

**PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL FINANCING OF BIODIVERSITY  
ENABLING ACTIVITIES IN BOLIVIA**

<b>Country Name:</b>	Bolivia
<b>Project Title:</b>	Assessment of Capacity Building Needs
<b>Eligibility of the Country:</b>	CBD ratified October 1994
<b>GEF Financing:</b>	\$US 196, 248
<b>Total estimated budget:</b>	\$US 196, 248
<b>Government Contribution:</b>	\$US 22,000 (contribution in kind)
<b>GEF Implementing Agency:</b>	United Nations Development Program - UNDP
<b>Executing National Agency:</b>	Vice-ministry of the Environment, Natural Resources and Forestry Development National Directorate of Biodiversity
<b>GEF Focal Operational Point:</b>	Vice Ministry of Public Investment and External Financing
<b>CBD Focal Operational Point:</b>	Vice Ministry of the Environment, Natural Resources and Forestry Development National Directorate of Biodiversity
<b>CHM Focal Point:</b>	National Directorate of Biodiversity
<b>Approximate starting date:</b>	July 2001
<b>Duration:</b>	15 months

**I. Status of the Enabling Activities:**

In September 1999, with the financial support of the GEF and with UNDP as Implementing Agency, the Vice-ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Forest Development of the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Planning began the formulation of the National Strategy of Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Biodiversity and Action Plan (NBSAP); which has been concluded. The design was successful and it had the participation of 1,200 institutions and direct or indirectly involved specialists. The process began with a Diagnosis of Situation of the Biodiversity, which was developed through a series of consultations and workshops divided by area (indigenous peoples, specialists in genetic resources, etc), by a select group of national specialists from relevant fields of expertise<sup>1</sup>. This analysis served as basis for proposing the Strategy and Action Plan that resulted in new consultations at national level, including nine departmental workshops (one per each department of the country), as well as eleven workshops with specific sectors, that included private businessmen, indigenous, colonizers and rural populations, health, tourism, forest agriculture, among other.

Principal factors that need urgent attention and priority to be able to continue the development and implementation of the National Strategy and Plan of Action for Bio-Diversity were identified during the workshops and through an analysis of the Strategy and Plan of Action for Bio-diversity process and consultations with specialists, in particular with the Strategic Technical Committee. The factors are the following:

- a) Assessment of national needs for institutional and human capacity building for the implementation of the NBSAP proposals in the area of conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems, species and genetic resources of ecological, economic and cultural importance.

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<sup>1</sup> The specialists make up the "Strategic Technical Committee" and include specialists from the following fields: Ecosystems, Protected Areas, Wildlife, Genetic Resources, Economics, Socio-cultural and Legal Aspects.

- b) Despite the fact that the Indigenous Peoples and Rural Communities are one of the sectors most directly tied to conservation and the sustainable use of bio-diversity, it was evident during the design of the NBSAP that it would require additional effort to effectively incorporate this sector in the following processes: i) Strengthening the capacity of local biodiversity management and the participation in decision-making processes regarding factors that affect the usage of natural resources in indigenous land and territories; ii) the recognition and protection of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices related to the conservation of biological diversity and iii) achievement of fair and equitable redistribution of the benefits that generates the biodiversity.
- c) It was evident during the preparation of the NBSAP that additional support should be given to the access and exchange of information related to biodiversity. This is especially necessary in a country like Bolivia, where geographic distances are so great, social sectors are diverse and many times with conflicting interests, and financial resources are too scarce to be able to reach all sectors of the society.
- d) Elaboration of the second National Report of Bolivia for the Convention of Biological Diversity, on the basis on a participatory process and involving the different sectors, to be presented before the Conference of the Parts (COP) of the CBD.

## II. **Priority Areas for Capacity Needs Assessment:**

Due to the reasons mentioned above, it has been proposed that the request for additional funds from the GEF Enabling Activities Funding should be directed to the following areas of priority:

### ***1. Assessment of needs and measures for the development of national capacity to address conservation in situ and ex situ and sustainable use, including plans, strategies and legislation at the national level;***

Where the detailed and consensual design of proposals will be developed for the building of prioritized local capacities in conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems, species and genetic resources of ecological, economic and cultural importance.

### ***2. Assessment of local capacities related with conservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge related to biological diversity among indigenous and local communities that involves traditional ways of life***

A assessment will be designed jointly with prorized indigenous population to ascertain the strength of the indigenous and local capacity in decision-making processes, administration, management and rescue of knowledge in biodiversity, as well as an evaluation of the needs and priorities of the indigenous peoples regarding biodiversity in agreement with Article 8(j) of the CBD. Priorities for training and capacity development will be outlined.

### ***3. Bolivian Clearing House Mechanism***

It is proposed to develop and enhance the Clearing House Mechanism of Bolivia in order to access and exchange information related to conservation and sustainable use of bio-diversity (point 4).

#### **4. Consultations toward Bolivia's Second National Report to the CBD**

Consultations toward Bolivia's Second National Report will be undertaken with the stakeholders involved in the biodiversity management in Government and Civil Society. For this aim, the results of the Diagnosis of Situation of the Biodiversity, advanced during the design of the Strategy, will be taken into account.

### **III. Project Objectives and Description:**

#### **Objective 1.**

***Assessment of needs and measures for the development of national capacity to address conservation in situ and ex situ and sustainable use, including plans, strategies and legislation at the national level;***

#### **Reasons for its Importance**

Both the Strategy and the Action Plan for Biodiversity will be the tools that will guide the actions taken by the State regarding the conservation and use of biodiversity for the next ten years. However, in order to be able to execute proposals and projects it will be necessary to identify participants, their capabilities and needs for capacity development and facilitation of an overall enabling policy and legal environment.

During the development of the National Strategy for Bio-diversity, it became apparent that the lack of a legal framework pertaining to bio-diversity could be a major obstacle for the effective application of the Plan of Action for Bio-diversity (developed within the NBSAP framework).

Actions to be developed in these areas of priority are in direct agreement with the Articles 7, 8 and 9 of the CBD, as well as with the GEF guidelines related to Additional Financing. The nature of the proposed actions in this area will be: the assessment of capacity building needs, development of strategies and plans; the seeking of a consensus among the participants involved; promotional activities and assessment of financing mechanisms for the implementation of the strategies and actions; and the assessment of legal frameworks in agreement with the NBSAP.

<b>Tasks to be completed</b>	<b>Expected results</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To contract specialists in order to identify priorities and elaborate programs to facilitate future national capacities (human and institutional) in the framework of the already prioritized actions of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity defined by the Action Plan</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Capacity building assessment which will serve as basis for the implementation of the NBSAP in the following area:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i) Capacity building for the sustainable use of biodiversity in its three components (ecosystems, species and genetic resources)</li></ul></li><li>• The consensus and support of the different participants involved</li></ul>	<p>In order to implement the NBSAP it will be necessary to assess capacity building needs and design programs for strengthening capacities and have them approved by the different</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization of Meetings/Workshops with the objective of developing and approving by consensus, prioritized capacity building programs.</li> <li>• Design of prioritized programs and agreements</li> </ul>	<p>in the implementation of the NBSAP (agreements).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial resources and mechanisms identified to facilitate implementation of NBSAP capacity building programs and projects.</li> </ul>	<p>participants involved.</p>
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## Objective 2.

### ***Assessment of local capacities related with conservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge related to biological diversity among indigenous and local communities that involves traditional ways of life***

#### **Reasons for its Importance**

Approximately 50% of the Bolivian population is indigenous. This population consists of more than 33 different ethnic groups, the majority of whom are Aymaras, Quechuas and Gauranies. The majority of the indigenous population still maintains its heritage of traditional knowledge related to the management of natural resources, especially that which is related to agriculture and traditional medicine. Nevertheless, the traditional knowledge and practices that are pertinent to the conservation of the biological diversity are being threatened by the following reasons identified in the NBSAP<sup>2</sup>:

- Expropriation of the traditional knowledge, due to the lack and implementation of policies for their maintenance.
- Lack of capacities for administration (manage and administration for decision-making processes) of the biodiversity from local groups and their organizations.
- Degradation of knowledge through the loss of identity.
- Commercialization of their knowledge and natural resources in Community Lands of Origin (TCOs) due to the loss of the integrity and interconnection of their knowledge; the exploitation inside the indigenous societies and by the external society; the unequal distribution and destructive use of natural resources; and the loss of biological diversity.

Despite the fact that the Indigenous Peoples and Rural Communities are one of the sectors most directly tied to the conservation and sustainable use of the bio-diversity, it was evident during the design of the NBSAP that it would require additional effort to effectively incorporate this sector in the following processes: i) participation in decision-making processes regarding factors that affect the usage of natural resources in their land and territories; ii) the recognition and protection of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices related to the conservation of the biological diversity.

In recent years the indigenous peoples of Bolivia have demanded with more emphasis the recognition of their rights of consent, as well as their collective rights regarding their traditional knowledge<sup>3</sup>. These points were clearly presented in the last demand that was

<sup>2</sup> See the Analysis of the State of Conservation regarding Bio-diversity in Bolivia (Annex 1)

<sup>3</sup> Platform of Proposals of the Indigenous Peoples—Multiethnic Bolivia, Confederation of Indigenous Peoples of Bolivia, June 2000

made to the Government by indigenous representatives. For its part, the Bolivian Government has shown its predisposition to develop these factors in the framework of regional<sup>4</sup> and international<sup>5</sup> agreements.

Tasks to be completed	Expected results	Notes
<p>- Workshops and meetings with indigenous representatives to define the scope of and the characteristics of the capacity assessment. Prepare a select group of indigenous representatives/ technicians (7-9), in the fields of law and areas relevant to the conservation of biological diversity, to participate in the second stage of the process.</p> <p>- In the second stage, to develop, together with indigenous representatives, an evaluation of experiences and of technical and legal needs in order to better recover and protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices.</p> <p>- With the representatives of the indigenous peoples to design and prepare an evaluation of experiences and needs in the technical and legal areas as a basis for capacity-building in the recovery and protection of knowledge, innovations and traditional practices.</p>	<p>- An assessment of capacity development needs and mechanisms<sup>6</sup> aimed at the Indigenous Peoples, drawn up with their participation and focusing on the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Access to genetic resources</li> <li>ii) Intellectual property</li> <li>iii) Access and management of bio-diversity resources in their communal land of origin</li> <li>iv) Legislation— international treaties, national legislation, previous consent, among others.</li> </ul> <p>- A participatory assessment of the Indigenous Peoples' needs for the participation and protection of traditional knowledge that would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Mechanisms for the access and exchange of information;</li> <li>ii) Case studies about the recovery and/or loss of traditional knowledge;</li> <li>iii) Legislation needed for effective and</li> </ul>	<p>Bolivia is one of the Andean countries that have invested more energy in Protection of Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices. Many workshops have been held with ample participation of representatives of indigenous and campesino communities. Financial resources for this work were provided by the government and by international cooperation agencies.</p> <p>In order to identify capacity building needs specific to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, part of the additional funding from the GEF for Enabling Activities is being requested.</p>

<sup>4</sup> In the framework of the Decision 391 of the Andean Community, the government and indigenous organizations have been working more than two years in the drawing up of the National Study for the Protection of Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices relevant to the conservation of the biological diversity.

<sup>5</sup> The Bolivian delegation present at the meetings of Sevilla and the V Conference of the Agreement Parts supported the indigenous proposals and backed up the approval of Decision V/16, including the Plan of Action for the Implementation of Article 8(j) of the Agreement.

<sup>6</sup> The capacity needs assessment will be in the framework of Article 8 (j), the Decision V/16, the Decision 391 of the Andean Community and the National Bio-diversity Strategy.

	iv) efficient protection of traditional knowledge; Medium- and long-term funding needed.	
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### **Objective 3**

#### ***Clearing House Mechanism Project Launched by the Country.***

#### **Reasons for its Importance**

The initial GEF funded Enabling Activity (Bol/98 G33/a/1G/99) allocated \$US 6000 for the Clearing House Mechanism. However, this amount was reallocated after deliberation by the National Agency responsible for the Execution of the Project, as well as the Vice-ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Forest Development of the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Planning

A budgetary readjustment was carried out this regard to reallocate the \$US 6000 towards strengthening the sectoral workshops for the design of the Strategy. This budgetary change was revised and approved by the Ministry of Treasury (responsible for the administration of the external financing), the UNDP (GEF Agency of Implementation) and the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Planning (Agency of Execution), inside of the Budgetary Revision of date December 20 of 1999. This decision was requested through official note (MDSP-VMARNDF N° 1709 –2000, June 26 of 2000), to be informed to the Global Environmental Funding.

On the other hand the magnitude of participation during the design of the Strategy could have been greater if there had been additional established mediums in the workshops and surveys, such as discussions forums on the Internet and brief publications about biodiversity and about the NBSAP. Likewise, a lot of the information needed for the elaboration of the analysis of national biodiversity had to be obtained through a costly and slow process, that could have been facilitated if the country had mediums and mechanisms to access and exchange information regarding biodiversity. Finally, it is fundamental that the national biodiversity policies and strategies will be known and supported by the general population, since public awareness and pressure can be one of the principal devices to influence national decision makers to apply said plans and strategies.

For these reasons it is important to grant additional support to the mechanisms to access and exchange information regarding biodiversity. This is especially necessary in a country like Bolivia, where geographic distances are so great, social sectors are diverse and many times have conflicting interests, and financial resources are too scarce to be able to reach all sectors of the society.

Tasks to be completed	Expected results	Notes
<p><b>I. Design</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of workshops and consultations to:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) evaluate the needs and priorities of bio-diversity information;</li> <li>ii) identify the participants (holders and users of information);</li> <li>iii) develop inter-institutional guidelines and agreements for information sharing.</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p><b>II. Implementation of the Clearing House Mechanism</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Development and organization of the information products</li> <li>ii) Access and broadcasting of the information through establishing an Internet Website and other electronic and written media</li> <li>iii) Technical support to institutions that contribute information to the Clearing House Mechanism.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The design and operation of an internet based Bolivian Clearing House Mechanism, facilitating the access to and exchange of relevant information for conservation and sustainable use of the bio-diversity under discretion of the involved actors and according to mutually agreed guidelines for the holders and potential users of information. In particular:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Municipal governments</li> <li>ii) Private businessmen and Producing Organizations</li> <li>iii) Elementary and middle schools</li> <li>iv) Universities and centers of research and of conservation of the bio-diversity</li> <li>v) Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities</li> <li>vi) NGOs and the general population</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<p>Operating within the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Planning is a Sustainable Development Network (RDS) with a electronic communication node. The RDS is a network of users whose objective is to exchange information that will optimize decision making in planning and in the application of sustainable development.</p> <p>The RDS has the necessary facilities to provide the physical support with which the Bolivian Clearing House Mechanism will count on and develop.</p>

#### **Objective 4**

##### **Preparation of the Second National Report of Bolivia for the CDB**

Vice-ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Forest Development (entity responsible for this theme) will undertake consultations towards the Second National Report of Bolivia in accordance with COP decision V/19. Inputs will be gathered from actors involved in the implementation of the NBSAP via workshops, meetings and questionnaires. Although the May 2001 deadline for submission of the Second national Report has been missed, it will be prepared at the earliest possible and submitted to the CBD.

Tasks to be completed	Expected results	Notes
National Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Realization of Workshops and meetings and dissemination of questionnaires to obtain information and achieve consent for the Report</li> </ul>	Second National Report presented to the CBD Secretariat.	

#### IV. Institutional Framework and Implementation of the Project:

Both the Government of Bolivia and UNDP/GEF are satisfied this proposal conforms with the GEF Criteria for Additional Funding of Biodiversity Enabling Activities.

The Ministry of Sustainable Development and Planning through the Vice-ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Forest Development is in charge of the global policies for the environment. The General Directorate of Biodiversity within this Vice-ministry, is responsible for the administration of the biodiversity, the CHM Focal Point as well as the National Agency of Execution. The funds will be administered by means of the UNDP as Implementation Agency.

As one of the conclusions of the design process of the National Strategy of Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity of Bolivia it has been accorded to establish the National Council of Biological Diversity as instance in charge of guiding and advising the policies, strategies and plans for conservation and sustainable use of the resources of the biological diversity in Bolivia, to promote the articulation of the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity in the policies, strategies and cross-sectoral plans and national development, on the basis on the NBSAP. It will be conformed by:

-  Ministry of Sustainable Development and Planning, presiding the Council
-  Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
-  Ministry of Indigenous and Origin Populations Affairs
-  Ministry of Education
-  Ministry of External Trade
-  Confederation of Private Business Men from Bolivia
-  Coordinator of Networks
-  Confederation of Indigenous Populations of Bolivia
-  Sindical Unique Confederation of Rural Workers (Campesinos) of Bolivia
-  Sindical Confederation of Settlers from Bolivia
-  Bolivian University

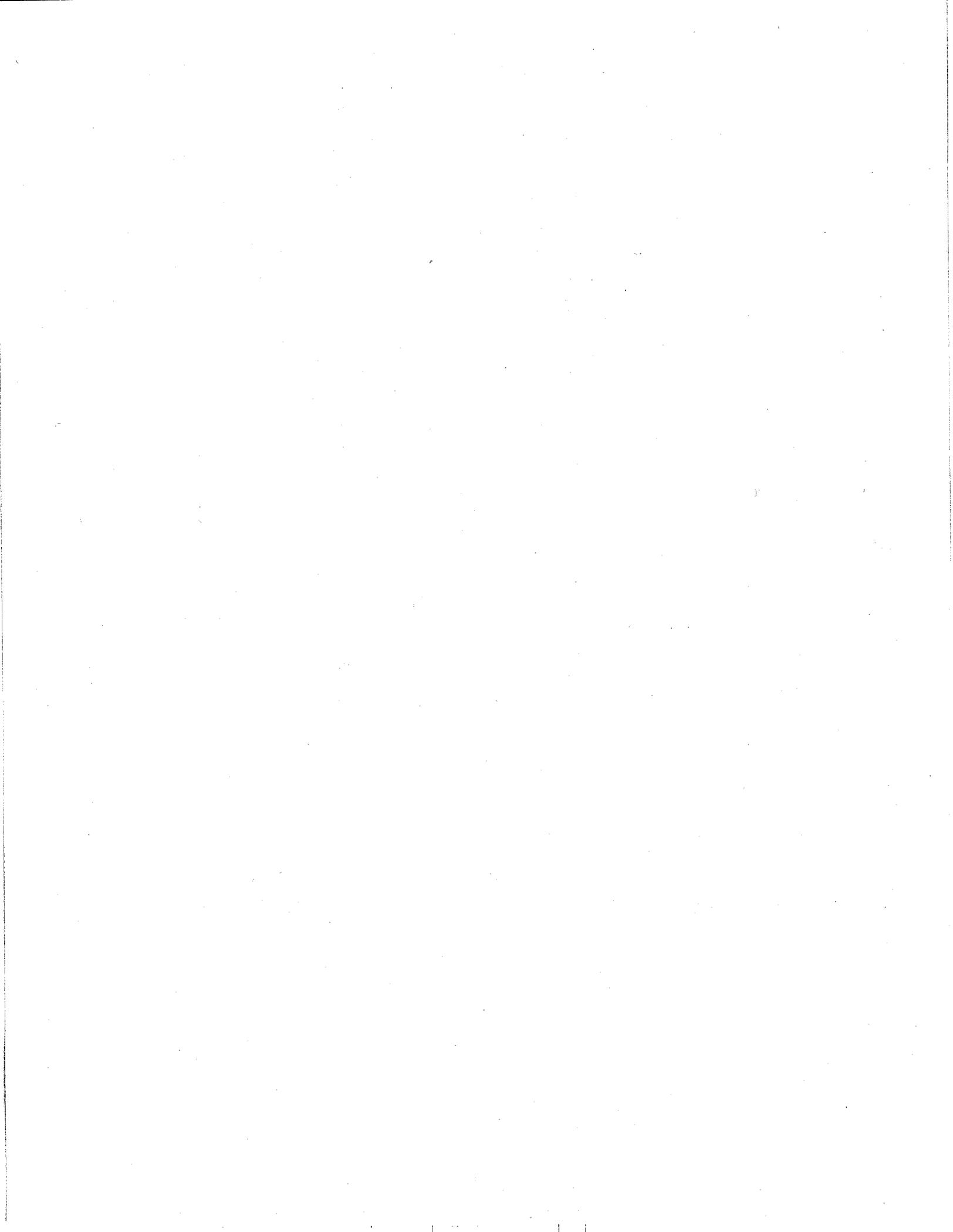
Therefore the National Council of Biological Diversity will be an advising body that will support the coordinated implementation of the Project.

#### Executive Unit of the Project

The Vice Ministry of Environment Natural Resources and Forestry Development through The General Directorate of Biodiversity will be the responsible for implementation of the Project drawing upon the capacity generated as a result of the NBSAP process. A Project Coordinator will be appointed in order to supervise and facilitate the Project execution. The

Project Coordinator will prepare quarterly Work Plans and technical and administrative reports for the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Planning.

■ The General Directorate of Biodiversity is the office head in the topic of Biodiversity and it will contribute in kind (physical space, equipment) \$US 20,000 during the year since the National Strategy of Biodiversity begins. This contribution will make stronger the execution process of the project.





## VI. Budget in US \$

APPROVED	UNAPPROVED	PROJECT	BUDGET
• Original Enabling Activity minus the cost of the activities related to the Clearing House Mechanism			247,752
• CHM Project			6,000
Total approved support			<b>253,752</b>
ADDITIONAL REQUEST			
• Assessment of needs and measures for the development of national capacity to address conservation in situ and ex situ and sustainable use	81,248	7,000	88,248
• Conservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge and generation of local capacities related to biological diversity among indigenous and local communities that involves traditional ways of life	5,000	32,500	37,500
• Bolivian Clearing House Mechanism	29,500	24,500	54,000
• Second National Report		16,500	16,500
TOTAL REQUEST			

### Budget for CHM Hardware and Software

#### *Option A*

<i>Item</i>	<i>US \$</i>
Hardware	\$4,000
Software	in above
Modem	in above
Recurrent access costs to Internet Service Provider including storing of national CHM web site on server	\$4,000
Technician Set Up Fees	\$1,000
Internet and E-mail Training	\$1,000
<b>Total (up to \$14000)</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>

**1. The project has been endorsed by the GEF Political Focal Point, the letter is attached.**

**2. Please also note that the CHM request has been endorsed by the ViceMinistry of Environment and Natural Resources in its capacity as the Supervising agency of the CHM Focal point. The letter of endorsement mentions this in Spanish.**



REPÚBLICA DE BOLIVIA  
MINISTERIO DE HACIENDA  
Viceministerio de Inversión Pública  
Y Financiamiento Externo

La Paz, 02 MAYO 2001  
VIPFE/DGFE/NEG-02130/2001

Señor  
Carlos Felipe Martinez  
Representante Residente  
PROGRAMA DE LAS NN.UU. PARA EL DESARROLLO  
Presente

Ref.: ENDOSO DE PROYECTO

Señor Representante:

Como es de su conocimiento, el Comité Nacional GEF celebró la Décima Novena Reunión, oportunidad en que se evaluó el Proyecto "Sondeo de Necesidades para el Desarrollo de Capacidades" presentado por el Viceministerio de Medio Ambiente, Recursos Naturales y Desarrollo Forestal.

Al respecto, informo a usted que el proyecto antes mencionado, ha sido aprobado por el Comité de Selección de Proyectos GEF, por lo que por su intermedio deseo endosar la propuesta del Gobierno de Bolivia ante el Global Environment Facility.

Con este motivo, saludo a usted muy atentamente.

BERNARDO REQUENA B.  
Viceministro de Inversión Pública  
y Financiamiento Externo  
MINISTERIO DE HACIENDA

Stamp: JE 3 5 01  
3 MAY 2001  
Pro/30/H.D.A.M.E.-GEF-Comite  
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# Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible y Planificación

La Paz, 7 de Junio del 2001  
MDSP-VMARNDP N°01717/2001

**URGENTE**

Señor  
Mohamed T. El-Ashry  
Secretario Ejecutivo  
Global Environment Facility (GEF)  
Fax: 00-1-202-522-3240  
Washington D.C.-

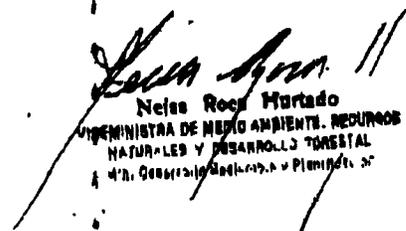
Ref.: Endoso del Proyecto "Banco de Necesidades para el Desarrollo de Capacidades" como Punto Focal ante el Clearing House Mechanism del Convenio sobre Diversidad Biológica.

De mi consideración

Como es de su conocimiento, el pasado mes de abril del este Despacho a través del Punto Focal Político ante el GEF ha presentado el proyecto de referencia, el cual fue aprobado por la Secretaría, previa revisión y complementación según sugerencias de la Sra. Rose Diegues del Program Associate GEF/UNDP/RBLAC. Dicho proyecto incluye un componente para el desarrollo del Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) en Bolivia.

Por lo anterior y dado que el Ministerio de Desarrollo Sostenible y Planificación representado por el Sr. Ministro Ronald MacLean Avaroa a través del Viceministerio de Medio Ambiente Recursos Naturales y Desarrollo Forestal a mi cargo, es el Punto Focal ante el Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) del Convenio sobre Diversidad Biológica, tengo a bien endosar la propuesta ante el GEF.

Con est motivo y esperando se tome en cuenta el endoso para que dicho proyecto pueda ser iniciado, reitero a usted mis consideraciones mas distinguidas.

  
Néstor Rojas Hurtado  
VICEMINISTRA DE MEDIO AMBIENTE, RECURSOS  
NATURALES Y DESARROLLO FORESTAL  
del Ministerio de Desarrollo y Planificación

  
MBW/BZ

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DGB-RQ N°0792/2001