



**CALL FOR LETTERS OF INQUIRY**  
**CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND (CEPF)**  
**INVESTMENT IN THE EASTERN AFROMONTANE BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT**

For small grants only (with a maximum of USD 10,000) in  
*Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, DRC, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique*

**Open-ended Call**

**Opening Date:** Wednesday 30 July 2014 (revised call 1 May 2015)  
**Deadline Date:** *This is an open-ended call.*

*Applications can be submitted ON INVITATION ONLY.  
Please write to [CEPF-EAM-RIT@birdlife.org](mailto:CEPF-EAM-RIT@birdlife.org) first to  
discuss your project idea with one of our team members.*

*We will **ONLY** accept applications after we have invited you to submit a  
Letter of Inquiry. NB This will not guarantee your application will be successful.*

**CALL FOR LETTERS OF INQUIRY**

BirdLife International, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and the Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society, in their role as Regional Implementation Team (RIT) for the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) in the Eastern Afromontane Biodiversity Hotspot, invite civil society organizations to apply for projects in countries within the Hotspot per the Scope of this Call, as described below.

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International (CI), the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan, the MacArthur Foundation, and the World Bank. A fundamental goal is to ensure civil society is engaged in biodiversity conservation. More information on CEPF can be found at [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net) and at [www.birdlife.org/africa/project/cepf-eastern-afromontane-hotspot](http://www.birdlife.org/africa/project/cepf-eastern-afromontane-hotspot)

The Eastern Afromontane Biodiversity Hotspot stretches over a curving arc of more than 7,000 kilometers from Saudi Arabia to Mozambique. Within this area, Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) cover an area of more than 50 million hectares, of which only 38 percent have full legal protection and variable amounts of government funding.

CEPF's niche for investment in the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot was formulated through a participatory process that engaged civil society, donor and governmental stakeholders throughout the region. The results of this process and the five-year (2012-2017) strategy that CEPF has identified for supporting biodiversity conservation in the region are outlined in the Ecosystem Profile, available at: [www.cepf.net/where\\_we\\_work/regions/africa/eastern\\_afromontane/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.cepf.net/where_we_work/regions/africa/eastern_afromontane/Pages/default.aspx)

### ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Non-governmental organisations, community groups, private enterprises, universities and other civil society applicants may apply for funding. Applications from organizations that propose to build capacity of local civil society and community groups are particularly encouraged. Projects must be located within the sites and countries identified above and in the Ecosystem Profile. Organizations must have their own bank account and be authorized under relevant national laws to receive charitable contributions.

Government-owned enterprises or institutions are eligible only if they can demonstrate that the enterprise or institution:

- i. has a legal personality independent of any government agency or actor;
- ii. has the authority to apply for and receive private funds; and
- iii. may not assert a claim of sovereign immunity

### ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

This is one of several Calls for Proposals over the investment period of 2012-2017 and as such, is purposefully limited in scope. This call invites applicants to submit Letters of Inquiry that will contribute to CEPF **Strategic Direction 2, Investment Priority 2.2**, as described in the Ecosystem Profile. *We will not accept proposals for other Strategic Directions / Investment Priorities for this call.*

**PLEASE WRITE TO US FIRST (BY EMAIL) TO EXPLAIN YOUR PROJECT IDEA.  
SEND YOUR EMAIL TO [CEPF-EAM-RIT@birdlife.org](mailto:CEPF-EAM-RIT@birdlife.org)**

<b>Strategic Direction 2</b>	<b>To improve the protection and management of the network of KBAs (Key Biodiversity Areas / high conservation value areas) throughout the hotspot</b>
<b>Investment Priority 2.2</b>	<p>We are looking for projects that will support the role of civil society organizations in the application of <b>site safeguard policies and procedures</b> in order to avoid or minimize / mitigate ongoing and emerging threats on critical biodiversity habitats posed by development projects. These safeguard policies and procedures include (among others):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The strengthening of environmental impact assessment implementation;</li> <li>2. Application of the World Bank policy on natural habitats;</li> <li>3. Application of the Equator Principles;</li> <li>4. International Finance Corp Standards;</li> <li>5. Certification and Accreditation Schemes.</li> </ol> <p>We will also support <b>interventions</b> of CSOs such advocacy and technical input to environmental impact assessments, review of such assessments, support for consultations with local stakeholders, the building of alliances across different interest groups, and the development of economic alternatives.</p>

Please see also Chapter 12 of the Eastern Afromontane Hotspot Ecosystem Profile, containing **CEPF's Investment Strategy and Programmatic Focus**, which is available [here](#) and [here](#).

***This call for proposals is aimed to provide a 'rapid response fund' to protect Key Biodiversity Areas under immediate and urgent threat***

Grants cannot be used for:

- i. the purchase of land, involuntary resettlement of people including displacement of land uses or impeding access to traditional uses of natural resources, or activities that negatively affect physical cultural resources, including those important to local communities;
- ii. activities adversely affecting Indigenous Peoples or where these communities have not provided their broad support to the project activities; or
- iii. the removal or alteration of any physical cultural property (including sites having archaeological, paleontological, historical, religious, or unique natural values).

#### **ELIGIBLE BUDGET**

***This call for proposals is open for small grants (up to USD 10,000) only***

#### **ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES**

Eligible countries for this call are: ***Ethiopia, Kenya\*, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, DRC, Tanzania\*, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique.***

#### **ELIGIBLE SITES (Key Biodiversity Areas)**

Eligible sites for this call are: ***all Afromontane terrestrial KBAs and all Afromontane priority freshwater KBAs\****. A list of **Key Biodiversity Areas** can be found in Tables 12.1 and 12.2, and Appendix 2 of the Ecosystem Profile. A table of KBAs has also been provided at the end of this call for proposals.

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR APPLICATION ADDRESSES ONE OF THE KBAs LISTED IN THE APPENDIX TO THIS CALL FOR PROPOSALS.** We will not be able to fund projects that are not benefiting an Eastern Afromontane KBA.

**\* NB grants cannot be used for activities in Afromontane KBAs which were previously included in the Eastern Arc and Coastal Forest Hotspot (Kenya and Tanzania)** These are: in [Kenya](#): Taita Hills Forests; in [Tanzania](#): East Usambara Mountains \* Mahenge Mountains \* Nguru Mountains \* North Pare Mountains \* Rubeho Mountains \* South Pare Mountains \* Udzungwa Mountains \* Ukaguru Mountains \* Uluguru Mountains \* West Usambara Mountains \* Udzungwa Mountains Catchment \* Uluguru Mountains Catchment

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## APPLICATION

Please write to us first (by email) to explain your project idea. Send your email to [CEPF-EAM-RIT@birdlife.org](mailto:CEPF-EAM-RIT@birdlife.org). If your project idea fits with what CEPF is looking for under this call for proposals, we will send you additional application guidance.

**WE WILL ACCEPT APPLICATIONS ON INVITATION ONLY.** Applications that are received without invitation will not be taken into consideration.

Applicants can write to us in **English, French or Portuguese**.

## REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

All potential applicants should refer to the Ecosystem Profile, the LOI Form, and the following references available on the CEPF website:

- How to apply: [www.birdlife.org/worldwide/project/cepf-eam-application-guidance](http://www.birdlife.org/worldwide/project/cepf-eam-application-guidance)
- Frequently asked questions: [www.cepf.net/about\\_cepf/faq/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.cepf.net/about_cepf/faq/Pages/default.aspx)
- Eligibility criteria for applicants: [www.cepf.net/grants/Pages/eligibility.aspx](http://www.cepf.net/grants/Pages/eligibility.aspx) and [www.birdlife.org/worldwide/project/cepf-eam-application-guidance](http://www.birdlife.org/worldwide/project/cepf-eam-application-guidance)
- CEPF projects database: [www.cepf.net/grants/project\\_database/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.cepf.net/grants/project_database/Pages/default.aspx)
- CEPF safeguard policies: [www.cepf.net/grants/Pages/safeguard\\_policies.aspx](http://www.cepf.net/grants/Pages/safeguard_policies.aspx)
- World Bank safeguard policies: <http://go.worldbank.org/WTA1ODE7T0>.

All required documentation, information, guidance, formats and news are also available on [www.birdlife.org/africa/project/cepf-eastern-afromontane-hotspot](http://www.birdlife.org/africa/project/cepf-eastern-afromontane-hotspot)

## CONTACT

Please direct any questions or concerns to: [CEPF-EAM-RIT@birdlife.org](mailto:CEPF-EAM-RIT@birdlife.org)

Further information and assistance can be obtained from:

CEPF Eastern Afromontane Regional Implementation Team (EAM-RIT), BirdLife International, Africa Partnership Secretariat - off Rhapta Road, Volker's Garden, Westlands, Nairobi, Kenya  
PO BOX 3502, 00100 GPO Nairobi, Kenya - Tel: +254 (0)20 247 3259; Fax: +254 (0)20 806 8315  
[www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net) - [www.birdlife.org/africa](http://www.birdlife.org/africa) - [www.iucn.org](http://www.iucn.org) - [www.ewnhs.org.et](http://www.ewnhs.org.et)

## Annex: Eligible Countries and Sites

KML files for Google Earth maps with eligible sites (KBA) layers are also available on [www.cepf.net/where we work/regions/africa/eastern\\_afromontane/](http://www.cepf.net/where_we_work/regions/africa/eastern_afromontane/)

Countries	KBAs	Countries	KBAs
<b>Uganda</b>	Budongo Forest Reserve Bugoma Central Forest Reserve Bugungu Wildlife Reserve Bwindi Impenetrable National Park Echuya Forest Reserve Itwara Kagombe Forest Reserve Kalinzu Forest Reserve Karuma Kasyoha-Kitomi Forest Reserve Kibale National Park Kidepo Valley National Park Kyambura Wildlife Reserve Mafuga Forest Reserve Matiri Forest Reserve Mgahinga Gorilla National Park Mount Elgon, Uganda Mount Kadam Mount Moroto Forest Reserve Murchison Falls National Park Nyamuriro Swamp Queen Elizabeth National Park and Lake George Rwenzori Mountains National Park Semiliki National Park and Semiliki Reserve	<b>Kenya</b>	Aberdare Mountains Cherangani Hills Chyulu Hills Kianyaga Valleys Kikuyu Escarpment Forest Kinangop Grasslands Laikipia National Reserve Lake Bogoria National Reserve Lake Ol' Bolossat Marsabit Masai Mara Mathews Range Mau Forest Complex Mau Narok – Molo Grasslands Mount Elgon, Kenya Mount Kenya Mount Kulal Forest Mount Nyiru Mukurweini Valleys Ol Jogi Rhinoceros S Private Reserve South Nandi Forest South Nguruman
<b>Burundi</b>	Bururi Forest Nature Reserve Kibira National Park Lake Tanganyika (Burundi) Mukungu-Rukamabasi Nyamugari Rusizi National Park	<b>Rwanda</b>	Cyamudongo Forest Gishwati Lake Kivu ( Rwanda) Mukura Reserve Nyungwe National Park Rugezi Marsh Volcanoes National Park
<b>DRC</b>	Forests west of Lake Edward Ijdw Island (Lake Kivu) Irangi Forest Itombwe Mountains Kahuzi-Biega National Park Lake Kivu (DRC) Lake Tanganyika (DRC) LaLuama-Katanga-Mount Kabobo Lendu Plateau Marungu highlands Mount Hoyo Reserve Rutshuru Virunga National Park	<b>Malawi</b>	Dedza Forest Reserve Lake Malawi/Niassa (Malawi) Misuku Hills Forest Reserves (including Mugesse) Mount Mulanje Forest Reserve Mtangatanga and Perekezi forest reserves Ntichisi Mountain Forest Reserve Nyika National Park (Malawi) Soche Mountain Forest Reserve South Viphya Forest Reserve Uzumara Forest Reserve Zomba Mountains
<b>Zambia</b>	Mafinga Hills Lake Tanganyika (Zambia) Mweru Wantipa National Park Nyika National Park (Zambia) Sumbu National Park and Tondwa GMA	<b>Zimbabwe</b>	Banti Forest Reserve Chimanimani Mountains (Zimbabwe) Chirinda Forest Nyanga Mountains Stapleford Forest Vumba Highlands

<p><b>Ethiopia</b></p>	<p>Abijatta - Shalla Lakes National Park  Akaki - Aba-Samuel Wetlands  Aliyu Amba - Dulecha  Alledeghi Wildlife Reserve  Anferara Forests  Ankober - Debre Sina Escarpment  Assimba Natural Forest  Awash National Park  Awi Zone  Bahir Dar - Lake Tana  Bale Mountains National Park  Belete-Gera Forest  Berga floodplain  Bishoftu Lake  Bonga Forest  Borana-Saynt  Boyo Wetland  Chebera Chorchora National Park  Chelekleka Lake and Swamp  Chilimo-Gaji Forest  Choke Mountains  Deme-Laha  Dessaa forest  Dilu Meda (Tefki)  Dindin-Arba Gugu  Eastern Hararghe (Bisdimo Babile)  Entoto Natural Park  Finchaa and Chomen swamps  Fogera Plains  Gara Muleta  Gedo Forest  Gefersa Reservoir  Genale River  Godere Forest  Green Lake  Guassa Plateau  Gudo plain  Gughe Mountains  Harena-Kokosa  Hugumburda Grat-Kahsu forests</p>	<p><b>Ethiopia (cont'd)</b></p>	<p>Jello Muktar  Jemma and Jara valleys  Jibat Forest  Koffe Swamp  Koffole (Arsi)  Koka dam and Lake Gelila  Konso-Segen  Kubayu Forest  Lake Ashenge  Lake Awassa  Lake Langano  Lake Zeway  Liben Plains  Little Abbai River  Mankubsa – Welenso Forest  Mega Mountains  Mena-Angetu Forest  Menagesha State Forest  Mid-Abbay (Blue Nile) River Basin  Mount Abune Yosef  Mount Guna  Mount Zuquala  Mugo Highlands  Nechisar National Park  Omo National Park  Qafta-Shiraro National Park  Shako Forest  Shek Husein  Sheka Forest (Metu- Gore-Tepi)  Shire lowlands in the Tekeze Valley  Sigmo-Geba Forest  Simien Mountains National Park  Sof Omar  Sululta Plain  Tiro Boter - Becho Forest  Wadela (Wadila)  Yabello Sanctuary  Yayu Coffee Forest Biosphere Reserve  Yegof forest  Lake Tana</p>
<p><b>Tanzania</b></p>	<p>Arusha National park (Arusha and Mt Meru)  Bulongwa/Bulogwa  Chala Hills  Eluanata Dam  Gombe  Greater Mahale  Iringa  Kiboriani Mountains  Kitulo Plateau  Lake Tanganyika (Tanzania)  Livingstone Mountains Forests  Lyango Hill Forest Reserve (Mbizi)  Malagarasi River System  Mbeya Range  Mount Hanang</p>	<p><b>Tanzania cont'd</b></p>	<p>Mount Kilimanjaro  Mount Rungwe  Mount Ufiome  Ngorongoro Conservation Area  Njombe Forests  Poroto (Mporoto) Ridge  Ufipa Plateau – Loazi  Umalila Mountains</p>
		<p><b>Mozambique</b></p>	<p>Chimanimani Mountains, Moz.  Gorongosa Mountains  Lake Malawi, Mozambique  Mount Chipero  Mount Mabu  Mount Namuli  Mount Morrumbala</p>

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