



**CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM
PARTNERSHIP FUND**

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM PARTNERSHIP FUND, EASTERN HIMALAYA PROGRAM

A stylized world map with green continents and blue oceans, serving as a background for the text.

INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE

18TH NOVEMBER

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

Part I: General Introduction to CEPF

Part II: Current involvement in the Himalayas

Part III: Response to regional challenges

Part IV: Role of partners

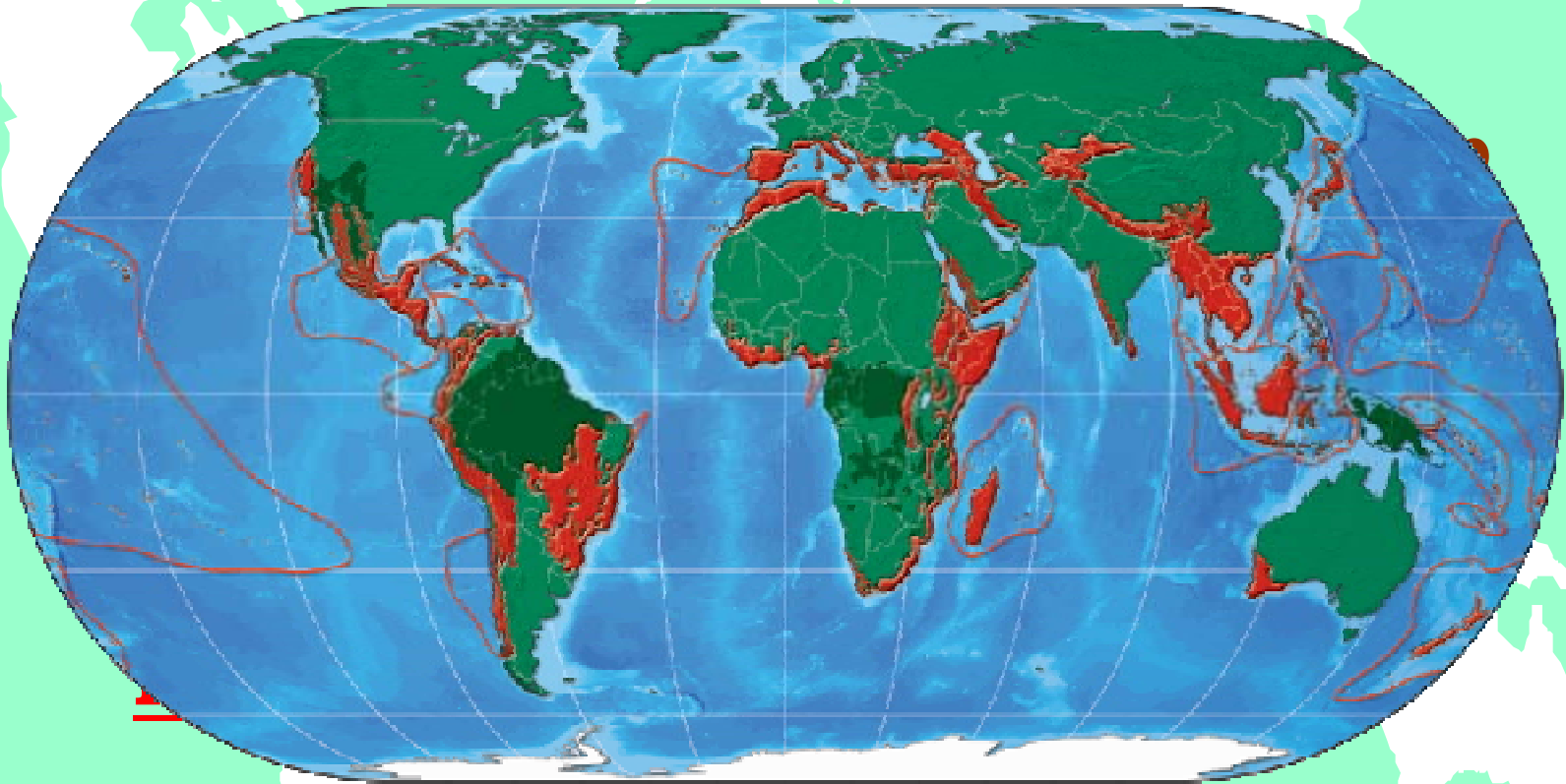
Part V. Role of ICIMOD



Earth's biologically richest + most threatened areas

Home to 1.9 billion people, many of whom depend directly on healthy lands for their livelihoods and well-being

ADDITIONAL
ECOSYSTEM
PARTNERSHIP FUND



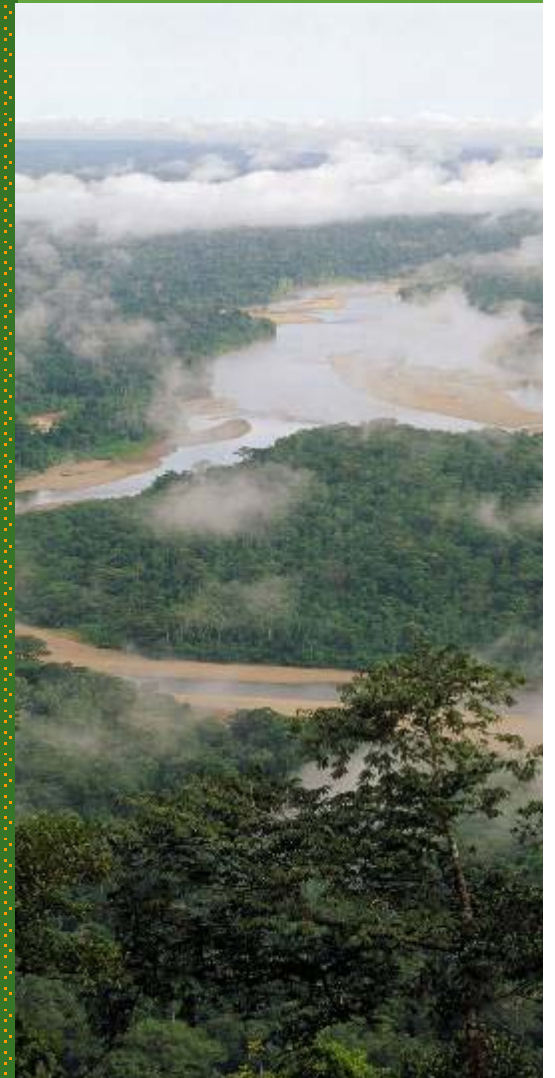
Biodiversity Hotspots

A Unique Partnership



L'Agence Française de
Développement
Conservation International
Global Environment Facility
Government of Japan
MacArthur Foundation
The World Bank

www.cepf.net





Civil Society

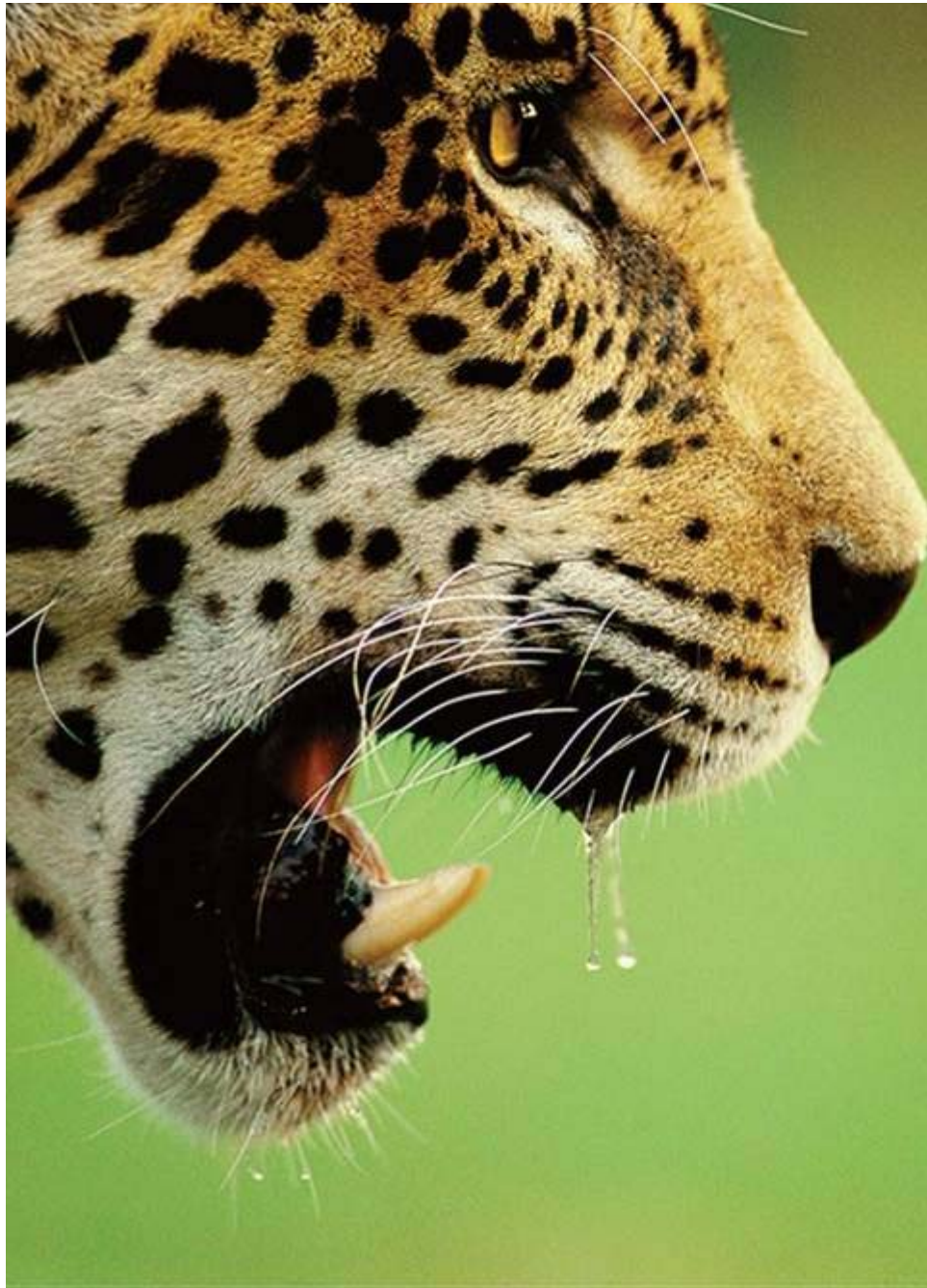
Growth is one of most significant international trends in recent years...

...Yet often outside reach of traditional funding mechanisms

Bring innovative ideas, solutions and participatory approach to solving local challenges

Participation in governmental programs and decision-making can:

- Contribute local knowledge
- Provide technical expertise
- Leverage social capital



Our Grants

Target biodiversity hotspots in developing countries

Are guided by strategies developed with stakeholders

Go directly to civil society

Create alliances combining skills & eliminating duplication of efforts

Achieve results through an ever-expanding network of partners

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Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund in Eastern Himalayas

Bhutan

- 1. Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex**

India

- 1. Kanchanjunga-Singhalila Corridor**
- 2. North Bank Landscape**

Nepal

- 1. Kangchenjunga-Singhalila corridor of Sacred Himalayan Landscape**
- 2. Critical Areas of Terai Arc Landscape**

CEPF Investment Strategy

-Conservation results

- 1. Species (extinction avoided)**
- 2. Site (areas protected) and**
- 3. Landscapes (biodiversity conservation corridors created)**

Civil Society Groups on the ground

In Bhutan-

- 1. Kuensel Corporation: Advocacy and Awareness Campaign on Biodiversity in Bhutan**
- 2. Norden Pines: Provision of sustainable and environmentally sound alternative for domestic energy in two pilot sites within the critical corridor connecting Thrumshingla National Park and Jigme Singye Wangchuck National Park.**
- 3. Royal Institute of Management: Management of Social Forestry in Bhutan**
- 4. Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature: Catalyse and support grassroots civil society engagement in the conservation of Bhutan's key biodiversity areas and conservation corridors.**
- 5. 10 Small grants**

Civil Society Groups on the ground


Pipeline

1. **Nature Conservation Committee of Tashi Yangtse-
Restoration of the Wintering Habitat of the Black-necked
Crane in and around Bumdeling Wildlife Sanctuary
Eastern Bhutan through Community Based Initiatives**
2. **World Wildlife Fund, Inc. -Biological Corridor Framework
for the Kingdom of Bhutan .**

In India-

1. **Aaranya, Aizawl:** Strengthening Key Biodiversity Areas of the Eastern Himalayan Landscape in eastern India using Geospatial technology and Civil Society
2. **Prerna, Darjeeling: Strengthen civil societies for improved resource management for conservation in Singhalila National Park**
3. **Prerna, Darjeeling:** Foundational Integrated Approach to Landscape Management and Conservation of Singhalila Reserve
4. **Prerna, Darjeeling:** Pygmy Hog Conservation in Singhalila National Park



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6. **Voluntary Health Association of Sikkim: To build the capacity of civil society for the conservation of biodiversity which special focus on livelihoods, sanitation and health and development in the Kangchenjunga - Singhalila areas of Sikkim State**
 7. **Bombay Natural History Society: Civil society networks for site conservation in North Bank Landscape India**
 8. **India: Asia Pacific Tsunami Relief Fund: To provide variable relief throughout the country with the focus on the coastal areas**
 9. **18 small grants**



Pipeline:

- 1. Federation of Societies for Environmental Protection - Community Based Approaches to Combating Illegal Activities in the Transboundary Area of the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex, Darjeeling, India**
- 2. Future Generations Arunachal Pradesh-Securing Land Tenure Policies towards Establishing Corridor Connectivity in Eagle's Nest, Pakke and Sessa Wildlife Sanctuaries**
- 3. Kaati Trust-Local Community Ecotourism in Eaglenest Wildlife Sanctuary- A Conservation Initiative**

In Nepal-

- ◆ **Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN): Developing Civil Society Networks to Conserve Key Biodiversity Areas in Nepal, Focusing on the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex**
- ◆ **Ethnobotanical Society of Nepal (ESON): Plant Biodiversity Inventory, Identification of Hotspots, and Conservation Strategies for Threatened Species and Habitats in Kangchenjunga-Singalila Ridge, Eastern Nepal**
- ◆ **Environmental Camps for Conservation Awareness (ECCA): Biodiversity Conservation Initiatives through Grassroots Participation**
- ◆ **Ilam Cooperation Council (ICC): Strengthening Civil Society for Bio-Diversity Conservation Support Project**
- ◆ **Namsaling Community Development Center (NCDC): Conservation Corridor and Livelihood Development**

In Nepal-

- 1. Red Panda Network-Nepal -Local Stewardship for Conservation of the Red Panda in Eastern Nepal**
- 2. Shree Deep Jyoti Youth Club-Conservation of Key Plant Species and their Habitats in Kangchenjunga Singalila Complex for Livelihood Improvement**
- 3. The East Foundation A Pre-Community Planning Project for Red Panda Conservation in Eastern Himalayas Region**
- 4. Kangchenjunga Landscape Concern Group-Establishment of Community Based Antipoaching Networks to Reduce Poaching and Trade in Endangered Wild Species of Flora and Fauna in Kangchenjunga Singhalila Complex, Nepal**
- 5. The Mountain Institute- Promoting Coordinated Community Based Landscape Conservation in the Trans-Boundary Region of the Kanchenjunga-Singalila Complex**
- 6. 13 Small grants**

Pipeline-

- 1. Ilam Co-operation Council-Exploration and Documentation of Traditional and Indigenous Knowledge System and Practices Associated to Kipat Land Forest Management and Development of Conservation Strategy in Kanchenjunga-Singhlila Complex of Nepal**

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INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

Strategic Direction

- **1. Build on existing landscape conservation initiatives to maintain and restore connectivity and to protect wide-ranging threatened species in priority corridors with a particular emphasis on the B2C2, Kangchenjunga-Singalila Complex, and NB Landscape.**

Investment Priorities

- **1.1 Identify important habitat linkages between site outcomes in the priority corridors**
- **1.2 Engage civil society in developing and implementing management plans for key habitat linkages**
- **1.3 Support targeted conservation education and awareness program among communities, schools, journalists and decision makers in priority corridors**
- **1.4 Promote forest management practices that benefit biodiversity conservation in the priority corridors**

INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

Strategic Direction

- **2. Secure the conservation of priority site outcomes (key biodiversity areas) in the eastern Himalayas with a particular emphasis on the Bhutan Biological Conservation Complex, Kangchenjunga-Singalila Complex, and North Bank Landscape**

Investment Priorities

- **2.1 Support targeted effort to manage, protect and monitor site outcomes (key biodiversity areas)**
- **2.2 Provide incremental support to effective, ongoing alternative livelihood projects with local communities that ease threats to and enhance conservation of priority sites.**
- **2.3 Support traditional land-and resource-use practices in the projects that will ensure effective conservation of priority sites**

INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

Strategic Direction

- **3. Leverage partnerships among donor agencies, civil society and government institutions to achieve priority biodiversity conservation outcomes over the long term.**

Investment Priorities

- **3.1 Strengthen and support government and civil society partnerships that result in new funding for achieving conservation outcomes in the eastern Himalayas**
- **3.2 Support training programs to protect, manage and monitor species, sites and corridors outcomes**
- **3.3 Develop and strengthen capacity among grassroots civil society organization to manage, monitor, and mitigate threats to biodiversity**
- **3.4 Support transboundary initiatives for conservation of wide – ranging species that require collaboration across international borders**



INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM
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Strategic Direction

4. Develop a small grants program to safeguard globally threatened species in the eastern Himalayas.

Investment Priorities

4.1 Support targeted, high-impact projects to conserve Critically Endangered and endemic species

4.2 Support action-oriented research to enable or improve the conservation of priority species outcomes

4.3 Implement a monitoring program for priority species outcomes

4.4 Support conservation assessments of lesser-known taxonomic groups (plants, invertebrates, fish) for inclusion into the IUCN Red list

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A faint, light blue world map is visible in the background of the slide, showing the continents and major landmasses.

Role of partners:

- 1. To work together to ensure biodiversity conservation initiatives get continuity (scale up, replication, leveraging)**
- 2. Transboundary Regional co-operation and coordination**
- 3. Research and documentation and ensuring that this feeds into planning and policy**
- 4. Innovations**
- 5. Policy Advocacy**
- 6. Learning and feedback**

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Role of ICIMOD-

- 1. Facilitate Regional and transboundary co-operation**
- 2. Facilitate policy advocacy nationally and regionally**
- 3. Providing more technical feedback to ongoing biodiversity conservation initiatives**
- 4. Communicating new ideas, innovations, lessons learnt for organizations**
- 5. Facilitate new partnerships, alliances and networking**
- 6. Capacity building on how to work on emerging mountain issues**