

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
ENABLING ACTIVITY PROPOSAL

Country:	Burundi
Project Title:	Burundi's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, and Country Report to the COP
GEF Focal Area:	Biodiversity
Country Eligibility:	Convention ratified on 24 December 1996
GEF Financing:	US \$229,950
Government Contribution:	In kind
GEF Implementing Agency:	UNDP
National Executing Agency:	INECN
GEF Operational Focal Point:	INECN
CBD Operational Focal Point:	INECN
Estimated Starting Date:	November 1998
Project Duration:	12 months

A. Background

1. Burundi is located in the northeast of Lake Tanganyika within the Great Lakes region of Central Africa. Burundi has a land area of 27,834km². The country belongs to the drainages of the Nile and Congo Rivers, and its highlands constitute the continental divide of these two drainages. It is respectively bordered by Rwanda to the north; Tanzania to the east; and the Democratic Congo to the west. With an estimated population of about 5,827,793 which is growing at a rate of 3.06% per annum, there are only 89 arable acres available to each individual. Burundi's average annual per capita income is \$240. Agriculture constitutes the pillar of the economy, and it makes up to 50% of the gross domestic product. Also 80% of the active population are involved with agriculture, including fishing. Freshwater lakes, comprising Lake Tanganyika, make up 7% of the country's land area.
2. Biogeographically, Burundi comprises mainly afro-montane elements in the highlands and grassland mosaics in the lowlands, particularly in the northeast, as well as small Zambebian woody elements along the boarder with Tanzania in the east. Lowland forests cover less than 5% of the landmass. There are wetlands along the northern plain of Imbo, particularly along the delta at the mouth of Rusizi River, which flows into Lake Tanganyika.

3. Burundi can be sub-divided into five distinct ecological zones. These are: (a) the western plain and wetlands; (b) the western escarpment; (c) the Congo-Nile continental divide in the Center of the country with undulating hills and swamps; (d) the highlands in the mid-east and south; and (e) the plains in the east and northeast. These ecological regions constitute entities that are characterized by particular land use patterns and similar customs vis-à-vis natural resources utilization among local communities. The most critical sites for biodiversity in Burundi are respectively: the Ruvubu and Kibira National Parks; the Rusizi Nature Reserve with floodplains habitats; the Bururi National Forest; Papyrus swamps near Karuzi and Ndurumu Valley; the Mosso plains in the southeast, with an important amphibian site; and Lake Tanganyika, which has one of the highest endemic fish species, especially cichlids (IUCN 1990).
4. It is estimated that 2,600 vascular plant species occur in Burundi, but the numbers of endemic are not known. Animal life is diversified as well. There occur 11 primate species, including the Chimpanzees at Gombe. Other mammals include several forest duiker species, the warthog; and the giant forest hog. Birdlife is not well monitored, but at least 3 bird species are threatened. These are: the Grauer's swamp warbler; the papyrus yellow warbler; and the Kungwe *Apalis argentea*. Reptiles are well represented by the Nile crocodile. There are several amphibian species and some are endemic; for instance, the toad *Schootedenella massoensis*; and the frog *Phrynobatrachus sulfureogularis*.
5. Threats to biodiversity come mainly from human encroachment, due to the high density of the human population in the country. Most of the natural habitats have already been destroyed, and those that remain are often small and fragmented. Wetlands are now the most threatened habitats. Further threats to biodiversity originate from poor management even of protected areas, and several national parks contain human settlements. There is also continuing threat to the unique and diverse fish fauna of Lake Tanganyika from pollution, over-fishing, and possible introduction of alien species (IUCN 1990, 1992). Finally there is no coherent policy for natural resources management nor any land use scheme for the country.
6. Since 1988 environmental management is devoted to the Ministry of Land Management and Environment (MINATE). At the national level, it includes former directorates from the Ministry of Agriculture (MINAGRI), such as, the directorate of forestry; the directorate of rural engineering and land patrimony; the directorate of land use planning, etc. These directorates fall under the supervision of a Directorate General for Land Affairs and the Environment (DGATE), which reports to the minister. Also under the supervision of the MINATE, function two parastatals: (a) the Burundi Institute of Geography (IGEBU) and (b) the national park service (INECN, *Institut National pour l'Environnement et la Conservation de la Nature*). INECN manages protected areas, which make up to 5% of the country landmass. However, these directorates and parastatals are ill - staffed, particularly following measures of personnel recruitment freeze that originated in early the 1990s from structural adjustment programs and political turmoil in the country. At the local level, MINATE works with rural households through the Ministry of Agriculture's provincial directorates of agriculture and husbandry (DPAE). Hence the two ministries (MINATE and

MINAGRI) manage most of the biological resources of the country. However, without much coordination several other ministries are involved in natural resource management as well. These are the Ministry of Community Development; the Ministry of the Interior and Public Security; the Ministry of Planning; the Ministry of Energy and Mining (which manages peatbogs); and the Ministry of Public Works. A national environmental strategy (NES) was formulated on paper in 1993, and it has been re-formulated in 1997 to ensure concerted environmental action among ministries, as well as public and private sectors and local communities.

8. With assistance from UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) and FAO (the World Food Organization), the Government of Burundi is now engaged into the formulation and implementation of a global plan for the restauration of the environment. This plan will be implementing the national environmental strategy with participation of all the ministries and directorates in charge of natural resources management as well as the civil society and local communities. Moreover, the Government of Burundi, which has now ratified the convention on biological diversity has the firm commitment to formulate a national biodiversity strategy as a sub-sectoral component of the actualized national environmental strategy. Hence INECN, the GEF operational focal point, has now asked to UNDP-GEF for assistance in the formulation of a national biodiversity strategy and action plan (NBSAP) and report to the Conference of Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

B. Project Objectives and Short Description

9. The principal objective of this enabling activity is to assist INECN and MINATE, relevant government ministries, provincial administrations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), local communities and research institutions in Burundi to formulate a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) and country report to the COP. The BSAP 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. The project will build on the existing knowledge base to elaborate the BSAP through a process of participatory planning and stakeholder consultation. This will also enable Burundi to meet its obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) by preparing its first country report to the Conference of Parties.

10. Initially, a steering committee to be chaired by the Director-General of INECN will be established to supervise the BSAP process and provide overall direction and policy guidance. The members of the steering committee will be drawn, as a representative sample, from the full range of concerned biodiversity stakeholders. These will include representatives from relevant government agencies and institutions, particularly MINATE, MINAGRI, the Directorate of Forestry, the Directorate of Water and Fisheries, IGEBU, INECN, ISABU (Institut des Sciences Agronomiques du Burundi), the University of Burundi, the private sector (NGOs and local communities) and the donor community. 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. Additional planning team members will be drawn to represent, on the one hand, decision and law makers, and on the other hand, biodiversity resource users.

11. The BSAP process will involve representatives from different relevant sectors of the society, and it will involve the organization of 2 national workshops and 5 regional workshops. Regional workshops will be organized for each of the 5 ecological zones following their specific land use patterns and bio-geo-climatic affinities. National and regional workshops will be attended by representatives from various ministries, public institutions, private sector, NGOs, community leaders and representatives, as well as the donor community.

12. The planning team will be assisted by one lead national consultant, several national and short-term consultants experienced in biodiversity issues. The lead national consultant will coordinate and facilitate project activities, as well as familiarizing the planning team in biodiversity planning, framing key strategies, drafting the BSAP and facilitating participation by all relevant biodiversity resources' stakeholders. The national consultants will help to run the national workshops, and the short-term consultants will run the 5 regional workshops. An international consultant will provide assistance in familiarizing the planning team in biodiversity planning, framing key strategies, drafting the BSAP and facilitating participation by all relevant biodiversity resources' stakeholders.

13. The planning team and consultants will initially undertake a review of WRI/IUCN/UNEP guidelines (Miller and Lanou 1995) for the preparation of national biodiversity strategy and action plan. They will then compile and summarize existing information on the status of, and threats to the nation's biodiversity. Data will also be compiled on biosafety, biotechnology, and agrobiodiversity. This information, along with summaries of existing strategies and plans, and other government or donor financed natural resource activities in Burundi, will be presented at the first national workshop. This national workshop will draw together the full range of national actors and stakeholders relevant to biodiversity. The workshop participants will analyze the results of the stocktaking and inventory to state the country biodiversity vision, and to select objectives, identify key issues and options as well as actors and priority areas for review. In addition, with assistance from the national lead consultant, an international consultant will provide familiarization sessions in participatory methods, biodiversity analysis, strategic planning techniques and dissemination techniques to the planning team, particularly to the national and short-term consultants.

14. Following the first national workshop, the planning team with the help of national consultants will carry out a detailed analysis of the issues and options. As part of this process, 5 regional workshops will put together representatives from local communities and institutions, private sector, government agencies, and donors. The regional workshops will assess various issues and options by the 5 ecological zones of the country and involve the full range of local stakeholders in the BSAP process. Primarily the short-term consultants will conduct the regional workshops with assistance from the planning team and the national consultants.

15. The results of the analysis and regional workshops will then be drawn together by the planning team assisted by the short-term consultants, and a draft BSAP will be prepared with the assistance of the national and international consultants. A second national workshop will invite comment on the initial analysis and draft BSAP. New alternatives and options will be identified and developed to seek consensus among the stakeholders prior to the finalization of the details of the BSAP.

16. Upon approval by the project steering committee and the Government of Burundi, the BSAP will be disseminated widely within Burundi and the planning team will prepare a country report to the COP of the biodiversity convention.

C. Coverage Without Duplication

17. The BSAP will enhance dialogue and consultation among government ministries and agencies on biodiversity issues, and it will build on existing legislation. Also the BSAP will build on existing data to be compiled by national consultants under the guidance of the planning team. Stocktaking activities will be undertaken, as there is need to digest and synthesize the existing information from biodiversity related projects. BSAP will fit into the NES and benefit from other past and ongoing activities, including donor funded projects, MINATE along with the BSAP Steering Committee will ensure that there is no duplication of efforts. The BSAP will ensure that there are provisions for (a) conservation, (b) sustainable use, and (c) equitable benefit sharing of biodiversity resources following the mandate of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

D. Time Plan and Sequencing

18. 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 November 1998 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 (ecological zones) workshops					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 first country report											x	x

E. Best Practice

19. The project will follow methodology recommended in the WRI/IUCN/UNEP's "Guidelines for Preparing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans" (Miller and Lanou 1995). The BSAP will prepare the grounds and identify priority needs of activities in the fields of biodiversity conservation, sustainable development, and benefit sharing to be undertaken by follow-up projects. All nine criteria for best practices will be addressed. The project will enforce the development of participatory approaches in Burundi, by incorporating inputs from all interested sectors of the society and practicing a decentralized multi-sectoral approach to mitigating biodiversity issues. In general, the project will benefit from previous biodiversity related initiatives in the country and utilize national expertise.

Project Financing

	Product	Process	Total
<i>Stocktaking and Inventory of Information</i>	13,000		13,000
- national consultants	7,000		7,000
- documentation, misc.	6,000		6,000
<i>Identification and Analysis of Options</i>	15,000	101,000	116,000
- national consultants	7,000	12,000	19,000
- international consultant	8,000	10,000	18,000
- first national workshop		23,000	23,000
- training (familiarization)		7,000	7,000
- regional workshops (5)		45,000	45,000
- travel and miscellaneous		4,000	4,000
<i>Preparation of Strategy and Action Plan</i>	19,500	58,000	77,500
- 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	3,500	3,500	7,000
- <i>First National Report</i>	6,500	6,000	12,500
- preparation of first country report	3,000	2,000	5,000
- publication of first country report	3,500		3,500
- dissemination and miscellaneous		4,000	4,000
<i>Coordination and Management Costs</i>	2,700	8,250	10,950
Total For Enabling Activity	56,700	173,250	229,950

G. Deviations from Criteria and Norms

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

H. Institutional Framework and Project Implementation

21. The project will be executed by INECN in coordination with MINATE with support from UNDP's country office. Under the guidance of the multi-sectoral Steering Committee, an inter-agency planning team will manage project activities with the assistance of national consultants. During its early meetings the Steering Committee will agree on the country's biodiversity vision, as well as on methodologies and indicators for assessing progress and performance.

22. The first country report will be prepared following the guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties in November 1995, which was held in Djakarta, and by the

guidelines written 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.

I. 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	x				1
	- cross-sectoral issues	x				1
	- policy and regulatory framework	x				1
	- institutional and human capacity	x				1
	- analysis of root causes of BD loss	x				1
	- technologies for conservation and sustainable use	x				1
	- activities with adverse impacts					1
	- existing measures and programs	x				1
	- preliminary statement of objectives	x				1
	- identification of gaps	x				1
	- assessment of existing needs	x				1
		x				1
	<i>Identification and Analysis of Options to Meet the Objectives of the CBD</i>					
	- strategies for conservation	x	x	x	x	
	- strategies for sustainable use	x	x	x	x	
	- strategies for benefit sharing	x	x	x	x	
	<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				
	- first national report	x			x	

Notes on the Activity Matrix

1. The BSAP stocktaking will build on the base of information which exists as a result of initiatives and projects by the World Bank, African Development bank, GTZ, FINNIDA, EU, GEF, and the United Nations Population Fund. Existing information needs to be summarized and reorganized to fit into BSAP process. Some significant projects related to biodiversity resources include:

- the EU tree planting projects at Rutana, Cankuzo, and Kirundo;
- the World Bank's forestry project as well as its regional development projects in Kirimiro and Buyenzi respectively;
- the African Development Bank's reforestation project at Bukirasazi; and peatland management at Rukoziri;
- the UNDP forestry and agro-forestry training with ITAB; meteorological capacity building for IGEBU;
- GEF regional project for biodiversity conservation in Lake Tanganyika;

- (f) FAO project with Italian cooperation funds on participatory conservation in the highlands of Burundi;
- (g) The Catholic Relief Service project on forest restoration for Forestry Reserves in Burundi; and
- (h) The UN Population Fund's project with INECN for environmental education in natural resources management.

2. The BSAP will effectively complement and enhance the provisions from existing plans and strategies. There will be no duplication as the INECN and MINATE will ensure integration of the above mentioned programmes and other existing or ongoing plans, such as NES, into the BSAP process.

J. References

Food and Agricultural Organization 1998. Conservation de la biodiversité par la gestion participative des aires protégées au Burundi. Document de Projet de la République du Burundi. 38pp.

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Miller, K.R. and S.M. Lanou 1995. *National Biodiversity Planning: Guidelines Based on Early Experiences Around the World*. WRI, UNEP, IUCN. 162 pp.

United Nations Development Programme 1998. Appui à la restauration de l'environnement. Document de Projet du Gouvernement du Burundi. 76pp.

United Nations Statistics Division 1994. *1994 per capita gross domestic product for African countries in US Dollars*. Economic Statistics Branch.

From: "Trinto MUGANGU" <trinto@internetgabon.com>
To: "Mahenau Agha" <agha@ff101.undp.org>
Subject: Re: hi Trinto
Date sent: Thu, 30 Jul 1998 16:48:12 -0700

Thanks Gugu:

I am doing fine.

However I wonder how to get a hold of Pat or Eduardo, concerning a Biodiv Enabling Proposal for BURUNDI that was sent on 22 June 1998 for them to forward to GEFSEC.

Could you if possible assist and ask them to inquire about the status of that proposal.

All the best,

Trinto Mugangu

> From: Mahenau Agha <agha@ff101.undp.org>
> To: TRINTO@INTERNETGABON.COM
> Subject: hi Trinto
> Date: Thursday, 30 July, 1998 8:05 AM
>
> Just wanted to send you a quick note, and say hi from New York. Hope
> you're keeping well. Best wishes. Gugu.

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République du Burundi
Ministère de l'Aménagement,
du Tourisme et de l'Environnement



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	Action	Info.
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ADM.		
Gitega, le 18 JUIN 1998		
RÉF./Action		

Réf. : 145/DG.9/INECU/98 A Madame le Représentant Résident
N°Réf: Du PNUD à BUJUMBURA .-
Objet:

**Endossement du Projet
de Stratégie Nationale
pour la Diversité Biologique
pour le Burundi .**

Madame le Représentant Résident,

J'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre en annexe à la présente, le Projet de Stratégie Nationale pour la Diversité Biologique pour le Burundi et son Plan d'Action afin que vous le soumettiez au GEF pour financement.

En effet, Madame le Représentant Résident, le document a été préparé en concertation avec votre bureau et le coordinateur régional du GEF Dr Trinto Mugangu, basé à Libreville ; aussi les objectifs et actions proposés cadrent bien avec les priorités du secteur et nous attachons une grande importance à la conservation de la Diversité Biologique .
Outre les corrections y apportées, le fond et la forme du document nous semblent convenir .

Nous sommes également d'accord d'être connectés à l'internet (CHM) et nous allons bientôt désigner le point focal du mécanisme d'échange d'information .

Veuillez agréer, Madame le Représentant Résident, l'assurance d'une considération très distinguée.

**LE DIRECTEUR GÉNÉRAL DE L'INECN
et Point focal**

Jean-Baptiste NIZIZA .

