China has good communication with WWF, CBIK and CI's small grant team smoothly transferred the pending projects of CEPF to these 3 small grant mechanisms. CEPF manager and OM Program manager have joined the review committee for WWF's small grant program. CEPF Manager and Yunnan coordinator have joined the review committee of CBIK's small grant program. CEPF RIT has taken the management role of CI's sacred land small grant program. The good connection has avoided the duplication and enhance efficiency.</p>
<p><i>Timely communication by CI China with CEPF DC to assist grant making decisions.</i></p>	<p>CEPF RIT in SW China kept the good connection with CEPF DC staff to offer the assistance for grant making decision.</p>
<p><i>Quarterly portfolio review with CEPF grant manager in DC.</i></p>	<p>CEPF RIT in SW China kept good connection with CEPF DC staff to offer the assistance for Quarterly portfolio review.</p>
<p><i>Monitoring/evaluation plan developed for all CEPF projects.</i></p>	<p>Participatory monitoring plan was developed and conducted by CEPF RIT. Organized 5 participatory workshops to monitor CEPF's project and the network for grantee.</p>
<p><i>At least 10 site and project visits conducted each quarter and feedback provided to grantees</i></p>	<p>At least 1 site visit for each big projects. For the small grants, CEPF has organized site visits trips every quarter. The trip reports and feedback were provided for CEPF DC and Grantee.</p>
<p><i>Assist CEPF M&amp; E team in conducting review of the China Portfolio</i></p>	<p>Assist CEPF M&amp;E team to evaluate CEPF's portfolio in Year 2005. Provided assistance for CEPF's trips</p>
<p><b>Output 2. Through sharing experience and lessons learned, and integrating projects and plans, the civil society (including CEPF grantees and partners) in southwest China build a mutual reinforcing environment to discuss and address the emerging biodiversity</b></p>	

<b>issues strategically, and to promote policy changes collectively.</b>	
<i>Workshops organized to share experiences and lessons learned among NGOs and CEPF grantees in SW China</i>	Organized the specific theme workshops including the workshop of Ecotourism, Outcome Monitoring, Anti-illegal Wildlife Trade, Community based Conservation and the management of Protected Area.
<i>At least four workshops and meetings on different themes are held annually to address emerging threats to biodiversity in SW China, such as dam construction, wildlife trade and consumption, wildlife disease, mass tourism development, south to north water diversion program, etc.</i>	In Year 2004, CEPF held the workshop for well management for watershed and wrote a petition letter for UNESCO to halt the dam construction in Salween Rivers. In Year 2004, CEPF held a international workshop for Ecotourism and formed the network of Ecotourism. From Year 2003 to Year 2006, CEPF has held 5 workshops for anti-illegal wildlife trade and formed network.
<i>Policy recommendations and public education material made on important mandate within and/or related to SW China.</i>	Publish one brochure about the Environmental Impact of Dam Construction.Organized Yunnan Visual Forum and student's film festival in Beijing to share the CEPF's story with the public.
<i>At least one grantee meeting, on different themes held annually; informal exchanges among grantees arranged.</i>	Final Grantee meeting was held in Chengdu, more than 110 representatives including 40 grantees has attended this meeting to share the CEPF's experience in SW China. In year 2004, CEPF has held the grantee meeting for the management of watershed and Ecotourism. In Year 2005 and 2006 , CEPF has organized Ecopartners Meeting. From Year 2003 to Year 2006, 5 workshops related to anti-illegal wildlife trade were coordinated by CEPF to form the network.
<b>Output 3. Information from CEPF coordination projects created and communicated with interested parties within and beyond the CEPF funding area, so that the conservation message is shared way among partners, general public, policy makers and potential donors.</b>	
<i>Communication plan incorporated in CEPF funded projects.</i>	CI's communication Officer has worked with CEPF RIT in SW China to draft CEPF's communication plan and conduct it.
<i>CEPF information communicated within SW region through CEPF Chinese website, CEPF Chinese newsletter and other means of communication</i>	CEPF's Chinese website was maintained and updated monthly. CEPF's Chinese newsletters were edited Quarterly.
<i>CEPF and donors are well informed on CEPF project and stories came out of them through CEPF DC's English newsletter</i>	Assist CEPF's communication director in DC to maintain the website of CEPF and provided CEPF's China newsletter summary to DC quarterly.
<i>Stories on CEPF funded projects are communicated to broad audience as public</i>	Recommended CEPF's story to New York times, National Media and Provincial media to

<i>education material, by featuring story on local, regional, national and international media, at least twice a year.</i>	share CEPF's experience in China. The Media list is attached. 22 papers has publicshed in International Journals.
<b>Output 4. CEPF's investment in the Mountains of SW China Hotspots leveraged for partners through significant additional investment (over \$1,000,000) by other donors to support civil society's efforts in biodiversity conservation and sustainable development initiatives.</b>	
<i>Grantees have higher capacity and awareness in fund raising through trainings provided by CI China during part II application, project implementation and M&amp;E feedback;</i>	Through the training, CEPF's grantee has raised \$6,218,392.60 leverage fund. CEPF RIT especially spent more time to help the grassroot NGOs and Local community to raise fund. Nearly 10 community and local NGOs has get additional fund from SEE Fund and Ford Company.
<i>Significant amount of funding is raised and leveraged for conservation initiatives in SW China by CI China, CEPF grantees and partners, at the level of millions of dollars per year.</i>	CEPF directly got \$6,218,392.60 leverage fund. CEPF's Grant also got regional leverage from other donor agencies. Such as ECBP, TNC's blueprint program and China's governmental investment.
<b>Output 5 Evaluate and report on the impact of CEPF's portfolio in terms of achieving its goal of ensuring that civil society is engaged in conserving the Mountains of Southwest China hotspot.</b>	
<i>Main achievements of CEPF in SW China are evaluated: 1. The increasing role of civil society for the biodiversity conservation. 2. The outcome of Biodiversity conservation in SW China with the effort of CEPF was assessed. 3. New Emergent threatens in SW China are identified and suggestion is made. 4. The sustainability of Grant mechanism for biodiversity in SW China</i>	CEPF has formed the evaluation team to conduct final evaluation from July 2007. The final report was consulted with all CEPF grantees and submitted to CEPF in March 2008.
<i>Documentation for the change of Biodiversity conservation in SW China</i>	
<i>hold the Final Grantee meeting, draft the report to CEPF.</i>	The Final Meeting was held in Jan. 2008, the summary of the meeting was attached to the final report which was submitted to CEPF in March. 2008.

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

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

## V. SAFEGUARD POLICY ASSESSMENTS

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

## 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.***

As the RIT of CEPF, CI China has grown because of CEPF, and CEPF has also benefitted from CI China's growth. Through the coordination of CEPF, 6 networks were formed and continued after the first phase investment of CEPF. The network of civil society will be the heritage of CEPF which will ensure the sustainability of CEPF.

Due to lack of experience, there were also some weaknesses in CEPF's coordination in SW China. such as:

1. RIT should set the monitoring and evaluation indicators before the approval of the grant.
2. RIT should set up the timetable of calling for proposals, proposal reviewing, and decision making to make sure CEPF is transparent for grantee.

In CEPF's final report, there are descriptions of lessons learnt.

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

The participation of the civil society and government is the highlight of CEPF, RIT has invited the representatives from the government, NGOs to form the review committee and provide the guidance for RIT. This mechanism ensures the cooperation among the government, NGOs, and researchers.

CI China, as the coordination unit, has been playing a critical role in designing the grant profile which ensures CEPF's investment focus on the solution of biodiversity through the network of civil society.

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

***The Review committee has been playing an important role in CEPF's implementation. In the period of monitoring and evaluation, more engagement of committee would be helpful.***

## 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	Date Received	Notes
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3M	C	\$3 million	2004	Project period from 2004 to 2007.
Blue Moon Fund	C	\$390,00 0	2004	Project period from 2004 to 2007.
Walton Family Fund	C	\$100,00 0	2004	
		\$		
		\$		
		\$		
		\$		
		\$		

**\*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.***

CEPF has finished its first phase investment in SW China. based on the final evaluation, it is recommend to apply the fund for the consolidation of outcomes. Part of the grant has gained additional funding from ECBP, TNC and other donor.

The 6 networks formed by CEPF are running very well now, especially the network of Anti-Illegal Wildlife Trade, Community and Protected Areas, Policy and Legal Aid.

<b>VIII. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
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## VIII. 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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