United Nations Development Programme
Executing Agency: Government of the Dominican Republic

Project Title: **Conserving Biodiversity in Coastal Areas Threatened by Rapid Tourism and Physical Infrastructure Development**

UNDAF Outcome(s): By 2016, the State and Civil Society work together to contribute to a sustainable environmental management

UNDP Strategic Plan Environment and Sustainable Development Primary Outcome: Outcome 1: Growth and development are inclusive and sustainable, incorporating productive capacities that create employment and livelihoods for the poor and excluded.

Expected CP Outcome(s): By 2016, the State and Civil Society work together to contribute to a sustainable environmental management

(Those linked to the project and extracted from the country programme document)

Expected CPAP Output (s) Ecosystem goods and services from the National Protected Areas System and other priority ecosystems available to the long term due to an effective management.

Those that will result from the project and extracted from the CPAP)

Executing Entity/Implementing Partner: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources; Ministry of Tourism

Implementing Entity/Responsible Partners:

Brief description: The Government of Dominican Republic is requesting assistance from GEF and UNDP to remove barriers to securing the long-term conservation of the country's biological diversity. The **project *goal*** is to safeguard globally significant biodiversity of the Dominican Republic. The **project *objective*** is to ensure the conservation of biodiversity in ecologically important coastal areas threatened by the burgeoning tourism industry and associated physical development. The two main **outcomes** of the project are: 1) The policy, legal and planning framework in the tourism sector addresses the direct threats to biodiversity from coastal tourism development and activities; 2) Operational framework to protect biodiversity and ecosystems in areas highly vulnerable to the indirect effects of tourism development.

Programme Period: 2012- 2016	
Atlas Award ID:	00083903
Project ID:	00092146
PIMS # 4955	
Start date:	January 2015
End Date	December 2020
Management Arrangements	NIM
PAC Meeting Date	TBD

Total resources required **18,873,591**

Total allocated (CASH) resources:

- UNDP 350,000
- GEF 2,838,792
- Government: MITUR 9,550,000
  MA 5,834,799

In-kind contributions

- Government MA 300,000

Agreed by:

Bautista Rojas Gomez, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources

Agreed by: Date:

Francisco Javier García, Ministry of Tourism

Agreed by: Date:

Lorenzo Jimenez de Luis, Resident Representative

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACA RD-CA-USA	Environmental Cooperation Agreement
ALIDES	Central American Alliance for Sustainable Development
AWP	Annual Work Plan
BD	Biodiversity
CBD	Convention of Biological Diversity
CC	Climate Change
CCAD	Central American Commission on Environment and Development
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CODOPESCA	Dominican Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture
CONFOTUR	Tourism Promotion Bureau
DGODT	Directorate General of Land Use and Development
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
END	National Development Strategy
FONAMARENA	Fund for the Environment and Natural Resources
FUNDEMAR	Dominican Institute of Marine Research
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographic Information System
GTZ	German Cooperation Agency
IADB	Inter American Development Bank (Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo)
IPCC	Intergovernmental Agency for Climate Change
IUCN	International Union of Conservancy Nature
JICA	Japanese International Cooperation Agency
KfW	Entwicklungsbank, German Development Bank
MA	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MITUR	Ministry of Tourism
MTE	Mid-term Evaluation
MEPYD	Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan
NBSAP	National Conservation and Sustainable Use Strategy for Biodiversity
NGO	Non-government Organization
NPAS	National Protected Area System
NTDP	National Tourism Development Plan
PA	Protected Area
PES	Payment for Environmental Services
PIRs	Annual Project Implementation Reviews
PMAA	Management and Environmental Adaptation Plans
POTT	Tourism Land Use Plans
PPG	Project Preparation Grant
PRONATURA	Pro Nature Fund
RCU	Regional Coordinating Unit
RD-CAFTA	The US-Central American Free Trade Agreement
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SEPA	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
SICA	Central American Integration System
SODIN	North-east Integral Development Society
SOECI	Cibao Ecologic Society
SPAW	Special Protocol Concerning Protected areas and Wildlife
TA	Technical Assistance

TNC	The Nature Conservancy
UGAM	Municipal Environmental Units
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

SECTION 1: ELABORATION OF THE NARRATIVE

PART I: Situation Analysis

1.1. Context and global significance

1. Located in the Caribbean, the Dominican Republic occupies the eastern two-thirds (48,442 $km^{2)}$ of Hispaniola Island, with the western third of the island being Haiti. The country is very diverse, both physio-graphically and biologically. It exhibits diverse bioclimatic zones and topography, ranging from dry (450 mm/year) to humid (>2500 mm/year), in accordance with an altitudinal gradient that varies from 40 meters below sea level to more than 3,000 meters above sea level. Its geomorphologic diversity and its peculiar paleogeography have formed 9 different soil orders and more than 16 distinct bioclimatic regions, ranging from "thorny low hills" to "pluvious forests". This great diversity has given rise to a wide array of ecosystems and habitats. These include arid and semi-arid zones, coastal, marine and freshwater habitats, forest ecosystems, and mountain ecosystems. Within the coastal-marine zones, the tropical characteristics and the submarine geomorphology generate an equally diverse pattern of marine environments that include very deep trenches, coral reefs, barrier islands, deep and shallow estuaries, and a great variety of keys and mangroves.

2. The country's complex and diverse array of habitats supports a high degree of unique and globally significant biodiversity, in recognition of which it has been identified as a "Caribbean Hotspot"[1]. 5,600 plant species have been documented including 300 species of orchid. Of the 306 species of birds reported for Hispaniola[2], approximately 140 are residents in the DR. The DR's avifauna has exceptionally high levels of endemism with 34 species[3]: 23 species are classified as Globally Threatened, including the threatened Ridgeways Hawk (*Buteo ridgwayi*) and the extremely rare La Selle's Thrush (*Turdus swalesi*) and the Bay Breasted Cuckoo (*Hyetornis rufigularis*). The Dominican Republic also hosts an additional 270 migratory bird species that rely on its natural areas as important components of the eastern flyway. Among these are the threatened Kirtland's warbler *(Dendroica kirtlandii),* Bicknell's thrush *(Catharus bicknelli),* and Cape May warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*). The country's terrestrial biodiversity shares an additional 30% co-endemism rate with the island of Cuba, making the Dominican flora and fauna of critical importance to the Antillean biodiversity profile. Three of the nation's terrestrial ecosystems -- the Hispaniola pine forest, the Hispaniola humid forests, and the wetlands of the Enriquillo basin -- are listed[4] among the top conservation priorities in the Latin America and the Caribbean Ecoregions.

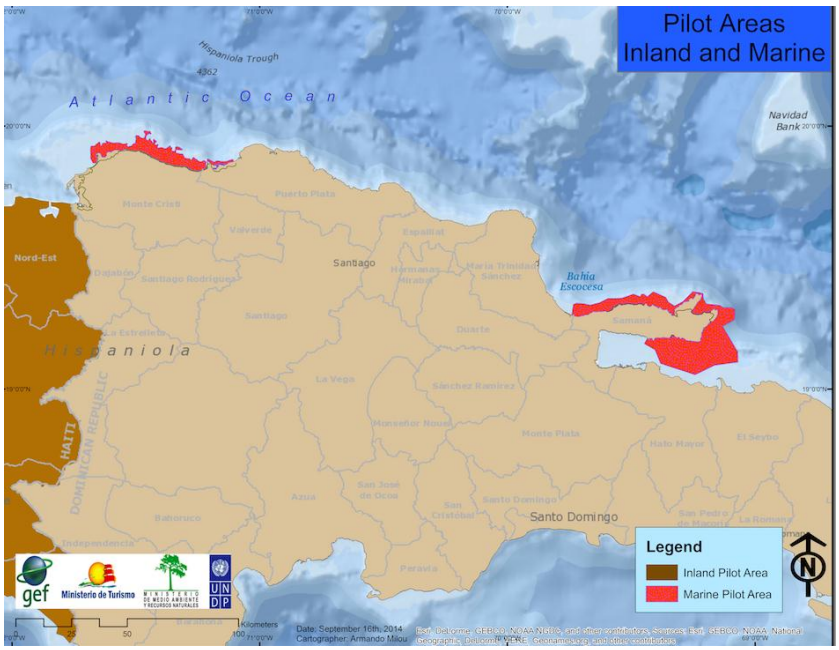
3. Dominican marine biodiversity is also of global importance. Dominican marine environments comprise part of the central Caribbean ecoregion, which has received the highest biological value ranking from both Conservation International and the WWF, who have listed the region as among the top 5 conservation priority ecoregions in the world. With regards to marine mammals, 16 cetaceans and one manatee species have been registered[5], while 262 macroalgae species[6], 1458 marine invertebrates and 901 fish species have been reported for Hispaniola[7].

[1] IUCN, Insular Caribbean WCPA Report to the World Parks Congress, Durban 2003.
[2] Latta et al., 2006
[3] Perdomo y Arias, 2008
[4] Dinerstein, *et.al.*, Conservation Assessment of the Terrestrial Ecoregions of Latin America and the Caribbean, World Bank, 1995
[5] Woods and Ottenwalder, 2007
[6] Betancourt and Herrera-Moreno, 2001
[7] Herrera-Moreno and Betancourt, 2004

4. Several critical keystone endangered species inhabit the coastal areas including the Antillean manatee (*Trichecus manatus*), the Humpback Whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), the endemic Solenodon (*Solenodon paradoxus*), and Cuvier's Hutia (*Plagiodontia aedium*), Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*), Ridgway's Hawk (*Buteo ridgwayi*), West Indian Whistling-duck (*Dendrocygna arborea*), sea turtles (green, hawksbill, and leatherback), American crocodile (*Crocodylus acutus*), Rhinoceros Iguana (*Cyclura cornuta*) and eight species of coral as well as spawning aggregations of commercially important species of groupers and snappers.

5. The country hosts 4 of the world's 7 sea turtle species (*quelonios*). The Samaná Bay and offshore banks (Banco La Plata) also support the largest Atlantic calving population of humpback whales. Species such as the queen conch (*strombus gigas*), spiny lobsters (*P. argus* and *guttatus*), hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and manatee (*Trichechus manatus*) require a particularly poignant conservation effort because they are of commercial interest and thus subject to increased pressure.

Map 1. Sustainable Tourism Pilots in Coastal-Marine Areas of Montecristi and Samaná



Montecristi Region

6. The Montecristi complex extends over the Montecristi Province (1880.34 km^2) and the western side of Puerto Plata Province. Montecristi has an outstanding fringing coral reef system associated with extensive mangrove forests. The fringing coral reef system at Montecristi has been regarded as one of the most important reef systems of Hispaniola because of its large size, diversity, and the overall condition of its benthos. It includes a variety of different coral reef habitats, seagrass beds, and associated coastal landscapes (e.g. fringing mangrove forests and beaches), along ~48 km of coastline[8]. The complex has 8,447 ha of mangrove forest, 68 ha of beaches and dunes[9] and 1300 ha of coral reefs[10].

7. Montecristi includes five coastal marine PAs: El Moro National Park (NP), Montecristi Marine NP (8.29 km2 terrestrial, 183.44 km2 marine), Cayos Siete Hermanos Wildlife Refuge, Manglares de Estero

[8] Garza–Pérez and Ginsburg, 2007
[9] MARENA, 2014
[10] Geraldes et al., 1997

Balsa NP and the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary (22 km2 terrestrial, 7.89 km2 marine). There are 394.3 km2 of terrestrial (81.5 km2) and marine (312.83 km2) PA surface in Montecristi, as established by Law 202-04. However, it is important to highlight that the boundaries of these ecosystems go beyond the limits of this province, as well as the pilot area that will be addressed by this project.

8. The Montecristi region is home to the most important manatee population in the Dominican Republic, as well as habitat for four turtle species, bottle-nosed dolphins, 42 bird species (including five endemics), two commercially important crab species and the endemic green snake. Montecristi hosts nesting beaches for Hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and Leatherback sea turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*) in Punta Presidente, Punta Rusia, Cayos Siete Hermanos[11], Los Cayos de Monte Cristi[12] and Punta Rucia[13].

9. Species richness in Montecristi's reef includes 45 species of hard corals, 42 sponges, 31 octocorals and 131 reef fish species reefs[14]. The historical fishing pressure in the area has driven the reef fish communities to near-depletion and to a degraded trophic-network structure. The benthic components of the reef have been exposed to the same natural pressures of other reefs in the Caribbean and North-western Atlantic[15]. Mangroves represent 76% of this area (6260 ha) but currently store 97% of the carbon in this coastal wetland (3,696,722 Mg C)[16]. Deforestation and conversion of these ecosystems for tourism development and recreational activities result in significant carbon emissions to the atmosphere. Given the high C stocks of mangroves, the high emissions from their conversion, and the other important ecosystem functions and services they provide, their inclusion in planning strategies and land-use considerations regarding the tourism industry would not only generate important biodiversity and ecosystem benefits, but also have an impact on Climate Change mitigation as well.

Samaná Region

10. The Samaná Region comprises the territories of three coastal provinces: Samaná (844.9 km2), Hato Mayor (1,316.7 km2) and El Seibo (1,767.0 km2). Samaná province forms the Samaná Peninsula and the North and West part of Samaná Bay, while the other provinces complete the South coast of the bay. Samaná region includes eight coastal marine PAs: Bancos de la Plata y la Navidad Marine Mammal Sanctuary, Cabo Cabrón National Park (NP), Cabo Samaná National Monument, Los Haitises NP, Manglares del Bajo Yuna NP, Gran Estero, Manglar de la Jina and Lagunas Redonda y Limón Wildlife Refuge, plus the coastal landscapes and marine corridors between them.

11. Samaná Bay is influenced by two bodies of water: it receives a significant contribution of freshwater from the Yuna and Barracote Rivers in the west, creating the largest estuary in the Caribbean, while it faces the Atlantic Ocean in the east. The most outstanding feature of this semi-enclosed basin is the sharp contrast between estuarine and oceanic conditions (from west to east), creating a gradient of ecological conditions where diverse ecosystems (mangroves, soft bottoms, sea grasses, coral reefs and open ocean) have developed[17]. Samaná Bay is a multiple-use basin that, in addition to its role as a commercial port, supports various types of fisheries (estuarine, shallow reef, deep and pelagic) as well as multiple marine-

[11] Ottenwalder, 1987
[12] Meylan, 1999
[13] Tomas et al. (2007)
[14] ibid
[15] Garza–Pérez and Ginsburg, 2007
[16] Kauffman et al., 2014
[17] Herrera-Moreno, 2005

based tourism activities (nature excursions, parasailing, recreational boating, diving, cruise ships and whale watching)[18].

12. North Atlantic humpback whales migrate during the winter and concentrate around the Navidad and Silver Oceanic Banks. Based on the relative abundance of humpback whales, the frequency with which calves and competitive groups were observed, and the prolonged residency of mothers, Samaná Bay is qualitatively more important than other eastern breeding grounds[19]. Today, Samaná Bay is part of the Marine Mammal Sanctuary of the Dominican Republic (along with the Navidad and Silver Banks) and is considered one of the most important tourism-based whale watch destinations in the Caribbean[20]. The Whale Trench is part of the only deep water channel entering Samaná Bay and during the winter reproductive season, is traversed by hundreds of private yachts, recreational and sailing vessels, cargo and cruise ships. Data suggests that this area is important to social groupings without calves that tend to utilize depths of greater than 40 m. Cruise ships anchor just west of Cayo Levantado, in the area where sightings for the last twelve years have been, almost exclusively, of mothers and calves. Most of the whale sightings (50%) from runabouts or "yolas" occur in depths less than 10 m and involve mothers and calves, occasionally accompanied by escorts, resulting in repeated and frequent levels of contact with human activity. Among 20 to 36 mothers and calves by season have been estimated through photo-ID[21].

13. Samaná Bay is not only a significant breeding ground and nursery area for humpback whales from all over the North Atlantic, but also the most important multi-species fishing ground in the Dominican Republic, a growing international tourist destination, and commercial port. Several types of year-round and seasonal fisheries occur in the eastern part of Samaná Bay. Artisanal reef fisheries are practiced in the vicinity of Cayo Levantado and in the shallow areas of Barco Perdido and Media Luna Shoals. Deep water demersal fisheries are flourishing on the eastern drop off, in depths of 100 to 500 m, while pelagic fisheries occur in the adjacent oceanic waters[22].

14. Coral formations are first observed after The Pascualas and increase towards the outside of the bay with some formations near Cayo Levantado[23] as well as a bank at the northern entrance. Additional coral development is located north and east of the peninsula where there is strong oceanic influence, with barrier reefs, and coastal patches all along the Atlantic coast. The largest study[24] of reefs in the region provides data coverage and diversity of the sponges, corals and octocorales, as well as abundance and diversity of fishes, from Las Terrenas to Cabo Cabrón, in a range of depths from 1 to 25 meters.

15. Samaná's beaches are also important nesting grounds for Hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and Leatherback sea turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*), particularly along Las Galeras[25], Punta Bonita, Lemon and Cabo Cabron[26]. Nesting activity has also been reported on the beaches to the north and east of the Samaná Peninsula: Las Terrenas, La Cana, Bonita, Cosón, Colorada, Madama and Fronton[27]. However, in general, nesting habitats of marine turtles are shrinking at an alarming rate across the country. While several factors are responsible, the most important impact is from tourism development. In particular, the

[18] Betancourt et al., 2012
[19] Mattila et al., 1994
[20] Hoyt, 1999
[21] Betancourt, 2014
[22] Herrera-Moreno et al., 2011
[23] Sang, 1994
[24] Sang, 1996
[25] Incháustegui, 1978
[26] Ottenwalder, 1987
[27] Thomas et al, 2007

loss of nesting sites in Samaná is due to the illumination of the beach and use of four-wheelers for recreational use[28].

1. 2. Socio-economic context

16. Both by area and population, the Dominican Republic is the second largest Caribbean nation (after Cuba), with 48,442 km2 and 9.4 million people[29]. According to the World Bank, the country is also the largest economy in Central America and the Caribbean. After an economic downturn in 2004/2005, the Dominican Republic's annual growth rate of GDP reached an impressive 10.7% in 2006, amounting to a GDP per capita of $8,719 in 2007, which is relatively high in Latin America. Growth was led by imports ($12.9 billion in 2007), followed by exports ($6.8 billion in 2007), with finance and foreign investment the largest factors.

17. According to the 2014 Human Development Report, the Dominican Republic occupies the last position in the list of high level Human Development Index countries (102th rank) in the 2013 ranking. Even though the country position has varied in comparison with previous years, it is important to highlight that these differences are due to a shift in classification criteria; in real terms, the country has maintained a comparable level of human development conditions. A long-term review of the Human Development Index from 2006 to 2013, shows a reduction in rank by 1, which implies that the Dominican Republic has not improved at the same rate as other countries.

18. Despite the economic recovery stated above, the country continues to face fundamental development challenges ranging from endemic poverty to weak health and education outcomes and the need to strengthen government and social institutions. According to official country data[30] of March 2014, 36.2% of the population lives under the poverty line at the national level. The figures also show that rural poverty (43.5% of total population) is much more significant compared to urban poverty (32.7%), though the gap has been decreasing over the last few years. According to the latest Assessment on the progress toward the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the country is expected to achieve Goal 1C aimed at reducing the amount of population that suffers from hunger. While the Dominican Republic has been one of the countries in the region to grown more economically in the last 15 years, poverty has not reduced proportionally; rather, the evidence shows that inequality is the major obstacle to generate genuine development and poverty reduction.

19. The Dominican Republic is primarily dependent on natural resources and government services. Although the service sector has recently overtaken agriculture as the leading employer of Dominicans (due principally to growth in tourism and Free Trade Zones), agriculture remains the most important sector in terms of domestic consumption and is in second place, behind mining, in terms of export earnings. The main export products of the country are natural resources (ferronickel, gold and silver), agricultural products (coffee, cocoa, sugar and tobacco) and increasingly also consumer goods. These activities occur in a highly dense populated territory (195.5 persons/km2), and while they produce a notable impact on ecosystems, their sustainability has yet to be assessed.

20. In coastal areas, tourism is the most important economic activity with an intense use of natural resources. This activity, together with fisheries and urban settlement, produces significant impacts on environment. A consolidation of the regulatory framework in coastal areas would not only safeguard national biological assets, but also the ecological services that these provide to productive sectors, such as fisheries and in particular tourism.

[28] Betancourt, 2011
[29] www.one.gob.do. Census 2010 Dominican Republic
[30] Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development.

21. Indeed, tourism is fueling the Dominican Republic's economic growth. For example, the contribution of travel and tourism to employment is expected to rise from 550,000 jobs in 2008 (14.4% of total employment or 1 in every 7 jobs) to 743,000 jobs (14.2% of total employment or 1 in every 7.1 jobs) by 2018 (World Travel and Tourism Council estimate). International tourist numbers were up 4.4% in 2011 to over 4.3 million, making the DR the most popular tourism destination in the Caribbean. Its direct contribution amounted to 4.7 % of GDP and total direct and indirect contribution was 15.1%. International tourism attracts 37 percent of all foreign currency coming into the country. In 2011, 170,000 people were directly employed in tourism, or 540,000 including those indirectly supported by the tourism sector.

22. Ecotourism has become an increasingly important topic in the nation, with towns like Jarabacoa and neighboring Constanza, as well as locations like the Pico Duarte, Bahia de Las Aguilas and others making more significant attempts to increase direct benefits from tourism. The high volumes of international tourists attracted to the DR stay almost entirely in coastal areas with sandy beaches. All-inclusive resorts are the principal accommodation type. These are concentrated in tourism zones such as Cabarete-Puerto Plata, Samaná-Las Terrenas, Bávaro-Punta Cana and La Romana-Bayahibe. Many main tourism attractions and activities are places of natural beauty and therefore heavily concentrated in areas dependent on healthy coastal-marine ecosystems.

23. Samaná Bay is part of the Marine Mammal Sanctuary of the Dominican Republic (along with the Navidad and Silver Banks) and is considered one of the most important tourism-based whale watch destinations in the Caribbean. The Marine Mammal Sanctuary currently receives more than 40,000 visitors during the whale watch season (January to March) with a direct benefit to the community of US$ 2.3 million. The expansion and diversification of the tourism industry in the last 20 years is increasingly imposing several threats to humpback whales. Tourism-based marine traffic has surpassed commercial marine traffic in the port of Samaná. The Whale Trench is part of the only deep water channel entering Samaná Bay and during the winter reproductive season, is traversed by hundreds of private yachts, recreational and sailing vessels, cargo and cruise ships.

24. Montecristi registered 15,750 visitors in 2010, although in 2006 over 70,000 were registered. The potential for growth in sustainable nature-focused tourism is significant. These high biodiversity values are already seriously affected by overfishing, a situation that will escalate if future tourism development does not adopt an appropriate model. Therefore, a new type of tourism is necessary for Montecristi. At present, a local development planning process in ongoing, in order to identify and prioritize land use and economic activities by the local government, and a nature-based tourism model has been identified as the expected model to be developed in that province.

25. While tourism is an important source of economic activity and financial income, its impact on sensitive coastal-marine ecosystems is of particular concern. A major portion of environmental degradation in coastal areas is attributed to the establishment of large-scale hotel developments in areas of high BD, unregulated tour activities that put at risk reproduction sites for whales and turtles, as well as mangrove deforestation and coral reef damage from diving and tour boat anchors, which in turn decreases the resilience of these coastal marine ecosystems and increases their vulnerability to tropical storms. An especially vulnerable region on the Dominican side of the island can be found along the north. This project will assist the GoDR in addressing this threat to its biodiversity by establishing the legal and policy framework to improve the human capacity within MITUR and MA to better plan and manage tourism-related activities within areas of high BD value.

1. 3. Institutional context

26. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MA) governs the environmental sector in the Dominican Republic, including the Protected Area System. The MA requires all infrastructure projects that may affect the environment or natural resources to first obtain a license or permit following an environmental impact assessment, according to the *Regulation on Environmental Permits and Licenses* of 2002 under the framework of the *General Law of the Environment - Law 64-00*. There are procedures established to obtain an Environmental Permit for existing installations and for proposed installations. A permit for the former requires approval of an Environmental Report carried out by a registered provider of environmental services and a Program of Environmental Management and Adaptation. For the latter, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required. However, despite the existence of collaborative work and coordination between MA and MITUR, there has been an insufficient level of compliance with this regulation in the tourism sector due to a need to strengthen the enforcement capacities within these institutions.

27. The Ministry of Tourism (MITUR) is responsible for authorizing, planning, regulating, promoting and controlling all aspects of tourism according to the Tourism Law 541 and Law 84-79. The *National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP)* dating from 2000 is in the process of being updated. There is a need to increase government capacity to effectively integrate environmental sustainability into the new Plan. Meanwhile, the *National Tourism Region Land Use Plan (PNOTT)* of 1997 establishes the legal framework for subsequent land use plans in designated tourism zones and this has been a major focus of MITUR. Tourism strategies, including tourism use zone planning, are advanced through ministerial resolutions which established Coastal Tourism Use Zone Plans in 2012.

28. The Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development (MEPYD), through the Directorate General of Land Use and Development (DGODT), has the responsibility to develop national land use planning and support provincial and municipal land use planning processes. These plans are expected to be closely connected with the National Planning System and the government financial budgets in the short term. At present, several guidelines to direct these processes have been developed and the formulation of the national land use plan has already started.

29. At the local level, municipalities have the function and power to determine and regulate those activities carried out in their territories. With the recent passing of Law 176-07, Sectoral Ministries are now mandated to coordinate with municipal authorities regarding investment projects. Most local governments are currently in the process of implementing this new legal framework.

30. All three ministries, in addition to Municipalities, are engaged in activities relevant to coastal land use planning, although their initiatives are not, in effect, integrated. In 2009, the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) sponsored the development of the *National Strategic Plan for Ecotourism Development in the Dominican Republic* through inter-ministerial collaboration with both MITUR and MA. This has the potential to facilitate diversification away from the predominantly "high volume/ sun and sand/ all-inclusive" tourism model. However, this plan has not yet been implemented.

31. The Tourism Promotion Bureau (CONFOTUR) is an organism that grants benefits and incentives to qualified tourism projects, according to established Laws 158-01 and 195-13. The Ministry of Treasury, through its General Direction for Internal Revenue and General Direction for Customs, is part of a Bureau that approves the CONFOTUR Resolution.

1. 4. Legal and Policy Context

32. The legal framework related to the development of tourism and its relation to BD conservation, especially in coastal and marine areas, is not specific and therefore inadequate to provide the latter purpose. However, the National Development Strategy (END) 2010-2030, and its Regulation, includes the conservation of biodiversity as one of its scopes, which opens the measure to create the necessary bases for the project's interventions.

33. The system-wide approach to biodiversity management in the Dominican Republic began and evolved with the following 3 laws, which together establish the legal and institutional framework that governs the National Protected Area System (NPAS):

- In 1974, *Law 67-74* created the PA system and placed it under the purview of the former National Parks Office.

- Then in 2000, the Dominican Republic adopted a new and comprehensive organic natural resources law (*General Environmental and Natural Resources Law, No.64-00*, of August 18, 2000) that currently provides the main legal framework for biodiversity conservation and management in the country. It consolidated all legal dispositions which had been dispersed previously. It also raised environmental and natural resource management to the level of a Secretariat of State (Ministry level) by establishing the *Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources* (SEMARENA[31]). Finally, it placed protected area management under the *Under-Secretariat of State for Protected Areas and Biodiversity* (formerly the National Parks Office into the Office). New sector-specific[32] legislation for protected areas was promulgated, and an additional 16 areas were added to the existing protected area system that raised the total PA unit amount to 86 and the NPAS coverage to 21.85% of the national territory. This Law also clearly defines and recognizes the NPAS's conservation objectives.

- Finally, in 2004, the *Sectoral Law on Protected Areas, No. 202-04*, reaffirmed and broadened the already established NPAS. It also specified the responsibilities of SEMARENA, which include defining policies, administrating, regulating, guiding and programming the management and development of NPAS, including the promotion of scientific, educational, recreational, tourism and other activities.

34. Another law related with activities undertaken in coastal areas is *Fisheries Act No. 307-04*, creating the Dominican Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture (CODOPESCA). However, there are bills under consideration for approval by the National Congress: Biosafety Act, Biodiversity Law, Law of Marine and Coastal Resources, Forestry Sector Law, Water Law, draft Regulations on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing, and Payment for Environmental Services. Following the provisions of Law 64-00, the MA has issued a number of resolutions to meet precise skills, including: Resolution on Regulation and Control of Hunting, Resolution on Importation of Harmful Species, Resolution to Office of Environment and Natural Resources, the Resolution that created the National Environmental Protection Service, and the Resolution that established the Council of Regional Management and Provincial Environment and Natural Resources. Moreover, there are Regulations, such as: Research in Protected Areas and Biodiversity, Administrative Sanctions for Environment and Natural Resources Oversight and consistency DR-CAFTA.

[31] SEMARENA, today the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MA)
[32] Ley Sectorial de Áreas Protegidas (Sectoral Law of Protected Areas) No. 202-04, June 30, 2004.

35. The Dominican Republic elaborated the National Action Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change in 2008. Chapter IX deals with the Tourism Sector, highlighting the vulnerability of coastal marine areas and their impact regarding the development of tourism. The country has also developed a National Strategy for Biodiversity Conservation and Action Plan 2011-2020.

36. Within the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MA), objectives related with the strengthening of protected areas and biodiversity are focused on the preservation of goods and services from the protected areas and the regulation of use and impacts on biological diversity and actions directed at strengthening the National Protected Areas System (NPAS) particularly its infrastructure, administration, enforcement and legislation and the protection and sustainable use of ecosystems and species. Coastal and marine resources and the sustainable management of these ecosystems are also priorities of the MA and intense activities oriented toward research, management and conservation are being developed. The Protected Area System Master Plan 2010-2030 includes two strategic objectives, namely "*Improve the insertion and valuation of protected areas in the context of the development of the country"* and "*Improve the management effectiveness of protected areas"*. In March 2014, under the Reengineering Project of the National System of Protected Areas, the *Special Rules for Ecotourism Concessions in the National System of Protected Areas of the Dominican Republic* was formulated, with its own procedures manual for the establishment and monitoring of the Ecotourism Concessions in Protected Areas.

37. The General Tourism Law Number 84 of 1979, which updates Law 541 of 1969, facilitates MITUR to authorize regulations, supervise and control tourism activities and services. Its guiding vision is the National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP), which dates from 2000, but discussions are ongoing for the development of a new National Tourism Development Plan. The *Ley de Ordenamiento Turistico* and the *Law of Free Access to Beaches and Coasts* of 2006, which defines rights of access and land use in coastal zones, together with the Law 158-01 on the Promotion of Tourism Development in Under Developed and New Tourism Poles in High Potential Provinces and its subsequent modifications in Law 184-02 and Law 318-04 which prioritizes investments and provides incentives to promote tourism development, all orient and drive tourism development in high BD coastal areas. Additionally, a series of recent resolutions and decrees has established the need to develop Tourism Land Use Plans for coastal tourism zones (POTT). The *National Strategic Plan for Ecotourism Development in the Dominican Republic* (2009) seeks to develop ecotourism around the country with the integration and participation of public, private and NGO sectors. The objectives of this plan are: i) to diversify tourism in the DR ii) to protect natural resources, and iii) to improve the quality of life in local communities. The above mentioned plan has been a joint effort of the MA and the MITUR and has enjoyed the support of the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA). An additional initiative is that of the Dominican Sustainable Tourism Alliance (DSTA), sponsored by USAID for the purpose of strengthening nine tourism clusters strategically located in the most important tourism poles.

38. In the international context, Dominican Republic signed the Rio Declaration in 1992 and in 2012 ratified its intention to promote the integration of sustainable development in all its activities. Likewise, the GoDR signed the Declaration of the Caribbean as a Sustainable Tourism Zone, sponsored by the Association of Caribbean States, since 2001.

39. Nevertheless, at the system-wide level, the Dominican Republic's tourism sites and attractions are managed without the benefit of an updated National Tourism Development Plan that ensures the incorporation of BD conservation considerations within plans for tourism development activities and infrastructure, as well as the tools to implement them in a consistent and effective manner. Given that planning is a relatively new concept in the Dominican Republic, especially related to land use in tourism and environment sectors, it is very difficult to ensure that the conservation of biodiversity is included in the designs for new activities and infrastructure. The current planning process lacks a *Territorial*

Planning Instrument that can be used as the basis for allocating and establishing priorities on land use. Indeed, the only identified land use plan currently in force in the Dominican Republic is the National Protected Areas System.[33]

40. As for the tourism sector, the Ministry of Tourism, through the Department of Planning and Development has made the following judgments, in order to approve land for tourism development:

- No. 004-2012 concerning the Tourism Sector Plan Zoning Coast Miches, El Seibo and Hato Mayor and Standards Regulation
- No. 005-2012 concerning the Tourism Sector Plan Pedernales Zoning Regulations and Standards
- No. 006 - 2012 on Tourism Sector Plan Zoning Samaná, Las Terrenas and Standards Regulation
- No. 007-2012 on the Tourism Sector Plan Zoning Puntacana, Bavaro, Macao and Standards Regulation
- No. 009 of 2012 on the Tourism Sector Plan Cabarete Zoning Regulations and Standards

41. However, these decisions do not include criteria for biodiversity conservation, or an estimation of tourism carrying capacity to determine the pressure of use and resource needs. The formulation of the National Spatial Plan (PNOT) by the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, provides a timely opportunity to incorporate biodiversity conservation criteria; as well as in the draft Law on Land Management, following the provisions of the National Development Strategy, particularly to regulate land use and facilitate integrated risk management at local and national levels.

Part 1B: Baseline Course of Action

1. 5. Threats to biodiversity, their root causes and impacts

42. At present, ecosystems and species in Dominican Republic are subject to various forms of direct pressure and degradation, both within protected areas and in their surrounding landscapes. Degradation of coastal areas caused by tourism development has occurred in all tourism zones. It has affected the functionality of each of the coastal marine ecosystems: dunes, mangrove forests, sea grass, wetlands and coral reefs. Tourism, both directly through infrastructure development and indirectly through expansion of urban areas and increased coastal population pressure, has caused loss of vegetative cover. This has contributed to soil erosion and generated heavy sediment loads, which in turn have degraded the coral reefs. The loss of mangroves has also diminished the productivity of fish populations, affecting food security for local communities. 9,000 fishermen depend on fish resources. Most commercial fish species depend on the health of mangroves and coral reef (Wielgus et al, 2010). Wetlands have been drained and filled, leading to the loss of their functionality. The loss of vegetative cover has reduced the capacity of coastal ecosystems to retain carbon and has also exposed coastlines to increased vulnerability to climate change including more severe storm damage. In the Punta Cana-Bavaro beach area, only four of 300 hotels have the legally required environmental permit. Just 8 hotels are members of sustainability certification programs.

43. A description of the direct and indirect threats of tourism growth and their impacts on biodiversity follows:

[33] Ibid.

Table 1. Impact of Threats on Biodiversity

Direct Threats	Impacts on BD
Sandy beaches are partially occupied by tourist developments and/or sand is extracted as construction material ● Agglomerations of tourists above its carrying capacity ● Construction of drainage canals toward the sea by the beach ● Sand extraction in areas of underwater loan near the beach ● Construction of piers and jetties ● Download of solid waste ● Location of shops on the waterfront ● Clearing conditioning Beach ● Occupation beach entry and exit of vessels permanent	The beach is lost or experiences degradation and loss of basic functions (coastal defense and habitats for biota) due to the loss of coastal vegetation and physical changes in the beach profile. Coastal erosion is promoted and the sediment dynamics balance is altered. There is a degradation of coastal landscape, with loss of nesting habitat for marine turtles and the vulnerability to climate change is increased.
Physical development in the coastal zone roads, marinas, and large scale hotels and urban and peri-urban settlements.	Mangrove and other coastal forest lands have been cleared for tourism infrastructure development. These forests play a critical role in the maintenance of ecological processes in surrounding marine, estuarine, and terrestrial ecosystems, including maintenance of reef fish populations. Clearance of mangroves has also lead to sedimentation of coral reefs, causing mortality and reef degradation. In Bávaro, the principal pole of tourism development in recent decades, at least 500ha. of mangrove forest cover was removed in direct proportion to the construction of hotels. The drastic fragmentation of the mangrove forest there has severely compromised the ecological integrity and functionality of the ecosystem and destroyed the hydrological system of the area. The loss of mangrove forests has also increased vulnerability to climate change impacts. A study (CEPAL 2004) on the impact of Hurricane Jeanne showed that part of the damage to hotels was due to the siting of hotels without consideration for natural ecosystems, particularly the Laguna Bávaro-El Manglar system. Reef degradation has led to erosion of beaches at a rate of up to 50 cm per year and the exposure of coastlines to wave action which is increasing with the impacts of climate change. Loss and fragmentation of habitat—threatening sea and shore birds including

Direct Threats	Impacts on BD
	pelicans, frigate birds, herons, egrets, shell fish, crustaceans, and reef fish species. Loss of beach habitat to erosion and development impacts threaten endangered turtle species. Coastal lagoons and wetlands have been filled to make room for the expansion of urban centers and development of tourist infrastructure.
Road improvements and new road construction has reduced journey time and provided easier access to sensitive coastal areas for larger numbers of visitors.	Higher volumes of visitors leading to trampling and clearing of beach habitats and behind beach areas.
Discharge of sewage into waterways and mangroves and onto reefs. Nationally only 7% of sewage is treated.	Eutrophication of sensitive coastal wetlands. Critical stress on corals contributing to mortality and biodiversity loss.
Over consumption of freshwater from aquifers in tourism resort areas leading to salinization.	Loss of habitat for coastal region species.
Motorized water transport to marine and coastal destinations.	Collision damage on reefs, mortality of dolphins, manatees and altered behavior of humpback whale.
Discharge of solid waste into waterways, mangroves, beaches.	Solid waste (plastic) disposal into rivers, wetlands and coastal areas leads to wildlife mortality as birds, fish, turtles and other species become entangled in nylon mesh or ingest plastic bags and other plastic waste.
Purchase of wildlife curios by tourists.	Endangerment of threatened fauna (including several species of shell fish). Over collection of wildlife for the sale of animal parts to tourists (including turtle shell, corals, and shells) is depleting populations of wildlife and disrupting ecological balance. More than 50 invertebrate and fish species are used in this trade.
Unsustainable fishing—to feed tourism demand.	Increasing fishing effort including illegal fishing and by using unselective fishing gear and techniques. These include the use of undersized nets and practice of dynamite fishing—practices that have wide-ranging ecological consequences. Likewise, the selective removal of some species from reef communities (such as queen conch, lobster, grouper, snapper, parrot fish the Queen Trigger fish, a predator of sea urchins) has adverse ripple effects on the reef ecosystem. White shrimp *(Litopenaeus schmitti)* in Samaná Bay is overexploited due to tourism demand.

Direct Threats	Impacts on BD
Demand for building materials (given scarcity of sand, gravel and boulders for building, developers often resort to sand mining and dredging).	Loss of nesting habitat for endangered sea turtle species, sedimentation of coral reefs.
Removal of sea grasses by hotels to create "clean" bathing areas.	This has resulted in the freeing of large quantities of sediments that are deposited on the coral reefs adding considerable stress to their well-being. Marine species, such as the Antillean manatee and populations of various reef fish species that depend on the sea grass link between mangroves and reefs have also been negatively impacted by this practice.
Removal of vegetation from dunes to increase size of beach for recreation.	This has led to the disintegration of dunes and the loss of dune habitat important for turtle nesting.
Increased demand for water sport activities (boat use, scuba diving and snorkeling).	Scuba diving and snorkeling, from land-based and cruise ship tourism, is leading to degradation of marine habitats. This is aggravated in some areas by the practice of mooring and anchoring dive boats, yachts, and less frequently cruise ships on or near coral reefs. Other recreational activities, such as the unregulated use of speed boats, and spear fishing are also destructive to wildlife.
Indirect Threats	**Impacts on BD**
Forest clearance for agriculture, timber extraction, fuelwood collection and charcoal production, sometimes caused by displacement of local coastal communities by tourism development or the arrival of new settlers	Drago forest lost to clearance for rice production. Excessive sedimentation flowing from rivers onto reefs. Increase in fire.
Fishing communities establishing inside protected areas to satisfy tourism industry demand.	Loss of snapper, grouper, parrot fish, lobster, shrimp, conch and other marine species from protected areas. Loss of mangrove and other protected area habitats due to clearance by illegal fishing settlements.
Urban development following immigration of tourism employees to coastal areas has led to pressure on natural resources and increased pollution.	Overfishing, clearance of mangrove and other coastal habitats, increased turtle egg poaching. Also flow of untreated sewage into the sea affecting coastal and marine ecosystem.
Development of large residential housing complexes (temporary or permanent) across the coastal landscape and along sensitive watersheds	Loss and fragmentation of habitat in the upper watersheds as well as loss of beach habitat. Increased flow of sewage into the sea affecting coastal and marine ecosystems. Sea water intrusion leading to increased coastal salinity.

44. As can be seen in Table 1 above, tourism-related threats to biodiversity are multiple and both direct and indirect in nature. However, impacts cannot be addressed in isolation: mangroves, seagrasses, reefs and beaches form part of an intimately integrated system. Degradation in any one of them causes impacts in the others. Clearance of mangroves and beach vegetation and loss of coral reefs have together created a problem of beach erosion. These threats to ecosystems and their functionality have significant economic implications. A study by WRI estimated that if coral mortality continues, beach erosion rates could increase by more than 80 percent in the Punta Cana-Playa Bávaro area and by more than 50 percent in the Juan Dolio-Boca Chica area. Another study of the economic consequences of beach erosion found that all-inclusive resorts in the Dominican Republic could lose US$52-100 million over the next ten years as a result[34]. The Dominican government recently carried out costly sand replenishment programs in Juan Dolio and Puerto Plata resort areas, but it would be less costly to maintain ecosystem functionality through investment in biodiversity conservation and avoidance of habitat degradation than to invest in such engineering solutions.

45. Another indicator of the socio-economic impacts of the loss of BD and ecosystem degradation is the decline in revenues from reef and mangrove-dependent fisheries probably as a result of over-fishing and declines in reef and mangrove health. An estimated 80 percent of the country's reefs are severely threatened by human activities[35]. These stresses severely reduce the reefs resilience in the face of sea temperature rises that are expected as a result of climate change. The loss of reefs leads to a loss in fisheries, thus affecting a major economic base for many coastal communities. For coral reef-dependent species, mean annual revenues were 2.5 times higher during 1992-1996 than during 2002-2006. Dominican Republic reefs are now lacking most of the relevant commercial species. Numerous diving experiences in the reefs indicate almost complete absence of the fish in the Puerto Plata, Santo Domingo and Punta Cana reefs.

46. The destruction of basin mangrove forest in Bávaro is another clear example of cumulative impacts. The cut and fill of the mangrove forest to build tourist facilities, which began three decades ago for a project that was to intervene in only 0.02 km ², has continued to the present with more than 40 new projects. Today, the impacted area reaches 5 km² and the dramatic fragmentation of the mangrove basin forest has severely limited their ecological and functional integrity, and destroyed the continuity of the hydrologic system, increasing the flood risk under severe meteorological events[36].

47. ***Direct and underlying causes***: While the causes of these threats to biodiversity in Dominican Republic stem from many sources, they are largely derived from the fact that the country's economy is heavily reliant on the exploitation of natural resources, with tourism becoming an increasingly important productive sector. Underlying these direct causes are macro-economic factors, such as population growth and increasing land values, higher economic returns for productive activities, and national policies that promote tourism and mining.

1.6 Baseline Programmes

48. In 2009, the Government added 31 new protected areas to the National Protected Areas System totaling 1,321,024 hectares of terrestrial and marine habitat for a system that now covers 26.5 % of the terrestrial area and 9.6% of the marine area of the country. Of the new protected areas, 217,455 hectares are in terrestrial habitats. The remaining 1,103,569 hectares are marine environments. However, the majority of these parks are not effectively managed. The MA budget for the PA system in 2007 was US$ 7,103,393 divided among the 32 protected areas that have some form of management. US$ 6.93 million

[34] Weiglus et al, 2010
[35] WRI, 2004 Reefs at Risk
[36] Herrera-Moreno and Betancourt, 2010

was invested in the system in 2007, well below the minimum estimated financial need to cover basic costs of US$22.57 million[37]. The overall annual budget allocated to PA management in 2011 accounted for US$ 11,130,000. The GEF, through UNDP, is currently supporting the Government to improve the financial sustainability of the National Protected Area System through a US$ 3.2 million project which runs from 2010-2014 and is designed specifically to address this financial gap.

49. Projected government spending outlined in the Multi-year Public Sector Plan 2011-2014 (PNPSP) assigns 0.04% of GDP (US$23 million) to Tourism in 2012, rising to 0.05% in 2014, for the development of the Integrated Tourism Investment Program (Ventanilla Única de Turismo). This amount does not include funds managed by CONFOTUR, which plans to build and rehabilitate 260km of access roads to tourism zones, implement sign-posting in tourism zones and other tourism infrastructure works. Additionally, the Transport sector will develop roads in the coastal tourism zones of Puerto Plata, Punta Cana, Miches and Samaná. A separate Tourism Promotion Fund (Law 158-2001) will increase from US$20 million in 2012 to US$30 million in 2014.

50. There are a number of donor-funded programs and activities related to this project: The MA implemented a $10 million, 5-year USAID funded environmental protection project with TNC until 2013 to improve the biodiversity conservation in the protected areas system. This included a tourism management and monitoring plan for the Del Este NP and whale watching off Samaná; an ecosystem based zoning proposal for Samaná Bay; training for protected area managers and regional directors in implementing the threshold of sustainability for tourism, and tourism valuation studies in several protected areas. In 2012, USAID launched a 2 year, US$2.4 million project with local partner the Dominican Tourism Competitiveness Consortium (CDCT), the network of regional tourism clusters, to promote sustainable tourism and strengthen the tourism clusters of Romana-Bayahibe, Barahona, Puerto Plata, Altagracia, and Samaná, including product diversification. USAID, the University of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Center (URICRC) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) developed a proposal to manage changes in the volumes and quality of inflows of freshwater to Samaná Bay. KFW and GIZ invested US$ 8.8 million and US$ 1 million respectively between 2001 and 2008 through the project PROCARYN to arrest land degradation in the upper watersheds of the Yaque del Norte River which will alleviate pressures on coastal ecosystems around Montecristi.

51. The World Bank made a loan of US$27 million for the 2010-2014 period to finance a Water and Sanitation in Tourist Areas project, though it is behind schedule. The objectives include: (i) strengthening and consolidating the policy framework of the water and sanitation sector and (ii) improving and expanding access to sanitation and wastewater treatment and disposal services in the Puerto Plata region. The IDB Country Strategy 2010-2013 planned interventions aimed at supporting the diversification of the tourism sector. Actions were focused on carrying out activities to strengthen tourism management, including participation of municipal government, local business leaders, and civil society through initiatives in regions where this sector is still under development. The Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) of the IDB invested a US$1,302,480 grant to support a project to develop a model for sustainable tourism management in the La Romana-Bayahibe in partnership with the La Romana-Bayahibe Hotel Association (AHB). Together with US$500,000 from AHB, in 2011, the project developed a certification program for tour operators and small restaurants, a product diversification strategy and a sustainable destination development plan for the Bayahibe area. Lessons learned from this work will be exchanged with the current project. The IDB-MIF has also invested US$535,000 in a coral gardening project with Fundacion Punta Cana aimed at engaging the tourism industry in reef conservation; this project will build on this private sector engagement.

[37] Baca y Arias, 2010

52. Investments in the environment and tourism sectors are expected to be maintained or increased over the next five years and, in particular, the total annual public sector capital investment in Environment/Sustainable Development is projected to rise from US $62 million in 2011 to US$92 million in 2014 (PNSP). In 2012, 0.07% of the GDP (US$41 million) was proposed for environmental protection (PNPSP), increasing to US$65 million in 2014. Within this total, 30% is assigned to biodiversity protection and 70% to air, water and soil protection.

1.7. Long-term solution for Mainstreaming BD Conservation in the Tourism Sector

53. The long-term solution advanced by this project is to effectively mainstream biodiversity conservation into the tourism sector of the Dominican Republic and to strengthen policy, legal and institutional framework and management capacities required to address the direct and indirect threats described above in Section 1.7.

54. In order to reduce and eliminate the multiple threats to biodiversity and negative impacts on ecosystem functionality, action is required at three levels: a) at the national level - to influence policies and promote institutional integration and harmonization; b) at the landscape level - where physical development occurs and where there is a need to change the trajectory of that development to address direct and indirect threats by strengthening and integrating land use planning frameworks in sensitive coastal areas and tourism zones; and c) at the site level - where additional management interventions are needed to strengthen the protection of key vulnerable ecosystems and regulate the impact from tourism pressure in key protected areas and their surrounding landscapes.

55. Different evaluations, notably the Biodiversity Tracking Tools (TT), were therefore undertaken during the PPG phase to identify the most cost-effective approach to enhancing the tourism sector's conservation of coastal ecosystems. These analyses indicate that before these threats and gaps can be addressed, the Dominican Republic must first eliminate instrumental and capacity-based barriers at the local and national levels. The most critical of these barriers are described in more detail below. These are:

i. Legal, policy, planning and institutional instruments for integrating environmental sustainability into the tourism industry are inadequate and ineffective in terms of averting direct threats to coastal-marine biodiversity;

ii. Weak capacity of governmental institutions, private sector and local stakeholders to manage the indirect threats and effects derived from current and future tourism development in coastal areas.

1.8. Barrier Analysis

BARRIER 1 - Legal, policy, planning and institutional instruments for integrating environmental sustainability into the tourism industry are inadequate and ineffective in terms of averting direct threats to coastal-marine biodiversity.

56. Dominican Republic's current legal, policy, planning, and institutional instruments for regulating coastal development, while being strengthened to address general environmental concerns, are deficient in dealing with biodiversity management needs specifically. With the exception of Tourism Planning, where some general environmental issues appear, the rest of the tourist regulations do not contain any environmental considerations[38]. Each legal instrument serves to set certain formal organizational and administrative rules for the activity but does not analyze the consequences or impacts. This is particularly important in the case of regulations regarding the tourism support system. Environmental Law 64-00 in

[38] MITUR, 2014

Article 41 of Chapter IV, only mentions "hotel facilities or tourism development" when referring to projects and activities that require an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) for the tourism sector. This definition only considers projects such as marinas, hotels and other infrastructure, but does not include small projects that generate high impacts, such as diving centers and gift shops:

- Diving Centers - which are among the most responsible for the destruction of Dominican coral reefs - are not regulated by any environmental requirements by MITUR. Furthermore, MA does not include them within the list of projects that are required to carry out an Environmental Impact Study (EIS). Therefore, they carry out their activities without any environmental responsibility as would be established by a Management Plan of the EIS, and there is no monitoring of their impacts through a periodic Environmental Compliance Report (ICA) as would be required by MA.

- Craft Shops – MITUR's current (May 2014) list includes 472 craft shops for tourism located throughout the country. This kind of project is not required to provide any Environmental Report so there is no environmental management by MA. MITUR's rules for gift shops make no reference to the origin and nature of raw materials that can be used for making crafts. Consequently, gift shops offer a variety of products made (in part or whole) from several marine species, including endangered and protected species, in clear violation of national laws and international conventions (e.g. CITES, SPAW, CBD, etc).

57. There are also large projects that are not covered by the Environmental Management System, particularly newer ones, such as whale watching. From 2005 to 2010, 375 cruise ships arrived in Samaná, anchoring near Cayo Levantado in the reproductive area of humpback whales, and no EIS has ever been carried out for this activity. The entry and stay of cruise ships in Samaná Bay has an impact on the reproductive behavior of whales[39] and is a permanent menace for potential collisions.

58. An additional impact is the destruction of large areas of coral reefs in the anchoring sites of these cruise ships. Whale watching is not administrated by any regulatory instrument of MA or MITUR, rather it is ruled by a Memorandum of Understanding between the local stakeholders that established the requirements for whale watching permits and the rules of conduct for the observation. Without any legal foundation, this MOU can be easily transgressed and illegal vessels (without permits) easily enter the whale watching area and/or allow tourists to swim with whales, even though the MOU restricts this activity. It is necessary to update and strengthen the whale watching regulation and raise it to the category of Law for the Dominican Republic's Marine Mammal Sanctuary.

59. Lack of coordinated and concerted action by Government institutions between Environment, Tourism, Economy, Planning and Development regarding the management and use of BD in tourist areas has meant that fragile coastal and marine have been severely impacted by resort and hotel development, resulting in loss of mangrove forest and destruction of sea grass and coral reef ecosystems. This is compounded by clashes in authority and duplicity of functions at the local level between Provincial extension offices and Municipal units, and results in Legal instruments not being applied or without specific sanctions and penalties that may be imposed in the case of environmental infractions affecting biodiversity. Due to the centralized nature of the different Ministries, their provincial directorates oftentimes lack clear definition of their responsibilities and scope internally and vis-à-vis other Ministries' counterparts. This results in lack of coordination between provincial tourism directors and MITUR projects, duplicity of functions, and clashes with other local entities such as Municipal Environmental Units (UGAM). The environmental impact hierarchy - avoid, reduce, mitigate and offset,

[39] Berchock y Clapham, 2009

specifically as it relates to biodiversity is deficient. Even sensitive ecosystems within protected areas are increasingly being degraded by tourism activities and visitor pressure in particular.

60. Additionally, the current institutional framework does not promote or facilitate the engagement of the tourism's private sector with biodiversity conservation objectives of the Ministry of Environment. The tourism sector, in general terms, does not see MA as an interlocutor, nor as necessarily fulfilling its expectation of safeguarding the natural attractions on which their businesses are based on. MITUR, on the other hand, is perceived as not consistent and thorough in the application of laws and regulations such that the tourism investments are seen by some within the sector, especially SMEs, as high risk. While the National Tourism Development Plan mentions a commitment to sustainability, in practice this is not manifested in a clear programme or budget, nor in coordination of strategies and actions with the Ministry of Environment. Also, policies that prioritize increasing international tourist arrivals do not incorporate guidelines and regulations to ensure that the increased demand does not result in continuing erosion of biodiversity and further degradation of coastal marine ecosystems.

61. Moreover, the existing national classification system for hotels and restaurants developed by MITUR does not specifically address biodiversity. Specific norms and standards to regulate tourism development at the enterprise and landscape level so as to reduce and mitigate threats are lacking. In practice, this means that biodiversity management needs are not factored into licensing decisions for development. In practice, without the said national biodiversity standards, and strengthened capacity in both key national institutions to monitor and ensure compliance, there is a risk that biodiversity management will be sidelined.

62. There is also a lack of incentives to drive the transition of the tourism sector to a sustainable model and promote diversification, e.g. ecotourism development (fiscal, financial, grants, etc.). There are no industry-led measures to promote and support conservation in the tourism sector and voluntary mechanisms to cultivate good corporate environmental stewardship on the part of tourism businesses. A recognized national tourism certification system would provide for this—distinguishing between the performance of companies with a solid record of stewardship, from those with a poor one.

63. Several coastal marine areas around the coastal tourism regions/zones are already well defined and established for tourism uses, including los Haitises, Samaná, Parque Nacional del Este, and other PAs. However, the capacity of these sites to manage tourism pressure is asymmetric. There is a need to decrease the concentration of tourism in heavily visited areas, where tourism is placing pressure on the environment, which will require the development of infrastructure in new areas (waste management systems, interpretation facilities, trails, etc.), as well as the institution of visitor pressure controls, accompanied by systematic monitoring of coastal-marine ecosystem health in these sites, as called for in Goals 2, 5 and 10 of the National BD Strategy.

BARRIER 2 - Weak capacity of governmental institutions, private sector and local stakeholders to manage the indirect threats and effects derived from current and future tourism development in coastal areas.

64. Decision making is overly centralized, with many decisions requiring Ministerial sign off, which might otherwise be taken at site or regional level. This situation is further exacerbated by the fact that planning processes and evaluation of impacts in competing sectors are often done from a single sector standpoint. The national land-use master plans have not factored in the indirect effects of tourism development on biodiversity and ecosystem functionality, while the Government's plans to expand the tourism industry, including duplicating the number of international visitors, are not taking into account the influx of new permanent and temporary settlers that will come along with the development of tourism related infrastructure and add more pressure on sensitive ecosystems. There is also a lack of integrated

land use plans and regulations and monitoring mechanisms between the Ministries of Environment and Tourism. EIAs that are required for specific site interventions, for example, do not necessarily evaluate the off-site impacts or the cumulative and indirect synergistic effects of tourism development activities over larger areas on biodiversity and ecosystem health. This is of particular concern given the fragility of ecosystems in the Dominican Republic—which already suffer from fragmentation.

65. Effective management of the indirect impacts derived from tourism (see Table 1) is hampered by weaknesses in the capacity of the Sectorial Ministries, PA authorities, provincial authorities, municipalities and local councils to plan and execute effective measures that address the cumulative impacts of multiple and often conflicting economic sectors at the landscape level indirectly related to tourism development. Across different institutions and key stakeholders in the country, the limitations include: (i) territorial land use plans that fail to consider indirect impacts of tourism on the forestry, water, agriculture, and fisheries sectors; (ii) the significant lack of information management systems that would allow the efficient integration of new information regarding indirect impacts into decision-making processes, for example regarding the placement of roads and other infrastructure including settlements; (iii) sub-optimal coverage of the PA system—in terms of safeguarding areas of highest biodiversity significance and connectivity in areas likely to be impacted by indirect pressures; (iv) weak capacity for co-management efforts at local level where cooperation between the State and communities would be critical to address threats from unsustainable utilization of wild resources—which will likely increase as a result of increasing market demand for wildlife curios and other natural resources; and (v) a limited capacity to field-test and mainstream BD conservation strategies.

66. The tourism sector, the private sector and land-owners lack the know-how to promote biodiversity-friendly tourism development strategies as well as the application of legal tools and incentives to adopt sustainable sector practices while maintaining or increasing household income amongst local communities. Also, the staff of regional and local organizations in charge of guiding, developing and implementing territorial management plans have not yet appropriately addressed strategies that take advantage of the potential provided by environmentally friendly conservation schemes needed to maintain connectivity across the landscape and allow for the continued movement of wildlife between major habitat blocks.

67. Even though MITUR and MA have advanced in their dialogue and coordination over the last few years, there is still a need to strengthen the complementary fulfillment of their responsibilities. This is also evident in the case of other institutions, such as CODOPESCA, considering that several protected and endangered species are being exploited directly for tourism. This is the case of the lobster *Panulirus argus* which is part of the culinary offering of VIP excursions to Saona Island throughout the year[40], despite a ban on lobster fishing between March and June to protect their reproduction. Thus, in order to satisfy the tourists' demand, the reproductive stock is illegally fished during the closed season in clear violation of national laws and international agreements. Another example is sport fishing, which has no regulation by MITUR, and yet exerts pressure on pelagic resources, involving more than 20 species. During the last fishing season, 621 individual Atlantic blue marlins (*Makaira nigricans*) were captured in 100 fishing days from La Romana[41]. While it is recognized that sport fishing has incorporated some ethical criteria for catch-and-release, it is important to incorporate tourism and fishing regulations for an activity involving more than 20 migratory species that move across the Dominican platform and oceanic waters.

68. The project will therefore adopt a multi-pronged, progressive approach consisting of two key components which will address the barriers set out above.

[40] Herrera-Moreno et al., 2014
[41] Marina Casa de Campo, 2014

1.9. Stakeholder analysis

69. The following is a brief introduction of the main project stakeholders. Section IV Part IV provides more details, along with a description of their roles and responsibilities with regards to mainstreaming BD conservation into the Tourism industry.

70. The success of the project is understood to depend mainly on the reduction and/or elimination of the two barriers identified as critical for mainstreaming BD conservation criteria in the Tourism sector (Section 1.8). Nevertheless, the reduction and/or elimination of those barriers will depend in turn on adequate communication among stakeholders and on the level of participation in the work to be shared by those involved in implementing the project. At the organizational level, stakeholders involved in coastal marine biodiversity can be grouped into the following categories: a) Governmental Organizations (GOs), Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs), Grassroots and Community Organizations (COs), Private Companies, Universities, Research Centers, and International Cooperation Agencies. Civil society organizations, NGOs, Private institutions and Community Associations make an important contribution to the conservation of BD affected by tourism and to obtaining resources. The project will make a concerted effort to involve relevant partners early on in providing technical assistance for the implementation of the project, as described briefly in Table 2, and in more detail in Section IV Part IV.

Table 2. Summary of Main Stakeholders

Stakeholders	Project Implementation Role
Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MA) Vice Ministry (VM) Coastal Resources; VM Environmental Management, VM Protected Areas	MA is the GEF focal point and the public agency responsible for the formulation of national policy related to the environment and natural resources and to ensure the sustainable use and management of renewable natural resources and the environment. MA will be in charge of guiding activities related to BD conservation, and policy issues through the implementation of national plans and policies related to conservation of BD. Specific dependent Vice ministries and Directorates listed may be involved to a greater or lesser degree with specific aspects of implementation. Co-implementer of the project with the Tourism Ministry.
MITUR - Ministry of Tourism Directorate of Planning and Projects	Regulates and promotes the tourism sector. Responsible for planning, scheduling, organizing, directing, promoting, coordinating and evaluating the activities of the Tourism Industry in the country, in accordance with the objectives, goals and policies established by the Executive. Co-implementer of the project with the Environment Ministry.
MEPYD –Ministry of Economic Planning and Development	Responsible for land use planning and key role in determining financial flows, national budgets and so on. The MEPYD has as part of its functions lead and coordinate the formulation, management, monitoring and evaluation of macroeconomic policy and sustainable development.
Directorate General of Land Use and Development -DGODT	Responsible for planning and formulation of public policies for sustainable development in the territory, as a spatial expression of economic, social, environmental and cultural policies of society and inter-sectoral and inter-institutional coordination between different levels of public and private entities. The project will support the Local Development Sectoral Tables strengthened in Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Tourism in pilot sites.
Municipal Governments	Responsible for overseeing land-use management at local level, within their areas of jurisdiction, for ensuring that management strategies are appropriate to local needs and for ensuring that the needs of local stakeholders are taken into account in the definition of management strategies.

Stakeholders	Project Implementation Role
	The municipality, as a public administration entity, has independent exercise of its functions and powers with regards to the restrictions and limitations established by the Constitution, the organic law and other laws; it has its own assets, legal personality and capacity to acquire rights and contract obligations, and generally fulfilling their purpose in the terms established by law 176-07. The project will involve them in Technical assistance and training for the sectoral committees of Local Development on issues of Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism. The project will engage Municipal Environmental Units-UGAMs.
Ministry of Industry and Trade (MIC)	Promotes sustainable development of productivity and competitiveness of industry, commerce and SMEs, through the formulation and implementation of public policies. Recognized as the leading institution, implements effective public policies that contribute to the improvement of productivity and competitiveness, promoting the development and innovation of the commercial and industrial sector.
Central Bank of the DR	The Central Bank of the Dominican Republic's main objective is to maintain price stability, by constitutional mandate and the Monetary and Financial Law 183-02. It is a source for Socioeconomic information relevant to the project, as well as Tourism Satellite Accounts.
Ministry of the Treasury	Manages public finances, supervises and controls the Tax Policy. The General Direction for Internal Revenue and the Customs Bureau depend on this Ministry, particularly with regards to the benefits provided for in Law No. 158-01 CONFOTUR.
ANAMAR – National Authority on Marine Affairs	Newly created government research and conservation agency with budget. The Ministry of Environment is a member of ANAMAR's Administrative Council.
CIBIMA (Centro de Investigaciones de Biología Marina) Public University institution of Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD)	This institution conducts research on coastal marine resources besides being a source of information for impact and vulnerability studies that have been conducted, addresses the issues of climate change and marine biodiversity. UASD institution. This organization can contribute to the study and research required for the project.
NGOs, Private institutions, Associations	
FEDOMU	The Dominican Federation of Municipalities (FEDOMU) associating and representing municipalities and municipal districts of the Dominican Republic. Training and technical assistance to members of the Asociación de Municipios.
(CDCT) Dominican Consortium of Touristic Competitiveness	Groups the regional tourism clusters to promote competitiveness, sustainability and equity in the tourism sector. Functions of the consortium include providing technical assistance to the clusters on environmental protection, community engagement, product diversification and SME promotion. The coordination of the pilot project will be in Samaná and Montecristi.
National Business Support Network for Environmental Protection –ECORED	Promote the integration of the business sector in the development of a culture of conservation and sustainable management of natural resources and the environment of the DR. Members of this organization will participate in the training and awareness program in biodiversity conservation and sustainable tourism.

Stakeholders	Project Implementation Role
ASONAHORES- The National Hoteliers Association	A key actor in the Tourism sector, representing major national hotel operators, restaurateur and private tourism sector, its members have developed large extensions of coastline. ASONAHORES encourages and strengthens the sustainable development of the hospitality industry in the Dominican Republic. Members of this organization will participate in the training and awareness program in biodiversity conservation and sustainable tourism.
OPETUR- Tour operator association	A key actor in the sector mobilizing hotel guests and cruise passengers to coastal destinations.
CEBSE - Center for the Conservation and Eco-Development of the Samaná Bay and its surroundings	Its goal is the conservation and sustainable development of natural and cultural resources of the Bay of Samaná and natural areas surrounding it, with the active participation of communities. This organization can contribute to the study and research required for the project.
Fundación Dominicana de Estudios Marinos INC. -FUNDEMAR	Organization dedicated to promoting, advising, planning the sustainable use of marine ecosystems and resources through research, education and conservation policies. It has a technical team with scientific rigor, dedication to service and efficiency capable of actions and projects to achieve the objectives of the organization. This organization can contribute to the study and research required for the project.
Programa EcoMar	NGO specialized in coastal marine biodiversity (OBIS data provider in the Caribbean Node) with experience in tourism impacts and tourism carrying capacity assessment. Non-lucrative institution of scientific and educational character, approved by the Presidential Decree 943 of September 19, 2001, in Dominican Republic. The main research lines of Programa EcoMar are: environmental education and management, fisheries, coastal marine ecology and biodiversity. This organization can contribute to the study and research required for the project.
UNIBE – PUCMM-O&M : Private Tourism Business Schools	Source of tourism research and research capacity. This organizations can contribute to the study and research required for the project.
Multilateral and Bilateral Cooperation	
UNDP, Dominican Republic	This Office is committed to the welfare of the people, working to address the major challenges of national development, promoting economic growth with equity and institutional. It has high importance to the Project in its role as Implementing Agency
Programa ART GOLD RD (UNDP)	ART GOLD is an UNDP initiative that supports and provides advanced technical assistance for economic development to Local Economic Development Agencies (LEDA) active in numerous countries and different ART programs in order to strengthen and internationalize the process of local economic development, in line with national policies implemented by countries. In RD starts in 2008. ART GOLD coordinates with DGODT in programs and topics on territorial development planning and risk management.
Japan International Cooperation Agency-JICA	The role of JICA is to effectively provide support to the process of "Dynamic development" which refers to the creation of self-reinforcing virtuous cycles of mid- to long-term economic growth and poverty reduction in a constantly changing environment of developing countries where a variety of issues arise simultaneously and get entangled each other. JICA will provide creative, highly effective support toward this end, at times moving swiftly and at times acting from the longer-term perspective depending on the situation.
USAID	USAID supports the Dominican Republic in democracy and governance, improving electoral processes and strengthening the participation of civil society in a

Stakeholders	Project Implementation Role
	responsible political system. The role in the project would be the use of the documents of the Samaná area made during the Environmental Protection Program. The clusters have been supported by USAID
Local communities	Local communities and rural users of natural resources will be direct beneficiaries of the project in terms of enhancing capacities for governance systems, planning issues, participation tools.

PART II: Strategy

2. 1. Project Rationale

71. This project aims to mainstream BD management into tourism sector development and associated physical development, to address multiple threats to coastal marine biodiversity. It also aims to address the indirect impacts of tourism development—in catalyzing other economic activities that are having further negative impacts on BD and ecosystem functionality. Tourism and accompanying physical development is directly leading to BD loss in sensitive coastal marine areas in particular; rapid coastal tourism growth is also catalyzing the immigration of people into these areas, and spawning other indirect threats that are leading to additional degradation.

72. The Dominican Republic, and in particular its coastal areas, experienced a booming tourism sector over the past thirty years. The country's beautiful white sand beaches are the principal attraction. Coastal-marine ecosystems are critical to the sector's economic success. However tourism development has had a very significant negative impact on biodiversity and ecosystem functionality in coastal areas, directly impacting mangrove forests, coastal wetlands, sea grass beds, coral reefs and beaches - all of which are intimately related in terms of their functionality, and all of which provide critical habitat for key wildlife species.

73. The President of the Dominican Republic has committed to duplicating the number of international visitors in the coming years, which, under a business-as-usual scenario represents a multiplication of the scale of threat to coastal - marine ecosystem functionality and biodiversity. Risk for tourism investments has increased due to the erosion of natural capital, reduced quality of visitor attractions and greater vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. There is a need to reduce the footprint of existing tourism infrastructure and activities, to establish more effective controls on future tourism development in order to safeguard coastal marine ecosystems, and to take action to restore ecosystem functionality and to diversify the tourism product to include more sustainable, nature-focused opportunities.

74. From the institutional point of view, there are several aspects that influence the occurrence of biodiversity impacts from tourism: a) the legal framework does not incorporate tourism conservation problems of BD; b) MA's EIA mechanism of permits and licenses does not include high-impact projects (centers of sport fishing and diving, cruises, tours agencies); c) there are technical deficiencies in the environmental impact analyses of tourism projects in coastal areas; and d) MA does not have full capacity to monitor Management and Environmental Adaptation Plans (PMAA) and approved projects. In addition to the lack of regulations, these weaknesses are due to the lack of knowledge of local authorities as well as inadequate assessment by the organizations and communities regarding the magnitude and role of biodiversity in tourism.

75. The two sites that have been selected for targeted interventions are Samaná and Montecristi:

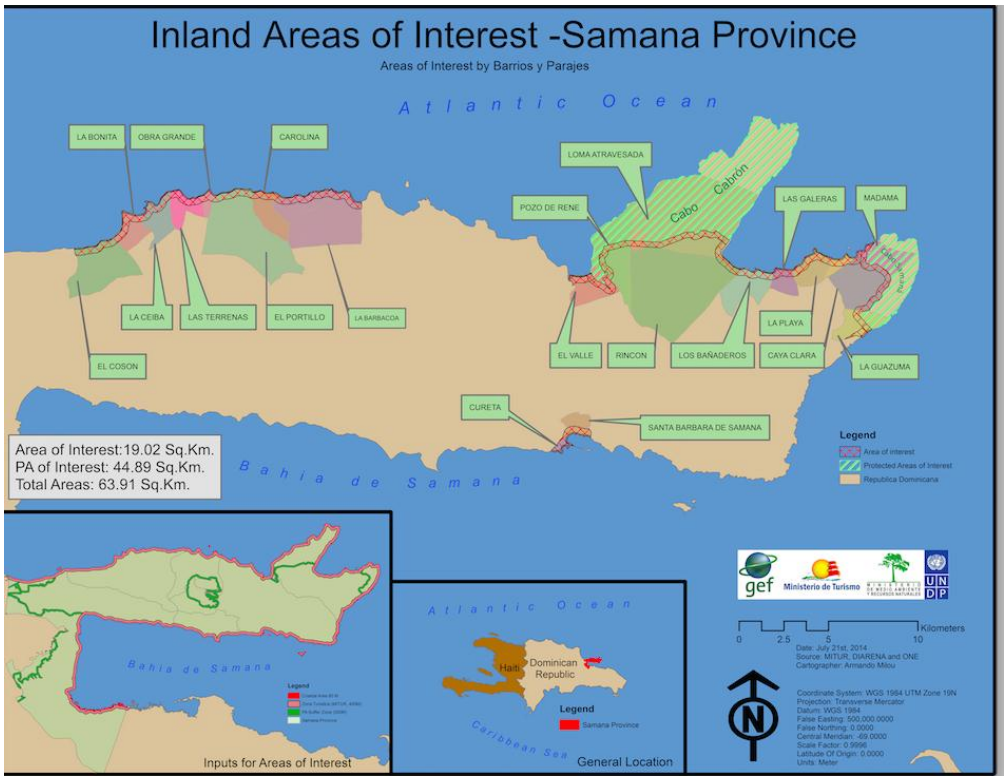
a) ***Samaná - Los Haitises Complex:*** The area covers approximately 4,292.81 km^2 of terrestrial surface and 912 km^2 of the marine platform encircling the Samaná Bay (See maps below and in Section IV Part I). Samaná Peninsula and its North coast are considered as a complete geomorphological unit with the Nagua river watershed. The complex includes 8 coastal marine PAs: Bancos de la Plata y la Navidad Marine Mammal Sanctuary, Cabo Cabrón NP, Cabo Samaná National Monument, Los Haitises NP, Manglares del Bajo Yuna NP, Gran Estero, Manglar de la Jina and Lagunas Redonda y Limón Wildlife Refuges plus the coastal landscapes and marine corridors between them.

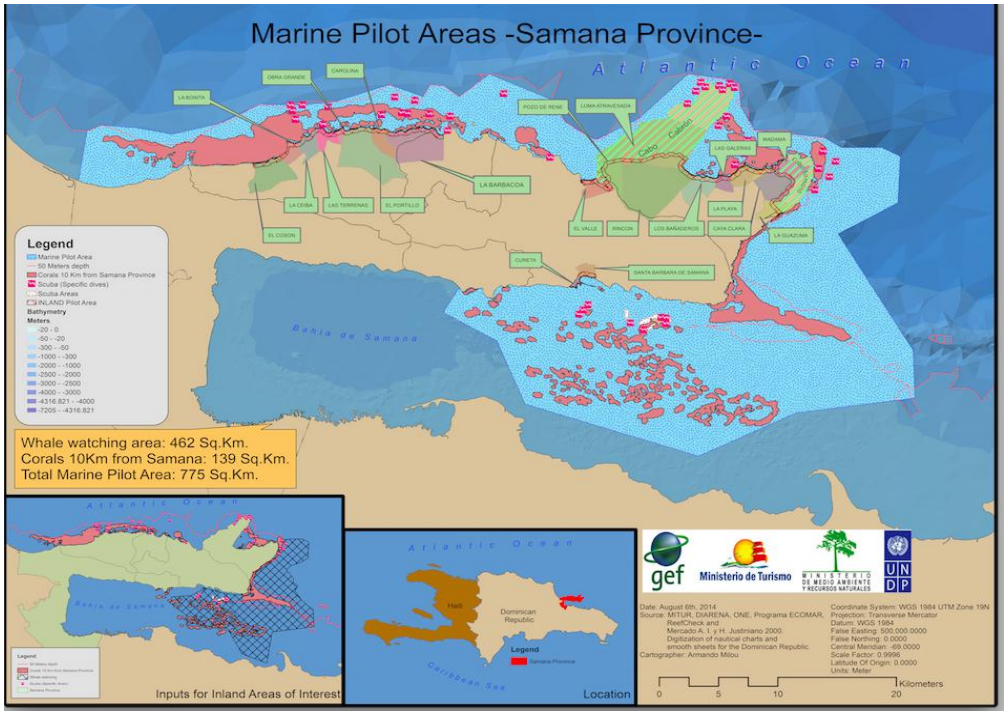
Samaná Bay is one of the largest estuaries in the Caribbean and is an important sanctuary for the largest migrating population of humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) in the North Atlantic. About 1000 whales sustain a growing seasonal whale-watching industry between the months of January and March (27,944 whale watchers in 2011). The bay is fed by the country's largest river, the Yuna. The Bay and the surrounding waters of the Samaná peninsula contain 9,210 ha. of mangrove forest, small islands, shoals, patches of coral formation, and extensive seagrass beds. This area is also home to Green, Hawksbill and Leatherback sea turtles as well as the West Indian manatee and 153 bird species. Due to nutrient-rich waters supplied by the outflow of the Yuna and Barracote rivers, the bay possesses ideal nursery conditions that can sustain large populations of commercially valuable shrimp, oysters, and fish. Deforestation has led to excessive topsoil and silt in the Samaná Bay. The flow of the Yuna River is also diverted to Hatillo Dam for human consumption, irrigation and electricity production. The watershed is affected by agricultural and mineral waste, high temperatures and other forms of contamination. Fishing pressure on the white shrimp and reef fish species has depleted stocks. Finally, uncontrolled tourism development is impacting ecosystems across the region both directly and indirectly.

The largest PA on the Bay is Los Haitises National Park. Bordering the Bay on two sides, it is characterized by high indices of biodiversity, karstic formations, and 700 plant species including 92 endemics. It has a third of the country's amphibian species (10) a quarter of the reptiles (23) and 35% of the mammal species. And more than half of the birds registered for the DR. Among the globally important species that are threatened are the Hutía (*Plagiodontia aedium*) and the Solenodon (*Solenodon paradoxus*), both of which are endemic. The tourism industry-financed NGO, FunKarst, has recently signed a co-management agreement with the Ministry of Environment for the park. In 2011, the park received 22,155 visitors. Other coastal PAs in the Samaná - Los Haitises complex lack the capacity to monitor visitor numbers. It is worth highlighting that within the limits of Los Haitises NP is one of the most important groundwater reservoirs at the national and regional levels.

Samaná Bay is a multiple-use basin that, in addition to its role as a commercial port, supports various types of fisheries (estuarine, shallow reef, deep and pelagic) as well as multiple marine-based tourism activities (nature excursions, parasailing, recreational boating, diving, cruise ships and whale watching)[42]. In fact, Samaná has experienced an expansion and diversification of the tourism industry in the last 20 years. Tourism-based marine traffic has surpassed commercial marine traffic in the port of Samaná, resulting in repeated and frequent levels of whale contact with human activity[43].

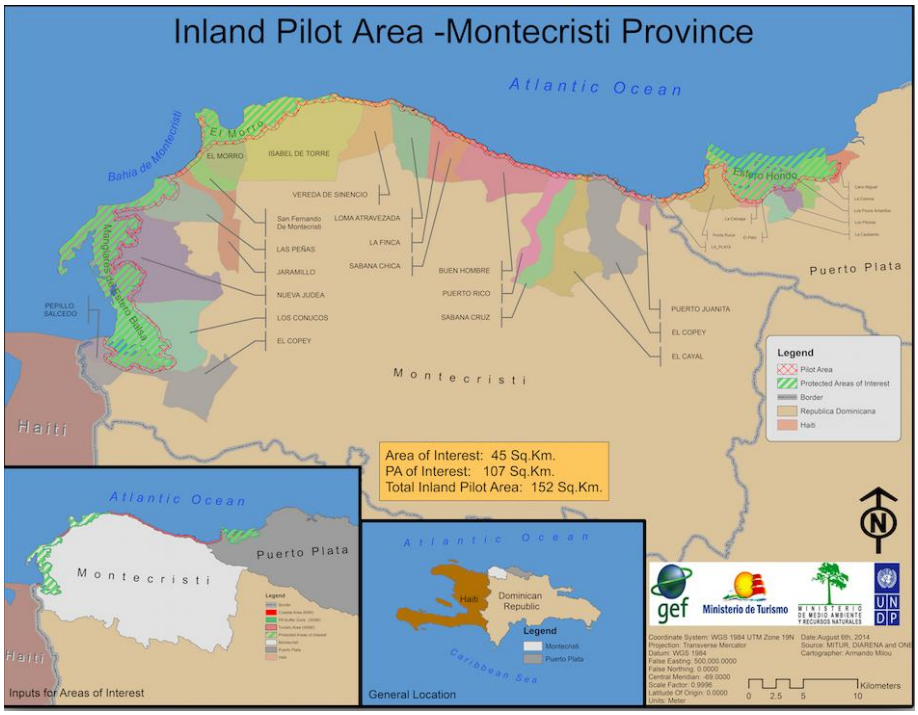
[42] Betancourt et al., 2012
[43] Ibid





b) *Montecristi Complex*: This is a coastal-marine complex on the North Western border with Haiti consisting of coastal landscapes and marine areas encompassing five protected areas –El Morro NP, Montecristi Marine NP (8.29 km2 terrestrial, 183.44 km2 marine), Cayos Siete Hermanos Wildlife Refuge, Manglares de Estero Balsa NP and the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary (22 km2 terrestrial, 7.89 km2 marine). The complex has 6,193 ha. of mangrove forest, extensive coastal

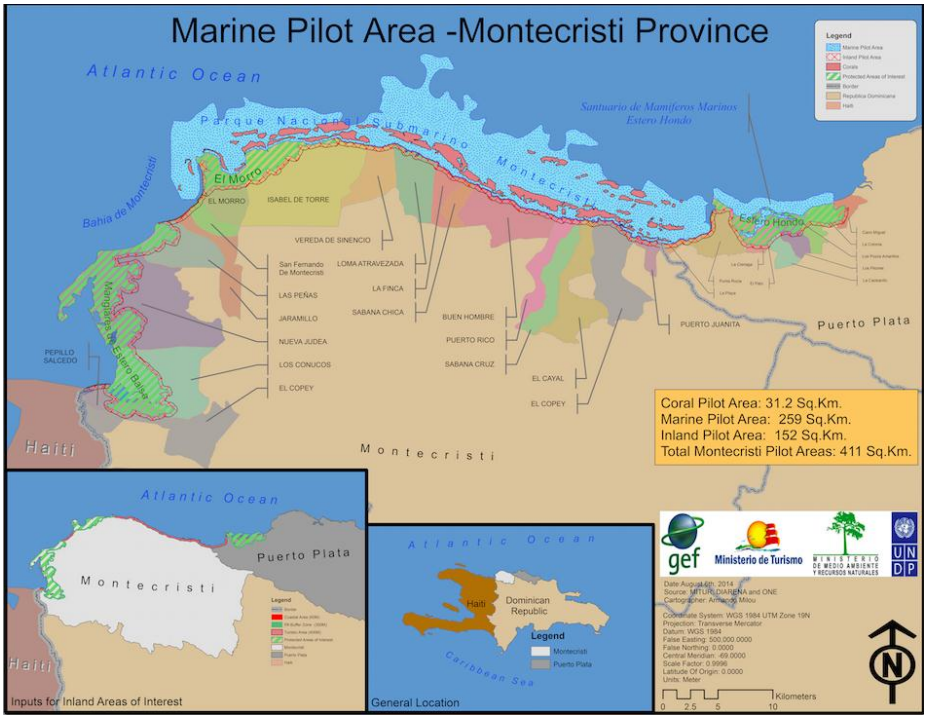
wetlands, dry forest and the largest extension of coral reef in the DR, with 24 coral species and 45 fish species as well as four spawning aggregations. These high BD value habitats are threatened by overfishing, in part, driven by tourism demand, sedimentation due to land degradation from clearance of dry forest and mangrove cover, inadequate solid waste and sewage management and poverty-induced pressures. At the heart of this complex is the Estero Hondo Marine Mammal Sanctuary extending over an area of 22 km2, including the coastal lagoon Caño Estero Hondo, mangrove forests, sea grass beds and a 0.5 km wide stretch of marine habitat for the length of the reserve. It provides the most important manatee population in the DR as well as habitat for four turtle species, bottle-nosed dolphins, 42 bird species including five endemics, two commercially important crab species and the endemic green snake. It registered 15,750 visitors in 2010, although in 2006 over 70,000 were registered. The potential for growth in sustainable, nature-focused tourism is significant.



The coastal marine area of the province of Montecristi has been selected as a pilot area due to the high potential for tourism, based on the abundance and availability of its coastal resources, particularly in the western and northern areas. To date, with the exception of Montecristi City, tourism development in the region has been incipient, with a very low influx of tourists; tourism development in the region is sparse, with small tourism initiatives like small or boutique hotels, which have little promotion and do not generate products or ecotourism resort experiences that can create differential value to the territory. This provides a timely opportunity for the project to influence and set up parameters for planning and developing sustainable tourism. The pilot area covers the coastal land area from the buffer zone of Estero Balsa National Park to the buffer zone of the Estero Hondo Marine Mammals Sanctuary in the Province of Puerto Plata. The terrestrial area of project influence includes protected areas as well as territory with other uses beyond the boundaries of the PAs.

Tourism and conservation of coastal biodiversity can be developed jointly and collaboratively in the Montecristi area. The complex has an outstanding fringing coral reef system associated with extensive mangrove forests. The fringing coral reef system at Montecristi has been regarded as one of

the most important reef systems of Hispaniola because of its large size, diversity and the overall condition of its benthos.



2. 2. Project Objective, Outcomes and Outputs/activities

76. The **project *goal*** is to safeguard globally significant biodiversity of the Dominican Republic. The **project *objective*** is to ensure the conservation of biodiversity in ecologically important coastal areas threatened by the burgeoning tourism industry and associated physical development. The project's outcomes and outputs are described below.

OUTCOME 1: The policy, legal and planning framework in the tourism sector addresses the direct threats to biodiversity from coastal tourism development and activities. (Total cost: US$9,297,839: GEF $1,064,780; Co-financing: $8,233,059)

77. The project will strengthen the regulatory framework at the national level in the Ministries of Tourism and Environment, including a *National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP)* which will effectively mainstream biodiversity and ecosystem functionality in the tourism sector in support of the government's commitment to a sustainable tourism model. The Plan will include guidance and regulations for the specific needs of sensitive coastal and marine areas with regard to tourism planning and management, strengthened EIA mechanisms, permitting and licensing tools for coastal tourism development, as well as proscription of land uses in sensitive areas. This will be complimented by a protocol with technical and economic guidelines to advance recovery and restoration processes in areas degraded by tourism activity; a system of penalties for malfeasance in the tourism sector reflecting a BD-friendly classification system; and clarifications of the mandates of the different agencies responsible for enforcement. In order to monitor progress over time and provide long-term continuity, a Compliance and Monitoring System in BD-important areas will evaluate limits of acceptable change and support adaptive measures to reduce direct impacts. Coastal and marine areas contain some of the nation's most important tourism attractions, so it is essential to implement tourism management capacities through the establishment of the threshold of sustainability for tourism in selected coastal areas, including interpretation and monitoring capacities.

78. The project will support the development and adoption by the sector of a nationally-approved biodiversity-friendly certification system for hotels and tourism activities to be integrated into the MITUR classification system. A critical element will be the establishment of a multisectoral financing framework for cost-effective support for the implementation of the National Tourism Development Plan in coastal-marine areas. In order to effectively engage the tourism industry in this transformative process, this financial framework will include economic incentives for promoting private sector adherence to the reformed policies and regulations, adjustments to existing fiscal mechanisms to ensure the flow of appropriate levels of investment, particularly from the tourism sector and coastal developers into coastal and marine BD conservation, and enhanced capacity at MA to determine, collect and reinvest tourism-based revenues at site level.

79. The outcome will be delivered through the following outputs:

Output 1.1 Regulatory framework to strengthen the control and prevention of ecological impact from tourism in vulnerable coastal areas

80. Inclusion of BD in NTDP revision. The project will conduct a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the current National Tourism Development Plan in order to highlight key entry points and strategic areas to be improved in the NTDP so as to mitigate and prevent the impacts of tourism development on coastal marine biodiversity. The results of this SEA will influence the implementation of various elements of the Pilots of Outcome 2. Likewise, the Tourist Carrying Capacity (TCC) limits defined for the pilot areas in Outcome 2 will influence the definition of potential areas to host the country's anticipated duplication of tourism levels.

81. As discussed in the Barrier Analysis in Section I Part 1.8, the current legal framework for tourism does not properly address the issues of BD conservation in sensitive coastal and marine areas. The project will support a thorough review by MA and MITUR of the current legal framework for tourism to determine where biodiversity conservation and sustainable uses are already considered, as well as elaborate recommendations for inclusion, where appropriate and possible, such that by project end all tourism projects and activities will consider BD criteria. It is anticipated that this review will result in the updating, elaboration and implementation of regulations to guide tourism activities such as the observation and protection of wildlife species in coastal areas, including the sustainable operation of cruise and/or tour boats in coral reef areas and/or marine wildlife watching, i.e. whale watching in Samaná. This will be bolstered by the definition of proscriptive land uses in sensitive areas, such as dumpsites, indiscriminate anchoring on reefs, and deforestation of mangroves for hotel construction, among others.

82. Currently, the Ministry of Tourism has developed Tourism Land Use Plans (*Planes de Ordenación Territorial Turístico* - POTT) in major tourist areas, but these have not been formulated with BD conservation criteria or carrying capacity or acceptable limits of ecosystem change. MITUR's POTTs will be reviewed and updated to incorporate BD conservation criteria; especially carrying capacity guidelines or acceptable limits of change, plus planning tools to develop land use plans sensitive to BD with:

- GIS
- Monitoring and Compliance System
- Management mechanisms to reduce impact

83. The above-mentioned legal review will provide the basis for the implementation of an updated National Tourism Development Plan to include explicit guidance, regulation and timeline for the specific needs of sensitive coastal and marine areas with regard to tourism planning and management, including intangible core areas, impact reduction and offset measures; investment in product differentiation, and diversification into nature-focused products sensitive to environmental concerns and biodiversity friendly guidelines for siting of hotels and other tourism infrastructure. The updated NTDP will ensure the protection of BD resources (ecosystems, species and fisheries) is fully addressed in a national tourism regulatory agreement between MITUR, MA and other key stakeholders. Priority will be placed on a new tourism model aimed at environmental, socio-cultural and economic sustainability. In particular, the project will support the elaboration of a special Protocol for sustainable tourism in coastal areas.

84. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), permit and licensing mechanisms are not required for many tourism activities that have a high impact on BD (sport fishing centers and diving, cruises, tour agencies). To address this, a crucial component for the incorporation of conservation and sustainable use of BD will be the expansion of the requirement for Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) to be performed on all tourism activities that are not currently required to do so, and that have an impact on BD, as well as develop and implement the corresponding Environmental Management and Adaptation Plans. Additionally, the Project will review the guidelines and requirements of the EIA that apply to the tourism sector, so as to ensure that they properly address BD conservation criteria. In particular, the project will support the adjustment to EIA mechanisms, permitting and licensing tools to account for all types of tourism projects, with stricter enforcement of environmental laws and regulations, and based on coastal planning for avoiding, reducing, and mitigating impacts from tourism and ensure their codification in land use plans. As such, special emphasis will be placed on tools such as the EIA, permits and operating licenses as means to promote and achieve a new model of BD-friendly tourism.

85. There are no specific criteria or guidelines that guide effective coordination to address issues of BD and sustainable tourism development. While there is coordination on project evaluation, there is no consensus on policy and planning concerning BD. To address the incipient levels of collaboration

between the institutions involved in the management and use of BD in tourist areas, an Inter-institutional Technical Coordination mechanism will be created between the Ministries of Tourism and Environment with the implementation of appropriate guidelines, as agreed upon by all parties, and follow-up through periodic meetings. The Inter-institutional Technical Coordination mechanism will have the capacity to contribute to the enforcement and enhancement of the regulatory framework and, this way, be able to provide key inputs to the high level decision making. The project will promote this as a strong strategic alliance and inter-institutional collaboration between MA, MITUR and all institutions involved in the management and use of BD in areas of tourism development, and its scope of responsibilities will be detailed during the first year of project implementation.

86. A Compliance and Monitoring system will be established to evaluate BD conservation status and provide feedback to determine the acceptable limits of change in BD-important areas to support adaptive measures to reduce direct impacts from tourism. This is in response to the gaps in the National Environmental Management System with regards to BD conservation in areas of tourism development. In particular, the project will strengthen the National Environmental Management System fully to ensure BD conservation in areas of tourism development by providing complementary information regarding coastal/marine ecosystems and species to the BD monitoring system developed in the context of the UNDP/GEF SINAP Re-engineering project, which provides key information to MA's National Environmental Management System.

87. MA does not have sufficient capacity to monitor and follow up on the implementation of Management and Environmental Adaptation Plans (PMAA) of licensed tourist projects. Consequently, a number of tourist-related facilities located in coastal areas are not operating properly; they are not fully regulated, and do not have an Environmental Management System. To address this, the project will support the strengthening of MA's capacity for monitoring and tracking PMAA through an alliance with MITUR and other key stakeholders, to enable the sharing of information as well as the enforcement and compliance of regulations. This will be validated through pilot interventions in Outcome 2.

88. The vast majority of tourist facilities have no established protocol/mechanism to compensate degradation caused by tourism activities. There are historical cumulative impacts on critical ecosystems and key species caused by tourism that have never been evaluated for budgeting mitigation measures. The project will support the development of technical and economic guidelines to advance the process of recovery and restoration in areas degraded by tourism. A Plan for Regularizing Tourist Operations of different tourist-related facilities located in coastal areas will be developed, as well as special regulations for the implementation of environmental sanctions in coastal-marine areas for impacts generated by the tourism sector. These measures will be tested in Outcome 2.

89. Furthermore, the project will incorporate the theme of Sustainable Tourism into the goals of the National Development Strategy (END) 2010-2030 through the elaboration of a Special Strategic Programme for Sustainable Tourism and ensure financing into multiannual investment plans for its implementation. This is part of the architecture of the national planning system, where each sector contributes to national goals and where projects are submitted annually to contribute to goals and indicators and receive national budget funds. These programs have long-term funding to contribute explicitly to goals of the END and facilitate the disbursement of resources. They are special long-term resources that focus on the priorities of the country. The tourism sector plan will be expressed in the national budget, the END and the national system of strategic planning through the Programme and will ensure that "safe" funds, greater visibility and articulation are received with national goals.

Output 1.2 Multisectoral financing framework for cost-effective support to the sustainable implementation of the National Tourism Development Plan and appropriate BD conservation incentives in coastal areas

90. Currently, the DR has no specific financial instruments that promote the development of sustainable tourism in coastal areas, with emphasis on BD conservation. Through this Output, financial instruments will be created to ensure the implementation of actions related to tourism impact on the marine and coastal areas.

91. At the government level, there are insufficient budget allocations to meet the MA's institutional mandate. To address this, the project will support negotiations to increase budget allocations for the management of coastal ecosystems by a minimum of 20%.

92. At the tourism sector level, the financial contribution of promoters of coastal tourism establishments responsible for cumulative impacts has been neither consistent nor sufficient in contributing to solutions. The project will promote the design and implementation of a technical and financial mechanism through the creation of a Special Fund for Coastal Marine Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism. This mechanism will fund recovery projects to address the cumulative impacts generated by coastal resorts.

93. The Dominican Republic has an incipient micro-financing mechanism for tourism operators and local small enterprises. The project will use this as a base to develop a Portfolio of Financial Schemes, including Loans to small entrepreneurs or a similar credit instrument, i.e. "Green Credit". To address the lack of economic incentives, the project will develop a portfolio of opportunities aimed at encouraging private sector investments in conservation/sustainable use of BD, as well as the development of BD-friendly sustainable tourism ventures to comply with reformed political/economic regulations. Furthermore, the project will support the adjustment of existing fiscal mechanisms to ensure flow of appropriate levels of investment, particularly from the tourism sector, private enterprises and land developers, into coastal and marine biodiversity conservation.

94. Additionally, the project will explore the feasibility of using the MARENA FUND, which was developed and operationalized during implementation of the UNDP/GEF SINAP Re-engineering project, to contribute to the strengthening of MA's capacity to determine, apply, collect, reinvest and manage tourism use fees and concession revenues at the site level in the PAs.

Output 1.3 A nationally approved biodiversity-friendly certification system for the tourism sector

95. The Project will support the definition and establishment of a National Model of Sustainable Tourism. The current tourism development model is part of a massive concept of "sun and sand", which is not fully aligned with the guidelines of conservation and sustainable use of BD. The DR has 2 types of known and reputable international certification programs that can serve as a reference point for the development of a national certification programme, despite the fact that neither includes BD conservation criteria for hotels. These programmes are: (1) Green Globe for hotels; and (2) Blue Flag for beach destinations. Current features of these certification programs include:

- SEA for land use planning.
- Agreement between MA and DGODT
- Tourism land-use plans and zoning
- Zoning guidelines for Adaptation to Climate Change

96. To facilitate the definition and establishment of Sustainable Tourism in the Dominican context, the project will conduct a Strategic Environmental Assessment on the National Tourism Development Plan during the first year of project implementation. The results and recommendations of this SEA will serve

as a basis for the elaboration of a Manual for the Dominican 'BD-friendly' Sustainable Tourism Certification, aimed at tourist destinations and tour companies: definition, processes, implementation phases, tourism brand, monitoring and follow-up, etc.

97. This will be complemented by the creation of a Dominican System of Indicators for Sustainable Tourism. The pilot sites in Outcome 2 will provide the necessary ground-truthing to determine the applicability of this certification process in coastal marine areas.

OUTCOME 2: Operational framework to protect biodiversity and ecosystems in areas highly vulnerable to the indirect effects of tourism development
(Total cost: US$8,638,832; GEF $ 1,638,832; Co-financing: $7,000,000)

98. The set of planning and regulation instruments developed in Outcome 1 will provide critical input to land use plans and tourism permitting, in particular to the Tourism Land Use Plans (POTTS) which are currently proposed for some areas and will likely be developed in other coastal areas during the project's lifetime. Through this Outcome, the project will also use resources to support the Government, both at the national and local levels, as well as key sectors to acquire and harmonize the skills for sound decision–making and coordination on land–uses in territories devoted to tourism development. Based on reliable tools and updated GIS, this will include sensitive watersheds, biological corridors and public use areas within costal PAs along the coastline likely to be further affected by the booming tourism industry. The development of landscape level planning tools and land use plans for application by key stakeholders will help reduce pressure on sensitive ecosystems and reduce multisector conflicts by harmonizing planning, monitoring and impact mitigation measures across sectors for improved management of coastal ecosystems, protection of key coastal and marine species, conservation of water, conservation of carbon resources and management of forests.

99. An institutionalized training program targeting MA, MITUR, MEPYD, the private sector and local authorities will, by the end of the project, have trained no less than 300 people in conservation-compatible tourism and the application of efficient land use plans.

100. The outcome will be delivered through the following outputs:

Output 2.1 Landscape level planning tools established and applied by key stakeholders

101. Based on the results of the Capacity Development Scorecard conducted during the PPG, the project will develop a programme for public, private and community awareness and training (non-formal) aimed at Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism sectors to address the lack of knowledge among the tourism sector, the private sector, land-owners, and staff of local public institutions. The programme will include biodiversity-friendly tourism development strategies as well as tools for the application of the legal framework and incentives to adopt sustainable practices. It is envisioned that at least 300 people representing MA, MITUR, MEPyD, Private sector, Tour Operators, municipalities and community councils will be trained on BD-friendly tourism practices by the end of the project.

102. The Ministry of Environment has formulated management plans in more than 80% of Protected Areas in the coastal areas (Montecristi and Samaná), but to date not all of these have been implemented, and none consider tourism carrying capacity threshold. To address this, the project will support selected PAs within the pilot sites in the implementation of Management Plans regarding conservation and sustainable use of BD in public sites. This way, the results obtained within the UNDP-GEF Reengineering of the National Protected Areas System project will be incorporated and expanded.

103. Tourism Land Use Plans (POTTS) have already been produced in coastal-marine areas outside the PAs. However, given that these POTTS have neither included BD conservation and sustainable use, nor have they been harmonized with municipal planning processes, the project will support the articulation and harmonization of these instruments in selected coastal municipalities. The project will support planning processes and agreements focusing on reducing conflicting land uses. It will define best uses of the natural resources and establish practices to ensure optimum management of ecosystems at the local level while mapping out in parallel the risks and vulnerability as well as addressing conflicts. In this way, the project will support the review, adoption and implementation of landscape land use plans by both MA and MITUR, including priority watersheds and coastal corridors in selected areas with inventory and planning instruments in place that define specific land uses and management regimes in priority BD areas, including ecosystems and habitat degradation mitigation measures as well as areas for conservation and connectivity appropriate to different site types based on reliable, standardized and uniform data and monitoring protocols.

104. The project will contribute to the updating and confirmation of the accuracy of vulnerability maps, database and integrated inter-institutional Geographical Information Systems making information on land-uses, ecosystem typology and services as well as vulnerability levels available as support to planning, enforcement, monitoring and decision making for tourism and related development, so as to ensure monitoring of BD conservation of critical ecosystems in tourism development in coastal zones.

Output 2.2 Improved community based resource management in 7000 ha of key BD areas addresses NRM at rural user level and at hotel sitings:

105. Finally, under Output 2.2 the project will demonstrate on-the-ground integrated natural resource management benefits which will produce BD benefits at the local level. Under this Output, the project will promote (i) the implementation of a BD-friendly certification model in Samaná and Montecristi provinces; (ii) the development of a set of demonstration activities both for local actors and the tourism industry to identify the most appropriate conservation practices as well as management practices to address degraded areas (including sand dunes and mangroves); and (iii) identify best practices, costs and opportunities for strengthening that could be further upscaled.

106. The project will support synergies with other ongoing initiatives related to tourism SMEs in Samaná and the provincial strategic development plan in Montecristi, which has already identified a nature-based model of tourism. These measures will contribute to addressing encroachment, coastal erosion, fire control and prevention, water management, agricultures practices, destructive fishing practices (*arrastre*, bleach), destruction of reefs, turtle and egg capture, and collection of corals. Activities will include the rehabilitation of degraded dunes, wetlands and mangrove areas to increase connectivity. The project will also support the elimination of sea grass removal practices.

SAMANÁ

107. The results of the environmental impacts assessments in the Samaná region identify key elements in the strategy of biodiversity management that should be considered and developed during project implementation. Significant resources like mangroves, sandy beaches, coral reefs, humpback whales, sea turtles and other representatives of the biota suffer from cumulative impacts incurred by tourism.

108. In order to strengthen environmental management and spatial planning in priority coastal areas, the project will conduct a study on carrying capacity in selected coastal/marine ecosystems located in priority tourism zones and elaborate an Integrated Plan for Sustainable Tourism Destination in Samaná. Furthermore, the project will develop an Action Plan for beaches that identifies losses of coast and

formulation of protection measures, as well as an historical valuation of the loss of beachfront and establishment of ecosystem-based measures.

109. BD-friendly certification for destination/tourist services will be developed through the Samaná Destination Certification (from Phase I to Phase III).

110. In response to the impacts on BD, the project proposes the following actions to mitigate and limit further damage of key species:

(i) Humpback whales will be evaluated, monitored and photo-identified in Samaná Bay, as well as measures to guarantee sustainable sightings of the whales.

(ii) Sea turtles in Samaná will be the focus of research regarding nesting sites, as well as the design and placement of effective signage.

(iii) Evaluation of the tourism carrying capacity in selected coastal/marine tourism zones, for orienting further tourism development with a BD-friendly approach.

(iv) Development of measures for rehabilitation of degraded dunes, beaches and wetlands.

MONTECRISTI

111. In Montecristi, the project will support the efficient management of coastal resources and land use planning through a review and consensus of current land-use plans in coastal marine areas, as well as the zoning of appropriate uses and the Integrated Sustainable Tourism Destination Plan:

(i) The project will support the evaluation of carrying capacity in selected coastal/marine tourism zones, for orienting further tourism development with a BD-friendly approach.

(ii) The project will support the building of 2 Nature Trails in the Protected Areas of El Morro and Cayo Arenas (underwater).

(iii) The Project will support Phase I of the Dominican Sustainable Tourism Certification in Montecristi

In order to strengthen the conservation of BD at the level of key species and take action against threats in Montecristi, the project will support the following:

(i) Sea turtles in Montecristi will be the focus of research regarding nesting sites, as well as the design and placement of effective signage.

(ii) An assessment of coral reefs in places where tourism activities are developed to determine effective measures to ensure the physical protection of the reef and the placement of demarcation and mooring buoys in the areas of boating and diving activities.

(iii) Appropriate identification and signage of tourism areas in coastal/marine zones in order to prevent damages to BD conservation status.

2. 3. Project Indicators, Risks and Assumptions

112. The project indicators, risks and assumptions are detailed in the Strategic Results Framework (Section III).

Risks

113. The risks confronting the project have been carefully evaluated during project preparation, and risk mitigation measures have been internalized into the design of the project. A careful analysis of the barriers has been conducted and measured interventions have been designed to lower or overcome these barriers. The main risks have been identified and are summarized below. Other assumptions behind project design are elaborated in the Logical Framework in Section III.

Table 10. Risks and risk mitigation strategy

Risk	Level	Mitigation
Political support to establish cross sectoral integration between Ministries as well as support for decentralized management at site level is not forthcoming.	M	The project will mitigate this risk by seeking presidential and ministerial support and mandate for the initiative and by the promotion and facilitation of policy dialogue between the relevant ministries, in particular Tourism and Environment.
Political support for policy changes including fiscal policy adjustments and investment from the tourism private sector is not forthcoming.	M	A dialogue with industry will be undertaken as part of the process of revising policies and regulations—to obtain industry buy in and address concerns, so as to improve compliance. At an early stage the project will facilitate public-private sector policy dialogue with key trade associations OPETUR, ASONAHORES, ASOTURE, CDCT and tourism clusters. Emphasis on improving competitiveness, quality and security both of investments and of clients are will be key.
Climate change-induced changes in coastal marine ecosystem health and possible unforeseen challenges for biodiversity further undermine ecosystem functionality and services on which tourism depends, changing the baseline and increasing costs of necessary interventions.	M	Early implementation to increase management capacities of coastal marine areas and reduce threats will increase resilience to climate change impacts.

Risk Rating: L - Low; M – Medium; S – Substantial

2. 4. Expected global, national and local benefits

114. ***Global benefits***: In the Dominican Republic, while there is general knowledge of the global environmental benefits (see Section IV Part I and description below), there is a limited technical understanding of the species/ecosystem level baseline for this project. It is therefore incumbent upon the project to enable the Tourism Sector to develop a clear understanding of the benefits of BD conservation within the tourism sector, developing a framework for measuring them and for monitoring trends. These

actions will provide the first steps in a process that will enable the science necessary to adequately assess the quantity and quality of these benefits.

115. In particular, the Project will generate global benefits in the form of increased conservation-based tourism practices for the humpback whale, especially in terms of regulations regarding maritime traffic and human contact with mothers and calves. The coral reefs will benefit from alternative anchoring and diving practices to prevent further damage and encourage restoration, while tourism development and activities will be planned according to threshold limits for coastal ecosystems, especially mangroves. The following table provides additional global environmental benefits expected from the implementation of project-generated alternatives to current practices:

Table 3. Global Environmental Benefits Generated by Project Alternatives

Current Practices	**Alternatives to be put in place by the project**	**Global Environmental Benefits**
Tourism and Environment Ministries work independently on tourism policy, planning and coastal land use planning. Biodiversity management not effectively integrated into tourism development planning. Insufficient capacity of local governments and MA authorities to address increased tourism pressure and threats to biodiversity and ecosystem functionality from tourism in vulnerable coastal marine zones. Insufficient capacity of MA to engage with local community stakeholders and to address threats in buffer zones of PA and surrounding landscapes Degradation of mangrove forests, wetlands, dunes and beaches by tourism infrastructure development and population expansion in	A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) facilitates mainstreaming of biodiversity and ecosystem functionality into the National Tourism Development Plan. Tourism and Environment Ministries at national and regional level engage in policy dialogues and project interventions with the private sector to promote a BD-friendly tourism alternative 3 protected areas in two critical project areas improve management effectiveness of tourism. Multisectoral Tourism Land Use Plans (POTTs) circumscribes development of tourism infrastructure in sensitive areas and include measures to reduce pressure elsewhere Coastal zone management plans provide tools for regional and local authorities to monitor threats and control sources of degradation. Biodiversity offset programmes used by tourism industry and local authorities Regional tourism clusters engaged in coastal zone management planning. Pilot project areas at Samaná and Montecristi have integrated land use plans, strengthened management capacity. Improved visitor experience, (interpretation programmes, infrastructure) improved ecosystem	Conservation of critical habitats through improved management effectiveness in addressing visitor pressures in 3 coastal and marine PAs Conservation of globally threatened marine species through improved management effectiveness of tourism activities Local communities adopt biodiversity compatible livelihoods and practices that reduces threats and improves habitat integrity and connectivity The tourism sector has improved its decision making processes and management with regards to biodiversity resulting in better conservation status of ecosystems and species and increase in connectivity of key ecosystems. No net loss of habitat and ecosystem functionality in 13,187 ha. of mangroves in two project areas Reduced fragmentation and sedimentation at two

the wake of tourism development. Local authorities and other local stakeholders not engaged in coastal land use planning.	functionality and effectively maintained or increased populations of turtles, manatees and reef fish. Improved management practices and connectivity over an area of 7000ha in key BD rich areas of Samaná and Montecristi including: rehabilitation of degraded dunes, wetlands and mangrove areas and improving management (e.g. elimination of sea grass removal), reversing ecosystem degradation process.	project sites (7,000 ha.) Conservation status of wild resources threatened by over-harvesting improved

116. Over the long-term, further global environmental benefits will be incurred through the nation-wide implementation of the enhanced National Tourism Development Plan once the legal framework, along with the needed financial and operational efficiencies, are in place.

117. ***National benefits***: The project will enhance and better distribute biodiversity conservation capabilities, both within MA and MITUR, and other participating stakeholders. The conservation function of the pilot areas will be better serviced through improved management effectiveness and enhanced capacity to determine and manage tourism thresholds. Indeed, the project includes activities in selected PAs that receive major tourism impact that goes beyond the focus and reach of the GEF's Re-engineering initiative aimed at PA management. In addition, demonstration of the economic benefits and ecosystem services provided through BD-friendly tourism will increase national awareness of the diverse social and economic benefits produced by sustainably managed landscapes and seascapes. Regional and local institutions and organizations will benefit from exposure to new BD-friendly-based tourism management approaches, improvements in the information base, upgraded skill sets through training opportunities, and improved relations with local communities, tourism service providers and users. Current and potential tourists will also benefit through the improvement and expansion of recreational, tourist, educational, and research opportunities that will be generated. The implementation of sustainable tourism activities in pilot areas will provide protection to sensitive areas that are not covered by the DR's PA system, thereby complementing these efforts and fostering natural ecosystem connectivity between PAs and sensitive coastal marine areas. Ultimately, improved BD conservation will provide increased protection over the long-term for ecosystem services (e.g. water provision, storm protection) that are important to Dominican Republic's productive sectors.

118. ***Local benefits:*** Through the identification and provision of alternative livelihood activities (e.g. sustainable nature-based tourism) for local populations – both private landowners and local/indigenous communities - the project will enhance local support for conservation, and will stimulate the development of self-reliance and sustainable economic use of biodiversity resources. Improved relations with regional government agencies will also facilitate the flow of other social and economic benefits to previously disenfranchised areas. Furthermore, the project will work directly with local populations to access increased funding from various development funds to support sustainable economic alternatives within sensitive coastal marine areas. The project will provide these stakeholders with the knowledge and mechanisms to adapt their use of coastal marine ecosystems, in ways that optimize their economic and social welfare, while sustainably conserving their biodiversity values. By establishing the legal and policy framework to allow for the operation of conservation-based tourism, and to enable new financial incentives to support such operations, the project will also directly benefit private landowners. In addition, secondary beneficiaries, including NGOs and other government agencies and partners in project delivery, will benefit from capacity building.

2. 5. Policy Conformity and Country Ownership: Country Eligibility and Drivenness

119. *Strategic Objective and Programme Conformity*: This project is framed within the BD focal area and the central thrust of the project is through BD2 (Mainstream Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use into Production Landscapes/Seascapes and Sectors). Specifically, the project will contribute to Outcome 2.1 - Increase in sustainably managed landscapes and seascapes that integrate biodiversity conservation. This will be achieved through the development of national and sub-national landscape level land-use planning management tools as well as industry led mechanisms and effective compliance and monitoring systems. Strengthening and harmonization of policies and regulatory frameworks as well as the development of multisectoral financial frameworks for cost-effective support to sustainable implementation of tourism plans will contribute to achieving Outcome 2.2: Measures to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity incorporated in policy and regulatory frameworks.

120. *CBD Conformity:* The Dominican Republic ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on November 25, 1996. The **National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)** 2011-2016 provides a framework for interventions in support of biodiversity conservation and SLM. The NBSAP includes goals to protect the marine environment from land-based activities, to increase investment in biodiversity, an analysis of perverse financial subsidies and incentives that negatively affect biodiversity, and a plan to reduce, reform and eliminate them. It also includes evaluations and actions to reduce the ecological footprint of government and business in the environment; a reduction by 25% of habitat loss and degradation; strengthening of the application of existing regulations including the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing; identification of the principal pressures affecting coral reefs and other ecosystems threatened by climate change and a strategy to reduce them; strengthening the Protected Area System; and a national campaign to finance the implementation of the strategy. The institution of visitor pressure controls in selected PAs accompanied by systematic monitoring of coastal-marine ecosystem health in and around PAs will support the country in reaching Goals 2, 5 and 10 of the National BD Strategy.

121. Aichi Targets: The Project directly contributes to achievement of the Aichi Targets, in particular under the Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity.

Country Eligibility

122. The Dominican Republic is eligible for UNDP assistance. In addition to ratifying the CBD, the long-term commitment of the GoDR to biodiversity conservation is further demonstrated by its ratification of other major multilateral environmental conventions and agreements. The principal ones are summarized below. The GEF National Operational Focal Point endorsement is provided separately.

Table 4. Main Multilateral Environmental Conventions to which the Dominican Republic is a party

Convention/Agreement	Date signed	Date ratified
CITES	3 March 1973	30 June 1982
CBD	13 June 1992	25 November 1996
Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	18 August 1998	18 August 1998
The SPAW Protocol	18 August 1998	18 August 1998
The RAMSAR Convention	2 February 1971	16 October 2001
The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	17 June 1994	11 March 1997
The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	12 June 1992	7 October 1998

Link to National Strategies

123. This Project is consistent with Article 14 of the new Constitution of the Dominican Republic which establishes the state's responsibility to conserve ecological equilibrium and in addition it supports the following national priorities and plans:

124. The **National Development Strategy 2030 (END)** has an explicit relevant objective - *the protection and sustainable use of ecosystems goods and services, biodiversity and natural heritage, including marine resources*. The Strategy includes 14 lines of action including promoting a system of coastal land use planning and establishing environmentally sustainable public investment priorities in the Big Strategic Planning Regions. Specific short term goals include increasing the coastal-marine area managed under sustainability criteria from 16% of the coastline in 2010, to 57% by 2014, increasing forest cover by 1.1% or 400 square km, and increasing the number of effectively managed protected areas from 45 to 81. Additionally, it targets the installation of a monitoring system for beaches, reefs, mangroves, wetlands and estuaries, a National Land use Plan, implementation of PES for water, installation of a system of environmental permitting in the Ministry of Environment (MA), installation of Regional Environmental Managers and the creation of local work commissions to combat desertification in arid areas.

125. The project will also contribute to a number of other goals of several programs of the MA including: (i) Coastal and marine resources and the sustainable management of these ecosystems. In particular, the project will support adjustments to the legal and policy framework regarding tourism in sensitive coastal marine areas such that the resources that are used most for "Sun and Beach" tourism will be sustainably managed according to the carrying capacity thresholds established through the project; (ii) Strengthening of protected areas and biodiversity through the regulation of tourism-based use and impacts on biological diversity, particularly its infrastructure and the protection and sustainable use of ecosystems and species. The project also responds closely to two strategic objectives of the **Protected Area System Master Plan 2010-2030**, namely "*Improve the insertion and valuation of protected areas in the context of the development of the country"* and "*Improve the management effectiveness of protected areas".*

126. The General Tourism Law Number 84 of 1979 which updates Law 541 of 1969 facilitates MITUR to authorize regulations, supervise and control tourism activities and services. Its guiding vision is the **National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP)**. This dates from 2000, but discussions are ongoing for the development of a new National Tourism Development Plan. The *Ley de Ordenamiento Turistico* and the Law of Free Access to Beaches and Coasts of 2006 which defines rights of access and land use in coastal zones, together with the Law 158-01 on the Promotion of Tourism Development in Under Developed and New Tourism Poles in High Potential Provinces and its subsequent modifications in Law 184-02 and Law 318-04 which prioritizes investments and provides incentives to promote tourism development, all orient and drive tourism development in high BD coastal areas. Additionally, a series of recent resolutions and decrees has established the need to develop Tourism Land Use Plans (POTT) in five coastal tourism zones. This project will support the strengthening, in particular, of the sustainability elements responding directly to the sustainability objectives outlined in the END which identifies 16 strategic lines of action for sustainable tourism including: preparing a 10 year Tourism Development Plan to define investments required to develop new tourism zones; ensure the sustainability of existing tourism zones; and increase the contribution of tourism to development. Its short term priorities are focused on road and other infrastructure, the development of new tourism products based on local resources linked to ecotourism and the establishment of Management Committees for Tourism Land Use Plans (POTT).

Linkages with UNDP Programme

127. UNDP Country Programme: The proposed project is in line with the 2012-2016 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) agreed between the Government of Dominican Republic and the UN, in particular in the cooperation area of "Environmental Sustainability and Risk Management", with its stated outcome "By 2016, the State and Civil Society work together to contribute to a sustainable environmental management". The project also is aligned with UNDP Dominican Republic 2012-2016 Country Programme Document, which identified the need to improve the sustainability of the tourism sector and sustainable management of natural resources, and agreed with the Dominican government to contribute with the development of capacities to design and implement policies, tools and actions for sustainable development, in order to guarantee the supply of critical ecosystem goods and services". In this regard, the UNDP commits through the project to support capacity building at the national, regional and local levels. UNDP Dominican Republic has a well-established group of professionals in its environment team that will support project implementation, composed of 04 individuals who have worked for many years on the design, implementation and monitoring of GEF projects in BD, SLM, CC and POPs. This team will receive technical support from the specialists in UNDP's Environment and Energy Practice in the Latin American Regional Service Centre, as well as technical backstopping from UNDP's global network of specialists.

128. UNDP Comparative Advantage: UNDP provides a comparative advantage for this project given its strengths as a development agency with a mandate to lead the UN's work on environment, risk reduction, poverty reduction and governance issues. UNDP has a strong and significant experience in working with productive economic sectors, specifically including initiatives to mainstream BD into their practices as well as with the management of PAs in Latin America, the Caribbean and worldwide. UNDP's work on BD and environmental management through past and ongoing initiatives at the national and regional level has resulted in a strong relationship with the GoDR that will facilitate effective actions by government executing agencies and stakeholders participating in this project. In addition, UNDP's extensive experience in developing governance frameworks and inter-sectoral coordination will be of great benefit to the project. The project will not only benefit from UNDP's extensive experience in the field of sector and landscapes management but will also build upon its current initiatives addressing BD mainstreaming in the tourism sector such as Jordan and Cuba as well as in other productive sectors such as mining and forestry(Colombia, Mexico).

Linkages with other projects, including UNDP GEF Portfolio

129. This project will build on and complement a number of initiatives being implemented currently in the areas of biodiversity conservation and sustainable tourism development. GEF/UNDP is supporting the MA's Re-Engineering of the PA system project. This focuses on establishing the institutional and legal framework required to facilitate the financial sustainability of the PA system. Key outcomes of this project will serve as a critical input to the current project. For example the current project will ensure that the PA valuation and fee systems proposed will be adopted and implemented at PAs in the the two key project areas. The GEF/UNDP/UNEP CLME Program to develop ecosystem-based fisheries zoning plans on the coral reefs and regulatory framework at Montecristi NP will form an integral part of the current project. The project will also incorporate lessons learnt in the field of local land use planning and application of natural resource management tools from an earlier GEF funded initiative through UNDP: Sustainable Land Management in the Upper Sabana Yegua Watershed System which operated in an area of influence of the Montecristi bay. Additionally, lessons learned from community based approaches developed by the Small Grants Programme in Dominican Republic (SGP/GEF-UNDP) will be considered in the pilot interventions.

130. The project will also identify coordination mechanisms with key partners such as IDB, JICA, World Bank and USAID and build upon the work currently underway described in the baseline section. The project will incorporate experiences learnt and scale up relevant site specific management and

planning tools developed by these partners. In particular the project will capitalize on the progress made on tourism diversification, regional tourism clusters and private sector engagement especially in the la Romana –Bayahibe area, Parque Nacional del Este and in Punta Cana.

131. Counterpart International (2014) has been working in partnerships with local communities and partners of Montecristi to develop sustainable resource management plans that benefit both coastal ecosystems and the people that depend on them for their livelihoods. This fieldwork, and recent success in standardizing the scientific methodologies behind quantifying blue carbon, is blazing a trail toward incentivizing its conservation. By creating a system for blue carbon accounting that will accurately value these soils, communities can participate in conserving and restoring them. BLUE CARBON is engaging coastal communities, foundations & the private sector in the climate change solution. Communities working with Counterpart will conserve portions of mangrove forest and sea grasses within the 137 kilometers of park coastline. Coastal ecosystems – which include mangroves – are as effective, or more effective than tropical forests at storing carbon.

132. Regionally, this project is aligned with other GEF projects being prepared associated with the "Caribbean Challenge" initiative, including potential national projects in the Bahamas and Jamaica, and a sub-regional project in the Eastern Caribbean. The "Caribbean Challenge" was developed from the concept of the Micronesia Challenge, in which 5 Pacific island nations pledged to protect 20% of their marine resources by 2020 and leverage $100 million for conservation. The project is also aligned with the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA). Launched in March 2006, GLISPA aims to build leadership and partnerships committed to actively address critical island issues and support the implementation of the Island Biodiversity Programme of Work under the Convention for Biological Diversity (CBD) and other related global policies.

2. 6. Sustainability

133. Environmental Sustainability: The project will support long-term viability of globally significant biodiversity in the Dominican Republic by putting in place the necessary legal and political framework to include BD conservation considerations and practices within the tourism sector, especially with regards to coastal-marine ecosystems. The elaboration of an updated National Tourism Development Plan will include explicit guidance and regulation and timeline for the specific needs of PAs and other sensitive coastal and marine areas with regard to tourism planning and management, including intangible core areas, impact reduction and offset measures to ensure ecosystem integrity and environmental sustainability. Given the political push for increased tourism development, and the reliance of this tourism on pristine conditions of the destination's resident flaura and fauna, the planning tools and capacity generated by the project at national, regional and local levels among all groups of stakeholders will ensure an effective management of BD resources over the long-term.

134. Institutional sustainability: The Project will address the need to improve the enabling environment for effective *in situ* conservation in Dominican Republic. Through Outcomes 1 and 2, the Project will support capacity building activities and other initiatives aimed at creating the appropriate institutional environment and human capacities for effectively. Furthermore, in defining the regulatory framework and enable efficient local governance, it will ensure that the destination is consolidated as a sustainable economic resource and is positioned in the domestic and international markets as a model of sustainable development.

135. Financial Sustainability: The project will achieve long-term financial sustainability will be assured by the design and implementation of legal and policy changes so that local stakeholders are better able to generate, manage, and allocate financial resources. In addition Pilot activities will test the potential, determine standards and build capacities for revenue generating activities. Economic policy

instruments are instruments for sustainable tourism management. It is expected that the development of tourism generates an economic benefit for the local community, conserves the ecological environment, and respects the host community culture. To achieve long-term sustainability, a strategy to empower key stakeholders in the coastal marine area of the Samaná province, in achieving the actions and the purpose of this project will be developed.

136. Social sustainability: Efforts to ensure sustainable support from diverse stakeholders are a key component of the Project. It was developed in a highly participatory fashion, including staff from key public institutions, the private sector, NGOs and other stakeholders from the civil society. Participation and social acceptance would be enhanced through the execution of a comprehensive Stakeholder Involvement Plan (Section IV, Part VI), which identifies stakeholder interests and possible conflicts and responsive mitigation measures to assure strong and effective stakeholder participation. Other elements of project design to address social sustainability include awareness-raising to increase societal appreciation of the benefits of BD and the value of ecosystem services they provide.

2. 7. Replicability

137. The creation and strengthening of a legal, policy and planning framework for a sustainable tourism model that mainstreams BD conservation principles at the national level will set a standard that can be downscaled for replication across regional and local levels, according to the particular characteristics and needs of the corresponding areas. The actions to be implemented in Outcome 2 in the coastal marine zones of the Montecristi and Samaná Provinces will provide on-the-ground examples of how to integrate biodiversity conservation and climate change criteria into tourism, and as such will highlight what is replicable in other tourist areas, especially in those that are beginning to emerge.

2. 8. Financial Modality and Cost-Effectiveness

138. In line with the GEF Council's guidance on assessing cost-effectiveness of projects (Cost Effectiveness Analysis in GEF Projects, GEF/C.25/11, April 29, 2005), the project development team has taken a qualitative approach to identifying the alternative of best value and feasibility for achieving the project objective.

139. The project pilots are also cost-effective in several ways. The pilot sites were selected using several criteria related to cost-effectiveness, such as medium or scarce tourism development in coastal areas, interest to develop an alternative model of tourism and co-financing opportunities. Moreover, the sites were selected for their high revenue generation potential, along with their biodiversity significance in the existing PA system. The pilot demonstrations will therefore effectively build capacity, while capturing tangible benefits to biodiversity and thus further increasing the project contribution to capturing global benefits. Furthermore, the pilots are cost-effective means of determining the financial feasibility of project results before considering them for up-scaling. The cost information from the pilots will add important information to support the decision to replicate best practices from the project across larger geographic and thematic areas. The Project will also use cost-effective measures, such as the use of the existing Protected Areas Forum, as well as the Dominican Tourism Forum (http://fodatur.com/), for promotion and sharing of Lessons Learned beyond the Dominican Republic to other countries. Hence, GEF will achieve significant national and international impact with limited funds.

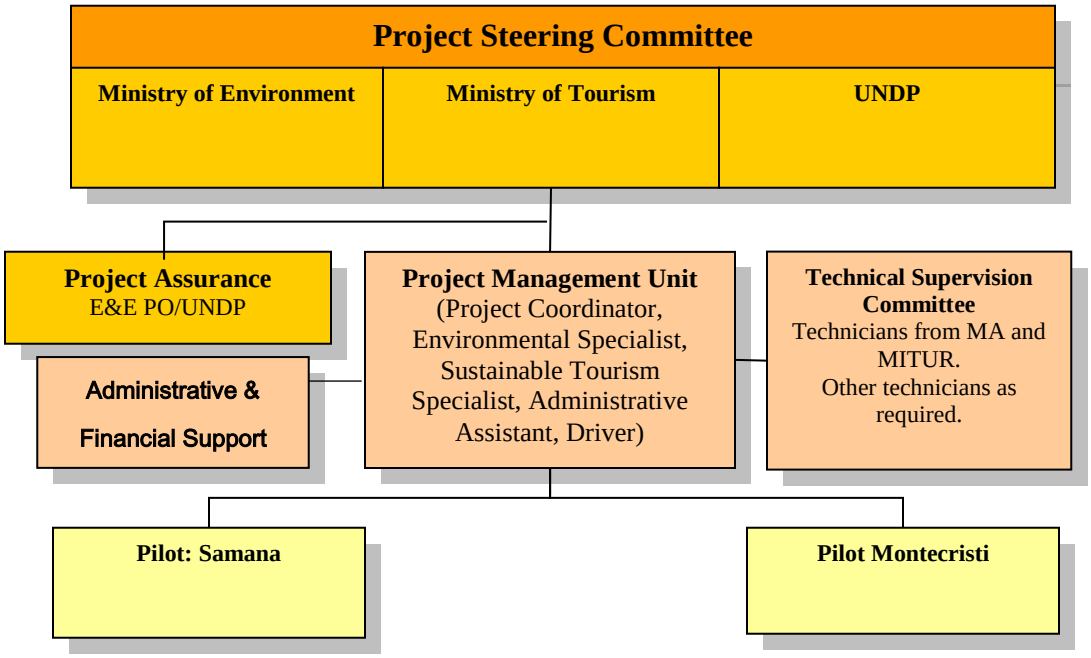
140. Cost effectiveness will also be monitored as an integral part of the monitoring and evaluation process. The project budget provides for independent financial auditing on a yearly basis.

141. Finally, cost effectiveness is ensured through a prescribed project management process that will seek the best-value-for-money. UNDP rules as well as MA and MITUR rules employ a transparent

process of bidding for goods and for services based on open and fair competition and selection of best value and best price alternatives. Procurement will be managed by UNDP in coordination with MA and MITUR ensuring the application of all effective regulations. An independent committee is utilized for all procurement of personnel and selection of contractors.

PART III: Management Arrangements

142. The project will be executed under UNDP's National Implementing Modality (NIM), according to the standards and regulation for UNDP cooperation in Dominican Republic. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Tourism will be the Executing Agencies for the project. They will sign the grant agreement with UNDP and will be accountable for an efficient and effective use of project resources and the achievement of the project goals, according to the approved work plan.



143. The duration of the project will be 5 years. Project implementation will be carried out under the general guidance of a ***Project Steering Committee*** (PSC) with strategic decision-making, non-executive powers, which will be composed by representatives from MA's and MITUR's Senior Management and representatives from UNDP. Representatives of other stakeholders may also be included in the PSC, as deemed appropriate and necessary. The PSC will meet at least once per year to review project progress and approve upcoming work plans and corresponding budgets.

144. A ***Technical Supervision Committee***, which will discuss all key project technical decisions, including the review of TORs proposed by the PMU, the hiring of specialists, the adjudication of contracts and the revision of Annual Work Plans and Annual Budgets. This Committee will be a critical link between the PMU and the rest of MA and MITUR staff, both in central offices and in the field. It will have the responsibility to solve in the first instance coordination problems encountered by the project.

145. Day-to-day management and coordination of activities will be under the responsibility of a ***Project Management Unit*** (PMU). This Unit will be located at MITUR and MA. In terms of key Project staff, a nominated senior MA (Vice Ministry of Coastal Resources) and MITUR (Director of Planning and Development) staff will become the ***National Project Directors***, and will be responsible for oversight of the Project and carry overall responsibility and accountability. The National Project Directors will establish and provide overall guidance to the PMU, and will be responsible for overseeing the work undertaken by the PMU team. A ***National Project Coordinator*** (PC) will be contracted by UNDP based on a recruitment process and request from MA and/or MITUR and will be responsible for the day-to-day Project implementation, leading and managing the PMU. In addition to the Project Coordinator, the PMU will be composed of the following staff: an **Environmental Specialist**, a **Sustainable Tourism Specialist,** an **Administrative Assistant,** and a **Driver**. The PC, the Sustainable Tourism Specialist and the Administrative Assistant will be located at MITUR, while the Environmental Specialist will be located at MA. Administrative and professional personnel collaborating as advisors will interact on an ongoing basis with the NPC and the PMU technical and professional teams, according to needs arising during project implementation.

146. In the pilot areas, Project Units will be composed of a Local Coordinator and a Technical Assistant. These teams will be located at MA and MITUR offices in Samana and Montecristi.

147. ***Project Assurance (UNDP):*** Supports the Project Board Executive by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. The Programme Officer of Environment and Energy from UNDP will be designated to hold the Project Assurance role.

148. A Strategic Action Plan Task Force will be established to elaborate the Plan. A 3-month ***Inception Phase*** will be used to carefully plan the whole project implementation process, culminating in the Inception Workshop. In addition, the necessary communication structures will be established between the main project components and partners to ensure optimal coordination and that key stakeholders are in full agreement with project objectives and hence committed towards the outcomes to be achieved.

Communications and visibility requirements:

149. Full compliance is required with UNDP's Branding Guidelines. These can be accessed at http://intra.undp.org/coa/branding.shtml, and specific guidelines on UNDP logo use can be accessed at: http://intra.undp.org/branding/useOfLogo.html. Amongst other things, these guidelines describe when and how the UNDP logo needs to be used, as well as how the logos of donors to UNDP projects needs to be used. For the avoidance of any doubt, when logo use is required, the UNDP logo needs to be used alongside the GEF logo. The GEF logo can be accessed at: http://www.thegef.org/gef/GEF_logo. The UNDP logo can be accessed at http://intra.undp.org/coa/branding.shtml.

150. Full compliance is also required with the GEF's Communication and Visibility Guidelines (the "GEF Guidelines"). The GEF Guidelines can be accessed at:http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/C.40.08_Branding_the_GEF%20final_0.pdf . Amongst other things, the GEF Guidelines describe when and how the GEF logo needs to be used in project publications, vehicles, supplies and other project equipment. The GEF Guidelines also describe other GEF promotional requirements regarding press releases, press conferences, press visits, visits by Government officials, productions and other promotional items.

151. Where other agencies and project partners have provided support through co-financing, their branding policies and requirements should be similarly applied.

PART IV: Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Budget

152. Project monitoring and evaluation will be conducted in accordance with established UNDP and GEF procedures by the project team and the UNDP Country Office (UNDP-CO) with support from UNDP/GEF Regional Coordination Unit in Panama. The Logical Framework Matrix (in Section II, Part II) provides impact and outcome indicators for project implementation along with their corresponding means of verification. The TT tool is going to be used as one of the main instruments to monitor progress. The M&E plan includes: inception report, project implementation reviews, quarterly operational reports, a mid-term and final evaluation, etc. The following sections outline the principal components of the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and indicative cost estimates related to M&E activities (table 16 below). The project's Monitoring and Evaluation Plan will be presented and finalized at the Project's Inception Meeting following a collective fine-tuning of indicators, means of verification, and the full definition of project staff M&E responsibilities.

Project Inception Phase

153. A ***Project Inception Workshop*** will be conducted with the full project team, relevant government counterparts, co-financing partners, the UNDP-CO and representation from the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit, as well as UNDP-GEF (HQs) as appropriate. A fundamental objective of this Inception Workshop will be to assist the project team to understand and take ownership of the project's goals and objectives, as well as finalize preparation of the project's first annual work plan on the basis of the project's logframe matrix. This will include reviewing the logframe (indicators, means of verification, assumptions), imparting additional detail as needed, and on the basis of this exercise finalize the Annual Work Plan (AWP) with precise and measurable performance indicators, and in a manner consistent with the expected outcomes for the project. Additionally, the purpose and objective of the Inception Workshop (IW) will be to: (i) introduce project staff with the UNDP-GEF *expanded team* which will support the project during its implementation, namely the CO and responsible Regional Coordinating Unit staff; (ii) detail the roles, support services and complementary responsibilities of UNDP-CO and RCU staff vis à vis the project team; (iii) provide a detailed overview of UNDP-GEF reporting and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) requirements, with particular emphasis on the Annual Project Implementation Reviews (PIRs) and related documentation, as well as mid-term and final evaluations. Equally, the IW will provide an opportunity to inform the project team on UNDP project related budgetary planning, budget reviews, and mandatory budget rephasings. The IW will also provide an opportunity for all parties to understand their roles, functions, and responsibilities within the project's decision-making structures, including reporting and communication lines, and conflict resolution mechanisms. The Terms of Reference for project staff and decision-making structures will be discussed again, as needed in order to clarify for all, each party's responsibilities during the project's implementation phase.

Monitoring responsibilities and events

154. A detailed schedule of project reviews meetings will be developed by the project management, in consultation with project implementation partners and stakeholder representatives and incorporated in the Project Inception Report. Such a schedule will include: (i) tentative time frames for Steering Committee Meetings, or other relevant advisory and/or coordination mechanisms and (ii) project related Monitoring and Evaluation activities.

155. ***Day to day monitoring*** of implementation progress will be the responsibility of the Project Coordinator based on the project's Annual Work Plan and its indicators. The Project Team will inform the UNDP-CO of any delays or difficulties faced during implementation so that the appropriate support or

corrective measures can be adopted in a timely and remedial fashion. The Project Coordinator will fine-tune the progress and performance/impact indicators of the project in consultation with the full project team at the Inception Workshop with support from UNDP-CO and assisted by the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit. Specific targets for the first year implementation progress indicators together with their means of verification will be developed at this Workshop. These will be used to assess whether implementation is proceeding at the intended pace and in the right direction and will form part of the Annual Work Plan. The local implementing agencies will also take part in the Inception Workshop in which a common vision of overall project goals will be established. Targets and indicators for subsequent years would be defined annually as part of the internal evaluation and planning processes undertaken by the project team.

156. ***Periodic monitoring*** of implementation progress will be undertaken by the UNDP-CO through quarterly meetings with the project local implementation group, or more frequently as deemed necessary. This will allow parties to take stock and to troubleshoot any problems pertaining to the project in a timely fashion to ensure smooth implementation of project activities. UNDP Country Offices and UNDP-GEF RCUs as appropriate, will conduct yearly visits to projects that have field sites, or more often based on an agreed upon scheduled to be detailed in the project's Inception Report/Annual Work Plan to assess first hand project progress. Any other member of the Steering Committee can also accompany, as decided by the PSC. A Field Visit Report will be prepared by the CO and circulated no less than one month after the visit to the project team, all PSC members, and UNDP-GEF.

157. ***Annual Monitoring*** will be ensured by means of the project Steering Committee (PSC) meetings[44] being the highest policy-level meeting of the parties directly involved in the implementation of a project. PSC meetings will be held at least once every year. The first such meeting will be held within the first twelve months of the start of full implementation. The project implementation team will prepare a harmonized Annual Project Report and Project Implementation Review (APR/PIR**)** and submit it to UNDP-CO and the UNDP-GEF regional office at least two weeks prior to the PSC for review and comments. The APR/PIR will be used as one of the basic documents for discussions in the PSC meeting. The project proponent will present the APR to the SC, highlighting policy issues and recommendations for the decision of the PSC members. The project proponent also informs the participants of any agreement reached by stakeholders during the APR/PIR preparation on how to resolve operational issues. Separate reviews of each project component may also be conducted if necessary.

Project Monitoring Reporting

158. The Project Coordinator in conjunction with the UNDP-GEF extended team will be responsible for the preparation and submission of the following reports that form part of the monitoring process.

159. A ***Project Inception Report*** will be prepared immediately following the Inception Workshop. It will include a detailed First Year Work Plan divided in quarterly time-frames detailing the activities and progress indicators that will guide implementation during the first year of the project. This Work Plan would include the dates of specific field visits, support missions from the UNDP-CO or the Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) or consultants, as well as time-frames for meetings of the project's decision making structures. The Report will also include the detailed project budget for the first full year of implementation, prepared on the basis of the Annual Work Plan, and including any monitoring and evaluation requirements to effectively measure project performance during the targeted 12 months' time-frame. The Inception Report will include a more detailed narrative on the institutional roles, responsibilities, coordinating actions and feedback mechanisms of project related partners. In addition, a section will be

[44] A SCM mechanism as such is similar to the Tripartite Review (TPR) formally required for the UNDP/GEF projects, and differs from the latter only in the composition of the review panel, which, in case of the SC, is broader that that of the TPR.

included on progress to date on project establishment and start-up activities and an update of any changed external conditions that may affect project implementation. When finalized the report will be circulated to project counterparts who will be given a period of one calendar month in which to respond with comments or queries. Prior to this circulation of the IR, the UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF's Regional Coordinating Unit will review the document.

160. ***The APR/PIR*** is an annual monitoring process mandated by the GEF[45]. It has become an essential management and monitoring tool for Project Coordinators and offers the main vehicle for extracting lessons from ongoing projects. It also forms a part of UNDP's Country Office central oversight, monitoring and project management, as well as represents a key issue for the discussion at the Steering Committee meetings. Once the project has been under implementation for a year, the CO must complete an APR/PIR together with the project implementation team. The APR/PIR can be prepared any time during the year (July-June) and ideally prior to the SCM. The APR/PIR should then be discussed at the SCM so that the result would be an APR/PIR that has been agreed upon by the project, the executing agency, UNDP CO and the key stakeholders. The individual APR/PIRs are collected, reviewed and analyzed by the RCs prior to sending them to the focal area clusters at the UNDP/GEF headquarters.

161. ***Quarterly Progress reports:*** Short reports outlining main updates in project progress will be provided quarterly to the local UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF regional office by the project team. See format attached.

162. ***UNDP ATLAS Monitoring Reports:*** A Combined Delivery Report (CDR) summarizing all project expenditures, is mandatory and should be issued quarterly. The Project Coordinator should send it to the Project Board for review and the Implementing Partner should certify it. The following logs should be prepared: (i) The Issues Log is used to capture and track the status of all project issues throughout the implementation of the project. It will be the responsibility of the Project Coordinator to track, capture and assign issues, and to ensure that all project issues are appropriately addressed; (ii) the Risk Log is maintained throughout the project to capture potential risks to the project and associated measures to manage risks. It will be the responsibility of the Project Coordinator to maintain and update the Risk Log, using Atlas; and (iii) the Lessons Learned Log is maintained throughout the project to capture insights and lessons based on good and bad experiences and behaviors. It is the responsibility of the Project Coordinator to maintain and update the Lessons Learned Log.

163. As and when called for by UNDP, UNDP-GEF or the Implementing Partner, the project team will prepare ***Specific Thematic Reports***, focusing on specific issues or areas of activity. The request for a Thematic Report will be provided to the project team in written form by UNDP and will clearly state the issue or activities that need to be reported on. These reports can be used as a form of lessons learnt exercise, specific oversight in key areas, or as troubleshooting exercises to evaluate and overcome obstacles and difficulties encountered. UNDP is requested to minimize its requests for Thematic Reports, and when such are necessary will allow reasonable timeframes for their preparation by the project team.

164. Technical Reports are detailed documents covering specific areas of analysis or scientific specializations within the overall project. As part of the Inception Report, the project team will prepare a draft Reports List, detailing the technical reports that are expected to be prepared on key areas of activity during the course of the Project, and tentative due dates. Where necessary this Reports List will be revised and updated, and included in subsequent APRs. Technical Reports may also be prepared by external consultants and should be comprehensive, specialized analyses of clearly defined areas of research within the framework of the project and its sites. These technical reports will represent, as

[45] The GEF M&E Unit provides the scope and content of the PIR. In light of the similarities of both APR (standard UNDP requirement) and PIR (GEF format), UNDP/GEF has prepared a harmonized format - an APR/PIR

appropriate, the project's substantive contribution to specific areas, and will be used in efforts to disseminate relevant information and best practices at local, national and international levels.

165. Project Publications will form a key method of crystallizing and disseminating the results and achievements of the Project. These publications may be scientific or informational texts on the activities and achievements of the Project, in the form of journal articles, multimedia publications, etc. These publications can be based on Technical Reports, depending upon the relevance, scientific worth, etc. of these Reports, or may be summaries or compilations of a series of Technical Reports and other research. The project team will determine if any of the Technical Reports merit formal publication, and will also (in consultation with UNDP, the government and other relevant stakeholder groups) plan and produce these Publications in a consistent and recognizable format. Project resources will need to be defined and allocated for these activities as appropriate and in a manner commensurate with the project's budget.

166. During the last three months of the project the project team will prepare the ***Project Terminal Report***. This comprehensive report will summarize all activities, achievements and outputs of the Project, lessons learnt, objectives met, or not achieved, structures and systems implemented, etc. and will be the definitive statement of the Project's activities during its lifetime. It will also lay out recommendations for any further steps that may need to be taken to ensure sustainability and replicability of the Project's activities.

Independent Evaluation

167. The project will be subjected to at least two independent external evaluations as follows: An independent ***Mid-Term Evaluation*** will be undertaken at the mid of the third year of implementation. The Mid-Term Evaluation will determine progress being made towards the achievement of outcomes and will identify course correction if needed. It will focus on the effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation; will highlight issues requiring decisions and actions; and will present initial lessons learned about project design, implementation and management. Findings of this review will be incorporated as recommendations for enhanced implementation during the final half of the project's term. The organization, terms of reference and timing of the mid-term evaluation will be decided after consultation between the parties to the project document. The Terms of Reference for this Mid-term evaluation will be prepared by the UNDP CO based on guidance from the Regional Coordinating Unit and UNDP-GEF.

168. An independent ***Final Evaluation*** will take place three months prior to the terminal Steering Committee meeting, and will focus on the same issues as the mid-term evaluation. The final evaluation will also look at impact and sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development and the achievement of global environmental goals. The Final Evaluation should also provide recommendations for follow-up activities. The Terms of Reference for this evaluation will be prepared by the UNDP CO based on guidance from the Regional Coordinating Unit and UNDP-GEF.

Learning and Knowledge Sharing

169. Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention zone through a number of existing information sharing networks and forums. In addition, the project will participate, as relevant and appropriate, in UNDP-GEF sponsored networks, organized for senior project personnel working on projects that share common characteristics. The project will identify and participate as appropriate, in scientific, policy-based networks that may benefit from the project's lessons learned and/or be of benefit to the project.

170. The project will identify, analyze, and share lessons learned that might be beneficial in the design and implementation of similar future projects. Identifying and analyzing lessons learned is an on-going process. The need to communicate such lessons is one of the project's central contributions and this will be done at least on an annual basis by producing Biodiversity Experience Notes (BEN). UNDP/GEF shall provide a format and assist the project team in categorizing, documenting and reporting on lessons learned. To this end a sufficient amount of project resources will need to be allocated for these activities.

Audit Clause

171. The project will be audited in accordance with the UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules and applicable audit policies. The audits will guarantee the appropriate assurance regarding management and use of the project funds. The resources to carry out the audits are already identified in the project budget. The Government will provide the Resident Representative with certified periodic financial statements.

Table 5. Project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Budget

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US$ *Excluding project staff time*	Time frame
Inception Workshop & associated arrangements + report	▪ PM ▪ UNDP CO ▪ UNDP GEF ▪ Project Team ▪ Service contract to arrange/run workshop and produce report	Indicative cost: 4,000 (stakeholder consultations, service contract, translation)	Within first two months of project start up
Measurement of Means of Verification for Project Purpose Indicators	▪ PM will oversee the hiring for specific studies and institutions, delegate responsibilities to relevant team members, and ▪ Support from International consultant- sets up long term M+E Plan	To be finalized in Inception Phase and Workshop. Indicative cost 26,900 (establishment of GIS, species monitoring)	Start, mid and end of project
Measurement of Means of Verification for Project Progress and Performance (measured on an annual basis)	▪ Oversight by Project GEF Regional Advisor and PM ▪ Measurements by regional field officers and local IAs ▪ Local consultant to support M+E	To be determined as part of the Annual Work Plan's preparation. Indicative cost 15,000	Annually prior to APR/PIR and to the definition of annual work plans
APR/PIR; GEF-4 Biodiversity Tracking Tool; METT	▪ Project Team ▪ UNDP-CO ▪ UNDP-GEF	Indicative cost: 0	Annually
Steering Committee Meetings and relevant meeting proceedings (minutes)	▪ PM ▪ UNDP CO	Indicative cost: 0	Following Project IW and subsequently at least once a year
Quarterly status reports	▪ Project team	Indicative cost: 0	To be determined by Project team and UNDP CO
Technical reports	▪ Project team ▪ Hired consultants as needed	Indicative cost: 5,000	To be determined by Project Team and UNDP-CO
Project Publications (e.g. technical	▪ Project team ▪ Hired consultants as needed	Indicative cost: 15,000	To be determined by Project Team and

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US$ *Excluding project staff time*	Time frame
manuals, field guides)			UNDP-CO
Mid-term External Review	▪ Project team ▪ UNDP- CO ▪ UNDP-GEF RCU ▪ External Consultants (i.e. evaluation team)	Indicative cost: 25,000	At the mid-point of project implementation.
Final External Evaluation	▪ Project team, ▪ UNDP-CO ▪ UNDP-GEF RCU ▪ External Consultants (i.e. evaluation team)	Indicative cost: 25,000	At the end of project implementation
Terminal Report	▪ Project team ▪ UNDP-CO ▪ External Consultant	Indicative cost: 5,000	At least one month before the end of the project
Lessons learned	▪ Project team ▪ UNDP-GEF RCU (suggested formats for documenting best practices, etc) ▪ End of Project Event	Indicative cost: 0	Yearly
Audit	▪ UNDP-CO ▪ Project team	Indicative cost: 16,000 (average $3000 per)	Yearly
Visits to field sites (UNDP staff travel to be charged to IA fees)	▪ UNDP Country Office ▪ UNDP-GEF RCU (as appropriate) ▪ Government representatives	Indicative cost: 10,000 (3-4 visits per year)	Yearly
TOTAL INDICATIVE COST Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff and travel expenses		US$ 146,900	

PART V: Legal Context

172. This Project Document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of the Dominican Republic and the United Nations Development Programme, signed by the parties on June 11, 1974. The host country implementing agency shall, for the purpose of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement, refer to the government co-operating agency described in that Agreement. The UNDP Resident Representative in Santo Domingo is authorized to effect in writing the following types of revision to this Project Document, provided that he/she has verified the agreement thereto by the UNDP-GEF Unit and is assured that the other signatories to the Project Document have no objection to the proposed changes: (i) Revision of, or addition to, any of the annexes to the Project Document; (ii) Revisions which do not involve significant changes in the immediate objectives, outputs or activities of the project, but are caused by the rearrangement of the inputs already agreed to or by cost increases due to inflation;(iii) Mandatory annual revisions which re-phase the delivery of agreed project inputs or increased expert or other costs due to inflation or take into account agency expenditure flexibility; and (iv) Inclusion of additional annexes and attachments only as set out here in this Project Document.

SECTION II: STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK AND GEF INCREMENT

Objective	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Means of Verification	Risks and Assumptions
Project Objective: To ensure the conservation of biodiversity in ecologically important coastal areas threatened by the burgeoning tourism industry and associated physical development.	Institutional and Policy Framework mainstreams BD conservation principles in the tourism sector	The legal framework for tourism does not properly address the issues of BD conservation or differentiate between projects / activities in PAs Weak levels of collaboration between the institutions involved in the management and use of BD in tourist areas The National Environmental Management System has gaps that do not ensure the BD conservation in areas of tourism development The National Plan of Tourism is out of date and does not include criteria for BD conservation.	Legal framework for tourism incorporates BD aspects for all projects and tourism activities. Strong strategic alliance between MA, MITUR and all institutions involved in the management and use of BD in areas of tourism development (Coordination Group) National Environmental Management System fully strengthened to ensure BD conservation in areas of tourism development New model of tourism includes the axis of sustainability and BD conservation in the National Plan of Tourism.	Inter-institutional agreements and work plans to ensure the conservation of BD in areas of tourism development Regulatory Framework updated by MA-MITUR National Tourism Development Plan updated	Improved monitoring and compliance capacity of MA guarantees BD friendly tourism Political will to collaborate and assign resources Increase in budget allocation
	Financial framework to support the National Plan for Sustainable Tourism Development in coastal areas	No specific financial instruments that promote the development of sustainable tourism in coastal areas, with emphasis on BD conservation	Financial instruments in place to ensure the implementation of actions related to tourism impact on the marine and coastal areas	System of Financial instruments BD2 Tracking Tool	Resource availability Private sector interest
	# of hectares of critical ecosystem conservation	13,180 ha. of mangrove forest 49,320 ha. of coral reefs 52,088 ha. wetlands 109,880 ha. landscape	No net loss of critical ecosystems as a result of tourism activities (overlay of infrastructure / tourism activities on critical ecosystems)	New site survey and land use areas with tourism development as a land use category	Technical capacity to improve the assessment of land use cover

		/seascape area directly covered by the project		BD2 Tracking Tool	

Outcome	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Means of Verification	Risks and Assumptions
Outcome 1. The policy, legal and planning framework in the tourism sector addresses the direct threats to biodiversity from coastal tourism development and activities.	Regulatory and enforcement capacities to monitor, avoid, reduce, mitigate and offset adverse impacts of tourism on biodiversity	National Tourism Development Plan does not adequately address BD conservation criteria.	National Tourism Development Plan fully addresses the protection of BD resources	Legal framework for Tourism revised and published	Political will to update NTDP
		Gaps in the Environmental Management System with respect to BD conservation in tourism development areas	100% of tourism activities with impact on BD conservation are included within the Environmental Management System.	Field reports from MA / MITUR	
	Conservation sustained by institutional capacity to plan, budget and enforce land management	There are no specific criteria or guidelines that guide effective coordination to address issues of BD and sustainable tourism development.	Inter-institutional Consultative Group established between the Ministries of Tourism and Environment with appropriate guidelines and meetings.	Guidelines Minutes	Political will to collaborate
		Insufficient financial resources to guarantee needed actions for BD conservation.	Special Strategic Programme for Sustainable Tourism aligned with END 2010-2030, developed and implemented. Portfolio of financial schemes created and implemented, i.e.: Loans to small entrepreneurs - credit instrument, i.e. "Green Credit". At least 1 financial mechanism established and under implementation within the pilot areas	Loan documents to small entrepreneurs	Resource availability Private sector interested and engaged

	Capacity to recognize good practices and apply Sustainable Tourism Models that contribute to BD conservation	There is no national certification system for BD-friendly hotels and destinations.	Manual for the Dominican 'BD-friendly' Sustainable Tourism Certification, aimed at tourist destinations and tour companies. At least 10% of tourism activities with BD-friendly certification within the pilot areas. Dominican System of Indicators for Sustainable Tourism.	Manual for the Dominican 'BD-friendly' Sustainable Tourism Certification System of Indicators for Sustainable Tourism	
Output 1.1 - *Regulatory framework to strengthen the control and prevention of ecological impact from tourism in vulnerable coastal areas*					
Output 1.2: - *Multisectoral financing framework for cost-effective support to the sustainable implementation of the National Tourism Development Plan and appropriate BD conservation incentives in coastal areas*					
Output 1.3: - *A nationally approved biodiversity-friendly certification system for the tourism sector*					

Outcome	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Means of Verification	Risks and Assumptions
Outcome 2. Operational framework to protect biodiversity , in areas highly vulnerable to the indirect effects of tourism development	Capacity of sectoral ministries, the private sector, municipalities and community organizations to generate, use and share geographic, socioeconomic and biophysical information required for coastal and marine spatial planning, taking into account the indirect impacts of tourism on ecosystems	Capacity Development Scorecard[46]: Overall Average Score: 16 CR2/I4:1 CR4/I13:1 CR5/I15:0 Areas to be improved: CR2/ I 4: Stakeholders are aware about global environmental issues, but not about the possible solutions, or if they know about the possible solutions, are	Capacity Development Scorecard : Scorecard: Overall Average Score: 22 CR2/I4:3 CR4/I13:3 CR5/I15:2 Specific improvements addressed through Awareness and Training Program regarding Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism aimed at Public, private and community sectors: CR2/ I 4: Development of a program of awareness and training on efficiency in	Capacity Development Scorecard	

[46] CR2: Capacities to Generate, Access and Use Information and Knowledge; Indicator 4: Degree of environmental awareness of stakeholders
CR4: Capacities for Management and Implementation; Indicator 13: Availability of required technical skills and technology transfer
CR5: Capacities to Monitor and Evaluate; Indicator 15: Adequacy of the project/programme evaluation process

Outcome	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Means of Verification	Risks and Assumptions
		unaware of how to participate. CR4/ I13: Capacity and technological needs are identified as well as their sources. CR 5 /I 15: None or ineffective evaluations are being conducted, with no adequate evaluation plan or the necessary resources	the implementation of solutions to address local environmental issues. CR4/ I13: Development of a mechanism for updating and renewing Environment-based skills and technologies. CR 5 /I 15: Development of a strategic environmental assessment process with sustainability criteria and appropriate action plans for tourist destinations.		
	Management effectiveness to address the pressures of visitors in marine / coastal ecosystems located in tourism sites (215.91 km2 of land area and 1,034 km2 of marine area)	No tourism carrying capacity threshold established for Samaná and Montecristi coastal/marine tourism sites	Sustainable tourism carrying capacity thresholds established for selected areas: • Montecristi: Cayo Arenas. • Samaná: Las Terrenas.	Assessments of tourism carrying capacity for Samaná and Montecristi	
		0 strategic plan / land use planning, or clear parameters for proper tourism development that integrates the coastal marine area and considers permitted, restricted and prohibited uses.	2 Community Based Integrated Plans for Sustainable Tourism Development: • Integrated Sustainable Tourism Destination Plan of Samaná • Integrated Sustainable Tourism Destination Plan of Montecristi	Integrated Plans for Sustainable Tourism Development	Community interest
		0 Tourism Land-Use Plans (POTTS) revised, adapted and applied	(2) Tourism Land-Use Plans (POTTS) revised, adapted and applied	Updated POTTS	Political will to update POTTs
	Climate resilient landscape management tools for the development of sustainable tourism implemented by local communities in key biodiversity rich areas of the 2 selected project sites totaling 7000 ha	0 BD-friendly certification for destination/ tourist services	Dominican Sustainable Tourism Certification implemented in phases in the 2 pilots: • Samaná Destination Certification (Phase III) • Montecristi Destination Certification (Phase I)	Dominican Sustainable Tourism Certificates	Climate change-induced changes in pilot areas

Outcome	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Means of Verification	Risks and Assumptions
	Threats to BD caused by tourism infrastructure, operations and visitor activities	Promotion of massive “sun and beach” tourist destinations accompanied by a lack of awareness and strategic marketing.	Communication and Awareness Campaign applied in Tourist Destination Pilots: "Different Tourism for a unique destination"	Materials from Communication and Awareness Campaign	
		% Ecological damage to coral reefs due to tourism activities in Samaná TBD in Year 1	% Ecological damage to coral reefs due to tourism activities in Samaná TBD in Year 1 and measured in Year 4	Assessment report on coral reefs	
		11 beaches known as turtle nesting sites in Samaná and 4 in Montecristi, with no conservation measures (e.g. controlled lighting)	15 nesting beaches of sea turtles identified and under protection with monitoring, including establishment and compliance with a Regulation on lighting of nesting sites in tourist areas	Assessment report on turtle nesting grounds	
		Whale watching tours governed by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between key actors in Samaná. From January to March in Samaná Bay: relative abundance between 1.5 to 2.1 whales / hour for whale watching; mother and baby whales in the bay during the season: 20-36	Proposal for an improved Regulation on whale watching in the Marine Mammal Sanctuary of the Dominican Republic Historical seasonal variations of the abundance of humpback whale mothers and calves number maintained	Updated regulation instrument Records from Seasonal monitoring and Photo-ID	
		0% land-use/cover studies cover studies consider MA tourism development as a land use category	100% land-use/cover studies consider MA tourism development as a land use category	Field reports from MA / MITUR	

Outcome	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Means of Verification	Risks and Assumptions
		Ecosystem coverage in pilot areas: Montecristi -8,447 Hectares of mangrove forest representing an estimated 12,670 tons / year of carbon capture Samaná -7,080 Hectares of mangrove forests representing an estimated 10,632 tons / year of carbon capture	Tourism-based measures for recovery and stabilization maintain or increase ecosystem coverage in pilot areas: Montecristi -8,447 Hectares of mangrove forest representing an estimated 12,670 tons / year of carbon capture Samaná -7,080 Hectares of mangrove forests representing an estimated 10,632 tons / year of carbon capture -5 km dune stabilization in Las Terrenas Municipality	Field reports from MA / MITUR	
		100% of the Gift Shops sell Crafts made from protected species	0% of the Gift Shops sell Crafts made from protected species; Curios and crafts made and sold of local products, without any use of protected species.	MA Inspection and surveillance reports	
		4 coastal PAs in pilot sites with partial visitor infrastructure, i.e. nature trails and observation decks, resulting in pressure impacts generated by tourists.	4 coastal PAs in pilot sites with sufficient visitor infrastructure: a) Cayo Arena PA Pilot in Montecristi has docks for boats b) Signage: -Montecristi: Cayo Arenas and El Morro - Samaná: Las Terrenas and Marine Mammal Sanctuary c) 2 Nature trails designed and built in Montecristi: - El Morro (Terrestrial Trail) - Cayo Arenas (Underwater Trail)	MA Inspection and surveillance reports Field reports from MA / MITUR Reports on project progress / website	
Output 2.1 *Landscape level planning tools established and applied by key stakeholders*					
Output 2.2: *Improved community based resource management in 7000 ha of key BD areas addresses NRM at rural user level and at hotel sitings*					

SECTION III: TOTAL BUDGET AND WORKPLAN

Award ID:	00083903	Project ID:	00092146
Award Title:	Turismo sostenible y conservación		
Business Unit:	*DOM10*		
Project Title:	*Conserving Biodiversity in Coastal Areas Threatened by Rapid Tourism and Physical Infrastructure Development*		
PIMS no.	*4955*		
Implementing Partner (Executing Agency)	Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Tourism		

The following is an indicative Workplan and Budget based on the project Total Workplan and Budget (TWPB). The TWPB will be revisited during the inception workshop with updates and notes taken to guide the development of the annual workplans and budgets. The annual workplan and budget for CY1 will also be ratified during the inception workshop.

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Responsible party	Source of funds	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ERP/ATLAS Budget Description/ Input	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total	Budget Note #
					US$	US$	US$	US$		US$	
1. The political, legal basis and framework for tourism planning, direct address to biodiversity, coastal areas, tourism development and activities threats.		GEF	71200	International Consultants	0	9,000	12,500	0	12,500	34,000	20-21
		GEF	71300	Local Consultants	66,000	210,800	70,000	70,000	70,000	486,800	1 to 9, 11-14
		GEF	71400	Contractual Services - Individual	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	200,000	10
		GEF	71600	Travel	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000	14,480	66,480	26-27
		GEF	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	26,000	105,000	37,500	10,000	5,000	183,500	15-19
		GEF	74200	Audiovisual & printing cots		4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	16,000	22
		GEF	74500	Sundry	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	14,000	28
		GEF	75700	Workshops	30,000	24,000	4,000	4,000	2,000	64,000	23-25

	Subtotal GEF Outcome 1				*178,000*	*408,800*	*184,000*	*144,000*	*149,980*	***1,064,780***	
2. Operating framework for protecting biodiversity in highly vulnerable to the indirect effects of tourism development areas.		GEF	71200	International consultants	0	20,000	12,500	0	22,500	55,000	29-31
		GEF	71300	Local Consultants	71,600	63,600	58,600	58,600	60,600	313,000	32 -37
		GEF	71600	Travel	5,500	5,000	7,000	5,000	7,000	29,500	72-73
		GEF	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	112,000	194,500	130,500	118,000	105,500	660,500	38-49
		GEF	72200	Equipment	118,960.00	0	0	0	0	118,960.00	66 -70
		GEF	72300	Materials and goods	42,500	74,800	50,000	71,000	20,000	258,300	50-57
			72400	Communication & audiovisual equipment		12,000				12,000	58
		GEF	72500	Supplies	8,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	9,000	50,000	71
		GEF	72800	Information Technology and equipment	6,000					6,000	65
		GEF	74200	Audiovisual & printing costs	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	200	7,200	59
		GEF	74500	Sundry	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	20,000	75
		GEF	75400	Insurance	1,490	2,980	2,980	2,980	1,490	11,920	60
		GEF	75700	Workshops	3,000	42,000	28,452	20,000	3,000	96,452	61-64, 74
	Subtotal GEF Outcome 2				*374,050*	*431,880*	*307,032*	*292,580*	*233,290*	***1,638,832***	
Project Management		GEF	71400	Contractual Services-Individual	8,700	17,400	17,400	17,400	8,700	69,600	76-11

		GEF	72100	Contractual Services- Companies	2,760	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	10,760	78
		GEF	72200	Equipment	8,272	0	0	0	0	8,272	78
			72800	Information Technology and equipment	13,000					13,000	79
		GEF	74100	Professional Services		3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	12,000	80
		GEF	75700	Workshops	3,000	0	3,548	0	3,000	9,548	81-82
		GEF	74500	Sundry	2,000	2,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	12,000	83
	Management cost				*37,732*	*24,400*	*28,948*	*25,400*	*18,700*	***135,180***	
	Grand total				**589,782**	**865,080**	**519,980**	**461,980**	**401,970**	**2,838,792**	

Summary by Atlas category

Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ERP/ATLAS Budget Description/ Input	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
		US$	US$	US$	US$	US$	US$
71200	International consultants	0	29,000.00	25,000.00	0	35,000.00	89,000.00
71300	Local consultants	137,600.00	274,400.00	128,600.00	128,600.00	130,600.00	799,800.00
71400	Contractual services - individual	48,700.00	57,400.00	57,400.00	57,400.00	48,700.00	269,600.00
71600	Travel	18,500.00	18,000.00	20,000.00	18,000.00	21,480.00	95,980.00
72100	Contractual services - companies	140,760.00	301,500.00	170,000.00	130,000.00	112,500.00	854,760.00
72200	Equipment	118,960.00	0	0	0	0	118,960.00
72300	Materials and goods	50,772.00	74,800.00	50,000.00	71,000.00	20,000.00	266,572.00
72400	Communication and audiovisual equipment	0	12,000.00	0	0	0	12,000.00
72500	Supplies	8,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00	9,000.00	50,000.00
72800	Information technology and equipment	19,000.00	0	0	0	0	19,000.00
74100	Professional services	0	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	12,000.00
74200	Audiovisual and printing production costs	1,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	4,200.00	23,200.00
74500	Sundries	10,490.00	11,980.00	12,980.00	12,980.00	9,490.00	57,920.00
75700	Workshop	36,000.00	66,000.00	36,000.00	24,000.00	8,000.00	170,000.00
	Total	**589,782.00**	**865,080.00**	**519,980.00**	**461,980.00**	**401,970.00**	**2,838,792**

Summary of Funds by Outcome

Source	Amount	Amount	Amount	Total
	Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Project Management	
GEF	1,064,780	1,638,832	135,180	2,838,792
Government of DR (M.Environment): Cash	2,983,059	3,650,000	201,740	5,834,799
Government of DR (M.Environment): In-kind	100,000	100,000	100,000	300,000
Government of DR (Ministry of Tourism): Cash	5,150,000	4,000,000	400,000	9,550,000
UNDP: Cash		250,000	100,000	350,000
Total	**9,297,839**	**8,638,832**	**936,920**	**18,873,591**

Part II: Budget Notes

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Budget note	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ERP/ATLAS Budget Description/ Input	Total	Budget note
	Outcome 1			**US$**	
1. The political, legal basis and framework for tourism planning, direct address to biodiversity, coastal areas, tourism development and activities threats.	1	71300	Local consultants	**20,000.00**	50days @ $400/day for Development a new regulatory framework for tourism-environment that integrates biodiversity conservation in Output 1.1
	2	71300	Local consultants	**18,000.00**	45days @ $400/day for Updating and strengthening the environmental management system in relation to tourism projects in Output 1.1
	3	71300	Local consultants	**14,800.00**	37days @ $400/day for 1 consultant in Output 1.1. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the National Tourism Plan RD
	4	71300	Local consultants	**6,000.00**	15days @ $400/day for 1 consultant in Output 1.1 National Tourism Development Plan of the Dominican Republic draft updated to include sustainability and biodiversity conservation
	5	71300	Local consultants	**10,000.00**	25 days @ $400/day for 1 consultant to Development Operative Guidelines of Interministerial Advisory Body and facilitation 3 beginning workshops in Output 1.1.
	6	71300	Local consultants	**12,000.00**	30 days @ $400/day for 1 consultant in Output 1.2 Special Strategic Program for Sustainable Tourism.
	7	71300	Local consultants	**18,000.00**	30 days @ $600/day for 1 consultant in Output 1.2 Portfolio Financial Schemes that promote sustainable tourism ventures
	8	71300	Local consultants	**12,000.00**	30 days @ $400/day for 1 consultant in Output 1.2 Special Fund Financial mechanism type Coastal Marine Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism
	9	71300	Local consultants	**8,000.00**	20 days @ $400/day in Output 1.3 Guidelines for the ecolabelling of fish products to the tourism
	10	71400	Contractual Services - Individual	**200,000.00**	Project Coordinator @ $40,000 / year, over project years 1-5
	11	71300	Local consultants	**160,000.00**	Technical Environmental Focal Point @ $40,000 / year, over project years 1-4

	12	71300	Local consultants	**160,000.00**	Technical Tourism Focal Point @ $40 ,000 / year, over project years 1-4
	13	71300	Local consultants	**20,000.00**	50 days @ $400/day for 1 consultancy to Establish an IT Platform for monitoring indicators of sustainable tourism (database design and technical assistance)
	14	71300	Local consultants	**28,000.00**	70 days @ $400/day for 1 consultancy to Operationalize the created systems, certification monitoring and other systems.
	15	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	**30,000.00**	75days @ $400/day for Company or temporal association in Output 1.1 Review and updating regulations impact on the development of sustainable tourism in coastal marine areas of the tourism sector
	16	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	**36,000.00**	90 days @ $400/day for Company or temporal association to Develop a new regulatory framework for tourism-environment that integrates biodiversity conservation with emphasis on management and spatial planning (POTT, CONFOTUR, Tourism Products) in Output 1.1
	17	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	**37,500.00**	Design of the Dominican Sustainable Certification 'BD-friendly' tourism, aimed at tourist destinations and tourism enterprises: definition, processes, implementation phases, tourism brand, monitoring and tracking, etc. (includes developing the manual and advice for implementation) 75 days @ $500 in Output 1.3.
	18	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	**50,000.00**	100 days @ $500/day for a multidisciplinary team in Output 1.2 Dominican System of Indicators for Sustainable Tourism
	19	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	**30,000.00**	Visibility Strategy for Dominican Sustainable Tourism Certification Output 1.3
	20	71200	International consultants	**9,000.00**	15 days @ $600/day for Output 1.2 Special Strategic Program for Sustainable Tourism.
	21	71200	International consultants	**25,000.00**	External evaluation of the project (including travel and per diem) midterm and end of project
	22	74200	Audiovisual & printing	**16,000.00**	Printing of materials. Output 1.3.
	23	75700	Workshops	**20,000.00**	Disclosure of the regulatory framework through 1 workshop for Judicial Power in Dominican Republic

	24	75700	Workshops	**16,000.00**	8 workshops@ $ 500/day during 4 years of the project for follow-up of the Body Interministerial coordination mechanism in Output 2.3. Interministerial Advisory Body between Tourism and Environment created and strengthened G12 (Interministerial Group 12 Ministries)
	25	75700	Workshops	**28,000.00**	14 days@ $ 2000/day for 14 workshops to technically validate the products made by the consultants and then be referred to the Ministerial Advisory Body for approval
	26	71600	Travel	**15,000.00**	Knowledge sharing with countries that have developed reference models for Dominican Certification Scheme trip to Central America by 5 people @ 3000 each in Output 1.3. Manual of the Dominican Sustainable Tourism Certification "BD-friendly"
	27	71600	Travel	**51,480.00**	2 Domestic travel monthly for each pilot sites (Samaná and Montecristi) for Staff during the 5 years of the project
	28	74500	Sundry	**14,000.00**	Miscellaneous and various things over project years 1-5
			TOTAL OUTCOME 1	**1,064,780.00**	
	Outcome 2			**US$**	
	29	71200	International consultants	**20,000.00**	International Expert in Sustainable Tourism to develop a coaching program for specialized training aimed at high level managers to identify and develop alternative tourism.
	30	71200	International consultants	**10,000.00**	International Expert in Sustainable Tourism to develop a coaching program for specialized training aimed at middle level managers to identify and develop alternative tourism.
	31	71200	International consultants	**25,000.00**	External evaluation of the project (including travel and per diem) midterm and end of project
	32	71300	Local consultants	**20,000.00**	80 days @ $ 250 / day for evaluation of coral reefs in places where tourism activities (diving and anchor cruise) develop measures to ensure the physical protection of the reef in Output 2.2
2. Operating framework for protecting biodiversity in highly vulnerable to the indirect effects of	33	71300	Local consultants	**25,000.00**	Facilitators of Awareness and Training for trainers programme in pilot sites, Output 2.1, aimed at : i.) Government Institutions involved in coastal environmental management; ii.) Magistrates (Penalties to environmental impacts in the tourism sector); iii.) Organized local communities; iv.) Private Sector. 11 one day workshops.
	34	71300	Local consultants	**10,000.00**	40 days @ $ 250 / day project for Development of research on nesting sites of sea turtles in the pilot areas in Output 2.2
	35	71300	Local consultants	**6,000.00**	15 days @ $ 400 / day to prepare a study of coverage and land use categories for the establishment of tourism development in each pilot site in Output 2.1.

tourism development areas.	36	71300	Local consultants	**168,000.00**	Local Coordinators in Samaná and Montecristi
	37	71300	Local consultants	**84,000.00**	BD and Sustainable Tourism Technical Assistance in Samaná and Montecristi @ (2 persons/4 years each)
	38	72100	Contractual Services - Companies	**55,000.00**	Services from a multidisciplinary team to develop Studies of tourism carrying capacity in Output 2.1. (137.5 days @ 400/day)
	39	72100	Contractual Services - Companies	**41,000.00**	Review and consensus of the Management Plans in marine coastal areas and processing zoning applications at each pilot site in Output 2.1.
	40	72100	Contractual Services - Companies	**60,000.00**	Development of an Integrated Plan for Sustainable Tourism Destination Samaná and an Integrated Plan for Sustainable Tourism Destination Montecristi in Output 2.1.
	41	72100	Contractual Services - Companies	**15,000.00**	Design and implementation of the program of tourist sponsorship of sea turtles in the pilot areas in Output 2.2
	42	72100	Contractual Services - Companies	**60,000.00**	120 days @ $ 250 / day for Implementation of 2 monitoring campaigns and photo-identification of humpback whales in Samaná Bay in Output 2.2.
	43	72100	Contractual Services - Companies	**38,000.00**	95 days @ $ 400 / day to prepare the Historical evaluation of the loss of beachfront and establishment of ecosystem-based measures and implementation of certain measures in Samaná for Plan of Action from the beaches of North Coastal System Samaná Peninsula in Output 2.1
	44	72100	Contractual Services - Companies	**20,000.00**	2 Interpretation Nature Trails in Protected Area pilots: assessment of capacity, design and construction of 1 nature trail @ $ 5,000 and 1 underwater trail @ $ 15,000 in Output 2.2.
	45	72100	Contractual Services- Companies	**40,500.00**	Output 2.1 Design of an Awareness and Training Program in Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism targeting sectors: public, private and community, at 45 days/year @$300/day for Years 2-4.
	46	72100	Contractual Services- Companies	**170,000.00**	Output 2.2 CC resilient management measures for sustainable tourism development: 2 consultants to Implement the Dominican Certification for Sustainable Tourism from Phase I to Phase III in Samaná.
	47	72100	Contractual Services- Companies	**100,000.00**	Output 2.2 CC resilient management measures for sustainable tourism development: 2 consultants to Implement the Dominican Certification for Sustainable Tourism on Phase I in Montecristi.
	48	72100	Contractual Services- Companies	**10,000.00**	Diploma in Sustainable Tourism
	49	72100	Contractual Services- Companies	**51,000.00**	Visibility Strategy of the overall project
	50	72300	Materials and goods	**9,800.00**	Placement of demarcation and mooring buoys in pilot sites with intense boating and diving activities (purchase and installation of 60 craft buoys @ $ 80 / buoy

					and purchase background navy drill @ 5,000) in Output 2.2
	51	72300	Materials and goods	**12,500.00**	Materials for reef evaluation campaigns
	52	72300	Materials and goods	**5,000.00**	Materials for construction of 2 Interpretation Nature Trails in Protected Areas pilots in Output 2.2.
	53	72300	Materials and goods	**10,000.00**	Construction of 1 boat dock in Cayo Arenas protected area Pilot @ 10,000 / in Output 2.2.
	54	72300	Materials and goods	**170,000.00**	Measures for rehabilitation dunes, beaches and wetlands. Output 2.2
	55	72300	Materials and goods	**20,000.00**	Refinement of baseline coastal pilots in year 1 and in year 4 with Images for GIS and cartographic materials
	56	72300	Materials and goods	**15,000.00**	Images for GIS and cartographic materials for detailed study of coverage and land use category considering the areas of tourism development in pilot areas
	57	72300	Materials and goods	**16,000.00**	Images for GIS and cartographic materials for the historical evaluation of the loss of the beach line in Samaná
	58	72400	Communication & audiovisual equipment	**12,000.00**	Design and placement of signage at nesting sites of sea turtles in 15 selected pilot areas beaches in Output 2.2
	59	74200	Audiovisual & printing costs	**7,200.00**	Printing of materials for Output 2.2
	60	75400	Insurance	**11,920.00**	Insurance for project vehicles (boats, car and motorcycles)
	61	75700	Workshops	**65,000.00**	Logistics of 12 workshops in each pilot: i.) implementation of Output 2.1; ii.) Legal workshop for Magistrates; iii.) Communities; iv.) Private sector
	62	75700	Workshops	**5,000.00**	Logistics for the specialized training program to identify and develop alternative tourism tour aimed at high managers
	63	75700	Workshops	**5,000.00**	Logistics for the specialized training program to identify and develop alternative tourism tour aimed at high managers
	64	75700	Workshops	**10,000.00**	Logistics for Sustainable Tourism Workshop for social media (journalists)
	65	72800	Information Technology and equipment	**6,000.00**	1 laptop, 1 printer with scanner and copier, 1 data show (projector) screen, modular
	66	72200	Equipment	**28,000.00**	Purchase of equipment for monitoring of protected areas in Samaná and Montecristi; consisting of: 4 diving equipment (Life jackets, boots couple diving, Diving Helmets (face mask), scuba regulators, Games clappers, inflatable vests w / diving (BC) Buoyancy compensators); 2 Lupas field

					(resolution 20 * 30); 2 Phmetro; 3 Thermometer w / measuring air temperature; 3 100 metric mt tapes; 3 Caliper (vernier caliper); 2 Statistician (rod measurements); 2 salt meters; 2 underwater digital camera; 2 standard Binoculars 2 GPS (global positioning system); 2 Water Quality Kit; 2 plastic bottles small (vials) p / sampling; 2 plastic bottles (wide mouth) w / sampling; 2 Sech; 15 diving weights (3 and 5 pounds); 4 mesh bags (dive collection); 4 Pair of diving gloves; Snorkel 4; 4 titanium diving knives; Diving suits 4; 4 submersible Logs PVCh.
	67	72200	Equipment	**3,960.00**	Equipment of Local Coordination Offices in pilot sites: 1 desk with 3 chairs, 1 archivos 3 drawers, office supplies @ $ 4.980 / each set.
	68	72200	Equipment	**37,000.00**	Purchase of marine transport units for tracking and monitoring the pilot areas: 2 boats 22 feet in length, type Chanchi, radio communications and antenna 6-8 feet, and 2 outboard engines 150HP @ $ 18.500 / each
	69	72200	Equipment	**40,000.00**	Purchase of land transport units for implementation in pilot areas: 1 vehicle type jeep 4 x 4
	70	72200	Equipment	**10,000.00**	Purchase of two motors for the implementation of pilot programs in areas Type Honda or Yamaha DT @ 5,000/ each
	71	72500	Supplies	**50,000.00**	Fuel for 2 boats throughout the project; lubricants and vehicle maintenance during the project
	72	71600	Travel	**23,500.00**	Domestic travel of staff monthly from pilot sites to National Coordinator Office of Local Coordinator Samaná and Montecristi
	73	71600	Travel	**6,000.00**	DSA for reef evaluation campaigns
	74	75700	Workshops	**11,452.00**	4 workshops @ $ 2,863/day for M&E Workshops
	75	74500	Sundry	**20,000.00**	Miscellaneous and various things for each local office in pilot areas
			TOTAL Outcome 2	**1,638,832.00**	
	Project Management Costs		**US$**		
3. Management	76	71400	Contractual Services-Individual	**45,600.00**	100% of salary of full-time project Administrative Assistant @ $11,400 / year, over project years 1-5
	77	71400	Contractual Services-Individual	**24,000.00**	100% of salary of full-time project Chauffeur @ $6,000 / year, over project years 1-5

	78	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	**10,760.00**	Communication services for project staff
	79	72300	Equipment	**8,272.00**	Office equipment for project staff
	80	72800	Information Technology and equipment	**13,000.00**	desktops, laptop, printer with scanner and copier, data show (projector) screen
	81	74100	Professional Services	**12,000.00**	Extern Audit cost of $3,000/year during years 2-5.
	82	75700	Workshops	**6,548.00**	Inception Workshop @ $ 3000/day and mid-term M&E workshop@ $ 3548/day
	83	75700	Workshops	**3,000.00**	1 workshop @ $ 3000/day for Final Workshop
	84	74500	Sundry	**12,000.00**	Miscellaneous
			TOTAL Project Management Costs	**135,180**	

SECTION IV: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - Provided in Separate File

PART I.	Pilot Sites: Threats and Strategies for Sustainable Tourism in Coastal/Marine Areas
PART II	Institutional, Legal and Financial Instruments for BD Conservation in Tourism
PART III	Proposal for a Sustainable Tourism Certification
PART IV	Stakeholder Analysis and Participation Plan
PART V	Terms of References for key project staff and main sub-contracts
PART VI	UNDP Environmental and Social Screening Tool
PART VII	Capacity Development Scorecard
PART VIII	GEF BD2 Tracking Tool- TT
PART IX	Co-funding letters
PART X	Endorsement Letter (same as PIF)