



**Call for Letters of Inquiry
Investment in the Eastern Afromontane Biodiversity Hotspot**

**Request for Proposals No. 10
For Large Grants (\$20,000 or more) in Mozambique
For Small Grants (less than \$20,000) in Mozambique**

1. Opening Date: Wednesday, 1 October 2014

2. For requests of \$20,000 or more (large grants)

Deadline: Friday, 14 November 2014

Application method: Apply online via <https://leaf.conservation.org/Loi/New/9>

3. For requests of less than \$20,000 (small grants)

Deadline: Friday, 28 November 2014

Application method: Send letter of inquiry to CEPF-EAM-SGP@birdlife.org

4. 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 submit Letters of Inquiry (LOIs) 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 and at 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:

http://www.cepf.net/Documents/Eastern_Afromontane_Ecosystem_Profile_FINAL.pdf

5. 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

6. Eligible Sites and 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 the CEPF Strategy, as described in the Ecosystem Profile, in **Mozambique**.

CEPF has identified six terrestrial key biodiversity areas (KBAs) and one freshwater KBA in Mozambique in which we will work, listed below. While CEPF will work in all these KBAs, we have prioritized a smaller set with greater need, shown in bold text. Applicants proposing to work in priority KBAs are more likely to be funded than those proposing to work in non-priority KBAs.

MOZ1: Chimanimani Mountains (priority)

MOZ2: Gorongosa Mountain

MOZ3: Mount Chipero (priority)

MOZ4: Mount Mabou (priority)

MOZ 5: Mount Morrumbala

MOZ 6: Nount Namuli (priority)

fwMOZ1: Lake Malawi (Lake Niassa) (priority)

Organizations should submit projects that conceptually fit into one of the Strategic Directions listed below. Each Strategic Direction is further described by subordinate Investment Priorities. The Ecosystem Profile gives full details on CEPF's goals and expected achievements for each Strategic Direction and Investment Priority. See the Ecosystem Profile at:

http://www.cepf.net/Documents/Eastern_Afromontane_Ecosystem_Profile_FINAL.pdf

As part of the letter of inquiry, applicants should submit a Project Rationale and Project Approach that relates work in one or more of the KBAs named above to this framework.

Strategic Direction 1. Mainstream biodiversity into wider development policies, plans and projects to deliver the co-benefits of biodiversity conservation, improved local livelihoods and economic development in priority corridors.

Investment Priority 1.1. Enhance civil society efforts to develop and implement local government and community-level planning processes to mainstream biodiversity conservation, and leverage donor and project funding for livelihood activities that explicitly address causes of environmental degradation in and around priority KBAs in priority corridors.

Investment Priority 1.2. Promote civil society efforts and mechanisms to mainstream biodiversity conservation into national development policies and plans, and into territorial planning in priority corridors and countries.

Investment Priority 1.3. Support civil society to build positive relationships with the private sector to develop sustainable, long-term economic activities that will benefit biodiversity and reduce poverty in priority corridors.

Strategic Direction 2. Improve the protection and management of the KBA network throughout the hotspot.

Investment Priority 2.1. Increase the protection status (via creation or expansion of protected areas) and/or develop, update and implement management plans for terrestrial priority KBAs.

Investment Priority 2.2. Support the role of civil society organizations in the application of site safeguard policies and procedures, including the strengthening of environmental impact assessment implementation in order to address ongoing and emerging threats to terrestrial KBAs and priority freshwater KBAs.

Strategic Direction 3. Initiate and support sustainable financing and related actions for the conservation of priority KBAs and corridors.

Investment Priority 3.1. Support civil society organizations to develop forest carbon partnerships and projects that advance biodiversity conservation in priority KBAs in Africa.

Investment Priority 3.2. Support civil society organizations to develop partnerships and projects for non-carbon payment for ecosystem services schemes and other market mechanisms in priority KBAs in Africa, particularly priority freshwater KBAs that influence freshwater biodiversity, livelihoods and health.

Investment Priority 3.3. Support training for civil society organizations in fund-raising and project management, especially training such organizations at all levels with respect to emerging opportunities for sustainable financing for KBAs in Africa.

7. Budget

The maximum budget for large grants is: \$160,000

The maximum budget for small grants is: \$20,000

8. Instructions for Submitting an Application Requesting More than \$20,000 (Large Grants)

CEPF will be using a new, web-based system for the submission of letters of inquiry. This can be accessed at:

<https://leaf.conservation.org/Loi/New/9>

Previous applicants to CEPF may be familiar with a letter of inquiry form in Microsoft Word. We will **no longer accept** this form for submission.

When you navigate to the above website, you will be presented with three options for logging in.

1. The first option is to create an account on LEAF. If you choose this option, LEAF will send an e-mail to the e-mail address you specified to confirm your account.
2. The second option is best if you already have a Google account. Log in with your Google name (i.e., your Gmail name) and password.
3. Log in with a Microsoft account (Hotmail, outlook.com, Xbox).

At no time does Google or Microsoft provide LEAF any of the data related to those accounts.

Once logged in, you be able to access this specific solicitation.

Note that when completing your letter of inquiry, that there is no “save” button in the system. The information you enter will be automatically saved ever time you move to a new field/screen.

As this system is new, we fully expect there to be quirks or “bugs” that may detract from the user experience. If you have any questions about completing the form, please contact:

Laura Johnston: ljohnston@conservation.org

Dan Rothberg: drothberg@conservation.org

Maaïke Manten: Maaïke.Manten@birdlife.org

CI Technical Support: customapps@conservation.org

You may also find a user manual for the system at:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PZUD_GFWbl6K9AmrzdI_kw43UH_RnPQQShrK_50EU0/edit?usp=sharing

9. Instructions for Submitting an Application Requesting less than \$20,000 (Small Grants)

Applicants must submit a Letter of Inquiry (LOI) in English or Portuguese using the forms available at www.birdlife.org/worldwide/project/cepf-eam-application-guidance

LOIs must be submitted electronically to BirdLife International at CEPF-EAM-SGP@birdlife.org by **28 November 2014**. BirdLife International will not accept hardcopy LOIs. You will receive an email acknowledgement acknowledging receipt of your application.

10. Advisory Service

All applicants are encouraged to discuss proposal ideas with the EAM RIT at CEPF-EAM-RIT@birdlife.org

Discussing your proposal idea with us before submitting it will increase the chance of success significantly (based on experiences during previous calls for proposals).

Those wishing to seek guidance from the EAM RIT should do so well in advance of the deadline.

For large grants: please consult us **before 7 November 2014**.

For small grants: please consult us **before 21 November 2014**.

11. 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
- Frequently asked questions: www.cepf.net/about_cepf/faq/Pages/default.aspx
- Eligibility criteria for applicants: www.cepf.net/grants/Pages/eligibility.aspx and www.birdlife.org/worldwide/project/cepf-eam-application-guidance
- CEPF projects database: www.cepf.net/grants/project_database/Pages/default.aspx
- CEPF safeguard policies: 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:

<http://www.birdlife.org/africa/project/cepf-eastern-afromontane-hotspot>

12. Contact

Please direct any questions or concerns to: 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

www.cepf.net

www.birdlife.org/africa/project/cepf-eastern-afromontane-hotspot

www.iucn.org

www.ewnhs.org.et