CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND

# Final Assessment

## CEPF Investment in the East Melanesian Islands Biodiversity Hotspot

## July 2013 – April 2022

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# 1. Introduction

This report assesses achievement of the goals established in the East Melanesian Islands Biodiversity Hotspot (EMI) Ecosystem Profile and summarizes lessons from the grant portfolio over the period of July 2013 to April 2022. The findings are drawn from the experience, project reports, and deliverables generated by civil society groups implementing CEPF grants. This report builds upon previous Annual Portfolio Overviews, the Mid-Term Assessment of 2018, and a series of online and in-person workshops in early 2022.

The East Melanesian Islands (Figure 1) comprise some 1,600 islands to the northeast and east of the island of New Guinea, encompassing a land area of nearly 100,000 square kilometers. Politically, the region includes Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands and the island region of Papua New Guinea (PNG). This is one of the most geographically complex areas on Earth, with a diverse range of islands of varying age and development. Isolation and adaptive radiation have led to high levels of endemism. Because most of the islands have never been in land contact with New Guinea, their fauna and flora are a mix of recent long-distance immigrants and indigenous lineages derived from ancient Pacific-Gondwanaland species.

The high levels of endemism coupled with accelerating rates of habitat loss qualify the East Melanesian Islands as a biodiversity hotspot. Chief threats to biodiversity include widespread commercial logging and mining, expansion of subsistence and plantation agriculture, impacts of invasive species, human population increase, and impacts of climate change.

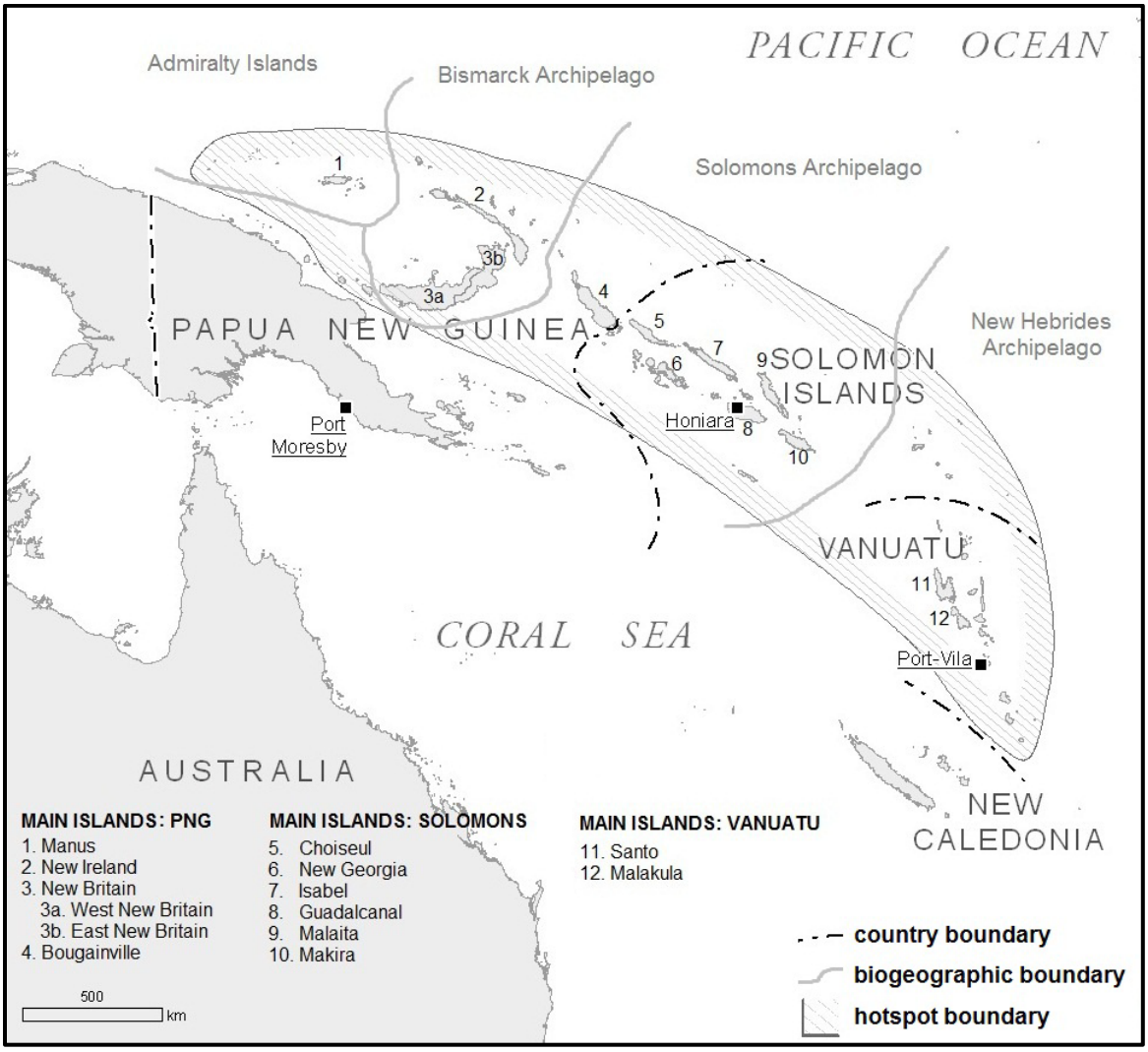
Natural habitats in the East Melanesian Islands include coral reefs, mangrove forests, freshwater swamp forests, lowland rainforests, seasonally dry forests, and grasslands and montane rainforests. In many places, natural habitats extend from mountain ridge to reef, although fragmented by agricultural conversion and logging in many places. These "ridge-to-reef" ecosystems are important for their resilience to climate change and because they deliver a range of ecosystem services to human communities.

As well as being exceedingly rich in biodiversity, the hotspot also holds exceptional cultural and linguistic diversity. Many languages in the region are spoken by only a few hundred people and are disappearing quickly, leading to erosion of traditional knowledge and practice. This is significant in a region where most land and resources are under customary ownership and local people are the true stewards of biodiversity.

The challenge for CEPF in the region was, as an international donor fund with significant requirements for the recipients of grants, to engage national and local non-government organizations (NGOs) with relatively low capacity (this was only exacerbated by the global pandemic that began in March 2020). CEPF and its regional implementation team (RIT) worked to bridge that gap while also generating biogeographic and socioeconomic impacts.

CEPF grant-making in the region formally began in July 2013 and continued through the conclusion of the final large grants in April 2022.

**Figure 1. Map of the East Melanesian Islands Hotspot**




## 2. CEPF Niche and Strategy for Investment

For roughly a year, starting in July 2011, the University of the South Pacific, the University of PNG, and Conservation International's Pacific Islands Program led the ecosystem profiling process. This expert team consulted more than 150 stakeholders from civil society, government, and donor organizations to gather and synthesize data on biodiversity, socioeconomic context, institutional context, climate change, ecosystem services, and ongoing and planned conservation investments in the hotspot countries. The team identified 95 KBAs and four corridors (also called "islandscapes" in the ecosystem profile), which include representative elements of the hotspot's estimated 3,000 endemic plant species, 81 endemic mammal species, 288 endemic bird species, and 49 endemic amphibian species. Of these species, 308 were listed as globally threatened at the time of the profiling.

To match the level of funding available from CEPF with a concomitant geographic scope, CEPF and the consulted stakeholders prioritized 20 KBAs (covering a total area of 1,549,009 hectares) and 48 species. KBA prioritization was based on number of globally

threatened species, provision of ecosystem services to human communities, urgency for conservation action, and need for additional donor investment. Species prioritization was based on threat status, hotspot population in relation to global population, need for conservation action, urgency of action, and need for additional donor investment.

**Table 1. Strategic Directions, Investment Priorities and Funding Allocation per Ecosystem Profile**

| Strategic Direction | Investment Priority | Funding |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Empower local communities to protect and manage globally significant biodiversity at priority Key Biodiversity Areas under-served by current conservation efforts. | 1.1. Conduct baseline surveys of priority sites that build government-civil society partnerships and bridge political boundaries | $3,200,000 |
| | 1.2. Raise awareness about the values of biodiversity and the nature of threats and drivers among local communities at priority sites | |
| | 1.3. Support local communities to design and implement locally relevant conservation actions that respond to major threats at priority sites | |
| | 1.4. Demonstrate conservation incentives (ecotourism, payments for ecosystem services, conservation agreements, etc.) at priority sites | |
| 2. Integrate biodiversity conservation into local land-use and development planning. | 2.1. Conduct participatory ownership and tenure mapping of resources within customary lands at priority sites | $1,000,000 |
| | 2.2. Provide legal training and support for landowners affected by incompatible development projects, to support community enforcement of environmental protection regulations | |
| | 2.3. Explore partnerships with private companies to promote sustainable development through better environmental and social practices in key natural resource sectors | |
| 3. Safeguard priority globally threatened species by addressing major threats and information gaps. | 3.1. Conduct research on six globally threatened species for which there is a need for greatly improved information on their status and distribution | $1,200,000 |
| | 3.2. Develop, implement and monitor species recovery plans for species most at risk, where their status and distribution are known | |
| | 3.3. Introduce science-based harvest management of priority species important to local food security | |
| 4. Increase local, national, and regional capacity to conserve biodiversity through catalyzing civil society partnerships. | 4.1. Strengthen the capacity of local and national civil society organizations in financial management, project management and organizational governance | $2,100,000 |
| | 4.2. Provide core support for the development of civil society organizations into national and regional conservation leaders | |
| | 4.3. Strengthen civil society capacity in conservation management, science and leadership, through short-term training courses at domestic academic institutions | |
| 5. Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of conservation investment through a regional implementation team. | 5.1. Operationalize and coordinate CEPF's grant-making processes and procedures to ensure effective implementation of the investment strategy throughout the hotspot | $1,500,000 |
| | 5.2. Build a broad constituency of civil society groups working across institutional and political boundaries towards achieving the shared conservation goals described in the ecosystem profile | |
| | **Total** | **$9,000,000** |

The ecosystem profile defined CEPF's niche as *contributing to the conservation of priority species and sites, filling gaps in investment, addressing threats, focusing where civil society could make the most effective contribution, and delivering human well-being benefits*. This was expressed via five strategic directions, which each had an initial allocation of funding (Table 1).

Compared to other hotspots, the region was unusual in having an eight-year, as opposed to five-year, investment period from the start. The ecosystem profile was explicit in highlighting the need to build trust and capacity among partners and to identify and secure funding. It highlighted the need to support local and national civil society through partnerships, networks, and mentoring. Thus, the CEPF Donor Council formally approved the ecosystem profile in December 2012, with the original investment period concurrent with the engagement of the RIT. The Donor Council selected the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as the RIT for an initial engagement of July 2013 through July 2021 (i.e., 97 months).

# 3. Regional Implementation Team

## 3.1. RIT Structure

The RIT had a complex contractual structure. At the time of the RIT competition and award in 2013, the standard operating procedure for CEPF was to split RIT grants between administrative and programmatic components. IUCN, via its Oceania Regional Office in Suva, Fiji, submitted the highest ranked proposals for the two components. This led to separate awards, for administration and programs, for US$900,000 and US$600,000, respectively.

Over the investment period, CEPF moved away from the bifurcated structure of the RIT agreement. To simplify matters, CEPF closed the RIT-administration agreement early, in December 2019, de-obligated unused funds from that agreement, and added those funds to the RIT-program agreement. The ultimate value of the two agreements, combined, at the close of the investment phase, was US$1,477,441. Further, due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, the RIT performance period was extended to March 2022, for a total grant duration of 105 months.

The terms of reference are ambitious for any RIT, including for IUCN in the EMI Hotspot, with perhaps the main challenge being that presented by a multi-country island hotspot. The RIT was based at IUCN's Oceania headquarters in Fiji, which is not one of the hotspot countries but well located due to its air links to the three countries (plus Australia and New Zealand). Fiji is also the regional home to several international NGOs and donors. As would reasonably be expected, there were changes to staff over almost nine years, but the core of the RIT (the Team Leader and the Senior Finance Officer) remained the same for the life of the investment phase.

**Table 2. RIT Staffing, April 2020 – March 2022**

| Position | Name | Location |
|---|---|---|
| Team Leader | Helen Pippard | Suva, Fiji |
| Finance Officer | Anjani Gosai | Suva, Fiji |
| Papua New Guinea Country Coordinator | Zola Sangga | Port Moresby, PNG |
| Solomon Country Coordinator | Ravin Dhari | Honiara, Solomon Islands |
| Vanuatu Country Coordinator | Vatumaraga Molisa | Port Vila, Vanuatu |

There was staff turnover in the country coordinator position, partially because there were sufficient funds for only part-time engagement of these people and partially because IUCN could employ people only as consultants, instead of as staff, in PNG, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. Table 2 presents the staffing for the final two years of the phase. Prior to 2020, the RIT included a full-time administrative lead (Luisa Tagicakibau), different personnel in the country coordinator positions, and senior oversight from Suva (Alan Saunders).

## 3.2. Technical Advisory Groups

The RIT established a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) in each of the three hotspot countries. The TAGs included persons appointed in their individual capacity from government agencies, local and international civil society organizations, academia, technical assistance agencies (Table 3). The main purpose of each TAG was to participate in the review of letters of inquiry (LOIs) and proposals from potential grantees, considering these in relation to portfolio progress to date.

**Table 3. Technical Advisory Group Members**

| Name of expert | Type | Organization |
|---|---|---|
| **Papua New Guinea** | | |
| Kay Kalim | Government | Sustainable Environment Programs, Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) |
| Bernard Suruman | Government | Marine Division, CEPA |
| Chalapan Kaluwin | University | University of PNG |
| Gae Gowae | University | University of PNG |
| Job Opu | University | University of Natural Resources & Environment |
| Tamalis Akus | Donor | UNDP GEF SGP Focal Point |
| Ted Mamu | Donor | Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) |
| Barbara Masike | NGO | The Nature Conservancy |
| **Solomon Islands** | | |
| Agnetha Vavekaramui | Government | Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) |
| Josef Hurutarau | Government | Protected Areas Advisory Committee, MECDM |
| Myknee Sirikolo | Government | National Herbarium |
| Patrick Pikacha | University | University of Queensland |
| Kristina Fidali | NGO | Arnavon Community Marine Park |
| Senoveva Mauli | NGO | Solomon Islands Environmental Law Association |
| David Boseto | NGO | Ecological Solutions Solomon Islands (ESSI) |
| Lysa Wini | Independent | Environmental law and governance expert |
| Josiah Maesua | Donor | UNDP GEF SGP Focal Point |
| **Vanuatu** | | |
| Donna Kalfatak | Government | Department of Environmental Protection & Conservation (DEPC) |
| Hannington Tate | Government | Department of Forestry |
| Jayven Ham | Government | Vanuatu Fisheries Department |
| Leisande Otto | Donor | World Bank |
| Chris Bartlett | Donor | German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) |
| Leah Nimoho | Donor | UNDP GEF SGP Focal Point |
| Lai Sakita | NGO | Vanuatu Environment Advocacy Network |
| **Regional expertise** | | |
| Marika Tuiwawa | University | South Pacific Herbarium, University of the South Pacific, Fiji |
| Nicholas Barnes | Independent | Legal expert, Fiji |
| Suliana Siwatibau | Independent | Gender and civil society expert, Fiji |

## 3.3. RIT and Secretariat Grant Management

CEPF awards two types of grants to civil society organizations. So-called "large grants" are contracted by Conservation International, on behalf of the CEPF donor partnership. Small grants are awarded, indirectly, by the RIT. For large grants, CEPF formally received LOIs, and then invited proposals, via its Grants Enterprise Management (GEM) system, from 2013 to 2016, and then via its ConservationGrants system beginning in 2017. The RIT managed solicitations and reporting on small grants using offline systems out of its offices in Suva.

There were three CEPF Grant Directors over the life of the portfolio: Jack Tordoff, during the ecosystem profiling process and from 2013 to 2014; Michele Zador, from mid-2014 through to March 2020; and Dan Rothberg, from April 2020 through to the close of the investment. There were nine CEPF Grants Managers over the life of the program. While perhaps not practical, the portfolio may have benefited from greater continuity of CEPF Secretariat staff over the life of the investment phase.

As shown in Annex 1, at any given moment, the RIT and the CEPF Secretariat were managing multiple active small and large grants. This peaked at 34 active grants during July-September 2016 and, again, in June 2021.

# 4. Impact Summary

The annexes to this report include a summary of impacts in relation to the targets in the portfolio logical framework from the ecosystem profile (Annex 2), CEPF's global indicators (Annex 3), and the Aichi targets of the Convention on Biodiversity (Annex 4). The summaries below reflect each of those indicators in ways of interest to varying stakeholders.

**Biodiversity Conservation**

- Number of KBAs with strengthened management: 20
- Hectares of KBAs with strengthened management: 1,262,615
- Hectares of production landscape under improved management: 162,880
- Number of new protected areas formally declared/expanded: 22
- Hectares of new protected area: 59,385
- Number of globally threatened species benefiting from study and action: 54
- Number of globally threatened species benefiting from species recovery plans: 6

**Strengthening Civil Society**

- Number of organizations directly receiving CEPF funds: 66
- Of those, the number that are based in the region (local/national grantees): 41
- Additional local groups engaged as sub-grantees or major partners: 88
- Percent of grant funding received by organizations based in the region (local/national grantees), not including the RIT: 43
- Number of organizations with an increase of 6 percent or more on Civil Society Tracking Tool (CSTT) score: 25
- Number of small grants that "graduated" to large grants: 11
- Number of networks/partnerships strengthened or created: 48
- Number of new civil society organizations, community associations, or conservation bodies created: 17

**Human well-being**

- Number of people receiving training: 7,164
- Number of people receiving non-cash benefits from CEPF projects: 50,709
- Number of people with increased income due to livelihood activities: 2,347

**Enabling conditions**

- Number of communities benefiting from improved recognition of traditional knowledge and/or improved decision-making and representation in governance: 216
- Value of state resources, co-financing, in-kind labor, and organizational resources provided as leverage or to support CEPF grantee work: US$6,122,968

# 5. Implementation

## 5.1. Collaboration with CEPF Donors and Other Funders

The CEPF Secretariat and RIT collaborated directly and indirectly with other donors and with host country government agencies in the hotspot, as detailed below.

**Host country governments.** Each RIT country coordinator was housed within the respective environment department of their country: in PNG, within CEPA in Port Moresby; in the Solomon Islands, within MECDM in Honiara; and in Vanuatu, within DEPC in Port Vila. This allowed the country coordinators to have daily contact with government counterparts and to promote the work of grantees. The country coordinators also provided regular updates to the GEF Operational Focal Points in each country.

**UNDP GEF Small Grants Program (SGP).** The RIT maintained strong working relationships with the SGP, whose staff sat on national TAGs for proposal reviews. Collaboration with the SGP allowed for sharing of lessons and leveraging of funds where a single organization received support from both CEPF and the SGP. For instance, this included purposeful co-funding to support baseline data collection and consultations to establish the Mt Tabuwamasana Community Conservation Area in Vanuatu.

**CEPF global donors.** The RIT and Secretariat maintained regular communication with in-country and regional representatives of CEPF's global donors, including via visits during supervision missions and through invitations to attend grantee events.

**Major conservation organizations and donors.** IUCN took advantage of its presence in Suva to collaborate with other major organizations with a regional presence, including BirdLife International, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), USAID, and Neo Tera.

## 5.2. Resource Allocation

CEPF grant-making formally began with the RIT Grant, split into "programmatic" and "administrative" grants for a combined US$1,500,000. These grants were for the full funding allocation under Strategic Direction 5.

The Secretariat and RIT released calls for LOIs to solicit applications for Strategic Directions 1, 2 and 3, as shown in Table 4. LOIs that were reviewed positively moved on to the full proposal stage and, in most cases, to eventual award of grants.

**Table 4. EMI Calls for Letters of Inquiry**

| No. | Release Date | Due Date | LOIs Received | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Large | Small |
| 1 | 19 August 2013 | 28 October 2013 | 40 | 25 |
| 2 | 1 July 2014 | 26 August 2014 | 31 | 21 |
| 3 | 1 July 2015 | 31 August 2015 | 31 | 31 |
| 4 | 24 August 2016 | 30 September 2016 | 24 | 13 |
| 5 | 18 October 2016 | 28 November 2016 | 14 | 8 |
| 6 | 8 September 2017 | 25 October 2017 | 11 | 33 |
| 7 | 30 August 2018 | 7 October 2018 | 15 | 18 |
| 8 | 11 February 2019 | 11 April 2019 | 3 | 8 |
| 9 | 15 October 2019 | 22 November 2019 | 8 | 10 |
| | | | **177** | **167** |
| | | **Total** | **344** | |

Out of 177 large grant applications, 56 (31.6 percent) received awards. Out of 167 small grant applications, 56 (33.5 percent) received awards [with an additional two small grants that were awarded on an invitation basis.] This overall "win rate" for applicants is comparable to other CEPF hotspots. The actual number of applications is perhaps less than expected over nine years but this is partially a reflection of there being relatively few civil society organizations in the region.

Table 5 summarizes grants awarded by strategic direction. Annex 1 offers similar information in a graphic format, while Annex 5 provides further details on all 116 awarded grants (large, small and RIT).

**Table 5. Grant Awards by Strategic Direction**

| Strategic Direction | Allocation | Large Grants | | Small Grants | | Total | | Value to Allocation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Count | Value | Count | Value | Count | Value | |
| 1. KBAs | $3,200,000 | 28 | $3,359,119 | 18 | $310,305 | 46 | $3,669,424 | 115% |
| 2. Land use | $1,000,000 | 4 | $362,877 | 6 | $80,419 | 10 | $443,295 | 44% |
| 3. Species | $1,200,000 | 7 | $624,990 | 5 | $91,644 | 12 | $716,635 | 60% |
| 4. Capacity | $2,100,000 | 17 | $1,702,226 | 29 | $490,924 | 46 | $2,193,150 | 104% |
| 5. RIT | $1,500,000 | 2 | $1,477,405 | 0 | $0 | 2 | $1,477,405 | 98% |
| **Total** | **$9,000,000** | **58** | **$7,526,618** | **58** | **$973,293** | **116** | **$8,499,910** | **94%** |
| **Percent (without RIT)** | | **49%** | **86%** | **14%** | **14%** | | | |

As will be discussed below, less money was used for Strategic Direction 2 and Strategic Direction 3 3 than originally allocated, reflecting over-estimation by the authors of the ecosystem profile of the demand for such activities and the capacity of CEPF's core constituent applicants to implement such work.

Not counting the RIT, while there were almost the same number of large and small grants, 86 percent of the funding was awarded as large grants by CEPF and 14 percent was awarded as small grants by the RIT. The median value of awards for large grants was just under US$100,000 with a median duration of 24 months. Small grants had a median value of almost US$19,000 and a median duration of 13 months. Small grants were capped at US$20,000. A different way to understand grants is by size range (Table 6).

**Table 6. Large and Small Grant Awards by Value (not including RIT)**

| Range | Count |
|---|---|
| $0 to $10,000 | 7 |
| $10,001 to $14,999 | 8 |
| $15,000 to $19,999 | 41 |
| $20,000 to $49,999 | 11 |
| $50,000 to $79,999 | 10 |
| $80,000 to $99,999 | 11 |
| $100,000 to $149,999 | 15 |
| $150,000 to $300,000 | 11 |
| **Total** | **114** |

CEPF did not make allocations of funding to each country at the time of the ecosystem profile, maintaining that the transboundary element of biodiversity conservation requires responsiveness to need in relation to species, sites, and corridors. Nonetheless, Table 7 shows how many awards were ultimately made in each country.

**Table 7. Grant Awards by Country**

| Country | Large Grants and RIT | | Small Grants | | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Count | Value | Count | Value | Count | Value |
| PNG | 11 | $1,456,579 | 17 | $236,998 | 28 | $1,693,576 |
| Solomon Islands | 25 | $2,211,607 | 26 | $461,992 | 51 | $2,673,599 |
| Vanuatu | 14 | $1,657,168 | 12 | $215,387 | 26 | $1,872,555 |
| Multi-country | 6 | $723,858 | 3 | $58,916 | 9 | $782,774 |
| RIT | 2 | $1,477,405 | - | $0 | 2 | $1,477,405 |
| **Total** | **58** | **$7,526,618** | **58** | **$973,293** | **116** | **$8,499,910** |

Of the projects listed as "multi-country", one grant worked in both PNG and the Solomon Islands, four grants worked in the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, and four grants worked in all three countries. These grants were similar in that they focused on training or raising awareness about particular species or conservation methodologies. CEPF also tracked individual grants by the type of organization receiving the funds, where type was characterized as either *local* (defined as organizations based in the hotspot countries), or *international* (defined as organizations based outside the hotspot countries), as shown in Table 8.

**Table 8. Grants to International and Local Organizations by Award Type**

| Type | Large Grants | | Small Grants | | Total | | Percentage (without RIT) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Count | Value | Count | Value | Count | Value | Count | Value |
| Local | 25 | $2,293,138 | 44 | $717,014 | 69 | $3,010,151 | 61% | 43% |
| International | 31 | $3,756,074 | 14 | $256,279 | 45 | $4,012,353 | 39% | 57% |
| RIT | 2 | $1,477,405 | - | $0 | 2 | $1,477,405 | | |
| **Total** | **58** | **$7,526,618** | **58** | **$973,293** | **116** | **$8,499,910** | | |

The figures in the "count" columns in Table 8 may be misleading, however, as these give the number of grants, as opposed to the number of distinct grantees. CEPF made 114 large and small grant awards to 65 unique organizations. Revising Table 8 by the unique organizational recipients, as opposed to awards, reveals that 41 organizations from within the hotspot received over 40 percent of the available funds (Table 9 and Annex 1). Apart from the 41 local organizations receiving grants from CEPF or the RIT, an additional 80 local groups were engaged either as sub-grantees or as major implementing partners.

**Table 9. International and Local Grants by Distinct Recipient (not including RIT)**

| Type | Count | Percentage | Obligation (USD) | Percentage |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Local | 41 | 63% | $3,010,151 | 43% |
| International | 24 | 37% | $4,012,353 | 57% |
| **Total** | **65** | | **$7,022,505** | |

## 5.3. Portfolio Investment by Strategic Direction

**Strategic Direction 1: Empower local communities to protect and manage globally significant biodiversity at priority Key Biodiversity Areas under-served by current conservation efforts.**

Grantmaking under this strategic direction aimed to support field surveys, raise awareness among communities, support communities as they implemented conservation efforts that responded to threats, and promote incentive schemes, such as tourism, payment for ecosystem services and conservation agreements.

Of the strategic directions, this had the most resonance with stakeholders. It was focused on sites (a concept that is easy to understand) and responded to the needs of communities (e.g., addressing threats like forestry and mining, supporting income-generating projects). Thus, there were grants to local groups to develop tourism business plans, train people in hospitality and English, build trails and visitor infrastructure, and train guides. There were also grants to establish protected areas under community control and to support agro-enterprises (ngali nut cultivation, beekeeping, etc.). There was a grant to enable communities in Vanuatu's Santo Mountain region to take legal measures to stop industrial forestry on their land. There were also grants to help communities in Choiseul through the complex process of validating and verifying forests to generate sale of carbon credits.

**Strategic Direction 2: Integrate biodiversity conservation into local land-use and development planning.**

Grantmaking within this strategic direction facilitated tenure mapping within customary lands, provided legal training and support for landowners affected by incompatible development projects, supported community enforcement of environmental regulations, and explored partnerships with private companies to promote sustainable development.

This strategic direction had the least uptake, with only 10 grants, two of which were for consecutive phases of the same project. This seems surprising when reviewing the input of stakeholders from the ecosystem profile and the intent of this strategic direction: helping communities gain control of their land, allowing for self-enforcement, becoming partners with the private sector. The possible reasons for this are discussed in Section 12 below. However, if further progress was not made in this area, the fundamental reason is that it is *difficult*. The purpose of the strategic direction was to enable community groups (by

definition, of low capacity) to address trenchant issues. Nevertheless, there was modest success. All but one of the grants in this strategic direction was to a local organization, with projects focusing on legal training, mapping customary lands, and empowering communities.

**Strategic Direction 3: Safeguard priority globally threatened species by addressing major threats and information gaps.**

Grantmaking within this strategic direction supported species research, drafting and implementation of recovery plans, and introduction of science-based harvest management of priority species that are important for local food security. The 12 grants focusing on this theme addressed petrels, megapodes, giant rats, mastiff bats, flying-foxes, and dugong *(Dugong dugon*)*,* among other species. However, it is misleading to say that only 12 grants addressed species, as many site-based projects under Strategic Directions 1 and 2 also protected species, as shown in Table 10, below.

Implementation challenges for this strategic direction were often due to the length of time required to prepare a species action plan that has community buy-in, and then the length of time needed to implement it. Of note, there were grants that addressed sustainable harvesting of Ngali nut and wedge-tailed shearwater [even while noting that neither species was prioritized in the ecosystem profile.]

**Strategic Direction 4: Increase local, national, and regional capacity to conserve biodiversity through catalyzing civil society partnerships.**

This strategic direction allowed for grants that build the management and technical capacity of civil society organizations and their staff and grants that promote them to become national and regional leaders. With 46 grants under this theme, work proceeded as envisioned by the ecosystem profile, which highlighted the need for capacity building. This was particularly true in the first three years of the program, when 25 grants were awarded to strengthen individual organizations or community bodies, or to provide training for people in the region.

In many cases, grants under this strategic direction went to local groups for which CEPF represented their first international donor. Grants to major international organizations in this area were to allow them to train multiple local groups.

# 6. Biodiversity Conservation Results

## 6.1. Globally Threatened Species and CEPF Priority Species

The ecosystem profile identified 308 globally threatened species, including 39 species of plants, 29 species of mammals and 41 species of birds. Of these, the profile prioritized 48 for CEPF investment, with a fairly even distribution across the three countries.

Table 10 lists the 37 priority species (out of the 48 priorities identified in the ecosystem profile) and the 17 other globally threatened (but not priority) species on which CEPF grants had a direct positive impact. Grantee actions included:

- **Population assessments**, such as the work by BirdLife International on palm lorikeet (*Charmosyna palmarum*) on the Vanuatu island of Futuna, where the project

recorded the species for the first time since the 1930s, with 28 sightings across 38 point-count stations. The work likely established this as a globally important population.

- **Site-specific, species-specific efforts,** such as those of the Vanuatu Environmental Science Society (VESS), which worked to protect Fijian mastiff bat (*Tadarida bregullae*) on the islands of Aore, Malo, and Espiritu Santo, all in Vanuatu's Samna province. VESS used acoustic bat monitoring devices to locate animals and better understand their habitats and breeding sites.
- **Species-focused site management**, such as the work by OceansWatch in the Solomon Islands, where the project worked to conserve the forest habitat in Tomotu, home to two Alliance for Zero Extinction sites and three trigger species. OceansWatch raised community awareness, strengthened the capacity of local groups, and helped draft site management plans.

In fact, Table 10 surely under-counts the number of species positively affected. Accepting the methodology used to identify KBAs, by definition, any project that led to the improved management of a KBA, as described in the section below, led to better species outcomes.

**Table 10. CEPF Priority Species and Other Globally Threatened Species Addressed by Grant Recipients**
(CEPF priority species in gray)

| No. | Latin name | Common name | Grantee | Intervention |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Amphibians** | | | | |
| 1 | *Cornufer parkeri* | Parker's Wrinkled Ground Frog | U. Queensland | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 2 | *Litoria lutea* | Solomon Islands Treefrog | ESSI, U. Queensland | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 3 | *Palmatorappia solomonis* | Solomon Islands Palm Frog | U. Queensland | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| **Birds** | | | | |
| 4 | *Alopecoenas sanctaecrucis* | Santa Cruz Ground Dove | BirdLife, Edenhope, OceansWatch | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 5 | *Aplonis santovestris* | Santo Mountain Starling | BirdLife, Canal Studio, Edenhope | Awareness, monitoring |
| 6 | *Charmosyna palmarum* | Palm Lorikeet | BirdLife, Oceanswatch | Monitoring, research |
| 7 | *Clytorhynchus sanctaecrucis* | Santa Cruz Shrikebill | OceansWatch | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 8 | *Columba pallidiceps* | Yellow-legged Pigeon | U. Queensland | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 9 | *Ducula bakeri* | Vanuatu Imperial Pigeon | BirdLife | Monitoring |
| 10 | *Eurostopodus nigripennis* | Solomons Nightjar | James Cook U. | Research |
| 11 | *Haliaeetus sanfordi* | Forest Fish Eagle | NRDF, U. Queensland | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 12 | *Megapodius layardi* | Vanuatu Megapode | BirdLife, Edenhope, VEAN | Habitat, monitoring |
| 13 | *Nesasio solomonensis* | Fearful Owl | U. Queensland | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 14 | *Pareudiastes silvestris* | Makira Woodhen | SICCP, Wai Hau | Research |
| 15 | *Pitta superba* | Black-backed Pitta | WCS | Habitat |
| 16 | *Pseudobulweria becki* | Beck's Petrel | BirdLife, Treweek | Research |
| 17 | *Pterodroma brevipes* | Collared Petrel | BirdLife, VEAN | Habitat |
| 18 | *Puffinus heinrothi* | Heinroth's Shearwater | Treweeek | Research |
| **Mammals** | | | | |
| 19 | *Chaerephon bregullae* | Fijian Mastiff Bat | VESS | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 20 | *Chaerephon solomonis* | Solomons Mastiff Bat | U. Queensland | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 21 | *Dugong dugon* | Dugong | VESS, TDA | Monitoring, research |
| 22 | *Melomys matambuai* | Manus Melomys | U. Queensland, WCS | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 23 | *Physeter macrocephalus* | Sperm Whale | Treweek | Research |
| 24 | *Pteralopex anceps* | Bougainville Monkey-faced Bat | BCI, U. Queensland | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research, species recovery plan |
| 25 | *Pteralopex atrata* | Guadalcanal Monkey-faced Bat | Canal Studio, U. Queensland | Species recovery plan |
| 26 | *Pteralopex flanneryi* | Greater Monkey-faced Bat | BCI, U. Queensland | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research, species recovery plan |
| 27 | *Pteralopex pulchra* | Montane Monkey-faced Bat | U. Queensland | Species recovery plan |
| 28 | *Pteralopex taki* | New Georgia Monkey-faced Bat | U. Queensland | Awareness, species recovery plan |

| No. | Latin name | Common name | Grantee | Intervention |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 29 | *Pteropus anetianus* | Vanuatu Flying-fox | Canal Studio, VESS | Awareness |
| 30 | *Pteropus cognatus* | Makira Flying-fox | U. Queensland | Research, species recovery plan |
| 31 | *Pteropus fundatus* | Banks Flying-fox | OceansWatch, VESS | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 32 | *Pteropus nitendiensis* | Temotu Flying-fox | Oceanswatch, VESS | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 33 | *Pteropus tuberculatus* | Vanikoro Flying-fox | Oceanswatch, VESS | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 34 | *Solomys ponceleti* | Poncelet's Giant Rat | Oceania, U. Queensland | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 35 | *Solomys salebrosus* | Bougainville Giant Rat | ESSI, Oceania, U. Queensland | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| 36 | *Uromys imperator* | Emperor Rat | Oceania, U. Queensland | Research |
| 37 | *Uromys porculus* | Guadalcanal Rat | Oceania, U. Queensland | Research |
| 38 | *Uromys rex* | King Rat | Oceania Ecology Group, U. Queensland | Research |
| 39 | *Uromys vika* | Vangunu Giant Rat | Oceania Ecology Group | Habitat, monitoring |
| **Mollusks** | | | | |
| 40 | *Tridacna derasa* | Southern Giant Clam | U. Papua New Guinea | Habitat |
| 41 | *Tridacna gigas* | Giant Clam | U. Papua New Guinea | Habitat |
| **Plants** | | | | |
| 42 | *Agathis macrophylla* | Fijian Kauri Pine | BirdLife | Monitoring |
| 43 | *Aglaia saltatorum* | | BirdLife | Monitoring |
| 44 | *Calophyllum waliense* | | WCS | Habitat |
| 45 | *Carpoxylon macrospermum* | Carpoxylon Palm | BirdLife | Monitoring |
| 46 | *Cyphosperma voutmelense* | Voutmélé Palm | Canal Studio | Awareness |
| 47 | *Helicia polyosmoides* | | WCS | Habitat |
| 48 | *Palaquium neoebudicum* | | BirdLife | Monitoring |
| 49 | *Paphiopedilum bougainvilleanum* | Bougainville Paphiopedilum | U. Queensland | Awareness, habitat, monitoring, research |
| **Reptiles** | | | | |
| 50 | *Chelonia mydas* | Green Turtle | Edenhope, VESS | Awareness, habitat, monitoring |
| 51 | *Dermochelys coriacea* | Leatherback Turtle | SICCP, Wai Hau | Awareness, monitoring |
| 52 | *Emoia aneityumensis* | Anatom Skink | BirdLife | Monitoring |
| 53 | *Emoia erronan* | Common Emo Skink | BirdLife | Monitoring |
| 54 | *Eretmochelys imbricata* | Hawksbill Turtle | ACMCA, Edenhope | Habitat |

For transparency, Table 11 lists the eleven species named as priorities in the ecosystem profile that had no direct intervention.

**Table 11. CEPF Priority Species with No Direct Intervention**

| No. | Type | Latin name | Common name |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Bird | *Erythrura regia* | Royal Parrotfinch |
| 2 | Bird | *Nesofregetta fuliginosa* | Polynesian Storm-Petrel |
| 3 | Bird | *Pterodroma cervicalis* | White-necked Petrel |
| 4 | Mammal | *Emballonura semicaudata* | Polynesian Sheathtail Bat |
| 5 | Mammal | *Solomys sapientis* | Isabel Giant Rat |
| 6 | Plant | *Diospyros insularis* | New Guinea Ebony |
| 7 | Plant | *Drymophloeus hentyi* | |
| 8 | Plant | *Intsia bijuga* | Moluccan Ironwood |
| 9 | Plant | *Ptychosperma gracile* | |
| 10 | Plant | *Veitchia montgomeryana* | |
| 11 | Reptile | *Caretta caretta* | Loggerhead Turtle |

## 6.2. Key Biodiversity Areas

### KBAs under Improved Management

The ecosystem profile identified 95 KBAs in 2012 using an IUCN methodology from 2007[1], which at the time, represented "state of the science" with standards for determining what qualified as a KBA, the documentation required, and determination of boundaries. Understanding that allocated funding would not be sufficient to work at all 95 sites, the profiling team then used a qualitative process to prioritize 20 sites based on criteria such as threat level, number of species, irreplaceability, and availability of funding.

Nine years later, a summary of interventions versus plans shows that CEPF had a direct, positive influence in 14 of the 20 priority KBAs and in six of the 75 non-priority KBAs, per the table below. Note that this is less than the number of KBAs where grantees *worked,* which is significantly greater. The table does not show the many KBAs in which there was specific work understanding species, building local civil society capacity, or empowering communities to control their resources.

The goal of many of these grants was to protect biodiversity from logging, mining, and other incompatible land uses. Actions included supporting communities in preparing management plans for their conservation areas (Kunua Plains/Mt Balbi, Cape St George, Gaua), supporting communities through the protected area gazettement process (Marovo-Kavachi, Santo, Manus, East Makira), and enhancing livelihoods through agroforestry and agriculture to encourage and enable communities to protect land and resources rather than resorting to destructive practices (Gizo, Marovo-Kavachi, Kolombangara, Manus).

Separately, by identifying 95 KBAs at the outset of the investment phase, the ecosystem profile contributed to the global knowledge base and encouraged other actors, particularly national governments and other donors, to use the list of KBAs as an agenda for action, and a signal for directing conservation resources. In particular, BirdLife International used this

[1] Identification and Gap Analysis of Key Biodiversity Areas: Targets for Comprehensive Protected Area Systems. Langhammer *et al.* (2007).

list as the starting point for a more robust and expanded identification of KBAs in the three hotspot countries, training a cadre of people in each country to continue promotion of this methodology.

The ecosystem profile set a goal of improving the management of 20 KBAs, which was achieved, at least over parts, if not all, of these areas. As Table 12 shows, organizations typically worked in only a portion of a KBA. That they were not able to improve the management of the entire KBA should not be interpreted as a failure, however. Rather, this is a reflection of the limited reach of CEPF partners, and the fact that KBAs often stretch across administrative and customary boundaries that are beyond the scope of any single grantee, organization, community, or government agency.

**Table 12. CEPF Priority KBAs and Other KBAs with Improved Management**
(Priority KBAs in gray)

| No. | Map No. | Country | KBA Name | Grantee | Total Area (Ha) | Area Improved (Ha) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | PNG6 | PNG | Cape Saint George | FORCERT | 86,398 | 17,450 |
| 2 | PNG7 | PNG | Central Manus | WCS, University of Queensland | 82,529 | 9,620 |
| 3 | PNG16 | PNG | Kunua Plains and Mount Balbi | University of Queensland | 74,325 | 74,325 |
| 4 | PNG21 | PNG | Mussau | WCS | 31,756 | 446 |
| 5 | SLB4 | Solomons | East Makira | University of Queensland | 150,774 | 63,000 |
| 6 | SLB5 | Solomons | East Rennell | Live & Learn Solomon Islands | 17,073 | 37,000 |
| 7 | SLB9 | Solomons | Guadalcanal Watersheds | University of Queensland | 363,032 | 2,000 |
| 8 | SLB10 | Solomons | Kolombangara Upland Forest | WCS, University of Queensland | 30,717 | 11,823 |
| 9 | SLB11 | Solomons | Malaita Highlands | James Cook University | 58,379 | 300 |
| 10 | SLB15 | Solomons | Mt. Maetambe-Kolombangara River | Natural Resources Development Foundation | 78,396 | 9,140 |
| 11 | SLB33 | Solomons | Tinakula | OceansWatch | 771 | 1,250 |
| 12 | SLB35 | Solomons | Vanikoro | OceansWatch, Environmental Defenders | 17,628 | 1,700 |
| 13 | VUT2 | Vanuatu | Ambrym | BirdLife | 17,364 | 85 |
| 14 | VUT7 | Vanuatu | Gaua | Eco-Lifelihood Development Association, Live & Learn Vanuatu | 18,725 | 18,732 |
| 15 | VUT8 | Vanuatu | Green Hill | Live & Learn Vanuatu | 2,030 | 1 |
| 16 | VUT13 | Vanuatu | Mount Tukusmera | BirdLife | 5,969 | 15 |
| 17 | VUT14 | Vanuatu | Neck of Malakula – Crab Bay | Live & Learn Vanuatu | 17,676 | 2 |
| 18 | VUT15 | Vanuatu | North Efate | Association Economics for Coral Reef Ecosystems | 38,345 | 49 |
| 19 | VUT19 | Vanuatu | Santo Mountain Chain | Edenhope, Live & Learn Vanuatu, Eco-Lifelihood Development Association | 167,482 | 36,613 |
| 20 | VUT21 | Vanuatu | Tongoa – Laika | BirdLife | 3,246 | 25 |
| | | | | **Total** | **1,262,615** | **283,576** |

For transparency, Table 13 lists the six KBAs named as priorities in the ecosystem profile that had no direct intervention.

**Table 13. CEPF Priority KBAs with No Direct Intervention**

| No. | Map No. | Country | KBA Name | Area (Ha) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | PNG2 | PNG | Baining Mountains | 135,864 |
| 2 | SLB8 | Solomons | Gizo | 3,782 |
| 3 | SLB12 | Solomons | Marovo Kavachi | 65,708 |
| 4 | SLB18 | Solomons | Nendö | 19,869 |
| 5 | VUT3 | Vanuatu | Aneityum | 3,850 |
| 6 | VUT6 | Vanuatu | Futuna | 1,042 |

## Creation, Expansion and Improved Management of Protected Areas

While a KBA is a geographic area of importance for biodiversity, the designation is not a statement on the legal status of the area. Some KBAs are wholly included within formal protected areas, some are partially included, and others are not included at all. In the case of the EMI Hotspot, the latter is the norm. Areas that are not protected can be used for productive purposes, including, among others, agriculture, livelihoods, enterprises, and housing. CEPF terms areas that are not formally protected as "production landscapes."

The creation of protected areas is a lengthy process everywhere in the world, and the East Melanesian Islands are no exception. As a method of improving the management of a KBA, it was used in several cases in the region, most typically for the creation of a community conservation area (CCA), where customary landowners gained formal recognition of their rights to manage land and limit access. This was particularly valuable where communities faced threats from companies seeking to extract timber, minerals or other resources from the land.

Protected areas were created in four priority KBAs: Central Manus in PNG; Mt. Maetambe-Kolobangara River in the Solomon Islands; and Gaua and Santo Mountain Chain in Vanuatu. In addition, Arnavon Community Marine Park was created in a non-priority KBA. These protected areas covered a total of 59,385 hectares.

As of the close of the investment phase, an additional 33,500 hectares of protected areas were in the process of being gazetted and formally declared in Marovo-Kavachi, Kolombangara Island, East Makira, Central Manus, and Mt Maetambe-Kolobangara River KBAs.

**Table 14. Created and Expanded Protected Areas**

| No. | Country | Grantee | Protected Area Name | Year of Proclamation | Additional Hectares |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | PNG | FORCERT | Kait CCA | 2018 | 885 |
| 2 | Solomons | Arnavon Community Marine Conservation Association | Arnavon Community Marine Park | 2017 | 15,200 |
| 3 | Solomons | Natural Resources Development Foundation | Padezaka Tribal Rainforest Conservation Area | 2021 | 4,823 |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | Solomons | Natural Resources Development Foundation | Siporae Tribal Forest Conservation Area | 2019 | 666 |
| 5 | Solomons | Natural Resources Development Foundation | Sirebe Forest Conservation Area | 2019 | 800 |
| 6 | Vanuatu | Eco-Lifelihood Development Association | Lake Letas | 2017 | 8,523 |
| 7 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Elia Pwatunavanua CCA | 2020 | 5,314 |
| 8 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Kerevinopu CCA | 2021 | 500 |
| 9 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Linduri CCA | 2020 | 500 |
| 10 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Manopena Nogugu CCA | 2020 | 500 |
| 11 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Nambeko CCA | 2021 | 150 |
| 12 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Sulesak CCA | 2021 | 500 |
| 13 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Tanakovu CCA | 2021 | 2,907 |
| 14 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Tasmate CCA | 2020 | 4,378 |
| 15 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Valapei CCA | 2020 | 1,768 |
| 16 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Valbay CCA | 2020 | 500 |
| 17 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Vasalea CCA | 2021 | 4,724 |
| 18 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Visio CCA | 2020 | 500 |
| 19 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Wunpuko CCA | 2020 | 500 |
| 20 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Wusi CCA | 2021 | 893 |
| 21 | Vanuatu | Live & Learn | Lagona Bay, Gaua | 2015 | 5 |
| 22 | Vanuatu | Live & Learn | Tabuemasana CCA | 2018 | 4,849 |
| | | | | **Total** | **59,385** |

## Improved Management of Production Landscapes

A production landscape is any land or water area that is not formally protected. From a biological standpoint, a production landscape can be split into "production landscapes with high biological significance" (i.e., unprotected zones within KBAs) and "production landscapes with less biological significance" (i.e., areas outside of KBAs). In the East Melanesian Islands, where the majority of land is under customary ownership, a major part of conservation action necessarily occurs in production landscapes. In fact, the presumption of much of Strategic Direction 1 (engaging local communities) and Strategic Direction 2 (local land-use and development planning) was that work would occur in *unprotected* areas.

The ecosystem profile set a target of 100,000 hectares of production landscape being managed for biodiversity conservation or sustainable use. Per Table 15, grantee projects exceeded that target, with important agreements on forest management and community control of land leading to large areas that are better able to support globally threatened species.

## Table 15. Improved Production Landscapes

| No. | Country | Grantee | Production Landscape Name | Intervention | Additional Hectares |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | PNG | University of Queensland | Area surrounding Kunua Plains and Mount Balbi KBA | Species surveys, community management agreements | 45,678 |
| 2 | PNG | WCS | Mussau Island | Pig control, sustainable agriculture, marine management plan | 446 |
| 3 | Solomons | Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership | Zaira Resource Management Area | Ngali nut agroforestry | 500 |
| 4 | Solomons | University of Queensland | Biche, Gatokae | Ngali nut harvest best practice | 1,062 |
| 5 | Solomons | University of Queensland | Guadalcanal watersheds | Flying-fox habitat management | 2,000 |
| 6 | Solomons | University of Queensland | Kolombangara Upland Forest | Flying-fox habitat management | 78,399 |
| 7 | Solomons | University of Queensland | Kwara'ae region, Malaita | Ngali nut harvest best practice | 12,500 |
| 8 | Vanuatu | BirdLife | Laika Island | Sustainable harvest of wedge-tailed shearwater chicks | 27 |
| 9 | Vanuatu | BirdLife | Mt. Tukuasmera | Tabu harvesting zone for collared petrel chicks | 180 |
| 10 | Vanuatu | BirdLife | Polipetaver | Tabu harvesting zone of Vanuatu megapode eggs | 40 |
| 11 | Vanuatu | BirdLife | Sawo Faliwa | Tabu harvesting zone of Vanuatu megapode eggs | 45 |
| 12 | Vanuatu | Edenhope | Santo Mountain Chain KBA | Production zones surrounding CCAs | 22,000 |
| 13 | Vanuatu | Live & Learn | Loru | Habitat improvement for coconut crab, megapodes and butterflies | 3 |
| | | | | **Total** | **162,880** |

# 7. Civil Society Strengthening Results

## 7.1. Types of Organizations Supported

As shown in Table 9, CEPF supported 65 unique organizations through 114 grants. In addition to those unique recipients, several grantees had formal sub-grantees or local partners engaged via service agreements and memoranda of understanding that benefited directly from CEPF funds. This included community groups, church groups, landowners and clans, cultural centers, and chief's councils, such that organizational beneficiaries could be counted in the hundreds.

Of the various ways to categorize and understand the 65 organizations, the following are noteworthy:

- 41 local groups versus 24 international groups received grants, reflecting the emphasis on working with groups based in the hotspot, to promote capacity building and sustainability.
- 14 universities and research institutes (e.g., museums, herbaria, gardens) received grants, reflecting the role that such groups can play in direct conservation action, engagement of local groups and training.
- 15 community-level associations received grants. These, plus several local NGOs, had a focus on economic development and community rights and empowerment, where conservation was a secondary concern.

## 7.2. Training

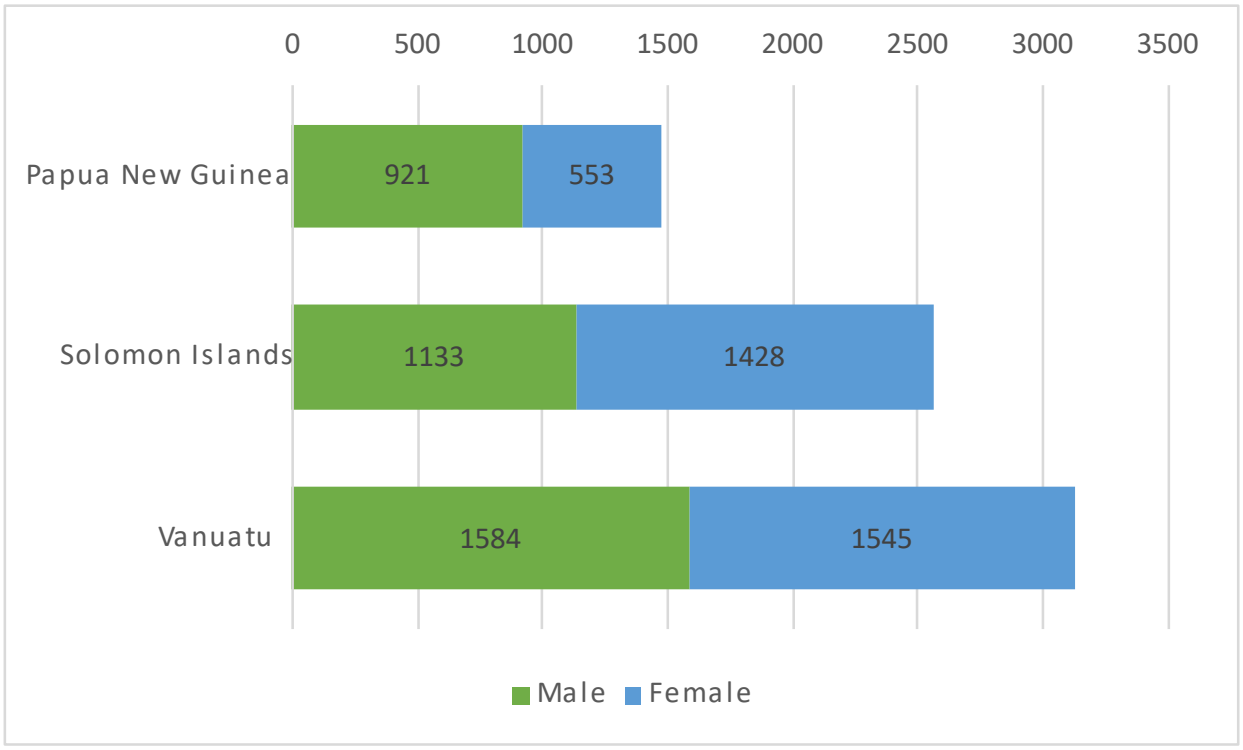
Training, the imparting of skills to individuals to approve their ability at a particular task, was undertaken in multiple ways:

- Training given by grant recipients to stakeholders to benefit them directly. For example, OceansWatch trained 70 women and seven men on coconut oil production as an income-generating measure to lessen the pressure on Vanikoro and Nendö KBAs in the Solomon Islands.
- Training given by grant recipients to achieve a conservation outcome. For example, FORCERT trained 194 people on forest conservation and their rights in PNG's Cape St. George KBA. This training helped the communities better manage their own forests, with direct and indirect benefits.
- Training undertaken by grant recipients to improve their own abilities to implement projects or manage their organizations. For example, the Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership, PROmotion of Papua New Guinea, and Eco-Lifelihood Development Association of Vanuatu all accessed training for their own personnel in financial management.

Of particular note, over 1,300 people received training as "rangers," to monitor flora and fauna, educate their communities, serve as guards who could notify enforcement authorities, and better manage natural resources.

In total, 3,638 men and 3,526 women attended different structured training, as shown in Figure 2.

**Figure 2. Beneficiaries of Structured Training by Gender and Country of Origin**




## 7.3. Analysis of Civil Society Tracking Tools

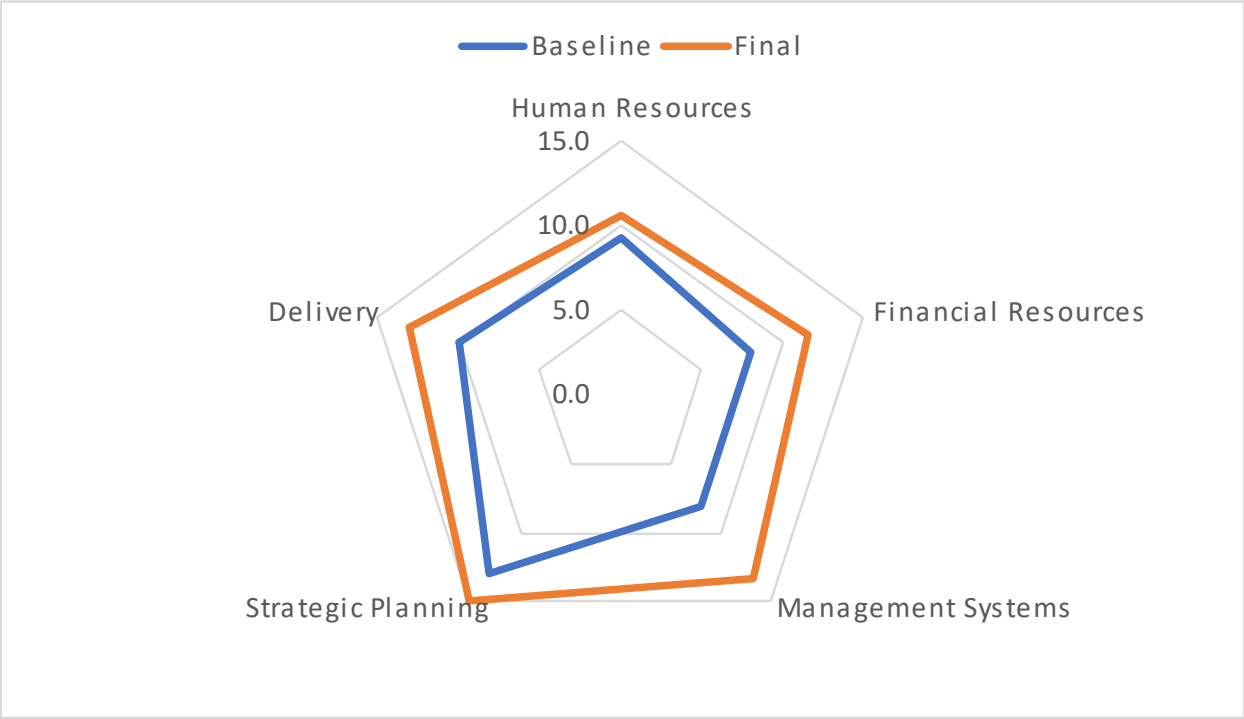
CEPF monitors the impact of its investments on the organizational capacity of local civil society organizations by means of the Civil Society Tracking Tool (CSTT): a self-assessment tool that grantees complete at the beginning and end of the period of CEPF support. The CSTT measures capacity along five dimensions: human resources, finances, management, strategy, and delivery. Out of the 41 local groups, 32 completed baseline and final CSTTs. Reviewing CSTT scores from these organizations shows the following:

- 3 organizations (9 percent) saw a decrease in their capacity over the period of CEPF support.
- 7 organizations (22 percent) remained relatively stable, with either no change in their score or an increase of four points or less.
- 22 organizations (69 percent) saw a notable increase in their capacity, with a change of five or more points between baseline and final assessments. Of those, 14 saw an increase in score of 16 points or more, reflecting improvements across the organization.

Figure 3 shows the median baseline and final scores across the five dimensions for the 32 organizations. Median is used instead of mean to dampen the effect of extreme individual increases and decreases.

Figure 3 illustrates the fact that organizations grew in all areas but, particularly, in the areas of management systems and financial management, perhaps (but not necessarily) due to the CEPF Secretariat and RIT emphasizing these areas as the first steps for low capacity groups. Grantees were encouraged to get their systems and finances in order first and then to hire and train staff and plan activities, before doing work in the field.

**Figure 3. Median Change in CSTT Scores over the Period of CEPF Support**




Across the 32 organizations, scores can be distilled to remove organizations with large budgets and a high baseline capacity, such as universities and research institutes. The remainder might be characterized as:

- "Grassroots" community associations, based within or dominated by members of the community or an indigenous group, often concerned with community empowerment, land rights, and conservation in the context of community development (Figure 4). Grants were awarded to nine such groups, including the Tawatana Community Conservation Development Association of the Solomon Islands, which received a grant to improve its own governance and prevent the illegal extraction of natural resources from the community's land.
- Conservation and economic development NGOs, following formal structures for registration, using typical models for approaching donors directly, and trying to use modern best practices in implementation (Figure 5). Grants were awarded to 17 such groups, including PNG's Forests for Certain: Forests for Life! (FORCERT), which received a grant to strengthen planning efforts, promote environmental monitoring, and provide public education on Beck's petrel (*Pseudobulweria becki*).

As a whole, CEPF had a huge influence on grassroots organizations, with a median increase in score of 26 points. These groups, all of which received small grants via the RIT, gained access to funding and mentorship via CEPF and IUCN that likely would not have been otherwise available. The influence on local conservation NGOs, while not as big, was still significant: a median score increase of 11 points. Most notable among these were grants to:

- The Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership, which received a grant to explicitly build the capacity of its staff, improve the governance of its board, and improve the service it provided to its partners; namely, grassroots organizations.

- The Vanuatu Environmental Science Society, which, over the period from 2015 to 2021, received three grants to study and conserve bats, flying-foxes, and dugong, and, in the process, grew into one of the country's leading NGOs.

**Figure 4. Median Change in CSTT Score for Grassroots Organizations**

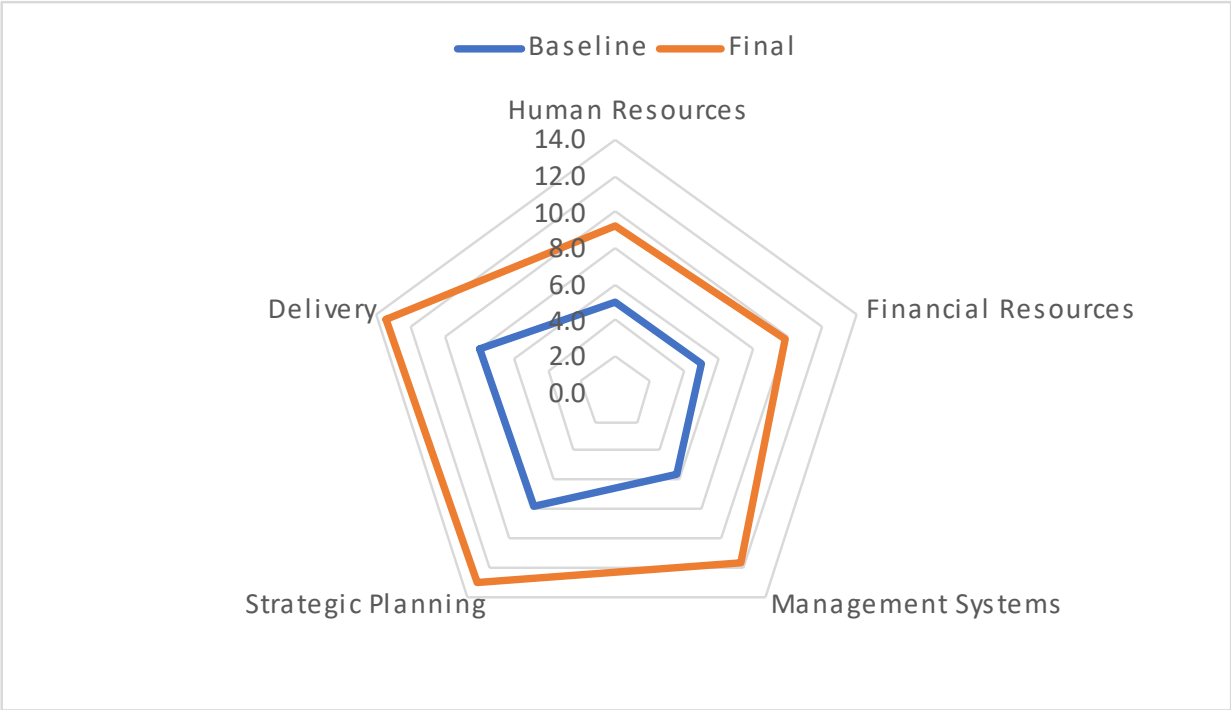
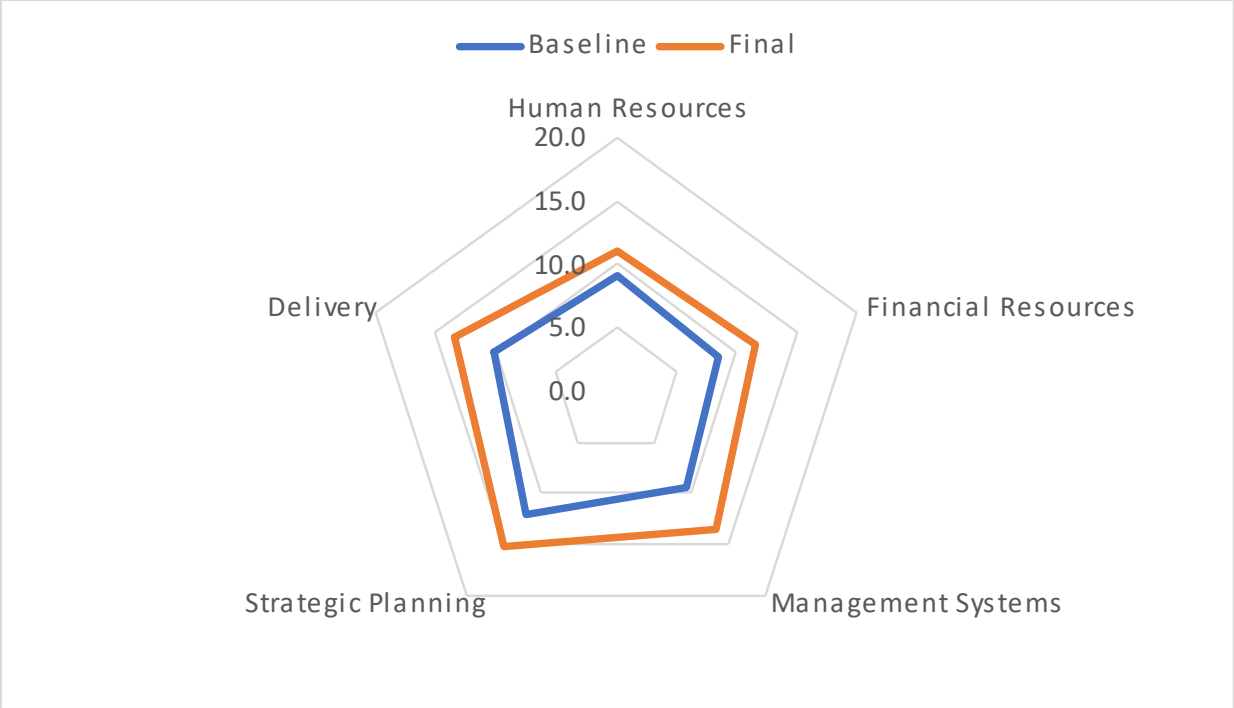



**Figure 5. Median Change in CSTT Score for Conservation and Development NGOs**



# 8. Human Well-being Results

## 8.1. Communities Benefiting

The ecosystem profile anticipated that ultimately, grants would be about conservation of species and sites, capacity building for civil society organizations, or to benefit communities in some way. Granting bore this out: 57 of the 114 non-RIT grants, and 41 of the 65 organizations receiving funds, did work that directly or indirectly benefited 278 communities with over 50,000 people.

Eleven organizations worked with 10 or more communities each. Notable examples include the Santo Sunset Environment Network (SSEN) of Vanuatu, which worked with 14 communities, with an average size of 145 people, in the remote West Coast Santo region. SSEN raised awareness about illegal and unsustainable logging and strengthened recognition of customary rights to manage natural resources. Similarly, the University of PNG worked with 12 communities on Rambutso island in Manus province, providing training on livelihoods while ensuring the conservation of giant clams.

All of the 278 communities with which grantees worked were characterized by people living in a subsistence economy, with limited access to markets, capital or information, or otherwise in a disadvantaged economic situation. The benefits received by the communities can be understood as *environmental* (i.e., increased access to clean water, energy, food security, resilience to the impacts of climate change, or some other sort of ecosystem service) or *social* (i.e., increased access to public services, land tenure, recognition of traditional knowledge, engagement in governance processes). Ninety-one of the communities received environmental benefits, while 175 received a social benefit, mainly enhanced ability to participate in decision-making processes.

## 8.2. Gender

Gender is a factor in CEPF investments in at least three ways: (1) CEPF grants and portfolios can focus on improving the lives of women and girls as the beneficiaries of projects, or in ensuring equity in outcomes across gender; (2) grantees can focus on incorporating gender into the design of their projects from the outset; and (3) grants can change the way that grantees, themselves, behave operationally. To varying degrees, the CEPF portfolio in the EMI Hotspot addressed gender from each of these perspectives.

Across CEPF's global portfolio, gender was systematically incorporated into all stages of the grant cycle, beginning in 2017. This included modules on gender during project-design trainings and completion of the Gender Tracking Tool (GTT) by grantees at the beginning and end of their projects. Between 2017 and the close of the portfolio, 23 grantees submitted baseline and final GTTs. Of these:

- The seven grassroots organizations that completed the GTT saw mean scores increase from 8.5 (out of 20) to 10.5.
- The 16 local conservation/development NGOs, national research institutes, and universities that completed the GTT saw mean scores increase from 6.8 at the baseline to 10.6 at the end point.

Increases in GTT score were driven by organizations adopting written internal policies on gender, incorporating gender into project design, and monitoring gender metrics during implementation. This is somewhat intuitive, given that these measures are relatively low

cost, as compared to the areas that remain for improvement; namely, hiring of staff responsible for gender, training of staff, and raising and applying more resources to improve gender equity outcomes. The range of increase in GTT scores for the 23 grantees is shown in Table 16.

**Table 16. Ranges of Increase in Score in Gender Tracking Tool**

| Percentage Increase in GTT Score | Number of Grantees |
|---|---|
| No change | 5 |
| 1-5 percent | 0 |
| 5-9 percent | 1 |
| 10-14 percent | 0 |
| 15-19 percent | 1 |
| 20 – 49 percent | 5 |
| 50 –99 percent | 6 |
| 100 percent or more | 5 |
| **Total** | **23** |

## 8.3. Livelihood Improvements

As reflected in different investment priorities and in concert with the objective of improving human well-being, several projects explicitly recognized that poverty is a driver of threats to biodiversity, and thus tried to alleviate it. This was done via grants that provided training in income-generating activities, as well as via grants that directly supported income generation for beneficiaries. Table 17 shows a rough typology of relevant training topics.

**Table 17. Beneficiaries by Type of Training Related to Livelihoods**

| Topic | Men | Women | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Agroforestry | 37 | 188 | 225 |
| Beekeeping | 43 | 45 | 88 |
| Ecotourism | 17 | 37 | 54 |
| Rangers / enforcement | 520 | 263 | 783 |
| Small enterprise support | 157 | 707 | 864 |
| **Total** | **774** | **1,240** | **2,014** |

As the table shows, many people were trained to work as rangers or forest guards. The hope is that local revenues will support the modest salaries of these people, which even if typically less than US$10/day, is still a meaningful amount in the local context. Expected revenues are from the sale of carbon credits, timber and resource extraction permits, tourism, and fees paid by international researchers.

Separately, 15 grants engaged a combined 1,525 people to support project activities, paying with either CEPF project funds or leveraged funds from other donors, for services including survey logistic support, monitoring, and data collection. Such payments are not sustainable, of course, ending with project funding. On the other hand, four projects created sustainable income streams for 368 men and 447 women, including:

- The Natural Resources Development Foundation, which established a sales program for carbon credits that provided direct cash payments to landowners from the Sirebe tribe in the Solomon Islands.

- Gizo Women in Business Development of Ghizo island in the Solomon Islands, which promoted sales of fruit and vegetables from agroforestry plots and provided inputs for the production and sale of peanut butter and coconut oil.
- Live & Learn of Vanuatu, which trained tour guides in Tabuemasana and Nusumetu, and helped to establish basic guiding programs for local schools.
- WCS in Papua New Guinea, which helped farmers in Central Manus grow vanilla, then linked these farmers to international buyers.

A final group of beneficiaries were those people whose efficiency increased due to a project intervention. They did not earn more; rather, they *spent less*, including the beneficiaries of the Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership project in the Marovo-Kavachi area, which promoted alternatives to labor-intensive (and habitat-damaging) fuelwood collection.

# 9. Enabling Conditions Results

## 9.1. Policies Supporting Biodiversity Conservation

The ecosystem profile identified the need for the revision of policies, with a general understanding of the term to include land-use development plans, land tenure, and species management plans, among others. Ultimately, grantees helped support the passing of five policies with important conservation impacts:

- Vanuatu: enacted in January 2018, the Waste Management Regulations Order No. 15, passed with the support of the Vanuatu Environmental Science Society, has national importance on the control of plastic pollution (e.g., bags, straws, food containers), positively affecting riverine and coastal habitats.
- Vanuatu: enacted in June 2018, the Tabuemasana Management plan, passed with the support of Live & Learn, provides for community ownership and a leading role in the management of KBAs, species, and zoning.
- Vanuatu: enacted in December 2020, the Western Santo Kastom Conservation Resolutions of Chiefs, passed with support from the Edenhope Foundation, provides greater state recognition of the customary powers of chiefs.
- Vanuatu: enacted in September 2021, the Western Santo 2030 Sustainable Development Plan, passed with the support of the Edenhope Foundation and the Santo Sunset Environment Network, ensures conservation across the province. It was based on input of area councils and chiefs, and includes equity provisions in relation to gender, youth and people with disabilities.
- PNG: with the support of WCS, eight communities in Central Manus KBA signed conservation deeds in April 2021 stating that lowland rainforest tracts would be sustainably managed under customary law.

## 9.2. Companies Adopting Biodiversity-friendly Practices

The portfolio had a modest goal of influencing three companies to adopt sustainable practices, including the way they produce, harvest, manufacture, package, distribute, and sell products. As in many hotspots, large companies often have outsize impacts on conservation, not only on direct resource use but also indirectly, as leaders and influencers to other companies. For example, it is difficult to convince a community to practice sustainable forest management over 100 hectares, when their immediate neighbor, a private company with vastly more resources, managing 100,000 hectares, does not.

Three grantees were able to change the behavior of seven companies:

- **PNG Forest Certification Incorporated**, demonstrating the reach that a small grant can have, promoted high conservation value forest management guidelines that were adopted by PNG Biomass, Open Bay Timbers Ltd., 3A Composite/PNG Balsa and New Britain Palm Oil.
- **Live & Learn Vanuatu** engaged Nusumetu Ecotours and Tabwemasana Ecotours to ensure that they used good guide practices, and minimized waste and disruption to sensitive wildlife populations.
- **Natural Resources Development Foundation** engaged the international travel company Cookson Adventures and introduced them to the Babatana Rainforest Conservation Project on Sirebe in the Solomon Islands. To offset its own carbon footprint, Cookson is now purchasing carbon credits from this local provider.

## 9.3. Partnerships and Networks

Collaborative action multiplies the power of civil society. Such action takes two related forms: (1) creating or strengthening collaborative approaches between organizations at a site level (i.e., "partnerships"); and (2) creating or strengthening more widereaching "networks" of multiple groups with a common purpose. In East Melanesia, these partnerships and networks were sometimes created by design; they were the best or only way to get work done. However, these collaborations also occurred as a byproduct of the work: the result of exchange visits, mentoring and the recognition that working together created advantages for both parties.

Counting the number of new individual "partners" and distinguishing long-lasting partnerships from ones created solely for the period of the grant is a difficult process. At minimum, 23 different grantees strengthened 16 existing partnerships and created 32 more, with each partnership often consisting of multiple communities, associations, companies, government agencies, or other actors. The networks and partnerships addressed various themes, as highlighted by the following examples:

- **Community-based natural resources management**, such as the network created by Island Reach Committee, working in Vanuatu, and local groups on the islands of Nguna, Pele, Mangalilu, Epau, Moso, Lelepa, and Emau. Island Reach created a network of 500 monitors in six provinces to monitor marine and fisheries management, helping one another and sharing results.
- **Protection of KBAs**, such as the partnership between Mai Maasina Green Belt, of the Solomon Islands, and the Natural Resources Development Foundation, Choiseul, and Kolombangara to advocate for local control of KBAs as a management units.
- **Species conservation**, such as the Pacific Bat Conservation Network created by the Vanuatu Environmental Science Society, bringing together experts from East Melanesia, Polynesia, Australia and New Zealand, to share research results.

## 9.4. Leveraging Additional Resources

Annex 6 shows that from the US$8.5 million invested by CEPF in the EMI Hotspot, 56 grantees leveraged an additional US$6.1 million from government partners, other donors, and other NGOs. As expected, international organizations and large institutions, like WCS, WWF, and universities (e.g., Queensland, James Cook, Rochester, South Pacific) were successful at this but so too were small groups (e.g., Mai Maasina Green Belt, Tawatana Community Conservation, Wai-Hau). In each case, they used the CEPF grant as a signal to

other donors that they were doing credible and important work. In this way, incremental funds made a difference and attracted other funding, ensuring greater impact. Impressively, 28 of the 56 groups that leveraged funds raised at least the equivalent value of the CEPF grant from other donors.

# 10. Other Impacts

The portfolio's strategic directions and investment priorities (Table 1 and Section 5.3) align well with CEPF's global impact indicators, as discussed in Sections 6 to 9. However, there are other themes and stories that reflect the work and that do not fit so neatly into a CEPF-wide construct. Local impacts that are not captured by the CEPF global indicators are described here.

**Conservation at the community level.** The institutions of land ownership and tenure of natural resources in the three countries often put CEPF's stakeholders at a disadvantage in relation to the state or large private sector interests. Customary landowners with subsistence livelihoods, often living in remote locations, expectedly have limited ability to advocate for formal recognition of their customary rights, even where these are enshrined in the constitution. Further, even as land is often held as communal property, communities and tribes with limited representation in national capitals offer only marginal "strength in numbers" for their members. Nevertheless, several grantees directly addressed this challenge, helping to establish CCAs (notably in Mt. Tabuemasana in West Santo, Dolav in West Gaua, and Lakes Letas and Nusumetu in Green Hill/Tanna) and promoting the use of conservation deeds that support customary tenure (e.g., Wanbel Pepa in PNG). This work had real impact: in June 2021, the Santo Sunset Environment Network and local communities lobbied the Provincial Council to stop a Chinese-funded timber company, acting with approval of the Department of Forestry, from building a road through Santo Mountain Chain KBA.

**Building trust between donors, government, grantees and communities.** In East Melanesia, as in many other parts of the world, it is sometimes difficult to ensure that everyone's interests are aligned with the goals of conservation and community-led development. Through the course of the investment period, there were well documented cases of corruption by government actors, examples of leaders or chiefs receiving cash payments to effectively sign away community resources, and NGOs or researchers working in their own interest rather than on behalf of local or national communities. To overcome these challenges, CEPF and the RIT tried to be a different kind of donor. This started with IUCN having country coordinators seated inside government offices, allowing them to ensure that grants were aligned with larger priorities. It also included requiring grantees to have letters of support from communities concurrent with grant awards and following clear stakeholder engagement plans. The result was grantees, communities, government agencies, IUCN (as the RIT) having a shared vision in each site.

**Rapid response and flexibility.** Over the course of the investment period, the countries faced the following:

- Category 5 Tropical Cyclone Pam in March 2015, which caused US$600 million of damage in Vanuatu and with damage to 90 percent of the buildings in the country.
- Category 5 Tropical Cyclone Harold in April 2020, which affected one-third of Vanuatu's population.

- The Covid-19 pandemic, which effectively cut off the three countries from any international travel between April 2020 and early 2022, and created strict limitations on internal travel for at least 18 months. World Bank surveys showed people reducing the number of children in school, harvesting and selling crops ahead of the planned time for sale, and reducing food consumption.

In each case, CEPF was able to use its flexible granting mechanisms to help its partners. This included making small grants, and amending ongoing large grants, to pay for disaster relief and future disaster mitigation (e.g., repairing buildings and water supply systems). CEPF also paid grantee staff salaries throughout the pandemic, even as progress with conservation activities slowed or stopped.

# 11. Progress Toward Long-term Conservation Goals

CEPF recognizes that it cannot secure all of its conservation goals within the time period of a grant portfolio, even one like East Melanesia that stretched to nine years. The starting point for civil society capacity and scientific knowledge is too low and the drivers of threats are too deep to be resolved with a relative handful of projects. Still, the CEPF Secretariat and RIT consider a day in the future when civil society can "graduate" from donor support, defined by criteria across five goals: conservation priorities, civil society capacity, financing, the enabling environment, and monitoring and responsiveness.

Over the final year of the portfolio, and as part of the final assessment workshops, the Tropical Biology Association facilitated stakeholder discussions on progress toward these goals. As shown in Annex 7, each of the five goals has five criteria, with the theory being that when the criteria are met in each of the three countries, civil society will no longer require CEPF donor support. Five criteria per five goals means there are 25 criteria. With three countries in the hotspot, this means there are 75 measures of achievement. Realistically, to meet each criterion in each country could take several decades and cost tens, or hundreds, of millions of dollars.

While a framework like this seems disheartening, it is not meant to be, because, indeed, progress is being made. Over the grant period, the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and the part of PNG within the hotspot all made steady progress with identifying KBAs and assessing threats to species within them; civil society groups improved their management systems; and, public awareness of conservation issues, and discussion of these in the public sphere, increased as a whole.

In parallel to this line of discussion, in the final year of the program, the Tropical Biology Association conducted electronic and virtual surveys of stakeholders to draft a document, "Conserving Globally Threatened Biodiversity in the East Melanesian Islands: A Case for Sustainability." This document provides an outline for investments over the medium term.

# 12. Lessons from the Portfolio

CEPF gathered lessons from the grantees themselves, via their Final Completion and Impact Reports, surveys, and at the final assessment meetings in the three countries. The RIT, Secretariat, and TAG members also offered their own reflections during the final assessment meetings. Looking at all these "lessons" allows a meta-analysis, a *lesson-from-the-lessons*.

Grantees collectively reported 366 lessons from their grants. These individual lessons often are the same or overlap and can be grouped together into themes. The following themes capture 90 percent of the lessons.

**Project design.** Grantees recognized that they need to build flexibility into projects from the start, looking ahead to possible natural disasters (e.g., typhoons, pandemics, travel bans, political unrest) and having contingency plans. They also recognized the need for better pre-project surveys, feasibility studies (especially for businesses), and engagement with stakeholders for several months prior to implementation.

**Community engagement.** Grantees emphasized the complexity of land ownership issues, leadership, and legitimacy. Proponents of customary rights might expect tribal leaders to have more legitimacy than those of the administrative state but grantees reported that this is not always the case. Grantees emphasized that community engagement, including Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), requires time, even at the expense of immediate conservation results.

**Partnership and collaboration.** Grantees noted the challenges of partnership: that working with less established partners requires more support, time and funding, while working with higher capacity partners can create over-reliance, particularly for project finance. A further challenge comes from being partners in name but still working in isolation. On the other hand, grantees noted the many positives: enhanced impact, sharing of information, greater legitimacy in the eyes of communities and government.

**Capacity building.** Grantees emphasized the need for foundational support for operational and financial policies, for financial management, for systems establishing good governance at a board level, and for communications. They reported that these factors, rather than lack of technical skills in conservation science, are their biggest barriers.

**Human resources.** Distinct from capacity building, grantees discussed the importance of finding the "right" staff: having a person with the correct expertise, the appropriate ethnic background, available locally or at an affordable transportation cost. Knowing how difficult it is to find that combination, grantees discussed designing projects around reasonably available human resources, as opposed to an ideal that satisfies donors and government.

**Communications.** This hotspot is composed of geographically dispersed islands, with poor electronic communication infrastructure, and populations with limited educational attainment. This upends assumptions on how to communicate, how easy it is to communicate, or even what to say. More time is needed to consider how implementation partners and stakeholders understand messages and how this affects motivations and perceptions.

**Project implementation.** Grantees reported on how rarely projects went exactly according to plan. Imagining future projects and anticipating the need for adaptive management, the lesson then became having good baseline data and open lines of communication to government partners and community stakeholders, to be able to say "we need to make changes but we know where we started and can still measure success as we follow a new path."

**Simple goals lead to success, which leads to more funding.** Grantees discussed the importance of not making promises they cannot fulfill. Helping people improve their livelihoods, setting an area aside for formal protection, and reducing threats to species all require many months, if not years, to achieve. The lesson was breaking projects into

achievable (and fundable) pieces. Sustainability and momentum build from small achievements, rather than focusing only on one large end goal.

**Organizational mentorship.** In a region with low capacity CSOs, creating mentoring relationships between the RIT and grantees, or between large and capable NGOs and smaller groups, with time horizons that go beyond individual projects, is valuable. The lesson, or implication, becomes one of having fewer grantees, if not fewer grants.

Considering the above, the Tropical Biology Association did a meta-analysis, thinking of the *lesson-from-the-lessons*, for CEPF and other donors. The ecosystem profile and donor contract language create constraints on the topics and types of things CEPF can support, influencing project design and implementation. Expectations of achievement at a portfolio level, within a fixed time period, influence the phrasing of individual project goals and expectations for their achievement, establishing the conditions for success, or failure. In short, the message is that the grantees' lessons become everyone's, that the way the entire CEPF program is designed helps avoid past mistakes.

# 13. Future Directions and Conclusions

Biodiversity hotspots, by definition, are under threat. The overall level of threat in the EMI Hotspot did not abate between 2013 to 2022 and, based on current trends, will only grow worse over time. In response, stakeholders at the final assessment workshops, both in person and online, suggested steps for the future.

1. Future grant programs need to match the methodology with the geography. The remoteness of many KBAs in the hotspot (islands with limited or no air service, and even sea transport that can be stopped during certain seasons) often results in limited government or donor funding, which then leads to those places being prioritized by mechanisms like CEPF. However, in that case, grant-making needs to allow for, variously: (1) sufficient funding to support travel and relocation of high-capacity groups from national capitals to the locations; or (2) sufficient time to allow local groups to grow in capacity to undertake the technical requirements of a project.

   The second point above raises another: the ecosystem profile was for seven years, with two years devoted to capacity building and five years for conservation. Did that plan not work? In hindsight, the plan for a capacity building phase was good, but the assumption that in two years, it would be "done," was over-optimistic. Future investments might change expectations or emphases away from biogeographic goals and toward civil society goals.

2. The hotspot covers only a portion of PNG: the island groups of Manus, New Ireland, New Britain, and Bougainville. The mainland of New Guinea island and the other islands in the Solomon and Coral Sea are not included, because they do not meet the criteria for a biodiversity hotspot. This bifurcation causes challenges for organizations and government partners seeking to work at a national level on issues of policy, land reform, capacity building, and sustainable finance. Future investments might consider ways to allow for more work on national issues in the country, recognizing that the island of New Guinea is a high-biodiversity wilderness area.

3. In a region with natural isolation, grantees place a high value on the chance to meet and visit one another's field sites. To date, there is not a culture, or a reliable

mechanism, for electronic or virtual networks. Future investments might promote internal travel and cross-site visits as a matter of course for all projects.

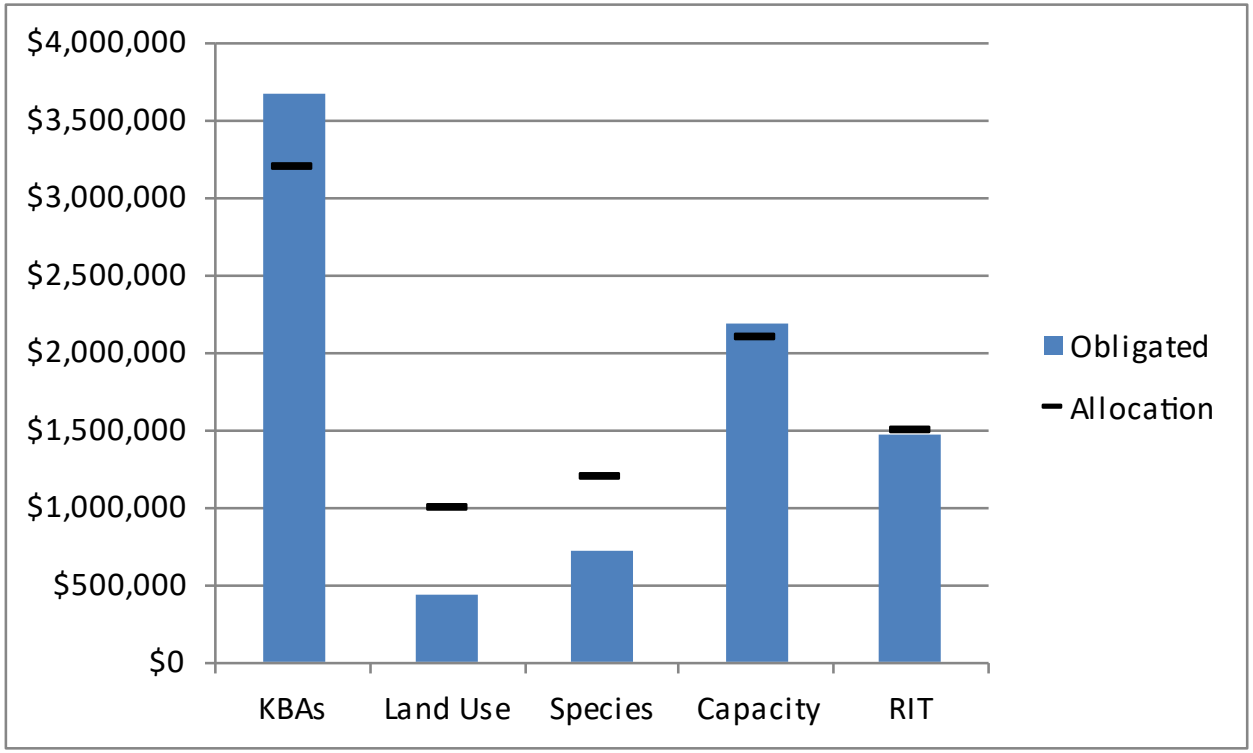
4. Certain threats are beyond the reach of local civil society organizations working with relatively small grants. For example, a grant to a local NGO to address illegal forestry activities in one country might be possible, whereas in another country, the relationship between government permitting authorities and a private forestry company with foreign investors is such that there is actual personal danger to the NGO and local communities. Future investments might allow for more funding for transparency, advocacy, legal efforts, and enforcement by partners.

   Absorptive capacity is limited and overlapping, if not competing, agendas from international initiatives, donors, and big NGOs create confusion. Granting programs like CEPF must look for synergies and avoid duplication of effort with other conservation and environment initiatives in the region, such as the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP), grants programs funded by the Green Climate Fund and USAID, the IUCN Oceania Regional Office and the WWF-Pacific program. There are then other funders, like Nia Tero, that support overlapping issues of indigenous rights. Partners suggested creation of national conservation networks that build on existing government agencies for donor coordination and that allow for continued funding of NGOs and projects based on performance, rather than on "all or nothing" cycles related to proposals.

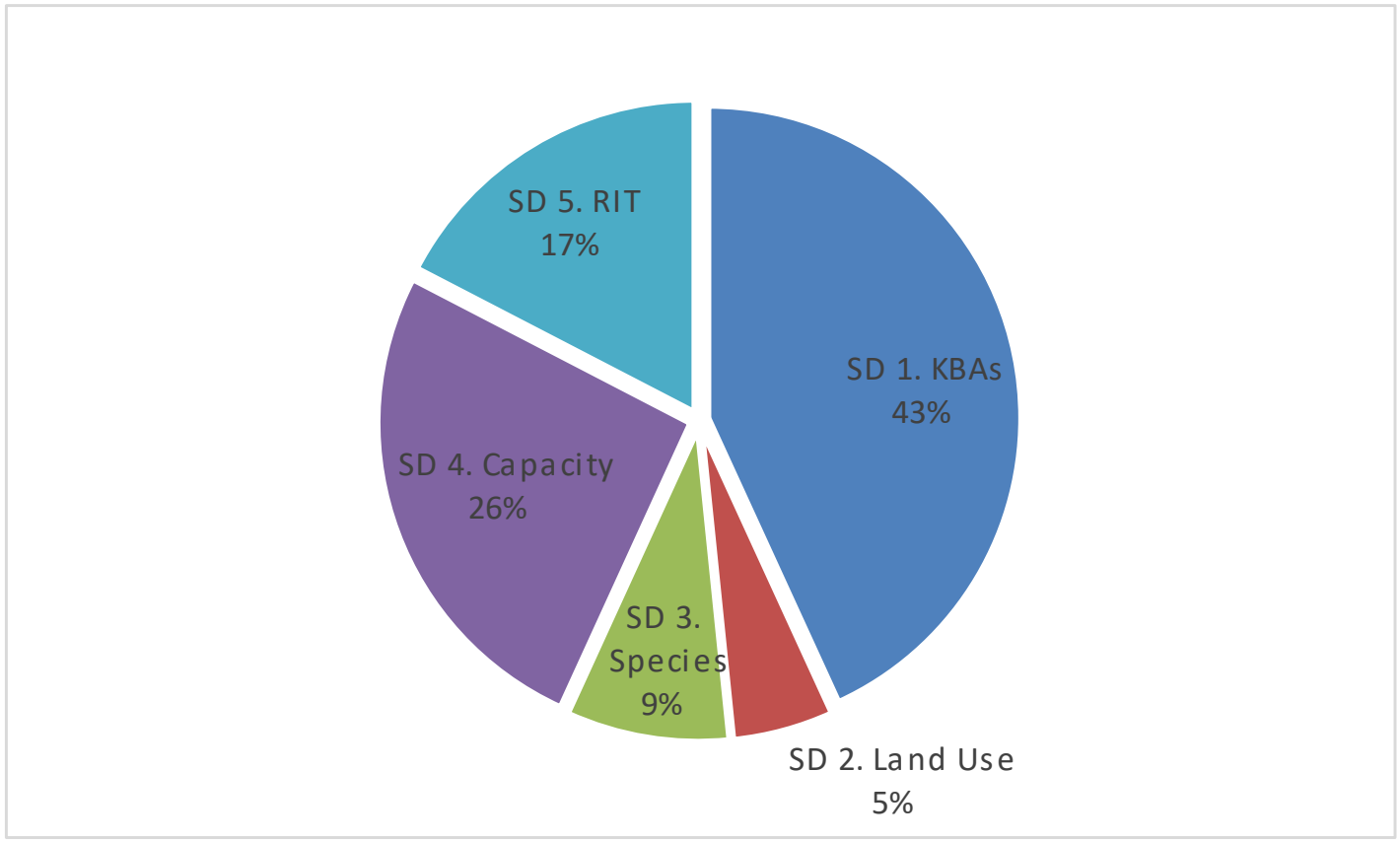
Certainly, these are only suggestions and there are still more options, as outlined in the case for sustainability and as expressed by CEPF's many partners over the 11 years between the preparation of the ecosystem profile and the conclusion of this portfolio. As this portfolio has shown, with a relatively small amount of money, civil society can achieve major results. Engaging CSOs in the East Melanesian Islands on any of the above proposals will be a positive step for biodiversity conservation in the future.

## Annex 1. Summary Figures

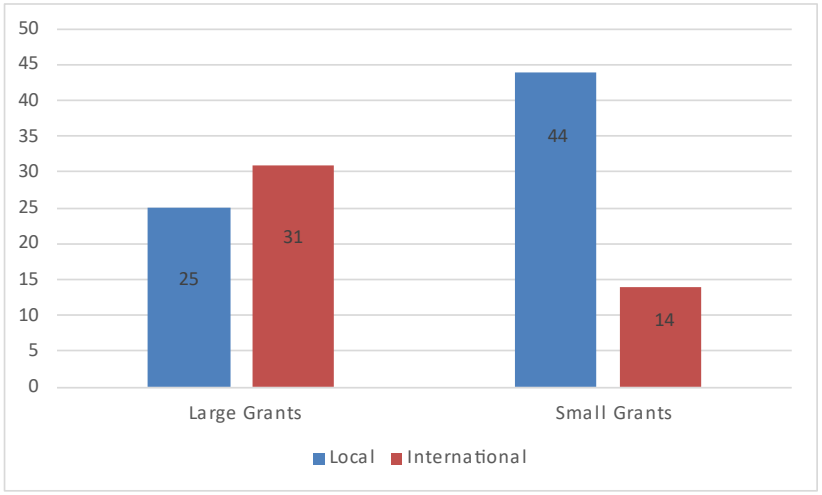
This figure corresponds to Table 5 and shows the amount of funds awarded per strategic direction. The heavy black line shows the allocated amount. The portfolio dedicated more funding to KBAs (Strategic Direction 1), and less to land use (Strategic Direction 2) and species conservation (Strategic Direction 3) than originally planned.

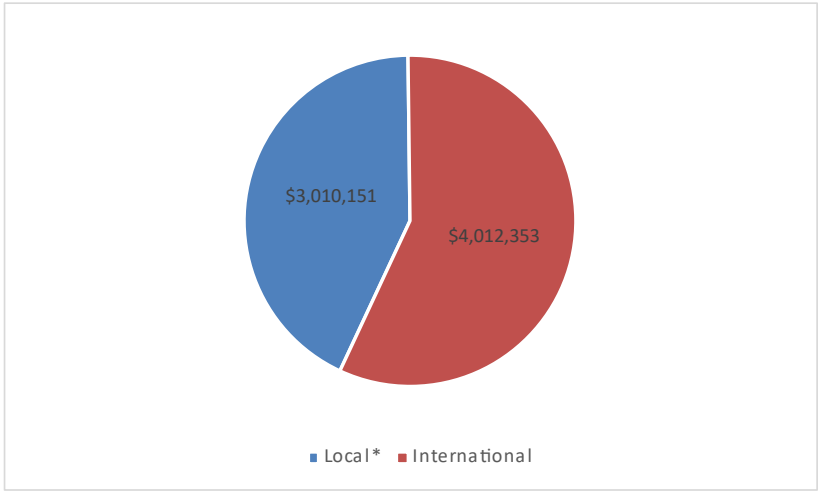


This figure corresponds to Table 5 and shows funding by strategic direction.



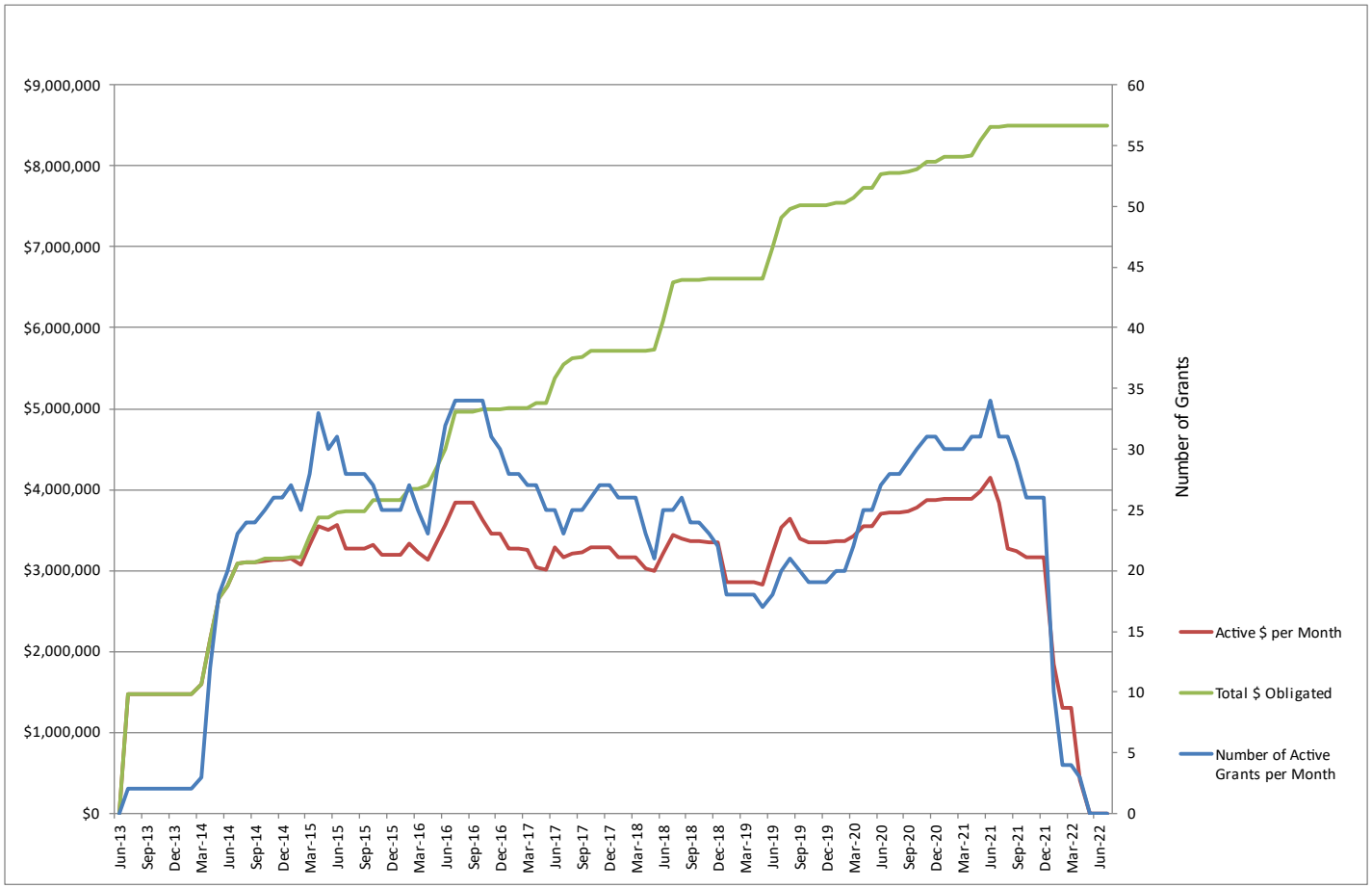
The figures below correspond to Table 9, showing the number and dollar value of large and small grants made to local and international groups (not including the RIT).



This figure shows the obligation trend of the portfolio from 2013 to 2022.

The green line shows the total dollars awarded rising steadily over time, to close to US$8.5 million, with almost all money awarded by June 2021. The red line shows the total value of active grants at any time, peaking at over US$4 million in June 2021. This line reflects risk: the dollar value commitment of ongoing work. The blue line shows the number of active grants at any given time, peaking at 34 grants in July-September 2016 and again in June 2021. This line reflects the workload for the RIT and CEPF Secretariat.



## Annex 2. Update on Progress Toward Targets in the Portfolio Logical Framework

| Objective | Indicator | Result |
|---|---|---|
| Engage civil society in the conservation of globally threatened biodiversity through targeted investments with maximum impact on the highest conservation priorities | 20 key biodiversity areas covering 1,549,009 hectares have new or strengthened protection and management | 20 KBAs covering 1,262,615 hectares have improved management, with 283,576 of those hectares having specific intervention for improvement (Table 12) |
| | At least 100,000 hectares within production landscapes are managed for biodiversity conservation or sustainable use | 13 production landscapes covering 162,880 hectares have improved management (Table 13) |
| | At least 5 local land-use or development plans influenced to accommodate biodiversity | PNG<br>8 communities in Central Manus with forest management plans<br>1 land-use plan for Cape-Saint George (Kait community)<br><br>Solomon Islands<br>1 Western Province Development Strategy for Ghizo and Kolombangara<br><br>Vanuatu<br>2 land-use plans: Tabuemasana Management Plan; and Western Santo Sustainable Development Plan |
| | 48 globally threatened species have improved conservation status and/or available information on status and distribution | 37 of 48 priority species addressed; 17 additional globally threatened species addressed (Table 10) |
| | At least 10 partnerships and networks formed among civil society, government and communities to leverage complementary capacities and maximize impact in support of the ecosystem profile | 16 existing partnerships and networks strengthened; 32 created (see Section 9.3) |
| | At least 40 civil society organizations, including at least 30 domestic organizations, actively participate in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile | Not counting the RIT, 24 unique international organizations and 41 unique local organizations received 114 grants |

| Intermediate Outcome | Intermediate Indicators | Result |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Local communities empowered to protect and manage globally significant biodiversity at priority Key Biodiversity Areas under served by current conservation efforts | Baseline surveys completed for at least 10 priority sites | 14 priority sites had baseline surveys completed:<br><br><u>PNG</u><br>Manus by WCS<br>Mussau by WCS<br>Baining Mountains by Bishop Museum<br>Mt Balbi-Kunua Plains by BCI and UQ<br><br><u>Solomon Islands</u><br>Mt Maetambe –Kolombangara River by ESSI and French Ichthyological Society (FIS)<br>Guadalcanal by USP and FIS<br>Kolombangara Upland Forest by FIS and UQ<br>Marovo-Kavachi by UQ<br>Nendö by Oceanswatch<br>Vanikoro by Oceanswatch<br><br><u>Vanuatu</u><br>Aneityum by FIS and New York Botanical Garden<br>Gaua by FIS<br>Green Hill by FIS and New York Botanical Garden<br>Santo Mountain Chain by LLV<br><br>In progress: East Makira, East Rennell, Aneityum, Futuna |
| | Awareness of the values of biodiversity and the nature of threats and drivers raised among local communities within at least 10 priority sites | Awareness raised at 20 KBAs, including 14 priority sites (Table 12) |
| | Threat levels to at least 15 priority sites reduced through locally relevant conservation actions implemented by local communities | Threats addressed, but not necessarily reduced, at 13 priority sites: East Makira; Central Manus; Mussau; Cape St. George; Kunua Plains and Mount Balbi; Kolombangara Upland Forest; Nendö; Vanikoro; Mt. Maetambe-Kolobangara River; Santo Mountain Chain; Gaua; Tongoa-Laika; and Green Hill |
| | Conservation incentives (ecotourism, payments for ecosystem services, conservation agreements, etc.) demonstrated for at least 5 priority sites | Conservation incentives demonstrated for 5 priority sites: Gaua; Santo Mountain Chain; Green Hill; Mt. Maetambe-Kolombangara River; Central Manus |

| Intermediate Outcome | Intermediate Indicators | Result |
|---|---|---|
| | At least 75 percent of local communities targeted by site-based projects show tangible wellbeing benefits | 100 percent of communities targeted show benefits: of 278 communities reached, 175 received social benefits and 91 received environmental benefits (see Section 8.1) |
| 2. Biodiversity conservation integrated into local land-use and development planning | Ownership and tenure rights within customary lands mapped for at least 5 priority sites | Ownership and tenure rights mapped for 3 priority sites: Cape St. George; Mount Maetambe to Kolobangara River; and Kunua Plains and Mount Balbi |
| | At least 200 landowners (10 communities) affected by incompatible development projects provided with legal training and support | 6 communities provided with legal training and support: Arnavon Community Marine Conservation Association; communities in Baining Mountains, Central Manus, Nendö, Vanikoro and Marovo KBAs |
| | At least 3 partnerships catalyzed between civil society organizations and natural resource companies to promote sustainable development through better environmental and social practices | 3 grantees reached 7 companies to promote better environmental and social practices (see Section 9.2) |
| | Biodiversity and ecosystem service values of at least 5 priority sites integrated into local land-use and/or development plans and policies | PNG<br>8 communities in Central Manus with forest management plans;<br>1 land-use plan for Cape St George (Kait community)<br><br>Solomon Islands<br>1 Western Province Development Strategy for Ghizo and Kolombangara<br><br>Vanuatu<br>2 land use plans: Tabuemasana Management Plan; and Western Santo Sustainable Development Plan |
| 3. Priority globally threatened species safeguarded by addressing major threats and information gaps | Knowledge of the status and distribution of at least 5 priority species improved through research | Research on 20 priority species and 10 additional globally threatened species (Table 10) |
| | Species recovery plans developed, implemented and monitored for at least 20 priority species | Species recovery plans developed for 6 priority species; conservation actions other than research and awareness raising implemented for 26 priority species and an additional 14 globally threatened species (Table 10) |
| | Science-based harvest management introduced for at least 3 priority species important to local food security | 3 priority species benefitted from harvest management introduced by grantees: harvest ban on green turtle on Mussau (PNG); science-based harvest management of Vanuatu megapode eggs (Vanuatu); tabu harvesting zone established for collared petrel chicks (Vanuatu) |

| Intermediate Outcome | Intermediate Indicators | Result |
|---|---|---|
| 4. Local and national capacity to conserve biodiversity increased through civil society partnerships | At least 5 civil society networks enable collective responses to priority and emerging threats | 23 different grantees strengthened 16 existing partnerships and created 32 more (see Section 9.3) |
| | At least 20 domestic civil society organizations demonstrate improvements in organizational capacity | 22 organizations had a change in CSTT score of five or more points (see Section 7.3) |
| | At least two civil society organizations emerge as national conservation leaders in each hotspot country | Papua New Guinea<br>• Binatang Research Center<br>• Center for Environmental Law and Community Rights<br><br>Solomon Islands<br>• Natural Resources Development Foundation<br>• Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership<br><br>Vanuatu<br>• Santo Sunset Environment Network<br>• Vanuatu Environmental Science Society |
| | At least 30 conservationists demonstrate strengthened capacity in conservation management, science, and leadership | 41 local organizations, and by implication, at least 41 people have strengthened capacity in at least one of these measures (Table 9)<br><br>More than 7,000 people received relevant training, including 262 in management/leadership and hundreds in conservation science techniques (see Section 7.2) |
| 5. A Regional Implementation Team provides strategic leadership and effectively coordinates CEPF investment in the East Melanesian Islands Hotspot | At least 40 civil society organizations, including at least 30 domestic organizations actively participate in conservation actions guided by the ecosystem profile | 41 local organizations and 25 international organizations (including the RIT) received grants (Table 9) |
| | At least 80 percent of domestic civil society organizations receiving grants demonstrate more effective capacity to design and implement conservation actions | 32 out of 41 local organizations completed CSTTs; 25 of 32 (78 percent) showed an increase in CSTT score of 5 points or more (see Section 7.3) |
| | At least 20 civil society organizations supported by CEPF secure follow-up funding from conservation trust funds and/or the GEF Small Grants Programme | 21 organizations leveraged additional funding (either concurrent or consecutive), although not exclusively from conservation trust funds or the GEF Small Grants Programme |
| | At least 2 participatory assessments are undertaken and lessons learned and best practices from the hotspot are documented | Mid-term assessment held in December 2018; final assessment held in March-April 2022 |

## Annex 3. Contributions to the CEPF Global Indicators

CEPF tracked all grants per multiple measures, including how each grant contributed to CEPF's 16 global indicators. Results can change from the moment this report is released. Nonetheless, as of the close of the portfolio in June 2022, total contributions to CEPF global indicators are shown below. Many of these overlap with the Portfolio Indicators (Annex 2) and are elaborated upon elsewhere.

| No. | Indicator | Result |
|---|---|---|
| **Pillar: Biodiversity** | | |
| 1 | Number of globally threatened species benefiting from conservation action | 54 |
| 2 | Number of hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas with improved management | 1,262,615 |
| 3 | Number of hectares of protected areas created and/or expanded | 59,385 |
| 4 | Number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity | 162,880 |
| 5 | Number of protected areas with improved management (existing + new) | 22 |
| **Pillar: Civil Society** | | |
| 6 | Number of CEPF grantees with improved organizational capacity | 25 |
| 7 | Number of CEPF grantees with improved understanding of and commitment to gender issues | 18 |
| 8 | Number of networks and partnerships that have been created and/or strengthened | 48 |
| **Pillar: Human Well-Being** | | |
| 9 | Number of people receiving structured training | 7,164 |
| 10 | Number of people receiving non-cash benefits | 50,709 |
| 11 | Number of people receiving cash benefits | 2,347 |
| 12 | Number of projects promoting nature-based solutions to combat climate change | 34 |
| 13 | Amount of carbon dioxide equivalent sequestered in CEPF-supported natural habitats[2] | Not available |
| **Pillar: Enabling Conditions** | | |
| 14 | Number of laws, regulations, and policies with conservation provisions that have been enacted or amended | 5 |
| 15 | Number of sustainable financing mechanisms that are delivering funds for conservation | 1 |
| 16 | Number of companies that adopt biodiversity-friendly practices | 7 |

[2] This indicator is monitored by CEPF at the global level rather than at the level of individual portfolios.

## Annex 4. Results per Aichi Targets

The following table shows the contributions of the CEPF grant portfolio in the East Melanesian Islands Hotspot towards the targets of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, also known as the Aichi Targets.

| Aichi Target | Description | Result |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Awareness of the values of biodiversity | Grantees worked in 278 communities with 50,709 people |
| 2 | Biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies | 5 policies |
| 4 | Plans for sustainable production and consumption | 162,880 hectares in 13 sites with production landscape under improved management |
| 5 | Reduction in loss of natural habitat, fragmentation | 20 KBAs covering 1,262,615 hectares have improved management, with 283,576 of those hectares having specific intervention for improvement |
| 6 | Fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably | Habitat of southern giant clam *(Tridacna derasa)* and giant clam *(T. gigas)* in PNG under improved management |
| 7 | Areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably | 162,880 hectares in 13 sites with production landscape under improved management |
| 8 | Pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental | Grant to VESS contributed to Waste Management Regulations Order No. 15 of 2018 on nationwide control of food-related plastic waste in Vanuatu |
| 9 | Invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated | Grants to Landcare Research, BirdLife International, Eco-Lifelihood Development Association, SICCP and Auckland UniServices addressed alien invasive species |
| 11 | Improved management of well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures | 20 KBAs covering 1,262,615 hectares have improved management, understanding that CEPF's focus on KBAs for its conservation outcomes represents an effective area-based conservation measure |
| 12 | Prevention of species extinction | 54 globally threatened species benefited from study and/or conservation action |

| Aichi Target | Description | Result |
|---|---|---|
| 14 | Ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable | Two organizations received grants specifically related to PES schemes. NRDF improved the management of Mount Maetambe-Kolombangara River KBA, with 78,399 hectares. Live & Learn Vanuatu improved the management of North Efate KBA, with 61,201 hectares. In total, 123 communities received benefits in the form of increased access to ecosystem services or increased access to clean water. |
| 15 | Ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification | The 78,399 hectares of Mount Maetambe-Kolombangara River KBA in the Solomon Islands are better managed through a forest carbon sequestration and credit-trading program. |
| 16 | Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing consistent with national legislation | 216 communities benefited from improved recognition of traditional knowledge or improved decision-making and representation in governance. |
| 18 | Respect for traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities | 160 communities benefited from improved recognition of traditional knowledge. |
| 19 | Improvement, sharing, transfer, and application of knowledge, science, technology | Research was undertaken on 30 globally threatened species. |

## Annex 5. All Awarded Grants, by Country and Start Date

CEPF encourages interested parties to review the CEPF project database for details on any grant discussed in this report, including summary descriptions of the projects, final completion reports and other information provided by grantees. The table below includes embedded hyperlinks to CEPF's website for each specific grant.

| No. | CEPF ID | Organization | SD | Summary Title | Amount | Start Date | End Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **RIT GRANTS** | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 63281 | International Union for the Conservation of Nature | 5 | RIT Programs | $892,679 | 1-Jul-13 | 31-Mar-22 |
| 2 | 63282 | International Union for the Conservation of Nature | 5 | RIT Administration | $584,726 | 1-Jul-13 | 31-Jul-21 |
| **MULTI-COUNTRY AND REGIONAL GRANTS** | | | | | | | |
| 3 | 64342 | Auckland UniServices Ltd | 1 | Raising Awareness of Invasive Alien Species | $18,938 | 1-Apr-14 | 30-Sep-14 |
| 4 | 64259 | BirdLife International | 4 | Building Civil Society Capacity | $150,459 | 1-Apr-14 | 30-Sep-16 |
| 5 | 111677 | BirdLife International | 4 | Establishing Key Biodiversity Areas | $189,845 | 1-May-21 | 30-Apr-22 |
| 6 | 64256 | Environmental Defenders | 4 | Legal Capacity Building for Environmental Protection | $105,278 | 1-Jul-14 | 31-Dec-18 |
| 7 | 64245 | French Ichthyological Society | 1 | Management of the Solomon and Vanuatu Islands' Rivers | $49,701 | 1-May-14 | 31-Oct-16 |
| 8 | 70017 | Landcare Research New Zealand Ltd | 4 | Cost-Benefit Analysis for Managing Invasive Alien Species | $19,987 | 1-Jul-15 | 30-Jun-16 |
| 9 | 64252 | Live & Learn Vanuatu | 1 | Empowering Local Communities through Education | $99,718 | 1-May-14 | 31-Oct-15 |
| 10 | 110249 | Oceania Ecology Group | 3 | Giant Rats of Bougainville, Guadalcanal and Vangunu | $19,990 | 1-Sep-19 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 11 | 111806 | Tropical Biology Association | 4 | Sustaining CEPF's Investment in the Region | $128,855 | 1-Jun-21 | 30-Apr-22 |
| **PAPUA NEW GUINEA** | | | | | | | |
| 12 | 64338 | Bat Conservation International | 1 | Bats of Bougainville | $15,000.00 | 1-Oct-14 | 30-Sep-15 |
| 13 | 65979 | Bat Conservation International | 1 | Establishing a Management Plan with the Rotokas People for the Kunua Plains and Mount Balbi KBA | $83,096.91 | 1-Jul-16 | 31-Dec-18 |
| 14 | 65753 | BirdLife International | 3 | Beck's Petrel: Discovering Colonies as the Key to its Conservation | $113,720.00 | 1-Feb-16 | 31-Dec-17 |
| 15 | 65380 | Bishop Museum | 1 | Baining Mountains Biological Survey | $19,976.09 | 1-Feb-16 | 28-Feb-17 |
| 16 | 76628 | Centre for Environmental Law and Community Rights | 2 | Establishment of Protected Areas - Baining Mountains and Central Manus | $12,406.38 | 1-Oct-16 | 30-Apr-17 |
| 17 | 109899 | Centre for Environmental Law and Community Rights | 2 | Improving resource management in the Baining Mountains and Nakanai Ranges | $42,889.10 | 1-Oct-20 | 30-Sep-21 |
| 18 | 104243 | FORCERT - Forests for Certain: Forests for Life! | 2 | Community Conservation Through Sustainable Land Use for the Cape Saint George Area | $17,076.52 | 1-Aug-17 | 31-Aug-18 |
| 19 | 109296 | FORCERT - Forests for Certain: Forests for Life! | 2 | Community Conservation in Cape Saint George Key Biodiversity Area | $75,670.65 | 1-Jul-19 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 20 | 73009 | Kainake Project Inc | 4 | Strengthening the Institutional Capacity | $14,321 | 1-May-16 | 31-Mar-17 |
| 21 | 65106 | Mama Graun Conservation Trust Fund | 4 | Capacity Building Training for Pokili, Garu and Tavolo Wildlife Management Areas | $15,426 | 1-Apr-14 | 30-Apr-15 |

| No. | CEPF ID | Organization | SD | Summary Title | Amount | Start Date | End Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 22 | 73006 | Manus Environment Conservation Communities Network | 4 | Empowering MECCN as a leader on Manus Island | $12,471 | 1-May-16 | 31-Aug-17 |
| 23 | 110299 | New Guinea Binatang Research Center | 4 | Capacity Building for Rangers and Conservationists | $138,916 | 1-Jun-20 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 24 | 110837 | NGO PROmotion Incorporated | 4 | Strengthening Civil Society Organizations to Support Biodiversity Conservation in Bougainville | $13,549 | 1-Jun-20 | 31-Aug-21 |
| 25 | 109029 | Papua New Guinea Environmental Law Association | 4 | Building Papua New Guinea Environmental Law Association's Capacity to Empower PNG's Local Communities to Protect Biodiversity | $3,642 | 1-Nov-17 | 30-Nov-18 |
| 26 | 110838 | Papua New Guinea Forest Certification Incorporated | 2 | Promoting Sustainable Development and Responsible Production Across PNG's Natural Resource Sectors | $14,103 | 1-Jun-20 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 27 | 64360 | Papua New Guinea Institute of Biological Research | 4 | Institutional Support for Effective Organizational Administration and Governance | $96,937 | 1-Apr-14 | 31-Oct-16 |
| 28 | 65395 | Partners With Melanesians | 1 | Derimbat Community Restoration Project | $8,000 | 1-Nov-14 | 30-Nov-16 |
| 29 | 109403 | Rotokas Ecotourism | 2 | Clanship and Resource Mapping Within Customary Lands of the Kunua Plains and Mount Balbi KBAs | $7,930 | 1-Jun-18 | 31-May-19 |
| 30 | 65441 | SeaWeb Asia Pacific | 1 | Empowering Local Communities for Natural Resource Management Through Media Development and Communications Training | $19,987 | 1-Apr-14 | 30-Apr-15 |
| 31 | 75606 | Tawi-Asi Resource Network | 1 | Empowering the People of Pobuma to Design Conservation Actions on Manus Island | $5,132 | 1-Jul-16 | 31-May-17 |
| 32 | 109232 | Treweek Environmental Consultants | 3 | Implementing the Beck's Petrel Species Action Plan | $81,072 | 1-Jun-19 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 33 | 63955 | University of Papua New Guinea | 4 | Capacity Building and Training Course for Conservation Management of Giant Clams | $19,988 | 1-Aug-14 | 31-Jan-15 |
| 34 | 66518 | University of Queensland | 1 | Biodiversity Assessment and Awareness Building in the Kunua and Mount Balbi KBA | $106,683 | 1-Jul-18 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 35 | 109784 | University of Queensland | 3 | Conservation of Threatened and Endemic Terrestrial Mammals of Manus Island | $20,000 | 1-Nov-18 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 36 | 64357 | Wildlife Conservation Society | 1 | Participatory Rural Appraisal and Rapid Biodiversity Assessments of Manus and Mussau Islands | $170,130 | 1-May-14 | 30-Jun-15 |
| 37 | 65963 | Wildlife Conservation Society | 1 | Saving Sea Turtles on Mussau Island through Improved Marine and Terrestrial Food Security | $250,000 | 1-Jul-16 | 31-Dec-18 |
| 38 | 109332 | Wildlife Conservation Society | 1 | Empowering Communities to Conserve Central Manus | $297,461 | 1-Jun-19 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 39 | 76636 | World Wide Fund for Nature | 4 | Organization and Management of the Papua New Guinea Grantee Exchange | $17,987 | 1-Oct-16 | 31-Dec-16 |
| **SOLOMON ISLANDS** | | | | | | | |
| 40 | 64276 | American Museum of Natural History | 1 | Advancing a Conservation Strategy for the Uplands of Guadalcanal | $77,000 | 1-May-14 | 30-Sep-15 |
| 41 | 72630 | Arnavon Community Marine Conservation Association | 2 | Training for Arnavon Community Marine Conservation Association to Ratify Protected Areas Act 2010 | $19,913 | 1-Apr-16 | 30-Apr-17 |
| 42 | 110393 | Baru Conservation Alliance | 4 | Strengthening the Baru Conservation Alliance for Conservation Management in Kwaio | $19,995 | 1-Jan-20 | 30-Sep-21 |

| No. | CEPF ID | Organization | SD | Summary Title | Amount | Start Date | End Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 43 | 109110 | BirdLife International | 1 | Exploring the Removal of Threats on East Rennell as a Local Response to a World Heritage Area in Danger | $19,964 | 1-May-18 | 30-Apr-19 |
| 44 | 64270 | Ecological Solutions, Solomon Islands | 1 | Baseline Biodiversity Inventory of Mt. Maetambe-Kolombangara River Corridor | $72,700 | 1-Jun-14 | 30-Jun-15 |
| 45 | 65755 | Ecological Solutions, Solomon Islands | 2 | Mapping Customary Lands from Mount Maetambe to Kolobangara River | $135,834 | 1-Mar-15 | 31-Mar-17 |
| 46 | 104242 | Ecological Solutions, Solomon Islands | 4 | Convene the Solomon Islands Species Forum at the Solomon Islands National Symposium | $19,741 | 1-Sep-17 | 31-Mar-18 |
| 47 | 66419 | Ecological Solutions, Solomon Islands | 1 | Strengthening Protection and Improving Food Security in the Mount Maetambe-Kolombangara River KBA | $55,347 | 1-Oct-17 | 30-Sep-19 |
| 48 | 109401 | Gizo Women in Business Development Incorporation | 1 | Enhancing Alternative Livelihoods Through Beekeeping in the Kolombangara Island KBA | $14,030 | 1-Aug-18 | 30-Aug-19 |
| 49 | 110666 | Gizo Women in Business Development Incorporation | 1 | Agroforestry and Feasibility Study on Downstream Processing of Fruits on Kolombangara Island and Bee-Keeping on Ghizo Island | $19,816 | 1-Mar-20 | 31-Aug-21 |
| 50 | 65968 | International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management | 4 | Building Coalitions in Solomon Islands to Enhance Resource Management and Sustainable Development | $121,156 | 1-Jun-16 | 31-May-18 |
| 51 | 65403 | James Cook University | 4 | Traditional Knowledge, Customary Stewardship and Strengthening Practical Approaches to Conservation Management Projects in Kwaio | $19,985 | 1-Jul-14 | 30-Jun-15 |
| 52 | 77835 | James Cook University | 4 | Building the capacity of Kwaio communities to strengthen Indigenous Knowledge | $19,909 | 1-Jan-17 | 31-Mar-18 |
| 53 | 74147 | Kahua Association Trust Board | 4 | Strengthening the Governance and Capacity of Kahua Association for Biodiversity Conservation | $18,060 | 1-Jun-16 | 30-Jun-17 |
| 54 | 65423 | Kolombangara Island Biodiversity Conservation Association | 4 | Building the Capacity of the Kolombangara Island Biodiversity Conservation Association | $19,988 | 1-Apr-14 | 30-Apr-15 |
| 55 | 64258 | Live & Learn Solomon Islands | 4 | Strengthening Governance and Management Needs of Communities in East Rennell | $35,088 | 1-Apr-14 | 31-Mar-16 |
| 56 | 110250 | Mai Maasina Green Belt | 4 | Developing the Mai-Maasina Green Belt for Malaita | $19,644 | 1-Sep-19 | 31-Dec-20 |
| 57 | 112325 | Mai Maasina Green Belt | 4 | Toward a Network of Protected Areas in Malaita | $19,670 | 1-Jun-21 | 31-Jan-22 |
| 58 | 78007 | Natural Resources Development Foundation | 1 | Forest Conservation Through Payment for Environmental Services in Choiseul | $17,558 | 1-Apr-17 | 30-Apr-18 |
| 59 | 103738 | Natural Resources Development Foundation | 1 | Mount Maetambe to Kolombangara River Corridor PES | $201,008 | 1-Jul-18 | 31-Jan-22 |
| 60 | 110665 | Natural Resources Development Foundation | 4 | Capacity-Building for the Barekasi Tribal Association in Vella Lavella | $16,595 | 1-Apr-20 | 30-Jun-21 |
| 61 | 64036 | OceansWatch | 1 | Empowering the People of Temotu | $66,244 | 1-May-14 | 31-Jan-15 |
| 62 | 65754 | OceansWatch | 1 | Protecting Biodiversity in the Temotu Province | $142,595 | 1-Apr-15 | 30-Jun-17 |
| 63 | 109402 | OceansWatch | 2 | Raising Legal Awareness in Nendo | $8,987 | 1-Jun-18 | 31-Oct-18 |
| 64 | 64269 | Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership | 4 | Building the Capacity of SICCP | $122,920 | 1-Mar-14 | 31-Mar-17 |

| No. | CEPF ID | Organization | SD | Summary Title | Amount | Start Date | End Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 65 | 70014 | Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership | 4 | Alleviating Pressures on Upland Kolombangara | $19,487 | 1-Apr-15 | 31-Mar-16 |
| 66 | 65756 | Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership | 3 | In Search of the Makira Moorhen | $36,516 | 1-Apr-15 | 31-Mar-16 |
| 67 | 110839 | Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership | 1 | Establishing Ngali Nut Agroforestry for Forest Conservation in the Marovo-Kavachi KBA | $20,000 | 1-Jul-20 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 68 | 109311 | Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership | 4 | Building the Capacity of SICCP | $52,930 | 1-Jan-21 | 31-Jan-22 |
| 69 | 112334 | Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership | 1 | Supporting the Zaira Resource Management Area Toward the Protection of Marovo-Kavachi KBA | $19,996 | 1-Jun-21 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 70 | 65856 | Solomon Islands Environmental Lawyers Association | 4 | Re-Launching Solomon Islands Environmental Law Association | $56,679 | 1-Jun-15 | 31-Dec-18 |
| 71 | 110667 | Solomon Islands Environmental Lawyers Association | 4 | Improving Community Access to Environmental Legal Education in KBAs | $19,978 | 1-Apr-20 | 30-Sep-21 |
| 72 | 66424 | Solomon Islands National University | 4 | Strengthening Research and Teaching Capacity for Biodiversity Conservation in SINU | $34,521 | 1-Aug-17 | 30-Jun-19 |
| 73 | 74138 | Solomon Islands Rangers Association Trust Board Inc | 4 | Launching SIRA to the Wider Solomon Islands | $7,926 | 1-Jun-16 | 30-Jun-17 |
| 74 | 112127 | Solomon Islands Rangers Association Trust Board Inc | 4 | Reinforcing the Solomon Islands Ranger Network for the Protection of Key Biodiversity Areas | $12,125 | 1-Apr-21 | 31-Jan-22 |
| 75 | 70027 | Tawatana Community Conservation Development Association | 4 | Strengthening the Governance and Project Management Capacity of the Tawatana Community Conservation and Development Association | $19,669 | 1-Apr-15 | 31-Mar-16 |
| 76 | 64261 | Tetepare Descendants Association | 4 | Supporting the Tetepare Descendants Association | $44,977 | 1-Apr-14 | 31-Mar-16 |
| 77 | 103961 | University of Miami | 1 | Establishing a Protected Area in East Makira KBA | $13,558 | 1-Jun-18 | 31-May-20 |
| 78 | 65429 | University of Michigan | 1 | Partulid Tree Snails of the Solomon Islands: Endemic Species or Products of Prehistoric Exchange Networks. | $17,293 | 1-Jan-15 | 31-Dec-16 |
| 79 | 64281 | University of Queensland | 1 | Status and Conservation of the Solomon Islands Most Threatened Endemic Terrestrial Vertebrates | $78,549 | 1-Jun-14 | 29-Feb-16 |
| 80 | 65740 | University of Queensland | 4 | Field Training for Protected Area Managers and Rangers | $98,698 | 1-Mar-15 | 30-Sep-16 |
| 81 | 70024 | University of Queensland | 3 | The Emperor, the King and the Little Pig: Status of the Lost Rats of Guadalcanal | $18,272 | 1-Apr-15 | 30-Jun-16 |
| 82 | 65978 | University of Queensland | 1 | Sustainable Management of Ngali Nut Trees and Threatened Flying Foxes | $76,549 | 1-May-16 | 30-Jun-18 |
| 83 | 110485 | University of Rochester | 1 | Establishing a Protected Area in East Makira KBA | $43,914 | 1-Mar-20 | 31-Jan-22 |
| 84 | 64282 | University of the South Pacific | 1 | Biodiversity Assessment of the Guadalcanal Watersheds | $149,183 | 1-Apr-14 | 30-Jun-16 |
| 85 | 65819 | University of the South Pacific | 4 | Developing Conservation Champions: Community-Based Conservation Management Course | $132,037 | 1-Oct-15 | 30-Jun-17 |
| 86 | 75603 | Wai-Hau Conservation Foundation | 3 | Building Capacity in Monitoring and Management of the Leatherback Turtles in Are-are | $15,419 | 1-Jul-16 | 30-Sep-17 |

| No. | CEPF ID | Organization | SD | Summary Title | Amount | Start Date | End Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 87 | 109400 | Wai-Hau Conservation Foundation | 3 | Developing a Management and Recovery Plan for leatherback turtles in Are-are, Malaita | $17,962 | 1-Aug-18 | 30-Aug-19 |
| 88 | 103948 | Wildlife Conservation Society | 1 | Protecting the Upland Forests of Kolombangara | $216,322 | 1-Jun-18 | 31-Jan-22 |
| 89 | 64262 | World Wide Fund for Nature | 1 | Western Province Ridge-to-Reef: Integrated Planning for Natural Resources, Communities and Biodiversity | $42,653 | 1-May-14 | 30-Jun-15 |
| 90 | 65964 | World Wide Fund for Nature | 1 | Adopting a Ridges to Reef Planning Framework on the islands of Ghizo and Kolombangara | $104,617 | 1-Jul-16 | 31-Mar-18 |
| **VANUATU** | | | | | | | |
| 91 | 72619 | Association Economics for Coral Reef Ecosystems | 4 | Financial Sustainability for the TasiVanua Protected Areas Network | $19,365 | 1-Apr-16 | 31-Jul-17 |
| 92 | 65966 | BirdLife International | 3 | Preparing and Implementing a Management Plan for Megapodes on Tongoa | $78,750 | 1-Jun-16 | 30-Jun-18 |
| 93 | 104007 | BirdLife International | 1 | Management Planning and Assessment for Three KBAs | $171,195 | 1-Jul-18 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 94 | 110288 | BirdLife International | 1 | Biodiversity Rapid Assessment Project for the Islands of Futuna and Aneityum | $89,990 | 1-Nov-20 | 30-Apr-22 |
| 95 | 65426 | Canal Studio Association | 1 | Songs and Stories of Biodiversity | $19,787 | 1-Oct-14 | 31-Oct-15 |
| 96 | 73022 | Eco-Lifelihood Development Association Inc | 1 | Community-based management of threats to wetland biodiversity at Lake Letas, Gaua Island | $19,949 | 1-May-16 | 31-May-17 |
| 97 | 110248 | Eco-Lifelihood Development Association Inc | 4 | Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of Eco-livelihood Development Association | $18,932 | 1-Sep-19 | 31-Dec-20 |
| 98 | 77990 | Edenhope Foundation | 1 | Strengthen Local Conservation Networks to Respond to Threats within the Santo Mountain Chain | $18,972 | 1-Apr-17 | 30-Apr-18 |
| 99 | 109183 | Edenhope Foundation | 1 | Registration of Three Community Conservation Areas within the Santo Mountain Chain KBA | $116,500 | 1-Jul-19 | 30-Jun-21 |
| 100 | 78066 | Island Reach Committee Inc. | 4 | Promoting gender equity for conservation initiatives through catalyzing a women's environmental network | $19,849 | 1-Apr-17 | 30-Apr-18 |
| 101 | 72616 | Live & Learn Vanuatu | 1 | Scoping the Potential for PES in Vanuatu | $15,902 | 1-Apr-16 | 31-Oct-16 |
| 102 | 66422 | Live & Learn Vanuatu | 1 | Strengthening Community Conservation Governance of Mount Tabuwamasana | $85,784 | 1-Jul-17 | 31-Jul-18 |
| 103 | 103964 | Live & Learn Vanuatu | 4 | Strengthening the Capacity of Vanuatu's Ranger Corp Network for Biodiversity Management and Monitoring | $99,696 | 1-Jun-18 | 31-Aug-19 |
| 104 | 109324 | Live & Learn Vanuatu | 1 | Promoting Ecotourism in the Santo Mountain Chain and Green Hill KBAs | $171,860 | 1-Jul-19 | 30-Jun-21 |
| 105 | 66426 | Nakau Programme Ltd | 1 | Supporting Financing for Conservation through Piloting Eco-Certification for Tourism | $169,903 | 1-Jun-17 | 31-Aug-19 |
| 106 | 64251 | New York Botanical Garden | 1 | Plants and People: Baseline Floristic and Ethnobotanical Surveys in Tafea Province | $156,848 | 1-Jul-14 | 31-Dec-16 |
| 107 | 112527 | Santo Sunset Environment Network | 1 | Protecting Indigenous Forests from Emerging Logging Threats in the Santo Mountain Chain KBA | $20,000 | 1-Aug-21 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 108 | 111608 | Van Vat Integrated Environmental Consultants | 4 | Capacity Building and Conservation Mainstreaming | $9,841 | 1-Sep-20 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 109 | 104241 | Vanuatu Environment Advocacy Network | 4 | Capacity Building of VEAN | $15,998 | 1-Aug-17 | 31-Aug-18 |

| No. | CEPF ID | Organization | SD | Summary Title | Amount | Start Date | End Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 110 | 109028 | Vanuatu Environmental Law Association Committee | 4 | Capacity Building of VELA | $16,810 | 1-Oct-17 | 31-Oct-18 |
| 111 | 109335 | Vanuatu Environmental Law Association Committee | 2 | Strengthening Environmental Legal Education and Capacity in Vanuatu | $108,482 | 1-Aug-19 | 30-Apr-21 |
| 112 | 70020 | Vanuatu Environmental Science Society | 4 | Developing Dugong and Seagrass Educational Materials | $19,975 | 1-Mar-15 | 29-Feb-16 |
| 113 | 65988 | Vanuatu Environmental Science Society | 4 | Building Capacity in Conservation Science and Environmental Education in Vanuatu | $93,225 | 1-May-16 | 30-Jun-18 |
| 114 | 66428 | Vanuatu Environmental Science Society | 3 | Conservation of the Endemic Flying Foxes of Torba and Temotu | $135,885 | 1-Jun-17 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 115 | 66418 | Vanuatu Environmental Science Society | 3 | Strengthening Monitoring, Community Management, and Policies for Dugong Conservation | $92,418 | 1-Jul-17 | 31-Dec-21 |
| 116 | 110283 | Vanuatu Environmental Science Society | 3 | Identifying and Protecting Important Habitat for the Fiji Mastiff Bat and the Banks Flying Fox | $86,627 | 1-Apr-20 | 31-Dec-21 |

## Annex 6. Leverage Data for Applicable Grants

| No | ID | Organization | Award | Leverage | Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Papua New Guinea** | | | | | |
| 1 | 109403 | Rotokas | $7,930 | $96,420 | 1216% |
| 2 | 73009 | Kainake | $14,321 | $117,988 | 824% |
| 3 | 65380 | Bishop Museum | $19,976 | $150,000 | 751% |
| 4 | 65441 | SeaWeb | $19,987 | $44,625 | 223% |
| 5 | 110838 | PNG For. Cert. | $14,103 | $25,000 | 177% |
| 6 | 64360 | PNG IBR | $96,937 | $127,064 | 131% |
| 7 | 109784 | U. Queensland | $20,000 | $21,000 | 105% |
| 8 | 65979 | BCI | $83,096 | $80,000 | 96% |
| 9 | 109232 | Treweek | $81,072 | $69,000 | 85% |
| 10 | 104243 | FORCERT | $17,076 | $12,663 | 74% |
| 11 | 65753 | BirdLife | $113,720 | $62,275 | 55% |
| 12 | 109332 | WCS | $297,461 | $150,000 | 50% |
| 13 | 63955 | U. PNG | $19,988 | $8,574 | 43% |
| 14 | 64357 | WCS | $170,130 | $70,862 | 42% |
| 15 | 66518 | U. Queensland | $106,683 | $36,450 | 34% |
| 16 | 73006 | MECCN | $12,471 | $637 | 5% |
| **Solomon Islands** | | | | | |
| 17 | 65403 | James Cook U. | $19,985 | $203,648 | 1019% |
| 18 | 65978 | U. Queensland | $76,549 | $672,355 | 878% |
| 19 | 75603 | Wai-Hau | $15,419 | $93,057 | 604% |
| 20 | 65423 | KIBCA | $19,988 | $78,250 | 391% |
| 21 | 109400 | Wai-Hau | $17,962 | $55,000 | 306% |
| 22 | 77835 | James Cook U. | $19,909 | $59,997 | 301% |
| 23 | 64281 | U. Queensland | $78,549 | $165,037 | 210% |
| 24 | 65429 | U. Michigan | $17,293 | $30,000 | 173% |
| 25 | 64269 | SICCP | $122,920 | $194,350 | 158% |
| 26 | 103948 | WCS | $216,322 | $335,765 | 155% |
| 27 | 112325 | MMGB | $19,670 | $30,000 | 153% |
| 28 | 70024 | U. Queensland | $18,272 | $27,286 | 149% |
| 29 | 64276 | AMNH | $77,000 | $95,000 | 123% |
| 30 | 66419 | ESSI | $55,347 | $59,968 | 108% |

| No. | ID | Organization | Award | Leverage | Percent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 31 | 109110 | BirdLife | $19,964 | $16,605 | 83% |
| 32 | 110667 | SIELA | $19,978 | $15,000 | 75% |
| 33 | 70014 | SICCCP | $19,487 | $13,000 | 67% |
| 34 | 70027 | Tawatana | $19,669 | $12,844 | 65% |
| 35 | 64262 | WWF | $42,653 | $27,800 | 65% |
| 36 | 78007 | NRDF | $17,558 | $10,546 | 60% |
| 37 | 64270 | ESSI | $72,700 | $42,780 | 59% |
| 38 | 110485 | U. Rochester | $43,914 | $25,000 | 57% |
| 39 | 65756 | SICCCP | $36,516 | $9,200 | 25% |
| 40 | 72630 | Arnavon | $19,913 | $5,000 | 25% |
| 41 | 65740 | U. Queensland | $98,698 | $17,500 | 18% |
| 42 | 65968 | ICLARM | $121,156 | $12,000 | 10% |
| 43 | 64282 | USP | $149,183 | $8,170 | 5% |
| **Vanuatu** | | | | | |
| 44 | 70020 | VESS | $19,975 | $166,870 | 835% |
| 45 | 64251 | NYBG | $156,848 | $916,736 | 584% |
| 46 | 77990 | Edenhope | $18,972 | $80,345 | 423% |
| 47 | 109183 | Edenhope | $116,50 | $148,820 | 128% |
| 48 | 66422 | LLV | $85,784 | $43,855 | 51% |
| 49 | 73022 | ELDA | $19,949 | $10,000 | 50% |
| 50 | 72619 | ECRE | $19,365 | $8,000 | 41% |
| 51 | 66426 | Nakau | $169,903 | $46,693 | 27% |
| 52 | 104007 | BirdLife | $171,195 | $36,260 | 21% |
| 53 | 65988 | VESS | $93,225 | $11,540 | 12% |
| **Regional** | | | | | |
| 54 | 64256 | EDO | $105,278 | $1,100,000 | 1045% |
| 55 | 64245 | FIS | $49,701 | $127,000 | 256% |
| 56 | 70017 | Landcare | $19,987 | $39,133 | 196% |

## Annex 7. Progress Toward Long Term-Goals

Stakeholders at the final assessment events were asked to assess whether criterion were fully met, partially met, or not met.

| Goal | Criteria | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Species** | **KBAs** | **Corridors** | **Conservation Plans** | **Best Practices** |
| **Conservation Priorities** | Comprehensive global threat assessments conducted for all terrestrial vertebrates, vascular plants and at least selected freshwater taxa<br><br>Partially met: Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu | KBAs identified in all countries and territories in the region, covering, at minimum, terrestrial, freshwater and coastal ecosystems<br><br>Partially met: Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu | Conservation corridors identified in all parts of the region where contiguous natural habitats extend over scales greater than individual sites, and refined using recent land cover data<br><br>Informants stated criteria not applicable in island hotspots | Global conservation priorities incorporated into national or regional conservation plans or strategies developed with the participation of multiple stakeholders<br><br>Partially met: Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu | Best practices for managing global conservation priorities (e.g., sustainable livelihoods projects, participatory approaches to park management, invasive species control, etc.) are introduced, institutionalized, and sustained at CEPF priority KBAs and corridors<br><br>Not met in any country |

| | Human Resources | Management Systems/Planning | Partnerships | Financial Resources | Transboundary Cooperation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Civil Society** | Local and national civil society groups collectively possess technical competencies of critical importance to conservation, on topics that include protected areas management; conservation monitoring and analysis; sustainable financing; policy analysis and influence; environmental education and media outreach; and threats mitigation and adaptation<br><br>Not met in any country | Local and national civil society groups collectively possess sufficient institutional and operational capacity and structures to raise funds for conservation and to ensure the efficient management of conservation projects and strategies<br><br>Not met in any country | Effective mechanisms exist for conservation-focused civil society groups to work in partnership with one another, and through networks with local communities, governments, the private sector, donors, and other important stakeholders, in pursuit of common conservation and development objectives<br><br>Partially met in Solomon Islands<br><br>Not met in Papua New Guinea or Vanuatu | Local civil society organizations have access to long-term funding sources to maintain the conservation results achieved via CEPF grants and/or other initiatives, through access to new donor funds, conservation enterprises, memberships, endowments, and/or other funding mechanisms<br><br>Not met in any country | In multi-country hotspots, mechanisms exist for collaboration across political boundaries at site, corridor and/or national scales<br><br>Not met |
| | **Public Sector** | **Civil Society** | **Donors** | **Livelihoods** | **Long Term Mechanisms** |
| **Sustainable Financing** | Public sector agencies responsible for conservation in the region have a continued public fund allocation or revenue-generating ability to operate effectively<br><br>Not met in any country | Civil society organizations engaged in conservation in the region have access to sufficient funding to continue their work at current levels<br><br>Not met in any country | Donors other than CEPF have committed to providing sufficient funds to address global conservation priorities in the region<br><br>Not met in any country | Local stakeholders affecting the conservation of biodiversity in the region have economic alternatives to unsustainable exploitation of natural resources<br><br>Not met in any country | Financing mechanisms (e.g., trust funds, revenue from the sale of carbon credits, etc.) exist and are of sufficient size to yield continuous long-term returns for at least the next 10 years<br><br>Not met in any country |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Enabling Environment** | **Policy for Conservation** | **Policy for Civil Society** | **Education / Training** | **Transparency** | **Enforcement** |
| | Laws exist that provide incentives for desirable conservation behavior and disincentives against undesirable behavior<br><br>Partially met: Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu | Laws exist that allow for civil society to engage in the public policymaking and implementation process<br><br>Partially met: Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu | Domestic programs exist that produce trained environmental managers at secondary, undergraduate, and advanced academic levels<br><br>Not met in any country | Relevant public sector agencies use participatory, accountable, and publicly reviewable process to make decisions regarding use of land and natural resources<br><br>Partially met: Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu | Designated authorities are clearly mandated to manage the protected area system(s) in the region and conserve biodiversity outside of them, and are empowered to implement the enforcement continuum of education, prevention, interdiction, arrest, and prosecution<br><br>Not met in any country |
| **Responsive-ness** | **Biodiversity Monitoring** | **Threats Monitoring** | **Ecosystem Services Monitoring** | **Adaptive Management** | **Public Sphere** |
| | Nationwide or region-wide systems are in place to monitor status and trends of the components of biodiversity<br><br>Not met in any country | Nationwide or region-wide systems are in place to monitor status and trends of threats to biodiversity<br><br>Partially met: Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu | Nationwide or region-wide systems are in place to monitor status and trends of ecosystem services<br><br>Not met in any country | Conservation organizations and protected area management authorities demonstrate the ability to respond promptly to emerging issues<br><br>Partially met: Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu | Conservation issues are regularly discussed in the public sphere, and these discussions influence public policy<br><br>Partially met: Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu |

## Annex 8. Major Communications Materials Produced

### Melanesian Geo Magazine

1. July-December 2018
2. January-June 2021

### Videos on the CEPF East Melanesia YouTube Channel

1. Conservation Stories from Solomon Islands
2. Rangers and Protected Areas of Solomon Islands
3. Smol Stori with Baru Conservation Alliance
4. Santo Sunset Environment Network Rangers Training in Kerepua
5. Santo Sunset Environment Network
6. Solomon Islands Protected Area Rangers