



# CAPACITÉ

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM  
PARTNERSHIP FUND

Welcome back to *Capacité*, the newsletter of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) in the Caribbean.

Issue 4 of *Capacité* marks the close of a full year of sharing news on the great work being done in biodiversity conservation in the Caribbean region with the support of CEPF.

Through *Capacité*, information on sixteen projects in six islands as well as one cross-Caribbean project and a project which provides a regional database resource has been disseminated, helping to build awareness of the issues facing the region in management of natural resources, while reporting on approaches to address these challenges through on-the-ground work and collaborations.

Very soon, the opportunity will arise for more in-depth sharing at the mid-term evaluation of the CEPF Caribbean investment programme, scheduled to take place in July 2013.

In the meantime, read updates provided in this edition of *Capacité* including information on the Caribbean Birding Trail's activities in Grenada, the Diamond Village Community Heritage Organisation in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and the joint effort of AVSF and CROSE in Haiti. Also learn about a new resource to assist in the facilitation of participatory natural resource management from CANARI and what is involved in facilitating a site visit by the Regional Implementation Team (RIT).

As usual, we invite you to enjoy reading *Capacité*!

## CAPACITÉ - ISSUE 4

March 2013

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The **Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund** (CEPF) is a joint programme of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan, the MacArthur Foundation and the World Bank.

The programme was launched in August 2000 and since then, has supported civil society to conserve critical biodiversity in 20 hotspots, committing over US\$ 131 million in grants. CEPF is investing US\$ 6.9 million in the Caribbean islands during a five-year period (October 2010 – October 2015).

## Searching For the Linkages in Sustainable Environmental Protection and Livelihood Opportunities: The Case of the Diamond Village Community, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

- submitted by Simeon Green

The small Caribbean multi-island state of St. Vincent and the Grenadines may credit much of the growth in its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the four decades up to the 1990s to the export of bananas to the United Kingdom. With the increased competition in the European Union among the stakeholders in the banana business, St. Vincent and the Grenadines saw a decline in banana exports and earnings; the three thousand inhabitants of the Diamond Village Community felt the economic pains.

It is out of this experience that the Diamond Village Community Heritage Organisation was formed, determined not to make the environmental mistakes of the banana era by allowing farming within the forest boundaries; not to allow the space left by the banana producers to be occupied by marijuana producers and to find sustainable ways to use the forest for community livelihoods.

To this end, the organization developed a vision for the Kamacrabou riverbed –from the upstream region to the Atlantic coast line. In this search for linkages and appreciating the delicate balance between environmental protection and livelihood opportunities, partnerships have been forged at the local level and internationally with donors who share the vision of the organization.

The major lesson learned thus far, is that small grants effectively managed can make a difference. To date, two small

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Community members establishing the western trail to Bubby Stone  
*Photo credit: Simeon Green*



A hummingbird nest with eggs in the quiet Bubby Stone environs  
*Photo credit: Simeon Green*

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grants from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (UNFAO) have supported training activities in the community (tour guiding and drum-making) and the stabilisation of 12,000 square meters of the Kamacrabou riverbed, down to 300 meters below the forest boundary.

The stage is now set for the CEPF funded project, now underway, to take the vision to a higher plane, with reforestation of an additional acre within the forest boundary and the demarcation of a trail to “Bubby Stone”<sup>1</sup>.



Female community worker reforesting the eastern slope of the spur on which the stones stand *Photo credit: Simeon Green*



The Secretary of the Diamond Village Community Heritage Organisation sits near the Bubby Stone at the Kamacrabou River Valley *Photo credit: Simeon Greene*

<sup>1</sup>*Bubby stone: so named because of the unique way these stones push out of this Lumberheap Spur like the way the breast of a young woman stands on her chest*

## Islands without aliens - building regional civil capacity to eradicate invasive alien species

- submitted by Dr. Jenny Daltry,  
Flora and Fauna International



Rats, mongooses, cane toads, feral goats and other non-native animals have decimated biodiversity throughout the Caribbean. Tackling them on large, inhabited areas is a daunting challenge, often beyond the means of most organisations.

Removing such threats from smaller offshore islands, on the other hand, is much more feasible and can make an amazing difference; transforming them into vibrant wildlife havens that are enjoyed by locals and tourists alike. Testing, teaching and demonstrating practical ways to remove aliens is the main purpose of this project, launched by Fauna & Flora International in July 2012.



Black rats were successfully removed from Green Island, Antigua in 2012  
Photo credit: Jenny Daltry, FFI



Andrea Otto with a critically endangered Antigua racer, one of many native species that benefit from invasive species control.  
Photo credit: Jenny Daltry, FFI

*Islands Without Aliens* got off to a flying start by helping the Environmental Awareness Group to achieve the complete eradication of Eurasian black rats from Green Island.

One of the largest islands in Antigua's Offshore Islands Key Biodiversity Area (KBA), Green Island is vitally important for rare birds, plants and endemic reptiles, including more than half the global population of Critically Endangered Antiguan racers. Using the bait Klerat® at 25-metre intervals, our Anglo-Antiguan staff, trainees and volunteers successfully removed every rat without harming a single non-target animal.

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On Saint Lucia, we are equally proud to report that Dennery Island is no longer being overgrazed and eroded by goats and sheep, thanks to a cooperative effort involving the owners, Saint Lucia National Trust, Forestry Department and Durrell. Every animal was caught and transported to the mainland. One can already see good signs of habitat regeneration on this, the largest island in the Mandele Dry Forest KBA, and plans are in progress to reintroduce globally threatened endemics, without harming a single non-target animal.



*Local community with some of the goats and sheep removed from Dennery Island (background of picture) in September 2012.*

*Photo credit: Matthew Morton, Durrell*

This is just the beginning. Through 2013, *Islands Without Aliens* will train more than 30 Lesser Antilles nationals, conserve and restore 15 islands in at least three KBAs, and monitor the recovery of Caribbean birds, plants and other species that have been saved from alien attack.

For more information: Dr Jenny Daltry, [jenny.daltry@fauna-flora.org](mailto:jenny.daltry@fauna-flora.org)



## RIT member conducts a site visit to a CEPF project in Antigua - submitted by Loiza Rauzduel, CANARI Technical Officer and Regional Implementation Team (RIT) member

In early February 2013, as a member of the Regional Implementation Team (RIT) for the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) programme in the Caribbean islands biodiversity hotspot, I had the opportunity to conduct a monitoring site visit of the Environmental Awareness Group (EAG) project.

Project site visits are usually performed by the RIT, and are considered one of the best ways to assess progress and project results. Visiting a grantee is also very useful in maintaining a good working relationship with the organisation, and it represents an opportunity for both the grantee and the RIT member, to discuss challenges, best practices and lessons learned to date.

EAG is one of Antigua and Barbuda's oldest environmental organisations, working towards "a society informed and empowered to sustainably use and manage its natural resources" since 1989.

In July 2012, EAG received a large grant from the CEPF for the project "**Offshore Island Conservation Programme: Maintaining Rat-Free Islands for the Benefit of Antigua's Biodiversity and People**". Alien invasive rodents are considered to be the most serious threat to biodiversity in Antigua and Barbuda. Black rats, in particular, are known to be doing serious damage to both the flora and fauna on the islands.

The Antiguan racer was once said to be the world's rarest snake, with a population of approximately 50 individuals in 1995, when they were discovered on Great Bird Island, one of Antigua's offshore islands. Two years later, the **Antiguan Racer Conservation project** was launched and within a year, the snake population had doubled, after the successful removal of alien rats, thanks to the collaborative efforts of EAG along with the Forestry Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture, Housing, Lands and the Environment, Black Hills State University, Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, Fauna & Flora International, and the Island Resources Foundation.

Rat eradications carried out on several of the offshore islands during subsequent phases of the  
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Natalya Lawrence, EAG Project Coordinator, checking one of the bait stations on Great Bird Island Photo credit: CANARI

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*Antiguan Racer Conservation project* had tremendous results, and while the snake population has continued to grow, native plant biomass has also increased. Other species, such as the Brown Pelican and the White Crowned Pigeon, have also benefited from the removal of rats. In light of this, preventing reinvasion of the alien black rats has been critical to ensure this major threat to biodiversity is being closely monitored.

This CEPF-funded project is designed to strengthen the capacity of the Environmental Awareness Group as a local organization to address current and future biodiversity conservation needs of the Offshore Islands, focusing on the control and eradication of invasive alien species. This grant supports coursework and mentoring on preventing, monitoring, and eradicating invasive species; design and implementation of biosecurity, eradication, and biodiversity monitoring programs on 10 islands. The project also seeks to contribute to public education to raise awareness of the importance of preventing the reinvasion of alien species.

I spent the first day of the project monitoring site visit at EAG's office in St John's, Antigua, with Natalya Lawrence, the Project Coordinator. Project activities and results to date were discussed, and key project documents were reviewed. Particular attention was paid to monitoring EAG's compliance with their Pest Management Plan, a document which describes the CEPF requirements to ensure the use of best practice in the control and removal of alien invasive species in compliance with World Bank Safeguards. This project triggered the Pest Management safeguard<sup>1</sup> due to the fact that the rat eradication is conducted using a pesticide.

On day 2 of the project site visit, we went to Great Bird Island, one of the Antiguan Offshore Islands, where the removal of invasive black rats has had noticeable effects in the rebound of wildlife and some of Antigua and Barbuda's endemic species, such as the Antiguan racer.

Information on CEPF's safeguard policies and the safeguard documents in the Caribbean region can be found at [http://www.cepf.net/grants/Pages/safeguard\\_policies.aspx](http://www.cepf.net/grants/Pages/safeguard_policies.aspx) or [http://www.canari.org/civil\\_sub5.asp](http://www.canari.org/civil_sub5.asp).

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View of the Antiguan offshore islands from the top of Great Bird Island  
Photo credit: CANARI



Natalya holding a male Antiguan Racer on Great Bird Island  
Photo credit: CANARI

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We wish to commend Natalya Lawrence, as well as the entire EAG project team, for the great work they have been doing in contributing to biodiversity conservation in Antigua and Barbuda. During the course of the project monitoring site visit, Natalya was very knowledgeable and visibly passionate about the work that she does, and she is obviously relying on a committed group of field officers, field biologists and volunteers as they all work together to maintain the Offshore Islands of Antigua and Barbuda free of rats. There is no doubt that the people of Antigua and Barbuda have already, and will continue to benefit from EAG's efforts to preserve their environmental heritage.

Special thanks to Natalya and Mr. Nicholas for making this site visit an excellent learning experience, especially during the field visit to Great Bird Island.

See this article in *Capacité 4 French supplement* [here](#).

### ***The site visit: a participatory process***

When a decision is made that the RIT will be visiting a project, the RIT and the grantee work together to ensure that the grantee can play an active role in the site visit, and to make sure the process is beneficial for both the RIT and the grantee.

Prior to a project monitoring site visit:

- The grantee is informed several months in advance that the RIT would like to conduct a site visit and a mutually convenient date is agreed upon. Ideally, the timeframe of a site visit is two days.
- The grantee is informed of the main issues to be discussed during the visit and the template of the site visit report is shared with the grantee in advance.

During the site visit:

- The format of the visit can vary but generally, there will be a visit to the organisation's office, to assess mainly programmatic, financial and safeguard compliance of the grant.
- If possible, a field visit will also be conducted, as this is always a great opportunity to see firsthand how the implementation of the various project activities are progressing on the ground and it's also a good opportunity to meet with project partners and beneficiaries.

After the site visit:

- The draft site visit report is shared with the grantee for feedback and to check for accuracy before it is finalised.
- The site visit report is then shared with the CEPF Secretariat.

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Lo'iza Rauzduel, RIT member from CANARI and Natalya Lawrence, from EAG during the site visit to EAG's project in Antigua

*Photo credit: CANARI*



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### **What does a CEPF project monitoring site visit involve?**

Typically, a project monitoring site visit will focus on the following:

- ◆ Programmatic, financial, and compliance monitoring. Compliance refers to adherence to CEPF's policies and procedures including CEPF's Procurement Policy and Safeguard Policy (if relevant).
- ◆ Review of the project's logical framework and performance tracker to assess grantee's progress.
- ◆ Review of the project's budget and expenses to date – to ensure that funds are being spent in accordance with the approved budget and that the grantee has followed CEPF's procurement policy and procedures.
- ◆ Review of performance and budget reports submitted to CEPF.

### **A few tips for ensuring you get the most out of a site visit to your project**

- ✓ Make sure the **date** selected for the site visit is one on which **key project staff** are available;
- ✓ Think about the **timing** of project **activities or events** that would be useful for the RIT to **observe or participate** in;
- ✓ Make sure all project **documentation** is accessible / on hand for the RIT staff member to **review**, including contracts, invoices, receipts, meeting reports, etc;
- ✓ Think about any **questions** you and the project team may want to raise with the RIT staff member conducting the site visit, including any **challenges** with project implementation or any **changes** that need to be made to the project so that you can make the most of the meeting.

## **Assessing the potential for conservation agreements in the Caribbean islands**

*- submitted by Margarita Mora*



The Conservation Stewards Program (CSP) at Conservation International has partnered with communities around the world since 2005 to develop the conservation agreement (CA) model. CAs are transparently negotiated and mutually agreed trade-offs in which communities or individuals voluntarily commit to conservation actions in exchange for direct socioeconomic benefits. CSP is currently using the CA model to implement 51 agreements in 9 countries, benefitting nearly 35,000 people and conserving nearly 1.5 million hectares of natural habitat, including forests, montane and coastal ecosystems, wetlands and areas targeted for the presence of highly threatened species. A key activity of CSP is to disseminate the approach and support potential partners in efforts to use this innovative model.

CSP believes the CA approach may have great potential in the Caribbean Islands region as a means to address habitat fragmentation and degradation. With financial support from CEPF, CSP has already developed a desk study to identify possible sites for CAs in Jamaica, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. CSP is planning workshops in these three countries to introduce the CA model to CEPF grantees and others, and to refine desk study analysis with local implementers interested in potentially using CAs at their sites. These workshops will take place in March and April 2013. Afterwards, CSP will work with organizations interested in the CA model to develop feasibility assessments and draft implementation and fundraising plans.

Importantly, CSP does not envision an implementation role for itself in the Caribbean. Rather, through this project, CSP seeks to introduce the CA approach and then be available to support CEPF grantees who wish to use this model to promote biodiversity conservation and human wellbeing. If you are interested in learning more about the CA model, please visit [www.conservation.org/csp](http://www.conservation.org/csp) or contact [eniesten@conservation.org](mailto:eniesten@conservation.org).

See this article in *Capacité 4 Spanish supplement* [here](#).

## New on the Eco-Index!

- submitted by *Melissa Norman, Rainforest Alliance*

With CEPF's support, the Rainforest Alliance is adding profiles for select grantees to their [Eco-Index website](#) in English, Spanish and French.

These profiles are a great way for you to learn about each other's work, identify potential areas for collaboration, and network across geographic and language barriers.



### Recently added to the Eco-Index:

#### Measures to Support the Zoning Plan in Unit II of the Forest Reserve in "La Forêt des Pins"

- *Organisation des Paysans pour le Développement de l'Unité II de la Forêt des Pins, Mare Rouge (OPDFM), Haïti.*

English: <http://www.eco-index.org/search/results.cfm?projectID=1531>

Spanish: <http://www.eco-index.org/search/resultss.cfm?projectID=1531>

French: <http://www.eco-index.org/search/resultsf.cfm?projectID=1531>

#### Offshore Islands Conservation Programme: Maintaining Rat-Free Islands for the Benefit of Antigua's Biodiversity and People - *Environmental Awareness Group (EAG)*

English: <http://www.eco-index.org/search/results.cfm?ProjectID=1418>

Spanish: <http://www.eco-index.org/search/resultss.cfm?projectID=1418>

French: <http://www.eco-index.org/search/resultsf.cfm?projectID=1418>

#### Sustainable Financing and Establishment of Private Reserves for Biodiversity Conservation in Loma Quita Espuela and Loma Guaconejo, Dominican Republic - *Consortio Ambiental Dominicano (CAD)*

English: <http://www.eco-index.org/search/results.cfm?projectID=1532>

Spanish: <http://www.eco-index.org/search/resultss.cfm?projectID=1532>

French: <http://www.eco-index.org/search/resultsf.cfm?projectID=1532>

International Day for Biological Diversity

MAY 22nd 2013

## Establishment of a forest restoration project in the Fonds Melon river watershed in South-East Haiti by AVSF and CROSE



agronomes  
vétérinaires  
SANS FRONTIÈRES



Coordination Régionale des  
Organisations du Sud-Est

*- submitted by Aurélie Rakotofiringa*

*Agronomes et Vétérinaires sans Frontières (AVSF)* is a French association for international aid and technical cooperation working towards rural development, supporting and assisting rural communities that are highly vulnerable to extreme poverty and exclusion.

AVSF has established a strong and effective partnership with a group working in the South-East Department in Haiti, the Regional Coordination of the South-East Organisations (*Coordination Régionale des Organisations du Sud-Est* (CROSE)). CROSE is a Haitian regional organisation created in 1996, and is comprised of several women's groups, youth, farmers and fishermen associations, as well as various cooperatives.

AVSF and CROSE have been working since 2007 in the Fonds Melon river watershed, to support farmers in increasing their revenues and restoring soil fertility through the development of agro-ecology. Their experience working in the local context, as well as past successes in reforestation using various species and innovative mechanisms to guarantee sustainability, have led them to identify the restoration of the forest cover as a priority action in the area.

With the support of the CEPF programme, the project "Forest Diversified Restoration in Fonds Melon River Basin, South-East Haiti" started in the second semester of 2012.

The objective of the project is to initiate and maintain biodiversity restoration activities within the severely degraded Fonds Melon river watershed.

Ongoing activities will seek to undertake a biodiversity assessment within the watershed, as well as identify the priority areas for intervention and the necessary actions. Environmental sensitisation activities will also be carried out.

See article in *Capacité Issue 4 French supplement* [here](#)



View of a portion of the Fonds Melon river basin

*Photo credit: Florian Delerue*



## Caribbean Birding Trail visits Grenada

- submitted by Holly Robertson, M.S., Project Manager, Caribbean Birding Trail

This fall, the Caribbean Birding Trail (CBT) implementation team capped off the project's first year by traveling to Grenada in October 2012. The objectives were to visit Key Biodiversity Areas and assess resources for sustainable bird and nature tourism, identify needs, and hold participatory workshops and meetings with local partners and community members to gain input and support. In Grenada we focused on Mt. Hartman and Beausejour/Grenville Vale, two sites that are among the last remaining significant areas of dry forest in Grenada, vitally important habitat for the Critically Endangered Grenada Dove.

Working with local partner organizations such as the Grenada Fund for Conservation, Grenada Dove Conservation Program, and the Forestry and National Parks Department, we discussed how to ensure the long-term survival of the Grenada Dove and other irreplaceable biodiversity. At Mt. Hartman we witnessed the ongoing development of a tourist resort that will impact portions of the protected area. At Beausejour/Grenville Vale, one of the main challenges is that the existing visitor center and trails are located in the vicinity of a garbage dump and that the visitor center is in disrepair.



Halifax Harbour, located near Beausejour, Grenada

*Photo Credit: Ted Eubanks*

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Photo above: Anthony Jeremiah from the Forestry and National Parks Department, Grenada with Holly Robertson, Caribbean Birding Trail Project Manager and Lisa Sorenson, President of the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds at the Perseverance Dove Sanctuary Visitor Centre, Mt. Hartman, Grenada

Photo at right: Project team at Grenada's North Coast; left to right—Lisa, Anthony and Holly

*Photo credit: Ted Eubanks*

Installation of a predator-proof fencing at Mt Hartman as well as blinds and a water feature will enhance survival of the Grenada Dove and facilitate viewing of this rare and very special bird with minimal impact.

Learn more about the CBT at [www.caribbeanbirdingtrail.org](http://www.caribbeanbirdingtrail.org).

To help develop these protected areas for sustainable livelihoods such as nature tourism and birdwatching, we recommend expanding Interpretation and programming at the Mt. Hartman Visitor Center so that it may serve as the CBT portal in Grenada.

Additional activities which will enhance tourism, education and stewardship include development of trails and installation of interpretive signage at both sites, bird guide training, and a boardwalk and observation tower in the Mt Hartman wetlands.



## Socio-economic characteristics of the *Parque Nacional Montaña La Humeadora*

- **Andrea González**

As part of the management plan for the *Parque Nacional Montaña La Humeadora* [in the Dominican Republic], the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), Conservation International Foundation and Fondo Pro Naturaleza (PRONATURA) conducted a socio-economic study of the area.

The study broadly displays social information on general socio-economic characteristics, revealing that poverty exists, there are few sources of employment and poor infrastructure and services.

The local economy is primarily agriculture. There is clearly evidence of the presence of established human settlements and agricultural activities for subsistence and trade within the Park. The study found that the most widely used farming system is "slash and burn" so that the pressure put on the protected area is significant.

The environmental problems that affect the population and natural resources are cutting and burning of vegetation, deforestation, extraction of materials from rivers, soil erosion, road dust, pollution by dumping of waste and the use of agrochemicals.

In the Park, there are areas of well preserved forest that ensure the conservation of ecosystems, flora, fauna and water.



Plant nursery at La Humeadora

*Photo credit: Fausto Gómez Pezzotti, Director Programa Menos CO2*



Discussions on the management of La Humeadora

*Photo credit: Fausto Gómez Pezzotti, Director Programa Menos CO2*

Of the people surveyed, 95% are unaware of the meaning of the terms: protected areas, national park, management plan, climate change and adaptation to climate change. The people living both inside and outside the park boundaries are occupants who do not have deeds.

This process of development of the Management Plan has contributed to the strengthening and revitalization of some community organizations and partnerships, development committees and neighborhood associations that exist in three regional parts of the land.

The methods used in this study were focus group discussions, interviews and workshops.

See this article in *Capacité 4* Spanish supplement [here](#).

## Montaña La Humeadora: The water source that feeds the water supply

*Montaña La Humeadora* was declared a national park to provide protection to an important water source that produces water for the water supply systems which supply the Dominican capital. Many communities were located within or in the buffer zone of the park; therefore, community partners, leaders as well as local authorities were identified for informative workshops.

These workshops succeeded in developing a map of stakeholders and communities related to “La Humeadora” in establishing agreements between stakeholders for the development of the management plan, creating a working committee with territorial and organizational representation and to draft and sign an agreement for collaboration between the community, local authorities, the Ministry of Environment and PRONATURA.

From the waters of “La Humeadora”, development works were undertaken to create the country's first aqueducts (1917 - 1924) and the largest of the Dominican Republic, as well as the dams of Jigüey, Avocado, Valdesia, The Barías and irrigation canals, Marcos A. Cabral and Nizao in Najayo.

From the mountain, springs emerge that produce water to the four cardinal points giving origin to the rivers Maimon Yuboa, Guanaito, Haina, Duey, Isa, Mana, Mayboa, Nigua, Mahomita, Muhammad Banilejo, Wasp and Yuna.

This National Park is located on the southern slopes of the Cordillera Central, about 10 kilometers from the municipality of Villa Altagracia covering a territory shared by the provinces of Monsignor Nouel, San Cristóbal and San José de Ocoa.

The name comes from the tallest mountain in the territory known as “La Humeadora” since its peak can reach into the clouds which have condensed water vapor and this remains the same most of the year. The protruding mountain “La Humeadora” reaches an altitude of 1,315 meters high and covers an area of approximately 290 km<sup>2</sup>.

*All photographs on this page credited to:  
Fausto Gómez Pezzotti, Director Programa Menos CO2*





## Panos Caribbean to launch online database of biodiversity and media resources

- submitted by *Indi McLymont-Lafayette*,

*Country co-ordinator, Jamaica office, Panos Caribbean*

**The Caribbean public will have access to a new online database of contacts and resource material on the region's biodiversity by the end of April 2013.**

Technical work on this database is being undertaken by the Mona School of Business and Management as one of a number of activities being implemented under the new Panos Caribbean-Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) project. Titled "*Strengthening the Engagement of Caribbean Civil Society in Biodiversity Conservation Through Local and Regional Networking and Effective Sharing of Learning and Best Practices*", the project is being executed at a cost of more than US\$152,000, made available by the CEPF.

The project began its full rollout in January 2013 and will also see the development of baseline surveys covering the communication and advocacy capacity of targeted non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and media in the Dominica Republic, Jamaica, Haiti, and St Vincent and the Grenadines. The terms of reference for the baselines have been circulated in three languages (English, French and Spanish) and already there are some expressions of interest.

Another feature of the Panos-CEPF collaboration is the conduct of webinars and workshops for civil society organisations and media on communication, information production, networking and knowledge sharing. The first of three planned webinars took place in March 2013. Also forming a part of the project activities is the offer of fellowships that afford journalists the chance to report on issues, conservation outcomes, best practices and the importance of and threats to key biodiversity areas (KBAs).

**Panos Caribbean** is an organisation specialising in communication for the realisation of social justice, with offices in Washington DC, USA; Haiti and Jamaica. Another office is shortly to be opened in Panama, where the newly appointed Executive Director Arellys Yanez will be based.

Photo at right: Arellys Yanez, Executive Director of Panos Caribbean



See this article in *Capacité 4 French supplement* [here](#).

## CEPF Caribbean Islands Hotspot: Grantee Webinar Series

The Rainforest Alliance and The Panos Institute are offering a series of webinars through their grants from the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) Caribbean Islands Hotspot. See the following link for the latest webinar recording on environmental communications, additional resources, contact information, and more:



**Be Heard: Pitching stories to the media for conservation NGOs:** <http://www.eco-index.org/cepf/webinars/>



## A toolkit to facilitate participatory natural resource management

For over 30 years, the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) has been promoting and facilitating the involvement of civil society and resource users in the management of natural resources in the Caribbean islands. Various facilitation principles and methods have been used to identify the key people to engage and to facilitate sharing of perspectives and building of understanding and a common approach to tackle the issues related to resource management among a wide range of stakeholders. The experience gained by CANARI is now being passed on through the documentation of these principles and methods in the publication: "[Facilitating participatory natural resource management: a toolkit for Caribbean managers](#)" (CANARI, 2012).

In this toolkit, you can find guidance on how to use relatively new tools such as participatory video (PV), how to identify key stakeholders in natural resource management and carry out institutional mapping. It also presents four case studies, which have utilised various combinations of these tools for protected area planning, addressing challenges related to natural resource management, development of policy and conservation and management of a protected area.

The toolkit is equipped with activity sheets, tips and material listings to assist in the design of your own participatory exercises and for training in the method of participatory engagement including development of facilitation skills. CANARI uses these materials in its own facilitation as well as its training of trainers programmes.

The toolkit was prepared with the support of several partners including the Darwin Initiative, European Union, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation through various CANARI projects funded through these organisations. The toolkit is currently published in English, however CANARI will develop French and Spanish translations in the near future. You can now access a copy of the toolkit through the following link:

[http://www.canari.org/documents/CANARIPNRMToolkitFinalJan2012\\_003.pdf](http://www.canari.org/documents/CANARIPNRMToolkitFinalJan2012_003.pdf)



## Grant approvals January – March 2013

To date, CEPF has approved 39 grants in the Caribbean region totalling over USD 3.4 million. During the period January – March 2013, five grants were contracted:

Applicant	Country	Grant (US\$)	Title/ Description
<b>Strategic Direction 1: Improve protection and management of 45 priority Key Biodiversity Areas</b>			
Fondation Macaya pour le Développement Local	Haiti	94,700	Alternatives for Sustainable Socio-Ecological Conservation in the Macaya KBA, Massif de la Hotte, Haiti
The Bahamas National Trust	The Bahamas	62,380	San Salvador Island: Designation of Key Biodiversity Areas, Graham's Harbour and Great Lakes, as National Parks in The Bahamas
<b>Strategic Direction 2: Integrate biodiversity conservation into landscape and development planning and implementation in six conservation corridors</b>			
Collectif pour le Développement (CODE)	Haiti	18,000	Supporting biodiversity conservation and protection in Soucède, South of Parc Macaya
Windsor Research Centre Limited	Jamaica	\$20,000	Integrating Northern Cockpit Country Communities into Policy Making for Climate Change Mitigation
<b>Strategic Direction 3: Support Caribbean civil society to achieve biodiversity conservation by building local and regional institutional capacity and by fostering stakeholder collaboration</b>			
Fondation Nouvelle Grand'Anse	Haïti	45,200	Environmental Education for Community Participation in Conservation of Macaya, Massif de la Hotte Key Biodiversity Area

To see a full listing including project summaries of all 39 grants in the region, you can view the link on the CEPF Caribbean webpage here:

<http://canari.org/documents/ContractedCEPFgrantsasof31.03.13.pdf>

### Grievance Mechanism

CEPF provides a written explanation to all applicants whose proposals are unsuccessful as part of its focus on building civil society capacity. Applicants are encouraged to contact the Regional Implementation Team (RIT) in CANARI at [info@canari.org](mailto:info@canari.org) or the CEPF Grant Director if they have any additional questions about the decision. If the applicant is not satisfied with the response, a grievance may be submitted to the CEPF Executive Director at [cepfexecutive@conservation.org](mailto:cepfexecutive@conservation.org) or by mail to the following address:



Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund  
Conservation International  
Attn: Executive Director  
2011 Crystal Drive  
Suite 500  
Arlington, VA 22202, U.S.A.

CEPF has also established specific procedures to enable local communities and other stakeholders to raise a grievance at all times to applicants, grantees, Regional Implementation Teams, and the CEPF Secretariat related to the implementation of safeguards. For information on safeguards, please see [http://www.cepf.net/grants/Pages/safeguard\\_policies.aspx](http://www.cepf.net/grants/Pages/safeguard_policies.aspx).

In addition, the World Bank has several mechanisms available to the public. These mechanisms include the Inspection Panel and the Department of Institutional Integrity ([www.worldbank.org/integrity](http://www.worldbank.org/integrity)), which investigates allegations of fraud and corruption related to World Bank Group-financed projects.

### We want to hear from you!

**All grantees are invited to contribute updates on their projects in subsequent issues of Capacité. Share copies with others in your network and please send us your comments on Capacité to the address below!**

### About CANARI

The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) is a non-profit organisation registered in Saint Lucia, St. Croix and Trinidad and Tobago, with its main office in Port of Spain, Trinidad. It has 501(c) (3) status in the United States and charitable status in Trinidad and Tobago.



Caribbean Natural  
Resources Institute (CANARI)  
Fernandes Business Centre  
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Our mission is promoting and facilitating equitable participation and effective collaboration in the management of natural resources critical to development in the Caribbean islands, so that people will have a better quality of life and natural resources will be conserved, through action learning and research, capacity building and fostering partnerships.

CANARI's geographic focus is the islands of the Caribbean but its research findings are often relevant and disseminated to the wider region. Our programmes focus on research, sharing and dissemination of lessons learned, capacity building and fostering regional partnerships.

### CEPF Caribbean Contact us:

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