



REQUEST FOR BIODIVERSITY ENABLING ACTIVITY

PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GEF Trust Fund

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

EA Title:	Support to Congo for the Revision of the NBSAPs and Development of Fifth National Report to the CBD		
Country(ies):	Congo	GEF Project ID: ¹	4943
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP (select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	00844
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministere Du Developpement Durable, De L'economie Forestire et De L'Environnement	Submission Date:	2012-07-26
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration (Months)	30
Check if applicable:	NCSA <input type="checkbox"/> NAPA <input type="checkbox"/>	Agency Fee (\$):	22,000

A. EA FRAMEWORK

EA Objective: With the overarching goal of integrating CBD Obligations into National Planning Processes through Enabling Activities, the main objective of this project is to enable Congo to revise its National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and to develop the Fifth National Report to the CBD					
EA Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co-financing (\$)
1) Stocktaking and Assessment	TA	1.1 Improved and more realistic decision making on Biodiversity (BD) conservation in Congo Ministries resulting from knowing the current baseline	1.1 Stakeholder Inventories: Comprehensive stakeholder inventories and elaboration of best consultation modalities 1.2 Biodiversity National Plans: Completed reports from reviews on national plans & policies on Biodiversity conservation 1.3 Assessment reports: Reports emanating from review of causes and consequences of BD loss, and value of BD to human well being	26,400	28,000
2) Setting national targets, principles, & main priorities of the strategy	TA	2.1 National implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	2.1.1 Targets & Priorities: Country specific Targets, principles, and priorities of BD	21,800	24,000

¹ Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

		is improved and enhanced as status of biodiversity, and measurable targets for conservation and sustainable use are operationalised in Congo at national and sub national levels, and mainstreamed into sectors and development plans	conservation compiled by Congo		
3. Strategy and action plan development (for indicators and targets)	TA	3.1 Congo commences to use country specific indicators and targets	3.1.1 NBSAP Reports: (With sub national elaboration) integrated into sectoral development, poverty reduction, and climate change plans in Congo.	77,800	80,000
4) Development of Implementation plans and related activities	TA	4.1 Congo BD Budgets adjusted as a result of knowing capacity, technology, and conservation gaps	4.1.1 Capacity Development Plan: For NBSAP Implementation. 4.1.2 Technology Needs: Assessment Reports. 4.1.3 Communication Strategy 4.1.4 Resource Mobilisation Plan for NBSAP implementation	23,000	20,000

5) Institutional, monitoring, reporting and exchange	TA	5.1 Informed professional entitites (and the general public) are better able to lobby for or improve BD Conservation. b) The CBD Conference of the Parties (COP) uses results of the project for decion making to imprive BD conservation actions in Congo	5.1.1 National Coordination Structures: Operatinal BD Coordination structures. 5.1.2 CHMs: National CHM Operational 5.1.3Fifth National Reports submitted to the SCBD by the recommended COP 10 deadline 5.1.4 communication strategy	51,000	50,000
	TA				
	(select)				
	(select)				
	(select)				
	(select)				
Subtotal				200,000	202,000
EA Management Cost²				20,000	10,000
Total EA Cost				220000	212000

^a List the \$ by EA components.

B. CO-FINANCING FOR THE EA BY SOURCE AND BY NAME

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount (\$)
National Government	Ministere Du Developpement Durable, De L'economie Forestire et De L'Environnement	In-kind	212,000
(select)		(select)	
Bilateral Aid Agency (ies)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
Total Co-financing			212,000

² This is the cost associated with the unit executing the project on the ground and could be financed out of trust fund or co-financing sources.

C. GRANT RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/Global	EA Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)²	Total (c)=(a)+(b)
UNEP	GEF TF	Biodiversity	Congo	220,000	22,000	242,000
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
Total Grant Resources				220,000	22,000	242,000

D. EA MANAGEMENT COST

Cost Items	Total Estimated Person Weeks/Months	Grant Amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	EA Total (\$)
Local consultants*	144.00	17,000	10,000	27,000
International consultants*				0
Office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications*		3,000		3,000
Travel*				0
Others**	Specify "Others" (1)			0
	Specify "Others" (2)			0
	Specify "Others" (3)			0
Total		20,000	10,000	30,000

* Details to be provided in Annex A. **For Others, to be clearly specified by overwriting fields (1)-(3)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR TABLE D, IF APPLICABLE:

If costs for office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications, travels are requesting for GEF financing, please provide justification here:

The \$3,000 required is for office equipment such as laptops, servers and printers for facilitating the CHM aspects.

PART II: ENABLING ACTIVITY JUSTIFICATION

A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT
 (Provide brief information about projects implemented since a country became party to the convention and results achieved):

Country Overview



(source: www.worldatlas.com)

The Republic of Congo (Congo) is located in the central-western part of sub-Saharan Africa, along the Equator, lying between latitudes 4°N and 5°S, and longitudes 11° and 19°E. To the south and east of it is the Democratic Republic of Congo. It is also bounded by Gabon to the west, Cameroon and the Central African Republic to the north, and Cabinda (Angola) to the southwest. It has a short Atlantic coast at 169km. The capital, Brazzaville, is located on the Congo River, in the south of the country, immediately across from Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The southwest of the country is a coastal plain for which the primary drainage is the Kouilou-Niari River; the interior of the country consists of a central plateau between two basins to the south and north. Forests are under increasing exploitation pressure. Since the country is located on the Equator, the climate is consistent year-round, with the average day temperature being a humid 24 °C (75 °F) and nights generally between 16 °C (61 °F) and 21 °C(70 °F). The average yearly rainfall ranges from 1,100 millimetres (43 in) in south in the Niari valley to over 2,000 millimetres (79 in) in central parts of the country. The dry season is from June to August while in the majority of the country the wet season has two rainfall maxima: one in March–May and another in September–November.

Status and Trends of Biodiversity

According to the Congo’s NBSAP and National reports, (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/cg/cg-nbsap-01-fr.pdf> , <http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/cg/cg-nr-04-fr.pdf>) the geographic location of the Congo has resulted in the country having three distinct ecosystems: the coastal and inshore ecosystem, the forest ecosystem and the savannah ecosystem. In terms of threats, the marine ecosystem seems to be disturbed mainly by offshore oilfields, and their pollutants. The inland waters center around two large basins, namely the Kouilou-Niari and the Congo-Oubangui, and seem to be less polluted. This country is faced with an important concentration of invasive plant species. According to the last national report on plant resources: 800 species of medicinal plants were

	<p>inventoried. With the absence of a policy for the creation of a botanical garden, many of these species are threatened with overexploitation, especially around the built-up areas.</p> <p>The agricultural practices of the Congo are largely traditional. The seeds of the main cultivated species (cassava root, corn, peanuts, beans, yam, bananas etc.) are preserved in a traditional manner. Since there is no one organization charged with the storage, supply and selection of seeds, there has been a progressive deterioration in the quality and quantity of agricultural seeds. The large forests of Southern Congo have been exploited since the 1940's and in large part clear-cut. Although the annual deforestation rate in Congo is estimated at 32,000ha, the northern forests have only started being exploited in the early 1970's and key species are still numerous. However, selective and intense harvesting poses a large threat if management plans, still in development, are not implemented and executed. Since the late 1990's, due to socio-political issues, the domestic zoo-genetic resources were essentially decimated. All species (bovine, ovine, porcine, poultry) had a significant decrease, although the actual effects within each species are, at the moment, unknown. In terms of wildlife, the data would indicate estimates of 200 mammal species, 617 bird species, 45 reptile species, 38 amphibian species and about 2000 insect species. The aquatic ecosystems of Congo, both marine and inland, boast a very diverse fish fauna.</p> <p>Congo became a party to the CBD on the 01st August 1996. Since the CBD COP instituted the Enabling Activity genre of GEF projects, Congo has so far implemented 4 such projects. Appendix 4 shows these Enabling Activity Projects and what they have accomplished in Congo. As a result of this planning process, Congo has to date been able to secure a total of 12 biodiversity projects, representing a GEF investment of US\$ 41,116,406 with an additional US\$ 114,923,101 being leveraged in co-finance, and this information is held at http://www.gefonline.org/projectList and Appendix 12</p>						
<p>B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (The proposal should briefly justify the need for the project.)</p>	<p>Justification: The Government of Congo has ratified the CBD and is therefore obliged and committed to implementing the requirements of the Convention and the Decisions of the CBD COP. The Convention requires countries to prepare a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (or equivalent instrument) and to ensure that this strategy is mainstreamed into the planning and activities of all those sectors whose activities can have an impact (positive and negative) on biodiversity. The following is a summary of Enabling Activities supported in Congo. Details of what was accomplished can be found in Appendix 4.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="414 1612 1383 1837"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="414 1612 732 1837">Reports</th> <th data-bbox="732 1612 954 1837">Date of Submission to CBD Secretariat or completion of project</th> <th data-bbox="954 1612 1383 1837">Comments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="414 1837 732 1837"></td> <td data-bbox="732 1837 954 1837"></td> <td data-bbox="954 1837 1383 1837"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Reports	Date of Submission to CBD Secretariat or completion of project	Comments			
Reports	Date of Submission to CBD Secretariat or completion of project	Comments					

Initial National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	12/10/2000	NBSAP completed in 2000
Revision of NBSAP	n/a	
1 st National Report	n/a	There is no indication on the SCBD CHM of a 1st National Report from Congo
2 nd National Report	15/05/2001	
3 rd National Report	24/02/2006	
4 th National Report	09/09/2009	
2) Capacity Needs Assessments carried out	November 2003	See appendix 4 for what was accomplished
National CHM	continuous	Congo has a CHM website http://cg.chm-cbd.net/ hosted in Belgium. This CHM needs to be revamped and updated to represent current national biodiversity needs, issues, trends, etc.

a) Baseline for NBSAPs:

Congo received biodiversity enabling activity assistance initially in 1997 to support the preparation of the NBSAP and the First National Report to the CBD. These activities were executed by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET). The MET appointed a country multi sectoral steering committee drawn from public, private, Non Governmental (NGO) and local communities to supervise the project process and provide overall direction and guidance.

(<http://www.gefonline.org/ProjectDocs/Biodiversity/Congo%20-%20National%20Biodiversity%20SAP%20and%20Country%20Report%20to%20the%20COP/Final%20project%20proposal%20-%20Feb%2020%201997.pdf>)

Since its submission, the baseline situation within which the NBSAP was developed has changed for Congo and thus the NBSAP is due for revision for various reasons including the fact that it was completed many years ago and needs updating due to emerging issues. The emerging issues are discussed in Component 2 below. More importantly, the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity & Aichi BD Targets came out with new biodiversity targets which should be factored in the NBSAP. UNEP will work with Congo to provide the necessary assistance in the revision of the Congo NBSAP.

b) Baseline for National Reporting

Article 26 of the Convention states that the objective of national reporting is to provide information on measures taken for the implementation of the Convention and the effectiveness of these measures. So far, Congo has completed its Second, third and Fourth National Reports to the CBD and therefore is eligible to receive funds for the Fifth National Report. The current project will provide assistance to the country to revise its NBSAP and develop its 5th National Report in parallel, in other words, in this project the development of the 5th National Report by Congo will be embedded in the consultation process and will not be a stand-alone process. UNEP will provide the necessary oversight that will ensure Congo submits the 5th National Reports ahead of the given deadline of March 2014.

Further to the above reporting requirements, the project is in conformity and responds to several Decisions of the COP and resultant guidelines as follows:

- i) COP Decision X/10-National Reporting: The project responds to this COP Decision and the resultant specific SCBD document on Guidelines for Fifth National Report is given at the SCBD website.
- ii) Notification for 5th National Report and revision of NBSAPs: The proposal responds to the recent SCBD Notification to Parties to prepare the 5th National Reports and update the NBSAP of 21-Jan-2011. This notification informs Parties that the deadline for submitting duly completed Fifth National Report to the CBD is 31st March 2014.
- iii) AICHI targets: The project will further be in complicity with the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity & Aichi BD Targets for biodiversity as agreed by countries in COP 10.
- iv) Country Assistance Strategy – (<http://go.worldbank.org/Y66Z9M8JN0>)
- v) Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) (<http://go.worldbank.org/IY83N18L20>) (<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/scr/2005/cr0511.pdf>) and related documents such as the Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation (ERS).
- vi) Component 3 of this project will articulate how the NBSAP will be integrated into national planning documents and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Baseline scenario: Related projects

(<http://www.gefonline.org/projectListSQL.cfm>)

The following list of related projects will be useful for the current project in the ways listed in column 3 of the table. Moreover, the current project will invite the project managers of the on-going projects to contribute in the consultations for the NBSAP based on information from their respective projects. Secondly a few of the project managers of on-going projects will be invited to be in the Project Steering Committee for the NBSAP project.

Table of on-going related projects that will have links to the NBSAP project

Project	Description	Link to NBSAP revision and 5 th National Report
Congo - Wildlands Protection and Management	Development and implementation of management programs for five tropical forest ecosystems in the Congo, representative of the country's great ecological diversity and wealth. To achieve this objective, the project funds biodiversity inventories, the preparation of natural resource management plans for each site, training of supervisory staff and guards, and studies of the impact of the indigenous people on the environment and of how negative impacts can be mitigated.	Componet 2 of the NBSAP revision and 5 th National report project seeks to set national targets, principles, & main priorities of the strategy. The natural resource management plans for the tropical forest ecosystems can provide valuable lessons and baseline information on the conservation of biodiversity and planning of the same by the NBSAP.
Integrated management of mangrove and associated wetlands and coastal forests ecosystems of the Republic of Congo	To strengthen the conservation of biodiversity and reduce degradation in Congo's mangrove ecosystems through: (i) strengthening the legal and institutional framework; (ii) increasing the knowledge and availability of information on trends, status and threats to the mangrove ecosystems in order to inform decision-making; and (iii) building capacity for sustainable management of mangrove resources at the community level.	Unlike in the previous NBSAP where Marine and coastal Biodiversity needs were not a prime focus this NBSAP revision and 5 th National report project actively seeks to integrate marine and coastal biodiversity needs. The stocktaking that will be done in component 1 will be able to build on the knowledge and availability of information on status and threats to the mangrove ecosystems in order to better inform decision-maker.
Support to Preparation of the Second National Biosafety	To Assist GEF-Eligible Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in Africa to prepare and make timely submission	The modality of this Biosafety project closely mimics the NBSAP revision an 5 th National Report development process because

	Reports to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety-Africa	of their Second National Reports on measures that each party has taken to implement the Protocol in line with Article 33	they are both outcomes of SCBD convention requirements.
	Sustainable Management of the Wildlife and Bushmeat Sector in Central Africa	To demonstrate that participatory management of wildlife can be a viable strategy for conserving forest ecosystem function, integrity and biodiversity in the Congo Basin.	This project links with the NBSAP revision can input lessons learned from participatory management. The SCBD in its training module on NBSAP revision and stakeholder involvement, The Conference of the Parties (COP) to the CBD has stressed that the development and implementation of an NBSAP constitute the cornerstone of national implementation of the Convention. The NBSAP involves both planning and implementation. If 'biodiversity planners' are to become 'biodiversity implementers', then everyone with a stake in the outcome of the NBSAP needs to be engaged. (http://www.cbd.int/doc/training/nbsap/b5-train-stakeholder-nbsap-en.pdf)
	Regional Environment and Information Management Project (REIMP)	This project establishes a demand-driven, action-oriented environmental information database for the tropical forest region of central Africa to support decision-making and to build up national capacity for environmental monitoring, land-use planning, and conservation priority setting. Strong emphasis will be put on capacity	Component 5 of this will assist Congo to develop its CHM which is still part of convention requirements. The centralizing of biodiversity information is a key aspect of conservation and the REIMP projects database can be a valuable source of information Congo's CHM.

		building in the public and private sectors to use such data, on creating an integrated, standardized regional information network for data sharing, on connecting data suppliers and users to the electronic highway, and on defining and developing specific products desired by end users.	
	CBSP Sustainable Financing of Protected Area Systems in the Congo Basin	To have in place capacities, institutional frameworks and model mechanisms for the long-term financial sustainability of PA systems and associated ecosystems within the Congo Basin	Component 4 of this NBSAP revision process seeks to integrate the results of the revision process into future government of Congo budgets. The outcomes of the NBSAP will offer opportunities for the development and continuity of sustainable financing of PA systems in the Congo basin
	CBSP: A regional focus on sustainable timber management in the Congo Basin	The objective of this four year project is to promote a harmonized approach to the sustainable management of production forests in 6 countries (Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Republic of Congo) in the Congo Basin, which between them contain the second largest area of contiguous moist tropical forest of the world, covering about 2 million km ² .	This project brings regional national and local; stakeholders together to address forest management in the Congo Basin, and the NBSAP process will stay in touch with key stakeholders to bring some of the forest policies articulated in the regional project to the local situation in the Republic of Congo.

	<p>GEF Strategies</p> <p>In terms of the GEF strategies, the project is consistent with the GEF 5 Results chain and Biodiversity focal area strategies as follows:</p> <p>i) GEF Strategic Goal: This project is aligned to the GEF 5 Strategic Goal 4 - Build national and regional capacities and enabling conditions for global environmental protection and sustainable development.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the NBSAP planning process and the development of the 5th national report will be instrumental in the realization of this goal as capacity will have been built in Congo and in the region for BD planning. This will further build onto the capacity already present in the country owing to the vibrant BD initiatives already ongoing as explained on pages 6 and 7.</p> <p>ii) Focal Area Goal: Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance of ecosystem goods and services.</p> <p>This project is a planning and strategizing activity which, if well done and later implemented, will result in conservation and sustainable use of Biodiversity. Although the project will not address ABS issues <i>per se</i>, it will lay strategies for maintenance of ecosystem goods and services.</p> <p>iii) Focal area objective: The project addresses focal area Objective Five: Integrate CBD Obligations into National Planning Processes through Enabling Activities.</p> <p>This project in particular integrates the CBD issues in National planning processes and poverty reduction strategies and MDGs. This will be done at national and in some cases sub national levels This will be addressed in Component 3.</p> <p>iv) Project Objective: With the overarching goal of improving decision-making for the conservation of global biodiversity, the main objective of this project is to enable Congo to revise its NBSAP and to develop the Fifth National Report to the CBD.</p>
<p>C. DESCRIBE THE ENABLING ACTIVITY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION (discuss the work intended to be undertaken and the output expected from each activity as outlined in</p>	<p>COMPONENT 1: Stocktaking and Assessment: This component will entail (a) Rapid stocktaking and review of relevant plans, policies and reports; (b) Identification of stakeholders and raising awareness and (c) Rapid assessment of the causes and consequences of biodiversity loss highlighting the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services and their contribution to Human well-being. Part (a) will be done by national consultants before it is discussed by the stakeholders while parts (b) and (c) will be done in a consultative manner in multi sectoral meetings.</p> <p>COMPONENT 2: National Targets, Principles, & Priorities of the Strategy Before the NBSAP is developed, the country will determine its targets and priorities first and taking into account the guiding results from Component 1. Small multi-</p>

Table A).	<p>sectoral committees will do the ground work, which will then be discussed by all stakeholders. This component will be further guided by the instructions given by the CBD COP, and assisted by an international consultant (if necessary) based on the many emerging issues which will be updated in the NBSAPs and which will add different dimensions to the consultations. These emerging issues include:</p> <p>i) The recently adopted Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020) and its associated goals, the Aichi Targets, and indicators which require fresh consultations by countries;</p> <p>ii) Integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development: It will be necessary to include ways of integrating the NBSAPs into national development and poverty reduction policies and strategies, national accounting, economic sectors and spatial planning processes and the MDGs</p> <p>iii) Human Rights and Indigenous peoples: The Congolese population is culturally diverse, and contains various indigenous peoples such as pygmies and so it will be necessary to factor issues on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Congo has expressed its candidature for membership of the United Nations Human Rights council (http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/AFR22/001/2011/en/8d4bdf31-4b17-4a8e-b887-0a1d66e0b5bf/afr220012011en.html), this is a significant step as it will improve the countries human rights record because the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights has issued guidance in the form of a framework for voluntary pledges and commitments by Member States when presenting their candidature for the Human Rights Council, including that these should make specific, measurable and verifiable commitments, such pledges such as the right to a clean and healthy environment can be included as part of the NBSAP process..</p> <p>iv) Congo has various indigenous peoples such as the Batswa, Mbendjele, Baaka, Mikaya, Nguelé, Balouma, Bagyeli, Babi and Bangombe. Recognizing the significant conservation contribution that these indigenous people can make, Conservation frameworks such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and related programmes of work have recognized the value of traditional knowledge. There is also an understanding of the need to protect and encourage customary use of biological resources, which is dependent on the equitable participation of indigenous and local communities in protected area management. This NBSAP and fifth national project envisions including Congo's indigenous people's as important stakeholders in determining and planning for Congo's biodiversity future.</p> <p>Gender considerations and social and environmental safeguards:</p> <p>v) The importance of biodiversity to individuals varies according to gender. Based upon the social roles of and power relations between men and women, gender is shaped by culture, social relations, and natural environments. For this reason, we need to incorporate gender dimensions into our understanding of biodiversity and its conservation, sustainable use and the sharing of benefits.(http://www.cbd.int/iyb/doc/prints/factsheets/iyb-cbd-factsheet-gender-en.pdf) The</p>
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initial NBSAPs had ignored mainstreaming of gender perspectives into the implementation of the Convention and promotion of gender equality in achieving its three objectives. This aspect will now be included to ensure that views on how various social groups utilize biodiversity, how lack of conservation might affect both genders and how the needs of indigenous groups, forest communities and other local communalities should be taken care of in BD conservation. In the same vein, issues of BD conservation and poverty alleviation should be well articulated in the consultations in this project. Although the project itself is not intervention based, it is important to discuss the poverty- conservation nexus, so that the right principles are laced in the final official documents.

v) Marine and coastal Biodiversity needs: Congo's initial NBSAP included some aspects of marine and fresh water biodiversity but was heavy on land based biodiversity at the expense of the marine and coastal Biodiversity issues. This omission and other gaps in ecosystem and thematic coverage will be corrected.

COMPONENT 3: Strategy and action plan development: Components 3 will entail developing the strategy and actions to implement the agreed targets through national consultations. The resultant NBSAP will be discussed at sub-national levels and local consultations. Based on results from stakeholder consultations (including sub national levels) national experts will be used to draft the final Strategy and Action Plan, which will later be moderated and validated by the stakeholders.

COMPONENT 4: Development of Implementation Plans: Once there is a revised draft strategy and action plans – further consultations will be required to develop implementation plans and related activities. Component 4 addresses the supporting systems for the NBSAP process and will have several areas including (a) Development of a plan for capacity development for NBSAP implementation; (b) Technology needs assessment; (c) Development of a communication and outreach strategy for the NBSAP; and (d) Development of a plan for resource mobilization for NBSAP implementation

COMPONENT 5: Institutional, monitoring, reporting and exchange: This component will address establishment and or strengthening of national coordination structures such as a Biodiversity Unit at the Executing Agency, strengthening of the CHM development of indicators and monitoring approach. The component will also develop the Fifth National Report to the CBD which will be prepared following the guidelines given by the COP and the SCBD. Using the framework for goals and targets adopted by the CBD COP in its Decision 10 and the Guidelines for the Fifth National Report to the CBD, the development of the report will use the data already gathered during consultations for the NBSAP process and from data gathered by various experts. This means the development of the national report and the revision of the NBSAP is one process but with 2 different products. A portal to assist the preparation of the 5th National Report and revision of the NBSAP will be developed by the SCBD and will be constantly updated, permitting also on-line status reporting in real-time to the CBD, the implementing agencies, the GEF, countries and interested audience, as well as allowing countries to exchange

experiences. UNEP will assist in facilitating this inter-country knowledge exchange and a communication for the process will be developed in this Component for the general public, media and legislators.

National Planning Process

The GEF enabling activities support countries with National planning process while at the same time building capacity in national staff. UNEP in conjunction with the CBD will provide necessary assistance to the country, upon request regarding their national planning. The NBSAP planning process will address the three objectives of the Convention i.e.: Conservation of biodiversity, Sustainable use of the components of biodiversity and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits deriving from the utilization of genetic resources. Involvement of multi sectoral national teams in the process is vital, bringing all relevant biodiversity related stakeholders so that they can provide inputs into planning process and this should catalyze more national inclusion of biodiversity within the governmental systems of the country.

This initial planning will be driven by the national body responsible for CBD implementation in Congo, which is also the executing agency involved in this project. Thus the executing agency will act as the focal point for coordinating these activities. The assessment stage of the national planning process will take stock of what is already known about the country's biodiversity and national resources, and this assessment will bring together existing information and where possible provide new information.

In a nutshell this planning process will involve;

- gathering and analyzing data;
- identifying gaps and potential conflicts;
- reviewing the array of possible conservation measures;
- collection of data on the status and distribution of biological resources;
- identifying threats;
- assessing current capacities;
- collecting socioeconomic data useful in evaluating benefits of conserving and
- sustainably using biodiversity; and
- analyzing ways of mainstreaming biodiversity into national plans, sectoral plans, MDGs, economic vision plans etc.
- Estimating the current expenditures on biodiversity related activities.

The final phases of the national planning undertaken in components 3&4 will involve; Strategy / Action Plan Development and final Monitoring and evaluation part that should ensure sustainability of the whole programme. <http://www.cbd.int/doc/training/nbsap/b2-train-prepare-update-nbsap-revised-en.pdf>

Appendix 6 is “COST BENCHMARKS/OR SAMPLE BUDGET FOR ENABLING ACTIVITIES IN BIODIVERSITY” which has the recommended or

indicative costs for each of the Components. This project has kept the total budget to \$220,000, but costs for individual components varied slightly from those in Appendix 6 owing to Congo's country needs.

Format for 5th National Report: As per the guidelines

(<http://www.cbd.int/doc/nr/nr-05/NR5-guidelines-en.doc>),

the 5th BD national report will address 3 areas;

- Part I - An update on biodiversity status, trends, and threats and implications for human well being
- Part II - The national biodiversity strategy and action plan (NBSAP), its implementation, and the mainstreaming of biodiversity.
- Part III - Progress towards the 2015 and 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets and contributions to the relevant 2015 Targets of the Millennium Development Goals.

Project Execution: The Ministere Du Developpement Durable, De L'economie Forestire et De L'Environnement will be the national executing agency (NEA) and will host the project management Unit (PMU) composed of the Project Manager and a financial assistant. The project manager will be supervised by a senior level manager at the NEA, and the GEF Operational Focal Point. At the NEA, the Project Manager will:-

- Coordinate and oversee all the activities of the project as per the TORs given in **Appendix 9**, and following the work plan shown in **Appendix 10**.
- He/She will further follow the reporting requirement summarized in **Appendix 8** and the project deliverables as outlined in **Appendix 7**.
- Be the main contact person between UNEP and the Congo.
- Be the focal point for: outreach to national stakeholders, liaison with UNEP and the NEA and linkages with other international cooperation agencies such as the CBD.

Project Fit with UNEP Programme of Work

In UNEP this project falls under the Environmental Governance Sub Programme and fits with the programme of work under this sub- programme. Specifically this project will be complemented by UNEP's work on the following expected accomplishments:-

Expected accomplishment a: The United Nations system demonstrates increasing coherence in international decision-making processes related to the environment, including those under multilateral environmental agreements.

Output 4: The needs and activities of multilateral environmental agreements are identified and mainstreamed to ensure coherence across United Nations System. In particular this project will expose Congo to the UN work on MEAs (CBD).

Expected accomplishment b: Enhanced capacity of States to implement their environmental obligations and achieve their environmental goals, targets and objectives through strengthened institutions and the implementation of laws

Output 5: Capacity of government officials and other stakeholders from developing countries and countries with economies in transition is enhanced for their effective participation in multilateral environmental negotiations is enhanced.

Expected accomplishment (c): National development processes and United Nations common country programming processes increasingly mainstream environmental sustainability into the implementation of their programmes of work

Output 3 Support provided to countries to integrate environmental sustainability into national and sectoral development planning processes. This project will specifically address integrating biodiversity issues in Congo's development agenda, MDGs etc.

Expected accomplishment d): Improved access by national and international stakeholders to sound science and policy advice for decision-making

Output 1-3: Global, regional, sub regional and thematic environmental assessments, outlooks, indicator reports and alerts produced, communicated and used by decision makers and relevant stakeholders in decision-making in national and international policy processes. (2) Multidisciplinary scientific networks more strategically connected to policymakers and development practitioners to integrate environment into development processes (3) Institutional and technical capacities of governmental and partner institutions in environmental monitoring, assessment and early warning demonstrated to support national decision making.

Project Implementation by UNEP

i) UNEP will disburse funds (according to the UNEP budget shown in **Appendix 1** and **Appendix 2** shows co financing from Congo. This budget follows closely on the general component budget outline given by the GEF Secretariat and is shown in **Appendix 6**, which is cost benchmarks/or sample budget for enabling activities in biodiversity. However these cost benefits are based on the budgets for LDCs and SIDs and so the percentage proportions for each component will be extrapolated according to Congo's needs.

ii) UNEP will support the country to execute the project using the training modules earlier developed by UNEP and Secretariat of the CBD (SCBD) and guidelines given by the SCBD (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/training/nbsap/a3-train-intro-nr-en.pdf>).

iii) In addition, using non-GEF funds, the UNEP and SCBD will collaborate in training country teams for the revision on NBSAPs as per the schedule issued by the SCBD (<http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/training/>).

iv) Through the UNEP Task manager provide project oversight, including coordinating the PSC, and monitoring evaluation. UNEP will use project fees for undertaking normal project implementation and oversight items (i-iv).

UNEP's Project Oversight and Mode of Operations

UNEP will deliver its oversight activities for this project using its staff based at the UNEP headquarters in Nairobi as it does not have a country office in Congo.

UNEP's oversight and monitoring of the on ground activities will be carried out

through various methods including;

- (a) attending important meetings,
- (b) periodic email and telephone follow ups,
- (c) UNEP templates on technical reporting and financial reporting which are periodically submitted to UNEP by the NEA and
- (d) sometimes using international consultants.

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

Capacities built by the project

This project will involve national staff and stakeholders to develop their own capacities for planning and strategizing for conservation. Use of international consultants will be minimal, so to ensure retention of expertise acquired in national planning in the country. Realization of the project outcomes and the sustainability of the project will be enhanced by the utilization of the various capacities built by this project. The CBD has already trained national staff in regional workshops on how to undertake the planning process, including setting national targets for Biodiversity based on the 2020 BD targets. Once this project is completed, there will be added capacity to undertake sustainable conservation at national and sub national levels, and ensure mainstreaming into sectors and development plans.

Realization of the project outcomes and the sustainability of the project will be enhanced by the utilization of the various capacities built by this project. The capacities to be developed include

- a) National staff in ministries will have their capacity built for biodiversity data collection and collation storage into the Clearing House Mechanism for future reference.
- b) Capacity for National staff will be built for development of strategies and action plans for biodiversity – based on wide multi sectoral considerations
- c) Capacity will be built in national staff for integrating gender and human rights issues in biodiversity conservation
- d) Capacity for multi-sectoral consultations. Various sectors including agriculture, forestry, mining, housing, etc will have their capacities for discussing biodiversity issues developed in a multi sectoral set up.

The above capacities will be utilized in ensuring that the outcomes of the project are realized. This will result in improved and enhanced status of biodiversity, give measurable targets for conservation and sustainable use at national and sub national levels, and ensure mainstreaming into sectors and development plans.

In addition the capacity to collect relevant data and stock taking will give a more realistic decision making on Biodiversity (BD) conservation in Congo Ministries resulting from knowing the current baseline. Knowing capacity, technology, and conservation gaps.

Will influence better budgeting in Congo for BD issues compared to before.

Other strategies for Sustainability of the project

The executing agency (Ministere Du Developpement Durable, De L'economie Forestire et De L'Environment) is the national authority in charge of environmental matters in the country and is the agency that will follow up the recommendations made in this project. This will be done by making sure that:

- a) The Executing agency will include a national budget for continuous monitoring of the key issues that will be recommended in the new NBSAP.
- b) The Executing Agency will ensure that GEF 5 projects, and others funded by other donors or by Congo itself will adhere to the key recommendations in the NBSAP.
- c) Registering the project with the UNDAF process in the country is another measure to anchor it into the donor matrixes for future possible funding of its outcomes
- d) Through its website, Executing agency will ensure that the CHM is active and is used by all stakeholders as a clearing mechanism to keep stakeholders updated and to receive information from the stakeholders.

The already existing CHM needs to be hosted from within Congo and will be maintained by the staff trained in this project. In addition, embedding the CHM in the Ministry website ensures that it will be maintained through the national budget in future.

STAKEHOLDERS:

Stakeholders will include (a) National Stakeholders: Government Ministries (multi sectoral), local authorities, local communities , Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) local NGOs and Universities - all of which will be active in consultations and working teams. (b) private sector entities- will be active in providing inputs on their role in Biodiversity conservation and how it can be improved (c) local communities and indigenous groups will be consulted and represented in the consultations so that indigenous methods of conservation are included, and the needs of indigenous communities which live close to nature are taken care of. (d) International NGOs related to Biodiversity conservation and which operate at country level will attend the consultations and these include IUCN, WWF. The regional and national stakeholders brought together by the CBSP project on timber will be especially useful for the NBSAP process. These include Conference of Ministers in Charge of Forests in Central Africa (COMIFAC) which was later renamed as the Central African Forest Commission, but retained its acronym. The COMIFAC is an umbrella under which other sub-regional projects, networks and organizations are associated. It is the unique political and technical authority in charge of orientation, monitoring, decision-making, harmonization and coordination of actions and initiatives for the preservation and sustainable development of forest ecosystems in Central Africa. <http://www.comifac.org/>

Another program from which the NBSAP process should benefit is the Central African Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE), which is a United States Agency for International Development (USAID) initiative aimed at promoting sustainable natural resource management in the Congo Basin as part of its support to the Congo Basin Forest Partnership. Other multi-lateral stakeholders will also be invited to the consultations for the development of a revised NBSAP in the Congo

	<p>and include FAO, UNDP, World Bank.</p> <p>Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Sectors There will be several measures taken to make sure the initiative is mainstreamed into other sectors</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The wide stakeholder base given on page 18 above includes all sectors which are either affected or affect biodiversity conservation. The participation of all those sectors in consultation and data collection will be crucial to ensure that biodiversity issues are integrated into the various sectors, especially by inclusion of biodiversity into Congolese sectoral plans such as forestry, agriculture, fisheries, mining, housing, and many others. In addition it will be important to pay attention to:- <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a)The National Gender Policy and Plan of Action 2009 – 2013 whose overall objective is to reduce gender inequalities by giving women greater economic, social, cultural, and political power. Component 2 page 11 above elaborates on the importance of integrating biodiversity into gender considerations(http://webapps01.un.org/nvp/uploads/2010%20Republic%20of%20Congo.pdf) b) The Millennium Development Goals – Congo is far from meeting the MDG 7 on Environmental sustainability. Revising and developing the 5th national report will beef up activities towards achieving MDG 7 by creating new impetus, bringing more sectoral stakeholders that also be used for MDG planning. <p>Once the NBSAP and 5th national reports are developed, a vigorous communication will be carried out within the country, to ensure that the outputs and outcomes are widely publicized in all sectors including media.</p>
<p>D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED <u>COST-EFFECTIVENESS</u> OF THE PROJECT:</p>	<p>Cost effectiveness: This project requests \$ 220,000 (excluding agency fees) from the GEF Trust Fund for support for revision of the NBSAP and development of 5th National Report. This project is an intervention in alignment with the GEF’s mandate to generate global benefits by paying for the incremental costs of planning and foundational enabling activities that countries implement to generate global biodiversity benefits. Specifically, the project will concentrate on overarching themes that touch upon protected area systems, biodiversity hot spots, endemic and threatened species, as well as biomes and ecosystems of global significance.</p> <p>Without GEF funds, the country may not prepare the 5th national report and the revised NBSAP in time for use by the SCBD as required. This will hamper the implementation of the Strategic Plan for 2011-2020 Strategic Plans for Biodiversity & Aichi BD Targets for biodiversity</p>
<p>E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:</p>	<p>The project will follow United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Global Environment Facility (GEF) minimum requirements for project monitoring, reporting, evaluation processes and procedures. Substantive and financial project</p>

	<p>reporting requirements are an integral part of the UNEP legal instrument that will be signed by the National Executing Agency and UNEP. The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) process will include an end of project assessment undertaken by independent reviewer. The project will be evaluated on the basis of: execution performance, output delivery, and project impact. Evaluation of the project's success in achieving its outcomes will be monitored continuously throughout the project through key pillars this project which include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A project log frame (Appendix 3). b) A project's web-based portal '5NR Portal' (www.cbd.int/nr5) based and managed at the SCBD Clearing House Mechanism to allow monitoring the status of the project implementation by updating the portal regularly. c) Project Steering Committee (PSC): The project steering committee will be composed of GEF Operational Focal Point, CBD focal Point, Congo Biodiversity Committee and UNEP. The PSC will meet once every six months physically and on teleconference in between when required. The UNEP Task Manager will further take reports of this project to a global Steering committee that will be overseeing the global development of 5th national reports and revision of NBSAPs. d) The M&E process will be guided by key deliverables and bench marks as shown in Appendix 7. e) The M&E process will be ensure that the project will follow the summary of reporting requirements as shown in Appendix 8 d) A budgeted M&E plan as shown in Appendix 5.
<p>F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE):</p>	<p>N/a</p>

PART III: APPROVAL/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 country endorsement letter(s) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (Month, day, year)
Gregoire NKEOUA	Director General	DURABLE, DE L'ECONOMIE FORESTIRE ET DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT	07/07/2011

B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION*


CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT

UNCBD	01/08/1996	MR. AUGUSTIN NGOLIELE
UNFCCC		
UNCCD		
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION		

*To be filled for NCSA proposals only

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the standards of the GEF Project Review Criteria for (select) Enabling Activity approval.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Maryam Niamir-Fuller Director, UNEP GEF Coordination Office		07/26/2012	Esther Mwangi	2547623717	esther.mwangi@unep.org

ANNEX A

CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE ENABLING ACTIVITY

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>\$/ Person Week</i>	<i>Estimated Person Weeks</i>	<i>Tasks to be Performed</i>
For EA Management			
Local			
Project Manager (local consultant)	139	72	Overall project coordination at Executing Agency prepare reports and submit to UNEP
Administrative Support	97	72	part time administrative and financial assistant to support project execution.
International			
For Technical Assistance			
Local			

Local consultants	347	72	technical and data collection for the 5 components workshop facilitation and collation and report writing
International			
International Consultant (Indicators and Targets development)	500	4	Assisting the EA in developing indicators and targets at national and sub-national level, according to CBD guidelines and best practice, including assistance for the facilitation of broad stakeholder consultation workshops and validation process as well as reporting.

OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE TO FOCAL AREA ENABLING ACTIVITIES

Biodiversity

- GEF/C.7/Inf.11, June 30, 1997, Revised Operational Criteria for Enabling Activities
- GEF/C.14/11, December 1999, An Interim Assessment of Biodiversity Enabling Activities
- October 2000, Revised Guidelines for Additional Funding of Biodiversity Enabling Activities (Expedited Procedures)

Climate Change

- GEF/C.9/Inf.5, February 1997, Operational Guidelines for Expedited Financing of Initial Communications from Non-Annex 1 Parties
- October 1999, Guidelines for Expedited Financing of Climate Change Enabling Activities – Part II, Expedited Financing for (Interim) Measures for Capacity Building in Priority Areas
- GEF/C.15/Inf.12, April 7, 2000, Information Note on the Financing of Second National Communications to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
- GEF/C.22/Inf.15/Rev.1, November 30, 2007, Updated Operational Procedures for the Expedited Financing of National Communications from Non-Annex 1 Parties

Persistent Organic Pollutants

- GEF/C.17/4, April 6, 2001, Initial Guidelines for Enabling Activities for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
- GEF/C.39/Inf.5, October 19, 2010, Guidelines for Reviewing and Updating the NIP under the Stockholm Convention on POPs

Land Degradation

- (ICCD/CRIC(5)/Inf.3, December 23, 2005, National Reporting Process of Affected Country Parties: Explanatory Note and Help Guide

National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)

- Operational Guidelines for Expedited Funding of National Self Assessments of Capacity Building Needs, September 2001
- A Guide for Self-Assessment of Country Capacity Needs for Global Environmental Management, September 2001

National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA)

- GEF/C.19/Inf.7, May 8, 2002, Notes on GEF Support for National Adaptation Plan of Action,