



United Nations Development Programme
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)



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13 July, 1999

Dear Mr. El-Ashry,

Subject: **ARG/97/G31: Argentina: Consolidation and Implementation
of the Patagonia Coastal Zone Management Programme
for Biodiversity Conservation**

I am pleased to enclose the project entitled "Argentina: Consolidation and Implementation of the Patagonia Coastal Zone Management Programme for Biodiversity Conservation" approved by the GEF Executive Council in May 1997.

As per paragraph 29 and 30 of the GEF Project Cycle, we are submitting this project to you for circulation to the Executive Council Members for comments and, subsequently, for your final endorsement.

Thank you in advance for expediting the review and approval of this project.

Yours sincerely,


Rafael Asenjo
Executive Coordinator

Mr. Mohamed El-Ashry
Chief Executive Officer
Global Environment Facility
Room G6005
1776 G Street
Washington, D.C. 20433
PM

Response to Council Members' Comments on the project titled Argentina: Consolidation and Implementation of the Patagonian Coastal Zone Management Programme for Biodiversity Conservation

COMMENT	RESPONSE AND MODIFICATION TO PROJECT DOCUMENT
Council member representing France:	
<p>1. "This is a follow-up project to an initial GEF pilot-phase operation. At this stage, then inadequate justification at institutional and policy level. The guarantees for moving on to phase 2 are insufficiently detailed. The evaluation report on phase 1 (attached to the project document) provides insufficient information on this point."</p>	<p>With regards to the concern about guarantees for successfully moving on from phase I to phase II, it is important to reiterate the different phases and processes by which an integrated coastal zone management plan (ICZM) typically develops. The <i>first phase</i>, referred to as the <i>identification and assessment phase</i>, involves compiling, integrating, and prioritizing information that defines the environmental, social, economic and institutional context of the target region.</p> <p>This is followed by a <i>second phase</i> which involves the <i>actual preparation of the plan</i> or programme, the undertaking of <i>scientific research needed to fill the gaps</i> judged to be important to the understanding of the region, and the <i>formulation of specific objectives, policies, programmes and priority projects</i>. These two stages together commonly take between 3.5 and 6.5 years depending on the degree of information available, the history of stakeholder participation and the complexity of socio-economic and environmental conditions of the region.</p> <p>The <i>third phase</i> - formal adoption of the Coastal Zone Management Plan, involving the passage of legislation or official endorsement and funding for implementation of selected priority actions - marks the shift in focus from technical issues to the political process in which governance, and coordination aspects are of paramount importance requiring the full participation of governmental agencies and private sector interest groups which may alter the plan and/or affect its implementation. This includes not only the definition of institutional arrangements for co-ordination and implementation of the plan but also the development of clear management strategies, including practical delineation of roles and responsibilities.</p> <p><i>Phase four</i>, focuses on the implementation and initiation of priority actions within the limitations of available funding, testing new policies, consolidating the governance process</p>

COMMENT	RESPONSE AND MODIFICATION TO PROJECT DOCUMENT
	<p>and mobilizing additional resources for the implementation of further actions and programmes. The <i>fifth and final phase</i> of a complete cycle corresponds to the evaluation of the CZMP before progressing to the first phase of the next cycle in which a further set of priority issues to be addressed are identified. The full development of an ICZM programme normally evolves through five specific steps or phases over a period of eight to twelve years.</p> <p>The current project is situated between phases 2 (planning) and 4 (implementation) of a typical ICZM development cycle. As mentioned above, the consolidation of institutional structures for coordination and management functions is imperative at this stage. To this end, the project will focus its efforts on establishing and operationalizing the <i>Provincial Coastal Management Committees</i>, and subsequently the <i>Regional Coastal Zone Committee</i>. It is important to highlight that the proposed institutional structure is the result of extensive consultations at both the Provincial and Federal levels, both prior to the formulation of the approved Project brief, and subsequently at the Project Document formulation stage. Discussions centered on the viability, and operational efficacy of these institutional structures, including the definition of technical support needs for their effective functioning (please see paragraph 39 of the Project Document). While, evidently, no definitive guarantees exist to fully ensure the successful operations of the proposed <i>Provincial Committees</i>, project implementers are cognizant of the potential risks involved (see PPM in Annex C) and as such, have incorporated the necessary safeguards into project design, including monitoring and evaluation provisions.</p>
<p>2. "No guarantees are offered regarding the follow-up to Phase II; in particular, concerning how the recurrent costs would be covered. There is a plan to participate in a trust fund for providing financing over the long term, but further information should be given regarding the mechanism and the sources of cofinancing."</p>	<p>With regards to recurrent costs and the follow-up to this Phase II, it is important to point out that the long-term continuity of the proposed ICZM for biodiversity conservation is predicated on a larger programmatic package than the proposed GEF alternative exclusively. Complementary baseline initiatives, including significant loans and investments by the GoA in coastal resource management and capacity building efforts, will equally contribute, in their combined capacity, to the on-going consolidation and long-term continuity of ICZM efforts in the Provinces of Patagonia. In addition, and as described in paragraphs 34-36 of the project document, existing threats and barriers to marine and coastal biodiversity conservation are being addressed not only through baseline financing, but also through the</p>

COMMENT	RESPONSE AND MODIFICATION TO PROJECT DOCUMENT
	<p>complementary interventions of UNDP/GEF and WB/GEF. It is expected that the resulting mix of baseline, investment, and technical assistance will effectively ensure and sustain the long-term continuity of programmed operations beyond the individual project life cycles.</p> <p>While the Project Brief suggested the design and capitalization of a Trust Fund to cover recurrent costs, subsequent discussions in-country and a closer review of pilot-phase recommendations suggest that a systematic application of economic instruments such as reserve entrance fees (coupled with legislation that targets revenues for reserve management and implementation of the PCZMP) is likely to be a more viable approach in this context. As reinforced by the Trust Fund Evaluation study, in this context there are some large up-front costs involved in establishing an effective network of MPAs, establishing the institutional foundation and capacities for provincial coastal zone planning and management and extending pilot-phase lessons to the fourth coastal province of Tierra del Fuego. It was felt that the subsequent level of activity could be sustained through the use of economic instruments such as entrance fees, user permits, and brown taxes (please see paragraph 48 of the Project Document). Analyses related to the various means for ensuring the effective return of these resources to MPA's upkeep and management and coastal zone management will also be key activities contemplated by the project in Activity 2.4. Furthermore, management plans for marine and coastal protected areas include as a fundamental component of their management, financing plans to meet recurrent costs of conservation activities through the use of such economic instruments (see Activity 3.1, first bullet).</p>

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PROJECT DOCUMENT

CONSOLIDATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PATAGONIA COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

(ARG/97/G31)

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

Project of the Government of Argentina

PROJECT DOCUMENT

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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

PROJECT DOCUMENT

1. IDENTIFIERS

Project Number:	ARG/97/G31
Project Name:	Argentina: Consolidation and Implementation of the Patagonia Coastal Zone Management Programme for Biodiversity Conservation.
Duration:	5 years
Implementing Agency:	UNDP
Executing Agency:	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Requesting Country or Countries:	Argentina
Eligibility:	CBD Ratification, 22 November 1994
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity
GEF Programming Framework:	OP#2, Coastal, Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems

2. SUMMARY

The project builds on the achievements of the Pilot Phase project and is designed to consolidate and implement the *Patagonia Coastal Zone Management Programme for Biodiversity Conservation* by: consolidating the institutional framework for long-term coastal zone planning and biodiversity conservation management; initiating sub-programmes for the adoption of biodiversity-friendly production practices along the Patagonian coastline; establishing and operationalizing a Patagonia Protected Areas Network; and developing awareness-raising programmes regarding the value of coastal and marine biodiversity. The project will be implemented in all four of the Provinces of Patagonia, by replicating the Pilot Phase experience in the fourth Patagonia province, Tierra del Fuego.

3. PROJECT COSTS AND FINANCING (MILLION US\$)

GEF:	Full Project	5,200,000
	(of which administrative costs are	156,000)
	PDF	None
	Subtotal	5,200,000
Co-financing:	Government (in-kind)	7,300,000
	IDB/GoA	1,000,000
	CNP/FPN (in-kind)	500,000
	Subtotal	8,800,000
Total Project Cost:		14,000,000

4. ASSOCIATED FINANCING (MILLION US\$):

IDB/GoA program for integrated environmental management of the coastal zone (US\$ 26 million); IDB/GoA/WB Municipality Strengthening Program (US\$3.9 million); WB/ Japan Exim/ GoA program for monitoring and treatment of industrial effluents and waste water (US\$ 18.3 million); IDB/GoA Modernization of Port System (US\$ 65 million). Note: Exact amounts under negotiation.

5. OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT ENDORSEMENT:

Name: Silvia Garcia
Title: General Division of International Cooperation
Organization: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Argentina
Date: 4 March 1997

6. GEF IMPLEMENTING AGENCY CONTACT: Lita Paparoni, Regional Coordinator, Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, Tel: (212) 906 5468, Fax: (212) 906 6688, email: lita.paparoni@undp.org

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at Point Indiscret
State Court
General Division of International Cooperation
Ministry of Justice
4 March 1997
to the Latin American Agency Contact, the Regional Regional Coordinator
Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) (212) 906 5268 Fax (212) 906 5
the paper@undp.org
C/TEMP/...
IN/2005/...

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AOP	Asociacion Ornitologica del Plata
CADIC	Centro Austral de Investigaciones Cientificas
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CENPAT	Centro Nacional Patagonico
CMC	Coastal Management Committees
CMEC	Comisiones Ejecutivas Manejo Costero
CNP	Consejo Nacional Pesquero
CONICET-CADIC	Centro Austral de Inversiones Cientificas
CZM	Coastal Zone Management
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessments
FARN	Fundacion Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
FPN	Fundacion Patagonia Natural
FVSA	Fundacion Vida Silvestre
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographic Information System
GoA	Government of Argentina
ICZMP	Integrated Coastal Zone Management Programme
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
INIDEP	The National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (<i>Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Desarrollo Pesquero</i>)
NGO	Non-government Organizations
PAs	Protected Areas
PCMC	Provincial Coastal Management Committees
PCZMP	Patagonia Coastal Zone Management Programme
PDF	Project Development Funds
PEC	Project Executive Committee
PIR	Portfolio Implementation Review
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
RCMC	Regional Coastal Management Committees
SAE	San Antonio Estu
SAO	San Antonio Oeste
SRNyDS	Secretariat for Natural Resources and Sustainable Development (<i>Secretaría de Recursos Naturales y Desarrollo Sustentable</i>)
STAP	Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel
TORs	Terms of Reference
USD	US Dollars
WB	World Bank
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society

A. PROJECT SUMMARY

1. The primary objective of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) is the "improvement in the quality of life of human communities who depend on coastal resources while maintaining the biological diversity and productivity of coastal ecosystems¹. The full development of an ICZM programme normally evolves through five specific steps or phases over a period of eight to twelve years.
2. The *first phase* in the process - referred to as the identification and assessment phase - involves compiling, integrating, and prioritizing information that defines the environmental, social, economic and institutional context of the target region. This is followed by a *second phase* which involves the actual preparation of the plan or programme, the undertaking of scientific research needed to fill the gaps judged to be important to the understanding of the region, and the formulation of goals, specific objectives, policies, programmes and priority projects. *These two stages together commonly take between 3.5 and 6.5 years* depending on the degree of information available, the history of stakeholder participation and the complexity of socio-economic and environmental conditions of the region.
3. The *third phase* - formal adoption of the Coastal Zone Management Plan, involving the passage of legislation or official endorsement and funding for implementation of selected priority actions - *marks the shift in focus from technical issues to the political process* in which governance, and coordination aspects are of paramount importance requiring the full participation of governmental agencies and private sector interest groups which may alter the plan and/or affect its implementation. This includes not only the definition of institutional arrangements for co-ordination and implementation of the plan but also the development of clear management strategies, including practical delineation of roles and responsibilities.
4. Plan implementation follows as *phase four* and focuses on the initiation of priority actions within the limitations of available funding, testing new policies, consolidating the governance process and mobilizing additional resources for the implementation of further actions and programmes. The *fifth and final phase* of a complete cycle corresponds to the evaluation of the CZMP before progressing to the first phase of the next cycle in which a further set of priority issues to be addressed are identified.
5. The project proposed here builds on the products and accomplishments of the three-year, US\$ 2.8 million Pilot Phase project entitled *Patagonia Coastal Zone Management Plan*, and is the last phase for which incremental financing will be required. The Pilot Phase project - implemented by Fundacion Patagonia Natural (FPN) in three of the four provinces of Patagonia: Chubut, Santa Cruz, and Rio Negro - focussed on establishing a process for a coordinated, multisectoral approach to conservation of coastal and marine biodiversity based on sound scientific information, analysis of the relationships between sectoral development and biodiversity, and assessment, consultations, and preliminary design of the most effective institutional framework to carry out an inter-provincial strategy for the conservation of coastal biodiversity.

¹ GESAMP, 1996. Meeting of International Group of Experts on Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental protection -(GESAMP)

6. This strategy recognizes that specific actions and programmes to remedy the threats presently affecting coastal biodiversity will not be effective if implemented in an isolated manner by individual Provinces and Municipalities. The specific characteristics of the 3,500 km Patagonian coast - with its globally significant biodiversity falling primarily under the jurisdiction of four provinces - has resulted in a fragmented approach to the management, use and conservation of the region's coastal and marine resources. Coordinated actions among the four provinces of the region are imperative if adequate protection of marine and coastal species, habitats and migratory routes is to be achieved. The formal establishment of provincial and inter-provincial management structures is required to implement, coordinate and monitor management and conservation actions in a coherent and comparable manner.

7. The principal output of the Pilot Phase Project was a strategic framework for investment and technical assistance for biodiversity conservation in Santa Cruz, Chubut and Rio Negro provinces within the context of ongoing planning for economic development. The project produced the following:

- (i) Previously unavailable scientific baseline data on coastal biodiversity, including species distributions and migratory patterns, their foraging areas and nesting and breeding grounds;
- (ii) An analysis of the impacts and inter-relationships between sectoral development, habitat preservation and wildlife populations, including recommendations for the incorporation of conservation and sustainable resource use principles for each of Patagonia's leading productive sectors: fisheries, tourism, and oil.
- (iii) Maps and GIS outputs for appropriate development planning and monitoring based on a comprehensive zoning of the coast into high vulnerability sites for protection, multiple use areas, and areas of sustainable resource use and extraction potential;
- (iv) A preliminary stocktaking assessment of legal and scientific information for each of the primary areas of coastal resource use: fisheries, tourism, pollution, and how they affect biodiversity;
- (v) Increased public awareness and ownership through stakeholder participation in the design of the Plan, including the establishment of partnerships between government, universities, NGOs and the private sector;
- (vi) The identification and initiation of the necessary intra-and inter-provincial institutional management structures capable of undertaking an integrated, coordinated approach to long-term coastal resource management for sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity.

8. A high level evaluation of the GEF Pilot Phase project² - using a widely accepted phased approach to coastal zone management as an evaluation instrument - concluded that the Pilot Phase Project made comparable or better progress than most coastal zone management

initiatives within the bounds of a three year period. It praised the project on making particular progress in the establishment of a scientifically sound baseline; in identification of priority issues to be addressed in an implementation phase; in initiating effective consultations with stakeholders regarding conservation and sustainable use; in the integration between provincial and community levels for a common approach to planning and management of coastal biodiversity; in public education and outreach; as well as in early implementation actions. The evaluation placed the Patagonian process between phases 2 (planning) and 4 (implementation) in a typical ICZMP cycle and pointed out that "world experience repeatedly demonstrates that the most crucial juncture in a first generation ICZMP is the transition between a phase devoted primarily to planning and research to an initial implementation phase."

9. The project proposed herein will provide the institutional foundations to coordinate the implementation of a Coastal Zone Management Programme for biodiversity conservation, and initiate sub-programmes for the adoption of biodiversity friendly production practices along the Patagonian coastline. It will establish an inter-provincial Protected Areas Network for the Patagonia coast, initiate a sub-programme for the adoption of biodiversity-friendly production practices by overcoming technical, legal and information barriers, and consolidate and strengthen the institutional framework for long-term coastal zone planning and management aimed at biodiversity conservation and the adoption of biodiversity friendly production practices. The project will be implemented in all four of the Provinces of Patagonia, by replicating the Pilot Phase experience in the fourth Patagonia province, Tierra del Fuego. The coastal zone and the natural resources are the patrimony of the above four provinces and management falls under the mandate of the four governments. The PCZMP is designed as a technical tool with the sole purpose of strengthening the capacity of the four provincial governments to protect the biodiversity of their coastal zone and ensure that the biological resources contained therein are used sustainably. This project seeks to provide technical assistance to the Government of Argentina and the participating Provincial governments for the Consolidation and implementation of the PCZMP.

B. COUNTRY AND SECTOR CONTEXT

B.1 GLOBALLY SIGNIFICANT BIODIVERSITY

10. Argentinean Patagonia is often regarded as the resource frontier of Argentina. A national programme provides direct incentives for development in Patagonia making it the fastest growing region of the country. With a 3,500 km coastline stretching between Rio Negro and the Straits of Magellan, the South West Atlantic coastal region that borders Patagonia is one of the richest, most highly productive, temperate marine ecosystems in the world. The southward coastal waters flowing over the vast and shallow continental shelf coupled with the cold, northward flowing Malvinas current, have given rise to waters rich in nutrients that support enormous populations of plankton and in turn a wide range of marine wildlife.

11. Although lower in absolute species diversity than tropical ecosystems, this region is characterized by its wildlife's great biomass, the relatively high percentage of endemic species and the fact that it provides breeding and feeding sites for many other species of global importance. While Patagonia has long been well-known for these globally exceptional biological resources, only recently has accurate scientific information been systematically collected -

through the GEF Pilot Phase Project *Patagonia Coastal Zone Management Plan* - to estimate their abundance and distribution, assess their temporal and spatial use, evaluate actual and potential impacts and make recommendations to minimize them.

12. This project has provided detailed information on the seasonally dense populations of large marine birds and mammals that live in highly localized and clearly interdependent assemblages or colonies. Seals, sea lions, penguins, cormorants, gulls, and terns occur in colonies, commonly with thousands of individuals. Although scattered along the entire coastline, these colonies are not regularly distributed. A combination of the patterns of the cold marine currents and the seasonal winds blowing from the continent from September to November give rise to conditions of outstanding marine productivity in specific localities along the coast. These localities, such as the Valdes Peninsula, the north of the San Jorge Gulf, from Puerto Deseado to Punta Buque and the Beagle Canal, provide ideal breeding and feeding conditions for a wide range of species and constitute zones of globally outstanding biodiversity and/or abundance of unique species.

13. The southern elephant seal (*Mirounga leonina*) breeds between August and November on the Peninsula Valdes in harems containing 10 to 15 females, and is the only population of this species in the world that is increasing in number with approximately 12,000 young per year. The San Jorge Gulf and Golfo Nuevo in the province of Chubut are among the few remaining breeding sites of the southern right whale (*Eubalaena australis*). Almost 2,500 individuals - representing a third of the world's population of this endangered species - breed in these localities.

14. Various species of dolphin such as the Dusky Dolphin (*Lagenorhynchus obscurus*) and Common Dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*) are widely distributed along the coast with approximately 9,300 individuals of the former being recorded in the 15,000 square nautical miles between Punta Ninfas and Cabo Blanco. Commerson's Dolphin (*Cephalorhynchus commersonii*, endemic to the Southern Cone, have a more limited distribution. Swimming in pods of ten to twenty that come close to the shore, between 1,500 and 3,800 individuals are thought to live in the 3,000 square nautical miles in the north of Santa Cruz. There are 75 colonies of sea lions. The South American Sea Lion (*Otaria flavescens*) has a population calculated at 75 to 80,000 individuals whilst the Southern Fur Seal is more scarce with approximately 20,000 individuals remaining.

15. Marine birds from the region have also been better documented through the Pilot Phase project. The endemic Magellanic penguin (*Spheniscus magellanicus*) breeds in vast colonies between September and March, in the Punta Tombo colony of 250,000 breeding pairs, representing the largest continental penguin colony outside of Antarctica. 150 colonies of between 1 and 8 species are distributed in 71 localities. Many of these localities are shared with the breeding and resting sites of sea lions and elephant seals. In total, 16 species of marine birds nest in areas along the coast, including the Grey Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax gaimardi*), endemic to the Southern Cone. 40 marine bird species regularly use the waters of the Patagonian Continental Platform for feeding and the coast provides resting sites for many migratory species of birds of international importance such as the Imperial Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax atriceps*); the Petrel gigante del Sur (*Macronectes giganteus*); the Gaviotin Real (*Sterna maxima*); and the Albatros Ceja Negra (*Diomedea melanophrys*), to name a few.

16. This high coastal productivity, diversity and biomass of globally outstanding ecological importance, represents an area of great economic significance to Argentina. Patagonia has one

of the world's largest continental and maritime zones of over 1 million km². Patagonian waters support one of the fastest growing commercial high-seas fisheries in the world with over 60% of total Argentine landings being caught in this region. Of the total Argentine fisheries income of US\$ 720 million, 427 million come from Patagonia with the offshore fleet generating US \$ 396 million and coastal fisheries US\$ 76 million.

17. The uniquely accessible breeding colonies of charismatic species such as penguins, sea lions, whales and dolphins support a fast-growing tourism business of increasing economic value estimated presently at US\$ 54 million annually to the region. With predicted increases in tourism globally, especially in nature related tourism, this sector is projected to increase rapidly in the near future. This is illustrated by the increase in the number of whale watchers from 15,000 in 1992 to over 40,000 in 1996.

B.2 THREATS TO BIODIVERSITY

18. While much of this vast coastline is still in pristine conditions, the globally outstanding productivity and diversity of this region, upon which these important economic sectors clearly depend, is coming increasingly under threat (a tabulated presentation of proximate threats, underlying causes and proposed actions is outlined in Annex J). The *oil industry* currently generates the largest income in the region at approximately US\$ 1.100 million per year. At the current rate of consumption the revenues have only an estimated lifetime of 10.2 years. Coastal oil wells, loading facilities and petroleum tankers are subjecting the area to increasing numbers of oil spills caused among other reasons by illegal ballast washings. A large number of penguins die each year as a consequence of chronic oil pollution at sea. This not only represents a serious threat to this species and other birds, but could also result in losses to the region through decreased tourism activity that would accompany any significant reduction in wildlife. New offshore drilling is increasing in many areas of the vast continental shelf and with it the risks of accidental spills.

19. *Urban pollution* of coastal waters is also increasing from untreated sewage being discharged directly into the sea. Around 1.5 million people live in the four provinces Santa Cruz, Chubut, Río Negro and Tierra del Fuego. Although still sparsely populated, the majority of the population lives along the coast distributed in 15 towns. It has been the fastest growing region in Argentina for the last 20 years with the population of Puerto Madryn, in the Province of Chubut, for example, increasing from 9,000 to 50,000 inhabitants during the referred period. In addition, solid waste sites are causing growing populations of kelp gulls, which harass and compete with other coastal and marine wildlife.

20. The fast growing *commercial fishing industry* is also exerting its pressure on biodiversity of the area. Between 1993 and 1996 the South Atlantic high sea fisheries doubled its catch, and some stocks, particularly that of hake, are in decline. This over-fishing not only puts at risk this valuable fishery but also exerts pressure on all wildlife by reducing available food. Near-shore trawling fisheries represent less of a threat with 30,000 tons per year or 6% of the total fisheries catch. Nevertheless, studies on coastal fisheries - primarily conducted through the "on board observers program" of Phase 1 of the Project — show that the individuals of the target species returned to sea (reject rate) can reach 25% because they are outside the commercially acceptable size. The "by-catch" (those species returned to sea because of their lack of market and hence no commercial value) can reach as high as six out of every seven species of

fish caught. Whilst accurate by-catch figures for off-shore fishing are not available they are thought to be in the same order (for example, sometimes as much as 50% of the catch weight in squid fishing—commonly thought of as a highly selective - is discarded into the sea). In total, fish waste represents approximately four hundred thousand tons a year, representing a significant unused resource and creating problems of decomposition and associated changes in water quality. It also attracts large flocks of birds, especially kelp gulls, which show signs of increasing population. With the prospect of a collapse in hake fisheries, the potential development of a major anchovy fishery further threatens the preservation of coastal wildlife, much of which is largely dependant on anchovies.

21. **Tourism**, while providing one of the most promising economic alternatives to the area, must be carefully planned to avoid increased pressures on faunal populations, and environmental and landscape quality which form the resource base for this sector. Wildlife reserves rarely include maritime zones that protect foraging territories critical to the effective protection of the areas in question. Furthermore, they are poorly managed - most do not have management plans - with insufficient facilities for administration, control and monitoring, and information for the tourist. Visitors can come too close to breeding animals causing disturbances and changes in reproductive success. Entrance fees are often low, poorly charged and there is an unclear return of this income to the administration of the reserves. Carrying capacity for these reserves has not been calculated, appropriate infrastructure and tourist services rarely exist thereby impeding tourism planning in concordance with the capacity of the region. Of particular importance is that of water supply in a region of scarce water. Signs of stress to this resource are already seen in centers such as Puerto Madryn which suffer frequent water cuts during the tourist high season. Pressures on this resource will directly effect tourism through increased levels of discomfort and also indirectly through the effects on wildlife from the resultant increase in contamination.

B.3 INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

22. At the *national level*, environmental protection in Argentina falls under the responsibility of the Secretariat for Natural Resources and Sustainable Development (SRNyDS) directly under the Presidency of the Republic. Biodiversity conservation *in situ* falls mainly under the responsibility of the National Parks Administration, an autonomous body within the framework of the SRNyDS that administers *national* protected areas. It comprises 13 regional administrative divisions with technical support from four regional technical delegations, one of which is in Patagonia.

23. At the *provincial level*, protected areas fall under the responsibility of the respective Provincial Secretariats and Directorates charged with environmental protection. Within each government, the management of natural resources is partitioned in offices entrusted with oversight of wildlife utilization, fisheries, tourism and development. Specific responsibilities and functions vary with each province's institutional structure. In addition, most of the municipalities have related departments that differ in size, scope of activities, capacities and issues within their mandate and jurisdiction.

24. The coastal zone of Patagonia falls under the jurisdiction of the four provincial governments, Rio Negro, Chubut, Santa Cruz and Tierra del Fuego. In general, the Provinces exercise exclusive rights to manage resources within their boundaries, while federal agencies limit themselves to implementing management actions only in those areas which fall under

federal jurisdiction (e.g., sub-soil resources and distant seas fisheries) or address international trade.

25. Argentina has taken important steps to address the loss of important biodiversity not only in Patagonia but also throughout the national territory. It is Party to several international conventions related to the protection of biodiversity including Ramsar, CITES, Bonn and the Convention on Biological Diversity. In accordance with Article 6 of the latter, Argentina is presently formulating a *National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan* based on regional assessments and needs, including those of the Patagonian region. In this regard, both baseline information, as well as the multisectoral institutional structures put in place by the Pilot Phase Project, are considered instrumental for the effective implementation of these assessments, one of which will be in Patagonia. It is expected that these assessments will designate coastal zone management and conservation in Patagonia as a priority issue within the National Biodiversity and Action Plan.

26. In 1994, the National Constitution underwent a major reform with environmental protection becoming a prominent component of the Constitution. Article 41 of this Constitution establishes the need for minimum standards in a variety of environmental issues. These are presently being drawn up in a General Environment Law expected to be finalized soon. Provincial and Municipal Constitutions have also undergone similar reforms and give special attention to the environment, including mandating Environmental Impact Assessments for all new developments. In the case of Provincial and Municipal governments, recent legal reforms have also reflected the findings and recommendations emitted by the Pilot Phase Project regarding integrated coastal zone management and conservation. Furthermore, Pilot Phase Project baseline information and zoning activities on coastal and biodiversity resources - particularly on the linkages/ impacts between productive sector activity and ecosystem integrity - will be critical tools for the effective realization of the mandatory EIAs, as well as in overall development planning.

27. In 1995, the Argentine Parliament held preparatory meetings on biodiversity legislation in the Ecology Commission of the Senate and a draft biodiversity law is presently under discussion. In this case, recommendations and baseline information provided by the Pilot Phase Project facilitated the definition of priority actions and remedial measures considered essential for coastal ecosystem management and conservation at the national level. While the biodiversity law is still in draft form it is expected to contain enabling provisions supportive of the objectives of this project.

28. In addition, Argentina has an important foundation for biodiversity conservation in its national and provincial systems of protected areas. At the national level, 29 protected areas under four different management categories cover 2.9 million hectares. Some 197 provincial reserves cover a further 11 million hectares, however, many of these do not have surveillance or management of any kind. The system of National Parks is presently being strengthened through a loan from the World Bank that has recently started with an important component to consolidate and develop National Parks in interior Patagonia through infrastructure investments, training and institutional strengthening at both the national and regional level. None of these parks however cover marine or coastal areas.

29. Associated with the above-mentioned loan is a biodiversity conservation proposal currently being prepared with GEF Project Development Funds through the World Bank. The

fully developed project is expected to create and consolidate *National Parks* in globally important ecosystems that are presently insufficiently covered under the National Protected Area System. The area to be designated on the Patagonia Coast - Monte Leon, an area under federal jurisdiction - will develop a management plan that will incorporate the needs and expectations of communities already living in the area.

B.4 PRIOR AND ONGOING ASSISTANCE: COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT INITIATIVES

30. At the *national level*, the Argentine Senate is presently drafting a preliminary version of a Coastal Zone Management Law. Although at a very initial stage and focusing principally on restoration activities in the Buenos Aires area, this Law represents a growing concern at the national level for sound management of coastal zones.

31. *IDB loan for coastal zone management in Patagonia.* The GoA is currently negotiating with the IDB a prefeasibility study to identify the requirements for coastal management at the *Federal* and *Provincial* levels and outline an initial national coastal zone management plan with provincial components to be further developed and implemented through a loan. In addition, the inter-provincial institutional structure, to be consolidated with the project proposed here, will permit more effective coordination of future investments and their execution in a programmatic and complementary manner.

32. At the *Provincial level*, the principal initiative related to coastal zone management pertains to the GEF-financed Pilot Phase project whose principal objective was to "*provide the coastal zone of Patagonia with the tools for implementing the sustainable use of its biological resources and for protecting its biological diversity*". Implemented by the Patagonian NGO, Fundacion Patagonia Natural, and the Wildlife Conservation Society, the project provided a far-reaching compendium of base-line information regarding coastal resources and their use, and collected important new data on the relationships of wildlife, ecotourism, pollution and fisheries. In collaboration with a wide range of government institutions, research centers and other NGOs, the project held training courses, public hearings, meetings and workshops of the provincial coastal management working groups, and significantly raised the awareness of Patagonia's coastal communities regarding the region's biodiversity.

33. The project culminated in a *diagnosis* of the present state of Patagonia's coastal biodiversity and its relation to the tourism and coastal and artisan fisheries sectors, as well as of the present education and outreach deficiencies. Based on this, it outlined recommendations for *management and mitigation actions* in five thematic areas: coastal wildlife management; sustainable fishing; prevention of marine contamination; promotion of responsible tourism, and strengthening of protected areas.

34. These five thematic areas will be addressed through a programmatic approach carried out by UNDP and the World Bank: the World Bank - through a forthcoming initiative - will focus on oil spill contingency planning and management, mitigation of threats related to coastal shipping and land-based sources of pollution (urban, industrial, agricultural), and distant seas commercial fisheries management. UNDP through the present project will address those pertaining to coastal wildlife management; biodiversity friendly fishing practices for near-shore and artisan fisheries; and strengthening of protected areas, including ecotourism development.

35. The thematic areas related to protected areas and wildlife management contain general recommendations to be applied throughout the region and specific recommendations for high vulnerability areas (see Annexes G and H). These areas were identified as crucial for the conservation of Patagonian coastal biodiversity. They range from extensive tracts of the coast - including islands and adjacent marine areas - requiring zoning into areas of differential use, to other more geographically restricted zones that have important colonies and groups of marine birds and mammals. The recommendations for each area not only include a proposed category of protection, but also concrete actions related to the mitigation of major threats to biodiversity.

36. The five thematic areas represent five separate but complementary sub-programmes which constitute the framework of a Patagonian Coastal Zone Management Programme (PCZMP) for the protection of biodiversity within the ongoing development of the region. In order to ensure that this programmatic approach is maintained, one of the major responsibilities of the Project Executive Committee and the Project Implementation Unit will be to coordinate activities with the World Bank-funded project³. This will facilitate the sharing of lessons and exchange of information which is particularly important since activities undertaken under one project could provide useful inputs into those proposed under the other project.

C. PROJECT OBJECTIVE, OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES

37. The global environment objective of the project is to conserve globally important marine and coastal biodiversity in Patagonia's coastal ecosystem by integrating conservation and biodiversity friendly production practices into regional coastal planning and management. The project's purpose is to ensure that national, provincial and local stakeholders are able to effectively manage and plan resource use in the context of integrated coastal zone management.

OUTPUT 1: INCORPORATION OF THE PROVINCE OF TIERRA DEL FUEGO INTO THE PATAGONIA COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

38. The Pilot Phase project focussed on three of the four Patagonian provinces; Chubut, Rio Negro and Santa Cruz. With the experience of the Pilot Phase, this project will extend its coverage to the entire Patagonia coastal zone by implementing activities in Tierra del Fuego. These activities will adopt the best practices derived from Pilot Phase experience in the other three provinces. A Provincial Coastal Zone Management Committee will be established, stakeholder consultative processes initiated, and scientific analyses undertaken of coastal zone issues related to biodiversity conservation to establish baseline information. At the same time, this project will initiate key activities in conjunction with those under the other outputs described below. As such, the project will: replicate the process of consultation and participatory design that was successfully proven in the Pilot Phase Project to cover the coastal zone of the province of Tierra del Fuego; undertake a diagnosis of the relationships of wildlife, ecotourism, pollution and fisheries determining the present state of globally important coastal biodiversity; establish a baseline of information for the primary areas of coastal resources and their use to

³ The World Bank Project Document and specific institutional arrangements are currently being finalized. It is envisaged that the provincial counterpart of SRNyDS (the lead national institution for the WB/GEF project) will be represented on the Provincial Coastal Management Committees established by the project. This will ensure close links and exchange of information between the two initiatives.

provide a benchmark against which implementation can be measured and identify priority actions for implementation as part of the PCZMP.

Activities for Output 1:

Activity 1.1 Coordinate activities for gathering biodiversity baseline information on Tierra del Fuego and developing management recommendations for effective management and conservation.

Negotiate agreements with the Province of Tierra del Fuego and the Municipalities of Ushuaia and Rio Grande for implementing project activities, including counterpart support and project coordination arrangements.

- Negotiate agreements with CONICET-CADIC for use of office and laboratory space and Universidad de la Patagonia for counterpart coordination arrangements for implementation of project activities.

Conduct workshop with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders to define research priorities for coastal and marine wildlife conservation and management, sustainable fishing-techniques, and pollution mitigation measures.

Activity 1.2 Collect baseline information on coastal wildlife of Tierra del Fuego and develop management recommendations for the protection of coastal and marine wildlife.

Define research activities and methodology.

Conduct technical/scientific training of research participants.

- Conduct field surveys (aerial surveys, overland expeditions and boat trips) to update or gather new baseline data corresponding to coastal wildlife (population, distribution) and interactions between fisheries and wildlife in the coastal region. Carry out detailed surveys in proposed protected areas (Reserva Costa Atlantica and Canal de Beagle).
- Develop a document containing a current diagnosis and recommendations for management of coastal wildlife.

Distribute the *Status and Recommendations Report* among stakeholders for comment and subsequent endorsement.

Activity 1.3 Collect baseline information and develop management recommendations for integrated, responsible coastal wildlife based tourism in Tierra del Fuego.

- Define research activities and methodology.

Conduct technical/scientific training of research participants.

- Conduct eco-tourism surveys (number, composition, trend, economic analysis) centered on Ushuaia, Rio Grande and protected areas on the coast. Survey interaction between eco-tourism and coastal biodiversity in Tierra del Fuego.
- Develop a *Status and Recommendations Report* containing a current diagnosis and recommendations for management of coastal eco-tourism.
- Distribute the *Status Report* among stakeholders for comment and subsequent endorsement.

Activity 1.4 Collect baseline information and develop management recommendations for integrated, responsible coastal fisheries in Tierra del Fuego.

- Define research activities and methodology.
- Conduct technical/scientific training of research participants.
- Conduct baseline data surveys (catch, by-catch and discarded waste) on coastal fisheries in collaboration with coastal fishermen.
- Develop a *Status and Recommendation Report* containing a current diagnosis and recommendations for management of coastal fisheries.
- Distribute the *Status Report* among stakeholders for comment and subsequent endorsement.

Activity 1.5 Collect baseline information on pollution affecting coastal biodiversity in Tierra del Fuego and develop preventive management recommendations.

- Define research activities and methodology.
- Conduct technical/scientific training of research participants.
- Gather samples in the field and conduct laboratory analysis.
- Develop a *Status and Recommendations Report* containing a current diagnosis and recommendations for management of coastal pollution.
- Distribute the *Status Report* among stakeholders for comment and subsequent endorsement.

OUTPUT 2: CONSOLIDATE AND STRENGTHEN THE PROVINCIAL AND INTER-PROVINCIAL COORDINATING FRAMEWORK FOR LONG-TERM COASTAL ZONE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT AIMED AT BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY-FRIENDLY PRODUCTION PRACTICES.

39. Based on the Pilot Phase experience in regard to provincial and inter-provincial coordination, the project will consolidate multisectoral coordinating and decision-making structures by: i) formalizing and consolidating the *Provincial Coastal Management Committees*; ii) formally establishing a *Regional Coastal Management Committee*; and iii) strengthening the

management and technical advisory functions of technical support groups and/or organizations supporting the Provincial and the Regional Coastal Management Committees. The project will also replicate the Pilot Phase experience in the fourth Patagonia province, Tierra del Fuego, by establishing its multisectoral Provincial Coastal Management Committee (see output #1). Consolidation of institutional structures for coordination and management functions is the result of extensive consultations at both the Provincial and Federal levels, both prior to the formulation of the approved Project brief, and subsequently at the Project Document formulation stage. Discussions have centered on the viability, and operational efficacy of these institutional structures, including the definition of technical support needs for their effective functioning.

40. Since jurisdiction over the management, use, and conservation of coastal resources largely falls under provincial authority, the project will focus its efforts on strengthening provincial authorities in the skills and requirements for biodiversity conservation and the incorporation of biodiversity friendly production practices within the context of coastal zone management. Provincial authorities will benefit from a coordinated approach to CZM by working together in an inter-provincial Regional Committee. This coordination at the inter-provincial level will allow for maximization of benefits to the provincial authorities from exchange of information for planning and policy making, training and institutional strengthening, and resource mobilization. The inter-provincial Regional Committee, *once established on the basis of consolidated Provincial Committees*, will also provide an important coordinating framework for future investment programmes in the coastal zone in such areas as urban, agricultural and industrial pollution, oil contingency planning and transport management, and distant seas fisheries.

41. The *Provincial Coastal Zone Management Committees* (CMC's)- comprised of representatives of provincial government agencies, NGOs, universities, and the private sector - will be responsible for coordination, implementation and monitoring of conservation and biodiversity friendly production activities at the provincial level. The *Provincial Committees*, once fully operational, will oversee the development and implementation of their respective Provincial Coastal Zone Management Plans and assist respective governments in decision-making regarding integrated coastal zone management and conservation. In this task the Provincial Committees will work closely with a variety of stakeholders, as well as relevant agencies of the executive branch of government and with the appropriate commission of their respective Provincial legislature, which will approve the Provincial CZM Plans.

42. The *Provincial Coastal Management Committees* (CMC's) will evaluate the annual implementation of the PCZMP, and, drawing from experiences throughout the region, make adjustments as required. They will also liaise with national entities in areas of federal jurisdiction and with the development of the Coastal management Law presently being discussed in Senate.

43. The *Regional Coastal Management Committee* - to be established by the Provincial Coastal Management Committees - will have for its principal function to ensure the effective and timely coordination among the *Provincial Coastal Management Committees* and the compatibility of their respective coastal zone management plans. The Provincial CMCs will define the composition, scope of action and modality of operations of the Regional CMC.

44. A *Project Implementation Unit (PIU)* will provide operational support to the *Provincial Committees* by assisting in, or implementing PCZM recommendations, coordinating the

formulation of legislation/public policies, organizing annual meetings of the Regional CMC between the *Provincial Committees*, managing information exchanges, collating their recommendations, preparing reports on key issues for circulation to members of the *Provincial and Regional Committees*, as well as commissioning policy analyses. In addition, it will be responsible for coordinating resource mobilization efforts, and managing an information dissemination programme to raise awareness of the Coastal Zone Management Programme at local, national and international levels.

45. The *Project Implementation Unit (PIU)*, comprised of Fundacion Patagonia Natural's team of experts in conservation of biodiversity and coastal resources, information/communication technologies, and education and awareness raising, will play a fundamental supporting role for the *Provincial and the Regional Committees* in technical-related aspects of the Coastal Zone Management Programme, and in designing and implementing the coastal monitoring system to evaluate the impact of the PCZMP on biodiversity. The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) with its expertise and experience in Patagonian wildlife will provide technical backstopping in this monitoring and in the overall activities of the *Project Implementation Unit*.

46. In addition to its role as *Project Implementation Unit*, FPN will coordinate the implementation of activities related to protected areas management, demonstration projects, and public awareness and outreach campaigns. As in the Pilot Phase, FPN will count on the participation of a wide variety of institutions and NGOs to implement specific activities in the above-mentioned areas. These are expected to include the *Fundacion Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (FARN)*, a leading environmental legal NGO, the *Fundacion Vida Silvestre* with conservation expertise in Patagonia, regional research institutions such as *Centro Nacional Patagonico (CENPAT)*, and *Centro Austral de Investigaciones Cientificas (CADIC)*, as well as regional universities. FPN will also extend the Coastal Zone Management Process tested under the Pilot Phase to Tierra del Fuego, replicate the process of consultation and determine the present state of globally important coastal biodiversity and priority threats to it.

47. The project will build the technical, managerial and administrative capacities of the above-mentioned bodies - including local NGOs working with Fundacion Patagonia Natural - through hands-on training, complemented by workshops, study tours, and awareness-raising activities.

48. This output will also develop and promote the use and targeting of economic instruments for conservation and coastal zone management. At present some reserves in Patagonia charge differentiated entrance fees - USD 1 for locals, USD 3 for non-local students and retirees and USD 5 for others. This system needs to be applied more systematically across all reserves and the appropriate level of entrance fees needs to be determined. Tourist numbers to the Province of Chubut indicate that reserve entrance fees and user permits can prove to be an important source of conservation financing. The office of tourism of Chubut reported 231,465 tourists visited its coastal wildlife reserves in 1997 generating a total income from entrance fees of USD 928,475. This figure has shown increases of between 10 and 25% per annum since 1995 and tourist numbers are expected to grow at an annual rate of 15-20%. Furthermore, during the pilot-phase project, a tourist survey was carried out to assess the willingness to pay for additional services. This survey found that 90% of visitors would be willing to pay an extra fee for additional circuits or interpretation centers. The project, through Output 3, will be enhancing the capacities of coastal and marine protected areas to provide such services and

therefore will make it possible to tap this unrealized potential. Clearly, a more systematic application of entrance fees and user permits at levels that reflect tourists' willingness-to-pay accompanied with reinvestment of these revenues in upkeep of protected areas and coastal zone management can be an important revenue base for covering recurrent costs.

Activities for Output 2:

Activity 2.1 Formalize the Provincial Coastal Management Committees for each Province and establish the Regional Coastal Management Committee for the implementation of the PCZMP for biodiversity conservation

- Based on previous bilateral consultations, define the roles, functions and responsibilities, (e.g. Terms of Reference) of the *Provincial Coastal Management Committees* and elaborate a work plan and meeting schedule based on recommendations from the Pilot Phase project.
- Based on the TORs and on needs identified in the Pilot Phase Project, determine the most cost-effective options for the execution of responsibilities, including reporting, information dissemination, monitoring, and resource mobilization, (e.g. electronic information network would reduce travel and communication costs among the three provinces).
- Approve Provincial Coastal Zone Management Plans for Biodiversity conservation and develop workplans for their subsequent implementation, along with corresponding coordination mechanisms for information sharing.
- Support the implementation of Provincial Coastal Zone Management plans, particularly in priority, and/or high vulnerability areas. Implement, with the participation of Provincial governments and local communities, pilot biodiversity conservation activities within the framework of the provincial coastal zone management plans.
- Establish a **regional database** - including training in information processing, management and dissemination - to identify and display information regarding species and habitat distribution and status, projects and programmes, innovative experiences, and best practices. This information will be posted on a Website and serve as a major and ongoing input to planning and decision-making.
- Based on biodiversity indicators and baseline information collected during the Pilot Phase project, develop a **coastal biodiversity monitoring system** to enable Provincial authorities and NGOs to effectively and systematically monitor impacts of productive sector activity, as well as conservation programmes for coastal and marine biodiversity; this will include enhancing **technical capacities** through **semi-annual workshops**.
- Support the integration of provincial CZM plans through yearly regional workshops at which implementation progress can be reviewed, and lessons and best practices shared in an open forum.
- Negotiate agreements with regional, national and international organizations to provide technical guidance on scientific, biological, sectoral (tourism), coastal zone management, and legal issues, so as to effectively mainstream biodiversity principles into coastal zone management planning and implementation.

- Develop, in coordination with the *Provincial Coastal Zone Management Committees*, pilot activities in each participating province to effectively illustrate the application of biodiversity principles within coastal zone planning frameworks and sectoral activity development.
- Establish the Regional Coastal Zone Management Committee.

Activity 2.2 Strengthen the managerial, technical and administrative capacities of Fundacion Patagonia Natural (FPN) and other non-governmental agencies to provide oversight and technical assistance for the effective conservation and management of coastal and marine biodiversity.

- Provide training to FPN and NGO professionals in: protected area planning and management, co-management methods and participatory processes, conflict resolution modalities, coastal zone management principles and techniques (including information management systems) eco-tourism management, economic valuation of biodiversity resources, and the development of economic instruments and financial mechanisms to sustain conservation.
- Assist FPN and other NGO's in strategic planning; accountability, administration and fund raising.
- Training in the design, development and maintenance of electronic information systems.
- Raise the awareness of key provincial decision-makers (government, NGO and private sector) through high-level workshops to analyze and discuss the incorporation of biodiversity conservation principles into sectoral planning and reform.

Activity 2.3 Strengthen the mechanisms for stakeholder support and participation in the Patagonian Coastal Zone Management Programme process and its implementation.

- Develop and implement a public awareness and communications strategy through diverse media to inform on progress in the PCZMP's consolidation and implementation, stimulate participation in Environmental Impact Assessments, where applicable, and increase community awareness regarding the goals, achievements and management strategies to conserve the region's coastal biodiversity.
- Raise the awareness of key provincial decision-makers (government, NGO and private sector) through high-level workshops to analyze and discuss the incorporation of biodiversity conservation principles into sectoral planning and reform.
- Prepare materials for training courses in stakeholder participation in each of the four participating provinces, including respective municipalities.
- Conduct stakeholder participation training courses in: Rio Negro, Chubut, Santa Cruz, Tierra del Fuego Municipalities.

- Draft and submit legal instrument for the adoption of stakeholder participation mechanisms as identified in each of the participating provinces.
- Support provincial and municipal governments in the use of stakeholder participation mechanisms.

Activity 2.4 Develop economic instruments as a sustainable source of conservation financing

- Based on work undertaken by the pilot-phase project, make an assessment of the revenue generating potential of reserve entrance fees and natural resource use permits in all four provinces. Determine, through an economic assessment and stakeholder consultations, the appropriate level of entrance fees and user permits.
- As recommended by the pilot-phase project, define and implement strategies for increasing revenues generated by wildlife reserve entrance fees and natural resource use permits.
- Assess the economic feasibility of adopting economic instruments such as brown taxes as a revenue source for coastal zone management.
- Define percentage of entrance fees required to feedback into improvement of reserve or protected area services and operations through stakeholder consultations, economic assessment of reserve needs, and experience in other networks of marine protected areas in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Draft and adopt legislation to ensure that a certain percentage of revenues from reserve entrance fees and natural resource use permits are reinvested in upkeep and maintenance of the reserves and the remainder contributes towards implementation of the Patagonia Coastal Zone Management Plan.

OUTPUT 3: PATAGONIA COASTAL PROTECTED AREAS NETWORK FOR CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY IS ESTABLISHED AND FULLY FUNCTIONAL.

49. Based on the Pilot Phase identification of critical areas for coastal and marine biodiversity the project will support an inter-provincial network of new and existing Protected Areas. This will permit an ecosystem approach to biodiversity conservation, monitoring, and management of highly migratory and mobile species shared by the four Patagonian provinces. In addition, the proposed network will allow economies of scale in activities such as training, monitoring and resource mobilization, as well as promote a common approach to policy development, conservation financing, and sustainable tourism development.

50. Obstacles currently impeding the establishment of a coastal and marine network include: i) lack of technical and institutional capacities, ii) insufficient financial resources to immediately establish and maintain a comprehensive system, iii) absence of a harmonized and/or coordinated framework for Protected Areas and the corresponding institutional framework at both provincial and inter-provincial levels, and iv) lack of awareness by local stakeholders and provincial decision-makers of the potential economic benefits resulting from these protected areas and the sustainable use of their biodiversity.

51. The project will adopt a two-pronged approach to overcome the above obstacles, thereby reducing the risks associated with programming beyond the capacities of stakeholders to implement activities in an efficient or effective way.

52. This two-pronged approach will consist of two parallel inter-dependent lines of action: in the first, the project will work in priority critical protected areas to establish protected area management plans (see Annex G for critical areas identified by the Pilot Phase project). These will include: establishment of differential use-zones; demarcation of protected area limits where necessary; development of participatory management strategies with local stakeholders (including conflict resolution processes); demonstration of alternative techniques for artisan and near-shore fisheries, including incentives for the long-term implementation of these sustainable production practices; and information dissemination for replicability of best practices and awareness raising. As well, the project will work with the tourism sector - at both federal and provincial levels - to delineate a strategy and action plan for the development of coastal eco-tourism and optimization of revenues from effective protected area and wildlife management. The strategy and action plan will highlight the untapped economic potential of Patagonia's biodiversity.

53. This approach is designed to permit stakeholders to gain practical experience in management and monitoring, identify best practices for replication in other protected areas, identify and test options and strategies for mobilizing resources for self-sustaining conservation, as well as to test co-management methods and arrangements, and participatory methodologies.

54. In the second line of action, the project will work at the provincial and inter-provincial levels to develop the operational, legal and financial frameworks to ensure the future consolidation of the proposed protected area network, including linkages with terrestrial protected areas. This will be achieved by conducting assessments regarding: i) legal and regulatory requirements for the network, ii) institutional capacity requirements for effective management (technical, managerial, administrative), iii) financial requirements for operations, iv) eco-tourism potential, and v) monitoring of species and habitat. This information will be crucial for the development and resource allocation of the Patagonia Conservation Trust Fund.

Activities for Output 3:

Activity 3.1 Strengthen Protected Area Operations and Management capacity.

- Develop in consultation with local stakeholders, management plans for existing protected areas implementing recommendations from the Pilot Phase Project's Protected Areas Programme and recommendations that emerge from Activity 2.4 on financing recurrent costs (see Annex H for both general and specific recommendations related to PA strengthening and management).
- Establish new coastal protected areas along with their respective management plans.
- Conduct assessments regarding: i) legal and regulatory requirements for the PA network; ii) institutional capacity requirements (technical, managerial, administrative); iii) information system requirements; iv) financial requirements for long-term operations; v) eco-tourism

potential; and vi) monitoring of species and habitat (this will be associated with the coastal biodiversity monitoring system).

- Support a coastal protected area coordination mechanism comprised of representatives of local governments, NGOs, Universities and the private sector in each Province - as appropriate - to participate in the development of Protected Area Management Plans in selected sites.
- Strengthen local and provincial capacity for effective Protected Area Management based on existing skills and identified support needs; including training in participatory methodologies for the formulation of PA management plans and the definition of common approaches to be adopted in each pilot site.
- Implementation by WCS of a pilot management project at the Punta Tombo wildlife reserve under agreement with the Province of Chubut. This selected area offers unique conditions as one of the major tourist attractions of the region. It also has an already existing monitoring and research programme run by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), that has conducted and funded conservation projects in Patagonia for 32 years, under agreement with the Province of Chubut. In addition, with no close settlements or towns in the immediately adjacent areas (1.5 hours drive from Trelew), visitors are only attracted by the penguins, thus facilitating the measurement of the causal relationship between increased revenue, improved tourist services and stronger biodiversity protection.
- Undertake a consultative process for the development of a *Strategy and Priority Action Plan* for the consolidation and maintenance of the Patagonia coastal protected areas network. The strategy will highlight priorities for action for the network as a whole, resource requirements, as well as technical assistance and investment needs.

Activity 3.2 Demonstrate biodiversity-friendly sustainable fishing practices (artisan and near-shore)

- Conduct demonstration activities with coastal fishing cooperatives and regional fisheries administrators on biodiversity-friendly responsible fishing practices to demonstrate the technical and financial feasibility of reducing the “reject” and “by-catch” rate in near-shore fishing, (e.g., by using square mesh window in dragnets to allow juveniles and smaller species to escape).
- Monitor the progress, impact and feasibility of the demonstration projects, and disseminate findings to relevant provincial representatives and other fishing cooperatives (i.e. exchanges, videos, and reports).
- Draft legislation and regulations for instituting newly developed low-impact fishing techniques, including evaluating the need, where appropriate, for fiscal and other incentives to expand the adoption of best practices.
- Evaluate degree of adoption of low- impact practices by fishing companies.

Activity 3.3 Develop a programme for biodiversity-friendly tourism

- Carry out pilot demonstration projects for the implementation and replication of biodiversity-friendly tourism, to include: carrying capacity considerations and tourism related impacts; definition of zones within the reserves or protected areas for restricted visitation, and monitoring of seasonal tourist volume and satisfaction indicators.
- Drafting of legislation for low-impact eco-tourism based on: analyses of existing policies, strategies and plans for biodiversity-related tourism, including Pilot Phase information and recommendations, and analyses of coastal eco-tourism patterns, trends, and demand for and supply of eco-tourism services.
- Conduct a workshop to review analyses and recommendations; define steps for policy reform; and drafting of legislation for instituting newly developed responsible tourism activities; and drafting of eco-tourism strategy and plans.
- Conduct a workshop to review demonstration projects and results; review and draft legislation for instituting resulting responsible tourism management; define steps for policy reform to accommodate responsible tourism and develop a strategy and plans for its implementation.
- Evaluate degree of adoption of low impact tourism by private companies.

OUTPUT 4: AWARENESS RAISING PROGRAMME IN SUPPORT OF BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION THROUGH COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

Activity 4.1 Increase public awareness on the value of coastal and marine biodiversity.

- Design a public awareness campaign targeted at the local and national levels.
- Produce annual promotional materials on the CZM Plans for newspapers, radio and TV.
- Communicate project results to the public through the press and newsletters on planning of coastal resource use and the protection of coastal biodiversity.
- Develop and implement a training program for school teachers in the region aimed at creating awareness of the value and importance of protecting coastal biodiversity through planning and controlled use.
- Develop and print education materials for teacher use in classrooms.
- Develop and produce audiovisual material on the responsible use of coastal resources, the importance of setting limits to resource use, the need to develop and implement long-term management plans and increasing the perceived value of coastal wildlife.
- Present and distribute audiovisual materials

D. RATIONALE FOR GEF FINANCING

55. The Patagonian Coastal Zone supports globally significant marine and coastal biodiversity and represents one of world's areas of highest biological productivity. It houses some of the world's most accessible and diverse colonies of seabirds and mammals, many of which are endemic to the Southern Cone or endangered. The waters around the Valdes Peninsula have been compared to an oceanic Serengeti and the great bird and mammal "cities" of *Punta Tombo*, *Punta Leon*, *Cabo Dos Bahias*, *Punta Roja*, *Punta Loaysa*, *Cabo Blanco*, *Punta Medanosa*, *Monte Leon*, and several other areas constitute a chain of inspiring wildlife spectacles as well as a very visible tip of the Malvinas current's biological wealth. These unique wildlife resources are exceptionally vulnerable to destruction and degradation if not sustainably managed. However the still relatively pristine conditions and scattered development mean that wildlife populations are still viable and that there is still time to protect this valuable biodiversity if action is taken urgently.

56. The project proposed herein seeks to protect these unique resources by promoting an integrated approach to coastal area development undertaking *in situ* conservation activities and incorporating biodiversity issues into sectoral planning. It will put in place a strengthened network of protected areas focusing on highly vulnerable biodiversity "hot spots", with direct management interventions, promoting sustainable and alternative uses of biodiversity as livelihoods for local stakeholders and establishing financial mechanisms to ensure self-sustaining conservation of coastal biodiversity.

57. It will develop and strengthen the capacity of a wide range of stakeholders including Provincial and Municipal governments, private sector, NGOs, academia and local communities in Integrated Coastal Management processes and develop a sound governance structure with well defined managerial strategies and tools for the implementation of the consolidated Patagonian Coastal Zone Management Plan.

58. It will adopt an ecosystem approach to integrated marine and coastal zone management that promotes the integration of scientific knowledge of ecological relationships with that of socio-political conditions and values to achieve biodiversity protection and sustainable management. As such this project falls within the mandate of GEF and the operational guidelines for the biodiversity thematic area and coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystem operational programme, and is in keeping with the guidance of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

59. By implementing incremental activities from the Protected Areas Programme of the Pilot Phase Patagonian Coastal Zone Management Plan, and developing a participatory and well-structured governance process to initiate and co-ordinate the implementation of the other programmes, it will have leveraging effects on all sectoral activities identified as the principle threats to the region's coastal biodiversity, including oil contamination and distant seas fisheries. This has been previously highlighted and will be addressed by the upcoming IDB-sponsored workshops in which priority activities and investment needs will be identified to strengthen coastal zone management in Patagonia.

60. Equally important is the programmatic approach adopted by the World Bank and UNDP to effectively address the incremental activities related to the principal threats affecting

coastal and marine biodiversity in Patagonia. In addition, the mechanisms for inter-provincial coordination and strengthened capacity for CZM in Provincial and local governments and private sector are expected to significantly leverage existing and additional funding for implementation of PCZMP programmes beyond the scope of this project.

61. Finally, the PCZMP as a process will be transferable to other developing coastal regions with similar coastal zone regions of high biodiversity and biomass such as Chile, Peru and Namibia.

E. SUSTAINABILITY AND PARTICIPATION

62. The Pilot Phase project was highly successful and has been praised for its achievements in attaining stakeholder consultation and participation, which included federal and provincial governments, the private sector, research institutions and NGOs, as well as local stakeholders.

63. The development of the Pilot Phase PCZMP, to be consolidated and implemented in the project proposed herein, has been strongly participatory in nature counting with over 30 public and private institutions from three provinces and national government attending workshops, research activities and management exercises. This high level of participation confers sustainability to the CZM process in Patagonia and will facilitate the execution of project activities.

64. For this *consolidation and implementation phase*, extensive consultations with government agencies and stakeholders at the provincial, regional and national levels were conducted by FPN and included the following:

- **Provincial Level.** Meetings were held with the Governors and government ministers of the Provinces of Santa Cruz, Chubut, Río Negro and Tierra del Fuego, as well as members of each of the departments with jurisdiction over the coastal zone. The provincial Legislatures of Chubut and Santa Cruz concurred in declaring the Project to be of provincial interest and consistent with established priorities. They also agreed to incorporate the recommendations of the CZM Plan in the development of coastal zone legislation.
- **Regional Level.** FPN presented the purpose and scope of the Project to the Parlamento Patagónico, which includes representatives of the legislatures of all four provinces as well as two mediterranean Patagonian provinces. The Parlamento Patagónico unanimously supported the Project and declared it of regional interest. In keeping with the need for an integrated approach to ecosystem management of coastal biodiversity, it agreed to assist with the establishment of regional legislation within the scope of the Project for the implementation of the PCZMP.
- **National Level.** The Natural Resources and Sustainable Development Secretariat (Secretaría de Recursos Naturales y Desarrollo Sustentable – SRNyDS) was maintained actively involved to ensure the required coordination with other related efforts at federal levels. Meetings were held with the Fisheries Sub-secretariat and the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Desarrollo Pesquero – INIDEP) to define the coordination mechanisms for the implementation of the Project activities in that sector. Discussions were held with the National Parks Service concerning

the coordination of the GEF/WB funded National Parks Strengthening Project and the proposed creation of the first National Park on the Atlantic coast of Argentina at Monte Leon in Santa Cruz.

- **Community participation in coastal zone management planning.** During 1998, the Government of Chubut invited the community to participate in the development of a strategic plan for integrated management of the Peninsula Valdes protected area on the coast, a multiple use area that contains some of the most diverse and vulnerable wildlife areas on the coast. In the process, the Office of Tourism built upon the recommendations of the Pilot Phase Project by involving stakeholders in outlining a management plan for Peninsula Valdes during a year-long series of meetings. The community participated actively in these meetings, discussions were rich and productive and the final results will form the template for the management of this valuable coastal wildlife area. The current Project incorporates and builds on the experiences gathered during these meetings.
- **NGO involvement.** This Project builds heavily on the efforts of two non-governmental organizations, in particular that of FPN and WCS. Both played a critical and central role in the development and implementation of the Pilot Phase Project, and will continue to do so during this consolidation and implementation phase by providing high-level technical expertise and credibility and invaluable outreach services that strengthen the sustainability of the whole process. The project will also focus on strengthening FPN, so it can continue to support biodiversity conservation and promote community participation. In addition to FPN, at least three other major NGOs in Argentina (FARN, FVSA, AOP) will be involved in the Project.

65. This phase of the Project will take coastal zone management in the Patagonian provinces from the *planning* phase to the *implementation* phase. This transition is critical to the success of any coastal zone management initiative as it implies a shift in focus from technical issues to the political process. In this context, the long-term sustainability of the programs put in place by this Project will be addressed in the following manner:

- Mechanisms will be put in place to establish a *sustainable institutional framework* for coastal zone management through the Provincial CMCs and the Regional CMC.
- *Financial sustainability* will be addressed through the use and targeting of economic instruments such as entrance fees and user permits. Pilot-phase studies have found that this can be an important revenue source for upkeep of reserves and can also contribute towards implementation of the Patagonia Coastal Zone Management Plan. A strategic plan for optimizing revenues from entrance fees and diversifying coastal ecotourism revenues will contribute further to ensuring a revenue base for recurrent costs of conservation and coastal zone management.
- Strengthening of protected area management and the consolidation of protected areas on the coast will help provide for the *ecological sustainability* of the CZM Plan. Furthermore, participation of the research community in the implementation of the coastal zone planning will contribute the necessary knowledge to understand the processes involved.

Finally, by providing for improved management practices concerning coastal resources the Project will contribute towards *social sustainability* on the coast of Patagonia.

F. LESSONS LEARNED

66. The project strategy has been designed based on the lessons learned during the Pilot Phase and the recommendations from the Pilot Phase Project's final evaluation. As such, the project strategy will continue to place emphasis on participatory processes and the important role of the local NGO, *Fundacion Patagonia Natural*. Equally, the project strategy recognizes the need to address critical institutional coordinating issues as a strategic, cost-effective means of promoting the implementation of the full range of programmes recommended by the Pilot Phase Project which combined provide remedial action to reduce the threats to the region's coastal and marine biodiversity. In addition, the project strategy includes a series of training and monitoring activities to be undertaken with the technical assistance of international experts in Coastal Zone Management to ensure that the project implementation benefit from world-wide initiatives and incorporates recommendations from these over the course of its execution.

G. PROJECT BUDGET

67. A detailed breakdown of the GEF contribution by UNDP budget lines is provided in Annex D.

H. INCREMENTAL COSTS

68. An Incremental Cost Assessment in standard format has been prepared and presented in Annex A.

I. ISSUES, ACTIONS AND RISKS

69. As with all integrated coastal management initiatives, this project builds fundamentally upon the combined interests and commitments of a wide range of agencies from provincial governments, national government, research institutions, universities and non-governmental organizations. Participation levels in the Pilot Phase - as well as in the design of this proposal - indicate that this commitment is high and thus the risk of failed commitment is low. Political commitment has been identified as most critical at this point of the CZM process and the project strategy and structure has been designed to maintain this interest as high as possible.

70. The project strategy has been designed to address the risk of political turnover, which may effect continuity in the high-level political CZM Commissions. Management programmes in specific localities that reflect the microcosm of the coast's main issues will be undertaken. In these specific sites, the process of CZM will be developed with local

communities and stakeholders who tend to be more constant than high level political bodies and their respective turnover rates. This will be reinforced by educational and outreach actions. By catalyzing change at the local and community level it is expected that the CZM experience and capacity will be transferred and multiplied across society in a "bottom-up" approach that counteracts the risk of instability in the top-level management structures.

71. Although unlikely, loans targeting the baseline activities of coastal zone management may not materialize in an acceptable time frame. This would reduce the synergy and impact associated with the timely confluence of baseline and incremental funding. This GEF project will, however, be instrumental in expediting the projected baseline loan.

J. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

72. The implementation of the Project will be tightly linked with the development of the institutional framework necessary for the long-term success of Project activities. The implementation arrangements will include the following elements:

- a) A *Project Executive Committee (PEC)* formed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Argentina, UNDP and FPN will be established to oversee the execution of the Project. It will approve the annual operating plans and budgets prepared by the *Project Implementation Unit* and ensure the effective coordination between the Project and other initiatives and programs addressing relevant issues, particularly in the five thematic areas identified in the Pilot Phase Project.⁴ Ultimately, this will be the responsibility of the Provincial Coastal Management Committees that will be established with support from the Project. The PEC will be responsible for recruiting and hiring the Project Coordinator and to evaluate his/her performance. The PEC will endorse and assist with the structuring of the necessary institutional arrangements with the National and Provincial governments for establishing the Regional and the Provincial Coastal Management Committees.
- b) The *Project Implementation Unit (PIU)* will be responsible for the on-site implementation of the Project. The Project Coordinator will head the small PIU team and will report to the PEC. It will have among its primary responsibilities, execution of annual plans and budgets, which must be prepared in consultation with the *Provincial Coastal Management Committees* and approved by the PEC. It will submit quarterly administrative and financial reports and make the adjustments as instructed by the PEC. Based on the approved annual workplan the PIU will perform all procurement and contracting responsibilities. These will include, but will not be limited to the purchase of equipment; the preparation of terms of reference and contracting of consultant and other services; and the transfer of funds for the performance of Project activities, as required in the annual workplan. Throughout the life of the Project the PIU will assist the provincial governments of Santa Cruz, Chubut, Río Negro and Tierra del Fuego in setting up and operating their respective *Coastal Management Committees*.

⁴ Phase 1 of the Project outlined recommendations for management and mitigation actions in five thematic areas: (1) coastal wildlife management; (2) sustainable fishing; (3) prevention of marine contamination; (4) promotion of responsible tourism, and (5) strengthening of protected areas.

- c) Each of the four provinces targeted by the Project⁵ will formally establish a *Provincial Coastal Management Committees (Provincial CMCs)*, to oversee the development and implementation of their respective Provincial Coastal Zone Management Plans (CZM Plans). Their role will be to assist the government in decision-making regarding integrated coastal zone management and conservation. The Provincial CMCs will include, among its members, representatives of key provincial government agencies, NGOs, the private sector and universities. The CMCs will work closely with the different stakeholders, the relevant agencies of the executive branch of government and with the appropriate commission of their respective Provincial Parliaments, which will approve the Provincial CZM Plans.
- d) The Provincial CMCs in coordination with the Patagonian Parliament,⁶ and with the support of the PEC, will establish the *Regional Coastal Management Committee (Regional CMC)*. The principal role of the Regional CMC will be to ensure adequate coordination among the Provincial CMCs and the compatibility of their respective coastal zone management plans. The Provincial CMCs will define the composition, scope of action and modality of operations of the Regional CMC.
- e) *Fundacion Patagonia Natural (FPN)* in its role as member of the PEC and given its experience for generating community participation, conducting research, education and advising on management issues, will be responsible for overseeing the on-site operation of the PIU. It will further act as technical advisor to the Provincial CMCs and Regional CMC, as required.
- f) *UNDP* will supervise the implementation of the project. It will conduct regular performance reviews and oversee annual audits. Additionally, it will provide technical support and advice as required by the *Project Implementation Unit (PIU)*.

K. PRIOR OBLIGATIONS AND PREREQUISITES

73. This Project Document establishes the general implementation strategy and assigns responsibilities to the different participating agencies and organizations. UNDP will authorize the first disbursement after the PIU has submitted to the PEC the written endorsement of the Project by the four provincial governments and CENPAT, and a detailed workplan and budget for the first year. The accounting will be done by the PIU following established UNDP guidelines and procedures.

L. PROJECT REVIEW, REPORTING AND EVALUATION

74. Each Project component has been designed to include monitoring and evaluation activities. For each output and major activity category, indicators of performance have been identified (see Annex C). On the basis of these, the PIU will report quarterly to the PEC and the

⁵ The four provinces targeted by the project, and which share Patagonia's coastline are Rio Negro, Chubut, Santa Cruz and Tierra del Fuego.

⁶ The Patagonian Parliament is composed of parliamentary representatives of all the Patagonian provinces.

Provincial CMCs as to the advance in the implementation of the Project activities. Once a year, the PIU will prepare an annual narrative and financial project report, to be submitted, along with the annual audit to the PEC. The project will be subject to the standard UNDP tri-partite monitoring system, the Project Implementation Review PIR, as well as emerging monitoring and evaluation guidelines of the GEF.

75. Annual External Technical Evaluations will be conducted. These will provide an independent assessment of project performance for submission to the PEC and the *Provincial CMCs*, and will serve as the basis for making required adjustments for the project to accomplish its objectives. At the conclusion of the Project a full-scale technical and financial evaluation will be undertaken, placing special emphasis on the review of lessons learned and the state of biodiversity of coastal Patagonia.

GEF Program Coordination Routing Slip

Date: 8/30/99

To:

- ☐ Jocelyn Taylor, OP 1-4, Bio STRM
- ☐ Amanda Days, OP 5-7, 11-12, CC STRM
- ☐ Samia Rechache, OP 8-10

Project Document:

FP: Argentina: Consolidation and Implementation of the Patagonia Coastal Zone Management Programme for Biodiversity Conservation

Processing requested:

- Please
- ☐ scan full document and provide electronic file to Program Coordination
 - ☐ scan Ken's transmittal letter and project clearance/approval sheet (yellow sheet) and provide electronic file to Program Coordination
 - ☐ reproduce 75 copies and notify Program Coordination when documents are ready for mailing
 - ☐ file in the Project Files Room (blackbook file)

DOUBLE-SIDED PLEASE!

ANNEXES

- Annex A:** Incremental Cost Analysis
 - Annex B:** Technical Review (STAP)
 - Annex C:** Project Planning Matrix
 - Annex D:** Project Budget
 - Annex E:** Project Work Plan
 - Annex F:** Government Endorsement
 - Annex G:** Critical Areas for Marine and Coastal biodiversity conservation
 - Annex H:** Management objectives and recommendations for priority protected areas
 - Annex I:** Strategic guidelines for tourism
 - Annex J:** Proximate threats, underlying causes and proposed actions
- Note:** Terms of Reference (available upon request)

ANNEX A INCREMENTAL COST ANALYSIS

1. Broad Development Goals

The Patagonia region covering the Provinces of Rio Negro, Chubut, Santa Cruz, and Tierra del Fuego, has often been considered as the resource frontier of the country. Notwithstanding its still small population, Patagonia is now the fastest growing region of the country. The national government has designed incentives to promote the development of this area, including special loans for industry and tax cuts for energy supplies. In addition, provinces are being encouraged to seek their own means of support and a series of internationally funded loans with regional and local components are being pursued to finance development at the provincial and municipal levels.

It is broadly accepted that natural resources play a key role in this development process. Both national and provincial governments have demonstrated interest in protecting these resources and the environment, not only in Patagonia but also throughout the national territory. In relation to this, and in recognition of the importance of the coastal zone to Argentina, with 41% of the nation's population concentrated in 100 settlements along its 4,899 km coastline, a draft law to establish an Integrated Coastal Zone Management System is also under discussion in the Senate. Furthermore, a draft biodiversity law is also presently under discussion in the Senate and a National Biodiversity Strategy is being developed together with an Action Plan containing specific programmes and projects considered of priority for its implementation.

Despite this progress, the Government is not able to fully finance all the conservation activities necessary to protect the country's widely varied ecosystems and their biodiversity due to the severe financial constraints imposed by the structural adjustment programme it has recently undertaken to fight the economic crisis and acute inflation.

2. Global Biodiversity Objectives

The Patagonian coast, stretching over 3,500 km and four provinces, represents 70% of the nation's entire coastline. The vast continental platform and the Malvinas current have given rise to waters of exceptionally high productivity that support an impressive range of species most of which are endemic to the region or globally threatened. The unique conditions provide ideal breeding sites for many species and resting sites for migratory species of international importance. The coastline is characterized by the exceptional biomass of certain species found in colonies of many thousands of individuals forming what is often referred to as a marine Serengeti.

The majority of the marine globally significant biodiversity in Patagonia consists of large birds and mammals high in the food chain. Their exceptional abundance in Patagonia is mainly due to the nutrient-rich waters that support a wide range and abundance of micro-organisms, marine invertebrates, and fish that constitute their food base.

Major current threats are as follows:

(i) *Marine contamination.* This is partly due to untreated effluents discharged directly into the sea and partly to illegal ballast washings and poor management of oil loading and marine transport procedures. This contamination threatens globally important biodiversity in two forms. Directly in the case of oil spills, especially significant in species such as penguins that swim at the interface of the water (41,000 penguins in the region die annually from oil pollution at sea). Indirectly when poor water quality resultant from urban and industrial discharge destroy the flora and fauna that form the food base of these larger animals.

(ii) *Losses of biodiversity due to excessive by-catch and rejection rates.* This is partly due to excessive by-catch and reject rates resulting from current practices and technologies used in the near-shore and artisan fisheries.

(iii) *Increased and poorly managed tourism.* The potential collapse in the fishing industry has prompted greater focus on tourism as an alternative economic activity for the region. This increase is largely associated with the uniquely accessible colonies of large birds and mammals and the spectacular sight of the Right Whale that comes close to the shores of the region during breeding season. Lack of well-defined tourism plans, clear ecotourism policies and control, mean that in many cases tourists can come within feet of these animals thereby causing disturbances in their reproductive and feeding habits endangering their long-term survival. This is exacerbated by the absence of a regional (Patagonian) network of protected areas with specific management plans determining - among other things - carrying-capacity and conservation-oriented revenue management.

Unless these threats are adequately addressed the unique biomass and biodiversity of the region will be lost not only representing an infinite loss to the global community but also lost opportunities to local inhabitants whose livelihoods are firmly based on these resources either through fisheries or tourism.

3. Baseline Activities

The project's baseline consists of a wide range of on-going and planned capacity building and investment activities at the national and provincial levels addressing in part the threats described above.

Threats related to marine contamination from untreated effluents, industrial and agricultural run-off, are being partially addressed through the following baseline activities. An IDB/GoA funded US\$ 26 million Environmental Development Programme designed to develop a model for an integrated Federal and Provincial approach to environmental management, is providing resources for Workshops and consultancies which will draw-up Terms of Reference for a Coastal Zone Management Programme feasibility study that will determine the development of a project for eventual IDB financing. Baseline activities related to infrastructural investments and technical assistance for mitigation/reduction of contaminant run-off, untreated effluents, including the strengthening of technical and administrative capacities to implement them, are expected to be among priority activities.

Complementary to this is a US\$ 600 million *Municipality Strengthening Programme* (funded equally from the IDB, the GoA, and WB) which provides an estimated US\$ 26 million to Patagonian municipalities (Tierra del Fuego 1.3 million; Santa Cruz 4 million; Chubut-9 million; and Rio Negro 10 million) for infrastructural investment and related technical assistance, **mainly in the basic sanitation sector**. Approximately 15% of this amount (US\$ 3.9 million) is expected to be spent on sewage and sanitation works in coastal towns.

A Pollution Management Project now under preparation for eventual World Bank, Japan Exim Bank and GoA financing is expected to address three priority pollution problems: urban/industrial; air pollution and coastal contamination. Puerto Madryn is the selected Municipality for issues related to coastal contamination with activities targeted towards the prevention and abatement of land-based and water-based contamination, including monitoring and testing sewage and industrial effluents, co-financing wastewater treatment facilities, developing oil spill monitoring and compliance capabilities and regional oil spill contingency plans. The total baseline cost of the programme is estimated to be in the order of US\$ 55 million of which approximately a third would be destined to the Coastal Contamination Component in Puerto Madryn, Patagonia.

A Ports System Modernization project presently under preparation for joint-financing by IDB and the GoA (US\$ 108 million IDB and GoA) provides approximately 63% of these funds (\$US 65 million) for infrastructure and institutional building in the Patagonian Provinces of Chubut and Santa Cruz. Environmental quality will be enhanced by up-dated port facilities and improved handling procedures as well as some direct environmental management capacity-building activities.

Baseline activities and corresponding expenditures for coastal protected area management and conservation-based tourism for the four Provinces total approximately US\$ 0.66 million annually by the province of Chubut related to the administration expenses of Isla de los Pajaros, Istmo Piramide, Punta Norte, Caleta Valdes, Punta Lomo, Punta Tombo and Cabo dos Bahias Reserves, with an estimated US\$ 0.8 million for the other provinces, resulting in a combined annual total baseline of US\$ 1.46 million annually or US\$ 7.3 million over the life of the project.

The existing baseline provides both global and domestic benefits through increased investment and technical assistance in threat-related activities resulting in substantial benefits to Patagonian biodiversity through increased prevention of marine contamination, improved federal, provincial and municipal capacities to manage growing coastal development, as well as resource use and productive activities under their corresponding jurisdictions.

Despite all this progress, current baseline activities are however **insufficient to effectively** address the threats that jeopardize the integrity of this ecosystem and its globally significant coastal and marine biodiversity. Whilst marine wildlife breed in specific localities, their foraging areas are vast and their migratory patterns cover the entire Patagonian coast.

The regional nature of many of the threats, such as water contamination and pollution, oil transportation and fisheries, require co-ordinated regional responses if effective remedial action is to be taken. Protected-areas in coastal biodiversity hotspots need to be strengthened through management plans that define differential-use zones negotiated with stakeholders, as well as re-defined and demarcated to cover critical foraging areas. This will require co-ordinated actions

between the provincial and the national levels to address overlapping jurisdictions of these marine areas and their uses.

Baseline activities and programmes, while an essential complement, do not provide in themselves the scope or resources for the following activities considered vital for the conservation and appropriate uses of the region's biodiversity: i) regional co-ordination for biodiversity conservation; ii) identification, implementation, and replication of best practices for the use of biodiversity; and iii) strengthening and establishing protection measures of key species through improved protected area networks, and implementation of guidelines and recommendations for soundly managed conservation tourism.

In addition capacity-building and technical assistance activities included in the baseline, whilst addressing environmental management in general, do not adequately provide or include the specific skills and instruments needed for coastal and marine biodiversity conservation, monitoring, and financing, nor the participation and partnerships of the full range of stakeholder that this process and activities would require.

4. The Proposed Alternative

The proposed alternative strategy recommended here, will build on and complement existing and planned baseline activities by incorporating additional elements considered essential for the effective long-term conservation and sustainable use of Patagonia's coastal and marine biodiversity. Hence project activities have been specifically designed to provide and generate the additional global benefits partially attained by baseline activities undertaken in the national interest and benefit.

The first line of action in the proposed alternative pertains to Outputs 1 and 2 addressing the need for a consolidated provincial and inter-provincial coordinating framework for biodiversity conservation and the incorporation of biodiversity friendly production practices into sectoral development in the four provinces of Patagonia.

The formalization of the proposed *Provincial Coastal Management Committees* and *Regional Coastal Management Committee* along with the consolidation of the project's Implementation Unit is essential to the successful implementation of the PCZMP for the conservation of globally outstanding biodiversity. Not only will it provide and permit a coordinated approach towards the conservation of the Patagonian ecosystem but ensure that existing funds designated to the region are channeled to implement priority actions of the PCZMP. This inter-provincial coordinating structure will also assist in the leveraging of additional funds by providing a clear mechanism through which to review the overlapping and conflicting jurisdictions and legislation that have impeded more widespread investments in the region especially from the private sector.

Incremental expenditure will be necessary as a **one-time operation** to cover the initial costs of setting up, putting in place, and initial operationalization of these mechanisms. Global benefits derived from this action critical to successful PCZMP implementation are clear. Concurrent domestic benefits will also occur. As a result of these domestic benefits, and as the process of PCZMP implementation becomes more firmly established during the life of the Project, recurrent

costs for the above-mentioned coordinating structures will be financially sustainable without further GEF funds.

The second line of action in the proposed alternative pertains to Output 3 and the need to implement priority actions identified in the Protected Areas Programme of the Pilot Phase (PCZMP). Whilst the strengthening of all the existing protected areas in the region will be ultimately necessary, incremental funding is required to develop participatory protected area management plans, in key localities of highly vulnerable biodiversity. This will provide immediate and appropriate protection to critical areas and install the capacity for widespread application of these procedures throughout Patagonia.

The third line of action in the proposed alternative also pertains to Output 3 and the establishment of a programme for alternative production practices, as well as diversification and optimization of biodiversity-related tourism, including wildlife management.

Traditional artisan and coastal zone fishing practices presently result in by-catch and rejection rates that deplete the food source of globally important species. The proposed alternative is to demonstrate the feasibility of alternative fishing practices that reduce these rates in artisan and traditional fisheries. The incremental expenditure will cover the costs of testing these alternative practices in specific localities and strengthening the capacity of local fishing communities and on-shore fishing fleet to implement them. It is a one-time operational cost; after consultations with the coastal fishing sector conducted through the Pilot Phase project's on-board observer programme, cofinancing is expected from coastal fishing cooperatives. Once the feasibility of the practices has been demonstrated and an incipient capacity for their application installed, widespread application is expected to be financially sustainable requiring no further incremental funding.

Increased tourism visitation to reserves is placing excessive pressure on wildlife. The proposed alternative is to demonstrate the feasibility of recommendations from the Pilot Phase PCZMP to alleviate this pressure.

The first related to *the diversification of land-based attractions for tourists to reduce pressure on marine colonies*. Terrestrial flora and fauna in Patagonia could provide an attractive alternative to tourists - as well as economic benefits to local communities - thereby furnishing another destination to increase visitors' stay in the region, diversify their visits, and thus regulate pressure on any one specific area.

As yet, no clear procedures and practices have been defined to ensure that land-based tourism develops within the carrying capacity of Patagonia's terrestrial environments, nor has the effectiveness of this diversification as a measure to support marine conservation been measured. The proposed alternative would demonstrate diversifying nature-based tourism near the coast.

The proposed action would determine best practices to be used in diversifying nature-based tourism thereby alleviating pressure of tourist visitation to marine sites. Additional global benefits would be accrued through demonstrating a commercial value for other Patagonian endangered species thereby reducing existing pressures in some Patagonian Provinces. Incremental expenditure is restricted to covering the cost of establishing this feasibility and developing procedures within the context of eco-tourism management.

The second recommendation to be applied to alleviate tourism visitation pressure *is improved reserve revenue management to optimise wildlife conservation*. The proposed alternative will undertake a pilot study to demonstrate the benefits accrued to wildlife conservation through enhanced revenue management providing immediate benefit to the wildlife of the site and establishing specific guidelines that can be replicated throughout Patagonia's marine and coastal protected areas. Incremental financing will be required only to establish and test guidelines in the pilot site.

Finally, the alternative strategy will include an awareness and outreach component designed to build a strong marine conservation constituency amongst the public to develop national ownership and pride in these efforts.

5. Scope of Analysis

The scope of the analysis includes all the significant changes caused by the decision to undertake the alternative strategy within the project boundary which includes near-shore and artisan fisheries; protected area and wildlife management; planned coastal ecotourism for biodiversity conservation; inter-provincial coordination for biodiversity conservation, management and planning, and monitoring; and corresponding capacity building activities.

INCREMENTAL COST MATRIX

	Baseline	Alternative	Increment
Global Biodiversity Benefits	Developmental pressures and lack of inter-sectoral coordination of activities in the coastal zone are jeopardizing the long-term survival probabilities of coastal and marine biodiversity in Patagonia.	An effective provincial and inter-provincial coordinating framework can ensure coordination between different sectors to the level and extent necessitated by conservation concerns. Demonstrations on biodiversity-friendly tourism management and fishing practices reduce barriers to integration of these measures into productive sectors. A strong marine conservation constituency amongst the public will develop national ownership and pride in these efforts.	Habitat of threatened and vulnerable coastal and marine species are conserved within a representative network of marine protected areas, thus securing options and existence values.
Domestic benefits	Degradation of the marine and coastal environment and resources is affecting long-term potential of economic sectors based on marine resources and quality of life of coastal communities.	Improved in-country capacity to include environmental considerations into long-term planning and management of the coastal zone.	Potential benefits from improved prospects of the fisheries and tourism sectors.
Costs/ Activities			
<u>Marine contamination</u>	<p>IDB/GoA funded programme to develop a model for an Integrated Federal and Provincial approach to environmental management of the coastal zone including capacity strengthening and infrastructural investments for mitigating contaminant run-off, untreated effluents, etc. (US\$ 26 million).</p> <p>Component of IDB/GoA/WB funded programme to Municipalities for infrastructural investments and technical assistance to improve sewage and sanitation facilities in coastal towns (US\$ 3.9 million).</p> <p>Coastal contamination component of WB/Japan Exim Bank/GoA funded programme that will undertake activities such as monitoring and testing sewage and industrial effluents, waste water treatment facilities, oil spill monitoring, and regional oil spill contingency plans in Puerto Madryn (US\$ 18.3 million).</p>	<p>IDB/GoA funded programme to develop a model for an Integrated Federal and Provincial approach to environmental management of the coastal zone including capacity strengthening and infrastructural investments for mitigating contaminant run-off, untreated effluents, etc. (US\$ 26 million).</p> <p>Component of IDB/GoA/WB funded programme to municipalities for infrastructural investments and technical assistance to improve sewage and sanitation facilities in coastal towns (US\$ 3.9 million).</p> <p>Coastal contamination component of WB/Japan Exim Bank/GoA funded programme that will undertake activities such as monitoring and testing sewage and industrial effluents, waste water treatment facilities, oil spill monitoring, and regional oil spill contingency plans in Puerto Madryn (US\$ 18.3 million).</p>	Increment: US\$ 0

	Baseline	Alternative	Increment
	IDB/GoA funded programme to improve environmental Management through up-dated port facilities and improved handling procedures in the Patagonian Provinces of Chubut and Santa Cruz (US\$ 65 million).	IDB/GoA funded programme to improve environmental management through up-dated port facilities and improved handling procedures in the Patagonian Provinces of Chubut and Santa Cruz (US\$ 65 million).	
<u>Consolidation of coordinating structure for planning developments in the coastal zone</u>	<p>An IDB/GoA funded program (US\$ 1,000,000) currently under development is expected to conduct the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feasibility studies on institutional and legal requirements for the implementation of ICZM at provincial and federal levels Updating and design of ICZMs based on feasibility studies and existing plans and programmes 	<p>An IDB/GoA funded program (US\$ 1,000,000) is expected to conduct the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feasibility studies on institutional and legal requirements for the implementation of ICZM at provincial and federal levels Updating and design of ICZMs based on feasibility studies and existing plans and programmes <p>Consolidate a provincial and inter-provincial coordinating framework to promote biodiversity conservation and biodiversity-friendly production practices across the four provinces of Patagonia (the fourth Province, Tierra del Fuego, needs to be included in the nascent structure established in the pilot-phase project); promote the use and targeting of economic instruments for conservation financing (US\$ 2,886,127).</p>	<p>Increment: GEF: US\$ 2,886,127</p>
<u>Coastal Protected Areas Network and sustainable use of biodiversity</u>	<p>Management and administration expenses of 7 marine reserves (US\$ 7.3 million). Activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring and enforcement of management plans Maintenance and upkeep of basic facilities 	<p>Management and administration expenses of 7 marine reserves (US\$ 7.3 million). Activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring and enforcement of management plans Maintenance and upkeep of basic facilities <p>Implementation of marine conservation priorities identified by the pilot-phase project i.e., establishing and strengthening an inter-provincial network of new and existing protected areas (US\$ 1,019,620).</p> <p>Demonstrations of biodiversity-friendly artisan and near-shore fishing practices (US\$ 248,536).</p> <p>Demonstration of biodiversity-friendly tourism management (US\$ 222,440).</p>	<p>Increment: GEF: US\$ 1,490,596</p>
<u>Public awareness and outreach</u>	<p>CNP/FPN will be carrying out the following activities (US\$ 500,000 in kind):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational literature on coastal and marine 	<p>CNP/FPN will be carrying out the following activities (US\$ 500,000 in kind):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial level awareness raising campaigns 	<p>Increment: GEF: US\$ 823,277</p>

	Baseline	Alternative	Increment
	biodiversity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media coverage and documentaries supporting conservation and sustainable management principles along coastal Patagonia 	targeting a variety of audiences (decision-makers; resource users; managers; students) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media coverage and documentaries supporting conservation and sustainable management principles along coastal Patagonia Public awareness and outreach program targeting a variety of audiences (decision-makers; resource users; managers; students) to garner support for coastal and marine biodiversity conservation (US\$ 823,277).	
Total Cost	Baseline: 122,000,000	Alternative: 127,200,000	Increment (GEF): 5,200,00

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ANNEX B STAP REVIEW

Argentina: Consolidation and Implementation of the Patagonia Coastal Zone Management Programme for Biodiversity Conservation

1. OVERALL IMPRESSION

The project concept is very sound and well articulated. The need for marine and coastal resource conservation and management for the Patagonia coast is well established and a highly worthy undertaking. The future of integrated coastal natural resources management which is viable and effective lies on the successful implementation of such programs as this one formulated for Argentina.

2. RELEVANCE AND PRIORITY

The relevance of this project with respect to biodiversity conservation is extremely high. There are few areas in the world with a more diverse and abundant marine and coastal fauna which is also unique in many respects. Within Argentina, the resource represented along the Patagonia coast are unsurpassed and constitute a significant national resource. The ecosystems and their species are indeed unique and can provide significant support to the development of Argentina if managed properly. The loss of these resources through poorly guided development would represent a tremendous loss to the country as well as the world. And, the economic consequences, although not fully measured at this time, would most likely be much more severe than presently anticipated.

3. BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

The background information is quite complete in that the proposed phase two of the project seems to build on the preliminary research and documentation of the resource base, ecosystem dynamics and management issues of primary importance. The project brief indicates that resource profiling and mapping is complete although without seeing these documents, it is difficult to evaluate their completeness and usefulness for coastal management planning. It also appears that the project fits well within national priorities and commitments. The degree of threat to biodiversity is explained well and reasonable given current development trends in Argentina and elsewhere in coastal areas. Additional background information which would assist to justify this project and will be needed to build political support and public commitment are suggested as follows (several of these are said to exist):

- a. Maps showing the locations of all resource and their interactions as natural systems and showing use patterns of people and the potential impacts of all human activities in the area of concern;
- b. A detailed coastal environmental profile of the entire area which fully explains the environmental, biophysical, socio-economic, legal and institutional situation in relation to potential management regimes.
- c. A series of cost-benefit calculations which quantify the various costs and benefits related to the potential loss or sustainable use of the primary coastal resources. Such an analysis should include environmental, socio-economic and financial perspectives on the long term conservation of selected areas of concern. This need to be done for at least the proposed protected areas and their resources base in relation to external benefits of fisheries and other ecological benefits plus potential revenues from tourism and other sources.

4. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL SOUNDNESS

The overall approach of the project is grounded in experience from other coastal zone management projects whereby certain basic zone management is as much of an art as a science. There is a growing body of knowledge which suggests that several phases over 5 to 10 years are required to make significant progress. This project which is embarking on an institutional building and implementation phase is well poised to progress given the background work of Phase One. Several ingredients which could contribute to its success are mentioned above and will help prove that scientific and technical considerations are being fully considered and being improved as the program builds momentum. Good coastal environmental profiles and sound environmental and economic justifications based on good research will always help to design such a project. And, this information, if presented appropriately, will help to convince politicians and other decision makers of the importance of the project.

5. OBJECTIVES

The objectives are comprehensive and support the needs of the project during this phase of work but they lack indicators of completion. It would be useful to draft indicators which measured partial and total completion for each objective. This will help determine whether the objectives are achievable and whether the activities are appropriate to complete the objectives. The objectives as stated are fully justified through explanation but it is not clear if they can be achieved given the level of funding and the activities described. There is some concern that the objectives are too broad and not focused enough to be achieved as stated (see below).

6. ACTIVITIES

Activity 2.3: Strengthened community stakeholder participation...

It would be useful here to better explain how the stakeholders will be involved in the coastal management planning process. Although the stated objective is to raise awareness through involvement in public hearing and monitoring, the ongoing process of planning needs a mechanism for local stakeholders to participate. This can of course be done through public hearings but there may be other means also such as: Informal community forums, group interviews, participatory mapping, random samples of opinion etc. among community groups. More education about benefits from management are constantly required to augment support for the process and its potential returns.

Activity 2.4: Long -term funding mechanism established...

Trust funds might best be set up for sub-regions of the Patagonia Management area. This would provide more responsive involvement of the fund managers with the needs of coastal management. A fund for each protected area initially may be appropriate to test its operation. A broader-based fund could be set up later. Experience indicated that trust funds operate more effectively when they are tied to the immediate needs of a geographic management area or a well-defined issue of concern.

Activity 3.2: Four projects demonstrating the feasibility of reducing the "reject" and "by-catch" rate in near shore fishing.

Although this set of activities may be useful in reducing waste, it is nowhere indicated that sustainable yields of the various fisheries have been determined. In terms of conservation of the large marine mammals and birds of importance to Patagonia, probably one of the most important ecological considerations is their food supply. It is reasonable to assume that increased fishing pressure will directly compete with the food requirements of the wildlife being conserved. An ecological model which delineates the parameters of the food web in relation to fisheries exploited by humans as well as the wildlife of concern will be important in long term management. Thus, the activities under output 4.1 are seen as short term stop gap measures which will not guarantee a long term sustainable fishery regime from either the perspective of the fishing industry or that of the marine conservationist (e.g. consuming wildlife).

Activity 3.3 One pilot project testing the feasibility of increasing visitation fees to improve conservation management in reserves.

I suggest that more than one pilot be tested. The lessons learned from this real-life test will more than outweigh the increased cost. One of the keys to success integrated coastal management is to begin field implementation trials early in the process.

Output 4.3: Inter-Provincial Ecotourism Policy...

The activities under this output are weak. It is not clear how a strong inter-provincial body will be formed which has national support. A key to its success will be a joint partnership with the national government in a politically supportive environment.

7. PARTICIPATORY ASPECTS

This was addressed briefly above. Generally, the project could gain from more pilot tests and on-the-ground work which will inherently involve local stakeholders in the planning and implementation process. Sustainable use and management is more likely to evolve and continue through a participatory process with major stakeholder roles in the planning and implementation phases. This implies that stakeholders must be part of a learning and management process. It also implies that the pilot tests should be accomplished at a scale which can practically include community groups in a meaningful manner from their perspective and not only that of the project implementers.

8. GLOBAL BENEFITS

The project brief very adequately lists the global environmental benefits from the project. These are clear and fairly universally accepted as agreed through the Convention on Biodiversity and Agenda 21. What may not be so clearly stated or documented are the real tangible benefits to the stakeholders of the Patagonia coastal area. Although we may assume that local benefits are evident, lower levels of income and education will drastically change how a stakeholder sees the world and the importance of their natural resources and especially those resources (species and ecosystems) of conservation concern.

9. GEF STRATEGIES AND PLANS

The project clearly fits within the context of GEF goals, operational strategies and programme priorities. Important aspects of the Biodiversity Convention are covered as well because of the high priority on conservation given to the Patagonia coastal resources.

10. REPLICABILITY

The replicability of the project will of course depend to a large degree on its success. Since it is on a strong course from Phase One, it should produce some replicable success. The various management bodies being set up are essential to success and how it can be replicated. If the bodies are active and become sustainable, this will provide a good

model to guide coastal management in other similar areas in Argentina and elsewhere. Since the social, economic, environmental and political context for coastal management projects almost always varies from one country to another, it is presumptuous to predict how easy it will be to learn from the lessons of Patagonia. But, having said this, it appears that a somewhat similar environmental, social and economic context exists in other parts of South America such as in Chile where similar model could work. It would make sense to combine the Tierra del Fuego efforts with Chile for this region since both countries have a stake in the area. There are similarities with parts of the African coast as well.

11. CAPACITY BUILDING

There is almost never enough capacity building to make such projects totally sustainable within the county of concern. The problem lies not so much with the effort directed at capacity building through training , education and other means. Rather, capacity building relates more to learning by doing and by acceptance of a program from the outset because of a strong local and national interest and self desire (will). It is essential that the Argentine government fully endorse the project both at the national and provincial levels. This will help insure that capacity is achieved. National and provincial budgets have to be dedicated to the work as counterpart to that of GEF. Motivated persons from government and non-government institutions must be active in the project from the beginning. The training as outlined in the proposal is adequate if used effectively within a supportive context.

12. PROJECT FUNDING

The proposed level of funding is adequate if there are sufficient counterpart contributions from local sources in terms of funds, goods, personnel, participation and political will.

13. TIME FRAME

Five years is a good time frame for the project. The work plan needs to be detailed on a yearly basis to provide adequate guidance to the project. The objectives can be attained if some modifications are made to focus activities as suggested above.

14. SECONDARY ISSUES

- a. There could be linkages to GEF work in international waters because of the fishery management issues of concern which have implications for global fishing fleets in the southern Atlantic Ocean near Patagonia.
- b. Linkages to other programs and action plans are not known.

c. The project is very innovative in that it builds on the experience of integrated coastal management (ICM) programs in other parts of the world. Since ICM is a new approach to natural resource management and conservation which demands multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary collaboration to be effective, it is not a simple undertaking. This project attempts to bring in current thinking on ICM which is innovative by definition.

15. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

This is a good project and should be funded. If there is one aspect which could be improved from the outset, it is to include more emphasis on the value of conservation in economic terms. As we see the world's environment deteriorate, we realize more and more that this is not only an aesthetic loss but a monumental practical and economic loss. It affects our daily well being and becomes increasingly costly to repair. Patagonia is no exception and should be highlighted more in an economic context. Although the ecological resources of Patagonia are not all easy to value in economic terms, the effort will show worth in more than aesthetic terms. This will also assist to convince politicians about the need for such programs both in Argentina and elsewhere.

Comments on the STAP review recommendations

The STAP review was effected on a draft version of the Project Brief which has since been revised to address and clarify both the reviewer's comments as well as others. Below, is a brief indication on how these have been included in the current version of the Project Brief or will be addressed in the Project Document.

Indicators of completion: (Project Planning Matrix)

Indicators to measure progress, impact and completion, are provided for each output and objective and presented in the Project Document as part of the Project's Planning Matrix. Annual workplans will also include success and achievement indicators to facilitate overall progress and adopt the corrective measures as appropriate in a time-effective manner.

Community Stakeholder Participation: (pg.17 – Activity 2.3)

In addition to the multisectoral management structure identified for both project management and implementation - consisting of *Provincial Coastal Committees* comprised of both government and non-governmental actors; *Protected Areas Working Groups (PAWGS)* comprised of local stakeholders and government representatives; and the *Regional Coastal Committee*, activities such as community forums, public hearings, participatory mapping, and samples of opinion, will continue to form an integral part of the Project's participation strategy. In this regard, the lessons and successful experience derived from the Pilot Phase Project will be replicated and expanded to Tierra del Fuego.

One Pilot Project to test higher visitation fees: (pg. 20 – Activity 3.1)

The reviewer's suggestion to test more than one pilot site has been incorporated with activities to analyze the potential optimization of eco-tourism revenue included as part of the activities related to the development and strengthening of protected area's management plans.

Inter-Provincial Eco-tourism Policy: (pg. 20 – Activity 3.3)

The reviewer's recommendations have been taken into consideration in the current and revised version of the Project Brief. Although tourism at the Provincial level is the responsibility of local governments, as opposed to the Federal, the proposed review of biodiversity-based tourism policy will build on the work and recommendations of the Provincial Commissions working in collaboration with Federal counterparts as appropriate. Recommendations pertaining to policy review for coastal eco-tourism, along

with the corresponding requirements for effective monitoring will be reviewed by the Provincial Coastal Management Committees for approval and where needed, further collaboration with Federal authorities.

Participatory Aspects:

Local stakeholder involvement in planning and management, will be effected not only through the highly participatory management structures identified for project implementation, but also through local sub-contracting of Project activities and components to Provincial actors including local NGOs, academia, and private sector. As previously mentioned, local involvement in implementation of Project activities - through sub-contracts and representative management structures - proved to be a highly effective modality in the Pilot Phase Project and will continue during this implementation and expansion phase.

Global Benefits:

The benefits to be derived from the conservation of Patagonia's marine and coastal biological diversity, particularly in terms of the goods and services these might provide to local stakeholders, is a fundamental concern of the Project closely related to its long-term sustainability. Identifying and promoting sustainable conservation-based tourism, the valuation of coastal and marine resources, as well as the economic advantages to maintaining the integrity of the coastal and marine ecosystem for productive activity, constitute primary strategic objectives of the project.

ANNEX C
PROJECT PLANNING MATRIX

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
<p>Development Objective:</p> <p>Globally important marine and coastal biodiversity in Patagonia's coastal ecosystem is protected by integrating conservation measures and biodiversity friendly production practices into regional coastal planning and management.</p>			
<p>Project Purpose:</p> <p>National, provincial & local stakeholders are able to effectively plan, manage & coordinate resource use & development to conserve biodiversity in the context of integrated coastal zone management.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Multistakeholder Provincial Coastal Management Commissions</i> are fully functioning in the four provinces. The Regional Coastal Management Commission is operational. • Biodiversity conservation principles are mainstreamed into provincial policies & legislation in the framework of coastal zone management. • A protected areas network – comprised of new & existing protected areas – is operational. • Biodiversity resources are sustainably utilized in tourism and nearshore fisheries. • Biodiversity conservation through protected areas & sustainable uses receives strong 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule of regular meetings, minutes of meetings, CMC decisions and actions, records of representation of and participation by stakeholders at all meetings • Official gazettes and review of sectoral policies • Official gazettes. Protected Area management plans. Systematic monitoring and assessments. • Systematic monitoring and assessments. Official gazettes (for adoption of policy and legislation) • Public surveys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More immediate priorities for Provincial Governments will not emerge over the short term with corresponding reallocation of staff time & resources to meet them. Representatives of all key stakeholder groups will participate in CMC. • More immediate priorities for Provincial Governments will not emerge over the short term with corresponding reallocation of staff time and resources to meet them. • Irresolvable conflicts will not arise over boundaries of prospective protected areas. • Feasibility studies carried out by the project demonstrate that sustainable use techniques & systems are commercially viable. • Students and public at large will internalize and act on biodiversity conservation & sustainable use

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
	public support.		messages presented to them.
Output 1: Incorporation of the Province of Tierra del Fuego into the Patagonia Coastal Zone Management Programme for biodiversity conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial Coastal Zone Management Plan for Biodiversity Conservation based on diagnostic analysis and corresponding recommendations endorsed by government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication of Diagnostic Reports and Plan Technical evaluation of Plan Official gazette 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial Government will officially endorse Plan.
Output 2: Consolidate and strengthen the provincial and inter-provincial coordinating framework for long-term coastal zone planning and management aimed at biodiversity conservation and biodiversity friendly production practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully functional provincial and regional coastal management committees, with active stakeholder participation and operational funding. PCZMP recommendations addressed in new coastal development initiatives. Provincial CZM Plans are coordinated, endorsed and under implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting schedules, agendas, minutes and attendance records Records of EIAs CZM Plans, endorsement proceedings and implementation workplans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No pressing problems will take priority over the short-term, thereby diverting staff and financial resources from participation in CMC. Coastal developers will be motivated to abide by EIA constraints and procedures. Irresolvable conflicts will not arise among stakeholder groups during preparation of Plans regarding scope,

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic instruments for conservation financing are developed and implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project records; legal gazettes and amendments. 	<p>objectives, and activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial governments remain supportive of the use and targeting of economic instruments for financing conservation.
<p>Output 3:</p> <p>Patagonia coastal protected areas network is operational, and sustainable uses of biodiversity have been adopted in tourism and nearshore fisheries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New protected areas gazetted, with proportional budget and staff for PA management. Network of protected areas is operational. Fishing companies have adopted biodiversity friendly practices. Sustainable ecotourism practices and systems adopted by private sector companies. Ecotourism policies and strategies adopted by Provincial CMCs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Official gazettes; protected area management plans. <p>Schedule, agendas, minutes and records of attendance of coordination meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Official reports of coordinated interprovincial activities in support of PA network Systematic monitoring of fishing companies and evaluation of degree of adoption Periodic surveys of companies to determine trends in adoption Official gazettes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for Protected Areas continues to grow and is given greater priority within budgetary allocations by legislature. Provincial governments and services will provide systematic support to coordination activities. Demonstrations of biodiversity friendly fishing techniques/ technologies prove them to be commercially viable. Private sector will be motivated to adopt new technologies, practices. Financing will be available as appropriate for adapting and incorporating new technologies/ practices.

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY	OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consensus can be obtained regarding ecotourism policies and strategies
Output 4: Awareness-raising programme in support of biodiversity conservation through Coastal Zone Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major media identify project and its objectives as newsworthy and systematically report on it. Schools possess integrated information and material regarding project's objectives into curricula and lesson plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring of media: frequency, depth and type of reporting Surveys of stakeholders Number of teacher training courses held Number of education packages prepared and distributed to schools; number and range of schools Student evaluations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media will dedicate staff and resources to cover project and related issues at the appropriate depth. The official school system will be motivated to formally incorporate project issues into its curricula and planning. Students and teachers will internalize project-generated information.

Activities	Assumptions
1.1 Coordinate activities for formulation of diagnostic reports and preparation of CZM Plan. 1.2 Collect baseline information on coastal wildlife. 1.3 Collect baseline information on coastal ecotourism. 1.4 Collect baseline information on coastal fisheries. 1.5 Collect baseline information on pollution affecting coastal biodiversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Baseline information can be collected in a timely manner, given logistical and weather considerations, in order to generate the required diagnostic reports and the subsequent formulation of the Tierra del Fuego CZM Plan for stakeholder consideration, approval and endorsement. ➤ Tierra del Fuego stakeholders remain amenable to reviewing and endorsing the CZM Plan in the agreed upon time frame.
2.1 Formalize PCMCs and establish the RCMC for the implementation of the ICZM for biodiversity conservation 2.2 Develop the managerial, technical & admin capacities of government and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provincial stakeholders remain willing to support the establishment and operationalization of the Provincial Coastal Management Committees ➤ Agreements regarding the functions and operational modalities of the PCMCs

Activities	Assumptions
<p>NGOs for the effective conservation and management of coastal and marine biodiversity.</p> <p>2.3 Strengthen mechanisms for stakeholder participation in CZMP implementation.</p> <p>2.4 Develop and implement economic instruments for conservation financing.</p>	<p>facilitate the operationalization of these PCMCs. The initiation of operations is not hampered or unduly delayed by conflicts and disagreements regarding responsibilities or rotation of designated personnel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Capacity building activities and the delivery of new skills remains relevant to recipient audiences and is effectively applied. ➤ Stakeholders remain enthusiastic about engaging and participating in PCZM Plan review and implementation. ➤ Provincial governments remain supportive of the use and targeting of economic instruments for financing biodiversity conservation and coastal zone management.
<p>3.1 Strengthen protected area operations and management capacity.</p> <p>3.2 Support sustainable artisan/nearshore fishing practices.</p> <p>3.3 Develop a programme for biodiversity-friendly tourism.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Stakeholders remain enthusiastic in actively participating in the development of PA management plans. ➤ PA coordination mechanisms are effectively adopted and willingness to share experiences remains high. ➤ PA management skills are effectively imparted through project-related training and acquired skills applied in toward the improvement of conservation-based management. ➤ Punta Tombo pilot demonstration and lessons learnt are effectively applied to other PAs. ➤ Stakeholder willingness to define a strategy and action plan for the long-term consolidation and maintenance of the ➤ Proposed PA network remains high. ➤ Artisan and near-fishing cooperatives remain amenable to participating in project-related activities and adopting proposed recommendations and sustainable fishing techniques. ➤ Recommendations from demonstration projects are effectively applied and replicated in other PAs. ➤ Provincial authorities are amenable to reviewing and integrating resulting recommendations to tourism policy.
<p>4.1 Increase public awareness of the value of coastal biodiversity</p> <p>4.2 Implement formal education program.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Provincial stakeholders are willing to act proactively on their new-gained information and knowledge regarding coastal and marine biodiversity. ➤ Media remains receptive to material and conservation-related issues and project-related information.

ANNEX D PROJECT BUDGET

Activity	Line	Description	Total	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT PERSONNEL	210	Secretary	90,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
	510	Assistant - Puerto Madryn	90,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
	510	Assistant - Tierra del Fuego	45,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000
	13.99	SUB TOTAL	225,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
	15.00	DUTY TRAVEL						
	110	Local travel (Provinces) Chubut, St. Cruz, Rio N., Tierra F.	9,100	2,275	2,275	2,275	2,275	
	120	Local travel (Provinces) Chubut, St. Cruz, Rio N., Tierra F.	15,000	5,000		5,000		5,000
	210	Local travel (Provinces) Chubut, St. Cruz, Rio N., Tierra F.	43,400	8,640	8,640	8,640	8,640	8,640
	310	Local travel (Provinces) Chubut, St. Cruz, Rio N., Tierra F.	50,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
	410	Local travel (Provinces) Chubut, St. Cruz, Rio N., Tierra F.	45,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000
MISSION COSTS	510	Local travel (Provinces) Chubut, St. Cruz, Rio N., Tierra F.	20,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
	15.99	SUB TOTAL	182,500	39,115	33,915	38,915	33,915	36,640
	16.00	MISSION COSTS						
	16.01	Mission Costs - Monitoring and evaluations	25,000			12,000		13,000
	16.02	Mission Costs - Audits	100,000		25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
	16.99	SUB TOTAL	125,000		25,000	37,000	25,000	38,000
	17.00	LOCAL CONSULTANTS						
	110	Tierra del Fuego technical advisor	72,000	14,400	14,400	14,400	14,400	14,400
	120	Short-term consultants/in-service training	6,000	\$2,000	2,000	2,000		
	130	Ecotourism consultant	9,000	4,500		4,500		
MISSION COSTS	140	Coastal fisheries consultant	9,000	4,500		4,500		
	150	Coastal pollution consultant	9,000	4,500		4,500		
	210	Short-term consultants	200,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
	210	CMEC support consultants	160,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	
	230	Community participation consultant	90,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
	310	Protected areas component coordinator	108,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	
	310	Short-term consultants	90,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
	320	Coastal fisheries consultant	63,000		31,500	31,500		
	320	Coastal fisheries technical assistants	18,000		9,000	9,000		

Activity	Line	Description	Total	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
330	17.13	Short-term consultants	46,000		23,000	23,000		
330	17.14	Ecotourism consultant	63,000		31,500	31,500		
410	17.15	CMEC public relations officer	90,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
420	17.16	Formal education consultants	30,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
420	17.17	Environmental education consultant	180,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000
510	17.18	Project coordinator	216,000	43,200	43,200	43,200	43,200	43,200
510	17.19	Project administrator	120,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000
	17.99	SUB TOTAL	1,579,000	319,100	414,100	400,600	267,600	177,600
	21.00	SUBCONTRACTS						
120	21.01	Overflights	12,000	8,000	4,000			
120	21.02	Boat rental	14,000	7,000	7,000			
210	21.03	Coastal biodiversity surveys	10,000	6,000	4,000			
210	21.04	Coastal pollution surveys	10,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
210	21.05	Production and printing of provincial CZM plans	20,000	10,000	5,000	5,000		
210	21.06	Technical assistance for the development of CZM plans	50,000	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	
210	21.07	Priority biodiversity pilot projects	600,000	300,000	300,000			
220	21.08	FPN Institutional analysis and evaluating	30,000	15,000	15,000			
220	21.09	FPN Training program	120,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	24,000
220	21.10	FPN Fundraising support	50,000	16,000	18,000	16,000		
220	21.11	FPN General operations support	150,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
240	21.12	Design and implementation of economic instruments for conservation financing	145,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000	29,000
310	21.13	Production and printing of protected areas management plans	8,000		8,000			
310	21.14	Protected area pilot project: Punta Tombo	185,000	37,000	37,000	37,000	37,000	37,000
330	21.15	Pilot projects	50,000		25,000	25,000		
410	21.16	Production and printing of CZM plans	10,000	8,000	2,000			
410	21.17	Production and printing of newsletter	30,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
410	21.18	Production and broadcasting of radio and TV spots	40,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
420	21.19	Production and printing of educational materials	40,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
420	21.20	Production and printing of biodiversity teaching packages	25,000		12,500	12,500		
	21.99	SUB TOTAL	1,599,000	526,500	557,000	215,000	156,500	144,000
	30.00	TRAINING						
110	32.01	Tierra del Fuego diagnostics and recommendation workshop	15,000	15,000				
130	32.02	Ecotourism workshop	2,500	2,500				
210	32.03	Provincial CZM plan public hearings	40,000	20,000	20,000			
210	32.04	Regional CZM planning workshops	60,000	40,000	20,000			

Activity	Line	Description	Total	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
310	32.05	Protected areas management plan workshops	50,000	25,000	25,000			
310	32.06	Protected areas public hearings	72,000	36,000	36,000			
320	32.07	Private sector fisheries workshops	12,000	6,000	6,000			
320	32.08	Two fisheries observer training workshops	16,000		8,000	8,000		
330	32.09	Private sector tourism workshops	9,000		4,500	4,500		
	32.99	SUB TOTAL	276,500	144,500	119,500	12,500		
	33.00	IN SERVICE TRAINING						
130	33.01	Ecotourism in-service training	9,000		6,000	3,000		
140	33.02	Fisheries in-service training	15,000	9,000	6,000			
150	33.03	Pollution research in-service training	5,000	2,500	2,500			
230	33.04	Community participation courses	144,000	72,000	72,000			
310	33.05	Protected area management in-service training	26,000	13,000	13,000			
310	33.06	Wildlife warden training course	85,000	42,500	42,500			
320	33.07	In-service fisheries training	75,000	37,500	37,500			
330	33.08	Ecotourism training course	11,000	5,500	5,500			
420	33.09	Formal education courses	90,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
510	33.10	CZM in-service training	12,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	
	33.99	SUB TOTAL	472,000	203,000	206,000	24,000	21,000	18,000
	40.00	EQUIPMENT						
		<i>Expendable equipment and supplies</i>						
210	45.01	Office supplies	33,000	6,600	6,600	6,600	6,600	6,600
310	45.02	Office supplies	40,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
310	45.03	Protected areas field supplies	35,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
320	45.04	Fisheries field supplies	16,000	8,000	8,000			
510	45.05	Office supplies	15,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
		<i>Non-expendable equipment</i>						
110	45.06	Boat & engine	7,000	7,000				
120	45.07	Laboratory equipment	5,000	5,000				
210	45.08	Computer equipment and peripherals	12,000	6,000	6,000			
230	45.09	Computer equipment and peripherals	2,500	2,500				
310	45.10	Computer equipment and peripherals	5,000	2,500	2,500			
310	45.11	Vehicles	22,000	22,000				
310	45.12	Binoculars and scopes	5,000	2,000	3,000			
310	45.13	Photographic equipment	1,500	1,500				

Activity	Line	Description	Total	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
410	45.14	Computer equipment and peripherals	2,500	2,500				
410	45.15	LCD computer projectors	10,000	5,000	5,000			
410	45.16	Audiovisual projectors	7,000	3,500	3,500			
410	45.17	Overhead projectors	1,500	500	1,000			
420	45.18	Vehicles	18,000	18,000				
420	45.19	Computer equipment and peripherals	2,500	2,500				
510	45.20	Computer equipment and peripherals	10,000	8,000	2,000			
510	45.21	Photocopier	2,500	2,500				
510	45.22	Fax	1,000	500	500			
510	45.23	Vehicles	44,000	22,000	22,000			
110	45.72	Boat maint & ops	6,000	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
310	45.73	Vehicle maint & ops	20,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
420	45.74	Vehicle maint & ops	26,000	5,200	5,200	5,200	5,200	5,200
510	45.75	Office equipment maintenance	5,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
510	45.76	Vehicle maint & ops	39,000	7,800	7,800	7,800	7,800	7,800
510	45.77	Office maint & ops	10,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
	49.00	SUB TOTAL	404,000	167,300	99,300	45,800	45,800	45,800
	50.00	MISCELLANEOUS						
140	53.01	Fisheries field support	13,000	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600
150	53.02	Pollution research field support	10,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
210	53.03	Phone and postage	30,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
310	53.04	Phone and postage	18,000	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600
410	53.05	Phone and postage	60,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000
510	53.06	Sundry	50,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
520	54.01	Project support services	156,000	31,200	31,200	31,200	31,200	31,200
	59.00	SUB TOTAL	337,000	67,400	67,400	67,400	67,400	67,400
	99.00	TOTAL BUDGET	5,200,000	1,511,915	1,567,215	886,215	662,215	572,440

ANNEX E

INDICATIVE PROJECT WORK PLAN

(5 years commencing June 1999)

[illegible]

Output 4: Awareness raising program in support of biodiversity conservation through coastal zone management

Activity 4.1: Increase public awareness on the value of coastal and marine biodiversity

[illegible]

ANNEX F
GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT ENDORSEMENT

ANNEX G

CRITICAL AREAS FOR MARINE AND COASTAL BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Based on Pilot Phase Project baseline information, recommendations of the Protected Areas Programme, and consultations with local stakeholders (who will form part of the Protected Area Working Groups, described in Output 3, above), the following constitute the critical areas for conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity, based on biodiversity value and degree of vulnerability and threat. Please note that of the critical areas identified below, seven have been selected as Priority Protected Areas for specific management and conservation actions described in Annex H.

Province of Rio Negro:

San Antonio Oeste and adjacent areas. (Priority protected area). This is a major coastal wetland of great importance to migratory shorebirds, bivalves and artisan fisheries. Parts have reserve status but have no enforcement provisions. No management plan exists and critical areas (breeding, nesting, foraging routes) are not properly demarcated. In the absence of a management plan and proper demarcation of restricted and multiple-use zones, to guide future development, much of the area is likely to be significantly compromised by infrastructural development and industrial pollution.

Punta Bermeja. (Priority protected area). An important colony of sea lions now receiving as many as 50,000 visitors. While the area has Provincial Reserve status, and has wildlife rangers, no management plan or updated demarcations exists. Furthermore, the influx of tourists has not been properly managed to either assess the carrying capacity of the area, or devise the most appropriate type of conservation-based tourism to ensure financial returns for self-sustaining conservation. Monitoring activities to evaluate the status of biodiversity on an on-going basis are also non-existent limiting the ability to evaluate impacts of developmental activities in near-by areas and the corresponding measures required to effectively address them.

Province of Chubut:

The great majority of critical wildlife areas with tourist potential are found in Chubut, which has an advantageous infrastructure and climate).

Peninsula Valdes. (Priority protected areas) including *Golfo San Jose, Punta Buenos Aires, Punta Norte, Caleta Valdes, Punta Delgada and Punta Piramide*, correspond to the "Serengeti" of Patagonia. The coastal bays and inlets, broad beaches and cliffs are the center of the regions's breeding populations of southern elephant seals (the only continental colony in the world), the major breeding congregations of right whales, as well as substantial populations of other cetaceans, major rookeries of southern sea lions, colonies of

cormorants, penguins, terns and other sea birds as well as transient populations of many migratory shorebirds. It is the center of Patagonian tourism and has a well-established wildlife ranger system. In spite of its critical biodiversity biomass, the areas comprised in Peninsula Valdez - although conferred with protected area status - have no management plans. Reserve and fishing areas are inadequately demarcated and rangers are inadequately trained. Furthermore, the spectacular terrestrial fauna of Darwin's rheas, Patagonian caviés and guanacos is almost totally unprotected. Area wildlife vulnerable to oil spills and overfishing. During 1999, the province of Chubut developed the *Península Valdés* management plan using a participation process based on the First Phase of the PCZMP. The province needs assistance in implementing this plan. In particular, the spectacular terrestrial fauna of Darwin's rheas, Patagonian caviés and guanacos is almost totally unprotected. The area wildlife is also vulnerable to oil spills and overfishing.

Golfo Nuevo and Punta Loma. (Priority protected areas). This area includes an exceptionally accessible concentration of southern right whales (center for whale-viewing with tourism over 40,000/annum) and a spectacular near city wintering population of southern sea lions. While protected by provincial wildlife rangers, the area has no management plan or scientifically adequate monitoring programme. Area wildlife vulnerable to oil spills and overfishing.

Cabo dos Bahias. This provincial reserve and the adjacent areas to the south, such as Bahia Bustamante, are a major concentration of sea birds and marine mammals. Cabo dos Bahias had one of the last fur seal colonies in Chubut (now lost). It has a ranger station and is guarded. There is no management plan and demarcation, monitoring and ranger training are inadequate. The area's wildlife is vulnerable to oil spills and overfishing.

Area from Isla Pinguino to Bahia Laura. (Priority protected areas). This is a major concentration of coastal biodiversity and wildlife (sea lions, six species of seabirds). It includes Punta Buque, a presently remote and unusually lovely seabird (large penguin colony) and mammal colony site. Although Isla Pinguino and Bahia Laura are "paper reserves" Punta Buque has neither reserve status nor protection of any kind. Minor kelp and guano harvesting is taking place there. This area is vulnerable to oil spills and overfishing and has suffered badly in recent spills.

Bahia San Julian/Santa Cruz/Monte Leon A major artisanal fishery operates in this area. It is also home to a large Patagonia's penguin colony in an unusually one of Patagonia's larger penguin colonies (200,000) and unusually scenic landscape. A small sea lion colony, cliff nesting cormorants, and a significant population of guanacos make the area of special interest. Nominally a provincial reserve, Monte Leon and the estancia immediately north of it are now expected to be declared the first coastal National Parks in Argentina. A preliminary management plan has been developed and coordinated with the work of the UNDP/GEF Pilot Phase Project. This region is also vulnerable to oil spills and overfishing.

Cabo Virgenes. The closest marine Magellanic penguin colony to the city of Rio Gallegos, Cabo Virgenes provides a nesting beach for 180,000 Magellanic penguins directly opposite raring off-shore Chilean oil rigs. Cabo Virgenes received 5,000 visitors in 1995. There were 5,000 visits in 1995. The area is extremely vulnerable to oil spills.

Isla Rasa. Recently discovered by the UNDP/GEF Pilot Phase Project, the island is major colony of southern fur seals (12,000) in Patagonia. Area wildlife vulnerable to oil spills and overfishing, unprotected, monitoring or managed.

Isla Leones. Major sea lion and penguin colony. A former coast guard station, this area could lend itself to protection and monitoring efforts. Area wildlife vulnerable to oil spills and overfishing.

Bahia Melo to Isla Quintana. This long area of spectacular Patagonian coast includes some forty islands where 13 species of sea birds nest along with significant numbers of sea lions. The cormorants colonies are exploited for guano and the bays are a major producer of kelp. Area wildlife vulnerable to oil spills and overfishing and it is the site of a fishery which is inadequately demarcated with regard to its impact upon wildlife and biodiversity.

Province of Santa Cruz:

Although this province has spectacular wildlife assets, an almost complete lack of conservation and management infrastructure and less reliable weather makes their exploitation for tourism difficult at this time.

Monte Loayza. (Priority protected area). This area counts with the largest sea lion colony on the mainland coast. Characterized by unusual rock formations, it holds breeding sites for six species of marine seabirds and large coastal populations of guanacos and Darwin's rheas. The area, while designated as a reserve, is inadequately demarcated and has no management plan. Vulnerability to overfishing from near-shore fisheries is a growing concern, particularly in view that effective monitoring programmes to measure impact are non-existent.

Ria Deseado. (Priority protected area). Exceptionally spectacular and important wildlife area beginning to be compromised by unplanned development of Puerto Deseado construction and municipal wastes. Eight species of marine birds nest along the Ria's shores and cliffs and the area is also important for unusual cetaceans (e.g. Commerson's dolphin) for migratory shorebirds and for access to nearby Isla Pinguino, the only colony of rockhopper penguins along the Patagonian coast. Some 9,000 tourists visited the area in 1994. This area is also vulnerable to oil spills and overfishing.

Cabo Blanco. Last colony of southern fur seals breeding directly on coast, but small. Five species of sea birds and southern sea lions on spectacular coastal rock formation adjacent to manned lighthouse (faro). Area wildlife vulnerable to oil spills and overfishing. Easily accessible from Puerto Deseado. A paper reserve with no management plan, rangers, reserve or demarcation.

ANNEX H

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PRIORITY PROTECTED AREAS

As established through consultations conducted during the Pilot Phase project, and elaborated by the Patagonia Coastal Zone Management Plan. Recommendations described below include both baseline and incremental activities.

I. RECOMMENDATIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL PROTECTED AREAS

1. Correct problems of overlapping jurisdictions to ensure effective monitoring and management of each area.
2. Modify the boundaries of protected areas, incorporating new areas of importance to biodiversity conservation.
3. Develop conservation management strategies in collaboration with local, provincial and national stakeholders.
4. Restrict to a minimum the number of buildings and constructions of any kind in the protected areas.
5. Prohibit the use of all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) in protected areas.
6. Control the concessions granted to extract guano, and implement the guidelines proposed in this plan.
7. Tighten control on mariculture concessions in protected areas to limit the periods and types of systems to minimize environmental impact.
8. Develop management plans including inventories, monitoring and interpretation.
9. Avoid or limit commercial fishing within the boundaries of marine protected areas.
10. Deny transit of oil tankers through protected areas.
11. Respect use restrictions defined for each protected area.

III. MANAGEMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR PRIORITY PROTECTED AREAS

SAN ANTONIO OESTE- Province of Rio Negro

1. Extend Marine Area to ensure protection of breeding areas and foraging routes.
2. Strengthen environmental education programs in terms of the ecological sensitivity of the area.
3. Establish areas of strict protection for migratory shore birds during migration periods.
4. Carry out an Environment Impact Assessment for the Soda Sovay plant, under construction, to determine with greater specificity the potential impacts on shorebird feeding areas in the Bahia San Antonio, due to physical habitat modification and physical and chemical modifications to the sea and sediments.
5. Carry out an EIA for the SAO and SAE fishing piers.

PUNTA BERMEJA- Province of Rio Negro

1. Maintain the use if the reserve limited to tourism with observation of the animals from the bluffs and restricted access to the coast.
2. Develop new systems of interpretation to improve the quality of the visit and to stimulate greater numbers of visitors.
3. Assess the feeding areas of the sea lions and possible interactions with fisheries with the aim of defining a marine feeding area around the protected area.

VALDES PENINSULA, GOLFO NUEVO-SAN JOSE MARINE PARK-PUNTA LOMA- Province of Chubut

1. Assist the province of Chubut in the implementation of the recently created protection unit for the Valdes peninsula which includes the totality of the San Jose and Nuevo Gulfs, and the marine areas surrounding the peninsula developed under the leadership of the OPT.
2. Regulate navigation in the waters surrounding the peninsula in function of its impact on biodiversity.

3. Discourage establishment of housing and constructions on the coast of the San Jose Gulf and the marine perimeter of the peninsula.
4. Limit urban development of the Valdes Peninsula up to Puerto Piramide as sole urban center, and to maintain its tourism objective as the only prospective use.
5. Maintain Puerto Piramide as daily support for tourism to Valdes- overnight outside- to maintain the perception of the Valdes as a natural area.
6. Improve urban waste treatment.
7. Pick up trash and refuse periodically along the roads on the peninsula.
8. Prevent the dumping of liquid effluent from Puerto Piramide into Golfo Nuevo; construct treatment ponds and use treated water for forestation.
9. Prohibit the placement of ropes or floating structures in the water in the entire area of Golfo San Jose between the months of April and December to protected southern right whales.

MONTE LOAYZA-Province of Santa Cruz

1. Modify the status of Monte Loayza to a Natural Wild Reserve.
2. Create a multiple use Marine Protected Areas extending from the coast to 30 miles off-shore between Bajo Mazzaredo and Bahia Laura.
3. Specialized tourism limited to small groups accompanied by tour guides, and use of trails. Access to the beach prohibited.
4. Wildlife observation from the reserve's rocks with use of trails. Access to islets prohibited.

RIA DESEADO-Province of Santa Cruz

1. Designated protected area status to Isla Chata, Punta Medanosa, Bahia Laura.
2. Change status of Ria Deseado to Managed Habitat reserve, to include coasts, islands and the marine areas; Declare strict protection for the coasts and island with colonies of gray cormorants, penguins, and sea lions.
3. Identify and implement best practices/modalities for wildlife observation and minimal disturbance (e.g., from boats).

4. Specialized tourism with trained guides. Opening of a small section of the penguin colony with trails, avoiding seabird access routes to the sea.
5. Guano extraction to be exclusively conducted in restricted areas defined by the PCZMP.
6. Limit construction to areas in which it is already occurring.
7. Avoid artisan fishing in the areas surrounding Isla Chata, prohibit recreational tourism, and limit navigation near the island.
8. Use Isla Pinguino for strictly controlled tourism limited to a maximum of 50 people at one time on the island accompanied by specialized wildlife rangers.
9. Prohibit the navigation of oil tankers through the area.

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ANNEX I

STRATEGIC GUIDELINES FOR TOURISM

1. Estimate the carrying capacity for the natural resources used by tourism.
2. Guarantee continuity of research on the impact of tourism on breeding area of the Southern Right Whale.
3. Develop and update specific management plans for protected and non-protected areas.
4. Ensure optimal economic/financial management of protected areas for tourism.
5. Include guidelines for infrastructure and recreational development in urban planning.
6. Coordinate coastal and near-coastal access road development with the relevant authorities to minimize impact on biodiversity.
7. Provide a regulatory framework for tourist activity.
8. Build the capacities of government staff and other stakeholders to plan, manage, monitor and regulate tourism activity.
9. Evaluate the tourism market and the socio-economic impact of tourism in the protected areas of the region.
10. Augment the average stay of visitors to the region, and improve the quality of their stay/experience.
11. Encourage investments in ecotourism.
12. Monitor tourism services to determine the supply and orient investment.
13. Determine the economic value of natural resources and protected areas.
14. Determine the economic value of native terrestrial fauna.
15. Determine areas for sport tourism using all-terrain vehicles, and prohibit their use outside these areas

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ANNEX J
PROXIMATE THREATS, UNDERLYING CAUSES AND PROPOSED ACTIONS

Proximate threats to coastal and marine ecosystem	Underlying causes	Necessary actions
Oil spills from loading facilities. *	Poor management and monitoring of coastal oil wells and loading facilities.	Increase pollution monitoring systems on the loading buoys and pier. Education and outreach efforts should involve captains, seamen, and crew.
	The high tide differences at Punta Loyola (near Magellan Strait, 12 meters) and short day light (less than 6 hours), delay tankers from entering and exiting the pier to load hydrocarbons.	Improvement in the system of lighthouses and signals as well as the entrance channel to the harbor would allow maritime traffic at appropriate hours with more security. Studies of currents and bathymetry are also required.
	The mooring systems to load hydrocarbons (Swedish buoy) at Caleta Olivia port are near the beaching depth for the oil tankers.	A modification of the position to deeper and safer location is required.
Oil spills from coastal and offshore oil wells. *	Poor environmental monitoring of oil wells.	Permanent environmental controls near the wells, by official authorities.
	Poor knowledge of marine currents in the area.	Study of marine currents to estimate, through a model, the drift of oil spills.
Illegal ballast washing along the route between Buenos Aires and Patagonia. *	Conventional methods available to official authorities have very little or no possibility at all to control these spills.	Increase monitoring systems on the oil tanker. Use of satellite images to control illegal oil spills. Use of specific hydrocarbon dissolved dye to "identify" every oil crude company.
Increasing likelihood of accidental spills of hazardous & toxic materials as a result of increased commercial marine traffic. *	Navigational information infrastructure is not equipped to control and monitor increasing marine traffic.	Improved ship traffic control system.

Proximate threats to coastal and marine ecosystem	Underlying causes	Necessary actions
Untreated or poor treatment of sewage from urban population centers. On the coast, they produce eutrophication problems. *	Lack of sewage treatment facilities. Where facilities exist, these are poorly managed. Lack of options for using treated water, for example in irrigation of fields.	Develop complete urban treatment plant with re-using of treated water.
Solid garbage and liquid waste spilled by vessels traveling along the coast or anchored in ports of Patagonia. Adverse impact on marine mammals and birds. *	Lack of garbage vessels to collect waste from the ships.	Use of such vessels in different ports of the Patagonian coast. Extrapolate and replicate positive results obtained in the city of Puerto Madryn over the last three years. Implementation of integrated solid waste treatment plants.
Garbage dispersed by winds and distributed in the environment. *	Lack of facilities and poor management of garbage.	
Heavy metal pollution in San Antonio Bay (Rio Negro). *	Heavy metal accumulation (Lead, Copper, Zinc) in slag, produced by a smelting company more than 30 years ago.	Quantify the magnitude of this form of pollution. Apply sanitary and environmental measures to diminishing the natural and social impacts.
Over-harvesting of fish stocks by commercial fishing industry. *	Limited regulation of resource harvest. Poor enforcement of no-take zones in marine reserves.	
Over-harvesting of fish stocks by near shore and artisan fisheries; high fish by-catch rates.	Limited regulation of resource harvest. Poor enforcement of no-take zones in marine reserves. Local people lack adequate information on sustainable fishing practices that are both	Improve planning and enforcement of zoning requirements in management plans of reserves. Improve marine conservation awareness among fishermen and consumers of marine resources. Demonstration of biodiversity-friendly sustainable fishing practices.

Proximate threats to coastal and marine ecosystem	Underlying causes	Necessary actions
technically and financially feasible.		
Habitat disturbance and pressures from increasing tourist numbers.	Zoning plans for Reserves rarely contain areas where tourism is prohibited because of the critical importance of the area to the effective protection of the ecosystem (for example, nesting and foraging sites).	Prepare effective management plans for the reserves and build capacity to enforce zoning requirements
	Lack of effective management and monitoring plans that take into account growing tourist numbers in most reserves.	Develop and implement a demonstration program for biodiversity-friendly tourism that includes carrying capacity considerations, zones of restricted or no visitation, monitoring of seasonal tourist volumes, and such.
	No information and studies on the carrying capacities of the reserves and no related monitoring of numbers.	Improve reserves' operations and management capacities.
	Lack of facilities to support high tourist numbers resulting in contamination and disturbance.	Establish basic facilities in reserves.
Disturbance to breeding animals causing changes in reproductive success	Inadequate material for tourists on "do's and don'ts" when observing wildlife.	Improve quality and accessibility of interpretive materials and information kits for tourists.

* These issues will be addressed by the WB-GEF project as part of the programmatic approach that has been agreed on by the two implementing agencies and national counterparts.

Note: The above threats analysis is based on detailed studies undertaken under the pilot-phase project in the three Provinces of Chubut, Rio Negro and Santa Cruz. In the forthcoming phase, the project will undertake baseline studies of pollution, fisheries, tourism and fauna in the fourth Province of Tierra del Fuego, to gain a better understanding and to be able to quantify threats in the fourth Province.

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Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores,
Comercio Internacional y Culto

LETRA SUBCI

Nro.: 103265/99.

BUENOS AIRES, 29 JUN 1999

1999/2445

29 JUN 1999	226/97/631
RECIBO	REGISTRACION
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OBJETO: Proyecto GEF ARG/97/G31:
"Consolidación e Implementación del
Programa de Manejo Costero de la
Patagonia para la Conservación de la
Biodiversidad"

LA CANCELLERIA -Subsecretaría de Cooperación Internacional- presenta sus atentos saludos al Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD), y tiene el agrado de referirse al tema del epígrafe.

Al respecto, adjunto a la presente enviamos copias de las notas de aval remitidas por los señores Gobernadores de las provincias de Santa Cruz, Chubut, Rio Negro y Tierra del Fuego e Islas del Atlántico Sur, con el objeto de posibilitar la implementación del proyecto de referencia a la brevedad posible.

LA CANCELLERIA -Subsecretaría de Cooperación Internacional- reitera a ese Programa sus atentos saludos.

erp
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EDUARDO ANGEL PEREZ
EMBAJADOR
SUBSECRETARIO DE COOPERACION INTERNACIONAL
CANCELLERIA ARGENTINA

AL PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES
UNIDAS PARA EL DESARROLLO

S. / D.

*República Argentina
Provincia de Río Negro
Poder Ejecutivo*

VIEDMA. 13 MAY 1999

Nota Nº 151 . . .

Sr.
Eduardo Angel PEREZ
EMBAJADOR
Subsecretario de Coordinación Internacional
CANCELLERIA ARGENTINA

Ref: Proyecto GER
"Consolidación e implementación del programa de
manejo de la zona costera Patagónica para la
Conservación de la Biodiversidad".

Tomado conocimiento del proyecto del
rubro e informado por el Consejo de Ecología y Medio Ambiente
(CODEMA) sobre la importancia del mismo, deseo expresar mi
interés en su pronta puesta en marcha.

La provincia avala el proyecto, tal
como lo hiciera en ocasión de su presentación inicial y de la
etapa que lo antecediera (Elaboración del Plan de Manejo de
la Zona Costera)..

La estrecha relación de la
comunidades que dependen; con la sustentabilidad que debe
primar en su manejo, es prioritaria para el gobierno de la
provincia, y en ese sentido no puedo menos, que propiciar la
ejecución del proyecto, tal lo requerido en su atenta del 9
de abril próximo pasado (LETRA SUBCI Nº 101.690/99).

Saludo a Ud. con mi más distinguida
consideración, agradeciendo desde ya su personal
intervención.

MINISTERIO DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES Y CULTO	
DIRECCION GENERAL DE COOPERACION INTERNACIONAL	
Nº	18577
FECHA	10/22/99
RECIBIDO	102252/99
Nº	100

Dr. PABLO VERANI
GOBERNADOR

*República Argentina
Provincia del Chubut
Governador*

Rawson, Chubut, 3 JUN. 1999

Al Embajador Eduardo Angel Pérez
Director de Cooperación Internacional
Cancillería Argentina

S / D

Ref.: Proyecto: Consolidación e Implementación
del Plan de Manejo de Zona Costera Patagónica

De mi mayor consideración:

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a Usted en respuesta de su atenta carta del día 09 de Abril próximo pasado, para hacerle llegar por este intermedio, el aval del Gobierno de la Provincia del Chubut, al proyecto de referencia.

El mencionado proyecto es de interés de esta Provincia, ya que permitirá con el apoyo del Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo y el Fondo para el Medio Ambiente Mundial, desarrollar y poner en práctica las herramientas técnicas más apropiadas para el desarrollo sustentable de actividades económicas en la zona costera y la protección de los recursos naturales renovables que las sustentan.

Sin otro particular, saludo a Usted muy atentamente.

Nota N° 74 - GR./99.-


DR. CARLOS MAESTRI
GOBERNADOR

*Provincia de Tierra del Fuego, Antártida
e Islas del Atlántico Sur
República Argentina
Poder Ejecutivo*

NOTA Nº:
GOB:

187

USHUAIA, 16 JUN. 1999

Señor Subsecretario de
Cooperación Internacional
Embajador Eduardo Angel Pérez
S. / D.

De mi consideración:

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a Ud. en relación con el proyecto
GEF "Consolidación e Implementación del Programa del Manejo de la zona Costera
Patagónica para la conservación de la Biodiversidad".

Al respecto, después de haber evaluado positivamente el
documento del proyecto mencionado, me es grato informar a Ud. que ésta Provincia
ha tomado los recaudos técnicos y administrativos necesarios para ser una de las
contrapartes del proyecto de referencia. Esperamos que el mismo pueda ser ejecutado
a la brevedad posible.

Hago propicia la oportunidad para saludarlo con mi
consideración más distinguida.

Fontal

José Arturo Estabillo
GOBERNADOR

MINISTERIO DE
DIRECCION GENERAL DE COOPERACION

INTERNACIONAL

Nº 15677

FECHA

DE VUELTA

F.C. ADO



PROVINCIA DE SANTA CRUZ
GOBERNADOR

RIO GALLEGOS, 13 de Junio de 1.999.-

AL SEÑOR
EMBAJADOR
SUBSECRETARIO DE COOPERACION INTERNACIONAL
CANCILLERIA ARGENTINA
DON EDUARDO ANGEL PEREZ
SU DESPACHO

REF: Nota LETRA SUBCI N° 101692/99.-

De mi mayor consideración:

Tengo el agrado de dirigirme a Ud. en atención a su atenta nota de referencia en relación al Proyecto GEF, "Consolidación e Implementación del Programa de Manejo de la zona costera Patagónica para la Conservación de la Biodiversidad" el que se implementará en las Provincias de: Santa Cruz, Chubut, Rio Negro y Tierra del Fuego e Islas del Atlántico Sur.

Habiendo proporcionado a la Provincia los resultados obtenidos en los estudios pormenorizados efectuados oportunamente por la Fundación con la colaboración de los organismos provinciales correspondientes, consideramos de suma importancia la continuación de este proyecto, el cual permitirá consolidar y fortalecer el manejo de la zona costera patagónica.

Por lo expuesto, la Provincia de Santa Cruz avala el proyecto presentado ante el GEF en idénticas condiciones que las efectuadas en la etapa anterior y que por estos actuados se propicia, con el convencimiento que a través de la concientización y el trabajo mancomunado tanto el Estado como los particulares somos responsables "del cuidado y la preservación del Medio Ambiente, así como a una explotación racional de los recursos naturales para que las actividades productivas satisfagan las necesidades presentes sin comprometer las de las generaciones futuras" (Art. 73° C.P. de nuestra Carta Orgánica).

Sin otro particular, y agradeciendo desde ya su personal intervención en un tema tan caro a nuestro sentimiento, quedo a sus gratas órdenes.

NOTA GOB.N°

021

1999



Dr. NESTOR CARLOS KIRCHNER
GOBERNADOR
PROVINCIA DE SANTA CRUZ

