

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

Fifteenth Meeting of the Donor Council
World Bank Headquarters, Washington, DC
9 September 2009
9 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. EST

Follow Up to Decisions Taken at the Fourteenth Meeting of the Donor Council

List of Follow-up Actions from the Fourteenth Meeting:

1. The Secretariat will update the Information Requirements for Ecosystem Profiles in the Operational Manual to reflect the new points agreed related to climate change.
The Operational Manual has been updated to reflect the new points agreed by the Donor Council related to climate change. Specifically, Section OM 4.1, Ecosystem Profiles, has been revised to incorporate the Donor Council's decision that all future ecosystem profiles should:
 - *Incorporate a review of current support by donors and other actors in climate change mitigation and adaptation.*
 - *Include an analysis of the opportunity for civil society organizations to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation.*
 - *In all instances, include an explicit strategic direction to support civil society participation in climate change mitigation and adaptation.*

2. The new Terms of Reference for the External Audit will be incorporated into the Operational Manual. In addition, the compliance testing costs of the annual audit will be charged against interest earned and be considered as a budget item separate from the operational expenses of the Fund.
The Terms of Reference for the External Audit have been incorporated into the Operational Manual as a new subsection, OM 2.1.1, CEPF External Audit Terms of Reference, under Financial Management. In addition, compliance testing costs of the annual audit will be charged and considered as separate from the operational expenses of the fund as agreed. Adjustments have been made in the CEPF quarterly report categories in this regard, and the compliance testing costs were also annotated in the Tenth Spending Plan approved by the Donor Council in May 2009.

3. The Secretariat will move forward with developing a special Communications Plan for CEPF's Tenth Anniversary in 2010, working closely with the partners and particularly the Government of Japan as host of the CBD 10 and in recognition of the need to raise awareness of biodiversity conservation and CEPF in Japan. The plan would be part of a global replication and dissemination strategy in development.
The Secretariat moved forward with further analysis and definition of the activities agreed for consideration as part of a special Communications Plan for CEPF's Tenth Anniversary in 2010. For example, the Secretariat further discussed the plan with the Working Group during its Twenty-First Meeting in April 2009, with a focus on the series of issues papers on key themes and analyzing good practices and lessons learned. Three such pieces would be produced in 2010 as the first in the series. As outlined, initial topics being considered include: the role of small grants in biodiversity conservation; lessons learned regarding establishment of partnerships; involving the private sector in conservation; private

landowners as stewards; and lessons learned in strengthening civil society. Additional topics to be considered at the suggestion of the Working Group include an ecosystem-based approach to climate change, long-term financing, work with Indigenous Peoples and tools for strengthening civil society – the latter two of which potentially could be included as part of the paper on lessons learned in strengthening civil society. The Secretariat also offered to work with GEF on a series of briefs it is producing for key meetings and sought guidance from the Government of Japan on how to make the materials the Secretariat provides for the CBD serve the role the government is seeking. Additional discussion is planned with each of the CEPF partners as the full plan is further elaborated.

4. The Secretariat will meet with MacArthur Foundation representatives to learn about its climate change study and explore opportunities for further collaboration.
Secretariat staff met with MacArthur Foundation representatives on several occasions to learn about MacArthur-supported climate change studies and explore opportunities for further collaboration. Most recently, in August 2009 the Director for MacArthur's Conservation and Sustainable Development Program met with the CEPF Acting Executive Director and grant directors to provide an overview of MacArthur's grant-making approach related to climate change, including where there may be opportunities for further collaboration. The Acting Executive Director and Grant Director for the Caribbean and other parts of Latin America also discussed opportunities with MacArthur's Latin America and Caribbean Program Officer during a recent regional stakeholders meeting on the CEPF ecosystem profile in preparation for the Caribbean. The Grant Director and MacArthur Program Officer discussed the MacArthur approach and shared information in this regard at a meeting earlier in the year as well. There are two MacArthur-supported climate studies related to the Caribbean, one by WWF-Canada looking at the impact on and adaptation for sea turtles and a second broader assessment led by the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI). In the first instance, the findings of both studies, particularly the broader study on climate change and biodiversity in the insular Caribbean, have been assessed as part of the research and analysis under way for the CEPF Caribbean ecosystem profile.
5. The next meetings of the Council will take place on 22 June 2009 and 9 November 2009. *These two meetings have been rescheduled to take place on 9 September 2009 and 15 January 2010 because the original dates agreed to link to GEF Council meetings became problematic for a number of Council members.*