



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



WWF *for a living planet*®

Leader with Associates Cooperative Agreement

*LAG-A-00-99-00048-00
SSO 1 (934-001-01)*

*WWF Global Learning
Annual Report
10/01/2008 - 09/30/2009*

for

World Wildlife Fund

September 30, 2009
Submitted by:
Judy Oglethorpe/
Drew Crandall

WWF Global Learning

Project Overview

During the final year of GCP, WWF's learning focused on the following closeout activities:

1. Support to the preparation of a video illustrating GCP approaches and conservation results.
2. Organization of a GCP practitioners' symposium in which field practitioners from each GCP partner organization exchanged experiences from their projects on best practices, lessons, challenges and opportunities.
3. Participation in a public GCP meeting to share the lessons learned from the GCP2 approach with the broader conservation community, USAID and others.

Program Details

Activity 1: Production of an overview video on the Global Conservation Program

This activity was coordinated by the Wildlife Conservation Society and USAID's Biodiversity Team, with production by VideoTakes. A short video was produced entitled '*Changing the Landscape: Ten years of impact and learning in USAID's Global Conservation Program*'. The video celebrates the work of GCP in a dynamic, entertaining style for presentations before diverse audiences. It highlights GCP themes, cases and approaches representing both the marine and terrestrial portfolios of GCP, focusing on broad landscape conservation, threats based approach, governance, sustainability, and learning.

WWF staff participated in planning meetings for the video, contributed film from WWF GCP programs in the field, provided inputs to the video script, provided regional 'voices' for some of the voice-overs, and commented on drafts of the video. The video was launched at the Woodrow Wilson Center on 17 September 2009 to an invited audience. We are very grateful to WCS and USAID for their leading roles in the video production.

Activity 2: Symposium for GCP practitioners to network and reflect upon lessons-learned after 10 years of USAID support

The GCP symposium held at WWF-US headquarters in Washington DC on 15 and 16 September 2009 aimed to bring together GCP field practitioners to share best practices and lessons learned from the ten-year GCP experience, and enable them to learn more about a key emerging issue facing biodiversity conservation. This was the first occasion during GCP that field practitioners across the six organizations had come together to share results and lessons in a variety of fields.

Objectives of the symposium were:

- Review state-of-the-art information related to three major conservation topics: threats-based approach to conservation, networks of protected areas and enterprise/livelihood and governance issues.
- Identify important conservation lessons from GCP II.
- Provide networking opportunities for GCP practitioners.
- Celebrate ten years of conservation lessons.
- Orient participants to the fundamental concepts and issues related to climate change science and programs
- Showcase Global Conservation Program activities which address climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Identify key lessons and future directions for field activities in conservation.

Forty-six participants attended the September 15-16 meeting. They included GCP-supported field practitioners, a limited number of home office representatives from the GCP partner organizations, and the USAID GCP management team. The field practitioners came from Asia/Pacific (Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, Nepal), Africa (Tanzania, Kenya, Madagascar, Zimbabwe) and Latin America (Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Guatemala, Guyana, Mexico).

The format of the first day was a mix of presentations, plenary and small group discussions. Introductory remarks by Tom Dillon of WWF and Cynthia Gill of USAID offered an overview perspective on what GCP accomplished. For the three thematic sessions on the conservation topics of interest to participants (i.e., threats-based approach for adaptive management, marine and terrestrial protected areas networks and enterprise/livelihoods/governance), a State-of-the-Art speaker first provided perspective on the changes in conservation practices during the past ten years. The State-of-the-Art speakers included Mary Rowen/USAID (Threats-Based Approaches), Miguel Morales/CI (Terrestrial Protected Area Networks), Scott Smith/TNC (Marine Protected Area Networks), and Ann Koontz/EW/V (Enterprise/Livelihood and Governance). Then, a series of practitioners gave five-minute presentations on each theme about their field activities, results, lessons learned and future plans.

The second day focused on climate change, responding to requests from participants to cover climate adaptation and mitigation, specifically REDD (reduced environmental degradation and deforestation). Two morning presenters (Jeff Price - WWF and Patrick Smith - USAID) discussed the scientific, policy and programmatic aspects of climate change adaptation and mitigation, followed by an afternoon of presentations by the GCP field practitioners who had conservation project experiences with either climate change adaptation or mitigation. Joanna Durbin (Climate, Community and Biodiversity Alliance) responded to a panel of mitigation presentations. There was ample opportunity for both plenary and small group discussions, as well as brainstorming.

A summary of results and lessons from the symposium are contained in *Report of the Global Conservation Program's Final Symposium, September 15-16, 2009* by Nancy Diamond, which is being distributed to all participants. Powerpoint presentations are being placed on www.FRAMEweb.org.

Feedback from participants indicated that the event had been very useful, both for sharing GCP project results, tools and lessons, and for exploring the emerging issues of climate change

Global Conservation Program—World Wildlife Fund

adaptation and mitigation. A common comment was that one day was not long enough to present all the results of a ten-year, six-partner program (a good lesson for next time). Another common comment was that it would have been very useful to hold this type of event at different stages during GCP's life, and not just at the end, so that practitioners could benefit earlier from each other's approaches and lessons. While GCP partners at headquarters level came together frequently during the course of ten years, communication among practitioners from different GCP partner organizations was limited and tended to be focused on very specific themes (e.g. the marine protected area network learning group).

Activity 3: Outreach event to showcase the Global Conservation Program during its 10 years of USAID technical and financial support

An event was held at the Woodrow Wilson Center on 17 September, organized by USAID and WCS. It showcased the Global Conservation Program during its 10 years of USAID technical and financial support to AWF, CI, Enterprise Works/VITA, TNC, WCS and WWF. The invited audience included USAID staff, State Department staff, Hill staffers, conservation NGOs, consulting companies, and others. The program comprised:

1. Presentation by Cynthia Gill, USAID's Biodiversity and Forestry Team, on the history and achievements of GCP.
2. Presentations by GCP practitioners from all the NGO partners, highlighting and elaborating on themes, cases and approaches. Amani Ngusaru from WWF's Coastal East Africa program highlighted WWF's approach to marine conservation across borders, working at different levels using a strategy that includes international collaboration, support to national policy and legislation, establishment of a network of marine protected areas, and community management of marine resources.
3. The launch of the GCP video.
4. Presentation by John Robinson, WCS, on behalf of the GCP partners.
5. Presentation by USAID Bureau for Economic Growth and Trade - EGAT
6. Reception hosted by GCP partners where further networking took place.

The event helped to increase awareness of innovative GCP approaches within the Washington DC conservation community, USAID, other US government agencies, and beyond, and provided an opportunity for questions, both formally during the session, and informally at the reception. It further promoted exchanges among GCP partners, building on the Symposium. We believe that the public presentation of GCP results helped build pride in partner staff at having been part of this remarkable ten-year program.

Communication

These learning events in the final year of GCP had a major focus on communication and dissemination of GCP results to target audiences in Washington DC and beyond, and to GCP practitioners. Besides the many presentations and informal exchanges, practitioners brought GCP-funded publications to the Symposium and Woodrow Wilson Center event for information and distribution. The video is being widely distributed by all GCP partners.