

CAPACITÉ+

June 2023 | Issue #3

Welcome back to Capacité+!

This third issue of Capacité+ features seven new grants added to the CEPF Caribbean Islands portfolio between January and May 2023, bringing to eleven the total of grants awarded under the CEPF current five-year investment (2021-2026) in the Caribbean hotspot.

In the Dominican Republic, 20 participants from civil society organisations, governmental agencies and the private sector recently graduated from a diploma course on *Collaborative Social Auditing for Biodiversity Conservation* hosted by the Collaborative Social Accountability Team (CSAT) at the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC).

In this issue, we also look at the World Bank implementation support mission held in Jamaica earlier this year.

We hope that you enjoy reading Capacité+!



Ma Kote Mangrove Forest.

© Cecil Sylvester. Saint Lucia National Trust

New grants awarded in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot



Adult female San Salvador Iguana (*Cyclura rileyi*).
The Bahamas. © Jenny Daltry/Rewild/FFI

CEPF has recently significantly expanded its portfolio in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot with the award of seven additional large and small grants in the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and at the regional level, between January and May 2023.

[Read more](#)



*Diploma course graduation ceremony.
Dominican Republic. © INTEC*

Collaborative Social Auditing for Biodiversity Conservation Diploma Course in the Dominican Republic

From November 2022 to March 2023, the Collaborative Social Accountability Team (CSAT) hosted a diploma course to train civil society organisations, governmental agencies and the private sector in the Dominican Republic in understanding collaborative social responsibility and the role that they can play in biodiversity conservation.

[Read more](#)



*Site Visit. Jamaica.
© Michele Zador. CEPF*

World Bank Task Team visits CEPF grantees in the Caribbean Islands Hotspot

From February 27 to March 2, 2023, a World Bank team carried out an Implementation Support Mission (ISM) to Jamaica to review the implementation of the CEPF Phase II investment in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot, meet with local grantees and tour project sites, such as the Portland Bight Protected Area.

[Read more](#)

Nature-based tourism as a way to strengthen biodiversity conservation and provide a sustainable alternative income for the residents of the Cockpit Country, Jamaica

The Southern Trelawny Environmental Agency (STEA) is currently implementing a project aiming to strengthen its eco-and community-based tourism programme.

This innovative model promotes managed exploration of the Cockpit Country landscape, led and curated by members of Cockpit Country communities.



STEA Team exploring and assessing a potential attraction. © STEA

[Read more](#)

**Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)
Fifth Call for Proposals Now Open**



© JB Collier. World Bank

This call for Letters of Inquiry (LOIs) is focused only on the priority corridors and sites in the eligible countries in Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Deadline to apply: Monday 24 July 2023, 11:59 pm (Washington DC time)

**Learn
more**

Approved grants

To date, CEPF has issued twelve large and seven small grants totalling **over US\$3.3 million** under its second investment in the Caribbean region.

Explore our interactive map of current CEPF-funded projects in the Caribbean:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/6b2618e2a26649dc8041af7f12ead197>

For more details on the grants that have been issued, click [here](#).



Fenton Falls trail. St Vincent. © Lisa Sorenson

Meet Lehome Johnson, CEPF Small Grants Coordinator



Lehome is a certified project manager with more than 14 years' experience in environmental project management in Jamaica. His expertise is in solid waste management, fisheries management and conservation, forest conservation, protected areas management and climate change.

He has worked for several Government and Civil Society agencies in Jamaica and loves working to build the capacities of local organizations and people with whom he interacts.

In his role as Senior Technical Officer/CEPF Small Grants Coordinator, Lehome coordinates the operations of the CEPF small grants portfolio and utilizes his project management experience in contributing to meeting the objectives of several other projects within CANARI.

About the CEPF

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de

Développement, Conservation International, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan and the World Bank. The Phase II investment in the Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot is financed through the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund – Caribbean Hotspot Project of the World Bank, using funds provided by the Government of Japan.

About CANARI

The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) is a regional technical institute which has been working in the islands of the Caribbean for over 30 years. Our mission is to promote and facilitate stakeholder participation in the stewardship of natural resources in the Caribbean.



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