

Final Assessment

**CEPF Investment in the
Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot**

2010 – 2016

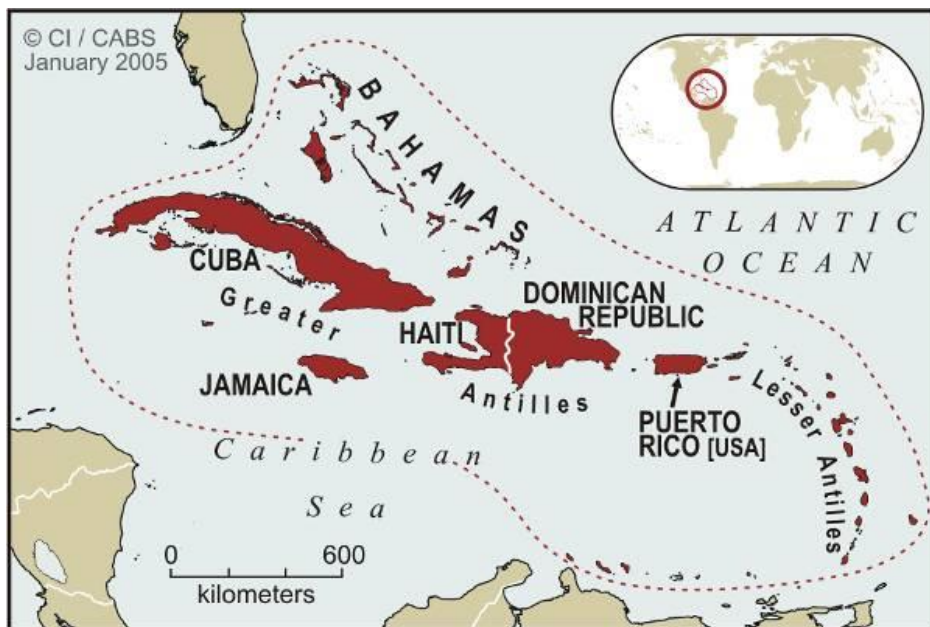
1. Introduction

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) is designed to safeguard the world's biologically richest and most threatened regions known as biodiversity hotspots. It is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement (AFD), Conservation International (CI), the European Union (EU), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Government of Japan, and the World Bank.

The Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot, an archipelago of tropical and semi-tropical islands, comprises 30 nations and territories and stretches across nearly 4 million km² of ocean. Its unique island geography and complex geology has created unique habitats and high species diversity. Species endemic to the hotspot account for 70% of the hotspot's plants and animals, which represent 2.6 percent of the world's 300,000 plant species, and 3.5 percent of the world's 27,298 vertebrate species. The hotspot counts among the highest number of globally threatened species in the world at 703 species.

The hotspot's biodiversity has been impacted by humans since the arrival of the Amerindians some 6,000 to 7,000 years ago. These impacts increased substantially following the arrival of Europeans in the 1490s and have escalated in the last 50 years. The main threats to the terrestrial biodiversity are habitat destruction and fragmentation due to agricultural, tourism, and industrial and urban development driven by increasing population and affluence. Overexploitation of living resources, predation and competition by invasive alien species are also regarded as significant threats. Pollution affects freshwater and marine environments, as does sedimentation flows downstream, affecting coastal water quality, smothering corals, killing fish, and reducing the tourism value of beaches. The spread of invasive aliens species has also impacted many islands significantly.

Figure 1. Map of the Caribbean Islands Hotspot



The region has already experienced the impacts of climate change with increased temperatures and more frequent and intense hurricanes, floods, and droughts. Concerns are growing over predicted sea level rise. The Caribbean's main priority in addressing

climate change is to formulate and implement appropriate strategies for adaptation to minimize the social, economic, and environmental impacts.

Underlying these direct threats are multiple root causes, including poor land-use planning, limited financial resources, lack of awareness and political support, weak and ineffective legislation, limited availability of information, and inefficient institutional and technical capacity. Improved management of the hotspot's landscapes, freshwater and coastal ecosystems is essential for sustainable growth and development in the region. Government and nongovernmental capacity must be increased if conservation is to succeed in this hotspot in the long term.

This report aims to assess attainment of the objective and outcomes set in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot ecosystem profile and to summarize lessons learned arising from the grant portfolio over the 2010 to 2016 investment phase. It draws on experience, lessons learned and project reports generated by civil society groups implementing CEPF grants. In addition, it builds upon previous annual portfolio overview reports, an external assessment of the CEPF Regional Implementation Team, and the results of the mid-term and final assessments.

1. CEPF Niche and Strategy

The Caribbean Islands portfolio formally began in October 2010 with CEPF's approval of the Regional Implementation Team (RIT) grant. The total allocation for the portfolio was \$6.9 million for five years to invest in 11 eligible countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The 2010 ecosystem profile identified 703 globally threatened species, 290 key biodiversity areas, and seven corridors as hotspot-level conservation targets. CEPF prioritized those outcomes to ensure investment funds would achieve the greatest conservation benefits relative to the costs. Therefore, CEPF targeted 17 key biodiversity areas (KBAs) as its highest priorities in Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Jamaica identified as having the highest concentrations of globally endangered species in the CEPF-eligible countries. The investment strategy also sought to support 28 KBAs as medium-level priorities that included sites in the other CEPF eligible countries that possessed fewer threatened species and in six conservation corridors where many of these KBAs are located.

The CEPF niche supported civil society groups to enable them to serve as effective advocates, facilitators and leaders for conservation and sustainable development of their islands. Civil society groups were in a unique position in the Caribbean to fulfill this role, as they had knowledge of and experience in conserving biodiversity. They also were in a strong position to bridge local development aspirations with longer term conservation goals. CEPF investments sought to empower civil society groups to engage in strategic conservation efforts, as well as to participate in and influence broader development planning and policy agendas. To achieve this niche, the profile identified five strategic directions where civil society played a meaningful role to achieve long-term conservation goals:

1. Improve protection and management of 45 priority key biodiversity areas.
2. Integrate biodiversity conservation into landscape and development planning and implementation in six conservation corridors.

3. Support Caribbean civil society to achieve biodiversity conservation by building local and regional institutional capacity and by fostering stakeholder collaboration.
4. Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of CEPF investment through a regional implementation team.
5. Provide emergency support to Haitian civil society to mitigate the impacts of the 2010 earthquake.¹

2. Regional Implementation Team

The CEPF RIT function was performed by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), a regional NGO based in Port of Spain, Trinidad dedicated to promoting and facilitating equitable participation and effective collaboration in the management of natural resources critical to development in the Caribbean Islands since the 1980s.

The RIT officially started on October 1, 2010 with two complementary, five-year grants. The final RIT grant budget totaled \$1,021,428 and the small grant expenditure totaled \$481,744. Due to the geographic configuration of this island hotspot, the RIT was a large team with eight part-time staff based in four countries, as shown in Table 1. CANARI engaged three country coordinators on a professional services contract based in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Jamaica.

Table 1. Members of Caribbean Islands RIT

Position	Name	Base of Operation	Key Responsibilities
RIT Manager	Anna Cadiz	Port of Spain, Trinidad	Overall RIT management and staff coordination; coordination and outreach to partners in the eastern Caribbean and The Bahamas.
Technical Officer and Small Grants Manager	Loíza Rauzduel	Port of Spain, Trinidad	Support RIT Manager; assist in LOI reviews and communications efforts, managing the CEPF small grants mechanism
Financial Officer	Venash Ramberan	Port of Spain, Trinidad	Oversee financial management of RIT and small grants facility.
Administrative Officer	Anastacia Lee Quay	Port of Spain, Trinidad	Assist the RIT in administration of logistics, databases, filing.
Jamaica Coordinator and communications	Nicole Brown	Kingston, Jamaica	Provide technical advice and capacity building to CEPF grant applicants and implementers; assist in LOI reviews; monitor grants implementation; ensure cohesion and synergy among grantees. Helps manage the CEPF Caribbean communications efforts.

¹ Note that the portfolio included special emergency support to Haitian civil society to mitigate the impacts of the 2010 earthquake. This support was approved separately by the Donor Council in March 2010 and was incorporated as a fifth strategic direction.

Dominican Republic Coordinator	Leida Buglass	Samana, Dominican Republic	Provide technical advice and capacity building to CEPF grant applicants and implementers; assist in LOI reviews; monitor grant implementation; ensure cohesion and synergy among grantees.
Haiti Coordinator	Paul Judex Edouarzin	Port au Prince, Haiti	Provide technical advice and capacity building to CEPF grant applicants and implementers; assist in LOI reviews; monitor grant implementation; ensure cohesion and synergy among grantees.

As an organization devoted to building Caribbean civil society capacity, CANARI supported a communications program for CEPF to complement its existing outreach efforts, which included several on-line resources:

1. The CANARI website hosted a [resource page](#) dedicated CEPF grant making.
2. A website housing a [quarterly newsletter](#), *Capacité*, highlighted CEPF grants and relevant lessons learned.
3. A [Facebook page](#) featured CEPF grantees and their results.
4. A final policy brief on CANARI’s role as the RIT entitled, “Effective grant-making to Caribbean civil society: Lessons and innovation from CANARI’s experience as an intermediary organization” was posted on [CANARI's website](#).

Towards the end of the RIT grant, an independent evaluation was carried out by the consulting company Kiunzi based in the Dominican Republic and Spain. The evaluation involved a desk study and stakeholder mapping exercise, a questionnaire and opinion poll, and in-depth semi-structured interviews with 39 key stakeholders conducted in person or by videoconference.

Kiunzi found CANARI’s overall performance as the RIT to be relevant and favorable with respect to meeting its program objectives. The evaluation found that CANARI had positive experience in the region and in relevant topics, and was respected throughout the region for their past work and vision. RIT staff had strong experience in participatory natural resources management, supporting civil society organizations (CSOs) and government outreach in all relevant languages. Furthermore, the RIT made a strong effort to reach grassroots organizations who could access the CEPF small grants and to provide mentoring as a means to improve capacity in project management.

Kiunzi also identified several areas for improvement, such as the need to emphasize the sustainability and optimization of grant impacts. The evaluation suggested more emphasis be placed on facilitating greater partnerships among grantees particularly at a regional level, establishing synergies between the public and private sectors, and fostering greater regional approaches to conservation challenges.

3. Impact Summary

The impacts of the CEPF investment in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot were assessed through a final assessment process that involved three stakeholder workshops held in Port au Prince, Haiti; Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; and Kingston, Jamaica in November 2015. The results from CEPF grants were verified as they were closed based on information provided in their final completion and impact reports, as well as from correspondence with grantees. These results were then incorporated with those collated at the final assessment workshop to produce a complete picture of the impacts of the investment phase. The impacts and results were compiled in the final report on the logframe of the CEPF investment.²

The impacts of the CEPF investment phase are described in Sections 6 to 9 and Annex 1, as highlighted below:

- 68 civil society organizations directly benefiting from CEPF support in six conservation corridors and 32 KBAs in Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- Improved management of 25 KBAs covering 593,967 hectares with strengthened protection and management, as guided by sustainable management plans, and meaningful involvement of location communities and resource users.
- Seven development plans, projects and policies with integrated ecosystem services and biodiversity, focusing on water resources management, reforestation, forest carbon, and regulation of ecosystem functions in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica.
- Improved legal protection of 111,496 hectares in eight KBAs in The Bahamas, the Dominican Republic and Haiti.
- Five out of six conservation corridors experienced improved management of the production landscapes through forest carbon, reforestation, integrated management plans, agroforestry, beekeeping and sustainable tourism, in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Grenada, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- Investment strategies of 11 donors influenced and complemented by the Caribbean Islands ecosystem profile.
- A total of \$9.5 million in new funding leveraged to support CEPF conservation objectives.

4. Implementing Strategy

4.1 Collaboration with CEPF's Donors and Other Funders

Donor Outreach

The CEPF Secretariat and RIT placed a high premium on conducting donor outreach, particularly to CEPF donor partners, to explore opportunities for collaboration and coordination. The strongest example of such collaboration was with the MacArthur Foundation through the award of a three-year, \$375,000 grant to CANARI starting in January 2011, "Consolidating the Role of Civil Society in Biodiversity Conservation in the Caribbean Islands". One component developed a pool of mentors throughout the region to

² The Final Report on the Logframe for the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot (2010 – 2016) is available for download from: <https://www.cepf.net/sites/default/files/caribbean-islands-final-logframe-report-2016-english.pdf>

strengthen the capacity of smaller civil society organizations to play a larger and more effective role in biodiversity conservation. Local mentors were available to work closely with local groups to help them access and successfully implement conservation projects funded by CEPF and other donors.

The CEPF Secretariat and RIT liaised with the offices of CEPF's global donors in the hotspot, to inform them about the program and to undertake joint activities. The CEPF team visited local donor staff during supervision missions and conducted joint site visits to CEPF projects with representatives of AFD, the EU, and The World Bank. CEPF donor staff from AFD, the EU, the GEF, the Government of Japan, and The World Bank participated in the mid-term and final assessment workshops. The CEPF team met periodically with local GEF representatives, national biodiversity focal points and other government partners, to explore opportunities for information exchange and for co-funding projects.

CEPF collaborated closely with the EU BEST Programme by helping to lead the development an ecosystem profile for the European overseas territories in the hotspot based on the Caribbean Islands ecosystem profiling. The new ecosystem profile served as a blueprint for new conservation investments in the much of the European Overseas Territories. The EU viewed CANARI's regional experience strengthened through its role as the CEPF RIT as a positive factor when it awarded CANARI a one million Euro project that built on the partnerships and practices developed through CEPF investments, as discussed further in Section 8.3 below on leveraging additional resources.

In the Dominican Republic, members of the Regional Advisory Committee for CEPF included a UNDP program specialist and the national coordinator for the GEF Small Grants Programme. Furthermore, CEPF and GEF co-financed a project to the Consorcio Ambiental Dominicano for sustainable financing and establishment of private reserves in Loma Quita Espuela and Loma Guanconejo KBAs. In the Dominican Republic, CEPF also collaborated with UNDP to complement activities to the results of the 'Reengineering the National Protected Area System in Order to Achieve Financial Sustainability' project including through the integration of two new protected areas with approved management.

In 2013, a team of consultants from Baastel, which was selected by AFD to assess the effectiveness of its global contribution to CEPF, visited several projects in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Ensuing discussions with the AFD Santo Domingo office resulted in several joint activities, including a CEPF grantee exchange in December 2014 and a public exhibition on the biodiversity hotspots hosted in the Embassy of France in Santo Domingo.

4.2 Resource Allocation

CEPF issued seven calls for proposals between January 2011 and March 2015. As presented in Table 2, CEPF received 241 letters of inquiry (LOIs), of which 149 LOIs were for large grants and 92 were for small grants.

Table 2. Calls for Proposals in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot

Release	Deadline	Specifications	Countries	Letters Received
1 January 2011	31 March 2011 (small grants) 15 April 2011 (large grants)	Large and small grants, all strategic directions	Haiti and Jamaica	37
1 April 2011	31 May 2011 (small grants) 10 June 2011 (large grants)	Large and small grants, all strategic directions	Dominican Republic	38
21 Sept 2011	17 Oct 2011 (small grants) 24 Oct 2011 (large grants)	Large and small grants, focus on regional projects	All eligible countries	40
15 May 2012	29 June 2012	Large and small projects only in Massif de la Hotte KBA	Haiti	11
2 July 2012	13 Aug 2012	Large and small grants, all strategic directions	All eligible countries	61
15 Aug 2013	30 Sept 2013	Large and small grants, strategic directions 1,2 and 3	All eligible countries	46
18 March 2015	22 April 2015	Large and small grants, planning and facilitation of final assessment	All eligible countries (to support final assessment)	8
Total number of letters of inquiry received				241

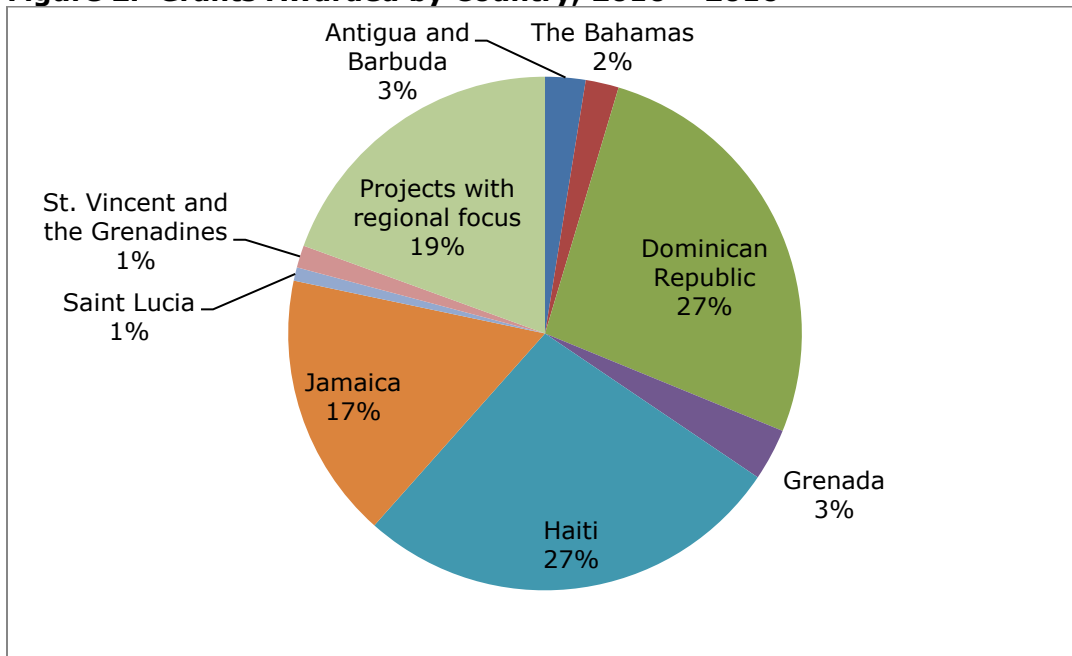
CEPF funded 77 projects totaling \$6,873,205, presented in Table 3. Forty-seven large grants received an allocation of \$6,378,272 and 30 small grants received an allocation of \$494,932. CEPF support directly benefitted projects in eight countries: Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. There were no projects in Barbados, Dominica or Saint Kitts and Nevis. In Dominica and Saint Kitts and Nevis, the ecosystem profile did not prioritize any KBAs for CEPF investment in these countries. As Table 3 shows, projects aligned with Strategic Direction 1 to support site-based conservation in the priority KBAs received the largest share of funding, followed by projects aligned with strengthening corridor-level conservation.

Table 3. Grants Awarded, 2010 - 2016

Strategic Direction	Awarded Grants			Total Grants Awarded
	Total Value (US\$)	No. of Large Grants	No. of Small Grants	
1. Strengthen 45 KBAs	3,668,790	29	4	33
2. Strengthen corridor conservation	1,308,500	8	12	20
3. Institutional strengthening	692,505	8	13	21
4. Regional Implementation Team	1,021,428	1	0	1
5. Haiti emergency support	181,981	1	1	2
Total	6,873,205	47	30	77

CEPF made a concerted effort to ensure there was a balanced allocation of funding to the geographic priorities established in the ecosystem profile. As Figure 2 shows, projects implemented in the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica received the highest percentages of funding. These larger allocations are based on the identification of more priority KBAs identified for CEPF’s investment in these three countries due to their exceptionally high biological values. Also of note was that the 19 percent of projects had a regional focus benefitting several countries and supporting regional collaboration.

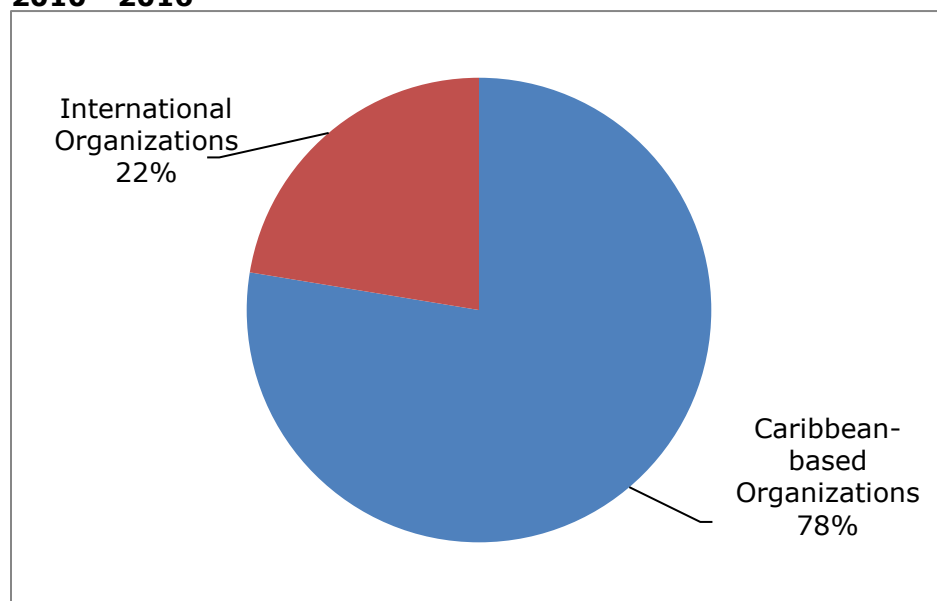
Figure 2. Grants Awarded by Country, 2010 – 2016



As shown in Figure 3, Caribbean-based organizations received 78 percent of total awarded funds, equaling \$5.3 million, while international organizations received 22 percent, equaling \$1.5 million. This focus reflects CEPF’s outreach efforts to target local, national, and regional

CSOs, and is in line with CEPF’s goal of supporting and building the capacity of local civil society.

Figure 3. Percent of Grant Funding Awarded to Local versus International CSOs, 2010 - 2016



4.3 Portfolio Investment Description by Strategic Direction

The investment strategy for the Caribbean Island Hotspot comprised 13 investment priorities grouped into five strategic directions. Investment was distributed across the strategic directions in line with the funding allocation of \$6.9 million approved by the CEPF Donor Council. Investments under one strategic direction often fulfilled the objectives of investment priorities under others as well. For instance, an intervention at a priority site under Strategic Direction 1 often yielded capacity building objectives, which was the main objective of funding allocated for Strategic Direction 3. Indeed, capacity building activities were frequently integrated as a cross-cutting theme across all strategic directions.

Strategic Direction 1 aimed to improve protection and management of 45 priority key biodiversity areas. This strategic direction experienced the highest demand and largest funding allocation within the investment portfolio, as shown in graphs found in Annex 3. The 33 grants (29 large grants and 4 small grants) approved under this strategic direction sought to improve site-based management and protection through the development, approval and implementation of participatory protected areas and KBA management plans that engaged communities and resource users. Plans and implementation actions addressed community livelihoods, ecotourism, infrastructure and capacity building. In addition, sustainable livelihoods were strengthened in communities living in and around KBAs in Antigua and Barbuda, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, through developing and promoting agroforestry, crop diversification, forest carbon credits, fruit and vegetable processing, ecotourism and beekeeping.

CEPF investments under Strategic Direction 2 aimed to integrate biodiversity conservation into landscape and development planning and implementation in six conservation corridors. Eight large grants and 12 small grants supported the mainstreaming of biodiversity and ecosystem services into local and corridor level development plans, projects and policies

focusing on water resources management, reforestation, forest carbon, and infrastructure. In addition, grants funded the development of innovative financing mechanisms.

Under Strategic Direction 3, CEPF awarded eight large grants and 13 small grants to strengthen the organizational and technical capacity of civil society for biodiversity conservation at regional, national, and grassroots levels. Small grants were well suited to capacity building, as they are more accessible to grassroots organizations with limited experience of managing internationally funded projects. CEPF supported organizations strengthening activities, improvements in communications and outreach, and networking activities.

Strategic Direction 4 supported the Regional Implementation Team to provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of conservation investment in the hotspot. Administratively, the RIT received two grants: one to support CEPF's grant-making processes and procedures and to build a broad constituency of civil society groups working towards the shared goals in the ecosystem profile, and the other to support the small grants mechanism. The small grants mechanism was fully disbursed to small grantees.

Under Strategic Direction 5, CEPF provided special emergency support to Haitian civil society to help with the recovery the impacts of the 2010 earthquake through two grants. This support was approved separately by the Donor Council in March 2010 and was incorporated as a fifth strategic direction.

5. Biodiversity conservation results

5.1 Threatened Species

The 2009 ecosystem profile identified 703 species as globally threatened in the Caribbean Island Hotspot, divided across several taxa: 428 species were plants, 145 were amphibians, 51 were birds, 37 were reptiles, and 27 were mammals. CEPF funded species conservation projects mostly through site-based projects under Strategic Direction 1. Specific species activities included baseline species inventories, development and implementation of species action plans and recommendations, and awareness building campaigns on the importance of species conservation. In addition, many site-based projects included deliverables directly targeting the conservation of the globally threatened species which triggered the identification of the KBA. CEPF also funded a significant number of projects dedicated to managing invasive alien species (IAS), a major threat to Caribbean Island fauna and flora. These investments resulted in important advances for the hotspot's most endangered species as highlighted below with specific project outcomes.

- In Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Lucia, the Environmental Awareness Group (EAG), Fauna and Flora International (FFI), the Saint Lucia Forestry and Land Use Department, and the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust formed a partnership aimed at eradicating and preventing new infestations of invasive mammals in four priority KBAs covering 17 islands. The group achieved impressive results on several fronts. The Critically Endangered Antiguan racer snake showed over a 20% increase in global population between 2011 and 2013, from approximately 824 to 1,016 individuals because of island habitat being kept free of invasive mammals. Vegetation cover on Dennery Island improved dramatically and included a conspicuous increase in the number of new tree seedlings. Populations of birds also increased sharply. The team registered a 50% increase in the number of bird species from 2012 to 2014. In Antigua, the Offshore Islands KBA became one of the country's most popular and important tourist attractions after vegetative cover and

wildlife populations recovered. As described in Section 7.3 below, revitalization of the wildlife led to important livelihoods benefits for local communities.

- The Arche au Plantes/the Conservatoire Botanique National de Brest (CBNB) helped save from extinction the Critically Endangered Ekman juniper in Haiti, which is among the threatened conifers of the world. Only seven mature individuals in three sites have been found. CEPF helped to develop a better understanding of the flora of the Forêt de Pins and its value through ethnobotanical surveys, and to create an herbarium and an endemic plant garden. *In vitro* culture of cuttings from the Ekman juniper were shipped to Vegenov, a biological research institute based in France. As a result, four different clones were cultured and hundreds of seedlings took root. As a next step, scientists at Vegenov hoped to adapt the plants to *ex vitro* conditions and eventually repatriate the iconic species back to Haiti.
- The Zoological Society of Philadelphia supported the first bi-national amphibian conservation program that brought together conservationists from Haiti and the Dominican Republic to conserve amphibians in four KBAs on the island of Hispaniola. In close collaboration with the Société Audubon Haiti and Grupo Jaragua in the Dominican Republic, the Philadelphia Zoo filled critical information needs on amphibians of the KBAs and built local technical capacity and awareness about the importance of amphibian conservation. More than 120 park rangers, farmers and field technicians attended training workshops on amphibian conservation. Working with local museums, a campaign known as the Save the Frogs exposed more than 10,000 children, teachers and citizens to the amphibian biodiversity crisis. Herpetologists from Haiti and the Dominican Republic had the opportunity to work together closely and visit each other's sites, helping to forge island-wide networking and sharing of lessons learned.

5.2 Contribution to conservation planning at corridor and production landscape scales

CEPF strengthened conservation and management in five of the six conservation corridors identified in the ecosystem profile as important for funding because they encompass clusters of high priority KBAs. These five corridors are the Massif du Nord corridor in Haiti, Portland Bight Protected Area in Jamaica, Massif de la Selle – Jaragua–Bahoruco–Enriquillo binational corridor in Hispaniola, the Cordillera Central corridor in the Dominican Republic, and the Central Mountain Range in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Within these corridors, CEPF grantees strengthened the management of 593,967 hectares of terrestrial, freshwater and coastal ecosystems across 25 KBAs in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Grenada, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. These grants helped to maintain and increase connectivity, ensure sustainable management of the landscape, and increase the area of natural habitat under protection. To qualify as “strengthened,” an area had to benefit from one or more of a range of actions that contribute to improved management, such as the introduction of sustainable natural resource management practices, as guided by management and operational plans. As well as reporting on their contributions to strengthening management of KBAs, CEPF grantees reported that 20,146 hectares came under improved management for biodiversity conservation management in the production landscape through forest carbon, agroforestry, beekeeping, and nature tourism.

Several highlights provide insight into the nature of the results achieved:

- On the north coast of Haiti, the Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversité Marine (FoProBiM) worked with communities in the Massif-Plaine du Nord Conservation Corridor

to protect and manage the mangroves, fisheries and sea turtles, while increasing economic benefits from these environmental resources. More than 60 lectures and workshops in environmental education, association building, and resource-use and conflict resolution led to increased awareness of the site's importance among more than 400 local stakeholders. More than 200 stakeholders participated in participatory GIS activities in which local resource features and ecosystems were mapped. Local governance was improved as major stakeholder groups (including salt producers, fishers, charcoal producers, and women's groups) were organized into local associations to support coastal resource management actions. FoProBiM also worked with the local communities to establish sustainable livelihood opportunities, including beekeeping, mangrove nurseries and ecotourism. FoProBiM achieved a major milestone when the Government of Haiti declared as protected the Parc des Trois Baies et du Lagon au Boeufs National Park in Caracol Bay, protecting 90,000 hectares, which included mangroves, coral reefs, and seagrass beds.

FoProBiM's efforts were recognized internationally. Its executive director, Jean Weiner, won the 2014 Whitley Gold Award and a 2015 Goldman Environmental Prize for his contributions to conserving Haiti's coastal ecosystems and towards establishing the country's first marine protected areas.

- With support from CEPF, Consorcio Ambiental Dominicano (CAD) and its partners accomplished several firsts in the Dominican Republic to create a biological corridor between two critically important protected areas. CAD established the country's first private reserve, Reserva Privada El Zorzal: a 404 hectare bird sanctuary providing vital wintering habitat for the migratory Bicknell's thrush (*Catharus bicknelli*). It also sold the hotspot's first carbon offsets based on creating a reforestation carbon project to mitigate climate change and improve farmers' livelihoods using native species, as described in Section 8.3 below. The project commercialized cacao for sale to Canadian and US chocolatiers interested in purchasing high quality, bird-friendly cacao beans while paying a premium to local farmers.

5.3 Creation and Improved Management of Protected Areas

CEPF emphasis on improving the protection and management of 45 priority KBAs yielded significant results for the hotspot. CEPF supported the creation of eight new protected areas covering 111,496 hectares in The Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti. These new areas included terrestrial and marine national parks, municipal reserves, and a private protected area.

- In Haiti, a small community took a landmark step with assistance from the International Iguana Foundation (IIF) towards saving the Critically Endangered Ricord's iguana (*Cyclura ricordii*). The municipal government in Anse-à-Pitres created a municipal protected area in 2014 to conserve 3,000 hectares of dry forest hosting a small population of Ricord's iguanas. IIF prepared a management plan integrating the needs of local herdsman, and provided awareness raising activities and environmental education for local communities. The project also introduced the concept of wildlife and biodiversity conservation to the Haitian public.
- Also in Haiti, in the Massif de la Hotte KBA, Temple University worked closely with the Société Audubon Haiti to conserve two sites of high biological importance, Grande Colline and Grand Bois. A scientific expedition undertook biological inventories and socio-economic surveys and found the sites to be of exceptional biological value. They

identified rare species, including three amphibian species new to science, and the Tiburon Stream Frog, last recorded in 1985. A total of 19 species of frogs were found, which is among the largest numbers of co-occurring frog species anywhere in the Caribbean. As a result of awareness building efforts by Société Audubon Haiti, a 307-hectare site garnered international funding from Rainforest Trust to establish the Morne Grand Bois Nature Reserve.

- The Bahamas National Trust (BNT) collaborated with two community organizations, the San Salvador Living Jewels Foundation and the Gerace Research Centre to protect Graham's Harbour and Southern Great Lake. The IUCN Iguana Specialist Group ranked these sites as number one and number seven, respectively, in the country for seabird and iguana conservation. The project built local momentum for engaging a wide range of stakeholders through activities such as community meetings, field trips to the sites, school visits, radio and television announcements, and educational and outreach materials to raise awareness of the significance of the proposed sites. Senior policy makers were engaged throughout the life of the project. The hard work paid off when the Deputy Prime Minister of The Bahamas designed Graham's Harbour Iguana and Seabird National Park and Southern Great Lake National Park in 2015. CEPF also supported the preparation of management and co-management plans to ensure the sites had a strong foundation for their conservation.

In addition to focusing on creating new protected areas, CEPF also improved the management of existing protected areas. Grantees focused on the development, approval and implementation of participatory protected area management plans that engaged communities and resource users. These actions supported community livelihoods projects, ecotourism, infrastructure development and capacity building. Grantees also focused on building the organizational and technical capacities of community groups and park rangers. Stakeholder committees were established to ensure the active and effective participation of resource users and communities in decision-making, in collaboration with protected area agencies. Local awareness of the importance of biodiversity conservation was raised and their capacity was built to meaningfully engage in conservation actions and national dialogues.

- In the Dominican Republic, CEPF support to Fondo Pronaturaleza (known as Pronatura) bore fruit on several fronts for La Humeadora Mountain National Park. When Pronatura began to implement its grant, La Humeadora lacked very basic management presence, even though the 29,000 hectare protected area was of vital importance as the source of more than 60% of the water consumed in greater Santo Domingo. Few local residents even knew about the park. By March 2014, Pronatura worked with 35 communities located in and around the park to develop a highly regarded management plan for the park, which the Ministry of Environment approved. The government declared the plan as a model for the Dominican Republic because of the high level of consultation undertaken. CEPF then funded implementation of the plan, which yielded positive results in several respects. The Ministry of Environment increased its budget for the area, which resulted in the hiring of new park guards and upgrading of infrastructure and equipment. A payments for ecosystems services initiative involving local stakeholders, including the Santo Domingo water authority and hydroelectric company, passed with support from CEPF grantee Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC). Pronatura worked with community development groups on a pilot effort to introduce filters to improve the quality of water coming from the park in the community of Guanaito. With the improved water, the project aimed to reduce stomach and skin disorders. Strong community organizing also resulted in the formation of a women's investment

and public health group. As described below, La Humeadora's METT score increased by 150%, from a baseline of 26 points in 2012 to a final score of 64 points in 2014.

- In the Dominican Republic, Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral (IDDI) worked with Sociedad Ornitológica de la Hispaniola (SOH) to put Bahoruco Oriental on the conservation map. Prior to CEPF investment, the 3,353-hectare site was unknown to local residents. The Ministry of Environment had scant presence, even though the site was an important source of water for more than 110,000 downstream coastal residents. The project took several steps to turn the situation around. Inventories of flora and fauna, a threats analysis, and socioeconomic assessments provided important baseline information. The team developed Bahoruco Oriental's first ever annual work plan. With new attention brought by CEPF funding, the Ministry of the Environment hired two park guards and constructed a guard post with funding from Spanish cooperation AECID. A local alliance made up of private and public sector stakeholders undertook a variety of conservation activities, ranging from signage, reforestation, invasive species clearing, to awareness building. CEPF provided a follow up grant to promote ecotourism development and management strengthening. As a result of these efforts, the area's METT score increased by 56% in one year, from 22 points in 2012 to 35 points in 2013.
- In the Dominican Republic's Sierra de Bahoruco National Park, a 112,600-hectare site located along the Haitian border, CEPF support to SOH helped to implement the park's management plan, which benefitted 12 communities. SOH worked closely with local governments, private businesses, farmers, and other stakeholders in three provinces to build a local alliance dedicated to improving the park's management. SOH's partnerships with five businesses - Tropigas Foundation (a major gas company), Agencia Bella Honda Motorcycles, Delta Commercial Toyota, Andean Cement, and Roter Aluminum - were particularly unique in character. SOH also worked closely with the Ministry of Environment to improve infrastructure and equipment for park management. It also promoted ecotourism with improved infrastructure and equipment. It trained local guides, improved tourism services, and conducted marketing to local and international tour operators. Environmental education efforts reached more than 760 people through seminars the talks, and 2,200 people through festivals, walks, and photographic expositions. Twenty-four volunteers called themselves "Friends of the Sierra de Bahoruco".
- In Jamaica, CEPF supported the local NGO Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation (C-CAM) to improve the protection of the Hellshire Hills and Portland Ridge KBAs, which is part of the Portland Bight, Jamaica's largest protected area. The Portland Bight provided habitat for one of the country's most important fisheries and refuge for several rare and endangered species, including the only remaining habitat for Jamaican iguana (*Cyclura collei*). With CEPF funding, C-CAM completed two participatory management plans for the KBAs, which included the Caribbean's first climate change risk assessment. It also included an action plan for a protected area and a floristic survey conducted in cooperation with the Caribbean Wildlife Alliance, which received support through a CEPF small grant. The survey resulted in a 54 percent increase in the known flora of the Hellshire Hills. CEPF then supported implementation of the action plans, which included working on various natural resource management and environmental education projects involving local communities. CCAM set up community gardens and biodiversity monitoring. It established the Portland Bight Discovery Center, designed to provide educational and

recreational experiences for schools groups, universities and tourists interested in field trips and environmental education.

Baseline and endpoint Management Effectiveness Tracking Tools (METT) were completed for 11 protected areas supported by CEPF grantees, as presented in Table 4. Ten protected areas (91 percent) showed on average an increase of 17% in their METT score over the period of CEPF support. La Humeadora National Park in the Dominican Republic experienced a significant increase of 51 points, which reflects its solid performance with CEPF's support. Three protected areas also experienced sizable increases in their METT score of 28 points: Loma Quita Espuela and Loma Guaconejo in the Dominican Republic and Peckham Woods Forest Reserve of Jamaica. Conversely, Sierra de Bahoruco was the only protected area to show a decrease, which reflected the deep challenges of working in this large protected area.

Table 4. METT Performance of Protected Areas with CEPF Investment, 2010 – 2016

Country	Name of Protected Area	METT - Baseline		METT - Final		Change in score
		Score	Year	Score	Year	
The Bahamas	Graham's Harbour Seabird & Iguana National Park	19	2013	37	2015	18
The Bahamas	Southern Great Lake National Park	16	2013	27	2015	11
Dominican Republic	La Humeadora National Park	26	2012	77	2015	51
Dominican Republic	Bahoruco Oriental	22	2012	35	2013	13
Dominican Republic	Loma Quita Espuela and Loma Guanconejo Reserves	44	2012	72	2014	28
Dominican Republic	Nalga de Maco National Park	62	2012	71	2015	9
Dominican Republic	Sierra de Bahoruco	70	2013	67	2015	-3
Grenada	Beausejour/Grenville Vale	52	2012	72	2014	20
Grenada	Mt Hartman National Park	67	2012	72	2014	5
Jamaica	Portland Bight Protected Area	52	2012	56	2015	4
Jamaica	Peckham Woods Forest Reserve	30	2014	58	2015	28

6. Strengthening of Civil Society

CEPF directly funded 68 civil society organizations, of which 46 organizations were grassroots, sub-national, national, and regional Caribbean groups and 22 organizations were international in origin. These organizations implemented grants in six conservation

corridors and 32 KBAs in Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. As Figure 3 demonstrates, 78% of funding supported Caribbean groups and 22% supported international groups. All grants led by an international organization included major deliverables related to building the capacity of local partner organizations.

6.1 Type of Organization Supported

CEPF directly strengthened the capacity of 58 local and regional Caribbean CSOs, which included community-based groups, sub-national and national-level environmental groups and universities. CEPF built local capacity through the development of strategic plans, fundraising plans and financial manuals, communication strategies, upgraded websites and financial systems and procedures. Capacity was integrated into a range of areas, including project design and proposal development, monitoring and evaluation, effective environmental communications, and engagement of the private sector. Technical skills were built in sustainable tourism, field data collection and monitoring, and invasive species eradication and management.

6.2 Trainings Given

Building technical and organizational capacity of Caribbean partners through training was a high priority that cut across all aspects of grant making within the Caribbean portfolio. CEPF emphasized mentoring grantees in all aspects of management of their CEPF grants as a means of buttressing their project management capacity. As such, a high percentage of implementation grants carried out capacity building activities and deliverables as core objectives.

CEPF made several grants dedicated to strengthening environmental communications of grantees and local media through various training. In the Dominican Republic, Kiunzi held workshops and provided technical assistance to 10 Dominican CSOs to develop and implement organizational communications strategies. As a result, groups developed a variety of communications tools to disseminate information about their own work and mission, including new videos, websites, and press releases that resulted in new articles in local media. For groups from the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica and the Eastern Caribbean, the Panos Institute held a series of workshops, provided technical assistance, and funded field visits for local environmental groups and journalists on best practices in reporting and dissemination on environmental issues. As a result, 24 staff from Caribbean CSOs and 21 journalists gained new skills in environmental reporting and dissemination, which resulted in many new communications products, including the publication of 59 newspaper articles.

Grantees consistently included formal and informal trainings involving local stakeholders on various conservation topics. SOH in the Dominican Republic worked with local communities in Nalگو de Maco and Sierra de Barahuco national parks to promote nature tourism, including how to serve as a nature guide, trail maintenance, marketing, and small business development (e.g, grocery stores, dining and souvenir production). Fauna & Flora International (FFI) trained Environmental Awareness Group of Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Lucia National Trust on invasive alien species (IAS) monitoring and control, which resulted in these two local organizations gaining the necessary skills to manage their own IAS activities locally. Philadelphia Zoo conducted extensive trainings for communities, schoolchildren, teachers, and park guards working in four KBAs and for young biologists on multiple areas within amphibian conservation and research across the island of Hispanola. The zoo trained 125 students at the Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo, Quisqueña University and American University of the Caribbean in Les Cayes-Haiti to build a cadre of

local stakeholders and biologists in monitoring and managing Hispaniola's rich amphibian diversity.

The RIT identified several innovative practices for grantees to successfully manage their CEPF grants and ensure buy-in from local partners. It organized small in-person workshops to train grantees on all aspects of project management in parallel with grant implementation to encourage long-term sustainability and efficiency of project funds. In addition, the RIT conducted mentoring through in-person visits and telephone calls, and supported peer exchanges and networking at national and regional levels to support knowledge sharing among grantees. A grant from the MacArthur Foundation to CANARI complemented its role as the RIT in the hotspot, and was designed to facilitate peer learning among leading CSOs from different territories and countries via action learning groups.

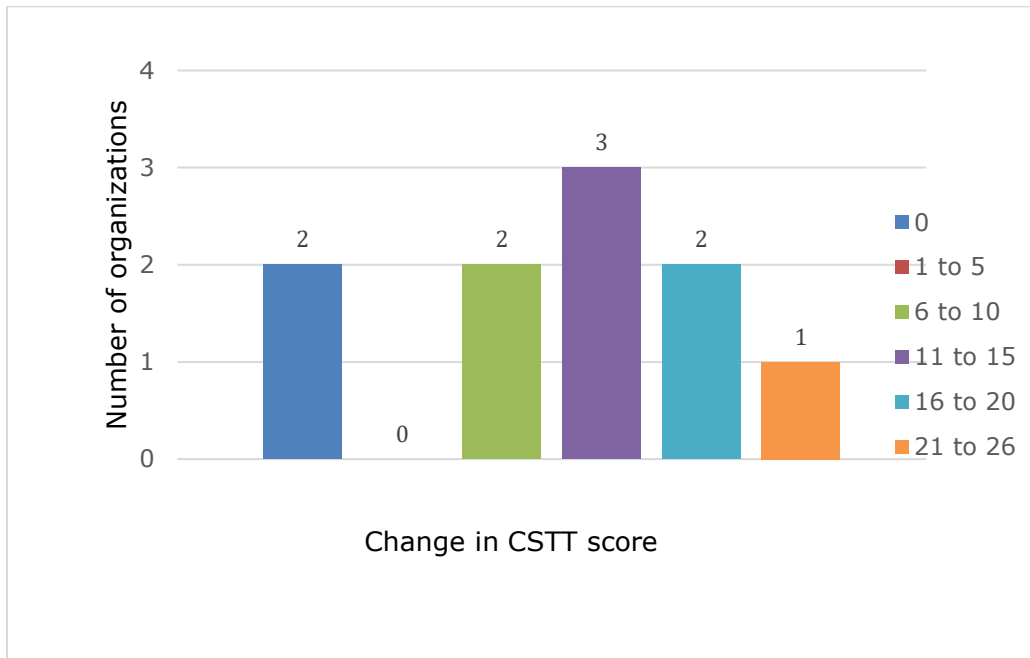
In addition to the trainings provided by the RIT and grantees, the CEPF Secretariat organized training to cover CEPF's expectations regarding financial and project management. All large grantees participated in an orientation at the start of their grants, and one-on-one trainings with applicants and grantees focused on achieving strong grant management, complementing training efforts undertaken by the RIT.

6.3 Analysis of Civil Society Tracking Tools

During its investments in the hotspot, CEPF adopted the civil society tracking tool (CSTT) as a self-assessment tool to monitor changes in a grantee's organizational capacity over the period of CEPF support during the period of investment phase. The CSTT was the main tool used by CEPF and the RIT to monitor impacts with regard to civil society capacity building and to identify shared needs and opportunities for training or other forms of support.

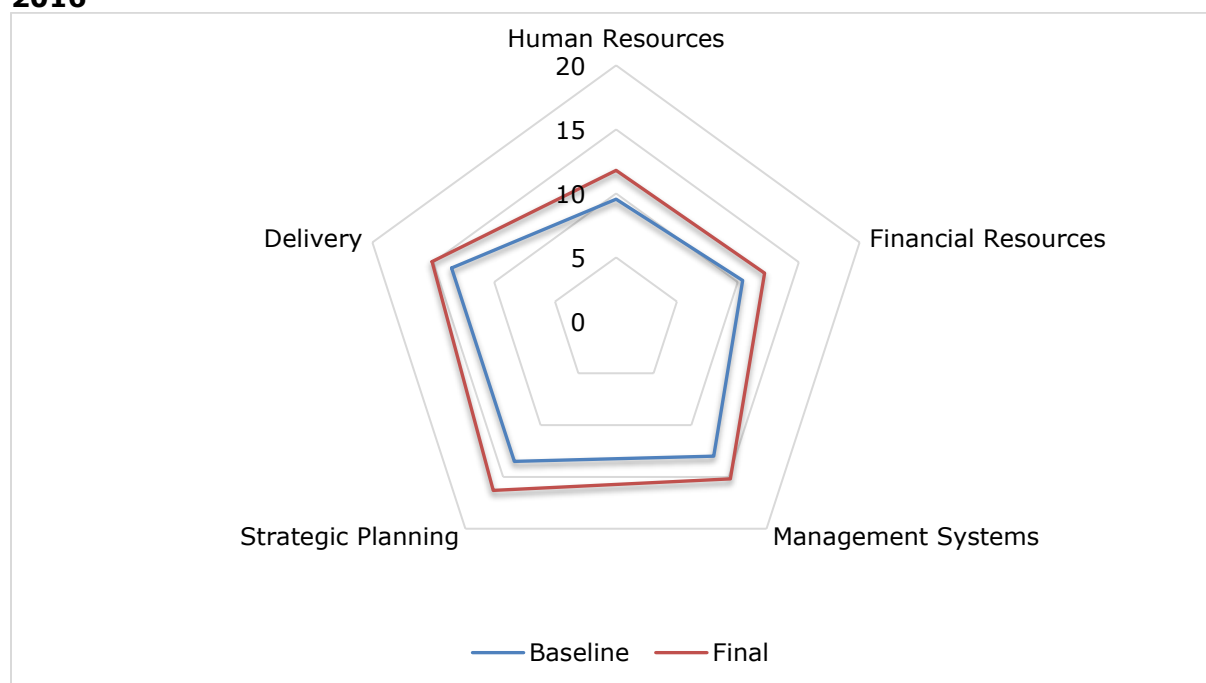
Ten Caribbean civil society partners completed baseline and final CSTT assessments. As presented in Figure 4, eight of these groups experienced organizational improvements attributable to their CEPF projects. On average, the baseline score was 60.0 points and the final score was 70.6 points, which is a 10.6-point increase, equivalent to 18% from the baseline. Baselines ranged from a low of 47.5 points to a high of 73 points, out of a maximum score of 100 points. The large range of baselines reflected the diversity of organizations engaged by the CEPF program. Of the 10 groups, three organizations demonstrated an impressive increase of more than 16 points, with the highest final score reaching 80 points.

Figure 4. Change in CSTT Score of Caribbean Island Organizations, 2010 - 2016



The CSTT measured five dimensions of organizational capacity. Organizations gave themselves a score of between 0 and 20 for each dimension based on a series of questions. As Figure 5 shows, the greatest improvement reported among the five dimensions occurred in relation to strategic planning at a 2.8 point increase (14%), followed together by management systems and human resources at 2.2 points (11%); financial resources with 1.8 points (9%), and finally delivery 1.6 points (8%). Improvement related to strategic planning, management systems and human resources correlated closely with CEPF's focus on capacity building efforts in light of funding channeled to help local partners to recruit and train their staff, develop institutional strategic plans, and improve organizational management policies and practices.

Figure 5. Change in Average CSTT Scores Caribbean Island Organizations, 2010 - 2016



7. Human Well-Being Results

7.1 Communities Benefiting

A central objective of CEPF investments was to engage local communities in the conservation of the KBAs, to enable them to derive benefits directly for their well-being and to be engaged in their management. Indeed, 59 out of 77 grants, equaling 76% of the total, enabled effective stewardship by local communities for biodiversity and ecosystem conservation with local municipalities, communities, and the private sector in all countries with CEPF grants.

For example, CEPF funded the establishment and/or strengthening of five co-management agreements in five countries to conserve sites of high biodiversity value. The Bahamas National Trust signed a memorandum of understanding with the local community organizations San Salvador Living Jewels Foundation to manage the San Salvador National Parks System, which included the two KBAs of Graham’s Harbour and Southern Great Lake. In the Dominican Republic, CEPF grants strengthened co-management arrangements with local communities for the Reserva Científica Loma and Valle Nuevo National Park. For Lagons du Nord-Est KBA in Haiti, CEPF funded the creation of a steering committee named the Coordination Environnementale pour la Protection de la Baie de Caracol. In Jamaica, Caribsave helped the Dolphin Head Local Forest Management Committee (LFMC), which had co-management responsibility for the Dolphin Head KBA, to build their capacity in project design and management and business management. As one of several outcomes, the LFMC prepared the Dolphin Head LFMC Action Plan to carry out the Dolphin Head Forestry Management Plan. In Cumberland Forest Reserve in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, a co-management arrangement was developed to foster integrated interagency collaboration between government departments and local communities to implement an integrated watershed management plan for the forest reserve. Further description of community

benefits can be found in Section 7.3 on CEPF contributions to community livelihoods improvements.

7.2 Gender

CEPF launched its gender tracking tool, which is a self-assessment tracking tool to monitor changes in their performance regarding gender mainstreaming over the period of CEPF support, after the close of the first investment phase. As such, a systematic summary of the impacts on gender integration into CEPF project is not possible for this report. However, anecdotal information indicates that gender considerations figured into project design and implementation of several CEPF grants first investment phase of the Caribbean Island portfolio. Thirty-one of the 77 grants, equivalent to 41% of all grants funded by CEPF, were managed by women, and in many of the other projects, women figured prominently as project staff.

Several projects focused activities on women's empowerment. For example, Pronatura helped establish a women's group in La Humeadora Mountain National Park dedicated to increasing their income and supporting their own capacity development. L'Organisation des Paysans pour le Développement de l'Unité 2 de la Forêt des Pins trained over 200 women in organic agriculture as a way of promoting food security and generating income. FoProBiM helped organize a women's group to help them engage in local livelihoods and resource management projects in Parc des Trois Baies et du Lagon au Boeufs National Park in Haiti.

7.3 Livelihoods Improvement

CEPF supported sustainable livelihoods in communities living in and around KBAs of Antigua and Barbuda, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines by promoting agroforestry, forest carbon credits, sustainable fisheries, fruit and vegetable processing, ecotourism, and beekeeping. Offering sustainable economic alternatives was a key approach to reducing pressure on the KBAs, especially where the well-being of families was highly dependent on the natural resource base found in and around the priority KBAs.

- In Antigua and Barbuda, the Environmental Awareness Group (EAG) demonstrated how removal of invasive alien species directly generated income and community benefits. With the removal of rats and an active monitoring program on the North East Marine Management Area (NEMMA) of the Offshore Islands KBA, wildlife returned with vigor. As a result, nature-based tourism increased significantly to the islands. By 2014, about 70,000 visitors visited the site annually, up from 17,000 in the mid-2000s. Most of these tourists paid more than \$100 to spend two to three hours in the area. The most visited islands were those where rats were removed and vegetation and wildlife thrived. Six tour companies benefitted from CEPF-funded training for their staff to increase their knowledge of the NEMMA and its wildlife. Local communities benefited as tour companies and their staff hailed from local towns considered to be low income. Due to the high volume of traffic from cruise ship tourists, EAG volunteers, field officers, biologists, consultants, and local communities earned money by providing various goods and services related to the increased tourism. Fishers also benefitted from the high demand from the local market for day trips and tours to restored islands.
- In Haiti, Unit 2 Pine Forest Natural National Park, one of the last biodiversity-rich forests in Haiti, has suffered rampant deforestation. With support from CEPF, l'Organisation des Paysans pour le Développement de l'Unité 2 de la Forêt des Pins reforested 227 cleared hectares with native tree species and protected 100 hectares

of the local Rak Bwa broadleaf forest. More 1,000 local children participated in summer activities focused on raising environmental awareness. The project's main objective to restore degraded ecosystems was achieved with the reforestation of 70 hectares of Caribbean pine (*Pinus occidentalis*) and 30 hectares of broadleaf species. More than 150 families increased their revenue through the cultivation and sale of vegetable crop and from non-timber forest products. A particular innovation was the establishment of enclosure stands of broadleaf forest on private lands that were strategically identified for protection by the Government of Haiti. Agreements with landowners channeled funding to them in exchange for bringing these forests under protection within the national framework. Up to 75 hectares were protected in this way.

- In the Dominican Republic, the Consorcio Ambiental Dominicano introduced several creative approaches to bridge biodiversity conservation with local development in the El Zorzal Private Reserve by demonstrating how preserving the habitat of Bicknell's thrush can stimulate new linkages between private landowners, cocoa growers, chocolate makers, and the international carbon credit market. CAD forged a new partnership between the US-based philanthropic organization Eddie Trust and Dominican businessmen to purchase 404 hectares to allow for the creation of the Dominican Republic's first private protected area, El Zorzal Private Reserve, which contributed to increasing connectivity between two existing protected areas: Loma Quita Espuela and Loma Guaconejo Nature Reserves. CAD then signed a landmark agreement with Canadian organic chocolate maker ChocoSol Traders for the first sale of forest carbon credits in the country. Under the five-year agreement, ChocoSol Traders committed to purchase organic cacao produced in the private reserve and to purchase the carbon credits for each ton of cacao bought. This was the second such agreement CAD signed with an artisanal chocolate maker. A similar agreement was signed between CAD and San Francisco-based Dandelion Chocolate the previous year. These two carbon schemes were expected to generate \$250,000 per year for conservation in ten years, directly benefiting local communities.
- Also in the Dominican Republic, the grant to Pronatura in La Humeadora Mountain National Park worked to engage community participation in park management and to foster of development compatible with the park's conservation objectives. Pronatura set up a community nursery to produce seedlings with native timber and agroforestry. It provided technical assistance to local farmers on how to improve soils and crops and how to regenerate land and wooded areas. Local farmers reported that they switched from slash and burn agriculture to more sustainable agricultural practices, which proved to be less environmentally destructive and more lucrative for local farmers. Farmers also reported increased awareness of the importance of soil and forest conservation in the mountainous terrain for their own well-being, particularly with respect to disaster prevention in the hurricane-prone zone. In addition, the CEPF-funded management plan resulted in the Ministry of Environment hiring rangers for the park, including a local community member who used to poach parrots and other birds. Improved community organization resulted in accessing new funding from a local bank to support to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. Pronatura even secured water filters to provide potable water to local households in order to reduce intestinal diseases. Park administrator Marcos Corporán observed, "Before the project, slash and burn agriculture was everywhere in the park. Since the project started, the fires have decreased considerably and things have changed for the better. The birds and trees have more value if they stay in the forest because in the forest they generate more benefits for the people and the forest can return to its former glory."

8. Enabling Conditions Results

8.1 Policy improvement and implementation

CEPF supported the mainstreaming of biodiversity and ecosystem services into seven development plans, projects and policies, focusing on water resources management, reforestation, forest carbon, and regulation of ecosystem functions in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Jamaica. These plans and policies factored in climate change impacts, disaster mitigation in key watershed assets, and biodiversity conservation. In addition, CEPF funded the development of three innovative financing mechanisms for biodiversity conservation.

- In the Dominican Republic, grantees helped develop the guidelines and procedures for establishing a private protected area and a forest carbon trading scheme based in the El Zorzal Private Reserve. The carbon trading initiative allowed smallholder cocoa farmers to improve their production while reforesting their plots with native species. Grantees also developed the procedure on how to create a formal municipal protected area. Furthermore, an economic valuation of water resources in La Humeadora Mountains National Park contributed to the establishment of a water fund for the City of Santo Domingo to protect its watersheds.
- In Haiti, grantees developed a payment for ecosystem services scheme for a reforested area covering 20 hectares in the Fond Melon River Basin in the Massif de la Selle mountain range. Another CEPF grantee developed the procedures to declare Haiti's first municipal reserve.
- In St. Vincent and the Grenadines, CEPF funded the development of an integrated watershed management plan for the Cumberland Forest Reserve, which factored in climate change variability threats and natural disaster threat, in addition to biodiversity conservation priorities. The Forestry Department officially adopted the plan for its public education strategy.
- In Grenada, the national government incorporated recommendations from the Grenada Dove Conservation Programme regarding climate change adaptation and conservation of the Mt Hartman National Park KBA and the Beausejour/Grenville Vale KBAs into its budgetary planning and policy making for the country's dry forests.

CEPF grantees achieved a major milestone when the Government of Jamaica established a wildlife sanctuary on the Goat Islands in the Portland Bight to protect the Critically Endangered and endemic Jamaican iguana. The declaration represented the culmination of the multi-year Save Goat Islands campaign led by the Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation (C-CAM) and the Jamaica Environment Trust (JET), which sought to find an alternative site for a proposed transshipment port to be originally located on the Goat Islands. The original proposal emerged in 2014 when the Jamaican government signed a memorandum of understanding with Chinese investors to construct the major infrastructure project within the Portland Bight Protected Area/Conservation Corridor, targeting Goat Islands. Local partners sought a more transparent and collaborative approach to decision-making, noting that the government's announcement of the port facility was made without an environmental impact assessment or local consultation. Local partners contributed to the public dialogue by supporting an environmental education effort, which included increasing public awareness about the importance of the KBA and increasing the capacity of local stakeholders to engage in Jamaica's environmental impact assessment process. Their effort garnered national and international attention, including articles in CNN, the BBC, and National Geographic. The campaign garnered letters of concern from major international groups. With CEPF support, C-CAM worked with the Conservation Strategy Fund to obtain an independent analysis of the economic and environmental merits of building the port

facility on the Goat Islands and on other sites suitable for the port development scheme. By 2016, the Government of Jamaica concurred with the campaign members that the Goat Islands were not well suited for the transshipment port. The government deemed the Goat Islands as best suited for conservation, with the goal of developing the islands for ecotourism to provide economic alternatives to benefit local communities.

8.2 Partnerships and linkages, and Hotspot-wide initiatives

In view of the magnitude and complexity of many of the conservation issues facing the hotspot relative to the capacity of individual civil society organizations to respond to them, CEPF helped establish and strengthen geographic and thematic alliances, supported regional networking, and consolidated multi-sectoral partnerships for biodiversity that crossed political jurisdictions and language barriers, several of which are highlighted below:

Dominican Republic

- Development of the Red de conservación de la biodiversidad en República Dominicana (Biodiversity Conservation Network of the Dominican Republic), an online space where organizations can share information and resources, as well as raise awareness about conservation issues in the country.
- Creation of a multi-stakeholder conservation alliance, Alianza para la Defensa de Bahoruco Oriental (ALDEBOR), made up of local stakeholders and the Environment Ministry.
- Creation of a stakeholder alliance including local municipalities and five businesses as well as increased local community engagement for Sierra de Bahoruco. This included consolidation of the Unidad de Gestión Ambiental Municipal (UGAM), the multi-stakeholder structure responsible for the execution of the management plan for Sierra de Bahoruco at the municipal level.
- Strengthening of the stakeholder commission and monitoring committee for the conservation of Valle Nuevo enhancing participatory governance and management of the national park.
- Strengthening of a local youth conservation network in Loma Quite Espuela scientific reserve.

Haiti

- Establishment of a steering committee named la Coordination Environnementale pour la Protection de la Baie de Caracol (CEProBaC), which helped increase collaborative actions among local stakeholders within the Lagons du Nord-Est KBA.
- Support for a local network of stakeholders for biodiversity conservation in Lac Azuei/Trou Caiman.
- Support to local stakeholders including farmers' associations, community groups and schools in Foret des Pins, Massif de la Selle, to increase knowledge of the importance of biodiversity conservation through developing a curriculum in Kweyol.
- Establishment of 10 local committees within and around Macaya National Park in Massif de la Hotte KBA to raise awareness within local communities about the importance of the park's biodiversity and to serve as local contacts for conservation actions taking place.
- Strengthening of local community groups and young conservationists in Anse-à-Pitres, Massif de la Selle, Haiti, to organize and implement habitat surveillance, monitoring of critically endangered endemic species and habitat restoration for the conservation of the critically endangered Ricord's iguana.

Jamaica

- Establishment of a consortium of local, national, and international stakeholders to ensure the sustainability of a proposed port facility sited in Portland Bight, including

building community and stakeholder capacity to participate in the environmental impact assessment process in Jamaica and the preparation and dissemination of a report and policy brief on alternative options for the location of the proposed port.

- Arrangements developed for co-management of Portland Bight Protected Area (PBPA) in Jamaica including establishment of the PBPA management committee.
- Creation of the Cockpit Communities for Conservation group, which actively participates in conservation and management of Catadupa KBA.
- Involvement of volunteers from neighboring communities in Portland Ridge and Bight KBA in a novel “conservation garden” initiative that served as an *ex situ* plant conservation nursery for the protected area.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines

- Establishment of a multi-stakeholder co-management arrangement comprising local communities and relevant government departments to implement actions under the IWMP in the Cumberland Forest Reserve.

The Bahamas

- Establishment of a management planning team for the San Salvador National Parks system, and organization of management planning meetings with local communities, stakeholders and core team to ensure the incorporation of feedback and reach consensus on management objectives and activities.

Regional

- Strengthening of CIASNET, a regional portal on invasive alien species.
- Integration of conservationists in Hispaniola into the network, Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation. In addition, bi-national collaboration strengthened between Haiti and the Dominican Republic.
- Creation of a new regional network, Nature Caribé, bringing together nine key environmental NGOs throughout the hotspot.
- Creation of a regional network of journalists and conservationists focused on environmental communications resulting in increased reporting of biodiversity conservation, climate change, and ecosystem issues in Caribbean newspapers, news portals, blogs, radio, and television.
- Creation of the Panos Information Portal, an online database that provides a regional hub for climate change and biodiversity information.

8.3 Private Sector Engagement

While it was not the principal focus of any of the strategic directions under the CEPF investment strategy, grantees reported that they established nine public-private partnerships in the Dominican Republic, Antigua and Barbuda, and Haiti, as presented below:

- Local businessmen purchased land to establish and manage El Zorzal Private Reserve in the Dominican Republic.
- Two chocolate manufacturers purchased carbon credits from the Dominican Republic.
- Tourist operators strengthened conservation and local governance of Valle Nuevo National Park in the Dominican Republic.
- A conservation network for Valle Nuevo National Park, consisting of 105 members from the private and public sectors, stimulated the participation of local authorities in the management of the park and encouraged local stakeholders to launch joint conservation efforts.

- Alliances with five local cement, mining, lodging, food and local radio businesses were established to support conservation activities in Sierra Bahoruco, Dominican Republic.
- A consortium of public, private and academic institutions, including the Santo Domingo water authority, was established to raise public awareness and promote the sustainable management of La Humeadora watershed that provides water for Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic.
- Tour operators and seven local businesses supported and benefitted from conservation efforts in Nalga de Maco, Dominican Republic.
- Tour operators in the Offshore Islands of Antigua and Barbuda supported conservation awareness building related to invasive species.
- The Haiti National Trust was established to provide funds for long term maintenance of protected areas in Haiti, and the first private donation was secured.

8.4 Leveraging Additional Resources

While CEPF did not require matching funds, 38 organizations were able to build on their CEPF grants to leverage an additional \$9,565,560 in resources from private foundations, international donors, governments, and the private sector as a means of scaling up and/or complementing CEPF initiatives, as highlighted below.

- As a result of serving as the CEPF RIT, CANARI secured two important projects. During the early stages of grant making in the hotspot, the MacArthur Foundation awarded \$375,000 to CANARI to build the capacity of grassroots CSOs in project development and management as a means of facilitating access to CEPF grants by smaller and less experienced Caribbean organizations. Shortly after grant making concluded in the hotspot, in January 2017, CANARI received a five-year, EUR 1 million grant from the European Union to support innovative actions by civil society and coastal community small and micro-enterprises for conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity and development of sustainable and resilient livelihoods. CANARI partnered with four CEPF grantees to implement the project. Its experience in implementing large multi-country projects with a small grants component was a positive contributing factor in CANARI leveraging the EU project.
- In Haiti, Fondation Macaya, Société Audubon Haiti, and Fondation Nouvelle Grand'Anse mobilized \$2.3 million from the Government of Norway to continue activities supported by CEPF in Macaya, Massif de la Hotte. The capacities and partnerships built during implementing their CEPF projects directly led to their ability to leverage the new funds.
- Also in Haiti, the Barr Foundation approved a total of \$1 million to the Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversité Marine and to Agronomes et Vétérinaires Sans Frontières to build the capacity of stakeholder groups to engage in the management of the Parc National des Trois Baies and to fund the continuation of CEPF-funded activities in the Fonds Melon River Basin of Massif de la Selle.
- In the Dominican Republic, the Consorcio Ambiental Dominicano's efforts to establish the El Zorzal Private Reserve and launch the carbon credit scheme involving US and Canadian chocolate manufacturers attracted \$987,088 from US-based Eddy Foundation, Helados Bon (a Dominican ice cream company), the Moreno brothers, the Vermont Centre for Ecostudies, the US Fish and Wildlife, and the Global Environment Facility.
- Also in the Dominican Republic, SOH leveraged \$350,000 from the Ministry of the Environment, US Fish and Wildlife Service and various local private sector firms to help implement the Sierra de Bahoruco National Park management plan.

9. Other Impacts

Following the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, the Donor Council approved \$400,000 for emergency support to Haitian civil society, to prevent the degradation and potential destruction of Massif de la Hotte and Massif de la Selle. The objective was to assist in the immediate recovery of the environmental and development civil society sector, and to foster stakeholder engagement and integration of environmental concerns into reconstruction and development planning. BirdLife International implemented a project with close collaboration with Haiti Audubon from October 2010 to April 2012. The effort helped to establish an environmental network resource center with detailed activities and an implementation plan for conservation efforts in Massif de la Selle and Massif de la Hotte developed in consultation with the Haitian NGO sector. Other key objectives were more difficult to achieve in the extremely challenging operating environment of the country in aftermath of the earthquake. For example, no progress was reported on reconstruction and development policies and plans that incorporate environmental concerns. CEPF and local partners recognized that the earthquake had devastated much of the city of Port au Prince, and that many members of the environmental community struggled to meet their own needs and those of their families in the face of the devastation. Dedicating time to the recovery and reconstruction effort provided to be overly ambitious given the reality of that time.

10. Lessons Learned

CEPF funded the mid-term and final assessments to identify and facilitate sharing of lessons learned among CEPF grantees. These assessments were facilitated in a highly participatory fashion by the CEPF Secretariat and the RIT, to solicit input into the program from grantees and other stakeholders. The mid-term assessment was carried out between May and September 2013, and the findings informed the second half of the investment phase. The final assessment was held in November 2015, with stakeholder consultations in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Jamaica. Key lessons learned from these two evaluations are summarized as follows:

Lesson 1: Building a grantee's organizational capacity in parallel with grant implementation encouraged long-term sustainability of efforts and efficient use of CEPF funds.

A crucial component of effective grant-making to CSOs was consistent and systematic on-the-ground support and capacity building using innovative, participatory mechanisms. For example, strengthening a grantee's financial management capacity as part of a large grant under CEPF allowed for better management and use of grant funding and increased a grantee's ability to secure follow-on funding from other donors.

CEPF facilitated networking among grantees, especially at the country level, in cases where organizations had complementary skill sets. There was a lot of room for grantees to work together in tangible ways to build each other's capacity. For instance, the Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral (IDDI) facilitated a training workshop on sustainable financing for 20 CSOs in the Dominican Republic, while Kiunzi built the communication and networking capacity of 10 local CSOs. Grantee-to-grantee support was a good way to build networks and leverage project results. Small grants were used as a capacity building tool, especially for young organizations or those with weak capacity. The very process of having to design a project and submit a proposal for approved and for use in guiding project

implementation aided in a hands on way to develop grantee in-house project management capacity.

Lesson 2: Initial support for conservation planning and capacity building provided an important basis for effective conservation action.

CEPF supported the development of key action plans and strategies, in particular for protected area management, incorporating climate resilience and sustainable rural livelihoods, which needed to be funded adequately to ensure successful implementation. CEPF was committed to funding implementation for all planning efforts it had supported. In addition, CEPF supported several grants that put in place structures and mechanisms to improve the protection and management of KBAs in several countries, including Haiti, Jamaica, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. It remained a high priority to continue to support these structures and mechanisms, to demonstrate proof of concept. Thirty-eight grantees leveraged additional support for their conservation work based on the planning initiatives supported by CEPF, as highlighted in Section 8.3.

Lesson 3: Fostering strategic partnerships across civil society, including with the public and private sectors and other managers and users of natural resources, enhanced conservation impacts and ensured long-term conservation goals were met.

Helping grantees make linkages between their efforts and those of other grantees and partners led to more strategic and deliberate actions within the grant portfolio. During the initial investment phase, CEPF facilitated peer exchanges at the national and regional levels to support knowledge sharing and provide a space for relationship building. Networking facilitated across language groupings (using simultaneous translations) was particularly valued. CEPF's support gave a strong impetus to civil society to create strategic partnerships including with the public and private sectors, as described in Sections 8.1 and 8.2. All CEPF grants were designed and implemented in consultation with local governments and national agencies to ensure they were consistent with country-level conservation priorities and were, to the extent possible, institutionalized into national and local policies, priorities, and plans.

Lesson 4: CEPF support to civil society helped innovate and test new approaches to conservation, especially for changing climate and disaster mitigation.

Many CEPF grantees from the initial phase used innovative tools, methods and approaches in project implementation that offer a rich pool of good practice and lessons that could be shared among CEPF grantees in the Caribbean Islands. CEPF's willingness to support innovation reaped important results. For instance, the Consorcio Ambiental Dominicano established the country's first private protected area and the hotspot's first sale of forest carbon credits, while the Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation in Jamaica developed and tested an *ex-situ* germ bank and engaged local people in plant conservation through their love of gardening.

Lesson 5: Coordination with other national and regional initiatives helped to ensure a strategic and coordinated regional programmatic response to supporting civil society's work in biodiversity conservation, climate change and sustainable rural livelihoods.

Even though travel within the Caribbean region was expensive, there remained high value in bringing people together to share ideas, results and lessons learned from their work. Bringing CEPF grantees from Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines to the Jamaica-based final assessment workshop gave them an important space for sharing and networking with other CSOs. Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Jamaica were no doubt the priority countries in the region for CEPF investment during

the initial phase but it was important to recognize the regional element in the program and for efforts to be made to bring together countries and grantees as much as possible, and to highlight the regional-level results and impacts.

11. Conclusion

CEPF concluded its investment in 2016 in the Caribbean Islands hotspot with a portfolio of 77 small and large grants that yielded strong results by helping to lay a foundation for KBA protection and management, often in areas with little or no previous conservation attention, in fulfillment of the logical framework of the 2010 Caribbean Islands ecosystem profile. The portfolio achieved important gains across 593,967 hectares of terrestrial, freshwater and coastal ecosystems in 25 KBAs through management improvements. CEPF support was instrumental in achieving new protection for 111,496 hectares in eight KBAs. An important feature of CEPF's investment was support enabling effective stewardship by local communities and the testing of new and innovative approaches to conservation in national contexts.

In the Dominican Republic and Jamaica, the grant portfolio filled unfunded and urgent gaps through the development and implementation of management plans for the highest biological priorities in the hotspot, therefore safeguarding highly threatened remaining intact habitat. In Haiti, CEPF helped to build the capacity of nascent CSOs, restore highly degraded habitat, and protect sites of high global biodiversity value. In the smaller islands of the Lesser Antilles and The Bahamas, CEPF focused on control of invasive alien species, achieving new protection, and developing economic opportunities for local communities.

CEPF also made important contributions to building the institutional and technical capacity of 58 Caribbean civil society organizations to enable them to serve as effective advocates of conservation and development. As a result of CEPF, 23 formal and informal networks were established and/or strengthened, to foster collaboration and sharing lessons learned across the island hotspot.

In addition, CEPF strengthened the role of CANARI as a regional leader dedicated to building the capacity of local civil society groups and fostering partnerships throughout the hotspot. As the CEPF RIT for the Caribbean Islands Hotspot, CANARI leveraged several major projects that enabled it to partner with grantees and to build on the community-based conservation approaches introduced and strengthened by CEPF.

Looking to the future, a critical need exists to consolidate the processes and results achieved and to support replication and scaling-up of good practice models to other KBAs and Caribbean CSOs where urgent conservation support is needed. Juxtaposed to alarming conservation trends in much of the Caribbean Island are the current and future impacts from climate change, which threaten the Caribbean's ecosystems and people in real and existential ways. CEPF has demonstrated that directly supporting Caribbean CSOs, building their capacity for conservation and sustainable development, and funding initiatives that bridge biodiversity conservation with human wellbeing are highly efficacious and cost-effective ways to achieve tangible, long-lasting benefits for biodiversity and people alike. CEPF offers an effective mechanism to help the people of the Caribbean Islands Hotspot to rise to meet the challenges of the future.

Annex 1. Final Report on the Logframe - Achievement of CEPF Portfolio Targets, 2010 - 2016

Objective	Targets	Progress
<p>Engage civil society in the conservation of globally threatened biodiversity through targeted investments with maximum impact on the highest conservation and ecosystem services priorities.</p>	<p>NGOs and civil society actors from CEPF eligible countries, with an emphasis on the six priority conservation corridors and 45 key biodiversity areas, effectively participate in conservation programs guided by the ecosystem profile.</p>	<p>68 civil society organizations (46 local and regional Caribbean CSOs and 22 international CSOs) directly engaged in and benefiting from CEPF support in six conservation corridors and 32 KBAs (14 highest priority KBAs and 18 other priority KBAs) in Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.</p>
	<p>Development plans, projects and policies which influence the six conservation corridors and 45 key biodiversity areas mainstream biodiversity and ecosystem services, with a focus on tourism, mining and agriculture.</p>	<p>7 development plans, projects and policies integrated ecosystem services and biodiversity, focusing on water resources management, reforestation, forest carbon, and regulation of ecosystem functions in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica. Highlights included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development and approval of procedures for declaration of private protected areas in the Dominican Republic. 2. Procedure development and approval for creating a municipal protected area in the Dominican Republic. 3. Increased community capacity and national attention focused on mitigating the impacts of a proposed port development project and potential mining concessions in Portland Ridge, Hellshire Hills, and Cockpit Country in Jamaica. 4. Development of payment for ecosystem services scheme for forest resources in the Fond Melon River Basin in Massif de la Selle. 5. Development of carbon trading schemes for El Zorzal Private Reserve in the Dominican Republic, a first of its kind in the Caribbean islands hotspot. 6. Development of procedures to declare Haiti's first municipal reserve. 7. Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP) developed for the Cumberland Forest Reserve in the Central Mountain Range conservation corridor in St. Vincent and the Grenadines factoring in climate change/ climate variability threats (including natural disasters), especially impact of such on key watershed assets including biodiversity. In addition, the Forestry Department's Public Education Outreach Unit officially adopted the IWMP's public education strategy.
	<p>17 Key Biodiversity Area covering 911,000 ha have strengthened protection and management as guided by sustainable management plans</p>	<p>12 out of the highest priority 17 KBAs (approx. 71%) covering a total of 468,268 ha have strengthened protection and management as guided by sustainable management plans. Highlights include:</p>

		<p><u>Dominican Republic</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bahoruco Oriental (3,353 ha) management plan, improved community engagement and participatory governance and management of the park, infrastructure development and training for park rangers, development and implementation of a monitoring system and surveillance plan, reforestation, development of an ecotourism business plan to promote ecotourism as a new sustainable economic alternative for local communities. 2. La Humeadora (31,500 ha) management plan, improved participatory governance especially with local communities and local government, reforestation, increased awareness of the park's importance for biodiversity conservation and provision of ecosystem services. 3. Sierra Bahoruco (106,232 ha) improved governance with local communities, local authorities, private sector partnerships, improved infrastructure, built capacity of park rangers, creation of sustainable economic alternatives for local community members, and an ecotourism business plan and a marketing and promotional plan was created, approved, and adopted by local governments and communities. 4. Valle Nuevo (93,300 ha) management plan, improved participatory governance with local communities, private sector and government involvement in monitoring and implementing management plan actions, training for park rangers and development of a forest fire prevention and control system, and business plan for ecotourism development resulting in improved ecotourism services and capacity. 5. Jaragua National Park (102 ha) improved invasive species management on Alto Velo island with an operational plan to remove invasive species and biosecurity plan to prevent further invasions, including built capacity of local NGO and communities. <p><u>Haiti</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Massif de la Selle - Anse-à-Pitres (3,000 ha) environmental awareness, management plan, considerable reduction of iguana poaching resulting in increase of critically endangered Ricord's Iguana sub-population by 50%. 7. Massif de la Selle - Unit II of the forest reserve in "La Foret des Pins" (2,000 ha) forest restoration with native species, improved community governance, implementation of zoning plan, and improved sustainable livelihoods for more than 200 families from local communities. 8. Massif de la Hotte (128,700 ha) development of a strategy to support the Haitian government develop policies to protect the KBA, expansion of the protected area to include three new national parks, built capacity in amphibian conservation, establishment of ten local committees to raise awareness of the value of biodiversity in the KBA and need for protection, reforestation using native species. <p><u>Jamaica</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Hellshire Hills (14,700 ha) and (continued in point 9 below) 10. Portland Bight (43,000 ha) management plans, consolidation of institutional arrangements for management (including new modalities for inter-agency collaboration and community participation), reforestation, community outreach, mitigation of impacts from infrastructure. 11. Catadupa (15,736 ha) development and approval of the Catadupa Conservation Action Plan, outreach and increased participation from local communities in implementation actions. 12. Peckham Woods (80 ha) more clearly defined boundaries, increased awareness of the KBA's importance for biodiversity conservation, collection of data to inform management planning and actions. 13. Dolphin Head (1,109 ha) built capacity and development of an action plan for the entity with co-management responsibility for conservation and sustainable livelihood activities in the KBA.
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	<p>At least 20 percent of under-protected priority key biodiversity areas (at least six) brought under new and/or strengthened protection status.</p>	<p>17% (8 out of 48) of under-protected KBAs in the Bahamas, Dominican Republic, and Haiti, covering 111,496 ha, under improved legal protection, covering:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Booby Cay KBA, The Bahamas – 75 ha 2. Graham’s Harbour KBA, The Bahamas 3. Southern Great Lake KBA, The Bahamas <p>The above two KBAs form part of the San Salvador National Parks System – 3,872 ha</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Parc National des Trois Baies and Lagon aux Boeufs National Park in Lagons du Nord-Est KBA, Haiti – 90,000 ha 5. 4,145 ha of the Massif de la Hotte KBA in Haiti under increased protection through the declaration of three new national parks within the Massif de la Hotte KBA - Grand Bois National Park (370 ha), Grande Colline National Park (1,510 ha) and Deux Mamelles National Park (2,265 ha). 6. 3,000 ha of the Massif de la Selle KBA under increased protection through the creation of a municipal reserve, Parc Cacique Henri, in Anse-à-Pitres, Haiti. 7. 404 ha in the El Zorzal Private Reserve Loma Quita Espuela KBA the Dominican Republic registered as a private reserve. Land purchased by US and DR investors and \$565,000 in private capital invested. 8. 10,000 ha of the Sierra de Bahoruco KBA under new protection through the creation of a municipal protected area, Área de Conservación Municipal (ACM) Río Las Damas, in the Dominican Republic.
	<p>Strategic areas of the production landscape of six conservation corridors under improved management for biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services.</p>	<p>5 of the 6 conservation corridors including the Massif du Nord corridor in Haiti; Portland Bight Protected Area in Jamaica; Massif de la Selle – Jaragua–Bahoruco–Enriquillo binational corridor in Hispaniola; the Cordillera Central corridor in the Dominican Republic; and the Central Mountain Range in St. Vincent and the Grenadines have improved management in the production landscape through forest carbon, reforestation, integrated management plans, agro-forestry, beekeeping and sustainable tourism, in the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Grenada, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.</p>
	<p>The Caribbean ecosystem profile influences and complements other donor’s investment strategies.</p>	<p>The Caribbean ecosystem profile influenced and complemented 11 other donor’s investment strategies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The EU BEST 2.0 Programme (Voluntary Scheme for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Territories of European Overseas) was influenced by the Caribbean ecosystem profiling process and results in terms of their methodology and strategy for investing in the Caribbean. For the Caribbean region, a budget of 2 million euros minimum is expected to fund on the ground conservation action for biodiversity conservation, sustainable use of ecosystems and ecosystem services in the KBAs identified through the participative Ecosystem profiling process led by the BEST knowledge hubs. 2. MacArthur Foundation – supported complementary work of several grantees including the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) which received a complementary grant from the MacArthur Foundation of which a value of US\$ 375,000 was dedicated to supporting its role as the CEPF Regional Implementation Team (RIT) for the Caribbean islands. 3. Conseil Général des Hauts de Seine (CG 92) [French Local Government] co-financed a CEPF project in the Fonds Melon River Basin of Massif de la Selle, Haiti. 4. UNDP Dominican Republic – grantee activities complemented and contributed to the results of the ‘Re-engineering the National Protected Area System in Order to Achieve Financial Sustainability’ project including through the integration of two new protected areas with approved management plans - La Humeadora and Bahoruco Oriental; valuation of

		<p>ecosystem services of the national system of protected areas; and training and capacity building of park administrators, and improved infrastructure and signage for Valle Nuevo.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. La Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (AECID) co-funded infrastructure in Bahoruco Oriental KBA, Dominican Republic. 6. Norwegian government – 3 Haitian CEPF grantees mobilised funds to continue activities supported by CEPF in Macaya, Massif de la Hotte. Fondation Macaya mobilised \$980,000; Société Audubon Haiti mobilised \$450,000; and Fondation Nouvelle Grand’Anse mobilised \$951,500. The capacities and partnerships built during implementation of their CEPF projects directly led to their ability to leverage further funding to support activities. 7. Barr Foundation – CEPF grantee, Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversité Marine, mobilised \$200,000 to build the capacity of stakeholder groups to engage in the management of the <i>Parc National des Trois Baies</i> as follow up work to CEPF’s investment in the area; CEPF grantee, Agronomes et Vétérinaires Sans Frontières, mobilised \$806,582 to support the continuation of activities in the Fonds Melon River Basin of Massif de la Selle under the Barr Foundation’s sustainable agriculture programme. <p>The following donors invested in the El Zorzal Private Reserve in the Dominican Republic as a result of CEPF grantee, Consorcio Ambiental Dominicano’s efforts in the area:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Eddy Foundation, Moreno Brothers and other private sector investors contributed \$650,000 9. US Fish and Wildlife invested \$142,088 10. Helados Bon (ice cream company) and the Vermont Centre for Ecotudies (VCE) invested \$5,000 11. Global Environment Facility invested \$195,000
<p>Outcome 1. Improve protection and management of 45 priority Key Biodiversity Areas.</p>	<p>Number of hectares in key biodiversity areas and number of key biodiversity areas (and percent) with demonstrable improvements/strengthening in their protection and management as guided by a sustainable management plan.</p>	<p>25 out of priority 48 KBAs (approx. 52%) covering a total of 593,967 ha had demonstrable improvements in their management as guided by management and operational plans. Highlights included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management plan prepared and approved by the Dominican Republic Ministry of the Environment and annual operational plan 2013 developed for La Humeadora National Park. Increase in METT score for La Humeadora National Park from 26 to 77 • Elaboration of an action plan to reduce agricultural impacts in the Duey sector of the La Humeadora National Park and the Pinar Parejo sector of the Valle Nuevo National Park. • Management plans prepared for Hellshire Hills and Portland Ridge & Bight. Consolidation of institutional arrangements for management (including new modalities for inter-agency collaboration and community participation), reforestation, community outreach, mitigation of impacts from infrastructure and built organizational capacity of the local organization working in the two KBAs. • Management plan and annual Operational Plan 2013 – 2014 developed for Bahoruco Oriental. 13-point increase in METT score from 22 to 35 • Monitoring protocols introduced, improved infrastructure and equipment, private sector partnership, improved local governance in Sierra de Bahoruco. • Biodiversity Management Plan developed for Fond Melon River Basin of Massif de la Selle. • Amphibian Population Management Guidelines were developed and summarized in a Guide to the Amphibians of Southern Hispaniola to help inform management plans and actions in Massif de la Hotte, Massif de la Selle, Sierra de Bahoruco and Bahoruco Oriental.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catadupa Conservation Action Plan was developed for Catadupa in Jamaica and endorsed by community stakeholders. • Development of the 2015-17 Dolphin Head Local Forest Management Committee Action Plan which guides the conservation and sustainable livelihood activities that are being done by a local community forestry group to meet the objectives of the Dolphin Head KBA management plan in Jamaica. • Improved protection for the Foret des Pins, Massif de la Selle in Haiti, including consideration in the area's management plan and in situ conservation measures for the rare and critically endangered Eckman Juniper species. • Development of a management plan for a Locally Managed Marine Area in Lagons du Nord-Est, Haiti. • Operational plan to remove invasive species and biosecurity plan to prevent further invasions for Alto Velo in Jaragua National Park. Increased local capacity for IAS management and a Memorandum of Understanding signed between Island Conservation and the Environment Ministry of the Dominican Republic to support offshore islands restoration projects. • Strategy to support the Haitian government develop policies to protect Massif de la Hotte was created, increased public awareness of the value of the KBA and expansion of the protected area to include three new national parks. <p>13 out of 31 medium priority KBAs (approximately 42%) covering 125,699 ha in the Dominican Republic, Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, Saint Lucia and The Bahamas had demonstrable improvements with their management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management activities at the Beausejour/Grenville Vale KBA and Mt Hartman National Park/KBA fully integrated into Grenada's Forestry and National Parks Department (FNPD) work plans and budgets. • Ecotourism Strategy Plan for Nalga de Maco developed and approved by the Ministry of the Environment in the Dominican Republic. • Rat Eradication Operational Plan and Pest Management Plan being implemented in the Offshore Islands KBA in Antigua and Barbuda, and in Maria Island/Pointe Sable KBA; Dennery and Praslin Islands/Mandele Dry Forest KBA in Saint Lucia. • Biosecurity plan developed and being implemented on Maria Island/Pointe Sable KBA; Dennery and Praslin Islands/Mandele Dry Forest KBA along with Goat Eradication Operational Plan for Dennery Island. • Baseline monitoring assessment for Isla Cabritos/Lago Enriquillo completed. • Integrated Watershed Management Plan for the Cumberland Forest Reserve in St. Vincent and the Grenadines developed. • Biosecurity plan and feasibility assessment for the removal of black rats were developed for Booby Cay which was designated as a new national park in the Bahamas. Local capacity built for IAS management. • Formal designation of San Salvador National Parks which encompass Graham's Harbour and Southern Great Lake in the Bahamas. Local capacity built for co-management and community members trained in iguana and seabird identification and monitoring. • Development of carbon trading schemes in the conservation corridor of Loma Quita Espuela and improved local engagement in Loma Quita Espuela and Loma Guaconejo in the Dominican Republic.
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<p>Number of hectares brought under new or upgraded protection.</p>	<p>111,496 ha (in eight KBAs) in the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic and Haiti were brought under new protection:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90,000 ha Parc Marin des Trois Baies in the Lagons du Nord-Est KBA declared as northern Haiti's first locally managed marine area • 404 ha in the El Zorzal Private Reserve Loma Quita Espuela KBA the Dominican Republic registered as a private reserve. Land purchased by US and DR investors and \$565,000 in private capital invested. • 3,872 ha of Graham's Harbour KBA and Southern Great Lake KBA on San Salvador island in the Bahamas were declared as National Parks. • 75 ha of Booby Cay KBA in the Bahamas declared a National Park. • 4,145 ha of the Massif de la Hotte KBA in Haiti under increased protection through the declaration of three new national parks within the Massif de la Hotte KBA - Grand Bois National Park (370 ha), Grande Colline National Park (1,510 ha) and Deux Mamelles National Park (2,265 ha). Environmental education strategy developed for Grand Bois and Grande Colline parks and evaluation of water resources. • 3,000 ha of the Massif de la Selle KBA under new protection through the creation of a municipal reserve, Parc Cacique Henri, in Anse-à-Pitres, Haiti. • 10,000 ha of the Sierra de Bahoruco KBA under new protection through the creation of a municipal protected area, Área de Conservación Municipal (ACM) Río Las Damas, in the Dominican Republic.
<p>Number of sustainable financing mechanisms established and/or strengthened with initial capital secured.</p>	<p>2 sustainable funding schemes were established:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of the Caribbean's first forest carbon offset project designed to benefit smallholders and cocoa farmers in the Dominican Republic. Forest carbon trading with two boutique chocolate manufacturers expected to generate \$250,000 in ten years for conservation. 2. Payment for ecosystem services scheme financed for reforested area covering 20 hectares in Fonds Melon, Massif de la Selle, Haiti.
<p>Number of co-management arrangements established or supported.</p>	<p>Five co-management agreements (at the KBA level) were established or supported:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1 co-management arrangement strengthened through a restructured Co-management Committee in the Reserva Científica Loma Guaconejo in the Dominican Republic 2. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Bahamas National Trust and local community organization, San Salvador Living Jewels Foundation outlining a partnership arrangement for management of the San Salvador National Parks System which includes Graham's Harbour KBA and Southern Great Lake KBA in the Bahamas. 3. Development and capacity building of a multi-stakeholder park monitoring committee for Valle Nuevo National Park in the Dominican Republic. 4. Establishment of a steering committee named the Coordination Environnementale pour la Protection de la Baie de Caracol (CEProBaC), which has helped increase collaborative actions within the Lagons du Nord-Est KBA in Haiti. 5. Built capacity of the Dolphin Head Local Forest Management Committee (LFMC) which has co-management responsibility for the Dolphin Head KBA in Jamaica. The LFMC built their capacity in project design and management, business management, and in strategic and action planning. The LFMC developed the Dolphin Head LFMC Action Plan (2015-2017) to carry out the objectives of the Dolphin Head Forestry Management Plan (2013-2017).

	Percent and number of grants that enable effective stewardship by local communities for biodiversity and ecosystem conservation.	76% or 59 out of 77 grants analyzed enable effective stewardship by local communities for biodiversity and ecosystem conservation with local municipalities, communities, and the private sector in all countries with CEPF grants.
Outcome 2. Integrate biodiversity conservation into landscape and development planning and implementation in six conservation corridors.	Number of policies, projects and plans incorporating ecosystem services, climate change and biodiversity conservation.	<p>10 policies, project and plans in the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica and St. Vincent and the Grenadines integrated climate change, forest carbon, water resource management, impact mitigation from infrastructure development into policies, projects and plans:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased community capacity and national attention focused on mitigating the impacts of a proposed port development project and potential mining concessions in Portland Ridge, Hellshire Hills, and Cockpit Country in Jamaica. 2. Climate change risk assessment prepared for Portland Ridge and Hellshire Hills as part of the two sub area management plans. These are the first such plans in Jamaica to include climate change for management planning. 3. Development of the management plan for La Humeadora National Park which was the Dominican Republic's first such plan to integrate a climate change adaptation strategy and actions. 4. Development of an action plan for Dominican NGOs to access climate finance to conserve key biodiversity areas in the Dominican Republic. 5. Development of payment for ecosystem services scheme for forest resources in the Fond Melon River Basin in Massif de la Selle. 6. Development of carbon trading schemes for El Zorzal Private Reserve in the Dominican Republic, a first of its kind in the Caribbean islands hotspot. 7. Development of procedures for declaration of private protected areas in the Dominican Republic. 8. Development of procedures to declare Haiti's first municipal reserve. 9. Integrated Watershed Management Plan (IWMP) developed for the Cumberland Forest Reserve in the Central Mountain Range conservation corridor in St. Vincent and the Grenadines factoring in climate change/ climate variability threats (including natural disasters), especially impact of such on key watershed assets including biodiversity. In addition, the Forestry Department's Public Education Outreach Unit officially adopted the IWMP's public education strategy. 10. Report produced and disseminated to key policy makers on Grenada's national climate change policy, strategy and programmes and identification of gaps in conserving the country's dry tropical forests.
	Number of hectares in production landscapes with improved management for biodiversity conservation.	<p>20,146 ha benefited from management improvements in reforestation, sustainable tourism, livelihood development and sustainable agriculture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 ha of Fond Melon River Basin of Massif de la Selle –Jaragua Bahoruco –Enriquillo Bi-National Corridor – management and reforestation of degraded farmland • 3,300 ha across 5 border communities in the Massif de la Selle –Jaragua Bahoruco – Enriquillo Bi-National Corridor in Haiti and the Dominican Republic – improved livelihoods through beekeeping and sustainable tourism • 427 ha reforested with native species in Massif de la Selle, Haiti

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 800 ha of mangroves reforested and 16km of sea turtle nesting beaches under improved protection in the Massif du Nord corridor • 1075.9 ha of the Cumberland Forest Reserve in St. Vincent and the Grenadines – reforestation being guided by the watershed management plan • 12.5 ha of the Haina-Duey watershed under improved management in Loma la Humeadora, Dominican Republic • 12,374 ha of Valle Nuevo, Dominican Republic – sustainable tourism • 2,125 ha in the buffer zone of the Nalga de Maco national park, Dominican Republic • 12 ha reforested with native species in Massif de la Hotte, Haiti
	Number of policies formulated and adopted to strengthen public and private protected areas systems.	3 policies were formulated and adopted to strengthen public and private protected areas systems: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Procedure development for private protected areas in the Dominican Republic. 2. Procedure development for creating a municipal protected area in the Dominican Republic. 3. Procedure development for creating a municipal protected area in Haiti.
	Number of public-private partnerships that mainstream biodiversity in the agriculture, tourism and mining sectors.	Nine public-private partnerships were achieved in the Dominican Republic, Antigua and Barbuda and Haiti: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local businessmen purchased land to establish and manage El Zorzal Private Reserve in the Dominican Republic. 2. Two chocolate manufacturers purchased carbon credits from the Dominican Republic. 3. Tourist operators strengthened conservation and local governance of Valle Nuevo National Park in the Dominican Republic. 4. A conservation network was created for Valle Nuevo National Park, consisting of 105 members from the private and public sectors who stimulated the participation of local authorities in the management of the park and encouraged local stakeholders to launch joint conservation efforts. 5. Alliances with five local cement, mining, lodging, food and local radio businesses were established to support conservation activities in Sierra Bahoruco, Dominican Republic. 6. A consortium of public, private and academic institutions, including the Santo Domingo water authority, was established, to raise public awareness and promote the sustainable management of La Humeadora watershed that provides water for Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic. 7. Tour operators and seven local businesses supported and benefited from conservation efforts in Nalga de Maco, Dominican Republic. 8. Tour operators in the Offshore Islands of Antigua and Barbuda supported conservation awareness building related to invasive species. 9. The Haiti National Trust was established to provide funds for long term maintenance of protected areas in Haiti; the first private donation was secured.
	Number of co-management arrangements established or supported.	1 co-management arrangement was established at the corridor level (see above for co-management arrangements established at the KBA level): <p>A co-management arrangement was established for the Cumberland Forest Reserve in the Central Mountain Range conservation corridor in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. This arrangement fostered integrated interagency collaboration between government departments and local communities to implement the IWMP for the forest reserve.</p>

	<p>Number of projects located outside protected areas that integrate biodiversity conservation in management practices.</p>	<p>10 projects in the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti and St. Vincent and the Grenadines located outside of protected areas integrated biodiversity conservation into management practices:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AVSF (59907) - Forest Diversified Restoration in Fonds-Melon River Basin. 2. Grupo Jaragua small grant – Integrating Communities in the Bi-National Corridor of the Biosphere Reserve of Jaragua-Bahoruco-Enriquillo/Massif de la Selle Between the Dominican Republic and Haiti. 3. Arche au Plantes (62355) - Rescuing Eckmanni Junipers and Conserving Plant Species in the Context of Updating the Management Plan for the Pine Forest in Massif de la Selle, Haiti. 4. OPDFM (59906) - Measures to Support the Zoning Plan in Unit II of the Forest Reserve in "La Foret des Pins". 5. FoProBim (59892) - Protecting Biodiversity by Promoting Nature-Based Tourism and Sustainable Livelihoods in the Massif–Plaine du Nord Conservation Corridor. 6. NPBRA (60934) - Integrated Watershed Management Planning and Forest Reserve Protection in the Central Mountain Range Conservation Corridor of St. Vincent. 7. Pronatura (62330) - Participatory Implementation of the La Humeadora Mountain National Park Management Plan in the Dominican Republic. 8. Fundación José Delio Guzmán Inc. (64210) - Strengthening Management and Promoting Ecotourism in Valle Nuevo National Park. 9. Sociedad Ornitológica de la Hispaniola Inc (60251) - Developing and Implementing a Participatory Nature Tourism Strategy for Nalga de Maco National Park Key Biodiversity Area. 10. Organisation des Groupements pour l'Avenir de Rossignol small grant - Forest Restoration Project for Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resources in Rossignol, Parc Macaya, Massif de la Hotte.
<p>Outcome 3. Caribbean civil society supported to achieve biodiversity conservation by building local and regional institutional capacity and by fostering stakeholder collaboration.</p>	<p>Number of civil society organizations with strengthened institutional capacity.</p>	<p>58 civil society organizations demonstrated strengthened institutional capacity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation (C-CAM) developed a new Strategic Plan 2013-2015, a Funding Plan incorporating a strategy to re-establish the C-CAM Trust Fund, and an organizational Accounting and Finance Manual. C-CAM's website updated and staff and community members trained in field data collection and support received for fundraising efforts. • Consorcio Ambiental Dominicano (CAD) developed a new strategic plan and strengthened their website. • The Environmental Awareness Group (EAG) created a Business Plan for financial sustainability and the organization received support to develop proposals for additional funding. • The Grenada Dove Conservation Programme (GDGP) developed a financial operations and accounting procedures and policy manual, in addition to a 5-year financial plan which are now operational. The organization also developed a 5-year strategic plan and established new partnerships with key organizations and agencies. • A local youth conservation network in Loma Quite Espuela scientific reserve was strengthened. • Staff members of Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversité Marine (FoProBiM) trained in basic conservation and marine sciences. • The Panos Institute developed and implemented a financial management plan. Staff were trained and new accounting software was procured. • Fondo Pro Naturaleza, Inc (PRONATURA) developed a new website. • Over 30 civil society organizations in the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica built capacity

		<p>in environmental communications including effective uses of social media and networking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) developed a funding landscape and feasibility plan. • KIUNZI developed the <i>Red de conservación de la biodiversidad en República Dominicana</i> (Biodiversity Conservation Network of the Dominican Republic), an online space where organizations can share information and resources and raise awareness about conservation issues in the country. • The IUCN Regional Caribbean Committee was legally registered and developed a 3-year strategic action plan. • The Dolphin Head Local Forest Management Committee (LFMC) built its capacity in project design and management, business management, and in strategic and action planning. The LFMC developed the Dolphin Head LFMC Action Plan (2015-2017) to carry out the objectives of the Dolphin Head Forestry Management Plan (2013-2017). The LFMC also has a template for a one-year operational plan. • 16 local civil society organizations working in KBAs in the Dominican Republic have built capacity in sustainable tourism for protected areas; sustainable financing for NGOs using online sources; and effectively engaging the private sector in supporting biodiversity conservation.
	<p>Number of local and regional initiatives supported to strengthen stakeholder involvement in biodiversity conservation</p>	<p>23 stakeholder partnerships and initiatives were created and/or strengthened:</p> <p><u>Dominican Republic</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support for a Dominican Republic electronic environmental community discussion forum. 2. Development of the <i>Red de conservación de la biodiversidad en República Dominicana</i> (Biodiversity Conservation Network of the Dominican Republic), an online space where organizations can share information and resources, as well as raise awareness about conservation issues in the country. 3. Creation of the multi-stakeholder conservation alliance, <i>Alianza para la Defensa de Bahoruco Oriental (ALDEBOR)</i>, made up of local stakeholders and the Environment Ministry. 4. Creation of a stakeholder alliance including local municipalities and five businesses as well as increased local community engagement for Sierra de Bahoruco. This included consolidation of the <i>Unidad de Gestión Ambiental Municipal (UGAM)</i>, the multi-stakeholder structure responsible for the execution of the management plan for Sierra de Bahoruco at the municipal level. 5. Strengthening of the stakeholder commission and monitoring committee for the conservation of Valle Nuevo enhancing participatory governance and management of the national park. 6. Strengthening of a local youth conservation network in Loma Quite Espuela scientific reserve. <p><u>Haiti</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Establishment of a steering committee named the Coordination Environnementale pour la Protection de la Baie de Caracol (CEProBaC), which has helped increase collaborative actions amongst local stakeholders within the Lagons du Nord-Est KBA. 8. Support for a local network of stakeholders for biodiversity conservation in Lac Azuei/Trou Caiman. 9. Support to local stakeholders including farmers' associations, community groups and schools in Foret des Pins, Massif de la Selle, to increase knowledge of the importance of biodiversity conservation through developing a curriculum in Kweyol.

		<p>10. Establishment of ten local committees within and around the Macaya National Park in the Massif de la Hotte KBA set up to raise awareness within local communities about the importance of the park's biodiversity and to serve as local contacts for conservation actions taking place.</p> <p>11. Strengthening of local community groups and young conservationists in Anse-à-Pitres, Massif de la Selle, Haiti, to organize and implement habitat surveillance, critically endangered endemic species monitoring and habitat restoration for the conservation of the critically endangered Ricord's Iguana.</p> <p><u>Jamaica</u></p> <p>12. Consortium of local, national, and international stakeholders established to ensure the sustainability of proposed port facility sited in Portland Bight, including building community and stakeholder capacity to participate in the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process in Jamaica and the preparation and dissemination of a report and policy brief on alternative options for the location of the proposed port.</p> <p>13. Arrangements developed for co-management of the Portland Bight Protected Area (PBPA) in Jamaica including establishment of the PBPA management committee.</p> <p>14. Creation of the Cockpit Communities for Conservation group which actively participates in conservation and management of the Catadupa KBA.</p> <p>15. Local NGOs formed the Access Initiative (TAI) National Coalition in Jamaica, completed an assessment of the status of access rights in the country and made recommendations to the Government. The TAI also supported and trained local communities on media outreach and advocacy campaigns and strategy, significantly improving their ability to advocate and shape public policy in relation to the target protected areas.</p> <p>16. Volunteers from neighbouring communities in the Portland Ridge and Bight KBA involved in a novel "conservation garden" initiative that serves as an ex-situ plant conservation nursery for the protected area.</p> <p><u>St. Vincent and the Grenadines</u></p> <p>17. Establishment of a multi-stakeholder co-management arrangement comprising local communities and relevant government departments to implement actions under the IWMP in the Cumberland Forest Reserve.</p> <p><u>The Bahamas</u></p> <p>18. A management planning team was established for the San Salvador National Parks system and management planning meetings with local communities, stakeholders and core team are held to ensure feedback is incorporated and to reach consensus on management objectives and activities.</p> <p><u>Regional</u></p> <p>19. Strengthening of CIASNET, a regional portal on invasive alien species.</p> <p>20. Conservationists in Hispaniola integrated into the network Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation. In addition, bi-national collaboration strengthened between Haiti and the Dominican Republic.</p> <p>21. Creation of a new regional network <i>Nature Caribé</i> bringing together nine key environmental NGOs throughout the hotspot.</p>
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<p>Outcome 4. A Regional Implementation Team provides strategic leadership and effectively coordinates CEPF investment in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot.</p>	<p>Regional Implementation Team performance in fulfilling the approved Terms of Reference.</p>	<p>The RIT fulfilled performance targets under its Terms of Reference including through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • establishing a Regional Advisory Committee comprising 17 experts who provided an independent, technical review of proposals in order to increase transparency and accountability in the review process. • issuing seven calls for proposals and receiving a total of 241 applications. • providing support to 68 CSOs in the areas of project design, proposal development, monitoring and evaluation, reporting, communication and networking. • managing and administering 29 grants under the CEPF small grants mechanism. • monitoring a total of 77 grants (small and large grants) implemented in eight islands. • promoting the CEPF as a funding mechanism and sharing information about the approaches and results of CEPF Caribbean projects through the quarterly CEPF Caribbean e-newsletter, <i>Capacité</i>, CANARI's Facebook page and website, and direct email and conservation listservs. • facilitating a participatory mid-term evaluation of the CEPF Caribbean Islands programme in 2013 and supporting the final evaluation in 2015.
	<p>Number of groups receiving grants that achieve a satisfactory score on final performance scorecard.</p>	<p>22 civil society partners established baselines of their institutional capacity using the CEPF Civil Society Tracking Tool. 10 partners submitted final progress assessments. Out of these 10 partners, eight showed improvements attributable to their CEPF project.</p>
<p>Outcome 5. Emergency support provided to Haitian civil society to mitigate the impacts of the 2010 earthquake.</p>	<p># of actions taken to prevent destruction of forests in Massif de la Selle and Massif de la Hotte.</p>	<p>A strategy for post-earthquake intervention (by civil society organizations) in the Massif de la Hotte and Massif de la Selle KBAs was developed. Dissemination efforts included presenting a 25-point environmental action plan to Haiti's president to include environmental considerations into development efforts. An effort to identify priority KBAs in Haiti was conducted and information disseminated for development and conservation planning.</p>
	<p>Environmental Network Resource Centre established.</p>	<p>The Rézo-Ekolo network of environmental civil society organizations grew nationally in stature, having received legal recognition, and having developed a strategic plan incorporating conservation, post-earthquake reconstruction and sustainable development in Haiti.</p>
	<p># of reconstruction and development policies and plans that incorporate environmental concerns.</p>	<p>CEPF contributions to support the reconstruction of Haiti and strengthening of environmental concerns were achieved through projects were awarded in CEPF's other strategic directions.</p>

Annex 2. List of Contracted Grants

No.	Grantee	Project Title and Link to CEPF Website	Countries	Amount	Start Date	End Date
Strategic Direction 1: Improve Protection and Management of 45 Priority KBAs						
1	Arche aux Plantes	<u>Rescuing Eckmanni Junipers and Conservating Plant Species in the Context of Updating the Management Plan for the Pine Forest in Massif de la Selle, Haiti</u>	Haiti	\$135,140	9/1/2013	9/30/2015
2	Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation	<u>Management Planning in the Hellshire Hills and Portland Ridge and Bight Key Biodiversity Areas of Jamaica</u>	Jamaica	\$97,462	3/1/2012	9/30/2013
3	Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation	<u>Implementing the Hellshire Hills and Portland Ridge Sub-Areas Management Plans</u>	Jamaica	\$261,240	4/1/2014	10/31/2015
4	Caribbean Wildlife Alliance	<u>Floristic Survey of the Hellshire Hills, Manatee Bay, and Goat Islands, Jamaica: A Contribution to Improved Protection and Management of the Jamaican Iguana</u>	Jamaica	\$17,973	2/1/2012	2/28/2013
5	Clarendon Parish Development Committee Benevolent Society	<u>Promoting Conservation of Peckham Woods Key Biodiversity Area</u>	Jamaica	\$60,693	4/1/2014	10/31/2015
6	Conservation International	<u>Assessing the Potential for Conservation Agreements to Contribute to Community-Based Conservation and Socioeconomic Development in the Caribbean Islands</u>	Dominican Republic; Haiti; Jamaica	\$64,542	10/1/2012	1/31/2014
7	Consortio Ambiental Dominicano	<u>Sustainable Financing and Establishment of Private Reserves for Biodiversity Conservation in Loma Quita Espuela and Loma Guaconejo, Dominican Republic</u>	Dominican Republic	\$212,148	1/1/2012	12/31/2014
8	Consortio Ambiental Dominicano (CAD)	<u>Assessing the Feasibility of Sustainable Financing Mechanisms in Bahoruco Orntiental</u>	Dominican Republic	\$19,720	3/1/2012	3/31/2013

9	Environmental Awareness Group Inc. (EAG)	<u>Offshore Islands Conservation Programme: Maintaining Ret-Free Islands for the Benefit of Antigua's Biodiversity and People</u>	Antigua and Barbuda	\$117,160	7/1/2012	8/31/2014
10	Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ)	<u>Development of a Funding Landscape and Feasibility Action Plan for the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica</u>	Jamaica	\$18,252	5/1/2013	12/31/2013
11	Fauna & Flora International	<u>Islands without Aliens: Building Regional Civil Capacity to Eradicate Alien Invasive Species</u>	Antigua and Barbuda; Saint Lucia	\$116,716	7/1/2012	6/30/2014
12	Fondation Macaya pour le Développement Local	<u>Alternatives for Sustainable Socio-Ecological Conservation in the Macaya Key Biodiversity Area, Massif de la Hotte, Haiti</u>	Haiti	\$87,488	3/1/2013	6/30/2015
13	Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversité Marine	<u>Caracol Coastal and Marine Management Initiative</u>	Haiti	\$142,670	1/1/2013	9/30/2014
14	Fondo Pronaturaleza Inc.	<u>Management Planning and Threats Reduction form Agricultural Encroachment for La Humeadora and Valle Nuevo National Parks in the Dominican Republic</u>	Dominican Republic	\$144,610	5/1/2012	3/31/2014
15	Fondo Pronaturaleza Inc.	<u>Participatory Implementation of the La Humeadora Mountain National Park Management Plan in the Dominican Republic</u>	Dominican Republic	\$102,974	9/1/2013	12/31/2014
16	Fondo Pronaturaleza Inc.	<u>Management Plan Implementation for Participatory Management and Biodiversity Conservation in Valle Nuevo National Park</u>	Dominican Republic	\$146,124	6/1/2014	10/31/2015
17	Fundación José Delio Guzmán Inc.	<u>Strengthening Management and Promoting Ecotourism in Valle Nuevo National Park</u>	Dominican Republic	\$83,187	6/1/2014	10/31/2015
18	Grenada Dove Conservation Programme	<u>Strengthening the Legal Protection of Mt. Hartman National Park Key Biodiversity Area and Beausejour/Grenville Vale Key Biodiversity Area in Grenada</u>	Grenada	\$103,884	11/1/2012	6/30/2014
19	Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral, Inc.	<u>Improving Management and Promoting Ecotourism in the Bahoruco Oriental Wildlife Refuge in the Dominican Republic</u>	Dominican Republic	\$111,706	3/1/2014	9/30/2015

20	Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral, Inc.	<u>Management Planning and Stakeholder Alliance Building for Sustainable Conservation in the Bahoruco East Key Biodiversity Area</u>	Dominican Republic	\$69,669	1/1/2012	7/31/2013
21	Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo	<u>Promoting a Payments for Environmental Services Scheme through the Economic Valuation of Water Resources in the Quita Espuela and Guaconejo Science Reserves, Dominican Republic</u>	Dominican Republic	\$59,101	3/1/2012	3/31/2014
22	Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo	<u>Establishing Mechanisms for the Sustainable Financing of Biodiversity Conservation and Watershed Management in Montaña La Humeadora National Park</u>	Dominican Republic	\$51,945	6/1/2014	9/30/2015
23	Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo	<u>Informing Biodiversity Conservation Actions in Lake Enriquillo: Demonstrating the Recovery of Critically Endangered Species by the Removal of Invasive Alien Species</u>	Dominican Republic	\$6,464	3/1/2012	12/31/2014
24	Island Conservation	<u>Feasibility Analysis, Operational Planning and Capacity Building to Eradicate Invasive Alien Species and to Expand Protection in the Bahamas and Dominican Republic</u>	Bahamas; Dominican Republic	\$163,264	6/1/2013	8/31/2015
25	Organisation des Paysans pour le Développement de l'Unité II de la Forêt des Pins, Mare Rouge.	<u>Measures to Support the Zoning Plan in Unit II of the Forest Reserve in "La Foret des Pins"</u>	Haiti	\$175,845	12/1/2011	9/30/2015
26	Pennsylvania State University	<u>Ecosystem Threat Assessment and Protected Area Strategy for the Massif de la Hotte Key Biodiversity Area, Haiti, Phase 1</u>	Haiti	\$94,932	6/1/2013	5/31/2014
27	Sociedad Ornitológica de la Hispaniola Inc	<u>Ensuring the Conservation of Biodiversity in Sierra De Bahoruco National Park Through Strategic and Participatory Management Plan Actions</u>	Dominican Republic; Haiti	\$244,000	5/1/2013	10/31/2015
28	Société Audubon Haiti	<u>Protected Area Strategy an Ecosystem Sustainability in the Key Biodiversity Area of Massif de la Hotte, Haiti</u>	Haiti	\$197,863	6/1/2013	9/30/2015

29	Temple University - Of the Commonwealth System of Higher Education	<u>Ecosystem Threat Assessment and Protected Area Strategy for the Massif de la Hotte Key Biodiversity Area, Phase 2</u>	Haiti	\$103,135	11/1/2014	11/30/2015
30	The Bahamas National Trust	<u>San Salvador Island: Designation of Key Biodiversity Areas, Graham's Harbour and Great Lakes, as National Parks in the Bahamas</u>	Bahamas	\$62,380	1/1/2013	4/30/2015
31	The Nature Conservancy	<u>A Campaign to Promote Private Sector Sustainable Finance Mechanisms to Support Jamaica's Protected Areas System</u>	Jamaica	\$40,590	4/1/2013	4/30/2015
32	The Zoological Society of Philadelphia	<u>Building Local Management Capacity and Conservation Plans to Save Endangered Frogs in Four High Priority Key Biodiversity Areas in Hispaniola</u>	Dominican Republic; Haiti	\$145,293	9/1/2012	10/31/2015
33	Windsor Research Centre Limited	<u>An Action Plan to Save Threatened Biodiversity in Catadupa</u>	Jamaica	\$210,619	5/1/2013	10/31/2015
Strategic Direction 2: Integrating Biodiversity Conservation into Landscape and Development Planning, and Implementation in Six Conservation Corridors						
34	Centro para el Desarrollo Agropecuario y forestal, Inc. (CEDAF)	<u>Reduction of Biodiversity Loss Through the Identification of Sustainable Revenue Generating Models in Communities Surrounding Los Haitises National Park, Dominican Republic</u>	Haiti	\$18,446	5/1/2013	6/30/2014
35	Collectif Developpement (CODE)	<u>Biodiversity Conservation and Protection Project: Massif de la Hotte Key Biodiversity Area, Soucède, South of Parc Macaya</u>	Haiti	\$17,963	3/1/2013	11/30/2013
36	Diamond Village Community Heritage Organisation	<u>Ecotourism and Biodiversity Protection Project for the Kamacroubou Mountain and Diamond Village Community</u>	Jamaica	\$20,000	7/1/2012	3/31/2013
37	Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversité Marine	<u>Protecting Biodiversity by Promoting Nature-Based Tourism and Sustainable Livelihoods in the Massif-Plaine du Nord Conservation Corridor</u>	Haiti	\$83,308	5/1/2012	4/30/2013

38	Grenada Dove Conservation Programme	<u>Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystem Services Action for Climate Change Adaptation in Grenada's Priority Dry Forest Key Biodiversity Areas</u>	Grenada	\$101,890	4/1/2014	10/31/2015
39	Grupo Jaragua	<u>Agroforestry Model for Biodiversity in Neighboring Communities of the Jaragua and Bahoruco National Parks, Dominican Republic</u>	Dominican Republic	\$19,935	6/1/2012	6/30/2013
40	Grupo Jaragua (GJ)	<u>Integrating Communities in the Bi-National Corridor of the Biosphere Reserve of Jaragua-Bahoruco-Enriquillo/Massif de la Selle Between the Dominican Republic and Haiti</u>	Dominican Republic	\$19,924	4/1/2014	7/31/2015
41	Humboldt State University Sponsored Programs Foundation (HSU)	<u>Mainstreaming Ecosystem Service Values into Agricultural Practices: The Value of Native Shade Trees and Forest to Coffee Farms in Central and Western Jamaica</u>	Jamaica	\$19,006	4/1/2013	12/31/2013
42	International Iguana Foundation	<u>Supporting a Local Community in Creating a Municipal Wildlife Habitat for the Conservation of Ricord's Iguanas in Anse-a-Pitres, Massif de la Selle Conservation Corridor, Haiti</u>	Haiti	\$116,475	1/1/2012	9/30/2015
43	Jamaica Environment Trust (JET)	<u>Building Support for the Portland Bight Protected Area in Jamaica</u>	Jamaica	\$19,708	10/1/2013	3/31/2014
44	National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority	<u>Integrated Watershed Management Planning and Forest Reserve Protection in the Central Mountain Range Conservation Corridor of St. Vincent</u>	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	\$76,923	6/1/2013	9/30/2014
45	Organisation des Groupements pour l'Avenir de Rossignol	<u>Forest Restoration Project for Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resources in Rossignol, Parc Macaya, Massif de la Hotte</u>	Haiti	\$20,000	10/1/2012	6/30/2013

46	Sociedad Ornitológica de la Hispaniola Inc	<u>Developing and implementing a Participatory Nature Tourism Strategy for Nalga de Maco National Park Key Biodiversity Area</u>	Dominican Republic	\$150,211	7/1/2012	10/31/2015
47	Sociedad Ornitológica de la Hispaniola Inc. (SOH)	<u>Shaping an Empowering Local Alliances for the Conservation of the Sierra de Bahoruco National Park and the Loma Charco Azul Biological Reserve Through Training of Environmental Champions</u>	Dominican Republic	\$19,999	2/1/2014	6/30/2015
48	Societe Audubon Haiti	<u>Building Local Management Capacity to Save Endangered Frogs in Massif de La Selle/Forêt des Pins, Haiti</u>	Haiti	\$6,027	11/1/2013	11/30/2013
49	Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds	<u>Building a Framework for Sustainable Tourism in Key Biodiversity Areas in the Dominican Republic and Jamaica: The Caribbean Birding Trail</u>	Dominican Republic; Jamaica	\$62,750	4/1/2012	4/30/2013
50	Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds	<u>Building Capacity for Sustainable Tourism and Livelihoods for the Long-Term Conservation and Management of Key Biodiversity Areas in Grenada</u>	Grenada	\$20,000	10/1/2012	9/30/2013
51	VSF-CICDA/ AVSF(Agronomes et Vétérinaires Sans Frontières)	<u>Forest Diversified Restoration in Fonds-Melon Reiver Basin</u>	Haiti	\$261,092	7/1/2012	2/28/2015
52	Windsor Research Centre Limited (WRC)	<u>Integrating Northern Cockpit Country Communities into Policy Making for Climate Change Mitigation</u>	Jamaica	\$0.00	3/1/2013	6/30/2014
53	World Resources Institute	<u>Building the Capacity of Civil Society to Shape Public Policy Reform in the Caribbean to Protect Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</u>	Dominican Republic; Haiti; Jamaica	\$254,843	6/1/2013	9/30/2015

Strategic Direction 3: Civil Society Support to Achieve Biodiversity Conservation

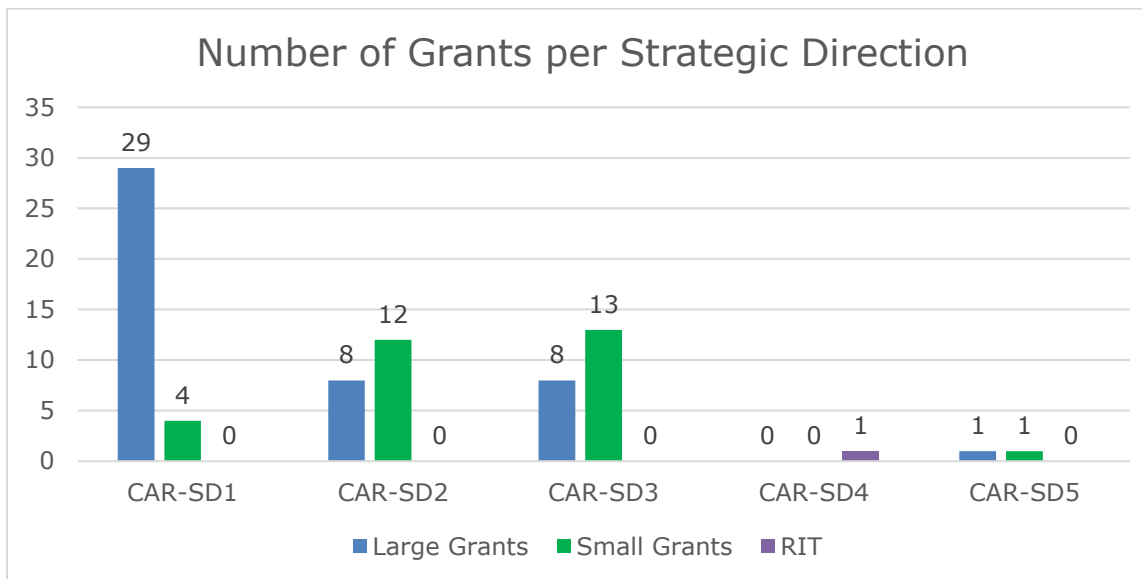
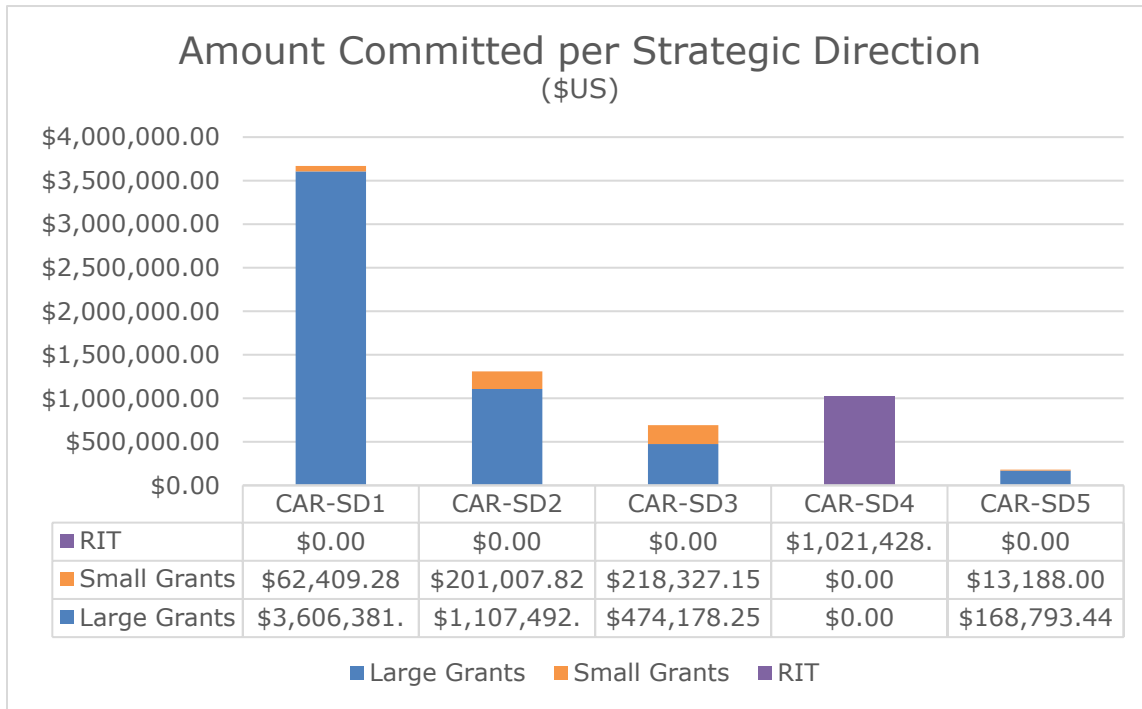
54	Fondation Nouvelle Grand'Anse	<u>Environmental Education for Community Participation in Conservation of Macaya, Massif de la Hotte Key Biodiversity Area</u>	Haiti	\$45,181	1/1/2013	11/30/2013
55	Rainforest Alliance, Inc.	<u>Connecting Conservationists in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot</u>	Antigua and Barbuda; Bahamas; Barbados; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Grenada; Haiti; Jamaica; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	\$116,938	4/1/2012	4/30/2016
56	The Caribsave Partnership	<u>Strengthening Institutional Capacity of the Local Forest Management Committee Management Plan Implementation in the Dolphin Head Key Biodiversity Area</u>	Jamaica	\$45,000	7/1/2014	9/30/2015
57	The Panos Institute	<u>Strengthening the Engagement of Caribbean Civil Society in Biodiversity Conservation through Local and Regional Networking and Effective Sharing of Learning and Best Practices</u>	Antigua and Barbuda; Bahamas; Barbados; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Grenada; Haiti; Jamaica; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	\$130,026	7/1/2012	10/31/2014
58	Auckland Uniservices Ltd.	<u>Developing an Internet-Based Networking Portal for Invasive Species Practitioners in the Caribbean</u>	Antigua and Barbuda; Bahamas; Barbados; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Grenada; Haiti; Jamaica; New Zealand; Saint Kitts and Nevis; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	\$29,774	5/1/2013	12/31/2013

59	CAB International	<u>Regional Networking and Strategy Development for Invasive Alien Species in CEPF Priority Key Biodiversity Areas</u>	Antigua and Barbuda; Bahamas; Dominican Republic; Jamaica; Saint Lucia	\$25,662	5/1/2013	4/30/2015
60	Kiunzi SRL	<u>Final Assessment of the CEPF Caribbean Islands Programme in the Dominican Republic</u>	Dominican Republic	\$24,185	7/1/2015	1/31/2016
61	Reseau d'Enseignement Professionnel et d'Interventions Ecologiques (REPIE)	<u>Supporting the Community in Foret des Pins, Haiti to Preserve Biodiversity by Strengthening the Capacity of Schools in Collaboration with Farmer's Associations and Other Community Groups</u>	Haiti	\$19,990	2/1/2012	9/15/2012
62	Organisation pour la Rehabilitation de l'Environnement (ORE)	<u>Stakeholder Consultation and Strategic Planning for Coordinated Biodiversity Conservation Action in Parc Macaya, Massif de la Hotte</u>	Haiti	\$7,302	3/1/2012	4/30/2012
63	Fundación Loma Quita Espuela (FLQE)	<u>Youth Network of the Loma Quita Espuela Scientific Reserve: Strengthening the Capacity of Civil Society Organizations and Youth Groups for Biodiversity Conservation</u>	Dominican Republic	\$19,890	6/1/2012	11/30/2012
64	Fondation pour la Protection de la Biodiversite Marine	<u>Stakeholder Networking for Biodiversity Conservation in the Lac Azuei/Trou Caiman Key Biodiversity Area of Haiti</u>	Haiti	\$19,361	11/1/2012	10/31/2013
65	Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust (JCDDT)	<u>Biodiversity Conservation Capacity Needs and Opportunities Assessment in the Caribbean Islands</u>	Jamaica	\$14,408	11/1/2012	6/30/2013
66	Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ)	<u>Building the Capacity of the International Union for Conservation of Nature Caribbean Regional Committee to Improve Protected Area Governance and Policy in the Caribbean</u>	Jamaica	\$13,988	4/1/2013	3/31/2014
67	Sociedad Para el Desarrollo Integral del Nordeste, Inc. (SODIN)	<u>Biodiversity Conservation in Loma Guaconejo Scientific Reserve Through Active Community Integration</u>	Dominican Republic	\$19,800	5/1/2013	9/30/2014

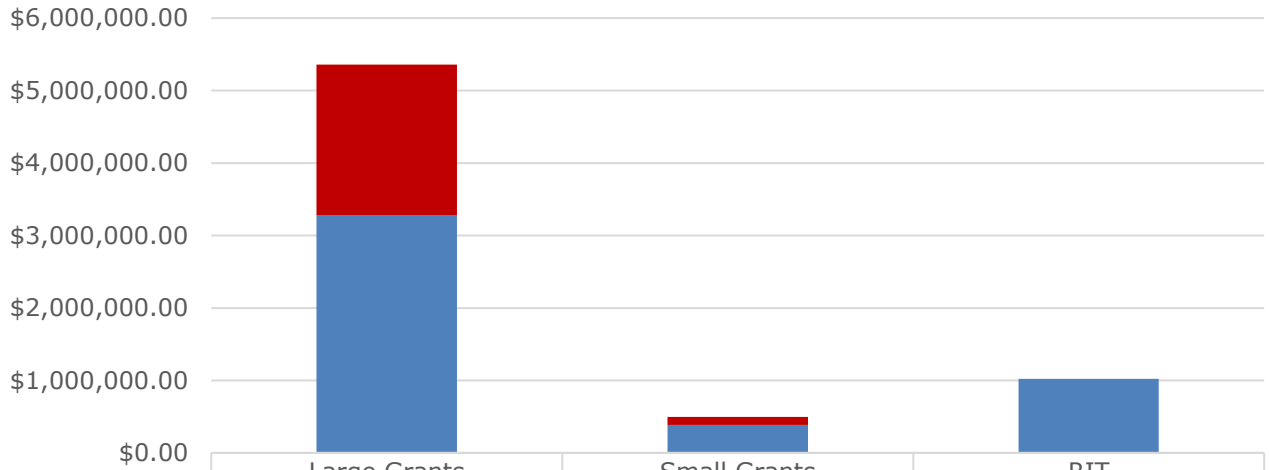
68	International Iguana Foundation (IIF)	<u>Assessing the Status of Rock Iguanas (Cyclura ssp.) and Integrating Community Outreach and Education in Massif la Hotte and Massif la Selle Conservation Corridors, Haiti</u>	Haiti	\$19,990	6/1/2014	7/31/2015
69	Consejo Interinstitucional para el Desarrollo de Constanza, Inc. (CIDC)	<u>Strengthening the Monitoring Committee for the Management Plan of the Valle Nuevo National Park as a Participatory Management Structure for its Implementation in the Communities of El Castillo, Montellano and Pinar Parejo</u>	Dominican Republic	\$19,872	6/1/2014	7/31/2015
70	Conservation Trust of Puerto Rico	<u>Strengthening Partnerships to Achieve Conservation of Critical Ecosystems in the Caribbean's Key Biodiversity Areas</u>	Antigua and Barbuda; Bahamas; Barbados; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Grenada; Haiti; Jamaica; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	\$19,100	7/1/2014	6/30/2015
71	Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral, Inc. (IDDI)	<u>Technical Assistance for Sustainable Financing to Nongovernmental Organizations Working in Biodiversity Conservation in the Dominican Republic</u>	Dominican Republic	\$19,962	3/1/2014	4/30/2015
72	Kiunzi – Gestión de proyectos de comunicación (KIUNZI)	<u>Strengthening the Communication and Networking Skills of Organizations Working for the Conservation of Key Biodiversity Areas in the Dominican Republic</u>	Dominican Republic	\$19,940	3/1/2014	12/31/2014
73	Dispute Resolution Foundation (DRF)	<u>Registration of Accompong Maroons as a Legal Entity to Undertake Conservation Initiatives and Actions to Protect a Key Biodiversity Area - The Cockpit Country in Jamaica</u>	Jamaica	\$4,724	12/1/2013	5/31/2014

74	The Caribsave Partnership	Final Assessment of the CEPF Caribbean Islands Programme in Haiti and Jamaica	Antigua and Barbuda; Bahamas; Grenada; Haiti, Jamaica; Saint Lucia; St Vincent and the Grenadines	\$49,528	7/1/2015	12/31/2015
Strategic Direction 4: RIT						
75	Caribbean Natural Resources Institute	<u>CEPF Regional Implementation Team in the Caribbean Islands</u>	Antigua and Barbuda; Bahamas; Dominican Republic; Grenada; Haiti; Jamaica; Saint Lucia; St Vincent and the Grenadines	\$1,021,428	10/1/2010	7/31/2016
Strategic Direction 5: Emergency Support to Haitian Civil Society after 2010 Earthquake						
76	BirdLife International	<u>Stakeholder Consultation and Planning for Post-Earthquake Environmental Support for the Haitian NGO Sector</u>	Haiti	\$13,188	6/1/2010	7/31/2010
77	BirdLife International	<u>Post-Earthquake Environmental Support for the Haitian NGO Sector</u>	Haiti	\$168,793	10/1/2010	4/30/2012

Annex 3. CEPF Investment in the Hotspot



Commitments: Local vs. International Organizations (\$US)



	Large Grants	Small Grants	RIT
■ International	\$2,074,965.83	\$109,257.28	\$0.00
■ Local	\$3,281,879.07	\$385,674.97	\$1,021,428.00