



United Nations Development Programme
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY



Date: May 11, 2001

To: Mr. Kenneth King
Assistant CEO

Attention: Program Coordination

From:  Rafael Asenjo
GEF Executive Coordinator

Subject: **Submission of Medium Size Project Brief for Chile: "Ecosystem Management of the Salar del Huasco for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use Outside the Protected Areas"**

Enclosed is a project brief for Chile entitled: "Ecosystem Management of the Salar del Huasco for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use Outside the Protected Areas" submitted to UNDP by CONAMA, Chile. Please note that the project has been endorsed by the GEF national operational focal point in Chile.

In accordance with the operational guidance for the preparation and approval of medium-sized projects, we are submitting this to the GEF Secretariat for action by the Chief Executive Office (CEO). We understand that the Secretariat will recommend to the CEO that the project be submitted to the Council for approval, that it be returned for revision or that it not be developed further.

We are simultaneously circulating copies to UNEP/GEF, World Bank/GEF, STAP and the ~~M~~Biodiversity and Climate Change Convention Secretariats for comments to the GEF Secretariat. We expect to receive these comments within 15 working days. Therefore, we look forward to receiving the CEO's decision on or before June 25, 01, but understand that the project will not be formally approved, even if the CEO has endorsed it, until the Council has reviewed it, namely by July 7, 01 as part of the next work programme.

Thank you and best regards.

cc: Robin Burgess, UNEP
Ahmed Djoghlaif, UNEP
Kristin Elliott, UNEP
Madhav Gadgil, STAP
Mark Griffith, UNEP
Ramon de Mesa, GEFSEC
Francine Stevens, World Bank
Lars Videus, World Bank
Hamdallah Zedan, CBD

<p>9. Project objective and purpose:</p> <p>Project Objective: Conservation of the high altitude Salar ecosystem and its biota</p> <p>Project Purpose: Stakeholders will apply species and habitat planning and management techniques in the framework of a conservation plan for the sustainable use of biodiversity in the Salar del Huasco</p>	<p>Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total wetland area and sub-habitats within it, remain undiminished within Salar del Huasco ecosystem • Numbers of key plant and animal species remain undiminished or have increased depending on baseline conservation status • Multistakeholder Group for Conservation Outside Protected Areas in the Salar del Huasco (COPA) is operational: minutes of the meetings available. • Sustainable ecosystem management plan is published and under implementation with participation of all relevant stakeholders. • Final evaluation indicates that all management plans being implemented. 										
<p>10. Project outcomes</p> <p>i) Ecosystem functions, their relation to biodiversity maintenance, and the effects of anthropogenic activities are assessed and reflected in conservation planning and sectoral policies.</p> <p>ii) Long term management for biodiversity conservation of the Salar del Huasco ecosystem is assured.</p>	<p>Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biological, ecological and socio-economic analyses published and periodically updated • Gov't agencies and sectoral representatives letter agreeing to participate in COPA • COPA bylaws, working agendas, minutes, attendance records published or available publicly • Awareness of key Salar del Huasco stakeholder groups increased as measured in surveys and random interviews • Sustainable Tourism is underway, as indicated by tourism brochures, visitation records, and published code of conduct • Strategic ecosystem management plan under implementation formally adopted and signed by COPA • First and second year sustainable use management plans reviewed and published 										
<p>11. Estimated budget (US\$):</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">PDF A:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">US\$ 25,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">PDF-A Co-financing:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">9,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">GEF:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">US\$ 835,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;"><u>Co-financing:</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>US\$1,865,000</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">TOTAL:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">US\$ 2,725,000</td> </tr> </table>		PDF A:	US\$ 25,000	PDF-A Co-financing:	9,000	GEF:	US\$ 835,000	<u>Co-financing:</u>	<u>US\$1,865,000</u>	TOTAL:	US\$ 2,725,000
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<p>INFORMATION ON INSTITUTION SUBMITTING PROJECT BRIEF</p>											
<p>12. Information on project proponent:</p> <p>Established in 1981, the Centro de Estudios para el Desarrollo – CED (Center for Development Studies) is a research and consulting non-profit private organization. CED's objectives are: a) to assist public policy decision-makers and managers, at the executive and legislative, national, regional and local level; b) to promote a republican and democratic society in Chile, and; c) to promote public participation, educate and inform civil society regarding the importance of politics and democracy.</p>											

CED has five working areas: i) environment, ii) local development, iii) security of citizens, iv) political and development strategies and policies, and v) social development. CED is led by a Director, and has a total staff of 25 full-time and 20 associated professionals. CED has a wide cooperation network with public and private organizations, including ministries, regional governments, State agencies (including the National Commission for the Environment, CONAMA), the Chilean Association of Municipalities, universities, international institutions, NGOs, etc. CED annual budget is approximately US\$ 900,000.

Since 1995 CED has emphasized its work on environment. With the support of the Inter-American Development Bank, CED has reviewed the environmental impact assessment programs and models of environmental management in countries throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, and has developed capacity building programs at local levels. Thus, CED has become a center for discussion, analysis and generation of multidisciplinary proposals on environmental issues affecting the region.

CED's address is: Nueva de Lyon 0128, Providencia, Santiago, Chile.

13. *Information on proposed executing agency (if different from above):* N/A

14. *Date of initial submission of project concept:*

INFORMATION TO BE COMPLETED BY IMPLEMENTING AGENCY:

15. *Project identification number:* PIMS 1319

Implementing Agency contact person: Lita Paparoni, Regional Coordinator, UNDP/GEF, One UN Plaza, DC1-2364, New York NY 10044. Tel: 212-906-5468; fax: 212-906-6688; email: lita.paparoni@undp.org

16. *Project linkage to Implementing Agency program(s):*

One of the essential elements in the UNDP Country Cooperation Framework (CCF) for Chile is the continuing concern for sustainability of the resource base and the quality of the Chilean environment. The regeneration of the environment is seen as strategic to sustained poverty alleviation and development efforts. The proposed project will support Chile's Agenda 21, which uses a people-centered and ecosystem-based approach to protect and regenerate the environment while ensuring synergy between environmental, social, political and economic considerations. The project will also contribute in achieving the biodiversity conservation objectives of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) through improved knowledge and management systems, better information and institutional support mechanisms and equitable sharing of benefits of biodiversity. Through integrated conservation and development approach in Salar del Huasco, the project is expected to come-up with stronger conservation and management policy and practice, initiated and implemented with multi-stakeholder participation.

List of Acronyms:

CED	Centro de Estudios para el Desarrollo (Center for Development Studies)
CONAF	Corporación Nacional Forestal, Ministerio de Agricultura
CONAMA	Comisión Nacional del Medio Ambiente (National Commission for the Environment)
COPA	conservation outside protected areas
DGA	National Water Authority
MBN	Ministerio de Bienes Nacionales (Ministry of Public Goods)
MIDEPLAN	Ministerio de Planificación y Cooperación (Ministry of Planning and Cooperation)
MNHN	Museo Nacional de Historia Naturales (National Museum of Natural History)
ONG	Organización No Gubernamental (Non-Governmental Organization)
PNUD	Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo
RAMSAR	Convención Relativa a los Humedales de Importancia Internacional (Convention on Wetlands of International Importance)
SAG	Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero, Ministerio de Agricultura

SCM	Compañía Minera Doña Inés de Collahuasi
SdH	Salar del Huasco
SEIA	Sistema de Evaluación de Impacto Ambiental) (Environmental Impact Assessment System)
SERNATUR	Servicio Nacional de Turismo (National Tourism Service)
SNASPE	Sistema Nacional de Areas Silvestres Protegidas el Estado (National System of State Protected Areas)
UCP	Unidad Coordinadora del Proyecto (Project Coordination Unit)

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Environmental Context.

1. Biogeographically isolated from the rest of South America, Chile is one of the most geographically diverse countries in the world. It stretches 4,300 kilometers north to south between the Andes and the Pacific Ocean, and, on average, less than 200 km wide from east to west, rising from sea level to more than 6,000 meters. This immense altitudinal and latitudinal range encompasses a rich diversity of animal and plant life, including many endemic species, and a tremendous variety of habitat and ecosystem types, ranging from: steppe grasslands (far south), temperate rainforests (south), Mediterranean ecosystems (center) and arid deserts (north). The northern arid deserts are altitudinally divided into coastal, pampa, and high altitude cold desert, where the project site is located.

2. In these high, arid regions, closed basin water catchments called “Salars” play a crucial role in concentrating moisture, essentially functioning as oases in the high-altitude Andean desert. Salars consist of shallow lakes and salt flats, and, in such a water-limited environment, are considered – together with their productive peatlands and lagoons - “keystone” ecological features providing forage for wildlife and livestock and feeding and breeding habitat for many resident and migratory species.

3. The Salar del Huasco is a remnant of a 400 km-long Pleistocene lake that stretched from modern day Lake Titicaca in southern Peru and western Bolivia south to the Antofagasta II Region in Chile¹. As the lake dried up, the remnants became “islands of moisture in a sea of aridity.” Consequently, biodiversity associated with these present-day salt flats exhibits a high degree of endemism and adaptation to the ecological conditions of the area: including low and highly variable summer precipitation (average of 100 mm/year), high solar radiation, and strong daily and seasonal temperature fluctuation.

4. The Salar del Huasco is located at 3,800 meters in northern Chile’s High Andean Plateau region. The Salar includes three main bodies of brackish water, with a maximum, seasonally fluctuating area of about 6,000 ha. The Salar del Huasco is the center of a 60 km long and 30 km wide closed basin between two north-south oriented mountain ranges reaching over 5,000 meters. The Salar del Huasco is one of the most pristine Salars remaining in Chile, retaining nearly all of its ecological integrity. The Salar therefore provides a potential baseline system which could be used to analyze other Salars’ ecological functioning and identify appropriate measures for conservation practice elsewhere.

5. Biodiversity of Salar del Huasco: The Salar del Huasco is located in the middle of the Andean “salar region,” hosting a unique species assemblage, giving it a crucial role in maintaining regional connectivity between salars located 250 km north and salars located 400 km south. Its location between two towering mountain ranges places it on one of the most important migratory bird flight paths and renders it a crucial resting and nesting area for migratory birds in northern Chile. This significance is reflected in the fact that Salar del Huasco is the only Salar in Chile that harbors nesting populations of all three threatened species of flamingos in South America (CITES Appendix II): the Andean Flamingo (*Phoenicoparrus andinus*), the Chilean Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber chilensis*), and the James Flamingo (*Phoenicoparrus jamesi*). With respect to other CITES Appendix I species, the Salar del Huasco is also home to the ostrich-like, Lesser Rhea (*Pterocnemia pennata*), and provides feeding habitat for the Andean condor (*Vultur gryphus*). The other forty-four bird species known to occur in the Salar del Huasco include the Puna tinamou (*Tinamotis pentlandi*), earthcreepers (*Upucerthia*), the Andean goose (*Chloephaga melanoptera*) and four regional migrant duck species.

¹ Keller, B. and D. Soto. 1998. Hydrogeologic influences on the preservation of *Orestias ascotanensis* (Teleostei: Cyprinodontidae), in Salar de Ascotán, northern Chile. *Revista Chilena Historia Natural* 71:147-156.

Salar del Huasco is also an important resting habitat for northern hemisphere migrants, such as the CITES Appendix II Peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), the Golden plover (*Pluvialis dominica*), Yellowleg (*Tringa flavipes*), and Sandpiper (*Calidris bairdii*).

6. Eighteen mammal species occur in the Salar, including the CITES Appendix I vicuña (*Vicugna vicugna*), the llama (*Lama lama*), the Andean fox and the gopher-like tuco-tuco. Recent preliminary information on local populations of vicuña indicate that the populations existing around the Salar del Huasco are members of a different species or at least a subspecies (*Vicugna mensalis*) from the northern, more abundant population (*Vicugna vicugna*) (Spotorno, pers. com.).

7. Salar del Huasco harbors many high altitude plateau and local endemic species, with high potential for new local endemics to be discovered. Twenty-five of the vertebrate species occurring in the Salar are listed as being species of conservation concern in Chile²: two fishes, two amphibians, four reptiles, ten birds and eight mammals. Six species are endangered, eleven are vulnerable, six are rare, and two are “insufficiently known.”

8. The Salar del Huasco harbors five species of flora endemic to Chile encompassing 203 taxa: four species of Polypodiophyta (ferns), one species of Pinophyta (Gymnosperms), and 198 species of Magnoliophyta (Angiosperms). The most diverse families are Asteraceae with 61 taxa, and Poaceae with 31 species. Of the total flora found in the Salar area, five are classified as being of global environmental concern³: Two ferns are classified as “rare,” and one “insufficiently known.” The cushion-like llareta (*Azorella compacta*), and the queñoa tree (*Polylepis tarapacana*), the tree able to grow at the highest altitude in the world, are considered to be “vulnerable.” In addition, twenty-two other flora species in the Salar have significant medicinal and/or nutritional value.

9. Taxonomic knowledge of the flora and fauna of Salar del Huasco is incomplete. Considering the island-like isolation of high-altitude salt flats, the discovery of new endemic species is expected, especially of less conspicuous groups like fishes.

2.2 Past and Current “Baseline” Situation

10. Salar del Huasco is located in Pica municipality in the region of Tarapaca. The municipality has a population of approximately 2,500 inhabitants, 50% of whom live under the poverty line (Population and Housing Census, 1992). Approximately 1,800 people live in the towns of Pica and Matilla, 60 km downhill from the Salar del Huasco. Three hundred people live in the villages of Lirima, Cancosa, and Collacagua in the north of the municipality.

11. The Salar basin, isolated and uninhabited, is utilized on a seasonal basis by approximately 400 people, who make their living primarily from animal husbandry, grazing their 1,000 head of livestock (70% llamas, vicuñas and guanacos, and the remainder alpacas, sheep and goats) on high plateau grasslands. In other Chilean salars, overgrazing has reduced the capacity of high altitude grasses to support wildlife and has diminished surface water. Up to now, however, the seasonal nature of the grazing in the Salar del Huasco and the relatively low number of animals have had minimal impact on the ecosystem.

12. Local people have also traditionally utilized the Salar for subsistence-based waterfowl hunting. A more recently developing and rapidly growing use of the Salar area is ecotourism drawn by the combination of wildlife and spectacular scenery. Although Salar del Huasco has never had water

² SAG. 1998. Hunting Law Regulations. Santiago, Chile.

³ Benoit, I. 1989. Red Book of the Terrestrial Flora of Chile. CONAF, Santiago, Chile.

extracted from it for mining purposes, salt flats in northern Chile have historically been important water sources for local mines. This was and still is done in other parts of Chile with little notion of how much water is required to maintain ecosystem integrity. As a result, in some salars, the reproduction of some rare bird species like the Giant Coot have been greatly reduced because lower water levels have enabled predators to reach previously inaccessible nesting areas.

13. Two copper mining operations exist within Pica municipality boundary -- the Doña Inés de Collahuasi and Quebrada Blanca mines, approximately 90 km south of the Salar del Huasco (Figure 1). The Doña Inés de Collahuasi Mining Company (CMDIC) is planning to expand its operations and may seek to tap water from the Salar del Huasco catchment. The company has initiated an environmental baseline study of the Salar del Huasco to be used in the required Environmental Impact Assessment. The WMC Chile S.A. mining company is currently conducting exploratory activities in the Altos de Pica mountains, about 10 km west of the Salar del Huasco basin (Figure 1). If such exploration is successful it may result in additional demands on the Salar's water.

14. The history of human activity in most salars has been one of environmental deterioration and loss of global biodiversity values^{4, 5}. Only recently have other values such as conservation and sustainable use come to the fore of the Chilean government's public land-use priorities. PDF A activities confirmed a growing interest in Salar del Huasco by national, regional, and local authorities in taking new measures to overcome existing barriers to conservation and sustainable use. The Pica Municipality's "Community Development Plan 1996-2000," calls for the Salar to be given special protection status within the National Protected Areas System (SNASPE). The plan calls for the development of a sustainable resource use plan for the Basin. In Pica Municipality hot springs and religious sites support a growing tourism business; untapped potential attractions include typical Andean towns, cave painting, fossil footprints of prehistoric animals, the Salar's wildlife and spectacular scenery. Recognizing its ecological importance and tourism potential, the National Tourism Agency's (SERNATUR) Tourism Development Master Plan for the Tarapaca Region calls for the development of a tourism program including the Salar Basin by 2005.

15. In December 1996, the Chilean government designated the Salar del Huasco (SdH) and five other sites in the country as wetlands of international importance adding them to the RAMSAR list, especially as waterfowl habitats. Also, the National Forest Service (CONAF) program "Priority Sites for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in Chile" identifies the Salar del Huasco as Priority 1 (Urgent) to be included in the SNASPE because of its bird-nesting sites and native fish habitats, both under-represented in the current system of protected areas.

16. The Salar del Huasco basin is comprised entirely of publicly owned land, an unusual situation in Chile. Several government agencies have management responsibility over various biological and physical parts of the Salar del Huasco ecosystem, consistent with their corresponding sectoral interests. The Ministry of Public Goods (MBN) administers public land for public benefit. CONAF is responsible for the conservation and management of non-game fauna and flora on government land outside of protected areas. The Agriculture and Livestock Service (SAG) is responsible for controlling hunting and preventing the destruction of game species. SERNATUR promotes tourism development, and the National Water Authority (DGA) is responsible for managing water resources sustainably. None of them are responsible exclusively for biodiversity conservation.

⁴ Messrli, B., et. al. 1993. Climate change and natural resource dynamics of the Atacama Altiplano during the last 18.000 years: Preliminary synthesis. *Mountain Research and Development* 13:117-127.

⁵ Marquet, P.A., et. al. 1998. Los ecosistemas del desierto de Atacama y área andina adyacente en el norte de Chile. *Rev. Chilena de Historia Natural* 71:593-617.

17. The DGA has limited expertise in determining water requirements for maintaining ecosystem integrity and biodiversity conservation and intends to demonstrate through this project how water needs for mining and conservation can be accommodated in the high desert environment of Salar del Huasco. This could include expanding the definition of water “use” in Chile to include leaving water in the salar for conservation purposes as a form of “use.” While SAG is responsible for controlling hunting, and CONAF for managing non-game species, the Salar del Huasco is too remote for either agency to have any real impact through its traditional centralized enforcement approach. Consequently, both CONAF and SAG are looking to this project to demonstrate new and effective ways to involve local stakeholders in wildlife management and hunting law enforcement work.

18. The Ministry of Public Goods (MBN) has identified Salar del Huasco as a priority area for its program promoting conservation by leveraging private investment to develop sustainable eco-tourism projects. SERNATUR’s Tourism Development Master Plan for the Tarapaca Region calls for the development of a tourism program including the Salar Basin within the next 5-years. SERNATUR/MBN are interested in using the Salar to demonstrate sustainable ecotourism approaches in Chile.

19. Law and Policy: Beginning in the 1920s, the Government of Chile established a “National System of State-Protected Wild Areas.” Administered by CONAF, the system includes five main types of protected areas: national parks, natural reserves, natural monuments, tourist protection areas, and nature sanctuaries. Until 1994, however, conservation remained within the borders of these protected areas. In recent years, the go has recognized the interdisciplinary nature of environmental management and biodiversity conservation and moved to establish a legal framework to support it.

20. Enacted in 1994, the Environmental Framework Law (EFL) N° 19,300 established a new national environmental oversight authority - CONAMA - to develop an integrated and coordinated approach to the administration and conservation of the country’s environment. Konami’s role is to oversee the formulation, coordination and administration of the legal bodies and national programs related to environmental management and sustainability. With respect to biodiversity conservation, CONAMA coordinates the work of public agencies to: 1) establish new regulations for the classification of species in categories of conservation; 2) administer SNASPE; and 3) develop natural resource conservation and management plans. The law requires such management plans to ensure that: i) renewable resources remain renewable; ii) surface water flow is maintained and soils conserved; iii) the scenic quality of the landscape is preserved; and, iv) endangered, rare, and vulnerable species are protected.

21. EFL also provides the legal basis for the development of new, innovative policies and approaches to conserving biodiversity in a complex institutional and stakeholder environment. For the first time in Chilean, a law - the EFL - requires disparate agencies to collaborate across sectoral boundaries for the environmental management and conservation. However, there is a lack of experience and expertise among Chilean government agencies in applying the new environmental management instruments (integrated management approaches, natural resource management plans) of this law. Consequently, the opportunities in the new Law have not been realized fully on-the-ground. An integrated approach to managing rural lands outside of protected areas has not been tried yet.

22. As previously mentioned, the EFL provides incentives for the establishment and management of private protected areas (PPA). There are now a handful PPA, and collaboration with the private sector in the management of important ecosystems is crucial to long term conservation goals in Chile. The law establishes the basic principles of environmental management, including the importance of public participation and environmental education, as well as the identification of optimal species conservation status. CONAMA has made significant advances in implementing the EFL, such as the Environmental Impact Assessment program, but few if any advances have been made in developing an integrated and coordinated approach for management of rural lands outside protected areas.

23. There is little experience in Chile of cooperation among resource management agencies for conservation and sustainable use purposes. The Salar del Huasco ecosystem is not a protected area and consequently, management of the Salar basin consists of occasional, uncoordinated inspections by the staff of the disparate government entities. There are no existing multi-sectoral instruments for the management and protection of the Salar del Huasco's significant biological diversity, particularly in reference to the necessary involvement and awareness of key stakeholders in seeking environmental sustainability.

24. The local community, the private sector and authorities are increasingly interested in using resources with potential tourist or industrial use within the Salar del Huasco. This interest has resulted in a variety of plans and programs. However, in the absence of a specific ecosystem management plan for the area that recognizes the roles of the various stakeholders and establishes cooperative management goals and objectives, the Salar's fragile ecosystem will remain highly vulnerable to disparate and uncontrolled anthropogenic activities.

25. ***Threats to Biological Diversity in the Salar del Huasco are:*** a) potential over-extraction of water in the catchment, eventually reducing water levels in the Salar, b) inappropriate visitation/tourism, c) overhunting, and d) overgrazing. If left unmitigated, these threats will grow, and like in so many other Salars in the high Andes, lead to destruction of species and habitat and an overall reduction in biodiversity.

26. A recently constructed paved public road between Mina Doña Inés de Collahuasi and the town of Pozo Almonte, passes within nine kilometers of Salar del Huasco, increasing human activity and tourism in the area. Uncontrolled visits are beginning to have a negative impact on the area by disturbing wildlife during vital rest periods and the destruction of tundra habitat caused by off-road driving in fragile areas. If properly managed, increased tourism would provide an opportunity to create greater awareness regarding conservation while at the same time increasing local incomes and the corresponding incentives to maintain the area's biodiversity. Currently, hunting is a seasonal activity conducted at modest levels without any apparent significant effects to the biological diversity of the Salar. However, the Chilean Government is interested in using the new road to connect the region with Bolivia, Argentina and Brazil. This would increase the flow of traffic significantly, with possibly devastating effects from over-hunting and/or off-road driving and destruction of its fragile ecology.

27. The unsustainable, large-scale commercial use of water resources is another imminent threat to the Salar's water-limited environment. Mining exploration in the area near the Salar del Huasco is underway and future mining operations in the vicinity are a possibility. Water is a scarce commodity in the region. Mining, the largest economic activity, needs water and this creates pressure for possible future extraction even of remote sources like the Salar. Although regional authorities have to date denied requests to extract water from the Salar because the lack of accurate hydrological knowledge, pressure is building for this decision to be reversed.

28. The proximate causes of unsustainable use of the Salar del Huasco's natural resources are the following:

- a. Fragmented and isolated sectorally-driven management of Salar del Huasco resources;
- b. Historical predisposition to favor mining uses over conservation-related uses for water;
- c. Inadequate planning to deal with unintended consequences of improved access;
- d. Expanding uncontrolled open access for tourism;
- e. Open access to waterfowl resources & low level of local participation in game and non-game species management;

- f. Insufficient technical and methodological experience among stakeholders and institutions regarding integrated land and water management;
- g. Insufficient regulatory guidance in how to integrate approaches outside protected areas;
- h. Insufficient information and awareness regarding the ecology and minimum hydrological requirements of the Salar del Huasco's biodiversity to support good management and decision-making;
- i. Ineffective advocacy for biodiversity and related sustainable economic development activities.

2.3. PROJECT OBJECTIVE, PURPOSE, & EXPECTED OUTCOMES, ACTIVITIES AND FINANCIAL INPUTS NEEDED TO ENABLE CHANGES

29. The project will conserve the globally significant biodiversity of the Salar del Huasco. In the absence of this project, this outcome would be precluded by obstacles such as limited government resources, limited capacity for and experience with multisectoral coordination, and inadequate experience with participatory management of the Salar del Huasco's resources for conservation and sustainable use.

Project Objective: Conservation of the high altitude Salar ecosystem and its biota

Project Purpose: Stakeholders will apply species and habitat planning and management techniques in the framework of a conservation plan for the sustainable use of biodiversity in the Salar del Huasco.

Project Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Ecosystem functions, their relation to biodiversity maintenance, and the effects of anthropogenic activities are assessed and reflected in conservation planning and sectoral policies.

Outputs:

- 1. Analyses of biological and ecological characteristics of the Salar del Huasco ecosystem to determine zoning and management requirements**

30. These analyses will describe and quantify the main environmental attributes of the Salar area, analyze the fragility of its environmental conditions; model the Salar del Huasco's hydro-geology; and describe the archeological locations and cultural patrimony of the area. A complete inventory of fauna and flora species diversity and richness will be conducted.

31. Drawing upon field analyses, a habitat study will define the degree of protection and management required by the Salar ecosystem from different sectors, considering the hydrological regime of the basin and minimum required water flows for biodiversity support. Biodiversity analyses will also determine the optimum conditions required to maintain habitat viability for over 30 endangered species known to occur in the Salar, including levels of abundance, spatial distribution, and seasonal movement of species.

32. Information from the biodiversity and ecological analyses will define priority species and habitats for conservation, determine specific biodiversity conservation actions, and recommend minimum water requirements for maintaining habitat viability. Information from these analyses, funded primarily by GEF with some co-funding from the Collahuasi Mining Company, will be updated and revised as monitoring and targeted research activities yield more specific information about location, population size and habitat requirements of different species

2. Analyses of sectoral trends and impacts – mining, grazing, hunting, tourism – on ecosystem functions and biodiversity of the Salar del Huasco

33. This output will provide information on sectoral trends and impacts which will be used to design measures to prevent or mitigate pressure from productive sector activity on the Salar's biodiversity resources. A study financed by the Ministry of Public Goods will appraise and quantify local economic activity and social indicators of stakeholders living near or using the Salar ecosystem. This information will be used to define a sustainable use plan in the Salar and adjacent areas. Such information will be used by planners and decision makers to develop and implement a biodiversity management plan which incorporates conservation and sustainable use principles with productive and commercial interests.

3. Zoning and demarcation of the Salar del Huasco ecosystem in areas for protection, restricted use and other use categories, along with definition of corresponding management requirements

34. Using the information from Outputs 1 and 2, above, public and private stakeholders will, in collaboration with the academic community, identify areas for protection and restricted and other uses which will be mapped. These land-use distinctions will be further reinforced with the elaboration of management requirements in sectoral land-use management handbooks. Zoning and demarcation will also guide extractive sector activity and corresponding EIAs.

4. Coordinated policy framework based on sectoral reviews and conservation principles

35. Using the results of Output 3, above, and in consultation with relevant sectoral authorities and local stakeholders, existing policies affecting the ecosystem integrity of the Salar del Huasco will be reviewed to achieve maximum complementarity and coordination. Individual sectoral analyses will define opportunities to incorporate biodiversity principles into sectoral overlays.

Outcome 2: Long-term management for biodiversity conservation of the Salar del Huasco ecosystem is assured

Outputs:

1. Multisector coordination mechanism for ecosystem management – COPA - established and operational

36. This output will implement the EFL's provisions calling for multi-agency and stakeholder collaboration for conservation outside of protected areas. The NGO community, led by CED, will work with Government, local communities and the private sector to form a multi-sectoral "Conservation Outside Protected Areas" working group or COPA. COPA will contain representatives of the following stakeholders: CONAMA I Región; CONAF; MBN; Compañía Minera Doña Inés de Collahuasi (SCM); Municipalidad de Pica; DGA; Intendencia de la Región de Tarapacá; Universidad Arturo Prat; Asociación de Empresarios del Turismo de la I Región; and the Asociación de Agricultores de Pica, & CED.

37. COPA will serve as a sectoral barrier remover by adopting a coordinated and integrated management approach to the Salar del Huasco ecosystem (see Output 4, Outcome 1, above). COPA will provide the necessary institutional "umbrella" support, enabling different sectoral interests to collaborate within the framework of ecosystem management while pursuing sectoral policy objectives. For example, the National Water Authority (DGA) will work with CED, CONAMA, and

Collahuasi Mining Company to develop an integrated approach to meet water needs for both mining and conservation. DGA has limited expertise in determining water requirements for maintenance of ecosystem integrity and biodiversity conservation. COPA will enable it to draw upon new and additional expertise to overcome this barrier. Agriculture and Livestock Services (SAG) and CONAF will collaborate with local stakeholders to manage game and non-game species. Neither agency has previously worked with local stakeholders in this manner outside of protected areas. Both CONAF and SAG, working through COPA, will demonstrate new and effective ways to involve local stakeholders in wildlife management and hunting law enforcement.

38. At the end of the project's first year, an analysis will be conducted and a permanent COPA management structure will be established rooted in the Environmental Framework Law (EFL), and based upon existing institutional capacity in Chile. This management structure will clarify stakeholder responsibilities, decision-making mechanisms, conflict resolution procedures, and the mechanism for adaptive management. By the end of year one, COPA participants will be officially assigned responsibility by their own institutions to COPA.

2. Institutional staff and relevant stakeholders trained in appropriate aspects of ecosystem, habitat and species management for biodiversity conservation

39. The EFL offers opportunities for innovative conservation partnership policies and approaches. Under this outcome, the capacity of COPA members to envisage and operationalize new approaches to implementing environmental policy will be strengthened. Experiences from other parts of the world will be introduced through well-planned, focussed training workshops. This input, as well as the experience under this project will enable COPA, led by CONAMA and CED, to develop best-practice recommendations to strengthen the existing policy and regulatory framework for implementing the EFL.

40. Eco-tourism has been growing in popularity in this part of Chile, and the Salar del Huasco is an increasingly attractive destination for tourism operators. The project will provide training and relevant outreach materials to enable tourism operators (10 from Santiago and 40 from Iquique) to visit the Salar and enable their clients to appreciate the biological diversity and physical attributes of the area. Tourism operators will be required to participate in an education/training program on the Salar's ecosystem and biodiversity resources, including abundance and distribution of fauna and flora and a code of ethics for sustainable eco-tourism.

41. Two community members will be hired to serve as local "Salar Caretakers," selected from among the leaders of the local pastoralist community and trained by CED. They will be responsible for ensuring that habitat quality measurements (and other data) are taken on a regular, year-round basis. An annual "State of the Salar" report will be produced by CED with the caretakers' input, providing SdH management with input from local communities.

3. Recurrent costs of multisectoral management are identified and financing plan established

42. The conservation plan for Salar del Huasco will not only detail institutional responsibilities, but also include comprehensive assessment of operational and financial requirements on a yearly basis. This assessment will enable participants to officially delineate their financial commitments to specific activities and policy objectives, including full coverage of any recurrent costs.

4. Communities, institutions, productive sectors (mining, grazing, tourism) are aware of the value of ecosystem goods and services

43. The 400 local pastoralists who utilize the Salar del Huasco's grassland resources on a seasonal basis know little about the relevant laws or opportunities for conservation and sustainable development. Schools in surrounding areas have little in the way of teaching material or coursework on Andean diversity and the ecosystem goods and services. CED will raise awareness among these groups by developing material on Andean ecology for local school curricula, organizing regular field visits by school groups to SdH, etc. Awareness will be raised among these groups regarding environmentally destructive practices focussing on: environmental literacy, ethics, and advocacy. Additionally, given that the Salar is comprised of state-owned land, many of Salar del Huasco's principal stakeholders are found at the regional and national levels where ongoing discussions are being held regarding how to implement the EFL. Consequently, awareness of project objectives will be raised through seminars held in Santiago, Iquique and Pica.

5. Ecotourism plan developed based on visitor sustainable use parameters of identified attractions

44. The Ministry of Public Goods will work with CED through the COPA group to promote conservation by leveraging private investment in sustainable ecotourism approaches in the Salar del Huasco. As part of this co-funded effort, MGN will support an assessment of the Salar del Huasco's tourism potential, including a management plan and carrying capacity figures. Once this framework is in place, proposals will be solicited from private tourism operators for sustainable tourism development and concessions sold through public auction for certain areas. The proposals must include the development of infrastructure that respects the Salar del Huasco's ecosystem functions.

6. Grazing/hunting plan developed based on analysis of sustainable use parameters

45. As called for under the EFL, specific guidelines for grazing and hunting will be developed for the Salar del Huasco ecosystem and will be incorporated into the larger biodiversity conservation management plan. The plan - endorsed by COPA and implemented by its constituent institutions - will serve as an environmental and biodiversity conservation code of ethics for the Salar del Huasco.

7. Conservation management plan developed and under implementation

46. A sub-group of COPA will be formed by CED, CONAMA and SAG to focus on operationalising biodiversity conservation in the Salar del Huasco. An ecosystem management plan will be developed for the Salar del Huasco, using the information from Output 1, Outcome 1.

3. SUSTAINABILITY ANALYSIS AND RISK ASSESSMENT

47. *Institutional & Financial Sustainability:* The project proposes a collaborative multisectoral partnership for ecosystem conservation outside protected areas. This approach aims at providing biodiversity benefits while recognizing the need to maintain sectoral productivity. Project preparation has ensured the collaboration of the principal mining company in the area, as well as local decision makers, communities and government institutions.

48. This cross-sectoral partnership is manifested in the formal establishment of COPA who has driven the process of formulation and will bear primary responsibility for implementation and oversight. Resources to cofinance and sustain project objectives will be derived from COPA members and the budget lines that they manage from their respective institutional affiliations. In addition to their own

contributions, COPA members will assume responsibility for leveraging additional resources from established contacts at national and international levels. These include: the National Fund for Regional Development, CONAMA's Environmental Protection Fund, Fund for the Americas for local community development, tax deductible funds for training and environment, and international conservation funds. In addition, any revenue derived from tourism licensing fees will be applied to support COPA's work in the field.

49. This multidisciplinary group will also serve as a forum for conflict resolution and mediation processes as required in project implementation as was done in project preparation.

50. *Project Risks & Assumptions:* There are some important risks the project has been designed to minimize and assumptions upon which its success depends:

- Naturally occurring conditions could alter baseline level of species richness and diversity. (low)
- Biodiversity conservation will continue to be a government priority. (high)
- Institutional walls blocking cross-sectoral collaboration can be overcome. (medium)
- Regional/national scientific institutions maintain their technical capacity. (high)
- Government staff will be assigned to COPA working group duties. (medium-high)
- NGOs will maintain support for outreach and education objectives. (high)

4. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

51. Stakeholders have been fully involved in project development. PDF A resources provided for consultations held with groups of academics from the Arturo Prat and Tarapaca universities, as well as with professionals, public institutions and research institutions so as to further enhance the level of scientific knowledge regarding species and habitats present in the Salar. Similar consultations have been held with regional experts to identify and analyze the dimensions of anthropogenic threats to the Salar and its environment.

52. PDF A-financed consultations with key stakeholder groups enabled the project development team to (i) identify baseline programming; (ii) define willingness of the different parties to be involved in the activities proposed in the project; and (iii) discuss the viability of the proposed objectives and solutions, as presented in the GEF alternative. Over 36 interviews and discussions were conducted with key representatives from academic institutions, NGOs, central, regional, and local public services, and mining entrepreneurs.

53. Three project design consultation workshops were conducted. The first workshop, held in Iquique, included authorities and regional experts from seven institutions working with land and resource use in Salar del Huasco. The second workshop was conducted in the town of Pica, with thirteen local community officials, including representatives of pastoralists. Finally, and after the observations collected in the previous workshops were incorporated, a workshop was held in Santiago and attended by authorities and experts from eight national institutions.

54. PDF A consultations produced a cooperative agreement on project implementation with the privately run Collahuasi Mining Company (SCM). The company agreed to actively facilitate the establishment and consolidation of COPA, participate in COPA working groups, and promote the implementation of a management plan for Salar del Huasco. SCM also agreed to collaborate with the project on gathering environmental data for the Salar and provide logistical support to awareness raising activities.

Key Stakeholders in the Salar del Huasco:

- Municipality of Pica & Local Pastoralists
- CONAMA (National Commission for the Environment)
- Agriculture and Livestock Services (SAG)
- National Water Authority (DGA)
- CONAF (National Forestry Corporation)
- Chilean Police (Carabineros de Chile)
- MBN (Ministry of National Property)
- Private tourism operators/investors
- Compañía Minera Doña Inés de Collahuasi (SCM)
- CED (Development Studies Center)
- Arturo Prat University
- Regional Authority of Terapaca

5. INCREMENTAL COST ASSESSMENT

55. This project has been designed using the incremental cost approach. The status and root causes of biodiversity loss in the Salar del Huasco have been analyzed and solutions identified part of project logic. These solutions comprise both “incremental” activities eligible for GEF funding and “non-incremental” activities better funded by third-party co-financing. This distinction is clarified below in the matrix.

5.1 Incremental Cost Matrix

	Baseline	GEF Alternative	Increment
Domestic Benefits	<p>Open access to the Salar is endangering the Salar’s function as a critical habitat.</p> <p>Sustainable livelihoods are threatened by degradation of ecosystem goods and services.</p>	<p>Use of the Salar is controlled for sustainability of ecosystem goods and services.</p> <p>New opportunities for developing sustainable livelihoods from tourism are created</p>	<p>Salar’s function is assured as one source of water for sustainable livelihoods; traditional livelihoods are protected for more than 1,000 people.</p>
Global Benefits	<p>Weak coordination among key stakeholder institutions leads to continuing loss of biodiversity outside of protected areas.</p> <p>Insufficient, approaches fail to capitalize on opportunities for collaborative partnering to conserve and sustainably use the Salar’s resources.</p>	<p>Innovative new management structure accompanied by capacity building for cooperative management assures effective conservation and management of biodiversity.</p>	<p>Collaborative management and conservation ensures sustainable conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of natural resources.</p>
Outcome #1: Ecosystem functions, their relation to biodiversity maintenance, and the effects of anthropogenic activities are assessed and reflected in conservation planning and sectoral policies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimal understanding of biological and ecological characteristics provide poor input to effective resource planning ▪ Effect of sectoral activity on biodiversity remains unknown and potentially disruptive ▪ Land-use planning carried out on a sectoral level but not integrated to achieve conservation goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyses of biological and ecological characteristics of the Salar del Huasco ecosystem to determine zoning and management requirements • Analyses of sectoral trends and impacts – mining, grazing, hunting, tourism – on ecosystem functions and biodiversity of the Salar del Huasco • Zoning and demarcation 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New policy EFL instruments not applied. <p>US\$ 1,220,000</p>	<p>of the Salar del Huasco ecosystem in areas for protection, restricted use and other use categories, along with definition of corresponding management requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated policy framework based on sectoral reviews and conservation principles <p>US\$ 2,768,000</p>	<p>GEF: 250,000 CMDIC: 1,320,000 CED: 58,000 MBN: 60,000 COPA WG: 210,000</p> <p>US\$ 1,548,000</p>
<p>Outcome #2: Long-term management for biodiversity conservation of the Salar del Huasco ecosystem is assured</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administrative responsibility not clear for Salar basin. ▪ Fragmented, uncoordinated approach to Salar ecosystem management and lack of public-private cooperation lead to loss of global values ▪ Isolated and narrow actions to protect Salar del Huasco lead to increasing ecosystem deterioration and loss of biodiversity. ▪ Institutions unable to guide or sustain conservation and sustainable use management of the Salar. ▪ Open access to the Salar causes gradual deterioration of global biodiversity value. ▪ Imminent threats to biodiversity remain unaddressed (potential for water extraction uncontrolled tourism, and increased access). ▪ SERNATUR/MBN develop tourism in the absence of sustainability & biodiversity conservation criteria. ▪ Public awareness of SdH uniqueness minimal, constituency is weak. <p>US\$ 178,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multisector coordination mechanism for ecosystem management – COPA – established and operational • Institutional staff and relevant stakeholders trained in appropriate aspects of ecosystem, habitat and species management for biodiversity conservation • Recurrent costs of multisectoral management are identified and financing plan established • Communities, institutions, productive sectors (mining, grazing, tourism) are aware of the value of ecosystem goods and services • Ecotourism plan developed based on visitor sustainable use parameters of identified attractions • Grazing/hunting plan developed based on analysis of sustainable use parameters • Conservation management plan developed and under implementation <p>US\$ 1,321,000</p>	<p>GEF: 585,000 CMDIC: 84,000 MBN: 40,000 CED: 50,000 COPA WG: 34,000</p> <p>US\$1,143,000</p>
<p>Total (US\$)</p>	<p>US\$ 1,398,000</p>	<p>US\$ 4,089,000</p>	<p>GEF: 835,000 CMDIC: 1,404,000 CED: 108,000 COPA WG: 244,000 MBN: 100,000</p> <p>US\$ 2,691,000</p>

56. Total Budget of Project per Outcome (in US\$)

<u>Outputs</u>	<u>GEF</u>	<u>Other Sources</u>	<u>Total Project</u>
Outcome 1	250,000	1,298,000	1,548,000
▪ Biological/ecological analyses	160,000	1,258,000	
▪ Sectoral and socio-economic analyses	20,000	40,000	
▪ Zoning and demarcation	50,000		
▪ Coordinated policy framework	20,000		
Outcome 2	585,000	558,000	1,143,000
▪ Establishment/operationalization of COPA.	120,000	400,000	
▪ Training ecosystem, species, habitat mngmnt	65,000		
▪ Financing plan	20,000		
▪ Increase awareness, environmental literacy, ethics/advocacy	80,000	80,000	
▪ Ecotourism development	115,000	78,000	
▪ Grazing/hunting plan/ best practices.	70,000		
▪ Biodiversity conservation plan	115,000		
Project Cost	835,000	1,856,000	2,691,000
PDF A	25,000	9,000	34,000
Total Project (PDF A + Project Cost)	US\$ 860,000	US\$ 1,865,000	US\$ 2,725,000

7. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation and Execution Agreements:

57. The project will be implemented by a Project Coordination Unit, (PCU), which, in direct coordination with CED, will incorporate the decisions and recommendations of COPA. PCU will prepare the TORs of project outputs and will be responsible for the completion and delivery of products according to UNDP-GEF guidelines. The CED will receive advice from a technical advisory team.

58. CED will be responsible for project execution and the timely and verifiable attainment of project objectives. CED staff or specialists will be tapped when needed in accordance with PNUD guidelines, and will facilitate interaction among relevant public organizations, municipalities, universities and related service companies.

Workplan

Outcomes	Months						
	1-6	7-12	1-6	7-12	1-6	7-12	1-6
OUTCOME 1: <i>Ecosystem functions, their relation to biodiversity maintenance, and the effects of anthropogenic activities are assessed and reflected in conservation planning and sectoral policies</i>							
▪ Analyses of biological and ecological characteristics of the Salar del Huasco ecosystem to determine zoning and management requirements	X	X					
▪ Analyses of sectoral trends and impacts – mining, grazing, hunting, tourism – on ecosystem functions and biodiversity of the Salar del Huasco	X	X	X				
▪ Zoning and demarcation of the Salar del Huasco ecosystem in areas for protection, restricted use and other use categories, along with definition of corresponding management requirements			X	X	X	X	
▪ Coordinated policy framework based on sectoral reviews and conservation principles			X	X	X	X	X
OUTCOME 2: <i>Long-term management for biodiversity conservation of the Salar del Huasco ecosystem is assured</i>							
▪ Multisector coordination mechanism for ecosystem management – COPA - established and operational	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
▪ Institutional staff and relevant stakeholders trained in appropriate aspects of ecosystem, habitat and species management for biodiversity conservation		X		X		X	
▪ Recurrent costs of multisectoral management are identified and financing plan established			X				X
▪ Communities, institutions, productive sectors (mining, grazing, tourism) are aware of the value of ecosystem goods and services		X	X	X	X	X	X
▪ Ecotourism plan developed based on visitor sustainable use parameters of identified attractions			X	X			X
▪ Grazing/hunting plan developed based on analysis of sustainable use parameters			X	X			X
▪ Conservation management plan developed and under implementation			X	X	X		

8. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

59. Due to the Salar del Huasco's geographic remoteness the nearest local community is 60 km away. The level of resource use by local communities is correspondingly low. As such public involvement in the context of Salar del Huasco refers primarily to the overlapping mandates and responsibilities of government agencies and private groups with jurisdiction or interests in the area. Project stakeholders, while geographically removed, include local municipality leaders, local pastoralists, regional officials, national government officials, academics, private tourism operators, and private mining interests.

60. Project design seeks to demonstrate an effective way for public involvement in the management of public lands. As previously mentioned, COPA will include public, private and local representatives to guarantee the applicability and pertinence of project activities to the needs of the key stakeholders. It is expected that local NGOs, regional universities and other local organizations will be involved in

implementing certain project components. The project will support public involvement activities that fall into three broad categories:

- (1) **Information dissemination.** The project will provide relevant, timely, and accessible information to as many stakeholders⁶ as possible.
- (2) **Consultation.** The project will facilitate broad-based and project-specific consultations at the local, regional, and national levels.
- (3) **Stakeholder participation.** The project will promote the active participation of key stakeholder groups throughout the project cycle

9. MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

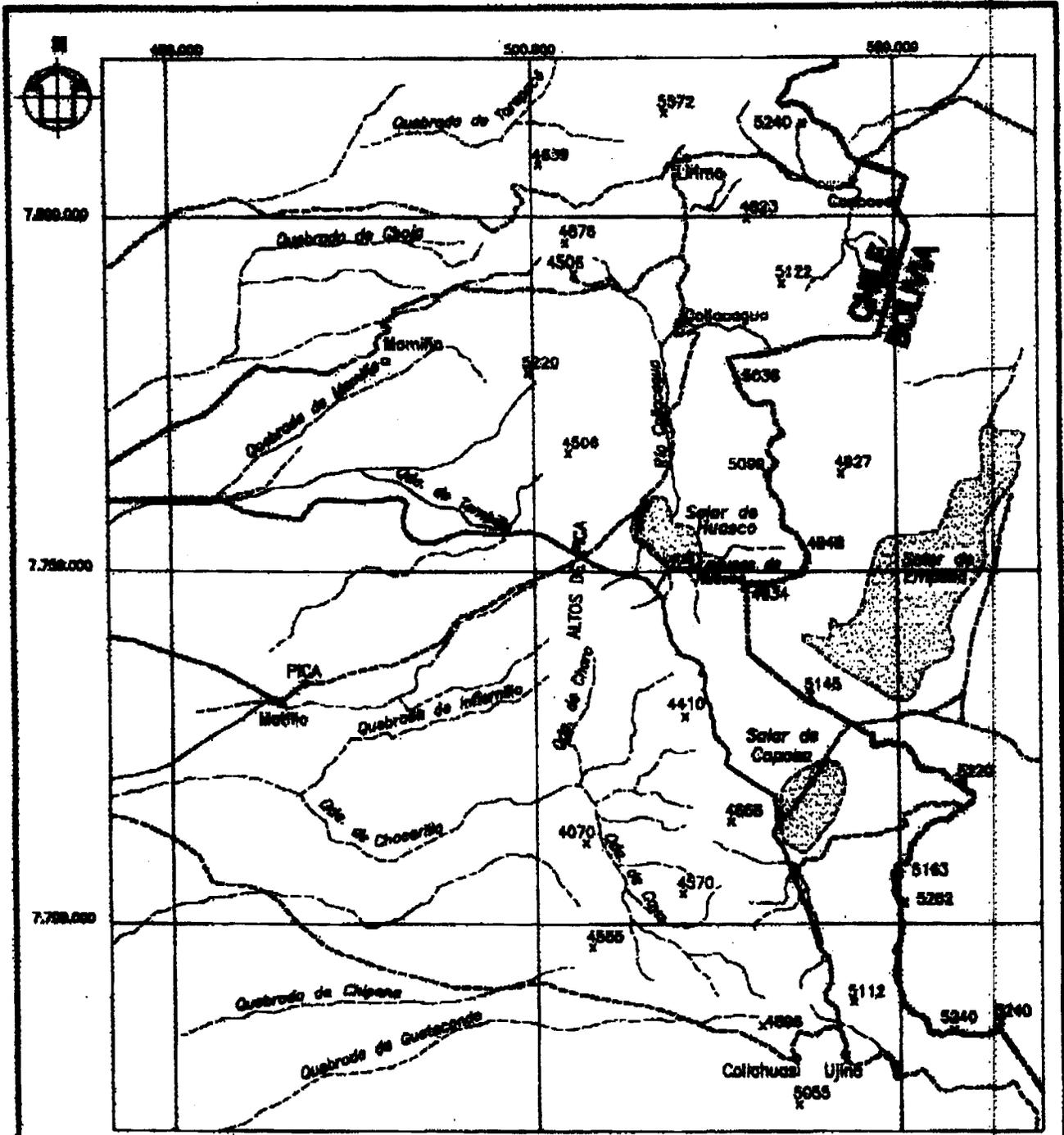
61. CED will be directly responsible to UNDP-GEF for financial and non-financial oversight and overall project management. CED will ensure that transparent accounting and internal monitoring and review systems are in place. Monthly financial reports will be generated and available for review. Data on performance indicators will be gathered and reported on a quarterly and annual basis. An annual work plan and project planning matrix will be prepared to effectively assist in the substantive monitoring of project implementation and progress. An independent mid-term evaluation will be conducted at the end of the first eighteen month period. This will be followed by an independent final evaluation in the fortieth month of the 42 month project.

62. Partner organizations will be actively involved in on-going monitoring and evaluation of the project. Training in participatory monitoring and evaluation will be conducted among partners to enhance participation in these processes. A detailed monitoring and evaluation plan will be produced as soon as GEF funding is obtained, together with a clearly defined process for consultative monitoring, based on the indicators in the logframe.

⁶ Stakeholders of GEF-financed projects include the “recipient country government; IAs; project executing agencies; groups contracted to carry out project activities and/or consulted at various stages of the project; project beneficiaries; groups of people who may be affected by project activities; and other groups in the civil society that may have an interest in the project.

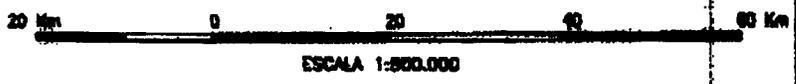
10. PROJECT CHECKLIST

Biodiversity Categories				
Biodiversity		Climate Change	International Waters	Ozone Depletion
Protected Area zoning/mgmt.:	No	Efficient prods. & distrib.:	Water body:	Monitoring:
Buffer zone development:	No	Efficient consumption:	Integrated land and water:	Country program:
Inventory/monitoring:	Yes	Solar:	Contaminant:	ODS phaseout:
Eco-tourism:	Yes	Biomass:	Other:	Production:
Agro-biodiversity:	No	Wind:		Other:
Trust fund(s):	No	Hydro:		
Benefit-sharing:	Yes	Geothermal:		
Other: Conservation outside protected areas		Fuel cells:		
		Other:		
Institution building: Yes				
Investments: Yes				
Policy advice: Yes				
Targeted research: Yes				
Technical/management advice: Yes				
Technology transfer: Yes				
Awareness/information/training: Yes				
Other:				



LEGEND

- PAVED ROADS
- - - - UNPAVED ROADS
- ~~~~ WATER COURSES
- ▭ LAGOONS
- ▨ SALT FLATS
- INTERNATIONAL BORDER
- x ELEVATION
- o LOCALITIES



**LOCATION OF SALARES DE MENDO
TARAPACA, REGION, CHILE**
FIGURE 1



GOBIERNO DE CHILE
COMISION NACIONAL
DEL MEDIO AMBIENTE

CAR. COOP. INT. N°024/ 011595

Santiago, **03 MAY 2001**

Señor
Thierry Lemaesquier
Representante Residente
Programa de Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo
Av. Dag Hammarskjöld 3241
Vitacura

Ref.: Proyecto "Ecosystem Management of the Salar del Huasco for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use Outside Protected Areas".

Estimado Señor Lemaesquier:

Por la presente me refiero a la solicitud del Centro de Estudios del Desarrollo, CED, de financiamiento por parte del Fondo para el Medio Ambiente Mundial (FMAM/GEF) para el proyecto arriba mencionado.

Este proyecto ha sido discutido y aprobado en el Comité Técnico de CONAMA. Se ha valorado especialmente su positivo enfoque en relación a la protección ambiental global por estar dirigido hacia la sensibilización y educación ambiental y no meramente a la denuncia. Como Directora Ejecutiva de CONAMA, punto focal para Chile del FMAM, apruebo su solicitud.

Ruego a Ud. proceder con las gestiones necesarias para la presentación formal de este proyecto al Fondo para el Medio Ambiente Mundial y agradeceremos se nos informe tanto de los avances del proyecto como de sus productos.

Sin otro particular, le saluda atentamente,

COMISION NACIONAL DEL MEDIO AMBIENTE
DINA HEFFMANN JACOBY
DIRECTORA EJECUTIVA
COMISION NACIONAL DEL MEDIO AMBIENTE

cc. Sr. Guillermo Espinoza (CED)
D/CK/PD/MW/rmc

UNDP - CHILE		
4 MAYO 2001		
Date Received:		
Request No:		
R.N.	1002	110
YO	✓	
Action to be received per		
Taken: Fax # 8223		
Date: 03 MAYO		
Fees:		