

**COORDINATION, FACILLITATION AND DISSEMINATION OF RESEARCH
WORKS WITHIN THE CRITICAL ECOSYTEM PRIORITY SITES
IN
THE EASTERN ARC AND COASTAL FORESTS HOTSPOT
IN TANZANIA**

FINAL PROGRESS REPORT

January 2005 – December 2006

FACILITATION OF RESEARCH CLEARANCE PROJECT

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Legal Name: Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania

Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement):

Coordination, facilitation and dissemination of research works within the critical ecosystem priority sites in the Eastern Arc Mountains and Coastal Forests Hotspot.

The work included acquisition of research permits for scientists intending to undertake research work and other studies funded by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund initiative for the EAMCF Hotspot.

Implementation Partners for This Project:

Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania has been implementing the project with the collaboration of Government institutions under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism that include the Forest and Beekeeping Division, the Wildlife Division, which are both line Divisions of the Ministry; others in the collaboration are COSTECH (The Tanzania National Commission for Science and Technology, TAWIRI (Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute) and TAFORI (Tanzania Forest Research Institute)

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement):

Start Date	Type of report	End Period
Jan 1, 2005	Final Project Completion Report	Dec 31, 2006

Date of Report (month/year): FINAL REORT for the two years

Covering activities done from time of start in January 1, 2005 - December 31, 2006

II. OPENING REMARKS

The central part of the assignment was to assist researchers who needed help in the process of obtaining permits and other necessary documents and information to enable them carry out research work in the Tanzanian part of the Eastern Arc and Coastal Forests Biodiversity Hotspot. The task entailed intensive communication, travel and meetings with management authorities for clarification of issues which subsequently lead to the clearing and issuance of the required permits. A total of 18 researchers were assisted and facilitated to get their research documents.

III. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

1. What was the initial objective of this project?

The initial objective was to offer support to acquisition of permits for researchers. But as it may have been expected this expanded to include all types of facilitation for CEPF work.

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

Yes, they expanded rather than changed. The play ground was opened to include a bigger role in facilitation for the smooth running of activities funded by CEPF investments.

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

Direct involvement and image and confidence building with the Government authorities helped make the assignment successful. Timely reaction in providing information and other facts needed by the authorities were the roots for success.

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.

Yes we did face some challenges at times thought these were very few indeed. One case worth mentioning was some delayed shipping of insects specimens (bugs) collected by a team of researchers under the leadership of Peter Hawks. This occurred due to lack of taxonomic data to support the shipment. Once the data was provided, permits for the shipment were made available which released the shipment to be sent.

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.

One most valuable lesson was that of patience when dealing with a variety of different players. Some had too much expectation while others were naive of what was expected from them in making easy the acquisition of their research permits. However proper interaction and offering of clear guidance eased things out and work became smoothly.

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

I think we have built some good bridge between the researchers and Government institutions for the benefit of each other. It is important that researchers continue observing the opened lines of communication with the management authorities and other service providers to help them continue enjoying doing research work in the Eastern Arc and Coastal Forests Hotspot.

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.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
Nil			

Not applicable

V. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

WCST would like to acknowledge with thanks the good opportunity given to the Society to be the facilitator for acquisition of necessary official clearances for researchers and other players in this important CEPF investments in the EAMCF of Tanzania and Kenya.

We enjoyed the challenge of trying to perform to meet the expectations of all stakeholders. It was a unique role which gave WCST good exposure on the expectations and requirements from both the Government and the private sector. One important thing worth noting is the major role played in the entering into memoranda of understanding for implementation of specific activities or some planned activities supported by the CEPF investments funding in the field. The outcome was having in place a collaborative mechanism for researchers at all levels for the execution of their field work

The total committed funds for the project were US\$20,000 but the funds disbursed so far were only US\$16,000.00 which were received on March 30, 2005,

Details of Expenditure on funds received.

Budget Item	Total Budget allocation per expenditure item in US\$	Amount Spent Jan. –Dec 2005 US\$	Amount Spent Jan –Dec 2006 US\$	Standing Balance in the budgeted funds US\$
Salaries and benefits	4,800.00	1,800.00	2,400.00	-
Professional Fees	1,000.00	500.00	500.00	-
Rent and Storage	2,400.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	-
Communication	2,400.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	-
Meetings and Special Events	3,000.00	1,750.00	500.00	-
Transport & vehicle maintenance	4,000.00	1,370.00	975.00	245.00
Postage and delivery	1,000.00	200.00	190.00	0.00
miscellaneous	1,400.00	400.00	250.00	50.00
TOTAL	20,000.00	8,490.00	7215.00	295.00

Signed by:



Signed by Lota Melamari
CEO/Coordinator (WCST)

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, and by marketing these reports in our newsletter and other communications. Please provide your contact information in order to publicly share your final project report with others in this way.

For more information about this project, please contact:

Name: Lota Melamari

Mailing address: Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania,

Tel: ++255 22 211 2518; Mobile cell phone ++ 255 784 461122

Fax: ++255 22 212 4572

E-mail: melamarilota@yahoo.co.uk; or wcst@africaonline.co.tz