

CEPF Final Project Completion Report

Organization Legal Name:	Center for People and Nature Reconciliation
Project Title:	Addressing Vietnam's Ecological Footprint in the Lower Mekong Region
Grant Number:	65775
CEPF Region:	Indo-Burma II
Strategic Direction:	6 Engage key actors in mainstreaming biodiversity, communities and livelihoods into development planning in the priority corridors
Grant Amount:	\$244,920.00
Project Dates:	July 01, 2015 - September 30, 2019
Date of Report:	February 05, 2020

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

List each partner and explain how they were involved with the project.

The project involved a diverse range of partners and stakeholders, including local CSOs (such as Ha Giang, Dak Lak, Gia Lai provincial VUSTA), national NGOs and associations (GreenVietm VUSTA, VUFO, VILACAED, ...), business sector (VCCI, Vietnam Rubber Group, HAGL, rubber companies, ...), government agencies (Vietnam's Biodiversity Conservation Agency, VNFOREST), universities (Can Tho University, Da Nang University), international and regional organizations (EWMI, Save the Mekong, Oxfam, ...), as well as funding partners (Oxfam, IUCN Netherlands, GIZ, ...). Details of partners, stakeholders and their involvement are included in the attachment to this report.

CONSERVATION IMPACTS

Summarize the overall impact of your project, describing how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile.

Long-term Impacts (3+ Years)

The project, as a whole, contributed effort to reduce and mitigate impacts of trade, investment, and development on biodiversity, ecosystems and local communities in the Lower Mekong region. Public knowledge on those mentioned impacts was enhanced via a newly established and sustained platform of open data, continuously updated media channels and series of events and research reports. Capacity of local organizations, civil society in Vietnam and in the region in monitoring development projects was

strengthened and emphasized with many dialogues with private sectors and recommendations to policy makers. Vietnam Rubber Group as a big state-owned group has been making positive influence to rubber sector of Vietnam and their investment to the sub-Mekong region with their strategic plan for sustainable development published for the first time after their adoption and pilot the socio-environmental voluntary guidelines coming out from this project. This should be recognized a good practice for further advocacy effort to push for more responsible trade and investments in the region.

Short-term Impacts (1-3 Years)

- **Capacity of PanNature, 62 staff of provincial provincial VUSTA and more than 220 staff of civil society actors who received direct benefit from this project was strengthened to enhance monitoring, doing research and policy reform advocacy so as to mitigate negative impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems from development.**
- **Networking at national and regional scale for stronger voice and advocacy on responsible development and less impacts on biodiversity was strengthened in Sub-Mekong region via series of dialogues events, forums and technical working groups with contribution of PanNature and other civil society organizations.**
- **The established Vietnam Open Data platform contributes to the national and regional effort to push for more democracy in data and information access on development issues.**
- **Vietnam Rubber Group and other rubber companies adopting and piloting the voluntary safeguard guideline for Vietnamese investors in agriculture in sub-Mekong regions introduced by PanNature and its partners have made positive changes on the ground in terms of having more engagement with local communities and environment and biodiversity considerations. Their practical results provided good evidence and helped change perspective of Vietnamese policy makers on the responsibility and capacity of investors.**
- **Son Tra peninsula, out of many protected areas in Vietnam under high pressure of uncontrolled development and investment, featured a good case in which civil society gathered effort to address the impacts of on biodiversity and urge for policy revision.**

Planned Long-term Impacts – 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Capacity of Vietnamese civil society organizations strengthened and able to engage in monitoring and responding to issues related to impacts of trade, investment and development on ecosystems both in Vietnam and in the Mekong region.	Through networks and working groups, PanNature and other CSOs has been increasing their contribution to the monitoring of REDD+ and VPA/FLEGT process in Vietnam, the development of hydro powers on Mekong Mainstream dams, the flow and impacts of investments in the Mekong region.
Impacts on biodiversity, ecosystems and local communities from trade, investment, and development programs and policies reduced and mitigated.	After a series research reports, workshops and advocacy effort initiated by civil society actors, Vietnam government gave strong direction on reviewing mass development for recreation and real estate in Son Tra protected areas. This is a positive intervention from government sector in the context that protected areas are under high risks of over exploitation for development. VRG committed not to extend their rubber plantation in their whole system, in only in Vietnam but also in Lao and Cambodia. The group together with PanNature and Birdlife International in Cambodia have been considering a cooperation for 5 years to establish a demonstration on community-based forest management

	which contribute to protect forest ecosystem while supporting local communities in Ratatakiri. If this plan is approved and conducted, there is a chance for further expansion among other VRG's subsidiaries in Cambodia.
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Planned Short-term Impacts – 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
A platform to disseminate data and information about development, investment, and links with environmental criteria in Vietnam for the general public created and maintained.	A platform was developed and keeps updated. Data has been collected, processed and published. Knowledge products of PanNature have been made publicly available online.
Capacity of PanNature, provincial sub-ordinates of VUSTA, and participating civil society in analyzing and monitoring impacts of trade, investment, and development on biodiversity, ecosystems and local communities strengthened.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At national level, PanNature raised voices and promotes policy debates on impacts of development and mass tourism on protected areas, the rights of communities over their forest and forest lands, the responsibilities and risks to Vietnamese outwards investors, social and environmental concerns for Vietnam in FTAs. • At regional level, PanNature contributed to the common effort to address development impacts on Mekong river basin and cross-border water management, the importance of social forestry, non-traditional securities challenges relating to environmental concerns, sustainable and responsible investment. • 62 staff of provincial provincial VUSTA and more than 220 staff of civil society organizations were strengthened capacity to enhance monitoring, doing research and policy advocacy on development impacts on ecosystems and environment. Some of them could run their own monitoring and got good results.
Environmental and social safeguard policies in investment activities in Vietnam and the Mekong region developed and adopted by leading Vietnamese companies, investors and government agencies.	The Voluntary Guidelines on mitigating socio–environmental risks for Vietnamese outward investors in agriculture in the Mekong Subregion was developed in 2016 with the contribution of private sectors. The guideline was adopted for piloting by 5 companies, including VRG in 2017, and finalized for public launch among private sectors and the government agencies in early 2019. In an open and official policy dialogue, Department of Foreign Investment of Ministry of Planning and Investment recognized the importance of VSG and adoption among private sector.
Knowledge and common understanding of civil society, business sector, and government agencies on environmental and social risks of investment and development and safeguard policies shared and enhanced.	With series of published publications and national/regional events hosting or co-hosting, PanNature help increase understanding of environmental and social risks of investment and development and safeguard policies, not only in the country but also at regional level. A diverse number of partners and stakeholders involved in the project also help expand the reach of knowledge and understanding about project focused issues and messages.

Describe the successes or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives.

Success

- **The project had participation of a wide range of partners and stakeholders during its implementation, from local and national CSOs, government agencies, regional and international NGOs, and business sectors. Project messages therefore could reach further and ensure long term impacts.**
- **Active participation of business sector in project activities, especially in development and pilot of the voluntary guidelines for Vietnamese companies. PanNature and our partners have signed up a cooperation plan with the Vietnam Rubber Group, one of major state-owned enterprises in Vietnam, to foster sustainable development agenda in order to reduce their social and ecological footprints in their agribusiness activities. Impacts of**

the project work and contribution of partners have been publicly recognized by VRG.

- **First ever development and piloting of the voluntary guidelines for Vietnamese companies investing overseas to reduce their impacts on local communities and environment. The guidelines were adopted and piloted by subsidiaries of the Vietnam Rubber Group. It was also published as an official document on VRG's website: <https://vnrubbergroup.com/phattrienbenvung>**
- **CSOs at provincial levels engaged more actively in monitoring local development policies and programs. Provincial VUSTA of Ha Giang and Gia Lai are two particular examples with increasing capacity and influence in their provinces.**
- **PanNature and partners showed the case that civil society, business sector and the government can work together to mitigate negative impacts from development activities. The credibility of local civil society organizations has been recognized by the media, public and government as an important actor in past and recent cases in providing analysis, inputs and also critiques on development policies and projects.**

Challenges

- **Vietnam is still a constraint environment for civil society with strong control of the government, especially on project funding approval. More control and administrative procedures cost intensive time and resources for local organizations in compliance and reporting.**
- **It took quite a long time to build relationship and trust with business sector, especially private companies. While PanNature and partners have secured partnership with VRG and several business associations, the work with Hoang Anh Gia Lai has been slow and not yet produced results as expected.**
- **It's challenging for PanNature (and local NGOs) to maintain high-quality human resource to work on high profile issues (e.g. analyzing development policies at national and regional levels, engaging in discussions about international trade and investment issues) within limited financial resources, as well as competition with business sector and international NGOs.**
- **The current development trend in Vietnam and the region imposes significant impacts on ecosystems with many large-scale projects in mining, hydropower and energy, agribusiness, ... There's no signal that this trend is going to revert yet. Therefore, there will need more investment and more organizations to involve in raising stronger voices from civil society and local communities.**

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

- 1. PanNature had to cancel some planned research topics and events such as research on the impacts of infrastructure development across Lao-Vietnam on biodiversity, workshop to review national urgent action plan for elephant conservation and future of elephants conservation in Vietnam in order to work on other priority issues. However, we continue to work on the topic of elephant conservation plan in follow-up activities in combating wildlife trade projects.**
- 2. Two small grants under the project's support did not produce research reports with sufficient quality. PanNature recognized the needs to invest**

more in building capacity and technical support for local CSO partners, especially those engage in very grassroots level, before carrying out policy research activities.

- 3. PanNature and Birdlife in Cambodia was successful in starting discussions with HAGL Agrico and proposed for a cooperation of biodiversity conservation in their ELC in Cambodia. However, the company then failed to conduct their early commitments. This is partly explained by the long-lasting finance trouble of the company and fluctuation in their internal system.**
- 4. During the project implementation, there were some changes in the contexts. The TPP agreement was cancelled and recently replaced by CPTPP. EVFTA and VPA/FLEGT negotiation was much longer than our expectation. The project team had to adjust workplan and interventions to adapt properly. PanNature has actively engaged and provided inputs to the VPA/FLEGT and continue to do so through different ongoing projects.**
- 5. PanNature has joined with a small team of dedicated conservationists and business leaders to develop the Vietnam Nature Conservation Foundation with funding from local business sector. This aims to provide a long-term and sustainable finance for conservation in Vietnam with contribution from Vietnamese leading businesses. The foundation is expected to be established in 2020.**

PROJECT COMPONENTS AND PRODUCTS/DELIVERABLES

Describe the results from each product/deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
2	Increasing Access to Information and Raising Public Awareness	2.6	At least 04 thematic reports and 04 policy briefs produced by PanNature and distributed to interested parties.	PanNature published 8 thematic reports and 06 policy reviews. They were published online and disseminated among PanNature's Policy and Media networks with more than 1.300 members. Only Policy Reviews and some other selected publications were printed for distribution in national workshops/dialogues or sent to relevant stakeholders
1	Building Capacity of Civil Society Actors	1.1	Necessary equipment and working environment for staff of the Policy Department and project admin support staff to carry out project activities are provided and used, which are reflected in the inventory at the end of the project.	The project team and admin staff were supplied with sufficient equipment for everyday activities. All equipment units are well maintained and still in use.
1	Building Capacity of Civil Society Actors	1.2	Key capacity development goals of 5 members of PanNature's Policy Department and 02 senior managers with regard to safeguards, responsible	All Policy Department members, the project senior managers, 02 communication and data staff had opportunities to join more than 50 thematic workshops, trainings and related to safeguards, responsible investment, engaging business sector, theory of changes, FTAs, etc.

			investment and FTAs (Free Trade Agreements) are met, as shown by training needs assessments at project start and end	
2	Increasing Access to Information and Raising Public Awareness	2.7	08 technical reports published by sub-grantees.	Six technical reports being finalized are published online by grantees, either on their websites or shared among their partners mailing list. Two reports were printed for distribution in policy dialogue workshops on conservation and Forestry Law.
2	Increasing Access to Information and Raising Public Awareness	2.8	Project products, updates and related information disseminated through PanNature's existing channels (websites, social media, email lists, and regular media events) on regular basis.	PanNature has a strong communication team who help with daily update news and information. Project activities and products have been published on PanNature's websites and social media channels. PanNature also maintained regular communication with our journalist and expert networks through email groups.
3	Strengthening Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies	3.1	03 provincial dialogues organized through cooperation with local partners and provincial VUSTA with participation of about 120 people from different stakeholders, including local	06 provincial workshops and dialogues on conservation-related topics were organized by PanNature and its partners. About 270 participants from local government, companies, community organizations, CSOs and academic institutes attended the events.

			government.	
3	Strengthening Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies	3.2	02 national workshops on selected themes related to project focal issues organized with participation of about 150 people from different stakeholders, including major decision-making agencies.	11 national policy dialogues and workshops were organized or co-organized by PanNature and covered diverse issues, however, put more focus on the two topics oversea investment in agriculture sector and Forestry Law. Each event attracted from 60 to 100 participants from different sectors, especially having representatives from National Assembly, professional departments of Ministry of Planning and Investments, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam National Mekong Committee.
3	Strengthening Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies	3.3	01 regional event (Mekong Resources Forum) organized with participation of about 100 people from civil society and partner organizations in Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, and Myanmar.	01 Mekong Resources Forum and 01 regional workshop on impacts of Vietnamese cross-border investment were co-organized by PanNature and its partners. About 210 participations from communities, non-state actors, INGOs, academics, embassies joined and contributed to the events.
3	Strengthening Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies	3.4	02 workshops co-organized with regional partners in the ASEAN People Forum annual meetings.	PanNature closely work with Vietnam Union of Friendship Organizations (VUFO), Save the Mekong Coalition and NGOs in the region co-organized 06 workshops in ASEAN People Forum 2107, 2018 and 2019, actively contributing to the Forum' statements.
3	Strengthening Environmental	3.5	Safeguard and related	The project team monitored closely new development on safeguard policies and related

	and Social Safeguard Policies		policies, FTAs, and other relevant issues monitored and documented on regular basis for planning appropriate responses and actions.	issues from the government and key agencies such as the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, JBIC, etc. During the project, PanNature joined technical CSOs groups on REDD+ and FLEGT to provide inputs to safeguard policies and monitoring mechanisms.
3	Strengthening Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies	3.6	Environmental and social safeguard policies promoted and adopted by leading Vietnamese companies, investors, and government agencies.	The voluntary guidelines developed by PanNature and its partners were adopted and piloted by Vietnam Rubber Group (VRG), DakLak Rubber Investment Company (DRI) and their three subsidiaries in Laos and Cambodia. In early 2019, both mother companies VRG and DRI developed their sustainable development action plan for the first time and made positive rearrangement in their structure and human resources accordingly. VRG, having more than 100 subsidiaries and occupied more than 30% of the total area for rubber plantation in the countries and is one of the big agencies for rubber exproting, is expected to make huge influence in rubber sector in Vietnam and the region. The voluntary guideline were also introduced to the Foreign Investment Agency and Vietnam Lao Cambodia Association for Economic Development Cooperation (Ministry of Planning and Investment) and members of VCCI for further adoption.
1	Building Capacity of Civil Society Actors	1.3	Key capacity development goals of at least 50 staff of provincial sub-ordinates of VUSTA are met through their participation in 02 training workshops and other events organized by	62 staff of provincial provincial VUSTA in North Eastern area, Central Highlands and Mekong Delta were developed capacity via joining 02 training workshops held by PanNature and its partners. Some of the trainees developed proposals and received small grant under this project. 02 representatives from provincial VUSTA were supported to join advanced training by Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment (MONRE). 01 sub-ordinate member of VUSTA (Dak Lak province) hosted regional thematic seminar for the Central Highlands with technical and financial support of PanNature.

			PanNature, which are reflected in training evaluation reports.	
1	Building Capacity of Civil Society Actors	1.4	Key capacity development goals of at least 60 people from civil society organizations and networks are met through their participation in 02 training workshops and other events organized by PanNature, which are reflected in training evaluation reports.	08 trainings were organized for different groups of beneficiaries. 48 journalists were trained and provided professional skills on doing investigation and reporting on cross-border wildlife trade and doing data journalism. 95 community members, community-based organizations and local associations were provided skills and knowledge via joining the thematic and technical trainings. 53 managers and core staff from businesses having agriculture investments in Lao, Cambodia and Vietnam had more awareness about the importance of biodiversity, community engagement and understanding local context of their investments. 25 representatives of NGOs and community groups were trained to engage businesses partners into their advocacy and ground work so as to make bigger impacts.
1	Building Capacity of Civil Society Actors	1.5	At least 04 provincial VUSTA and 04 civil society organizations supported with small grants and technical assistance to carry out research and monitoring activities.	08 small grants were provided to 03 sub-national VUSTA, 02 professional organizations and 3 CSOs in 7 provinces. Some of them are trainees in our trainings. Results from these subgrants were used by sub-grantees to provide policy inputs and recommendations to local authorities.
1	Building Capacity of Civil Society Actors	1.6	Connections and networks with regional partners maintained with active contribution from	PanNature strengthened its close connections to networks, coalitions and working groups to enhance regional concern and debates on impacts of development on Mekong river basin, EIA process and sustainable cross-border investment in the sub-Mekong region (with focus on Vietnam's oversea investment), social forestry, open data and access to information.

			PanNature.	<p>PanNature hosted or co-hosted 05 regional events to foster joint effort and partnership among CSOs, private sector and other stakeholders on more sustainable development and investment.</p> <p>PanNature also contributed inputs to the regional joint statements of civil society to the ASEAN leaders on the promotion of social forestry and the adoption of strategic pillar of Environment in ASEAN region's agenda, the development of regional guideline on EIA and public participation in development projects via series of technical meetings.</p> <p>In Cambodia, PanNature created a strong connection with Birdlife International Cambodia Program, Vietnam Rubber Group and its subsidiary Krongbuk Ratanakiri. A plan for long-term partnership among the parties was developed.</p>
1	Building Capacity of Civil Society Actors	1.7	Institutional capacity of PanNature strengthened and evidenced by increased civil society tracking tool scores over the course of the project.	PanNature has completed the Civil Society Tracking tool scores before and after the project. Results are included as part of this final report.
2	Increasing Access to Information and Raising Public Awareness	2.1	Reports of 02 regional studies to review impacts of FTAs and investment on ecosystems in the Lower Mekong produced.	From its field investigations in Lao, Cambodia and Myanmar and intensive interviews in Central Highlands and South Eastern province in Vietnam, PanNature published a series of 02 reports on socio-environmental project impacts and challenges to Vietnamese business having investments in Mekong sub-region countries. The reports provided baseline and important evidence so that PanNature could have effective dialogue with business sector and made them recognize the importance of social and environmental concerns in the investment receiving areas. A Pioneering Private Sector Working Group of 8 companies and associations was established in 2016 with the mission of developing a voluntary guideline for those Vietnamese companies having investment in the region. As a result, the "Voluntary Guidelines on mitigating socio-environmental risks for Vietnamese outward investors in agriculture in the Mekong Subregion", was publicly launched and

				adopted for piloting by Vietnam Rubber Group, Dak Lak Rubber Investment Company and their subsidiaries in Lao and Cambodia. Major of this work was conducted by a collaboration among PanNaure, Oxfam and Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industries (VCCI).
2	Increasing Access to Information and Raising Public Awareness	2.2	Reports of 02 national surveys and/or studies with focus on impacts of FTAs on biodiversity and ecosystems in Vietnam produced.	<p>Two series of thematic reports on were completed and provided inputs to national policy dialogues and conservation platforms.</p> <p>Reports on FTAs and safeguards were developed as the results of PanNature’s desk study, field surveys in Phu Tho and Nam Dinh province and its intensive interviews with domestic bank sector on their perspective and adoption of safeguard policies for reducing environmental risks for their loan projects. This series include 02 working papers, 01 policy newsletter and 01 technical reports.</p> <p>Three reports on Son Tra protected area and its biodiversity under the pressure of so-called economic development provided evidence for the debate on the same topic in conservation platforms and policy dialogues.</p>
2	Increasing Access to Information and Raising Public Awareness	2.3	Field surveys, research, and monitoring activities at local level carried out by 08 local partners with support from PanNature.	08 grantees received technical support of PanNature during their project implementation. In some cases, such as Green Viet, PanNature provided further support so that they promoted advocacy work from their research results.
2	Increasing Access to Information and Raising Public Awareness	2.4	An open development data portal developed and made available online for public access through cooperation with regional partners.	The open data portal on environment and development of Vietnam was launched at https://opendata.vn/ . In 2016, PanNature signed an MOU with East West Management Institute on co-working and sharing data.
2	Increasing Access to Information	2.5	Data and information on	The portal has been updated with datasets on topics. Dak Lak Provincial Forest Fund received 03 trainings to improve their PFES data collecting and

	and Raising Public Awareness		development , trade, investment and other topics in relation to natural resources and environmental factors updated regularly on the data portal.	map processing.
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Describe and submit any tools, products or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

For this project, PanNature have applied different approaches and tools. Some of them include:

- ***Evidence-based advocacy:*** PanNature applied this approach to major of its advocacy work under this project to work with private sector and policy-makers, especially in the business engagement program. Providing convincing evidence helps the organization strengthen their voice and balance the power of in dialogues.
- ***EIA and FPIC:*** They are not only used as a tool but also a topics for trainings to build capacity for community-based organizations and provincial provincial VUSTA in monitoring development projects.
- ***BIZ canvas tool:*** This tool was introduced by IUCN Netherland to help CSOs building understanding about business, approach and engage them into non-profit objectives/programs. This tool was referenced by PanNature and introduced to civil-society organizations.
- ***Landscape thinking:*** This approach was originally applied for PanNature’s projects on forestry. However, it works well with the design of this project. PanNature applied in its advocacy on Son Tra peninsula and Mekong issues.
- ***Voluntary Guidelines on mitigating socio–environmental risks for Vietnamese outward investors:*** is developed under this project with aim to reduce the environmental and social risks of outward investment activities of Vietnamese enterprises, ensure the harmony of interests between Vietnamese enterprises, the host country authorities and the local people. This has contributed to building a positive and pioneer image and reputation of Vietnamese investors in particular and of Vietnam in general towards responsible investment, especially for environmental and social impacts.

LESSONS LEARNED

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building.

Consider lessons that would inform:

- Project design process (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings)
- Project implementation (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings)
- Any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community

- 1. Project design was flexible and diverse enough for PanNature to plan and conduct the interventions properly. Working with partners at different levels (local, national and regional) and strengthen civil society organizations helped PanNature strengthen its capacity and maximize effort to promote doing research and monitoring development impacts while advocating policies at national and regional scale.**
- 2. There is still a high demand among local professional organizations to receive trainings and support. PanNature's provided trainings and small grants were recognized helpful for community-based organizations and local members of VUSTA. Some of their research and monitoring results were translated into policy recommendations and dialogues.**
- 3. Providing convincing evidence and understanding dynamics of the private sector help enhance NGO's dialogue with them and make them understand the importance of socio-environmental safeguards. It took PanNature and its partners nearly two years to build trust to businesses and have them adopt and pilot the voluntary safeguard guidelines. In addition to legal requirements, pressure from market and customers are major motivations for businesses to be determined to make positive changes towards sustainability.**
- 4. There are quite many safeguards and voluntary guidelines for businesses in place, however, not many of them are applied by the sector. There are gaps in understanding and language difference between business and sustainable development (including biodiversity conservation). It's really important for NGO to fill those gaps, accompany, join planning and provide technical support to private sector in their aspiration for changes.**

SUSTAINABILITY/REPLICATION

Summarize the successes or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.

With continued support from CEPF, MPE, Oxfam Hong Kong and a number of other small grants in the past three years, PanNature developed business engagement activities into a thematic program which would be sustained after the project ends. PanNature, together with Birdlife Cambodia and Vietnam Rubber Group has started developing a cooperation plan for the next 5 years in which VRG and its subsidiary in Cambodia will join and support a community forest management demonstration in Ratanakiri. The demonstration is expected to be so successful that it can be expanded among other VRG ' subsidiaries. PanNature keeps

providing support to VRG in their policy institutionalization for reassociation with Forest Stewardship Council.

Funding from CEPF helped PanNature to leverage more funding from other donors and partners to expand our work in promoting environmental safeguards, engaging business sector, as well as turning the organization into a policy-oriented change-maker. PanNature has been recognized by partners and government counterparts as an active player in key policy development in environment and natural resources in Vietnam. This is a significant shift for the organization during the past five years, with significant contribution from CEPF as one of core funding partners.

The future Vietnam Nature Conservation Foundation, which PanNature involved in ongoing development, aims to bring financial sustainability to Vietnamese civil society over the long term. This particular project will contribute to the overall goal of CEPF.

SAFEGUARDS

If not listed as a separate project component and described above, summarize the implementation of any required action related to social, environmental or pest management safeguards.

There was no required action related to social or environmental safeguards to this project. On the other hand, PanNature and partners promote using of safeguard principles through project activities as described in previous sections.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF.

Results from this project expand the reach of PanNature to several new dimensions, which will be reflected in the new strategic plan for coming period. These include the formation of the business engagement program, as well as more focus on building network and capacity of local partners at provincial and grassroot levels. PanNature will strengthen our capacity and widen impacts of policy work. We hope to continue the partnership with CEPF and other funding partners in the coming time.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization or region as a result of CEPF investment.

Total additional funding (US\$)
\$210,666.00

Type of funding

Provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:

- A. Project co-financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)
- B. Grantee and partner leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF-funded project)
- C. Regional/portfolio leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)

B Grantee and Partner Leveraging

UNDP Vietnam REDD+ Programme: 16,000 USD for the regional event organized in Laos in 2018.

Oxfam Vietnam: 102,980 USD for activities related to work with Vietnamese companies investing overseas in agribusiness sector in Laos and Cambodia from 2016 to 2019.

C Regional/Portfolio Leveraging

Mekong Partnership for the Environment: 91,686 USD for activities related to improving environmental impact assessment in Vietnam and the Mekong region as part of the regional program in six Mekong countries.

Other donors (IUCN Netherlands, GIZ, WCS) also contributed to the project activities in case-by-case basis.

INFORMATION SHARING AND CEPF POLICY

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our website, www.cepf.net, and may be publicized in our e-newsletter and other communications.

1. Please include your full contact details (name, organization, mailing address, telephone number, email address) below.

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