

Terminal Report: Philippine Eagle Workshop Held in Manila in November 2003

Organization Name: Conservation International
Project Title: Stakeholders Workshop on Philippine Eagle
Project Dates: October 2003 – December 2003
Date of Report: April 12, 2004

Purpose of CEPF Grant:

CEPF provided funding to Conservation International Philippines to host a series of workshops to formulate a conservation plan for the Philippine Eagle. These workshops were attended by key organizations working on Philippine Eagle conservation, including CI-Philippines, WWF-Philippines-Kabang Kalikasan ng Pilipinas, Philippine Eagle Foundation, Haribon, Birdlife International and PAWB-DENR.

I. Introduction

Considered as the “hottest of the hotspots”, the Philippines is one of the priority areas of CEPF. The results of the Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities Program (PBCPP) provided the initial guidelines in creating the Ecological Profile for the Philippines Hotspot, which identified the three major conservation corridors: Sierra Madre, Palawan and Eastern Mindanao. The corridors, as well as critical habitat for Philippine endangered species that lie outside these three major corridors, have been chosen as key areas for conservation investment.

Consequently, CEPF has identified the Philippine Eagle as a flagship species for conservation. In August 2003, CEPF hosted a workshop to discuss the gaps in Philippine Eagle conservation work. Representatives from the above-mentioned institutions and organizations who play an active role in the conservation of the Philippine Eagle attended this workshop. Together, the group’s goal was to come up with a comprehensive conservation plan for the Philippine Eagle, which culminated in a project development workshop in November 2003.

II. Rationale and Objectives

During the August 2003 meeting, the group discussed issues and opportunities on how to proceed with developing a workable way forward, and where CEPF investments could be made that would prove particularly valuable for Philippine Eagle conservation. A menu of options was presented, however a consensus could not be reached and thus the project development workshop was proposed.

The project development workshop consisted of two parts. A pre-workshop session was conducted to develop the conceptual framework on the proposed priorities in the conservation of the Philippine Eagle. The group then agreed to form an Alliance between the represented organizations in order to be able to set forth a comprehensive conservation action for the Philippine Eagle. The major output of the pre-workshop session was a problem tree, which summarizes the factors why *"The conservation status of the Philippine Eagle continues to be Critically Endangered"*.

The main workshop on the other hand sought to review and have an in-depth discussion on the outputs of the pre-workshop session, as well as discuss the institutional arrangements on how to proceed with the task at hand through collaborative undertakings.

Specifically, the objectives of the project development workshop were:

1. To agree on the broad outline of work on the Philippine Eagle conservation for the next five years;

2. To build confidence among the various players involved in the conservation of the Philippine Eagle;
3. To open lines of communication among the organizations for future action;
4. To agree on a mode of collaboration and cooperation among participating agencies.

III. Representation and leveling of expectations

Representatives of CI, PEF, Haribon Foundation, Birdlife International, WWF-Philippines and PAWB-DENR attended the project development workshop held from November 3-7, 2003 (please refer to Attachment 1 for the detailed list of participants for the two sessions). The problem tree analysis was utilized in order to come up with a draft conceptual framework for the conservation of the Philippine Eagle based on a wide-ranging review of the problems and issues besetting the eagle. The timeframe was set at 3 to 5 years, and priorities were set according to what are achievable and to partially coincide with CEPF's funding timeframe. CEPF may be able to provide funds for the next 3 years, however the framework was not be limited to 3 years since a holistic approach was used looking beyond the CEPF timeframe.

IV. Summary of Results / Problem Tree Analysis

Specific problems that affect conservation of the Philippine Eagle were identified including institutional and socio-economic issues, which have implications in solving the problems concerning the conservation of the Philippine Eagle.

Issues identified:

- The habitat of the Philippine Eagle is diminishing
- Limited capacities and capabilities of key players in the conservation of the Philippine Eagle
- Weak enforcement of "wildlife laws" against hunting, trapping and selling of large raptors
- High mortality among rescued and confiscated eagles
- Human competition for prey base
- Unrevised and partial implementation of a clear and cohesive Species Conservation Plan
- Insufficient knowledge of optimal ecological conditions for the Philippine Eagle
- Policy-related constraints to Philippine Eagle conservation
- Lack of public awareness and support for conservation of habitats and needs of the Philippine Eagle
- Perception that the Philippine Eagle is a pest that the community trap them
- Piece-meal conservation actions on the Philippine Eagle
- No sustainable financing mechanism for the eagle

In consideration of the limited resources for the task at hand, priority sites were identified. The following criteria were considered in the priority site selection:

1. Confirmed sightings of Philippine eagle
2. Extent of conservation initiatives (which may indicate a need to supplement the efforts in some sites)
3. Probability of success
4. Management capacity of stakeholders

Sites identified:

A. Priority sites

Luzon:

1. North of Peñablanca (Baggao area)
2. South Isabela, North of Aurora
3. Central Aurora– Southern portion of Dipaculao, Ma. Aurora (coverage of existing AMNP), Western portion of Baler and northern portion of San Luis (these areas stands for the “surrounding forest”)(total area is about 80,000 has.)
4. Rizal-Bulacan-Quezon - Complex (focus on General Nakar, Quezon area)

Mindanao:

1. Mt. Hilong-hilong range (Agusan/Surigao)
2. Mt. Diwata (Agusan/Surigao)
3. Mt. Agtuuganon (Davao Oriental/Surigao del Sur)
4. Mt. Puting bato and Mt. Kampalili (Davao del Norte)
5. Mabini-Maco-Pantukan (Davao del Norte)
6. Mt. Hamiguitan Range (Davao Oriental)

B. Secondary Sites

Samar-Leyte

1. Anonang-Lobi Range (Leyte)
2. Taft (Eastern Samar) (Maslog)
3. San Jose de Buan (West Samar)

Mindanao:

1. Mt. Matutum (Sarangani Province)
2. Mt. Three Kings (Lake Sebu)
3. Mt. Busa (S Cotabato)
4. Mt. Tago-Manomino (Pulangi)
5. Mt. Kitanglad (Bukidnon)
6. Mt. Piagayungan (Lanao del Sur)
7. Mt. Kalatungan (Bukidnon)
8. Mt. Kimangkil-Lumot (Agusan/Bukidnon/Mis. Oriental)

Luzon

1. NSMNP
2. Casecnan
3. Quirino
4. Penablanca
5. CEZA area

V. Agreed-upon short- and mid-term agenda

1. Formulation of a Species Conservation Plan (SCP) to allow a more detailed analysis of the 12 causative factors/issues identified.
2. Interim SCP to serve as the outline wherein concept proposals will be based and will thus serves as the Research Plan.
3. Comprehensive SCP at the end of the third year to allow inclusion of some of the results of the research conducted making the plan more realistic.
4. Need to review existing Integrated Plan (IP) for the Philippine Eagle formulated by the Philippine Eagle Working Group (PEWG) of PAWB-DENR
5. Review and assessment of the Philippine Eagle Working Group after the review of the IP.
6. Formation of review committee that will be tapped to review PE related proposals from the members of the Alliance. Individuals or groups can also submit proposals to CEPF; however, the alliance would assist reviewing these proposals to ensure that these are attuned to the Philippine Eagle Species Conservation Plan.
7. The members of the alliance will present to the group their concept proposals or updates of their PE projects during group meetings.

8. Crafting of a Memorandum of Agreement to formally bind the Alliance together in order for it to push the identified agenda forward
9. Alliance to meet again on February in Davao for the following Agenda:
 - a) Review output of the project development workshop
 - b) Review of the Integrated Plan and Problem Tree Analysis
 - c) Preparation of the Interim Species Conservation Plan based on review of Integrated plan and the problem tree analysis
 - d) Preparation of the Research Plan
 - e) Review concept proposals or ideas that need to be worked on by each institution – proposals of the Alliance should be ready for submission to CEPF after the February meetings
10. PAWB and Haribon Foundation will host the records/documents of the Alliance.

For more information about this project, please contact:

Susie Ellis

Conservation International
1919 M Street, NW Suite 600
Washington, DC 20036

Tel: 202-912-1000

Fax: 202-912-1046

E-mail: s.ellis@conservation.org

www.conservation.org