



United Nations Development Programme
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY



To: **Mr. Avani Vaish**
GEF Secretariat, Washington, DC
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13 December 1996

Pages: ~~11~~ Total

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Subject: **Biodiversity Enabling Activity - Burkina Faso**

This is to acknowledge receipt of GEFSEC comments for Burkina Faso. We have carefully reviewed the comments in consultation with the recipient country, and the attached proposal has been revised as appropriate.

Following your advice, we have reduced the overall budget, particularly for stocktaking, national and regional workshops. We have consulted the Burkina Faso Government, and they feel strongly that despite the country study there is still a need to digest and prepare this country study material for the national workshop as presentation of the full scientific work is neither feasible nor appropriate. In view of the concerns expressed over the completed country study, the stocktaking component of the budget has been reduced to the bare minimum. Regional workshops will be organized for each administrative region, as it has been felt that for a broad-based participation, local communities will be better involved from the provinces than from the capital city, however we have been able to marginally reduce the costs of each.

The World Bank projects in Burkina Faso and in West Africa will provide input on the BSAP process as will many other relevant projects financed by other donors. This is reflected in the revised text on Page 2, Paragraph 2; and on Page 4.

Since the GEF Political Focal Point was designated for Burkina Faso, there has been a Cabinet reshuffle, and the Ministry of the Environment and Tourism has been renamed the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Best regards,

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY**ENABLING ACTIVITY PROPOSAL**

Country: Burkina Faso

Project Title: National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, and Country Report to the COP

GEF Focal Area: Biodiversity

Country Eligibility: Ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity 2 September 1993

GEF Financing: \$230,977

Government Contribution: In kind

GEF Implementing Agency: UNDP

National Executing Agency: Conseil National pour la Gestion de l'Environnement (CONAGESE), Ministry of Environment and Water Resources

GEF Operational Focal Point: None designated

Convention on Biological Diversity Focal Point: CONAGESE

Estimated Starting Date: February 1997

Duration of Project: 12 months

Background

Burkina Faso is a landlocked country that stretches over a land area of 274,200km². The country is located in west Africa, between 10⁰ and 15⁰ latitude north and between 2⁰ longitude east and 5⁰30' longitude west. It is surrounded by Mali, Niger, Benin, Togo, Ghana and Ivory Coast. The country is administratively subdivided into ten regions. The population of Burkina Faso is estimated around 10,000,000 with an annual growth rate of 2.8%. Although the GNP of Burkina Faso was estimated to grow as much as 3.5% in 1990, the annual per capita income remain among the lowest in the continent at \$320. Forty four percent of the population are living below poverty thresholds. Agriculture and animal husbandry are the major occupations of the 85% of the population that live in rural areas. The center of the country is mostly settled, but the average density is about 33 inhabitants/km².

Bio-geographically, Burkina Faso belongs to the Sudano-Sahelian region. There are 3 phyto-geographical zones in the country: (a) a small Sahelian zone in the extreme north of the country; (b) a sub-Sudanian zone; and (c) a Sudanian zone. Steppes and savannas are the major habitats of Burkina Faso. These occupy as much as 90% of the total land area. The vegetation has two major components: Saharian and Sahelian flora (dry) and Soudanian flora (more mesic). However along rivers and in the south of the country there are pockets of forests of the Guinean type, but these are threatened by conflicting mining and land use pressures.

The importance of biodiversity in Burkina Faso is little known. However an ongoing UNEP Biodiversity Country Study is filling the gap, and it will feed into this project's process. As yet, about 1,100 vascular plant species are believed to occur in the country, but the level of endemism is unknown. Animal life in Burkina Faso is somewhat diverse. There occur 16 species of large antelopes, and several reptiles species, such as the slender snouted and dwarf crocodile and the uncommon African spurred tortoise. There also have been successful attempts to breed some threatened animals at Nazinga, in the south of the country, as part of a local utilization scheme. Nazinga game ranching, a UNDP GEF funded project, is an attempt to design model of benefit sharing for biodiversity conservation among stakeholders, including the government and the local communities. Results from this and other projects related to biodiversity will feed into the BSAP process. To name a few, there are: (a) projects for village forestry development (improved wood stoves, village plantations, erosion control, etc.); (b) sustainable management in the Gonse District and the central plateau areas; (c) the World Bank's Community Based Natural Resource and Wildlife Management in West Africa (Cote d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso); (d) and other ongoing development projects funded by the Governments of Germany (GTZ) and the Netherlands. Although these projects have been locally making positive contribution, their efforts have not yet been integrated into a global strategy for biodiversity sustainable use and conservation. The gap needs to be filled.

The extent and trends in biodiversity loss in Burkina Faso have also been only superficially surveyed. However, existing knowledge suggests that the "W" National Park and the Arly Faunal Reserve harbor one of the top priority elephant population in Africa. Also these two protected areas, which are adjacent to the important Pendjari conservation complex in Benin and Niger, are of global concerns. Protected area management and anti-poaching efforts are currently inadequate, and several unique habitats are not receiving any form of protection. Moreover, severe overgrazing by livestock is resulting in serious degradation of ecosystems and in biodiversity loss for much of the country, particularly the north.

In view of all these gaps and threats, the Government of Burkina Faso recently undertook a National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP), which has resulted into new laws and institutional reforms, such as the organization of a Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources (MEW). New laws include, among others, Land Reforms and a Code of the Environment. MEW is overseeing wildlife, fisheries, water, forests, and protected areas including national parks. Within MEW there function two major directorates: one for Water Resources and Forestry, and the other one for Environmental Preservation. In the same reorganization effort, an interagency and

consultative planning body for the environment has been put in place. This is named the CONAGESE, the "Conseil National pour la Gestion de l'Environnement," which is housed in the MEW, and has a Permanent Secretariat. The Permanent Secretary of the CONAGESE has been appointed as the focal point for biodiversity and the CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity), and it is leading an ongoing Biodiversity Country Study (CS) supported by GEF UNEP. Through MET and CONAGESE, the Government of Burkina Faso has requested assistance from GEF for the preparation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) and the Report to the Biodiversity Conference of Parties (COP) of June 1997.

Project Objectives and Short Description

The principal objective of this enabling activity is to assist Burkina Faso to prepare a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP), which will define the current status of, pressures on, options for, and priority actions to ensure the conservation, sustainable use, and equitable share of its biological diversity. This will enable Burkina Faso to both meet its obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CDB) by preparing its first country report to the Conference of the Parties, and to fully integrate biodiversity into the existing National Environment Action Plan (NEAP). During the NEAP process, the Government of Burkina Faso established, within the Ministry of Environment and Water Resources (MEW), a multi-agency consultative body, namely CONAGESE.

To ensure coordination of efforts (between NEAP, CS and BSAP) the Government of Burkina Faso will initially appoint a steering committee within CONAGESE to supervise the BSAP process and provide overall direction and policy guidance. Members of the steering committee will be drawn from the full range of concerned biodiversity stakeholders, including the Ministries of Agriculture, Education, Environment and Water Resources, the University of Ouagadougou, the private sector, NGOs, tribal leaders, and local communities. The BSAP process will also draw from different sectors of the society and will include the organization of two national workshops and 10 regional workshops.

Under supervision of the steering committee, a planning team will undertake the work of the enabling activity. Planning team members will be selected according to their biodiversity and planning expertise and will be assisted by one lead national consultant and other national consultants experienced in biodiversity related issues and public participation. The lead national consultant will coordinate and facilitate project activities. The national consultants will help to run the national workshops and the short term consultants will run regional workshops.

Aided by national consultants, the planning team will begin with a review of the WRI/IUCN/UNEP "Guidelines for the Preparation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans" (Miller and Lanou 1995). They will then synthesize existing information from the CS on the status of, and threats to biodiversity in Burkina Faso. This information, along with summaries of the NEAP, Agenda 21 strategies, CS, and other donor financed natural resource activities in Burkina Faso, will be presented at the first national workshop.

The first national workshop will be conducted by the planning team with assistance from national and international consultants. A wide range of participants from national and local government agencies, NGOs, local and indigenous communities, the private sector as well as tribal leaders will be brought together during the first national workshop. The participants will analyze and review the summaries of the CS stocktaking to identify key issues, options, and priorities for the conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing of the country's biodiversity resources.

In conjunction with the first national workshop, the international consultant with the help of the lead national consultant will provide familiarization sessions for the planning team, national consultants and short term consultants who will be hired to carry out 10 regional workshops. Familiarization will be provided in participatory methods, biodiversity strategic planning techniques and dissemination methods. Familiarization will allow the planning team and consultants to carry out a detailed analysis of the issues and options identified during the workshop.

This will be followed by the organization of 10 regional workshops to ensure public participation. The regional workshops will provide input to the BSAP from local communities and biodiversity stakeholders. After the regional workshops, the planning team will produce a draft BSAP, which will be reviewed for further input and improvement at the second national seminar. The second national workshop will develop new alternatives and options but will establish a broad consensus among the participants prior to finalization of the details of the BSAP.

The last 3 months of the project will include preparation and adoption of both the BSAP and the Country Report to COP. Dissemination of the BSAP will follow after its adoption by CONAGESE and the Government of Burkina Faso. Because the First Country Report will not be available until November 1997, in May 1997 the planning team will draft an interim report that the Government of Burkina Faso will present at the COP meeting of June 1997.

Coverage Without Duplication

The BSAP will allow better linkages between government ministries and integrate biodiversity conservation within existing legislation, such as NEAP recommendations and ensuing laws (Code of the Environment, Land Reforms, etc). Information from the World Bank's Environmental Management Project and the West Africa (Burkina Faso and Cote d'Ivoire) Pilot Community-Based Natural Resource and Wildlife Management will feed into the BSAP. The BSAP will be completed using existing data compiled through the UNEP Biodiversity Country Study (CS). Significant stocktaking activities have already been undertaken, but there is need to synthesize the CS information and to repatriate data from abroad, primarily from France and the Netherlands. Because CONAGESE originated from NEAP, and it is completing the CS, coordination of these endeavors by CONAGESE will be smoothly made and there will be no duplication.

Time Plan and Sequencing

The project will follow the sequence of activities recommended in the WRI/IUCN/UNEP Guidelines, with variations as appropriate, based on lessons learned from early country experiences around the world (Miller and Lanou 1995). Activities will start in February 1997 and will last for 12 months.

Activity / Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Establishment of steering committee and planning team	x	x										
Stocktaking, inventory of information (digest)	x	x	x									
Training (familiarization) of planning team				x								
First national workshop				x								
Identification and analysis of options, regional (provincial) workshops					x	x	x	x				
Preparation of biodiversity strategy, action plan								x	x	x		
Second National Workshop										x		
Adoption of BSAP by the Government and dissemination											x	
Preparation of interim report and submission to COP				x	x							
Preparation of first country report and submission to the COP											x	x

Best Practice

The project will follow methodology recommended in the "Guide to the Convention on Biological diversity" (IUCN, 1994) and the WRI/IUCN/UNEP (Miller and Lanou 1995) "Guidelines for Preparing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans". The BSAP will prepare the ground and identify priority needs of activities in the fields of biodiversity conservation, sustainable development, and benefit sharing to be undertaken by follow up projects. Guidance and lessons will be drawn from the NEAP and Biodiversity Country Study processes and recommendations.

Project Financing

	Product	Process	Total
<i>Stocktaking and Inventory of Information</i>	3,000		3,000
- national consultants	2,000		2,000
- documentation, misc.	1,000		1,000
<i>Identification and Analysis of Options</i>	13,000	108,000	121,000
- national consultants	7,000	10,000	17,000
- international consultant	6,000	9,000	15,000
- first national workshop		23,000	23,000
- training (familiarization)		7,000	7,000
- regional workshops (10)		55,000	55,000
- travel and miscellaneous		4,000	4,000
<i>Preparation of Strategy and Action Plan</i>	18,000	58,000	76,000
- national consultants	7,000	16,000	23,000
- international consultant	9,000	12,000	21,000
- second national workshop		22,000	22,000
- travel and miscellaneous		4,500	4,500
- publication and dissemination	2,000	3,500	5,500
- <i>First National Report</i>	6,500	6,000	12,500
- preparation of interim report	1,500		1,500
- preparation of first country report	1,500	2,000	3,500
- publication of final report	3,500		3,500
- dissemination and miscellaneous		4,000	4,000
<i>Coordination and Management Costs (8%)</i>	3,521	14,956	18,477
Total For Enabling Activity	44,021	186,956	230,977

Deviations from Criteria and Norms

The project does not deviate from GEF enabling activity criteria and norms.

Institutional Framework and Project Implementation

The project will be implemented by CONAGESE with support from UNDP's country office. Under the guidance of the multi-sectoral Steering Committee, chaired by the Minister of Environment and Water Resources, an inter-agency planning team will manage project activities with the assistance of national and international consultants. At its first meeting the Steering Committee will agree on the country 's biodiversity vision, as well as on methodologies and indicators for assessing progress and performance.

The first country report will be prepared following the guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties in November 1995 and in the guidelines by Miller and Lanou (1995). The report will be developed in consultation with diverse governmental and non-governmental agencies, including both the private sector and community representatives. The report and the BSAP will be disseminated widely upon completion.

Activity Matrix

Commitment	Enabling Activity	Output	Capacity Building		Public Participat.	Comments
			Inst. Strength	Training		
	<i>Stocktaking and Assessment, based on Existing Information</i>					
	- biodiversity & biological resources	CS, NEAP				1
	- cross-sectoral issues	CS, NEAP				1
	- policy and regulatory framework	CS, NEAP				1
	- institutional and human capacity	CS, NEAP				1
	- analysis of root causes of BD loss	CS, NEAP				1
	- technologies for conservation and sustainable use	CS, NEAP				1
	- activities with adverse impacts	CS, NEAP				1
	- existing measures and programmes	CS, NEAP				1
	- preliminary statement of objectives	CS, NEAP				1
	- identification of gaps	CS, NEAP				1
	- assessment of existing needs	CS, NEAP				1
		CS, NEAP				1
	<i>Identification and Analysis of Options to Meet the Objectives of the CBD</i>					
	- strategies for conservation	x (CS)	x	x	x (CS)	2
	- strategies for sustainable use	x ((CS)	x	x	x (CS)	2
	- strategies for benefit sharing	x (NEAP)	x	x	x	2
	<i>Planning and Preparation of a Strategy and Plan</i>					
	- national strategy	x	x	x	x	2
	- national action plan	x	x	x	x	2
	<i>Preparation of the first National Report</i>					
	- interim report to COP	x			x	
	- first national report	x				

Notes on the Activity Matrix

1. The UNEP Biodiversity Country Study (CS), which is complementing the NEAP has specifically addressed these issues, and hence none of these activities will be carried out under the project. However, summaries from CS and NEAP's stocktaking will be prepared by national consultants to fit into the BSAP guidelines and requirements and to lead discussions among biodiversity stakeholders during the national and regional workshops.

2. The products of, and lessons from, both the UNEP supported Biodiversity Country Study and the NEAP will feed directly in the process (see MEE, French acronym for Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources' studies in the reference cited section below).

References Cited

- GEF 1996. West Africa Pilot Community-Based Natural Resource and Wildlife Management. World Bank. Regional (Cote d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso). Biodiversity Pilot Phase. Project Status Report. Pp. 53. GEF Quaterly Operational Report, July 1996.
- IUCN 1990. Chapter 9: Burkina Faso. Pp 53-55 *In Biodiversity in Sub-Saharan Africa and its islands. Conservation, Management, and Sustainable Use* A contribution to the Biodiversity Conservation Programme. IUCN Species Survival Commission, Occasional Paper N° 6.
- Miller, K.R. and S.M. Lanou 1995. National Biodiversity Planning: Guidelines Based on Early Experiences Around the World. WRI, UNEP, IUCN. Washington, DC; Nairobi; Gland, Switzerland. 162pp.
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- MEE 1996b. Monographie sur la diversité biologique du Burkina Faso: Faune sauvage (Mammifères, Oiseaux, Reptiles). Secrétariat Permanent CONAGESE.
- MEE 1996c. Socio-économie et diversité biologique au Burkina Faso. Secrétariat Permanent CONAGESE.
- MEFP 1995. Lettre d'intention de politique de développement durable. Document de base pour la 3ème conférence de table ronde pour le Burkina Faso.
- MEE 1994. Plan d'Action Nationale pour l' Environnement (PANE). 2ème édition. Secrétariat Permanent du PANE.
- Université Agronomique de Wageningen. 1994. Profil environnemental du Burkina Faso. Département de l'Aménagement du territoire. Pays Bas.

MINISTÈRE
DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT
ET DE L'EAU

CABINET



BURKINA FASO
La Patrie ou le Mort, Nous Victorons !

Ouagadougou, le 10 OCT. 1996

N° 96-427 MEE/SP-CONAGESE

Objet: Demande d'assistance
financière auprès du FEM

*Le Ministre d'Etat,
Ministre de l'Environnement
et de l'Eau*

Réf.:

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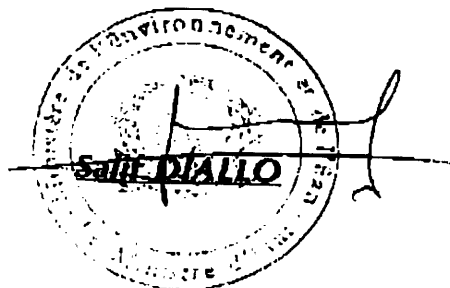
Monsieur Raphaël Asenjo
Coordinateur Exécutif FEM/PNUD
1, UN, Plaza 1017, New York,
Etats Unis d'Amérique,
S/c PNUD, Ouagadougou
Fax : 1-212 906 69 98
Tél : 1-212 906 50 44

Monsieur le Coordinateur,

Comme suite à ma lettre N°96-388/MEE/SP-CONAGESE du 10 Septembre 1996, j'ai l'honneur de soumettre à votre appréciation la requête de financement relative au projet d'élaboration de "Stratégie et Plan d'Action national de la diversité biologique, et le premier rapport du Burkina Faso à la Conférence des Parties".

Je saisis l'occasion pour renouveler mes remerciements et ma reconnaissance au Fonds pour l'Environnement Mondial.

Comptant sur votre prompt réaction, je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Coordinateur, l'assurance de ma considération distinguée.



**GLOBAL
ENVIRONMENT
FACILITY**

MOHAMED T. EL-ASHRY
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
AND CHAIRMAN

December 16, 1996

Mr. Rafael Asenjo
GEF Executive Coordinator
United Nations Development Programme
New York, New York
Fax No. : 212 906 6998

Dear Mr. Asenjo:

Please refer to UNDP's letter of December 13, 1996 enclosing the revised project proposal for Burkina Faso entitled: *National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, and Country Report to the COP*. Under the expedited procedures for enabling activities, I am happy to approve the proposal for a total amount of US\$230,977. In accordance with the decisions we took at the Management Retreat of July 24-25, 1996, 15% of the approved amount should be made available immediately for start up work in the recipient country.

Sincerely,



cc : Messrs. Ahmed Djoghlaif (UNEP), Lars Vidaeus (World Bank),
Pier Vellinga (STAP)