



# PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

**PROJECT TYPE: Medium-sized Project**

**TYPE OF TRUST FUND: NPIF**

## **PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION**

Project Title:	The development and production of natural dyes in the Chocó Region of Colombia for the food, cosmetics and personal care industries under the provisions of the Nagoya Protocol		
Country(ies):	Colombia	GEF Project ID:	TBD
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	5139
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS), ECOFLORA SAS	Submission Date:	September 22, 2012
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration (Months):	36
Name of parent program (if applicable): ➤ For SFM/REDD+ <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	Agency Fee (\$):	98,000

### **A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK:**

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Co-financing (\$)
BD-4	National ABS frameworks operational score as recorded by the GEF Tracking Tool (to be developed)	Access and benefit-sharing agreements (number) that recognize the core ABS principles of Prior Informed Consent (PIC) and Mutually Agreed Terms	NPIF	912,477	1,412,010
Sub-Total				912,477	1,412,010
Project Management Cost			NPIF	67,523	104,490
<b>Total Project Cost</b>				<b>980,000</b>	<b>1,516,500</b>

### **B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK**

**Project Objective:** To implement the Nagoya Protocol on ABS through the development of nature-based products, benefit sharing and biodiversity conservation in the Choco region of Colombia.

Project Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Co-financing (\$)
1. Development of plant natural colorants for the food, cosmetics and personal care industries	TA	1. A natural blue colorant is chemically improved and complies with international standards  2. Pilot production facility to scale up lab process and access international market potential of the natural blue color derived	1.1. Protocols for improvement and stability ensure compliance of the blue colorant with industry applications and standards. 1.2 Toxicological trials ensure safety of the blue colorant for industrial applications. 1.3 A new color pallet derived from the blue colorant brings a wider range of industrial applications  2.1. Infrastructure and equipment to scale up production with the adequate quality control measures in place.	NPIF	430,135	797,464

		from “Jagua” ( <i>Genipa americana</i> )	2.2 Analytical and laboratory capacities are in place in order to guaranty safety and quality of the blue colorant.			
2. Development of the value chain involving sustainable supply and marketing capabilities for the natural dyes	TA	<p>2.1. Strengthened capacity of farmers for the collection of <i>Genipa americana</i> fruits according to sustainability and biodiversity conservation criteria</p> <p>2.2 Natural harvesting system of the <i>Genipa americana</i> fruits involving the community and following sustainability and biodiversity conservation criteria covers 750 ha</p> <p>2.3 Five Tons of natural blue colorant derived from <i>Genipa americana</i> is commercialized internationally.</p> <p>2.4 International regulation compliance needed for the marketing of the natural colorant derived from <i>Genipa americana</i></p>	<p>2.1.1. Three hundred (300) farmers trained in collection methodologies ensure compliance with sustainability and biodiversity conservation standards</p> <p>2.1.2. Protocol to secure the quality and quantity of materials required for the natural color's market according to sustainability and biodiversity conservation criteria</p> <p>2.1.3. Breeding and management methods for improving the productivity of the <i>Genipa Americana</i>.</p> <p>2.2.1. Community-based management plan for the sustainable harvesting and conservation of <i>Genipa americana</i>.</p> <p>2.3.1 Commercial agreements with international buyers of the natural blue colorant derived from <i>Genipa americana</i></p> <p>2.4.1 US. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), and other permits allowing the supply of the materials and the commercialization of the blue colorant derived from <i>Genipa americana</i>.</p>	NPIF	334,545	498,415
3. ABS Agreements and Benefit Sharing	TA	3.1. ABS agreements developed and updated together with local communities to ensure consistency with PIC, MAT and Benefit Sharing provisions.	<p>3.1.1. Monetary and non-monetary benefits derived from the use/marketing of natural colorants agreed with the local communities.</p> <p>3.1.2. Existing agreements with the local communities reviewed</p>	NPIF	47,797	74,762

			in light of the scaling up of production and the potential of reaching wider national and international markets.			
4. Increased national and regional capacity on ABS through negotiation and follow up of benefit sharing agreements	TA	<p>4.1 Institutional strengthening of Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS) and National Authority of Environmental Licensing (ANLA) to facilitate ABS agreements and handling issues under the Nagoya Protocol</p> <p>4.2. Improved capacities of MADS and ANLA for negotiating ABS agreements and monitoring of bioprospecting projects.</p>	<p>4.1.1. Analysis and review of current national ABS rules and procedures including ABS contract models, processes and related forms.</p> <p>4.1.2. Online processes in place for ABS agreements, in line with ANLA's systems and procedures</p> <p>4.2.1. One hundred (100) Staff members of MADS, ANLA, and other stakeholders and users trained on rules and procedures on ABS</p> <p>4.2.2. Ten (10) staff members of MADS and ANLA trained in the negotiation of ABS agreements and implementation stages of bioprospecting projects</p>	NPIF	100,000	41,369
Subtotal					912,477	1,412,010
Project Management Cost				NPIF	67,523	104,490
<b>Total Project Costs</b>					<b>980,000</b>	<b>1,516,500</b>

**C. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME IF AVAILABLE, (\$)**

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
Private Sector	ECOFLORES SAS	Grant	1,450,000
National Government	Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS)	In-kind	16,500
GEF Agency	UNDP	In-kind	50,000
<b>Total Co-financing</b>			<b>1,516,500</b>

**D. GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY**

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/Global	Grant Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c=a+b
UNDP	GEF TF	Biodiversity	Colombia	980,000	98,000	1,078,000
<b>Total Grant Resources</b>				<b>980,000</b>	<b>98,000</b>	<b>1,078,000</b>

## **PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION**

### **A. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:**

#### **A.1. THE GEF FOCAL AREA STRATEGIES/NPIF INITIATIVE:**

1. This project builds on activities implemented by Ecoflora SAS, a Colombian small firm working on the field of development of high value added products derived from biodiversity. In 2011, Ecoflora filed a petition for a research permit and applied for an access to genetic resources contract to the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS). MADS is currently reviewing this request and the process has taken longer than expected because this would be the first access to genetic resources contract for commercial purposes issued by MADS. However, a positive response is expected during the PPG phase of this project.
2. The project proposes unleashing the economic potential of a genetic resource derivative (i.e., colorant), sharing monetary and non-monetary benefits with local communities, promoting the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening institutional capacity on access and benefit-sharing. Specifically, the project will support research and development procedures required to improve the transformation of the liquid of the fruit of *Genipa americana* into a blue colorant with potential applications for the food, cosmetics and personal care industries. Monetary and non-monetary benefits derived from the marketing of this colorant will be shared with local communities found in the Choco region that will apply biodiversity conservation standards to ensure the sustainability of the resource. In addition the project will support the ABS institutional capacity, including ABS negotiation skills, development of ABS contract models and clarification of access procedures in line with existing ABS policies.
3. The project is consistent with the Objective 3 of the Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy for GEF-5, and the guidelines of the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund (NPIF) stated in the document “Outstanding Issues Related to the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund” (GEF/C.40/11/Rev.1, May 26, 2011). The project is consistent with the eligibility criteria and priorities of the NPIF as it will support the government of Colombia to implement a regional project involving the private sector and the communities located in collective territories of the Chocó rainforest which will promote sustainable productive alternatives derived from the rainforest following biodiversity conservation and ABS criteria. Lessons from this project will be used to update ABS laws and regulations and to improve the capacities in Colombia to facilitate ABS agreements and handling issues under the Nagoya Protocol.

#### **A.2. NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS:**

4. Colombian strategies to regulate the sustainable use of biodiversity started with the signature of the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1992, which was ratified and adopted in 1994 under the law 165/94 of the same year. This law gave the basis for the development of Colombia’s framework law on access to genetic resources and benefit sharing known as Decision 391 Common Regime on Access to Genetic Resources approved by the Andean Community of Nations (including Colombia) in 1996. In 1997, Colombia’s biodiversity policy underscored the goal of developing the economic potential of the country’s biodiversity, including genetic resources in a sustainable manner. In February 2011 Colombia was the first country that signed the Nagoya Protocol and the country is currently working on a national level policy to operationalize the Nagoya Protocol.
5. As a mega-diverse country, Colombia has the opportunity and potential for developing innovations derived from biodiversity. To this effect, the government has defined several sectors to leverage the economic growth of the country including services derived from biodiversity that include food, cosmetics and pharmaceutical products. Understanding the potential of genetic resources driven by projects such as this one is a goal of the current government.
6. This project intends to be a model to demonstrate the feasibility of development initiatives derived from genetic resources in compliance with current national regulations, implementing the provisions of the Nagoya Protocol and giving the national authorities the possibility of implementing, monitoring and improving the procedures and regulations needed to facilitate ABS projects.

## B. PROJECT OVERVIEW

### B.1. DESCRIBE THE BASELINE PROJECT AND THE PROBLEM THAT IT SEEKS TO ADDRESS:

7. Colombia is one of just 17 countries classified as a “mega-diverse” country. The country covers 1.14 million square km and is composed of three large terrestrial biomes: the tropical humid forest covering 105.6 m ha (92.5%), tropical dry forest covering 7.6 m ha (6.7%) and tropical thorn woodlands shrubs covering 0.75 m ha (0.7%). These biomes are home to 1,879 bird species, 754 species of amphibians, and about 45,000 plant species.
8. One of the most important storehouses of globally important biodiversity is found in the Chocó Biogeographic Province. This region--a Biodiversity Hotspot--lies between the frontiers of Panama and Ecuador and extends along the entire Pacific coast of Colombia west of the Andes. The Colombian Chocó has a total area of 11.9 m ha (within the departments of Antioquia, Chocó, Risaralda, Valle del Cauca, Cauca, and Nariño), and its ecological integrity remains largely intact with 7-% of its original forest cover. The Chocó region is considered to harbor the world's most biodiverse forests measured in terms of plant species richness and endemism, due to a combination of evolutionary and ecological factors. Of the approximately 45,000 plant species found in Colombia, 7,000 to 8,000 are located in the Chocó. The faunal diversity register is similarly spectacular (800 species of birds--100 endemic species, 195 amphibian species--88% endemic, 210 reptile species--47% endemic and 180 mammals species--6.6% endemic).
9. Approximately 95% of the population of the Colombian Chocó is Afro-Colombian (1.3 million) or Native American (32,000). The remaining 5% are *mestizos* that have migrated to the region from other parts of Colombia. These communities own huge areas of natural forest in the form of collective territories but are now facing the challenge of finding alternative sources of sustainable and marketable products and services different from the traditional lumber and mining. Currently, the forest has a scarce economic value for the communities living in them. Additionally, the exploitation of the forest for commercial purposes has resulted in the unsustainable use of resources and the gradual exhaustion of the local ecosystems. The long-term solution to this situation is to develop an alternative of sustainable use of biodiversity, implementing practices of sustainable exploitation of the forest, specifically non-timber forest products through the establishment of a process of harvesting and transformation of forest product into value end products. In order to switch the current economic model, investments and research are needed to transform the biodiversity potential into high value marketable goods. The involvement of the private sector is needed since the funding to conduct this kind of projects, particularly for activities related to basic research; industrial transformation, legal barriers, and market development are unlikely to be assumed by the local communities.
10. For this specific project, the establishment of a sustainable value chain for the fruits of the Jagua (*Genipa Americana*) tree is put under consideration as a way to obtain a natural blue dye for the food, cosmetic, and personal care industries. The community involvement in this project is high, since the forests that contain the native fruits are located in Afro descendant collective territories of the Chocó Department, and in collective territories of the Emberá communities in Chigorodó, Antioquia, both in the Choco Biogeographic region.

#### The baseline project:

11. As of today, this project has been lead by the Colombian company Ecoflora ([www.ecoflora.org](http://www.ecoflora.org)), in collaboration with the NGO Espavé Foundation ([www.espave.org.co](http://www.espave.org.co)). Ecoflora develops environmentally friendly products for the agricultural, foods, cosmetic, and personal care sectors. All Ecoflora products use natural ingredients, bioinputs, and bioactives as their main ingredients and provide an alternative to highly contaminating products. Espave Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides technical support for the development of community projects on the use of natural resources in communal lands using social, environmental and economic criteria ([www.espave.org.co](http://www.espave.org.co)). Both EcoFlora, and espavé, are members of the Union for Ethical Biotrade ([www.ethicalbiotrade.org](http://www.ethicalbiotrade.org)). The Union for Ethical BioTrade is a non-profit association that promotes the "Sourcing with Respect" of ingredients that come from biodiversity.
12. During the last 5 years both institutions have made investments in order to organize local communities around the sustainable exploitation of non-timber forest products. The most advanced and representative is use of natural extracts from the (*Genipa americana*) in the development of natural dyes. The project has been developed following a two-pronged approach.

First, and under responsibility of ecoflora, is to develop and improve industrial processes in order to transform the jagua fruits into natural blue dyes. Activities have included basic and applied research in the use of the colors in different foods and cosmetics formulations. In this processes Ecoflora has invested around \$1,000,000. Ecoflora has approached the national government in order to obtain all the permits and to work under a legal frame of access to genetic resources access being a true pioneer company in this field.

Second, under responsibility of Espavé Foundation, is the development of local capacities of the communities in order to search for economic alternatives, creating new looks to the biodiversity as a provider of sustainable resources. Espavé Foundation has developed a methodology called “forest products mini chain” which allows the communities to access the biodiversity resources. Espavé has invested in this processes around \$200,000 raised through international and national cooperation.

13. Combining the strengths of these two institutions, there is a high potential to take the jagua chain process to a next level where the commercialization of the natural color on a global stage has great potential. For this to happen, the expansion of the manufacturing facility, the supply chain, and global safety permissions are needed.

#### Barriers:

14. The main barriers to take a natural product like the blue dye from *Genipa Americana* to the domestic and international markets, is the development and implementation of the biochemical process that would allow scaling up the production of the dyes from the lab to the industrial scale. While these technical processes are important, the engagement with the local communities in order to establish productive relationships is equally important and perhaps more challenging. Thanks to the relationships between Espave Foundation and EcoFlora with the local communities in the Choco region, this barrier is already being overcome. A final barrier is the lack of experience of the Colombian Government to deal with legal procedures to formalize the access to the genetic resources and to the difficulty of creating a confidence and trust environment within the communities due to the historical situation of this specific region. This project aims at providing useful lessons to build that capacity.

#### **B. 2. INCREMENTAL COST REASONING AND THE ASSOCIATED GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS:**

15. The project has been designed to address the existing barriers, through four complementary components trying to close the gaps that still exist for the successful development of the Jagua initiative.

##### Component 1. Development of natural dyes for the food, cosmetics and personal care industries.

16. This component aims to finalize the technical issues of the industrial production of the natural blue dye sourcing from the ink derived from *Genipa americana*. Although the technical process needed to turn the natural plant extract into the blue dye has been done at low scale, the industrial process for large scale production and the marketing of the final products are still ahead of this endeavor. This component will tackle the issue of the industrial processes by building the necessary infrastructure and engineering designs of the production equipment.

##### Component 2. Development of the value chain involving sustainable supply and marketing capabilities for the natural dyes.

17. Additionally to secure the manufacturing of the natural blue color, securing the supply of the raw material and the market approval of the product through the compliance of the international regulations is needed. In order to secure the sustainable supply of the Jagua fruits, the strengthening of capacity of the farmers for the collection of *Genipa americana* fruits according to sustainability and biodiversity conservation criteria are needed. The development of Protocols to secure the quality and quantity of materials required for the natural color's market according to sustainability and biodiversity conservation criteria will be developed. Since the harvesting of the Jagua fruits will mean a new pressure for the ecosystem, the establishment of Management Plans for the sustainable harvesting of *Genipa Americana* and for the conservation of the resource will be developed.
18. From the market point of view, the biggest challenge is the compliance with the regulations of the countries where the natural blue color will be commercialized. Healthcare authorities in these countries must assure safety of the products that are consumed. In this order, legislations ask for trials intended to demonstrate the safety of new ingredients. The trials needed to demonstrate the natural and safe conditions of the natural blue color will be performed in the frame of the project.
19. To assure a long term for the commercialization of the natural blue color, agreements with customers are needed to be signed. The efforts and advice needed to reach these agreements will be subject of the project.

### Component 3: ABS Agreements and Benefit Sharing.

20. EcoFlora and Espave Foundation have been working with the local communities of the Choco region since 2005. As a result of this relationship, the company and the foundation have established a collaborative approach regarding the exploitation of the Jagua covering a wide range of issues, including accessing natural resources and sharing the benefits derived from their utilization. Through this approach the mentioned topics have been discussed with the community in several scenarios. Because these agreements cover a limited set of issues and situations regarding the use of natural resources, and were signed prior to the adoption of the Nagoya Protocol, it is necessary to review these agreements to accommodate moving from the lab trials to the industrial production of the natural dyes.
21. Ecoflora and the “Mayor indigenous council of Chigorodó” (Cabildo mayor indígena de chigorodó) started conversations in 2010. Although there haven’t been joint projects in place until now, the council is interested in establish processes around the jagua in order to develop productive projects involving biodiversity (Jagua is abundantly found in this region as well). Agreements are needed for the successful development of the project in this region.
22. The revision of existing agreements and the creation of new ones include the use of a patent, currently held by EcoFlora, for the transformation of the jagua juice into the commercial dye. While the Jagua (*Genipa americana*) is widely distributed in the tropics of northern South America, the relationship among the partners of this project and the holding of the industrial patent is unique.
23. Ecoflora owns a patent (US 7,927,637 B2) for the inventive process of transforming the unprocessed raw juice obtained from the fruit pulp of *Genipa Americana* into a blue colorant (liquid or powder). The colorant is of interest to food, cosmetics and pharmaceutical, industries. The chemical invention protected by this patent involves no traditional knowledge. Nevertheless, monetary and non-monetary benefits derived from potential uses of this colorant will be shared with local communities sourcing the fruit pulp. The formal negotiations with the communities will be carried out during project preparation under the principles of Prior Inform Consent (PIC), Mutually Agreed Terms (MAT) and Benefit Sharing as stated in national regulations and the Nagoya Protocol. The ABS agreements with the communities will not only ensure sharing the benefits, but also creating an incentive for the conservation of the species and its habitat.

### Component 4: Increased national and regional capacity on ABS through negotiation and follow up of benefit sharing agreements

24. Since this project involves the access to genetic resources in areas where local communities own the territory, the construction of capacities of national authorities such as the Ministry Of Environment And Sustainable Development (MADS) for negotiating ABS agreements and monitoring of bio prospecting projects will be enhanced

### **B.3. SOCIOECONOMIC BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT:**

25. The Chocó biogeographic region is one of the poorest and least developed areas of Colombia. Historically isolated from the rest of the country, Colombia’s decision to grow economically and engage in global markets is driving the integration of the region into Colombia’s economic and socio-political mainstream, potentially affecting the social fabric of the region.
26. The principal socio economic benefit of the project will derive from the establishment of a new economic activity based on the sustainable exploitation of non-timber forest products. A successful implementation of this project will derive in the possibility of additional income for the families involved in the sustainable harvesting of the Jagua fruits. Before this initiative the Jagua trees, which are abundantly found in the area, were not used for economic purposes.
27. Since the principles of Prior Informed Consent and Mutually Agreed Terms, will be applied, the communities and local authorities will be in position to develop new sustainable exploitation projects involving products derived from the forest. The project will benefit these communities by ensuring the equitable distribution of benefits and improving the forest management skills of local community members (including women) by training them in the principles and practices of sustainable harvesting of biodiversity products.

**B.4. INDICATE RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS AND MEASURES THAT ADDRESS THESE RISKS:**

<b>Risk</b>		<b>Risk Mitigation Strategy</b>
Uncertainty of governmental changes in policies to access to genetic resources.	M	Participation in forums and activities related to updating the regulations of access to genetic resources and benefit sharing. Close contact to local, regional and national authorities
Resistance in local communities to the project	L	Communication of the goals of the project to community councils and participation strategies in order to deeply explain the main role of the community and the potential benefits of the initiative. Baseline memorandums of understanding and agreements will be reviewed as part of the project to ensure full participation and sharing of the monetary and non-monetary benefits to be derived from the project.
Uncertainty on the approval times of the color in different countries (mainly USA)	M	Establishment of direct communication with authorities and advisors in order to maximize the accuracy of the information to be submitted
Delays on equipment design and construction of manufacturing facilities	L	Construction of a detailed plan for the implementation of the construction phase.

**B.5. KEY STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT:**

<b>Stakeholders</b>	<b>Project Implementation Role</b>
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development – MADS	MADS is the GEF focal point and the public agency responsible for the formulation of national policy related to the environment and renewable natural resources and the establishment of guidelines for land use planning to ensure the sustainable use and management of renewable natural resources and the environment. MADS will be in charge of the execution of Component 4
EcoFlora	To develop and improve industrial processes in order to transform the Jagua fruits into natural blue dyes, to obtain the necessary permits for the marketing of end products, and to outreach to potential domestic and international buyers. EcoFlora will be responsible for the execution of Components 1, 2 and 3.
Fundación Espavé	Espavé is a foundation with the aim of develop local capacities of the communities in order to create economic alternatives, different to wood exploitation and mining. Espavé will take active part in the improvement and development of the Jagua value chain. Espave will be responsible in working with EcoFlora in the execution or Components 2 & 3.
National Authority of Environmental Licensing - ANLA	ANLA is a new agency created as a result of the restructuring of the MADS. ANLA will ensure that projects, works and/or activities subject to environmental licensing and permits processes comply with environmental regulations and are carried out in such a way that they contribute to Colombia's sustainable development. ANLA will give the guidelines to obtain licenses of investigation and contracts of access to genetic resources
Regional Autonomous Corporations (CARs)	The CARs (i.e., Codechocó and Corpourabá) are the regional environmental authorities with territorial responsibilities in the Chocó region. These entities : 1) are public entities under the MADS; 2) endowed with administrative and financial autonomy to manage their own resources; 3) charged by law to administrate within their area of jurisdiction the environment and renewable natural resources and aim towards achieving sustainable development in line with guidance provided by the MADS. The CARs are in charge of regional implementation of national public policy (oversight and enforcement). The CARs will form part of the group of entities that are target of the capacity-strengthening actions of this project to improve compliance monitoring/ enforcement.
Local communities	Local communities (primarily Indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities) will be direct beneficiaries of the project in terms of enhancing capacities for the sustainable exploitation of biodiversity.
COCOMACIA	COCOMACIA is the holder of a collective land ownership title in the Chocó region. Is the government entity of the territory of some of the afro descendant communities involved in the project. COCOMACIA will be involved in the approvals for genetic access resources permits and resource exploitation permits. Most of the communities involved in the project are located in the territories owned by the people through COCOMACIA
Cabildo mayor de Chigorodó (Main indigenous council of Chigorodo)	The main council is an association of local indigenous councils, which promotes projects with the aim of improving the living conditions of the people of the Chigorodó region reservation. The council will be involved in the approvals for genetic access resources permits and resource exploitation permits. The council has capacities in project management and has been involved in sustainable forestry projects and other kind of projects related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable exploitation.



Stakeholders	Project Implementation Role
Union for Ethical BioTrade	To advice ecoflora and the actors involved in the project about previous experiences involving negotiation of benefit sharing in other kind of projects. To advice the Colombian government in experiences with other governments around access to genetic resources

#### **B.6. OUTLINE THE COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED INITIATIVES:**

28. This project will complement several initiatives that are promoting the development and implementation of sustainable approaches to biodiversity.
  - Espavé Foundation: has worked together with the Afro-Colombian communities of Chocó and Antioquia by recruiting fruit collectors, developing products, and creating alliances in order to produce, harvest and sell native rain forest tree seeds, herb teas, native palm oils, Jagua and Açaí fruit that all together represent a Rain Forest Product Portfolio. Espavé has been a very important ally of Ecoflora in the development of the initial stages of the Jagua project and will be of high importance in the development of this project.
  - Cabildo indígena de Chigorodó: Located in Chigorodó, Antioquia, is the authority that rules the indigenous Embera Communities and has established different productive alternatives related mainly with certified wood, following good forestry practices.
29. Both institutions are recognized in the regions where the project will take place as honest and responsible organizations looking for the improvement of the conditions of the local communities.

#### **C. DESCRIBE THE GEF AGENCY'S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROJECT:**

30. UNDP was selected as GEF Agency by the Government of Colombia and has a comparative advantage in addressing the primary challenge of this project, i.e. promoting the application of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing.
31. Sustainable use is one of the main UNDP's signature programs in the area of Biodiversity. The agency has a significant portfolio of projects that adopt strategies for addressing management, financial, ecosystem and sectorial issues. The UNDP Country Office in Colombia has taken a commitment to support initiatives that benefit the Biogeographic Province of Chocó and its people. The Country Office and the UNDP/GEF Regional Coordination Unit will support the partners in the execution of this project by taking advantage of UNDP's experience at the national, regional and global level, and its support to an array of capacity development programs, including in governance and decentralization—both critical to this initiative. The comparative advantage of the UNDP for GEF also lies in its global network of Country Offices, its experience in the formulation of integrated development policies, institution strengthening, and the participation of the non-governmental sector and communities, as specified in the document *Comparative Advantage of the GEF Agencies (GEF/C.31/5rev.1)*.
32. Although UNDP Colombia has not previous experience with projects related to access and benefit sharing, it has a wide practice working with local communities (afro, indigenous and peasants) in order to strengthen their capacities to face the challenges of protecting biodiversity while assuring their livelihoods. The UNDP Country Office, together with the National Government also has the capacity to guarantee and verify that benefits derived from access to genetic resources are fairly distributed among the involved stakeholders, especially the most vulnerable.
33. At regional level, UNDP is supporting an initiative to promote the application of the Nagoya Protocol on access to genetic resources and benefit sharing in Panama. Its objective is “the discovery of nature-based products for the pharmaceutical and agrochemical industries and benefit sharing to increase the scientific capacity of research institutions and promote the conservation of genetic resources in the Protected Areas System of Panama”. So, the UNDP Country Office will take advantage of the lessons learned in this process.

#### **C.1. INDICATE THE CO-FINANCING AMOUNT THE GEF AGENCY IS BRINGING TO PROJECT**

34. \$50,000 In-kind.

**C.2. HOW DOES THE PROJECT FIT INTO THE GEF AGENCY'S PROGRAM AND STAFF CAPACITY IN THE COUNTRY TO FOLLOW UP PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:**


35. The project is aligned with the development action framework of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for Colombia 2008 - 2012. More specifically, the project is consistent with the UNDAF Outcome 2, which has as a relevant Country Programme outcome: "National capacity consolidated to promote environmental sustainability, management of disaster risks and sustainable planning," with the related output "Public institutions and organizations strengthen their capacity to formulate and implement environmental management programmes and initiatives that guarantee the supply and maintenance of environmental goods and services (with emphasis on conservation, restoring and sustainable use of strategic ecosystems)." UNDP in Colombia works to guarantee the integration of energy and environmental and natural resource considerations into the strategies of poverty reduction and sustainable development. Also, it gives attention to all cross-cutting issues such as environmental governance, climate change, gender, and links between sustainable environmental management and poverty reduction. It aims for the inclusion of the local approach in development strategies. In order to do so, UNDP focuses its work on the following strategic areas: i) development of frameworks and strategies for sustainable development; ii) adaptation and mitigation of climate change and effective governance of water; iii) access to sustainable energy; iv) sustainable management of soil and land against desertification and degradation; v) conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; vi) planning of national policy against the degradation of the ozone layer; and vii) persistent organic pollutants.
36. This project will be under the supervision of the Regional Technical Advisor for GEF in LAC who has a Ph.D. and M.Sc. in Environmental Policy and Economics with emphasis on the economic valuation of forests. The project will be managed by the Environment and Energy Programme Officer of the Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development Unit of UNDP Colombia, who has two MSc in Rural Development and Environmental Assessment and Management and ten years of professional experience in, environmental management, and legal/policy issues; also the project will be supported by a senior Programme Support Associate. Support will be provided by the Head of Poverty reduction and Sustainable Development Area (25 years of working experience); additional support will be provided for the project monitoring and evaluation that will be led by UNDP's Monitoring and Evaluation Unit. Implementation support on Procurement and Finance will be provided by 5 staff members: Finance Officer, Procurement Officer, Human Resources Officer and two senior associates.

**PART III: ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)**

**A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):** (Please attach the [Operational Focal Point endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE(MM/dd/yyyy)
Alejandra Torres Drumgold	Chief of the Office of International Affairs	Environment and Sustainable Development	JULY 4, 2012

**B. GEFAGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION**

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF criteria for project identification and preparation.					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Yannick Glemarec, UNDP/GEF Executive Coordinator		September 22, 2012	Santiago Carrizosa, Regional Technical Advisor, EBD	+507 302-4510	<a href="mailto:Santiago.carrizosa@undp.org">Santiago.carrizosa@undp.org</a>