



## **PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)**

**for the project:**

**Effectively mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into government policy and private sector practice: piloting sustainability models to take the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) to scale**

**FY21**

*July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021*

**Executing Partners**



Project Information			
<b>Project Title:</b>	Effectively mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into government policy and private sector practice: piloting sustainability models to take the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) to scale		
<b>Country(ies):</b>	Bolivia, Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, China, DR Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lao PDR, Malawi, Mozambique, Myanmar, Paraguay, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Thailand, Uganda, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe	<b>GEF ID:</b>	5735
<b>GEF Agency(ies):</b>	Conservation International	<b>Duration In Months:</b>	72
<b>Executing Agency(ies):</b>	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)	<b>Actual Implementation Start Date:</b>	4/1/2016
<b>GEF Focal Area(s):</b>	Biodiversity	<b>Expected Project Completion Date:</b>	3/31/2022
<b>GEF Grant Amount:</b>	USD 9,800,000	<b>Expected Financial Closure Date:</b>	9/30/2022
<b>Expected Co-financing:</b>	USD 84,500,000	<b>Date of Last Steering Committee Meeting:</b>	5/26/2021
<b>Co-financing Realized as of June 30, 2021:</b>	USD 84,632,944	<b>Mid-Term Review-Planned Date:</b>	10/1/2018
<b>Date of First Disbursement:</b>	4/1/2016	<b>Mid-Term Review-Actual Date:</b>	10/8/2018
<b>Cumulative disbursement as of June 30, 2021:</b>	USD 9,481,308	<b>Terminal Evaluation-Planned Date:</b>	1/31/2022
<b>PIR Prepared by:</b>	Jack Tordoff, Managing Director, CEPF	<b>Terminal Evaluation-Actual Date:</b>	TBD
<b>CI-GEF Project Manager:</b>	Free de Koning	<b>CI-GEF Finance Lead:</b>	Susana Escudero

The CI-GEF Project Agency Project Implementation Report (PIR) is composed of six sections:

- Section I: Project Implementation Progress Status Summary:** provides a brief summary of the project as well as the implementation status and rating of the previous and current fiscal years;
- Section II: Project Results Implementation Progress Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards achieving the project objective and outcomes, the implementation rating of the project, as well as recommendations to improve the project performance, when needed;
- Section III: Project Risks Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards managing and mitigating project risks, the project risks mitigation rating reassessment as needed, as well as recommendations to improve the management of project risks;

**Section IV: Project Environmental and Social Safeguards Implementation Status and Rating:** describes the progress made towards complying with the Environmental & Social Safeguards and the Plans prepared during the PPG phase, the safeguard plans implementation rating, as well as recommendations to improve the project safeguards;

**Section V: Project Implementation Experiences and Lessons Learned:** describes the experiences learned by the project managers and the lessons learned through the process of implementing the project; and

## **SECTION I: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS SUMMARY**

### **PROJECT SUMMARY**

The biodiversity hotspots are the most diverse yet threatened ecoregions globally. The remaining natural habitats within the hotspots cover only 2.3% of the planet's surface, yet support 90% of the Earth's biodiversity. The hotspots are also characterized by high levels of threat arising from the continuing drive for economic growth that fails to take account of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Since its inception in 2000, CEPF has been engaging and strengthening civil society to conserve biodiversity within the global hotspots. CEPF's long-term goal for each hotspot is to ensure that civil society, collaborating with other sectors, is capable of conserving the diversity of species and ecosystems by addressing current threats affecting their integrity and functioning, and preventing the emergence of new threats.

Key barriers to achieving this goal include:

- Lack of costed long-term visions;
- Limited institutional capacity and financial sustainability of multi-sector conservation programs;
- Limited track record of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) at influencing public policy or establishing effective partnerships with private companies in sectors driving biodiversity loss;
- Limited knowledge, awareness or application/replication of successful approaches.

The project will demonstrate the removal of these barriers. The objective of the project is to use innovative tools, methodologies and investments, and build related capacities, through which civil society in three pilot biodiversity hotspots: Cerrado; Eastern Afromontane; and Indo-Burma, in partnership with public and private sector actors, can cost-effectively conserve biodiversity and progress towards long-term institutional sustainability, and to replicate demonstrated approaches in nine additional hotspots. The project includes the following four components:

1. Developing long-term conservation visions, financing plans, and associated strategies for biodiversity hotspots;
2. Ensuring the financial and institutional sustainability of multi-sector conservation programs;
3. Amplifying the impacts of CEPF investments through enhanced and innovative public and private sector partnerships;
4. Replicating success through knowledge products and tools.

### **PRIOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS (FY20)**

The project remains on track to meet all objective-level indicators. Project implementation has now ended in the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot (the last grants closed in May 2020) and largely ended in Indo-Burma (five grants were extended into FY21, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic). The Cerrado is the only pilot hotspot in which grant-making continues. The focus of implementation has shifted towards disseminating good practice from the pilot hotspots. One of the six innovative knowledge products planned under the project has been completed and two others are in an advanced state of preparation. The remaining three will be prepared during FY21. Six of the seven multi-hotspot grants planned under the project have been awarded (the seventh has been delayed due to the need to seek approval from China's Public Security Bureau), although the COVID-19 pandemic has created implementation delays for a number of these grants. Several grantees requested no-cost extensions that would extend beyond the original end date of the GEF project. To allow time for these grants to be implemented safely and successfully, a no-cost extension to the project was agreed to in May 2020.

Twelve grants totaling USD 1.2 million were awarded in the Cerrado during FY20. They brought the total number of grants awarded in the hotspot since the beginning of the project to 55, totaling USD 6.2 million. In the Eastern Afromontane, three grants were awarded during FY20, with a total value of less than USD 50,000. They brought the total number of grants awarded in the hotspot to 68, with a combined value of USD 3.0 million. Over the same period, one grant for USD 20,000 was awarded in Indo-Burma, bringing the total number of grants awarded in the hotspot since the beginning of the project to 81, with a total value of USD 5.1 million.

## CURRENT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS (FY21)

Despite significant disruption to implementation during the year as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the project is still on track to meet its objective. Project implementation ended in the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot in FY20 and in the Indo-Burma Hotspot in FY21. The Cerrado is the only pilot hotspot in which project activities are still being implemented. Here, 21 grants (18 large and three small) will continue implementation into FY22, to adapt to implementation delays due to the pandemic and allow grantees time to make use of exchange rate gains.

Four of the six innovative knowledge products planned under the project have been completed, and two others will be completed during FY22. The final multi-hotspot grant was awarded during the year, and is under implementation. Of the seven multi-hotspot grants awarded, three have closed and four remain under implementation. Three of these grants (two with activities in India and one with activities in Costa Rica) have encountered significant delays due to travel restrictions related to the pandemic. Implementation continues and important results have been achieved, but each grant has required significant restructuring to adapt to this challenge.

Eight grants totaling USD 0.5 million were awarded in the Cerrado during FY21. They brought the total number of grants awarded in the hotspot since the beginning of the project to 67, totaling USD 6.7 million. No further grants were awarded under the project in the Eastern Afromontane or Indo-Burma Hotspots during the year.

Under Component 1, the long-term vision for the Cerrado Hotspot was endorsed by the CEPF Donor Council. The long-term visioning process concluded that the timeframe for civil society graduating from CEPF support should be just five years. This reflects the fact that, relative to other biodiversity hotspots, the Cerrado is a rather unique case, due to the rather high capacity of its CSOs. The capacities of a significant proportion of local CSOs are relatively high, although many smaller organizations, in particular grassroots ones, still require dedicated support. Although the current political context has limited the political space available to CSOs (e.g., their participation in collective participative bodies has decreased by 59% since 2019), and they have limited access to financial support from the federal government, this situation is considered to be temporary, and opportunities to engage with government at municipal and state levels still exist. For these reasons, the long-term vision exercise concluded that additional financial support from CEPF would only be required for a relatively short period of time. The level of investment required was calculated to be USD 8.5 million.

Under Component 2, grants to strengthen the organizational and technical capacity of CSOs were awarded in the Cerrado Hotspot. For example, Impact Hub Brasilia was awarded a grant to strengthen the capacity of 40 CSOs working on the conservation of the Cerrado by building their organizational skills to achieve their mission. Results from grants under this component are summarized later in this report.

Under Component 3, grants aiming to integrate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes through enhanced and innovative public and private sector partnerships were awarded in the Cerrado Hotspot. For example, grants were awarded to strengthen networks and consortia for the sustainable production of baru nut and babassu palm oil, two important products from native species. Results from grants under this component are summarized later in this report.

Under Component 4, one multi-hotspot grant was awarded, which aims to replicate best practices with biodiversity mainstreaming from the Indo-Burma Hotspot to the Mountains of Southwest China Hotspot. Also, under this component, three innovative knowledge products were completed (bringing the total to four), and the remaining two were commissioned, on mapping “invisible” communities and strengthening the voices of women in advocacy.

### SUMMARY: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS

PROJECT PART	PRIOR FY20 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	CURRENT FY21 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING <sup>1</sup>	RATING TREND <sup>2</sup>
OBJECTIVE	HS	HS	Unchanged
COMPONENTS AND OUTCOMES	HS	S	Decreasing

<sup>1</sup> **Implementation Progress (IP) Rating:** Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Moderately Satisfactory (MS), Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U), and Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). For more details about IP rating, please see the Appendix I of this report

<sup>2</sup> **Rating trend:** Improving, Unchanged, or Decreasing

PROJECT PART	PRIOR FY20 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	CURRENT FY21 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING <sup>1</sup>	RATING TREND <sup>2</sup>
ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS	HS	HS	Unchanged

**PROJECT RISK RATING<sup>3</sup>**

RISKS	M	S	Increasing
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<sup>3</sup> Risk Rating: Low (L), Modest (M), Substantial (S), High (H)

## **SECTION II: PROJECT RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS STATUS AND RATING**

This section describes the progress made towards achieving the project objective and outcomes, the implementation progress rating of the project, as well as recommendations to improve the project performance. This section is composed four parts:

- a. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Objective: this section measures the likelihood of achieving the objective of the project
- b. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Outcomes (by project component)
- c. Overall Project Results Progress Rating, and
- d. Recommendations for improvement

### **a. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Objective:**

This section of the report assesses the progress in achieving the objective of the project.

<b>PROJECT OBJECTIVE:</b>	To demonstrate innovative tools, methodologies and investments, and build related capacities, through which civil society in three pilot biodiversity hotspots, in partnership with public and private sector actors, can cost-effectively conserve biodiversity and progress towards long-term institutional sustainability, and to replicate demonstrated approaches in nine additional hotspots
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OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>4</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Indicator a: Number of long-term conservation visions and financing plans for biodiversity hotspots developed and implemented with clear targets for CEPF graduation and endorsed by civil society, government, donor and/or private sector actors	3 - (Indo-Burma long-term vision endorsed and implemented during FY18; Eastern Afromontane long-term vision (covering the Albertine Rift and Eastern Arc Mountains) endorsed and implemented during FY19; Cerrado long-term vision endorsed and implemented during FY21.	<b>CA</b>	The long-term vision for the Indo-Burma Hotspot was endorsed by the CEPF Donor Council in October 2017, is now being implemented. The long-term vision for the Albertine Rift and Eastern Arc Mountains Sub-region of the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot was endorsed by the CEPF Donor Council in December 2018, and is now being implemented. Preparation of the long-term vision for the Cerrado Hotspot was completed in July 2020, following delays due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the changing political context in Brazil. Following review by the CEPF Working Group, the long-term vision was submitted to the CEPF Donor Council for review and endorsement. After several rounds of comments, the Donor Council endorsed the long-term vision on 22 June 2021.

<sup>4</sup> **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>4</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Indicator b. Number of civil societies and CEPF grantees in the pilot hotspots that improve their financial and institutional sustainability	72 (139 local CSOs in the pilot hotspots have received CEPF grants; baseline and final civil society tracking tool data are available for 99 of them, of which 72 show increased financial and institutional sustainability)	<b>IS</b>	Since the start of the project, 212 grants (77 large and 135 small) have been awarded in the pilot hotspots, with a total commitment of USD 15.3 million from the GEF grant and co-financing. These grants directly support 139 local CSOs. The financial and institutional sustainability of these organizations is being tracked through the civil society tracking tool. Grantees complete baseline tools at the start of their grants but the final tools are not completed until the end of the period of CEPF support. To date, final tools have been completed by 99 local CSOs (19 in the Cerrado, 30 in the Eastern Afromontane, and 50 in Indo-Burma), of which 72 (10 in Cerrado, 23 in Eastern Afromontane, and 39 in Indo-Burma) show increased scores over the period of CEPF support.
Indicator c. Total area of production landscapes, protected areas, and conservation corridors implementing biodiversity conservation and sustainable use	1,700,114 hectares of production landscapes (769,655 hectares in the Cerrado, 851,794 hectares in the Eastern Afromontane and 78,665 hectares in Indo-Burma), 2,036,620 hectares of protected areas (1,037,415 hectares in the Cerrado, 752,987 hectares in the Eastern Afromontane and 246,218 hectares in Indo-Burma), and 6,227,934 hectares of conservation corridors (3,000,000 hectares in the Cerrado, 1,473,234 hectares in the Eastern Afromontane and 1,754,700 hectares in Indo-Burma)	<b>IS</b>	The baseline figures are 1,862,161 hectares of production landscapes, 1,392,957 hectares of protected areas, and 0 hectares of conservation corridors. Since the project start, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity have been strengthened in an additional 1,700,114 hectares of production landscapes (comprising agricultural land (including grazing land), community fisheries, community forests, and limestone quarries), 2,036,620 hectares of protected areas have new management models featuring direct participation of civil society (including co-managed protected areas, community protected areas, multiple-use conservation landscapes, and fishery conservation zones), and six conservation corridors, totaling 6,227,934 hectares (3,000,000 hectares out of the 8,099,530 hectares Sertão Veredas-Peruaçu Corridor in the Cerrado; the Chimanimani-Nyanga Mountains, the Greater Mahale Landscape, the Itombwe-Nyungwe Landscape and the Lake Tana Catchment in the Eastern Afromontane; and the Tonle Sap Lake and Inundation Zone in Indo-Burma) have enhanced ecological connectivity. To ensure accurate reporting, results are collated from



OBJECTIVE INDICATORS	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>4</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
			grantees' final completion reports. To date, 170 grants have ended including all 68 grants in the Eastern Afromontane, all 81 grants in Indo-Burma, and 21 out of 63 grants in the Cerrado. Of the remaining grants in the Cerrado, 21 have stopped implementation but their results have not yet been reported or verified, and 21 remain active.
Indicator d. Number of policy demonstration models and management best practices adopted in number of additional biodiversity hotspots	3 (best practices for: mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into rice cultivation; community-based fish conservation zone; and Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) identification)	○	Previously, best practices for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into rice cultivation demonstrated in Cambodia (Indo-Burma Hotspot) were replicated in India (Himalayas Hotspot). During FY21, best practices for community-managed fish conservation zones demonstrated in Lao PDR (Indo-Burma Hotspot) were replicated in India (Himalayas Hotspot), while best practices for identification of KBAs demonstrated in Cambodia (Indo-Burma Hotspot) were replicated in Kenya (Eastern Afromontane Hotspot), Nigeria and Ghana (both Guinean Forests of West Africa). Four multi-hotspot grants are still active. To adapt to delays in implementation caused by pandemic-related travel restrictions, these have been extended into FY22.

OBJECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION
HS	All three long-term visions (Indo-Burma, Eastern Afromontane, Cerrado) have been endorsed and implemented. A large number of grants (77 large and 135 small) have been awarded in the pilot hotspots. These grants directly support 139 local CSOs. The financial and institutional sustainability of these organizations is being tracked by means of the civil society tracking tool. To date, final tools have been completed by 99 local CSOs of which 72 show increased scores over the period of CEPF support, which can be considered a good result so far. Very good results are obtained with respect to the total amount of hectares where biodiversity conservation and sustainable use is being implemented: 9,964,668 hectares additional to the baseline, distributed overproduction landscapes, protected areas, and conservation corridors. Three best practices have been replicated in other hotspots. COVID-19 has affected the implementation of multi-hotspot grants to disseminate policy demonstration models and management best practices from the pilot hotspots to additional hotspots. In coordination with the CI-GEF agency, a no-cost extension was agreed to be able to finalize four multi-hotspot grants.

**b. Progress towards Achieving Project Expected Outcomes (by project component).**

This part of the report assesses the progress towards achieving the outcomes of the project.

<b>COMPONENT 1</b>	Developing long-term conservation visions, financing plans, and associated strategies for biodiversity hotspots
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<b>Outcome 1.1:</b>	Long-term conservation visions developed for the Cerrado, Eastern Afromontane, and Indo-Burma Hotspots, with participation of civil society, government, donor and private sector actors
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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>5</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome indicator 1.1.1: Number of long-term visions incorporating resource mobilization strategies that support the mobilization of new funding, and policy targets addressing key drivers of biodiversity loss and guiding the development of new policy demonstration models	3 long-term visions incorporating resource mobilization strategies and policy targets	3 long-term vision, incorporating resource mobilization strategy and policy targets	<b>CA</b>	Long-term visions (incorporating resource mobilization strategies and policy targets) have been prepared for the Cerrado Hotspot, the Albertine Rift and Eastern Arc Mountains Sub-region of the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot, and the Indo-Burma Hotspot.
Outcome indicator 1.1.2: Number of hotspots with clear targets for graduation of civil society from CEPF support	3 pilot hotspots with graduation targets	3 pilot hotspot with graduation targets	<b>CA</b>	Targets for graduating civil society from CEPF support have been set for the Cerrado Hotspot, the Albertine Rift and Eastern Arc Mountains Sub-region of the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot, and the Indo-Burma Hotspot.
Outcome indicator 1.1.3: Number of civil society, government, donor and/or private sector actors that endorse the long-term visions	10 endorsements of the long-term visions	46 endorsements of the long-term visions	<b>CA</b>	The long-term vision for the Cerrado Hotspot was endorsed by the CEPF Donor Council in June 2021. The long-term vision was shared with local stakeholders during a virtual meeting held in September 2020 to celebrate Cerrado Day. A total of 36 stakeholders endorsed the long-term vision by signing an endorsement letter. The long-term vision for the Albertine Rift and Eastern Arc Mountains Sub-region of the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot was endorsed by the CEPF Donor Council in December 2018. The vision has also been endorsed by five leading international conservation NGOs in the region: BirdLife International; IUCN; Fauna & Flora International; Tropical Biology Association; and Wildlife Conservation Society. The long-term vision for the Indo-Burma Hotspot was endorsed by the CEPF Donor Council in October 2017, by the IUCN Asia Regional Office in January 2019, and by the

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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>5</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
				Myanmar Environment Rehabilitation-conservation Network in November 2019.

COMPONENT 1 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
HS	For all three hotspots, long-term visions, incorporating resource mobilization strategy and policy targets, and graduation targets have been developed, that way completely achieving the targets for indicators 1.1.1 and 1.1.2. For indicator 1.1.3 , a total of 46 endorsement was achieved, which was significantly more than the target that was set (10 endorsements).	Increasing

<b>COMPONENT 2</b>	Ensuring the financial and institutional sustainability of multi-sector conservation programs
<b>Outcome 2.1:</b>	Increased capacity and credibility of conservation-focused civil societies in the Cerrado, Eastern Afromontane and Indo-Burma Hotspots
<b>Outcome 2.2:</b>	Increased and more sustained financial flows to civil societies engaged in the conservation of biodiversity, from diverse sources, including non-traditional sources

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>6</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome indicator 2.1.1: Number of pilot hotspots that show at least 20% improvement in collective civil society capacity tracking tool scores	3 pilot hotspots with 20% improvement over duration of project	2 pilot hotspots with 20% improvement over duration of project	IS	At the start of the project, baselines were set for the Cerrado (score = 0 out of 10), the Eastern Afromontane (score = 5 out of 10), and Indo-Burma (score = 3 out of 10). The baseline score for the Cerrado was revised to 3 out of 10 during the mid-term assessment in April 2019. The baseline score for the Eastern Afromontane was an average of individual scores for Kenya (7), Rwanda (5), Tanzania (2), and Uganda (7). The final tracking tool for Indo-Burma was completed as part of the final assessment in May 2019. Stakeholders assessed that the score had increased to 4 out of 10, equivalent to a 33% improvement. The final tracking tool for the Eastern Afromontane was completed during the final assessment in July 2019. The final score was an average of the updated scores for Kenya (10), Rwanda (5), Tanzania (5), and Uganda (6); this showed a 30% improvement from the

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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>6</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
				baseline. The final tracking tool for the Cerrado will be completed in FY21 as part of the final assessment.
Outcome indicator 2.1.2: Number of CEPF grantees, number of Indigenous People's organizations and number of women's groups that show at least 10% improvement in civil society tracking tool scores	60 grantees, including at least 5 Indigenous People's organizations and 5 women's groups, with 10% improvement over duration of project	40 grantees, including 6 Indigenous People's organizations and 1 women's groups, with 10% improvement over duration of project	<b>IS</b>	Since the start of the project, grants have been awarded to 145 local CSOs in the pilot hotspots, including 10 Indigenous People's organizations and one women's group. Baseline civil society tracking tools are completed within three months of the start of each grant, and final tools are completed at the end of the period of CEPF support, to allow monitoring of change over time. To date, baseline and final tracking tool scores are available for 99 local CSOs, of which 40 showed improvements of 10% or more (eight from the Eastern Afromontane, 27 from Indo-Burma, and five from Cerrado). Eight grants to Indigenous People's organizations have closed, of which six showed improvements of 10% or more. The one women's organization to receive a grant showed an improvement in its CSTT score of more than 10%. Despite repeated efforts to do so, it was not possible to award more than one grant to a dedicated women's group, although a significant number of grants were awarded to women-headed organizations.
Outcome indicator 2.1.3: Number of CEPF grantees that show at least 20% improvement in gender mainstreaming tracking tool scores	30 grantees with 20% improvement over duration of project	47 grantees with 20% improvement over duration of project	<b>CA</b>	Since the start of the project, CEPF grants have been awarded to 174 CSOs (local and international) across the three pilot hotspots. Baseline gender tracking tools are completed within three months of the start of the period of CEPF support and again at the end. To date, baseline and final tracking tool scores are available for 91 grantees (16 from the Cerrado, 21 from the Eastern Afromontane and 54 from Indo-Burma), of which 47 showed improvements of at least 20% (five from the Cerrado, 14 from the Eastern Afromontane, and 28 from Indo-Burma).
Outcome indicator 2.2.1: Funds available in sustainable financing mechanisms to support priorities in long-term conservation visions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sustainable financing mechanisms from non-traditional sources (e.g. private sector, new economic and financial instruments, etc.)</li> </ul>	USD 20 million of additional funding in sustainable financing mechanisms, including USD 5 million from non-traditional sources and USD 2 million from private sector models	USD 6.5 million of additional funding in sustainable financing mechanisms, including USD 2.2 million from non-traditional sources and USD 300,000 from private sector models	<b>IS</b>	The baseline figure is USD 8.9 million available in sustainable financing mechanisms in the pilot hotspots (all in Eastern Afromontane). Of the 212 grants awarded in the pilot hotspots since the start of the project, seven aimed to demonstrate innovative models for private sector financing of conservation. A grant in Cambodia leveraged USD 4 million from l'Agence Française de Développement (AFD) for scaling up pilot models for wildlife-friendly agriculture. Also in Indo-Burma, plans were developed to establish a nature conservation foundation in Vietnam able to receive charitable donations from private companies and individuals; a formal request has been submitted to the government and remains under review. Three grants in Kenya and one in Uganda worked to develop water-based PES services schemes. Furthermore, a grant to Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust in Kenya supported the sale of credits on the voluntary carbon market. The

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>6</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>conservation finance generated by innovating private sector models</li> </ul>				<p>most recent sale took place in September 2019, with 355,000 voluntary carbon units sold at USD 5.50 a unit. Since 2017, the total revenue is around USD 2.2 million. In the Cerrado, a grant aiming at developing an incentive model for Brazilian coffee producers to adopt practices that are friendly to biodiversity, are resilient to climate change, sequester carbon and enhance delivery of hydrological services has leveraged additional funding from Expocaccer, Lavazza, Nestlé and Nespresso totalling USD 300,000. In 2020-2021, Cooxupe, COFCO International and Volcafe all became members of the Cerrado Waters Consortium, bringing in a potential additional USD 225,000 between 2020 and 2025. Since 2021, discussions have been ongoing with BDMG, a regional development bank, and RaboBank from the Netherlands, to contribute towards a sustainable coffee fund based on the model of <a href="#">Agri3 Fund</a>, which aims to mobilize USD 1 billion of financing, partly for the coffee chain, by providing credit enhancement tools and technical assistance to enable a transition to more sustainable practices in agricultural value chains and avert deforestation.</p>

COMPONENT 2 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
S	<p>For the Indo-Burma hotspot and Eastern Afromontane hotspot, the civil society tracking tool scores improved by 33% and 30%, respectively, as compared to the baseline, that way over-accomplishing the 20% target for these two hotspots. The final tracking tool for the Cerrado will be completed in FY22. So far, 40 grantees, including 6 Indigenous People's organizations and 1 women's group, show at least 10% improvement in civil society tracking tool scores. Although the target for Indigenous People's organizations has been achieved, this was not the case for women's groups. For gender mainstreaming the project is very successful, with a larger amount of CEPF grantees that show at least a 20% improvement in gender mainstreaming tracking tool scores than the target (indicator 2.1.3). For sustainable financing (indicator 2.2.1), there has been progress but the target has not yet been achieved.</p>	Decreasing

**COMPONENT 3** Amplifying the impacts of CEPF investments through enhanced and innovative public and private sector partnerships

**Outcome 3.1:** Integrating biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes implemented with public and private sector actors across at least total 1,000,000 hectares in the Cerrado, Eastern Afromontane and Indo-Burma Hotspots

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>7</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome indicator 3.1.1: Number of hectares of production landscapes that demonstrate effective ways of mainstreaming biodiversity	1 million hectares of production landscapes with effective biodiversity mainstreaming	1,697,144 hectares of production landscapes with effective biodiversity mainstreaming	<b>CA</b>	The baseline figure (according to the updated project results monitoring framework of 30 June 2016) is 1,862,161 hectares of production landscapes with effective biodiversity mainstreaming (comprising 1,238,398 hectares in the Eastern Afromontane and 623,763 hectares in Indo-Burma). Of the 212 grants awarded in the pilot hotspots since the start of the project, 48 (10 in the Cerrado, 29 in the Eastern Afromontane, and nine in Indo-Burma) aim to demonstrate effective ways of mainstreaming biodiversity into production landscapes. These are expected to deliver at least an additional 3,310,012 hectares of production landscapes with effective biodiversity mainstreaming. The grants that have closed to date mainstreamed biodiversity conservation into 1,697,144 hectares of production landscapes, comprising: 769,655 hectares of land used for agriculture and agro-extractivism in Brazil; 487,324 hectares of agricultural and grazing land in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia; 364,425 hectares of community forests in Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe; 46 hectares of mining concession in Rwanda; 2,406 hectares of agricultural land in Cambodia; 67,898 hectares of community fisheries in Cambodia; 5,154 hectares of community forests in Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam; and 236 hectares of limestone quarrying concession in Myanmar.
Outcome indicator 3.1.2: Number of protected areas with new management models featuring direct participation of civil society organizations or indigenous and local communities that show improvements in SP1 METT scores	20 protected areas with new models	44 protected areas with new models	<b>CA</b>	The baseline figure (according to the updated project results monitoring framework of 30 June 2016) is nine protected areas (all in Indo-Burma) with new management models. Of the 212 grants awarded in the pilot hotspots since the start of the project, 27 (10 in the Cerrado, six in the Eastern Afromontane, and 11 in Indo-Burma) aim to demonstrate effective models of protected area management inclusive of civil society participation. These are expected to deliver an additional 71 protected areas with new management models. To date, 21 of these grants have closed and had their results verified. These grants developed new management models for 44 protected areas covering 2,036,620 hectares (26 in Brazil, four in Cambodia,

<sup>7 7</sup> **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>7</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
				three each in Myanmar and Vietnam, two in the DRC, and one each in Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Thailand, and Uganda).
Outcome indicator 3.1.3: Number of globally threatened species with reduced threats to their populations through mainstreaming of biodiversity into production landscapes and/or implementation of new protected area models	20 globally threatened species with reduced threats to their populations	33 globally threatened species with reduced threats to their populations	CA	Of the 212 grants awarded in the pilot hotspots, 39 (seven in the Cerrado, 17 in the Eastern Afromontane, and 15 in Indo-Burma) aim to reduce threats to populations of at least 47 globally threatened species. To date, 32 of these grants have closed and had their results verified. These reduced threats to populations of 33 globally threatened species: African elephant ( <i>Loxodonta africana</i> , VU); chimpanzee ( <i>Pan troglodytes</i> , EN); eastern gorilla ( <i>Gorilla beringei</i> , CR); eastern hoolock gibbon ( <i>Hoolock leuconedys</i> , VU); cao vit gibbon ( <i>Nomascus nasutus</i> , CR); François's langur ( <i>Trachypithecus francoisi</i> , EN); Tonkin snub-nosed monkey ( <i>Rhinopithecus avunculus</i> , CR); red-shanked douc langur ( <i>Pygathrix nemaeus</i> , CR); Brazilian merganser ( <i>Mergus octosetaceus</i> , CR); blue-eyed ground-dove ( <i>Columbina cyanopsis</i> , CR); Bengal florican ( <i>Houbaropsis bengalensis</i> , CR); black-faced spoonbill ( <i>Platalea minor</i> , EN); spoon-billed sandpiper ( <i>Eurynorhynchus pygmaeus</i> , CR); great knot ( <i>Calidris tenuirostris</i> , EN); grey crowned crane ( <i>Balearica regulorum</i> , EN); Saunders's gull ( <i>Larus saundersi</i> , VU); long-billed forest warbler ( <i>Artisornis moreaui</i> , CR); Myanmar roofed turtle ( <i>Batagur trivitatta</i> , CR); Cantor's giant softshell turtle ( <i>Pelochelys cantorii</i> , EN); Asiatic softshell turtle ( <i>Amyda cartilaginea</i> , VU); Jullien's golden carp ( <i>Probarbus jullieni</i> , CR); thicklip barb ( <i>Probarbus labeamajor</i> , EN); Maathai's longleg ( <i>Notogomphus maathaiaae</i> , EN); Kenya jewel ( <i>Platycypha amboniensis</i> , CR); giant sprite ( <i>Pseudagrion bicoerulans</i> , VU); Haines's orange mangrove ( <i>Bruguiera hainesii</i> , CR); sundari mangrove ( <i>Heritiera fomes</i> , EN); sedge species ( <i>Carex monostachya</i> , VU); myrrh species ( <i>Commiphora monoica</i> , CR); magnolia species ( <i>Michelia coriacea</i> , EN); cycad species ( <i>Cycas bifida</i> , VU); Vietnamese golden cypress ( <i>Xanthocypris vietnamensis</i> , EN); and Yunnan catkin yew ( <i>Amentotaxus yunnanensis</i> , VU).
Outcome indicator 3.1.4: Number of conservation corridors with enhanced ecological connectivity through the incorporation of financial incentives into policy and the adoption of biodiversity-friendly management practices by private companies	6 conservation corridors with enhanced ecological connectivity	6 conservation corridors with enhanced ecological connectivity	CA	Of the 212 grants awarded in the pilot hotspots since the start of the project, 28 (14 in the Cerrado, 12 in the Eastern Afromontane, and two in Indo-Burma) aim to enhance ecological connectivity within conservation corridors. The expected contribution of these grants towards the target is eight conservation corridors with enhanced ecological connectivity. To date, 15 of these grants have closed. This enhanced ecological connectivity in six conservation corridors. In the Sertão Veredas-Peruaçu corridor in the Cerrado, ecological connectivity was enhanced through developing a conservation-based territorial development plan for 2020-2032, covering 3 million hectares. In the Chimanimani-Nyanga Mountains in the Eastern

OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>7</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
				<p>Afromontane, it was enhanced through establishing working relations between CEPF grantees on both sides of the Zimbabwe-Mozambique border to undertake transboundary conservation. In the Greater Mahale Landscape in the Eastern Afromontane, it was enhanced through a grantee working in the Malagarasi River system with a program in Mahale to create intra-corridor connections. In the Itombwe-Nyungwe Landscape in the Eastern Afromontane, it was enhanced through developing a Climate Resilient Altitudinal Gradients (CRAGs) program covering terrestrial and freshwater sites across three countries (Burundi, DRC, and Rwanda), demonstrating both the hydrological and political connections among countries. In the Lake Tana Catchment in the Eastern Afromontane, it was enhanced through linking conservation activities in the lake itself (fisheries management, wetland management, policies, and species conservation) with those in the surrounding mountains (site conservation, creating new protected areas, and improving agricultural practices). In the Tonle Sap Lake and Inundation Zone corridor in Indo-Burma, it was enhanced through promoting uptake of wildlife-friendly rice cultivation techniques in production landscapes outside protected areas.</p>
<p>Outcome indicator 3.1.5: Number of indigenous and local communities that have increased, gender-equitable access to ecosystem services</p>	<p>250 communities with increased, gender-equitable access to ecosystem services</p>	<p>258 communities with increased, gender-equitable access to ecosystem services</p>	<p><b>CA</b></p>	<p>The baseline figure (according to the updated project results monitoring framework of 30 June 2016) is 22 communities with increased, gender-equitable access to ecosystem services (seven in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda, and 15 in Indo-Burma). Of the 212 grants awarded in the pilot hotspots since the start of the project, 84 (18 in the Cerrado, 40 in the Eastern Afromontane, and 26 in Indo-Burma) aim to provide indigenous and local communities with increased, gender-equitable access to ecosystem services. The expected contribution of these grants towards the target is at least an additional 313 communities with increased, gender-equitable access to ecosystem services. To date, results from the 71 closed grants total 258 communities (17 in the Cerrado, 117 in the Eastern Afromontane and 124 in Indo-Burma).</p>
<p>Outcome indicator 3.1.6: Number of women and number of men that receive direct socio-economic benefits through increased income, food security, resource rights or</p>	<p>25,000 women and 25,000 men with direct socio-economic benefits</p>	<p>76,373 women and 66,580 men with direct socio-economic benefits</p>	<p><b>CA</b></p>	<p>The baseline figures (according to the updated project results monitoring framework of 30 June 2016) are 11,939 women and 14,844 men with direct socio-economic benefits (comprising 690 women and 690 men in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda, and 11,249 women and 14,154 men in Indo-Burma). Of the 212 grants awarded in the pilot hotspots since the start of the project, 78 (17 in the Cerrado, 26 in the Eastern Afromontane, and 35 in Indo-Burma) aim to provide women and men with direct socio-economic benefits. To date, confirmed results from the 64 closed grants have totaled</p>



OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>7</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
other measures of human wellbeing				76,373 women and 66,580 men (51 women and 36 men from the Cerrado, 68,161 women and 58,816 men from Eastern Afromontane and 8,161 women and 7,728 men from Indo-Burma).
Outcome indicator 3.1.7: Number of women and number of men that receive indirect socio-economic benefits through enhanced and more secure delivery of ecosystem services	125,000 women and 125,000 men with indirect socio-economic benefits	99,683 women and 89,619 men with indirect socio-economic benefits	<b>IS</b>	The baseline figures (according to the updated project results monitoring framework of 30 June 2016) are 32,054 women and 32,054 men with indirect socio-economic benefits (comprising 28,554 women and 28,554 men in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda, and 3,500 women and 3,500 men in Indo-Burma). Of the 212 grants awarded in the pilot hotspots since the start of the project, 52 (15 in the Cerrado, 26 in the Eastern Afromontane, and 11 in Indo-Burma) aim to provide women and men with indirect socio-economic benefits. Confirmed results from the 40 grants to have closed to date total 99,683 women and 89,619 men (1,280 women and 1,205 men from the Cerrado, 67,202 women and 57,384 men from the Eastern Afromontane, and 31,201 women and 31,030 men from Indo-Burma).

COMPONENT 3 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
<b>HS</b>	The target for the number of hectares of production landscapes with effective biodiversity mainstreaming (indicator 3.1.1) has already been achieved. If all the expected hectares are achieved, the project will reach over three times the target for this indicator. Also for the number of protected areas with new management models featuring direct participation of civil society organizations or indigenous and local communities that show improvements in SP1 METT scores (indicator 3.1.2) the target has been over-achieved (more than twice the target). The target for globally threatened species with reduced threats to their populations Indicator 3.1.3) has already been reached (33 as compared to a target of 20). The target for conservation corridors with enhanced ecological connectivity (indicator 3.1.4) has been achieved, and the target for communities with increased, gender-equitable access to ecosystem services has also been achieved (indicator 3.1.5). The number of people that so far have received direct socio-economic benefits through increased income, food security, resource rights, or other measures of human wellbeing is almost three times the target, and there is a good gender balance. The number of indirect beneficiaries is high, although the original target has not been completely reached.	Unchanged

<b>COMPONENT 4</b>	Replicating success through knowledge products and tools
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<b>Outcome 4.1:</b>	CEPF investments in other hotspots strengthened through the adoption of successful models and tools developed in the pilot hotspots
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OUTCOMES TARGETS/INDICATORS	END OF PROJECT INDICATOR TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>8</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
Outcome indicator 4.1.1: Number of additional hotspots that have long-term implementation structures	9 additional hotspots with long-term implementation structures	2 additional hotspots with long-term implementation structures	<b>IS</b>	The long-term implementation structures in the pilot hotspots were based upon the existing structure of the RITs. This model will be adopted in hotspots where CEPF invests or reinvests going forward. Drawing on experience from the pilot hotspots, new RIT/long-term implementation structures were established for the Mountains of Central Asia Hotspot in November 2019, and the Wallacea Hotspot in August 2020. Additional long-term implementation structures will be established for the Caribbean, Madagascar and the Indian Ocean Islands, and Tropical Andes Hotspots in FY22, incorporating experience from the pilot hotspots.
Outcome indicator 4.1.2: Number of additional hotspots that have regional resource mobilization strategies	9 additional hotspots with regional resource mobilization strategies	1 additional hotspot with regional resource mobilization strategy	<b>IS</b>	An internal evaluation of the effectiveness of the regional resource mobilization strategies at leveraging additional resources for conservation programs in the Eastern Afrotropical and Indo-Burma Hotspots began in June 2020. The findings were discussed within the CEPF Secretariat, in order to incorporate lessons learned into future long-term vision exercises. To date, lessons from the pilot hotspots have been incorporated into the long-term vision for the Tropical Andes Hotspot (completed in 2021).
Outcome indicator 4.1.3: Number of successful policy demonstration models that have been adopted in at least one additional hotspot	2 policy demonstration models adopted in at least one additional hotspot	2 policy demonstration models adopted in at least one additional hotspot	<b>CA</b>	Previously, a policy demonstration model for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into rice cultivation demonstrated in the Indo-Burma Hotspot was replicated in the Himalayas Hotspot. During FY21, a policy demonstration model for community-managed fish conservation zones demonstrated in the Indo-Burma Hotspot was replicated in the Himalayas Hotspot. An ongoing multi-hotspot grant is attempting to replicate this model in the Mesoamerica's Hotspot.
Outcome indicator 4.1.4: Number of management best practices that have been adopted in at least one additional hotspot	2 management best practices adopted in at least one additional hotspot	1 management best practice adopted in at least one additional hotspot	<b>IS</b>	During FY21, best practices for identifying KBAs as a tool for safeguarding sites from incompatible development demonstrated in the Indo-Burma Hotspot were replicated in the Eastern Afrotropical and Guinean Forests of West Africa Hotspots. An ongoing multi-hotspot grant is attempting to replicate good practice with a citizen-science web platform as a tool to promote biodiversity-sensitive development.

<b>COMPONENT 4 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING</b>	<b>JUSTIFICATION</b>	<b>RATING TREND</b>
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<sup>8 8</sup> **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

<b>MS</b>	Most of the work under this component was planned to take place towards the end of the project. COVID-19 has affected the implementation of multi-hotspot grants to disseminate policy demonstration models and management best practices from the pilot hotspots to additional hotspots. In coordination with the CI-GEF agency, a no-cost extension was agreed to be able to finalize those grants.	Unchanged
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### c. Overall Project Results Rating

#### OVERALL PROJECT RESULTS IMPLEMENTATION RATING

OVERALL RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND <sup>9</sup>
<b>S</b>	The Indo-Burma, Eastern Afromontane, and Cerrado long-term visions have been endorsed and implemented. A large amount of grants has been awarded to CSOs: 212 in total - of which 139 local CSOs - across the three pilot hotspots. Very good results are obtained with respect to the total amount of hectares where biodiversity conservation and sustainable use is being implemented: 9,964,668 hectares additional to the baseline, distributed over production landscapes, protected areas, and conservation corridors. Many outcome indicator targets under components 1, 2, and 3 have been achieved or exceeded. Notable is the large amounts of women and men that receive direct socio-economic benefits through increased income, food security, resource rights, or other measures of human wellbeing. Some of the work under component 4 has been delayed due to COVID-19, but are planned to be achieved through a no-cost extension. The target for the sustainable financing mechanisms (indicator 2.2.1) has not been fully achieved yet.	Decreasing

### d. Recommendations

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Emphasize efforts to achieve the target for outcome 2.2 (sustainable financing mechanisms).	Project team	Until end of project

<sup>9</sup> Rating trend: Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

### **SECTION III: PROJECT RISKS STATUS AND RATING**

#### **a. Progress towards Implementing the Project Risk Mitigation Plan**

This section describes the activities implemented to manage and reduce high, substantial, modest, and low risks of the project. This section has three parts:

- a. Ratings for the progress towards implementing measures to mitigate project risks and a project risks annual reassessment
- b. Recommendations for improving project risks management

#### **a. Progress towards Implementing the Project Risk Mitigation and Plan Project Risks Annual Reassessment**

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING <sup>10</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND <sup>11</sup>
<b>Risk 1:</b> Lack of suitable organizations to become long-term implementation structures	CEPF currently works with RITs in the hotspots where it is active, but these do not necessarily have the common agenda or capacity mix necessary to become long-term stewards of the long-term conservation visions and supporters of the emergence of strong local civil societies. To mitigate this risk, a detailed stakeholder mapping has been conducted, and a model for long-term implementation structures has been developed that accommodates differences in institutional landscapes within and among hotspots.	The RITs for all three pilot hotspots have implemented the steps necessary to enable evolution into long-term implementation structures, including development of long-term visions and establishment of advisory committees or similar structures.	<b>IS</b>	The RITs for the pilot hotspots have the necessary qualifications to become long-term implementation structures. In FY20, an independent evaluation of lessons learned by the Eastern Afromontane and Indo-Burma RITs was conducted; the overall performance of each was assessed as Highly Satisfactory. Based upon this, CEPF's donors agreed to continue working with IUCN for the next phase of investment in Indo-Burma; funding for the next phase in Eastern Afromontane is still being sought. In the Cerrado, the long-term vision for the hotspot was endorsed by the Donor Council in June 2021. In the vision, the RIT is foreseen as becoming the long-term implementation structure. As the next step, an independent evaluation is planned for FY22.	<b>L</b>	<b>L</b>	Unchanged

<sup>10</sup> **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

<sup>11</sup> **Rating trend:** Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING <sup>10</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND <sup>11</sup>
<p><b>Risk 2:</b> Resources for long-term conservation finance from non-traditional sources not available</p>	<p>The other key pillar of sustainability of the project will be to establish long-term conservation financing mechanisms. Traditional sources of resources for biodiversity conservation are decreasing in many countries in the pilot hotspots and are not necessarily being replaced by non-traditional sources. This risk has been mitigated through an analysis of the availability of non-traditional sources of conservation finance in the pilot hotspots, which will be updated and expanded during Y1 and Y2. The risk will be further mitigated by targeting grants towards countries and initiatives that offer the greatest opportunities for leverage.</p>	<p>Six grants have been awarded that aim to leverage resources from non-traditional sources for long-term conservation. Moreover, CEPF has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with other funders in the Cerrado, seeking to leverage additional funding for civil society actors there.</p>	<p><b>IS</b></p>	<p>As mentioned above, progress has been made with the coffee sector in the Cerrado to leverage funding from the private sector to support ecosystem restoration and climate-smart agriculture in the Corrego Feio Basin. Between 2019 and 2025, this support would represent USD 525,000. In addition, there is hope that regional and international banks will provide financial support before the end of the year. Also, the coffee producers themselves are co-financing 40% of the implementation costs of the restoration. Also, an MoU was signed in September 2020 among CEPF, IEB, Humanize Institute, Fundação Grupo Boticário de Proteção à Natureza and Instituto Nova Era. This partnership has already led to the leveraging of USD 60,000 to co-fund a large grant to Impact Hub Brasilia, which aims at building the capacities of 40 CSOs. More funding may flow as part of the implementation of this MoU. Elsewhere, it has proven challenging to leverage significant conservation funding from non-traditional sources, and this challenge has grown with the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has been especially severe in Brazil, where the potential for leveraging private sector support was considered the greatest.</p>	<p><b>M</b></p>	<p><b>H</b></p>	<p>Increasing</p>

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING <sup>10</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND <sup>11</sup>
<b>Risk 3:</b> Lack of interest from CSOs	The public-private partnership approach followed by this project is novel to many CSOs, especially local groups, many of which lack the necessary skills and tools, and some of which may have philosophical reservations about working with the private sector. To mitigate this risk, stakeholders in the three pilot hotspots were consulted during the PPG to identify target countries within the priority hotspots with existing or potential interest and capacity among CSOs to partner with the private sector. Also, the project will provide targeted capacity building to CSOs to develop the necessary capacity and credibility to engage with government and private sector actors (informed by the long-term visions developed in Y1).	Targeted capacity building has been provided to CSOs to develop the necessary capacity and credibility to engage with government and private sector actors.	<b>IS</b>	In March 2021, a grant was awarded to Impact Hub Brasilia. This grant will provide targeted capacity building to 40 CSOs in the Cerrado in the following areas: legal requirements from fiscal, tax and labor points of views; effective communication strategies; resource mobilization; alignment with the UN SDGs; and strategic planning. By the end of this project, these CSOs should see an improvement of about 30% in the performance of their main marketing and communication indicators, giving them more visibility, capacity and credibility to engage with public and private sector actors.	<b>L</b>	<b>L</b>	Unchanged
<b>Risk 4:</b> Political space for civil society to influence public policy constricted in pilot countries	With a few exceptions, the political space available for civil society is expanding in most countries in the pilot hotspots, enabling them to have greater influence over public policy. However, relationships between government and civil society are dynamic, and political space for CSOs can be constricted if they are perceived as moving into sensitive areas. This risk will be mitigated through careful selection of civil society partners with a track record of constructive partnership with government, and fully involving government partners in the framing of policy questions addressed by the project.	CEPF and the RITs have continued to ensure that all grantees in the pilot hotspots have a track record of constructive partnership with government.	<b>IS</b>	This risk applies mainly to Brazil, because most of the remaining active grants are in the Cerrado Hotspot. Political space for civil society in Brazil has become more restricted since the change in administration in January 2019. The CEPF grantees report severe challenges with engaging constructively with federal and state government actors. A few projects are still achieving some political leverage at the municipal level but it remains very localized. Elsewhere, restricted political space for civil society in China delayed the award of a multi-hotspot grant, because additional administrative checks were required, but this grant was awarded.	<b>M</b>	<b>S</b>	Increasing

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING <sup>10</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND <sup>11</sup>
<b>Risk 5:</b> Opportunities for reform of particular policies do not arise during project duration or reforms take a long time	Mainstreaming biodiversity into public policies needs to be advanced according to the timeframes and processes of government, which may not necessarily match those of the project. This risk will be mitigated by giving strong weighting to time-bound opportunities for influencing policies when establishing public policy targets for the project, and by developing science-demonstration-policy models that fully engage government partners in the framing of policy questions, selection of demonstration sites, and the integration of the ensuing lessons into the policy process.	Public policy targets have been established for all three pilot hotspots. Guidance has been provided to applicants to develop science-demonstration-policy models that fully engage government partners.	<b>IS</b>	Policy targets were set for Indo-Burma in FY17 and the Eastern Afromontane in FY18. For the Cerrado, policy targets were set in FY20, but only at the municipal level, due to restrictions on political space for civil society at state and federal levels in Brazil, as mentioned above. Guidance has been provided to applicants in all three hotspots to help them develop science-demonstration-policy models that fully engage government partners in the framing of policy questions, selection of demonstration sites, and the integration of the ensuing lessons into the policy process.	<b>M</b>	<b>S</b>	Increasing
<b>Risk 6:</b> Lack of interest from private sector actors	Private sector actors active in sectors with large biodiversity footprints in the pilot hotspots comprise a mix of multinational companies, some of which have existing commitments to biodiversity conservation, and companies from emerging economies (especially Brazil and China), which may have less prior exposure to the business case for biodiversity conservation. To mitigate this risk, economic valuations, biodiversity risk assessments, and certified commodity market analyses will be supported through grants to civil society partners, to help present a convincing business case to private sector actors to engage in development of biodiversity-friendly management practices.	Guidance has been provided to applicants to incorporate economic valuations, biodiversity risk assessments and market analyses into their grant proposals, to help present a convincing business case to private sector actors to engage in development of biodiversity-friendly management practices.	<b>IS</b>	FUNDACCER continued to engage private sector actors, including coffee producers in the Corrego Feio Basin and international coffee roasters. During FY21, Cooxupe, COFCO International, and Volcafe joined the Cerrado Waters Consortium. Also during FY21, FINATEC began development of a free-access, accessible-language platform, to assist stakeholders to comply with conservation legislation by restoring areas of environmental liability. This work progressed well and began to garner interest at from municipal governments.	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING <sup>10</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND <sup>11</sup>
<b>Risk 7:</b> Strongly asymmetry in the capacity of civil society to influence government policy as compared to private sector	Private sector actors, particularly large corporations with large biodiversity footprints, not only have the incentive to influence government policy to avoid restrictive environmental policies and regulations but also the means to do so, given their resources, expertise, and position as creators of jobs and wealth. Conversely, CSOs often lack the resources and specialist expertise necessary to influence policy, not to mention credibility in the eyes of policymakers. To mitigate this risk, a central strategy of the project (i.e. Outcome 2.1) is to increase the capacity and credibility of CSOs, individually and collectively, to enable them to more effectively influence public policy even in the face of opposition from vested interests within private sector. In addition, opportunities to engage private sector actors as champions of mainstreaming biodiversity into public policy will be proactively sought out. Such opportunities may exist where companies expect to benefit from policy changes that take the form of incentives rather than regulations. In this way, the power asymmetry will be turned to the advantage of CSOs seeking to influence public policy.	Opportunities have been identified to engage private sector actors as champions of mainstreaming biodiversity into public policy.	<b>IS</b>	During FY21, the CEPF Secretariat and the RIT in the Cerrado continued to engage with private sector actors as champions of biodiversity mainstreaming. The coffee sector has continued to be the strongest pillar within the strategy for the development of responsible commodities. In addition, private sector actors have emerged as champions of mainstreaming biodiversity into the eco-extractivism sector, for instance, in the supply chains of baru nut and babassu palm oil. A new supply chain for the latter product is being developed through a grant to Cooperativa Central do Cerrado, with The Body Shop Brasil and Natura Brasil as the main private sector partners. This project will also benefit 12 women-led organizations.	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	Unchanged



PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING <sup>10</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND <sup>11</sup>
<b>Risk 8:</b> Effects of climate change and variability override conservation actions on the ground	While they may only be manifested gradually over the project lifetime, the effects of climate change and variability are projected to compound other pressures on natural ecosystems. This risk will be mitigated by addressing threats to biodiversity that are amenable to on-the-ground interventions, such as habitat loss, fragmentation and over-exploitation, thereby reducing aggregate pressure on natural ecosystems. The project will also adopt climate change adaptation strategies that enhance the resilience of natural systems and plan for future climate change scenarios, in particular by enhancing ecological connectivity within conservation corridors. Moreover, the project will incorporate analysis of climate change projections into the long-term visions, which will feature, inter alia, monitoring of climate change impacts and response by international donors, to enable adaptive response by civil society to changing threats and opportunities.	Guidance has been provided to applicants to incorporate into their grant proposals, where appropriate, climate change adaptation strategies that enhance resilience of natural systems and plan for future climate change scenarios, in particular by enhancing ecological connectivity within conservation corridors. Analysis of climate change projections was incorporated into the long-term vision for the Cerrado Hotspot.	<b>IS</b>	Guidance was provided to applicants in the pilot hotspots to incorporate climate change adaptation strategies into their proposals, where relevant. An analysis of climate change projections was incorporated into the long-term vision report for the Cerrado.	<b>L</b>	<b>L</b>	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING <sup>10</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND <sup>11</sup>
<b>Risk 9:</b> Political instability impedes project implementation in pilot countries	All pilot hotspots contain countries with a recent history of political instability, and conflagration could prevent work in a country or, at minimum, impede civil society's engagement with government partners. CEPF has wide experience of supporting civil society in countries undergoing or emerging from political conflict and will continue to engage in such countries, provided opportunities to deliver the project's outcomes exist and the security situation does not present unacceptable risks to staff or partners. If continued engagement became untenable, an alternative pilot country would be selected in the same hotspot.	The security situation in each country in the pilot hotspots has been monitored, with a view to discontinuing engagement if it presents an unacceptable risk to staff or civil society partners. To date, this has only been necessary in Burundi.	<b>IS</b>	The CEPF Secretariat continues to monitor the security situation in each country. There remain significant concerns about the political situation in the Cerrado. While not a security risk <i>per se</i> , the COVID-19 crisis continued to present challenges in the Cerrado hotspot, as well as for the multi-hotspot grants. During FY21, 54 amendments were processed to the grants in the Cerrado, to help grantees adapt to implementation delays due to the pandemic and take advantage of exchange rate gains. This required significant additional work on the part of the CEPF Secretariat.	<b>M</b>	<b>M</b>	Unchanged
<b>Risk 10:</b> Changes in institutions providing co-financing to the project could lead to their inability to do so	There is a risk that some of the expected co-financing at the level of individual hotspots may not materialize, leading to more gradual implementation of the long-term visions and reduction in the number of models demonstrated over the duration of the project. This risk has been mitigated by closely engaging with the co-financing institutions during the PPG phase (all of whom are existing donor partners to CEPF at the global or regional scale), to ensure their ownership, involvement, and investment. In the event that the identified co-financing institutions are unable to meet their commitments to provide co-financing, alternative partners will be sought.	CEPF has remained in close communication with the identified co-financing institutions, to be able to seek alternatives in case any are unable to meet their commitments.	<b>IS</b>	The MacArthur Foundation has ended its support to conservation and sustainable development projects in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, meaning that there will be no further co-financing from this source beyond the USD 6.5 million already provided (55% of the amount originally committed). This reduction in co-financing was offset by a new commitment of funding by Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies. The other anticipated co-financing, to CEPF via CI, has materialized.	<b>L</b>	<b>L</b>	Unchanged

PROJECT RISKS	PRODOC RISK MITIGATION MEASURE	MITIGATION MEASURES IMPLEMENTATION	PROGRESS RATING <sup>10</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION	PRODOC RISK RATING	CURRENT FY21 RISK RATING	RISK RATING TREND <sup>11</sup>
<b>Risk 11: COVID 19 pandemic</b>	N/A	Grantees were advised to comply with relevant national and sub-national guidance and regulations related to COVID-19 and permitted to reschedule or restructure activities. Activities involving large-group meetings were postponed or canceled. International travel by CEPF Secretariat staff was postponed indefinitely.	<b>IS</b>	The pilot hotspots were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to differing degrees during FY21. There were no activities in the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot, where the final grants closed in May 2020. In the Indo-Burma Hotspot, five grants were implemented during FY21, all of which were restructured to allow activities to be implemented safely in the context of the pandemic; all of these grants were successfully completed by the end of the year. The third pilot hotspot, the Cerrado, is located in Brazil, which has been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Here, many grants needed to be extended and/or restructured, to postpone or redesign activities in light of the pandemic. Also, the stakeholder consultation for endorsement of the long-term vision for the hotspot was done online during the celebration of Cerrado Day in September 2020. In addition, four multi-hotspot grants were amended to adapt to delays caused by the pandemic and ensure that activities could be safely implemented. Finally, remote working arrangements for CEPF Secretariat staff were in place throughout the year. All staff had suitable IT support to work from home and remained in close communication with RITs and grantees. No international travel took place during the year, meaning that supervision of all grants had to be virtual.	<b>N/A</b>	<b>S</b>	N/A

OVERALL RATING OF PROJECT RISKS	JUSTIFICATION	RISK RATING TREND <sup>12</sup>
S	Several risks have increased. It has proven difficult to leverage significant conservation funding, and this challenge has grown due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In the Cerrado hotspot, the political space for civil society has become more restricted, and grantees report challenges with engaging constructively with federal and state government actors. The COVID-19 pandemic meant that several grants in the Cerrado needed to be extended and/or restructured. In addition, four multi-hotspot grants were amended to adapt to delays caused by the pandemic and ensure that activities could be safely implemented.	Increasing

### Recommendations

MITIGATION AND CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
Emphasize efforts to achieve the target for outcome 2.2 (sustainable financing mechanisms).	Project team	Until end of project

<sup>12</sup> **Rating trend:** Increasing, Unchanged or Decreasing

## **SECTION IV: PROJECT ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS IMPLEMENTATION STATUS AND RATING**

This section of the PIR describes the progress made towards complying with the approved Environmental and Social Safeguard plans, as well as recommendations to improve the implementation of the safeguard plans, when needed. This section is divided in three parts:

- a. Progress towards Complying with the CI-GEF Project Agency’s Environmental & Social Safeguards
- b. Overall Project Safeguard Implementation Rating
- c. Recommendations

### **a. Progress towards Complying with the CI-GEF Project Agency’s Environmental & Social Safeguards**

MINIMUM SAFEGUARD INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>13</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<b>ACCOUNTABILITY AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b>				
1. Number of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project’s Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	[No target was set]	1	<b>IS</b>	All grantees working with local stakeholders are required to establish and disclose a locally appropriate grievance redress mechanism. CEPF and the RITs monitor the grievance mechanisms of individual grants and the grievance email account at CEPF. A single grievance was received during FY19, by a grantee in the Cerrado. The grievance was successfully resolved by the grantee and reported to the CI-GEF Project Agency in the Q3 FY19 quarterly report. No grievances were received during FY21.
2. Percentage of conflict and complaint cases reported to the project’s Accountability and Grievance Mechanism that have been resolved	[No target was set]	100	<b>IS</b>	
<b>GENDER MAINSTREAMING</b>				
1. Number of men and women that participated in project activities (e.g. meetings, workshops, consultations)	[No target was set]	7,985 women and 10,788 men with training	<b>IS</b>	No targets for the number of men and women participating in project activities were set in the ProDoc. The number of men and women receiving training provides a good proxy; this was 7,985 women and 10,788 men at the end of FY21. The number of people receiving direct economic benefits stood at 76,373 women and 66,580 men at the end of FY21; this was a small increase over the figures at the end of FY20. Gender considerations were incorporated into the three long-term visions.
2. Number of men and women that received benefits (e.g. employment, income-generating activities, training, access to natural resources, land tenure or resource rights, equipment, leadership roles) from the project	25,000 women and 25,000 men with benefits	76,373 women and 66,580 men with benefits	<b>IS</b>	
3. Number of strategies, plans (e.g. management plans and land use plans) and policies derived from the project that include gender considerations (this indicator applies to relevant projects)	[No target was set]	3 strategies incorporating gender considerations	<b>CA</b>	

<sup>13</sup> **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

<p><b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Number of government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector, indigenous peoples and other stakeholder groups that have been involved in the project implementation phase on an annual basis</li> <li>2. Number persons (sex disaggregated) that have been involved in project implementation phase (on an annual basis)</li> <li>3. Number of engagement (e.g. meeting, workshops, consultations) with stakeholders during the project implementation phase (on an annual basis)</li> <li>4. Percentage of stakeholders who rate as satisfactory the level at which their views and concerns are taken into account by the project (<i>responsible party for measuring this indicator is CI-GEF Agency and this will be undertaken by the consultant hired by the CI-GEF Agency to conduct the MTR and Terminal Evaluation</i>)</li> </ol>	<p>[No target was set]</p> <p>[No target was set]</p> <p>[No target was set]</p> <p>[No target was set]</p>	<p>174 civil society organizations</p> <p>5,044 women and 6,248 men with training</p> <p>2 meetings</p>	<p>IS</p> <p>IS</p> <p>IS</p>	<p>174 CSOs (145 local and 29 international) have received grants in the pilot hotspots since the start of the project. The number of women and men receiving training is used as a proxy for the number of persons involved in the implementation phase. Since inception, these figures are 7,985 women and 10,788 men; this is an increase of 5,044 women and 6,248 men from the figures at the end of FY20. A virtual meeting was held with stakeholders in Brazil in July 2020 to create a space for qualified debate on means and challenges for the preservation of the Cerrado. A virtual meeting was held in September 2020 to celebrate Cerrado Day and seek stakeholder endorsement of the long-term vision. Out of the six grants awarded in FY21, five triggered solely the stakeholder engagement policy and, as such, prepared a stakeholder engagement plan. For the sixth grant, which also triggered the Indigenous People safeguard, the stakeholder consultation was integrated as part of the Social Framework and FPIC process.</p>
<p><b>PHYSICAL CULTURAL RESOURCES</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Number of physical cultural resources found in the project area</li> </ol>	<p>[No target was set]</p>	<p>1 resource</p>	<p>IS</p>	<p>One of the grants awarded in FY19 triggered the physical cultural resources safeguard. The resource concerned was Buddhist shrines in limestone caves, where the grant aimed to reduce impacts of tourism on unique species, adapted to darkness. The grantee prepared a Physical Resources Plan, which set out measures to avoid any alteration of cultural features in the cave or any restrictions on access to cultural sites for pilgrims. The grantee reported that these measures were effective but it has not been possible to verify this independently because a planned site visit was cancelled due to travel restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. No further resources were found during FY21.</p>
<p><b>PEST MANAGEMENT</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Number of hectares where pest management is applied</li> <li>2. Percentage of pest management area where Integrated Pest Management or Integrated Vector Management is applied</li> </ol>	<p>[No target was set]</p> <p>[No target was set]</p>	<p>0 hectares</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>IS</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>None of the grants awarded under the project triggered the pest management safeguard.</p>

3. Percentage of pesticide applications that comply with the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides	[No target was set]	N/A	N/A	
<b>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES</b>				
1. Percentage of indigenous/local communities where FPIC have been followed and documented	[No target was set]	100 percent	IS	Seventeen of the 63 grants awarded to date in the Cerrado, six of the 68 grants awarded in the Eastern Afromontane, 28 of the 81 grants awarded in Indo-Burma and two of the seven multi-hotspot grants trigger the Indigenous Peoples safeguard. All of the grantees prepared Social Assessments and followed FPIC with affected communities. One grant in Indo-Burma developed benefit-sharing mechanisms for indigenous communities. Under this grant, three communities in China gained access to sustainably harvested medicinal plant resources.
2. The percentage of communities where project benefit sharing have been agreed upon through the appropriate community governance mechanisms and documented	[No target was set]	100 percent	IS	
<b>INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>				
1. Number of persons involved in voluntary resettlement	[No target was set]	0 persons	IS	Five of the 63 grants awarded to date in the Cerrado, 11 of the 68 grants awarded in the Eastern Afromontane, 17 of the 81 grants awarded in Indo-Burma, and two of the seven multi-hotspot grants trigger the involuntary resettlement safeguard. None has yet reported any restrictions on access to natural resources. No CEPF-funded grants support the resettlement of people (voluntary or involuntary).
2. Number of persons compensated for voluntary resettlement	[No target was set]	0 persons	IS	
3. Number of persons whose access to and use of natural resources have been voluntary restricted	[No target was set]	0 persons	IS	
4. Number of persons whose access to and use of natural resources have been involuntary restricted	[No target was set]	0 persons	IS	
5. Percentage of persons who gave their consent for voluntary restrictions	[No target was set]	N/A	IS	
6. Percentage of persons who have received compensation for voluntary restrictions	[No target was set]	N/A	IS	
7. Percentage of persons who have received compensation for involuntary restrictions	[No target was set]	N/A	IS	

## b. Information on Progress, challenges and outcomes on stakeholder engagement

CEPF has well-established processes to screen grants for social and environmental risk and ensure compliance with social and environmental safeguard policies. Each individual safeguard policy has requirements related to stakeholder engagement. In addition, CEPF has a dedicated Stakeholder Engagement Best Practice, which requires every grantee to develop and implement a plan for stakeholder engagement through all stages of project design and implementation. Guidance and templates have been prepared in English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish, covering the working languages of the majority of countries with project activities. In particular, grantees have been provided with guidance and examples on establishing grievance mechanisms (see <https://www.cepf.net/stories/what-why-and-how-grievance-mechanisms>). Only one grievance has been raised to date via a grievance mechanism, and this was satisfactorily resolved by the grantee. This indicates a satisfactory performance with stakeholder engagement.

## c. Provide information on the progress towards achieving gender sensitive measures/targets

During project preparation, CEPF developed and adopted a Gender Policy, based upon CI's own policy. During implementation, CEPF has developed a number of tools to facilitate roll-out of the policy to each grant. These include the Gender Toolkit for grantees, a Gender Fact sheet, and a Gender Tracking Tool. These tools are available in English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish (<https://www.cepf.net/grants/before-you-apply/cepf-gender>). The Gender Toolkit provides practical advice on measures that CSOs can take to incorporate gender considerations into project design and implementation. Its use has been complemented by trainings on gender mainstreaming for applicants and grantees, conducted by the CEPF Secretariat, the RITs, and third-party service providers. The tracking tool is a self-assessment, used to monitor changes in grantees' performance with regard to gender mainstreaming. To date, baseline and final Gender Tracking Tools have been completed by 91 CSOs in the pilot hotspots, of which 47 reported an increase of at least 20% in their overall score. These measures have stimulated CSOs to reflect on capacity gaps with regard to gender and to address them. For instance, five grantees in the Eastern Afromontane started, or completed, a gender policy for their organizations due to their involvement with CEPF.

## d. Overall Project Safeguard Implementation Rating

### SUMMARY: PROJECT SAFEGUARD IMPLEMENTATION RATING BY TYPE OF PLAN

SAFEGUARDSTRIGGERED BY THE PROJECT (delete those not applicable)	CURRENT FY21 IMPLEMENTATION RATING	RATING TREND
Accountability and Grievance Mechanisms	HS	Unchanged
Gender Mainstreaming Plan (GMP)	HS	Unchanged
Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)	HS	Unchanged
Physical Cultural Resources	HS	Unchanged
Pest Management Plan	HS	Unchanged
Indigenous Peoples	HS	Unchanged
Involuntary Resettlement	HS	Unchanged



**OVERALL PROJECT SAFEGUARD IMPLEMENTATION RATING**

RATING	JUSTIFICATION	RATING TREND
<b>HS</b>	CEPF has a well-established process to screen grants and manage environmental and social safeguards triggered. The project closely monitored the grievance mechanisms, surpassed its gender target for beneficiaries, and significantly grew the number of stakeholders engaged during FY21. Further, CEPF ensured compliance with the other safeguards including Indigenous Peoples, Physical Cultural Resources, and Involuntary Resettlement.	Unchanged

**e. Recommendations**

CORRECTIVE ACTION(S)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	DEADLINE
None.		

## **SECTION V: PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION EXPERIENCES, KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND LESSONS LEARNED**

### **Required topics**

1. Knowledge activities/products (when applicable), as outlined in the knowledge management plan approved at CEO endorsement/approval.

By the end of FY21, four innovative knowledge products under Component 4 of the project were completed. These included: (i) a guide and video about establishing community-managed fish conservation zones based on CEPF grantees' experience from Indo-Burma; (ii) a master class for CEPF applicants that provides detailed instruction on project design, M&E, safeguards, procurement and other issues, based on experience from the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot; (iii) a web portal focusing on the conservation of bustards, based on experience from the Indo-Burma Hotspot, and (iv) a manual providing guidance to replicate strategies for uptake of sustainable practices, called "Solutions worth Sharing" based on experience from the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot. These knowledge products are available on the CEPF website at the links below.

Community-managed fish conservation zones:

<https://www.cepf.net/sites/default/files/fish-conservation-zone-guidebook.pdf>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qI5VyaYsHI&feature=youtu.be>

CEPF Master Class (English and Spanish):

<https://www.cepf.net/sites/default/files/master-class-for-cepf-applicants.pdf>

Web portal focusing on bustard conservation:

<https://bustards.org/>

Manual on uptake of sustainable practices:

<https://www.cepf.net/sites/default/files/solutions-worth-sharing-french.pdf>

<https://www.cepf.net/sites/default/files/solutions-worth-sharing-english.pdf>

Two additional knowledge products are underway. These include a product being prepared by Terra de Direitos, which focuses on documenting best practices in the Cerrado Hotspot to map lands occupied by "invisible communities", such as those indigenous/traditional communities who have lived on certain lands for generations but do not have land title. Delivery of this knowledge product is expected in September 2021. The sixth and final knowledge product is being prepared by Keiruna Inc., and pertains to best practice on strengthening women's voices in conservation, based on experiences from the Indo-Burma hotspot. This product is expected in November 2021.

All knowledge products delivered to date are of high quality, and it is expected that the remaining two will also be well-prepared and comprehensive. Quality has been assured by maintaining frequent contact with consultants, ensuring review by knowledgeable individuals, and strict oversight of workplans and deliverables.

### **Additional topics**

2. Engagement of the private sector

The project has a significant focus on engagement with the private sector. During FY21, significant progress was made in the Cerrado Hotspot despite the impacts of COVID-19. Two examples are provided here.

The grantee FUNDACCER, after receiving a no-cost extension to its grant, updated its projected impacts to target 127 coffee producers' properties instead of 100 initially. Out of these properties:

- 57 have implemented their Individual Property Plan;
- 39 have adopted one or more of the 12 restoration strategies and have covered 8% of the costs themselves;
- 25 have adopted one or more of the 12 climate-smart strategies and have covered 66% of the implementation costs themselves.

The number of properties engaged on this project has doubled since FY20. The monitoring carried out by the team and the producers in late 2020 showed that 82% of the producers were willing to continue executing the strategies on their properties. The project, together with the coffee industry and IMAFLORA, a previous grantee, has also embarked on the definition of climate-smart indicators. Also as mentioned above, three new private companies (coffee roasters) have joined the previous four and become members of the Cerrado Waters Consortium. They are bringing along additional financial resources for the sustainability of this initiative.

The grant to Cooperativa Agropecuária dos Produtores Familiares de Niquelândia which aims at spreading the agroecological approach through the dissemination of an agroforestry production system (MAES), is now closing. So far, the MAES has generated a 50% increase in production as presented by COOPEAG, the company buying the products from the beneficiaries. This was also facilitated by a local law which authorized producers to sell their products directly to this company. The area now under MAES totals 60,000 m<sup>2</sup> and only organic fertilizers and biological pest control are being used. The beneficiaries also signed an environmental commitment in this sense. The acceptance of organic cultivation has been a great success by the beneficiaries, spreading also to their neighbors. Based on the achievements of this project, a cost-extension was given to the Quilombo Kalunga Association to benefit from the expertise of this project and have 50 Kalunga youth be trained in MAES.

Two new grants were awarded in FY21 which focus on the private sector:

- A small grant to Working, which is aimed at characterizing the network of organizations involved in the sustainable baru production chain, in order to foster fair and supportive trade, maximize socio-economic returns for local producers, and promote conservation of biodiversity and maintenance of ecosystem services.
- A large grant to Cooperativa Central do Cerrado, which is aimed at developing and multiplying capacities to promote, within a consortium of community enterprises, the sustainable use of babassu palm, a native species of the Cerrado, to demonstrate that a sustainable development model can help preserve biodiversity and be a viable alternative to conversion of forest to monoculture.

### 3. Implementation of safeguard policies, including gender mainstreaming, accountability and grievance mechanisms, stakeholder consultations

CEPF has more than a decade's experience of implementing environmental and social safeguards in the context of a grants program. Since 2008, CEPF has followed an environmental and social management framework (ESMF) based upon the safeguard policies of the World Bank. During the preparation of this GEF project, in 2015, CEPF revised its policies to align with those of the CI-GEF Project Agency; this involved developing a Gender Policy and Stakeholder Engagement Best Practice. In 2021, CEPF embarked upon a more fundamental overhaul of its framework for managing environmental and social risk, to align more closely with the minimum requirements of the GEF. This involved developing safeguard policies and standards to cover risk areas not explicitly addressed by CEPF's current ESMF, including labor and working conditions, and community health and safety. CEPF has learned from the experience of the CI-GEF Project Agency as it updates its ESMF.

## APPENDIX I: PROJECT ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS RATING

Rating		Overdue (O)	Delayed (D)	Not started on schedule (NS)	Under implementation on schedule (IS)	Completed/Achieved (CA)
Highly Satisfactory (HS)	HS	0%		100%		
Satisfactory (S)	S	20%		80%		
Moderately Satisfactory (MS)	MS	40%		60%		
Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU)	MU	60%		40%		
Unsatisfactory (U)	U	80%		20%		
Highly Unsatisfactory (HU)	HU	100%		0%		

- **Highly Satisfactory:** 100% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project. The project can be presented as an example of “good practice” project,
- **Satisfactory:** 80% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; except for only 20% that are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Moderately Satisfactory:** 60% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 40% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Moderately Unsatisfactory:** 40% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 60% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action,
- **Unsatisfactory:** only 20% of the indicators: a) have been completed/achieved, b) are under implementation on schedule, and/or c) have not started but are on schedule, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project; while 80% are delayed and/or overdue and need remedial action, and
- **Highly Unsatisfactory:** 100% of the indicators: a) are overdue, and/or b) delayed in their implementation, according to the original/formally revised Project Annual Workplan for the project.

## APPENDIX II: RISK RATINGS

Rating	
Low (L)	L
Modest (M)	M
Substantial (S)	S
High (H)	H

- **Low Risk (L):** There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
- **Modest Risk (M):** There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.
- **Substantial Risk (S):** There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.
- **High Risk (H):** There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.

## APPENDIX III: PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING PROJECT EXPECTED OUTPUTS

INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>14</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<b>Outcome 1.1</b> Long-term conservation visions developed for the Cerrado, Eastern Afromontane and Indo-Burma Hotspots, with participation of civil society, government, donor and private sector actors				
<b>Output Indicator 1.1.1:</b> Number of approved vision documents incorporating civil society 'graduation' targets	3 approved vision documents	3 approved vision documents incorporate graduation targets. This is an increase of 3 over the baseline of 0.	<b>CA</b>	Long-term visions (incorporating resource mobilization strategies and policy targets) have been prepared for the Cerrado Hotspot, the Albertine Rift, and Eastern Arc Mountains Sub-region of the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot, and the Indo-Burma Hotspot. The one for the Cerrado was approved at the end of FY21.
<b>Output Indicator 1.1.2:</b> Number of financing plans defined for implementation of the long-term conservation visions	3 financing plans	3 financing plans have been defined. This is an increase of 3 over the baseline of 0.	<b>CA</b>	At the start of FY21, the financing plans for the Cerrado, Albertine Rift and Eastern Arc Mountains, and Indo-Burma long-term visions were already in place.
<b>Output Indicator 1.1.3:</b> Number of vision documents incorporating a full set of targets covering major sectoral drivers and key policies, developed with broad stakeholder participation	3 vision documents	3 vision documents incorporate a full set of targets. This is an increase of 3 over the baseline of 0.	<b>CA</b>	At the start of FY21, targets for the Cerrado, the Albertine Rift and Eastern Arc Mountains, and Indo-Burma were already in place.
<b>Output Indicator 1.1.4:</b> Number of pilot hotspots with completed strategies for engagement with private sector actors	3 pilot hotspots	3 pilot hotspots have completed strategies for engagement with private sector actors. This is an increase of 3 over the baseline of 0.	<b>CA</b>	At the start of FY21, strategies for the Cerrado, the Albertine Rift and Eastern Arc Mountains, and Indo-Burma were already in place.

<sup>14</sup> **O**= Overdue; **D**= Delayed; **NS**= Not started on schedule; **IS**= Under implementation on schedule; and **CA**= Completed/Achieved

INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>14</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<b>Outcome 2.1</b> Increased capacity and credibility of conservation-focused civil societies in the Cerrado, Eastern Afromontane and Indo-Burma Hotspots				
<b>Output Indicator 2.1.1:</b> Number of hotspots with long-term institutional structures in place	3 pilot hotspots	1 pilot hotspot has a long-term institutional structure in place. This is an increase of 1 over the baseline of 0.	<b>IS</b>	It was decided that the RITs in the pilot hotspots would provide the strongest foundation on which to establish long-term implementation structures. In the Eastern Afromontane and Indo-Burma Hotspots, the RIT TORs were amended, enabling them to take on the responsibilities of long-term implementing structures. BirdLife and IUCN began to institute the necessary changes and to explore long-term funding sources. This process was more successful in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, where funding has been secured from CEPF and other sources to maintain the long-term implementation structure for at least five more years. In the Eastern Afromontane, an independent evaluation found the performance of the RIT to be highly satisfactory, but funding has not yet been secured to maintain a long-term structure, despite efforts to find it. In the Cerrado, CEPF and IEB are exploring efforts to transform the RIT into a long-term implementation structure and enable it to continue beyond the end of the project.
<b>Output Indicator 2.1.2:</b> Number of local civil society organizations engaged in biodiversity conservation in each pilot hotspot with a civil society tracking tool score of 80 or more	[No target was set]	30 local civil society organizations have a civil society tracking tool score of 80 or more. This is an increase of 17 over the baseline of 13.	<b>IS</b>	At the start of FY21, 30 local CSOs (seven in the Cerrado, six in the Eastern Afromontane and 17 in Indo-Burma) had a civil tracking tool score of 80 or more. There was no change over the course of the year.
<b>Outcome 2.2</b> Increased and more sustained financial flows to civil societies engaged in the conservation of biodiversity, from diverse sources, including non-traditional sources				
<b>Output Indicator 2.2.1:</b> Number of regional resource mobilization strategies developed to generate additional revenue	3 strategies	3 regional resource mobilization strategies have been developed. This is an increase of 3 over the baseline of 0.	<b>CA</b>	Resource-mobilization strategies for the Albertine Rift and Eastern Arc Mountains countries and Indo-Burma were prepared during FY18. A strategy for the Cerrado was prepared in FY20.

INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>14</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<b>Output Indicator 2.2.2:</b> Number of models for private sector conservation finance demonstrated	2 models	3 models for private sector conservation finance has been demonstrated. This is an increase of 3 over the baseline of 0.	<b>CA</b>	In FY19, Mars Foods provided a price premium to 200 rice farmers in Cambodia to produce wildlife-friendly rice conforming to the Sustainable Rice Platform standard. In Kenya, the Maasai Wilderness Conservation Trust completed the long process of certification and sale of voluntary carbon units on the international market. During FY20, they sold 355,000 units. In FY21, 64 coffee producers in the Corrego Feio Basin of Brazil agree to co-finance the costs of ecosystem restoration and climate-smart agriculture.
<b>Outcome 3.1:</b> Integrating biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes implemented with public and private sector actors across at least total 1,000,000 hectares in the Cerrado, Eastern Afromontane and Indo-Burma Hotspots				
<b>Output Indicator 3.1.1:</b> Number of policies, programs, or plans incorporating results of policy demonstration models	6 policies, programs or plans	24 policy, programs and plans incorporate the results of policy demonstration models. This is an increase of 22 over the baseline of 2.	<b>CA</b>	Twenty-eight grants that aim to implement policy demonstration models in the pilot hotspots have been awarded (11 in the Cerrado, seven in the Eastern Afromontane and 10 in Indo-Burma). In the Eastern Afromontane, 21 policies have been influenced, comprising 19 local policies in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe, and two national policies in Uganda. In Indo-Burma, the experience of WCS and its partners on community co-management approaches at Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary and other sites was incorporated into national zoning guidelines for protected areas, which were adopted by the Cambodian Ministry of Environment. These guidelines set out a clear process for designating community and sustainable zones within protected areas, which permit and regulate small-scale agriculture, fishing and NTFP collection. In the Cerrado, the grants that involve policy demonstration models have not yet closed and reported on their results.



INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>14</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<p><b>Output Indicator 3.1.2:</b> Number of biodiversity-friendly business practices adopted by key private sector change agents</p>	<p>12 business practices</p>	<p>22 biodiversity-friendly business practices have been adopted by key private sector change agents. This is an increase of 15 over the baseline of 7.</p>	<p><b>CA</b></p>	<p>Nineteen grants to promote biodiversity-friendly business practices have been awarded to date (11 in the Cerrado, two in the Eastern Afromontane and six in Indo-Burma). To date, these have grants promoted the adoption of 15 biodiversity-friendly management practices by key private sector change agents: a set of voluntary guidelines on mitigating socio-environmental risks for Vietnamese outward investors in the agriculture sector; a set of guidelines for best practice in limestone quarrying in Myanmar; and an organized and strengthened supply chain for the sustainable production of edible oils in Brazil. In the Eastern Afromontane, 12 companies (in Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zimbabwe) adopted such practices, including in the brewing, oil and gas, agriculture and forestry sectors. For example, Hoima Sugar of Uganda made commitments and then provided guidance to contract cane growers, to not purchase sugarcane grown inside the protected Bugoma Forest.</p>

INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>14</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<b>Output Indicator 3.1.3:</b> Number of new management models involving direct participation introduced at protected areas	20 management models	52 new management models involving direct participation have been introduced at protected areas. This is an increase of 44 over the baseline of 8.	<b>CA</b>	Thirty-three grants that aim to introduce new participatory management models at protected areas have been awarded (14 in the Cerrado, 11 in the Eastern Afromontane, and eight in Indo-Burma). To date, these grants have developed new management models for 44 protected areas: 24 conservation units and two indigenous lands in Brazil; two national parks in the DRC; one national park each in Ethiopia, Rwanda and Uganda; one wetland park in Kenya; one protected forest in Tanzania; two fish conservation zones and a multiple-use conservation landscape in Cambodia; two fish conservation zones and a bird conservation zone in Myanmar; two species and habitat conservation areas in Vietnam; and a dugong conservaton area in Thailand. An active grant in the Cerrado that plans to create 70 private protected areas (RPPNs) is making good progress towards this target.
<b>Outcome 4.1:</b> CEPF investments in other hotspots strengthened through the adoption of successful models and tools developed in the pilot hotspots				
<b>Output Indicator 4.1.1:</b> Number of additional (non-pilot) hotspots with long-term implementation structures	9 additional hotspots	2 additional hotspots have a long-term implementation structure. This is an increase of 2 over the baseline of 0.	<b>IS</b>	During FY21, a new RIT/long-term implementation structure was established for the Wallacea Hotspot, drawing on experience from the pilot hotspots. This brings to two the number of additional hotspots with a long-term implementation structure.
<b>Output Indicator 4.1.2:</b> Number of hotspots with regional resource mobilization strategies	9 additional hotspots	1 additional hotspot has a regional resource mobilization strategy. This is an increase of 1 over the baseline of 0.	<b>IS</b>	During FY21, a resource mobilization strategy was incorporated into the long-term vision for the Tropical Andes Hotspot, drawing on experience from the pilot hotspots.

INDICATORS	PROJECT TARGET	END OF YEAR INDICATOR STATUS	PROGRESS RATING <sup>14</sup>	COMMENTS/JUSTIFICATION
<b>Output Indicator 4.1.3:</b> Number of countries in other hotspots adopting policy demonstration models	2 countries	1 country has adopted a policy demonstration model from the pilot hotspots. This is an increase of 1 over the baseline of 0.	<b>IS</b>	In FY19, best practices for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into rice cultivation demonstrated in Cambodia were adopted by a civil society organization in India. In FY21, efforts were underway to replicate a policy demonstration model for community-managed fish conservation zones from Lao PDR to Costa Rica and India.
<b>Output Indicator 4.1.4:</b> Number of countries in other hotspots replicating management practices for mainstreaming biodiversity	2 countries	3 countries have adopted a policy demonstration model from the pilot hotspots. This is an increase of 3 over the baseline of 0.	<b>CA</b>	During FY21, best practices for identifying KBAs as a tool for safeguarding sites from incompatible development demonstrated in the Indo-Burma Hotspot were replicated in Kenya (Eastern Afromontane Hotspot), Nigeria and Ghana (both Guinean Forests of West Africa).
<b>Outcome Indicator 4.2:</b> Models, tools and best practices developed under the project are widely available and inform other actors developing public-private partnerships for biodiversity conservation globally				
<b>Output Indicator 4.2.1:</b> Number of innovative knowledge products, number of knowledge products related to gender mainstreaming and number of knowledge products related to Indigenous People and conservation made publicly available	6 knowledge products, including at least 1 related to gender mainstreaming and at least 1 related to Indigenous People and conservation	4 knowledge products have been prepared. This is an increase of 4 over the baseline of 0.	<b>IS</b>	Topics for six knowledge products were identified, and the first knowledge product, focusing on freshwater fish conservation zones, was completed in FY20. In FY21, three other products on grantee masterclasses, wildlife-friendly agriculture and methods to promote sustainable solutions in local communities were completed. Two additional knowledge products focusing on gender and mapping of indigenous and traditional lands, were contracted. The mapping project is half-way completed, while the gender project was only contracted in June. Both will be completed before the end of the current calendar year.