



REQUEST FOR CEO ENDORSEMENT

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF Trust Fund

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PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Project Title: Conserving Biodiversity in Coastal Areas Threatened by Rapid Tourism and Physical Infrastructure Development | | | |
| Country(ies): | Dominican Republic | GEF Project ID: ¹ | 5088 |
| GEF Agency(ies): | UNDP | GEF Agency Project ID: | 4955 |
| Other Executing Partner(s): | Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources; Ministry of Tourism | Submission Date: | December 16, 2014 |
| GEF Focal Area (s): | Biodiversity | Project Duration(Months) | 60 |
| Name of Parent Program (if applicable): | | Project Agency Fee (\$): | 269,685 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ For SFM/REDD+ <input type="checkbox"/> ➤ For SGP <input type="checkbox"/> ➤ For PPP <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK²

| Focal Area Objectives | Expected FA Outcomes | Expected FA Outputs | Trust Fund | Grant Amount (\$) | Cofinancing (\$) |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| BD-2 | Outcome 2.1: Increase in sustainably managed landscapes and seascapes that integrate biodiversity conservation. | Output 2. National and sub-national land-use plans (5) that incorporate biodiversity and ecosystem services valuation | GEFTF | 1,638,832 | 7,000,000 |
| | Outcome 2.2: Measures to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity incorporated in policy and regulatory frameworks. | Output 1. Policies and regulatory frameworks (2) for production sectors. | GEFTF | 1,064,780 | 8,233,059 |
| | | Sub-total | | 2,703,612 | 15,233,059 |
| | | Project management cost | GEFTF | \$135,180 | 801,740 |
| | | Total project costs | | 2,838,792 | 16,034,799 |

B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

| Project Objective: To ensure the conservation of biodiversity in ecologically important coastal areas threatened by the burgeoning tourism industry and associated physical development. | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Project Component | Grant Type | Expected Outcomes | Expected Outputs | Trust Fund | Indicative Grant Amount (\$) | Indicative Co-financing (\$) |
| Component 1. The policy, | TA | - <u>Regulatory and enforcement capacities</u> in place to monitor, avoid, reduce, mitigate and | <u>1.1 Regulatory framework to strengthen the control and prevention of ecological impact in vulnerable</u> | GEFTF | 1,064,780 | 8,233,059 |

¹ Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

² Refer to the [Focal Area Results Framework and LDCF/SCCF Framework](#) when completing Table A.

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| <p>legal and planning framework in the tourism sector addresses the direct threats to biodiversity from coastal tourism development and activities.</p> | <p>offset adverse impacts on biodiversity of tourism and associated infrastructure development and tourism products and services, resulting in strengthened conservation of 25,800 ha. of mangrove forest, 8,805 ha. of coral reefs, 5,035 ha. of beaches and dunes, 27,46 ha. of sea grass beds and 1,972,842 ha. of coastal marine protected area, plus further ha. in ecological corridors.</p> <p><u>-Capacities to plan, budget and enforce landscape management</u> across institutions sustain conservation outcomes in priority watersheds, and coastal ecological corridors resulting in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased budget allocations to coastal ecosystem management - A reduction in the number of infractions with environmental licensing. - Better management effectiveness in addressing visitor pressures in coastal - marine PAs and their buffer zones and watersheds in 2 key coastal project sites (Montecristi and Samana-Los Haitises) covering 4,323 km² of terrestrial surface and 1,112 km² marine area. <p><u>-Reduction in threats</u> from tourism infrastructure, operations and visitor activities, resulting in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Stability or increase in coral abundance (TBD Yr 1), sea grass beds and populations of key target and indicator species in the 2 selected project sites: <p>Humpback whale relative abundance in Samana between 1.5 to 2.1 whales / hour for whale watching; mother and baby whales in the bay during the season: 20-36</p> <p>Nesting beaches of sea turtles (green, leatherback and hawksbill turtles) under protection with monitoring: 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -A reduction in the sale of wildlife curios to 0% of the Gift Shops sell Crafts made from | <p><u>coastal areas</u> including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updated National Tourism Development Plan includes explicit guidance and regulation and timeline for the specific needs of protected areas and other 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; - Strengthened EIA mechanisms, permitting and licensing tools for avoiding, reducing, mitigating impacts from tourism and codified in land use plans; - Proscription of land uses defined in sensitive areas; -Protocol with technical and economic guidelines to move forward recovery and restoration processes in areas degraded by tourism activity, focused on biodiversity and ecosystem processes; -A system of penalties for malfeasance in the tourism sector developed and adopted reflecting BD-friendly classification system and the clarifications in the mandates of the different agencies responsible for enforcement and prosecution; - Compliance and Monitoring system in place to evaluate acceptable limits of change in biodiversity-important areas to support adaptive measures to reduce direct impacts; - Establishment of the Threshold of Sustainability for Tourism in selected coastal PAs including core tourism management capacities, interpretation facilities and monitoring established at 2 critical sites; <p><u>1.2 A nationally approved biodiversity-friendly certification system</u> for hotels is developed as part of the classification system of MITUR and adopted by hotels;</p> <p><u>1.3 Multisectoral financing framework for cost-effective support to the sustainable implementation of the National Tourism Development Plan in coastal areas;</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic incentives for promoting the adherence of the private sector to the | | | |
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| | | protected species; Curios and crafts made and sold of local products, without any use of protected species. | reformed policies and regulations; - Existing fiscal mechanisms adjusted to ensure flow of appropriate levels of investment, particularly from the tourism sector, private enterprises and land developers, into coastal and marine biodiversity conservation; - Enhanced capacity of MA to determine, apply, collect, reinvest and manage tourism use fees and concession revenues at site level. | | | |
| Component 2. Operational framework to protect biodiversity , in areas highly vulnerable to the indirect effects of tourism development | TA | <p>Improvement in capacity of sectorial ministries, private sector, municipalities and community level organizations to generate, use and share geographic, socio-economic, and bio-physical information needed for landscape level planning and coastal management purposes that take into consideration the indirect effects of tourism and related development on ecosystems (inappropriate infrastructure placement, including roads, agriculture, forestry, water use, wildlife hunting and other development triggered by an increase in disposable incomes from tourism activities), as measured by: -UNDP’s Capacity Development Scorecard: Baseline Average Score of 16</p> <p>-2 Tourism Land-Use Plans (POTTS) revised to include BD and land-use criteria, adapted and applied</p> <p>Appropriate climate resilient landscape management tools implemented by local communities in key biodiversity rich areas of the 2 selected project sites totaling 7000 ha resulting in: i) reduced ecosystem degradation (measured by decrease in extent of degraded areas); ii) maintenance of ecosystem functionality. This reduces threats to coastal biodiversity and lead to improved habitat integrity and connectivity across the 2 pilot areas:</p> | <p>2.1 Incorporate recommendations from the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) into land use plans and tourism permitting (covering physical development, water use, waste management and other threats); - defining spatial areas where development should be avoided, where it may be permitted - but subject to management controls, and what mitigation and offset requirements are needed.</p> <p>2.2 Landscape level planning tools established and applied by key stakeholders including:</p> <p>- Updated and accurate 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;</p> <p>- Landscape land use plans reviewed adopted and implemented by both MA and MITUR including strengthened tourism land use plans (POTTS) covering priority watersheds and coastal corridors in selected areas with inventory and planning instruments in place defining 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;</p> <p>-Training program institutionalized and 300 people targeting the MA, MITUR, MEPyD, Private sector, Tour Operators, municipalities and community councils trained by end of the project on conservation compatible tourism and on</p> | GEF TF | 1,638,832 | 7,000,000 |

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| | | | the application of the land use plans 2.3 Improved community based resource management in 7000 ha of key BD areas based on the Protocol developed in component 1 addresses NRM at rural user level and at hotel sitings. These will include: - Community-based environmental and management plans based on resource management options and zoning to address encroachment, coastal erosion, fire control and prevention, water management, agricultures practices and wildlife hunting; -Rehabilitation of degraded dunes, wetlands and mangrove areas to increase connectivity; - Reducing plastic waste, protecting freshwater flows into mangrove areas, and elimination of sea grass removal practices | | | |
| | | | SUB-TOTAL | | 2,703,612 | 15,233,059 |
| | | | PROJECT MANAGEMENT COSTS | | \$135,180 | 801,740 |
| | | | TOTAL PROJECT COSTS | | 2,838,792 | 16,034,799 |

C. SOURCES OF CONFIRMED COFINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME (\$)

| Sources of Co-financing | Name of Co-financier (source) | Type of Cofinancing | Cofinancing Amount (\$) |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| National Government | Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources | In-kind | 300,000 |
| National Government | Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources | Grant | 5,834,799 |
| National Government | Ministry of Tourism | Grant | 9,550,000.00 |
| GEF Agency | UNDP | Grant | 350,000 |
| Total Co-financing | | | 16,034,799 |

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY¹

| GEF Agency | Type of Trust Fund | Focal Area | Country Name/ Global | (in \$) | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| | | | | Grant Amount (a) | Agency Fee (b) ² | Total c=a+b |
| UNDP | GEF TF | Biodiversity | Dominican Republic | 2,838,792 | 269,685 | 3,108,477 |
| Total Grant Resources | | | | 2,838,792 | 269,685 | 3,108,477 |

¹ In case of a single focal area, single country, single GEF Agency project, and single trust fund project, no need to provide information for this table. PMC amount from Table B should be included proportionately to the focal area amount in this table.

² Indicate fees related to this project.

F. CONSULTANTS WORKING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENTS:

| Component | Grant Amount (\$) | Cofinancing (\$) | Project Total (\$) |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| International Consultants | 89,000 | | 89,000 |
| National/Local Consultants | 999,800 | Under review | 999,800 |

G. DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A “NON-GRANT” INSTRUMENT? No

(If non-grant instruments are used, provide in Annex D an indicative calendar of expected reflows to your Agency and to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF Trust Fund).

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. DESCRIBE ANY CHANGES IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE PROJECT DESIGN OF THE ORIGINAL PIF³

The project design closely follows the objectives, outcomes, components, GEF budget and co-financing specified in the PIF. There has been no change in the GEF budget total, while the co-financing budget total increased by almost US\$3M. The only significant variation to the project components is as follows:

a) Activities related to (2.1) Strategic Environmental Assessment, have been moved from Component 2 to Component 1 so that the results and recommendations provide guidance to the elaboration of the updated NTDP, with an expected downstream impact during pilot implementation. The PIF suggested the application of a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) on the impacts of tourism development on coastal biodiversity to be conducted in Outcome 2. However, the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) has a sectoral focus and as such is more effective at the systemic level. The application of a SEA on the current National Tourism Development Plan will highlight entry points and strategic areas for improvement to be included in the updated NTDP to decrease the impacts of tourism development on coastal biodiversity.

A.1 National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions, if applicable, i.e. NAPAS, NBSAPs, national communications, TNAs, NCSA, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, Biennial Update Reports, etc. NA

A.2. GEF focal area and/or fund(s) strategies, eligibility criteria and priorities. NA

A.3 The GEF Agency’s comparative advantage: NA

A.4. The baseline project and the problem that it seeks to address: The Project Document contains substantially expanded information and analysis regarding the baseline project and problem issues. This represents a strong and well-reasoned platform for project implementation. However, the baseline project and core challenges identified during project preparation were not substantially different from those identified in the original PIF.

A. 5. Incremental /Additional cost reasoning: describe the incremental (GEF Trust Fund/NPIF) or additional (LDCF/SCCF) activities requested for GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF financing and the associated global environmental benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or associated adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF) to be delivered by the project: NA

A.6 Risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and measures that address these risks: N/A

A.7. Coordination with other relevant GEF financed initiatives:

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

³ For questions A.1 –A.7 in Part II, if there are no changes since PIF and if not specifically requested in the review sheet at PIF stage, then no need to respond, please enter “NA” after the respective question.

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 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.

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.

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.

Regionally, this project is aligned with other GEF projects being prepared associated with the “Caribbean Challenge” Initiative (CCI), 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. While CCI countries are developing their National Conservation Trust Funds, the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF), a \$42 million regional endowment, is gearing up to support protected area management through annual disbursements to the national funds. 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.

B. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NOT ADDRESSED AT PIF STAGE:

B.1 Describe how the stakeholders will be engaged in project implementation.

Stakeholder participation was emphasized during project preparation through the participation of representatives of government agencies, donors, NGOs, private enterprises and local community groups through formal and informal discussions. The Strategic Results Framework workshop brought together a variety of stakeholders to discuss barriers, solutions, strategies, activities and priority regions for project intervention. MA and MITUR staff facilitated the Tracking Tool and Capacity Development Scorecard scoring exercises. The project design is fully vetted and stakeholder supported.

Project implementation will ensure the same emphasis on participation and inclusivity. Formal implementation guidance will be offered by a project steering committee comprised of representatives of key organizations. Stakeholder committees will be established at each pilot site to formalize participation. Stakeholders will also be integrated within project inception, planning, monitoring, and evaluation activities. Project management tools such as the project inception, annual work plans, mid-term review, and final evaluation will be made available to all interested stakeholders. The project management office, located in MITUR, will be responsible for catalyzing both formal and informal stakeholder participation.

Project activities will engage a wide and complex stakeholder base. Under Outcome 1, national, state, and local

level stakeholders will inform the design of regulatory reforms through programs and seminars that facilitate outreach and participation. Under Outcome 2, national and local stakeholders will benefit from numerous training programs that emphasize peer-to-peer communication, participation, and learning. Local community members will benefit from BD conservation management and tourism planning that sets in place lasting participation pathways.

The project has benefited from high-level government support since its initiation, particularly from top-level policy makers in both MA and MITUR. The table below represents the expected roles of each of the key stakeholders during the implementation of the project:

| Stakeholders | Project Implementation Role |
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| <p>Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MA)</p> <p>Vice Ministry (VM) Coastal Resources; VM Environmental Management, VM Protected Areas and Biodiversity</p> | <p>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.</p> <p>Specific dependent vice ministries and Directorates listed may be involved to a greater or lesser degree with specific aspects of implementation.</p> <p>Co-implementer of the project with the Tourism Ministry</p> |
| <p>MITUR - Ministry of Tourism</p> <p>Technical VM; Direction of Planning and Projects</p> | <p>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.</p> <p>Co-implementer of the project with the Environment Ministry.</p> |
| <p>MEPYD –Ministry of Economic Planning and Development</p> | <p>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 and the National Development Strategy.</p> |
| <p>Directorate General of Land Use and Development -DGODT</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>Municipal Governments</p> | <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The project will involve them in Technical assistance and training for the sectoral committees of Local Development on issues of Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism</p> |

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| | 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 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 Samana 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 |
| 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 |

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| | 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 Samana 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 |
| ART GOLD RD Programme | The ART Initiative 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 DGODT Coordinates with the 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 as the situation calls for. |
| USAID | USAID supports the Dominican Republic in democracy and governance, improving electoral processes and strengthening the participation of civil society in a responsible political system. The role in the project would be the use of the documents of the Samaná area made |

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| | 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. |

B.2 Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the Project at the national and local levels, including consideration of gender dimensions, and how these will support the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund/NPIF) or adaptation benefits (LDCE/SCCF):

The proposed project will have various socioeconomic benefits for the citizens of the Dominican Republic, contributing to the goal of enhancing the quality of life for a nation that has been challenged in recent years by natural disasters, rising food and fuel prices and high levels of unemployment. For coastal areas, conservation activities that arrest the degradation of coastal ecosystems (coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds, beaches, etc.) will produce widespread benefits by increasing the country’s resilience to climate change impacts. In addition, the Dominican Republic’s economy is highly dependent on tourism, thus the inclusion of BD conservation in Tourism regulations for coastal and marine areas will lead to improved economic revenue, food security and livelihoods. The country stands to benefit from a major economic boost by preventing the degradation of both terrestrial and marine ecosystems that are attractions for visitors, and generating tourism-related employment and income for many Dominicans over the long term.

The generation of tourism activities that are based on BD conservation principles will serve to maintain tourism-based, forest-related and fisheries-based livelihoods and contribute to overall food security, as well as protect communities from flooding, erosion, etc. Improved coastal water quality, marine habitat protection, and reductions in fishing pressure in critical habitat areas (through improved regulations and enforcement, and the provision of alternative fishing options) will enable local inhabitants and the tourism sector to sustainably exploit near-shore coastal biodiversity resources more effectively (e.g. reduced fish catch effort) and thus provide savings in costs of operations, and will prevent the decline of fish stocks important for local fishermen, including high value species such as lobster. Direct income generation will be increased for local communities through sustainable-tourism employment (in scuba diving / snorkelling, crafts, gastronomy and tour guiding), participating in PA management activities including maintenance, monitoring, research and BD monitoring, as well as the sale of souvenirs, food, and craft products.

B.3. Explain how cost-effectiveness is reflected in the project design:

The project development team has taken a qualitative approach to identifying the alternative of best value and feasibility for achieving the project objective 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 pilots are also cost-effective in several ways. The pilot sites were selected using several criteria related to cost-effectiveness, such as co-financing opportunities. Moreover, the sites were selected for their high concentration of tourism (or potential thereof), high revenue generation potential, along with their biodiversity significance. The pilot demonstrations will 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. In particular, given the Government’s focus on increasing tourism, especially in coastal/marine areas, the tools and activities that are generated and piloted through the project will be vital to the development of sustainable tourism nation-wide. 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.

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.

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.

C. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M & E PLAN:

The project will be monitored through the following M& E activities. The M& E budget is provided in the table below.

Project start: A Project Inception Workshop will be held within the first 3 months of project start with those with assigned roles in the project organization structure, UNDP Country Office (CO) and where appropriate/feasible regional technical policy and program advisors as well as other stakeholders. The Inception Workshop is crucial to building ownership for the project results and to plan the first year annual work plan.

The Inception Workshop will address a number of key issues including: (a) Assist all partners to fully understand and take ownership of the project. (b) Detail the roles, support services and complementary responsibilities of UNDP CO and RSC staff vis à vis the project team. (c) Discuss the roles, functions, and responsibilities within the project's decision-making structures, including reporting and communication lines, and conflict resolution mechanisms. (d) The Terms of Reference (TOR) for project staff will be discussed again as needed. (e) Based on the project results framework and the relevant GEF Tracking Tool if appropriate, finalize the first annual work plan. Review and agree on the indicators, targets and their means of verification, and recheck assumptions and risks. (f) Provide a detailed overview of reporting, M&E requirements. The M&E work plan and budget should be agreed and scheduled. (g) Discuss financial reporting procedures and obligations, and arrangements for annual audit. (h) Plan and schedule Project Steering Committee (PSC) meetings. Roles and responsibilities of all project organization structures should be clarified and meetings planned. The first PSC meeting should be held within the first 2 months following the inception workshop.

An Inception Workshop report is a key reference document and must be prepared and shared with participants to formalize various agreements and plans decided during the meeting.

Project Implementation Workplan: Immediately following the inception workshop, the project will be tasked with generating a strategic workplan. The workplan will outline the general timeframe for completion of key project outputs and achievement of outcomes. The workplan will map and help guide project activity from inception to completion. To ensure smooth transition between project design and inception, the inception workshop and work planning process will benefit from the input of parties responsible for the design of the original project, including as appropriate relevant technical advisors.

Quarterly: Progress made shall be monitored in the UNDP Enhanced Results Based Management Platform. Based on the initial risk analysis submitted, the risk log shall be regularly updated in ATLAS. Risks become critical when the impact and probability are high. Based on the information recorded in Atlas, a Project Progress Report (PPR) can be generated in the Executive Snapshot. Other ATLAS logs can be used to monitor issues, lessons learned etc. The use of these functions is a key indicator in the UNDP Executive Balanced Scorecard.

Annually (Annual Project Review/Project Implementation Reports (APR/PIR)): This key report is prepared to monitor progress made since project start and in particular for the previous reporting period (30 June to 1 July). The APR/PIR combines both UNDP and GEF reporting requirements.

The APR/PIR includes, but is not limited to, reporting on the following: (a) Progress made toward project objective and project outcomes - each with indicators, baseline data and end-of-project targets (cumulative); (b) Project outputs

delivered per project outcome (annual); (c) Lesson learned/good practice; (d) AWP and other expenditure reports; (e) Risk and adaptive management; (f) ATLAS QPR; (g) Portfolio level indicators (i.e. GEF focal area tracking tools) are used by most focal areas on an annual basis as well.

Periodic Monitoring through site visits: UNDP CO and the RSC will conduct visits to project sites based on the agreed schedule in the project's Inception Report/Annual Work Plan to assess first hand project progress. Other members of the PSC may also join these visits. A Field Visit Report/BTOR will be prepared by the CO and UNDP RSC and will be circulated no more than one month after the visit to the project team and PSC members.

Mid-term of project cycle: The project will undergo an independent Mid-Term Review during mid-point of project implementation (project months 28 – 29). The Mid-Term Review will determine progress being made toward 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 and terms of reference of the mid-term review will be decided after consultation between the parties to the project document. The TOR for this Mid-term review will be prepared by the UNDP CO based on guidance from the RSC and UNDP-GEF. This independent expert will be recruited at least six months prior to the planned commencement of the mid-term review. The management response and the review will be uploaded to UNDP corporate systems, in particular the [UNDP Evaluation Office Evaluation Resource Center \(ERC\)](#). The relevant GEF Focal Area Tracking Tools will also be completed during the mid-term review cycle.

End of Project: An independent Final Evaluation will take place three months prior to the final PSC meeting and will be undertaken in accordance with UNDP and GEF guidance. The final evaluation will focus on the delivery of the project's results as initially planned (and as corrected after the mid-term review, if any such correction took place). The final evaluation will look at impact and sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development and the achievement of global environmental benefits/goals. The TOR for this evaluation will be prepared by the UNDP CO based on guidance from the RSC and UNDP-GEF.

The Final Evaluation should also provide recommendations for follow-up activities and requires a management response which should be uploaded to PIMS and to the [UNDP Evaluation Office Evaluation Resource Center \(ERC\)](#). The relevant GEF Focal Area Tracking Tools will also be completed during the final evaluation.

During the last three months, the project team will prepare the Project Terminal Report. This comprehensive report will summarize the results achieved (objectives, outcomes, outputs), lessons learned, problems met and areas where results may not have been achieved. 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 results.

Learning and knowledge sharing: Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention zone through existing information sharing networks and forums. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to project implementation through lessons learned. The project will identify, analyze, and share lessons learned that might be beneficial in the design and implementation of similar future projects. Finally, there will be a two-way flow of information between this project and other projects of a similar focus.

Communications and Visibility Requirements

The project will comply with UNDP's Branding Guidelines, which can be accessed at:

<http://intra.undp.org/coa/branding.shtml>.

Specific guidelines on UNDP logo use can be accessed at: <http://intra.undp.org/branding/useOfLogo.html>. Amongst other requirements, these guidelines describe when and how the UNDP and the logos of donors to UNDP projects are 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

Full compliance will also be observed with the GEF's Communication and Visibility Guidelines (the "GEF Guidelines"), which can be accessed at:

These guidelines describe when and how the GEF logo needs to be used in project publications, vehicles, supplies and other project equipment. These Guidelines also describe other GEF promotional requirements regarding press releases, press conferences, press visits, visits by Government officials, productions and other promotional items. Where other agencies and project partners have provided support through co-financing, their branding policies and requirements will be similarly applied.

Audit Clause

The project will be audited in accordance with the UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules and applicable audit policies.

M&E Workplan and Budget

| Type of M&E activity | Responsible Parties | Budget US\$ <i>Excluding project staff time</i> | Time frame |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Inception Workshop & associated arrangements + report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project Team ▪ UNDP-CO ▪ UNDP-GEF | Indicative cost: 0 | Annually |
| Steering Committee Meetings and relevant meeting proceedings (minutes) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PM ▪ UNDP CO | Indicative cost: 0 | Following Project IW and subsequently at least once a year |
| Quarterly status reports | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project team | Indicative cost: 0 | To be determined by Project team and UNDP CO |
| Technical reports | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project team ▪ Hired consultants as needed | Indicative cost: 5,000 | To be determined by Project Team and UNDP-CO |
| Project Publications (e.g. technical manuals, field guides) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project team ▪ Hired consultants as needed | Indicative cost: 15,000 | To be determined by Project Team and UNDP-CO |
| Mid-term External Review | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project team, | Indicative cost: 25,000 | At the end of project |

| Type of M&E activity | Responsible Parties | Budget US\$ <i>Excluding project staff time</i> | Time frame |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Evaluation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNDP-CO ▪ UNDP-GEF RCU ▪ External Consultants (i.e. evaluation team) | | implementation |
| Terminal Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project team ▪ UNDP-CO ▪ External Consultant | Indicative cost: 5,000 | At least one month before the end of the project |
| Lessons learned | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project team ▪ UNDP-GEF RCU (suggested formats for documenting best practices, etc) ▪ End of Project Event | Indicative cost: 0 | Yearly |
| Audit | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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 III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

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

| NAME | POSITION | MINISTRY | DATE (MM/dd/yyyy) |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Patricia Abreu Fernández | Vice Minister for International Cooperation | MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT | 12/19/2012 |

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF criteria for CEO endorsement/approval of project.

| Agency Coordinator, Agency Name | Signature | Date (Month, day, year) | Project Contact Person | Telephone | Email Address |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Adriana Dinu, Executive Coordinator |  | December 16, 2014 | Lyes Ferroukhi, Regional Technical Adviser, EBD | +507 302-4576 | lyes.ferroukhi@undp.org |

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK:

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

| 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 - <i>Regulatory framework to strengthen the control and prevention of ecological impact from tourism in vulnerable coastal areas</i> | | | | | |
| Output 1.2: - <i>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</i> | | | | | |
| Output 1.3: - <i>A nationally approved biodiversity-friendly certification system for the tourism sector</i> | | | | | |

| 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 ⁴ : 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 unaware of how to | 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 the implementation of solutions to | Capacity Development Scorecard | |

⁴ 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 |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| | | 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 | 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 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 |
|---------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | <p>Ecosystem coverage in pilot areas:</p> <p>Montecristi -8,447 Hectares of mangrove forest representing an estimated 12,670 tons / year of carbon capture</p> <p>Samaná -7,080 Hectares of mangrove forests representing an estimated 10,632 tons / year of carbon capture</p> | <p>Tourism-based measures for recovery and stabilization maintain or increase ecosystem coverage in pilot areas:</p> <p>Montecristi -8,447 Hectares of mangrove forest representing an estimated 12,670 tons / year of carbon capture</p> <p>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</p> | 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. | <p>4 coastal PAs in pilot sites with sufficient visitor infrastructure:</p> <p>a) Cayo Arena PA Pilot in Montecristi has docks for boats</p> <p>b) Signage: -Montecristi: Cayo Arenas and El Morro - Samaná: Las Terrenas and Marine Mammal Sanctuary</p> <p>c) 2 Nature trails designed and built in Montecristi: - El Morro (Terrestrial Trail) - Cayo Arenas (Underwater Trail)</p> | <p>MA Inspection and surveillance reports</p> <p>Field reports from MA / MITUR</p> <p>Reports on project progress / website</p> | |

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*

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

| Comments | Response | Reference |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <p align="center"><u>GEF Secretariat</u></p> <p>N/A – no pending issues on Review Sheet</p> | -- | -- |
| <p align="center"><u>STAP</u></p> <p>N/A – no pending issues in comments below:</p> <p>STAP welcomes this excellent project, which addresses the intense and increasing threats to the coastal ecosystems and the catchment management systems that impact on them in the most biologically diverse country of the Caribbean.</p> <p>The descriptions of the project framework, the baseline description of threats, and the barriers to overcoming them, and current activities addressing these, are concise and well-articulated using pertinent and quantified information.</p> <p>The incremental reasoning around interventions for GEF support is realistic and clearly targeted to those facets in which GEF investment can have the greatest catalytic impact. Given the recognized capacity challenges, the proposal for an institutionalized training programme that will incrementally develop professional capacity, is especially welcomed, in view of the frequent failure of ad-hoc and short term training initiatives.</p> | -- | -- |
| <p align="center"><u>Germany</u></p> <p>Germany requests that the following requirements are taken into account during the design of the final project proposal; in addition, Germany requests that the Secretariat sends draft final project documents for Council review four weeks prior to CEO endorsement:</p> <p>The project proposal focusses on some of the core environmental and development challenges of the Dominican Republic. During the project formulation, the following aspects should be taken into account:</p> <p>- The role of the local population in the design and development of alternative management models (land use, ecotourism, etc.), and in the establishment and management of protected areas should be reflected in the project design. We consider it necessary to precisely define the extent to which the local population can participate in decision-making processes to design and to implement the project. We also highly recommend</p> | <p>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. In particular, the project will engage local communities in the design and implementation of BD-friendly tourism models in the pilots of Outcome 2, including activities to be generated within and surrounding the pilot areas. 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. The project will also work directly with local populations to access increased funding from various development funds to support sustainable economic alternatives within and surrounding pilot areas.</p> | <p>Section III, Part I Pilot Strategies</p> |

| Comments | Response | Reference |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>establishing a multi-stakeholder platform to ensure overall support of the project;</p> | <p>With regards to the formation of a multi-stakeholder platform, the project will address this at an institutional level, as well as at the local level. In Output 1.1, 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. 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.</p> <p>At the Pilot level, the establishment of a local multi-stakeholder platform will be determined through the development of the Integrated Sustainable Tourism Destination Plans for both Samana and Montecristi.</p> | <p>Section I, Part II, Subsection 2.2, Output 1.1</p> |
| <p>- The valuation of the ecosystem services should include all service areas of biodiversity (ecological, economic, social, traditional, educational, etc.), analyze conditions and trends, describe dependencies, describe who impacts on them, and who are winners and losers when it comes to their utilization and management;</p> | <p>Coastal and marine biodiversity in the DR sustains a major component of the country's GDP. The project will transform how the value of ecosystems and biodiversity is integrated into tourism development planning. To determine the most effective and sustainable approach to achieve this, the project will conduct a Strategic Environmental Assessment and updating of the National Tourism Development Plan at the national level through Output 1.1. This SEA will consider all service areas of biodiversity (ecological, economic, social, traditional, educational, etc.), analyze conditions and trends, users, impact, and highlight winners and losers regarding their utilization and management, particularly in the context of tourism development.</p> <p>Furthermore, the value of ecosystem services will be considered in the design and implementation of Integrated Sustainable Tourism Destination Plans for both Samana and Montecristi at the pilot level. An economic valuation study was conducted by Wielgus, J., E. Cooper, R. Torres y L. Burke and published in 2010: Capital Costero: República Dominicana as part of the World Resources Institute's Coastal Capital series, which aims to provide decision-makers in the Caribbean with information and tools that link the health of coastal ecosystems—including</p> | <p>Section I, Part II, Subsection 2.2, Output 1.1</p> |

| Comments | Response | Reference |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| | <p>coral reefs, mangroves, and beaches with the attainment of economic and social goals: http://www.wri.org/our-work/project/coastal-capital-economic-valuation-coastal-ecosystems-caribbean. WRI and its local partners conducted economic valuation studies of coral reefs and mangroves at national and subnational levels in five countries: Trinidad and Tobago, St. Lucia, Belize, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica. The project will not conduct another study specific to tourism, rather it will use the results of this study to identify and build support for policies that help to ensure healthy coastal ecosystems and sustainable economies within the objectives of the project</p> | |
| <p>- Page 5, Para 6 refers to the creation of local work commissions to combat desertification in arid areas. In this context, the Dominican Inter-Institutional Coordination Mechanism for the implementation of the UNCCD, the GTI (Grupo Tecnico Inter-Institucional) should be involved closely to provide lessons learned from similar experiences in the border region between the Dominican Republic and Haiti;</p> | <p>The original PIF envisioned a joint BD-LD intervention, but this was adjusted to a BD-only project. While the project is designed to align its interventions with the END, the focus of the approved PIF is exclusively on coastal-marine areas, rather than inland arid areas. As such, the project will not be working directly on the creation of local work commissions related to arid areas, rather, it 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, as well as ensuring MITUR has the necessary resources to operate.</p> | <p>Section I, Part II, Subsection 2.2, Output 1.1</p> |
| <p>- When it comes to developing adaptation measures, ecosystem-based approaches or “natural solutions” should always be considered systematically in wider adaptation efforts both on the community and national level;</p> | <p>While the project does not focus on the development of adaptation measures, the mainstreaming of BD conservation criteria within the tourism sector will safeguard the integrity of coastal-marine ecosystems that are vital to Dominican Republic’s resilience to Climate Change. This will be reflected in the National BD-Friendly Certification System’s consideration of zoning guidelines for Adaptation and complemented by the creation of a Dominican System of Indicators for Sustainable Tourism. The project will use information developed through the National Communications and NAPA (supported by UNDP) regarding tourism and coastal areas as issues to be addressed in the Adaptation Plan. This information will be updated in 2015, providing timely inputs for this project. In addition, Technology Needs Assessment proposals and proposed models for adaptation in the tourism sector will be considered,</p> | <p>Section I, Part II, Subsection 2.2, Output 1.3</p> |

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| | prepared by MA with support from UNEP; this will include nature-based approaches. | |
| <p>- With regard to improving governance both in the environmental and tourism sector, the entire range of available policy instruments should be considered (e.g. not only command and control instruments, but also information instruments, codes of conduct, voluntary industry agreements & standards, certifications, fiscal incentives, etc.);</p> | <p>Through Output 1.1, 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 a broad range of policy instruments will be considered, including those that are voluntary in nature, and 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 Samana. 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. The results of this will be reflected in Output 1.3's National BD-Friendly Certification System and complemented by the creation of a Dominican System of Indicators for Sustainable Tourism. The project will also support the strengthening of coordination spaces and technical information used for decision-making between the two ministries in Output 1.1.</p> | <p>Section I, Part II, Subsection 2.2, Outputs 1.1 and 1.3</p> |
| <p>- With regard to tourism development, the project proposal does not yet include any information on the sustainable tourism services which shall be offered in the two targeted regions. Therefore, we request a more detailed description of the proposed sustainable tourism services in the final project document to evaluate the feasibility of the project and the extent to which conservation of biodiversity in coastal areas and local community development can be integrated into the project;</p> | <p>The project will support the development and implementation of BD-friendly certification for destination/tourist services through an Integrated Sustainable Tourism Destination Plan for both Samana and Montecristi as part of the pilot interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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 and Montecristi will be the focus of research regarding nesting sites, as well as the design and placement of effective signage. (iii) Evaluation of the carrying capacity in selected coastal/marine tourism zones, for | <p>Section I, Part II, Subsection 2.2, Output 2.2</p> |

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| | <p>orienting further tourism development with a BD-friendly approach.</p> <p>(iv) Development of measures for rehabilitation of degraded dunes, beaches and wetlands.</p> <p>(v) An assessment of coral reefs of Montecristi 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.</p> <p>(vi) Building of 2 Nature Trails in the Protected Areas of El Morro and Cayo Arenas (underwater).</p> <p>(vii) Appropriate identification and signage of tourism areas in coastal/marine zones in order to prevent damages to BD conservation status.</p> | |
| <p>- From our experiences, we do not recommend developing a nationally approved certification system for the hotel industry, which is focusing only biodiversity issues. We would like to emphasize the importance of certification systems that holistically integrate all sustainability dimensions;</p> | <p>The project will support the development and implementation of environment-friendly certification for destination/tourist services through an Integrated Sustainable Tourism Destination Plan for both Samana and Montecristi as part of the pilot interventions. The expectation is that this certification process will generate benefits related to BD, as well as other factors including but not limited to CC resilience, water and soil quality, and socio-economic, to name a few. The project has been designed on the premise that "sustainable" tourism is not simply BD-based, but also includes an important social component as part of the abovementioned Integrated Sustainable Tourism Destination Plan. Thus the pilots are designed to be inclusive and catalyze opportunities for marginalized populations with the expectation that this in turn will further generate important environmental benefits.</p> | <p>Section I, Part II, Subsection 2.2, Output 2.2</p> |
| <p>- Regarding the training of stakeholders in conservation of biodiversity and sustainable tourism, we would like to underline that training measures have to be ensured not only in the beginning but throughout the entire project phase and they should be sustained after completing the project;</p> | <p>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 legal framework and incentives to adopt sustainable</p> | <p>Section I, Part II, Subsection 2.2, Output 2.1</p> |

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| | practices. It is envisioned that at least 300 people representing MA, MITUR, MEPyD, Private sector, Tour Operators, municipalities and community councils will be trained by the end of the project on BD friendly tourism practices. The training is designed to be ongoing and institutionalized so as to ensure continual follow-up and refreshers beyond the project's lifetime. | |
| - Since the activities between the MA (Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources) and its ecotourism department, the MITUR (Ministry of Tourism) and the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development do not seem to be coordinated yet, we would like to point out the importance of the coordination of their activities to facilitate a coherent framework for sustainable initiatives. For this, existing coordination measures and initiatives within the Dominican Republic should be considered. | 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. This will take into account the ecotourism plan developed by JICA between MITUR and MA. | Section I, Part II, Subsection 2.2, Output 1.1 |
| <p style="text-align: center;">USA</p> <p>N/A – no pending issues in comments below:</p> <p>We believe that this project is very relevant and timely in light of the attention responsible tourism development in protected areas has recently received in local media. The project appears to have included all of the necessary stakeholders, and its impacts will likely be appreciated by the surrounding communities in the Samana and Monte Christi areas.</p> | -- | -- |
| Response to GEF Comments dated 2 December 201 | | |
| GEF Secretariat Comment | Response | Reference |
| <p>14. The FA strategy framework states that 2 policy and regulatory frameworks will be targeted, but the text only focuses on tourism.</p> <p>The Tracking Tool measures BD mainstreaming in both tourism and fisheries policy, therefore, this is not clear.</p> <p>Please clarify.</p> | The project will directly impact tourism policy at the national level, and planning and land use at the local level. The project will also have an indirect impact on the fisheries sector by strengthening the control and prevention of ecological impact from tourism in vulnerable coastal areas, The Tracking Tool has been revised accordingly. | Tracking Tool (rows 17, 25-32, 133-168) |
| <p>27. There are two problems in the TT.</p> <p>First, the TT is measuring two sectors for policy mainstreaming, fisheries and tourism,</p> | The main focus of the project is biodiversity and tourism. | Tracking Tool (rows 17, 25-32, 133-168) |

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| <p>but the logframe only tracks changes in tourism. Please clarify what sector(s) are the focus of the project. Please also see comments above in question 14 on the FA strategy framework.</p> <p>Second, the TT provides a measure of progress in policy mainstreaming that is already at the highest level achievable, therefore, it calls into question why the policy mainstreaming elements of the project are even needed. Please review the TT section on policy mainstreaming again with this in mind and provide an explanation and clarification.</p> | <p>The project will address fisheries indirectly, as detailed below and in the revised Tracking Tool:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The regulatory framework to strengthen the control and prevention of ecological impact from tourism in vulnerable coastal areas, see Output 1.1. regarding the updated National Tourism Development Plan (NTDP) which will ensure the protection of BD resources (ecosystems, species and fisheries). - The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) will revise the permits and licenses of tourism activities that have a high impact on BD (sport fishing centers and diving, cruises, tour agencies). - The nationally approved biodiversity-friendly certification system for the tourism sector will develop Guidelines for the ecolabelling of fish products for tourism (see Output 1.3). - The project will support synergies with other ongoing initiatives related to tourism SMEs in Samaná and Montecristi, that will contribute to addressing encroachment, coastal erosion, fire control and prevention, water management, agricultural practices, destructive fishing practices (<i>arrastre</i> and <i>bleach</i>), destruction of reefs, turtle and egg capture, and collection of corals. This will be addressed by the Awareness and Training Program regarding Biodiversity and Sustainable Tourism aimed at public, private and community sectors. <p>Thanks for your comment on the measure of progress in policy mainstreaming. There was a misunderstanding while filling out this section and what had been entered was the end result that the project seeks to achieve. This has now been corrected and reflects the current status.</p> | |
| <p>29. However, the characterization that a GEF request was the reason that the LD component be removed is inaccurate. The</p> | <p>The text has been corrected.</p> | <p>CEO EndReq</p> |

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| <p>LD component was removed as the proposal was unable to demonstrate any linkage to the LD strategy, thereby making it ineligible for LD Funds. Please correct this.</p> | | <p>Annex B</p> |
| <p>33. In addition, please note that paragraph 149 which is copied below is not consistent with GEF policy:</p> <p>149. In order to accord proper acknowledgement to GEF for providing funding, a GEF logo should appear on all relevant GEF project publications, including among others, project hardware and vehicles purchased with GEF funds. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by GEF should also accord proper acknowledgment to GEF. The UNDP logo should be more prominent - and separated from the GEF logo if possible, as UN visibility is important in its capacity as GEF Implementing Agency.</p> <p>Please delete the last sentence which is not consistent of GEF policy. Please refer to GEF/C.40/08.</p> | <p>The following text replaces paragraph 149, in accordance with GEF policy:</p> <p>Communications and visibility requirements:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Where other agencies and project partners have provided support through co-financing, their branding policies and requirements should be similarly applied.</p> | <p>ProDoc paragraph 149</p> |

ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS⁵

A. PROVIDE DETAILED FUNDING AMOUNT OF THE PPG ACTIVITIES FINANCING STATUS IN THE TABLE BELOW:

| PPG Grant Approved at PIF: 77,138 | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i> | <i>GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF Amount (\$)</i> | | |
| | <i>Budgeted Amount</i> | <i>Amount Spent To date</i> | <i>Amount Committed</i> |
| 1. Validation of target sites; species and baselines for on-the-ground intervention in the FSP | 20,000 | 4,035 | 15,965 |
| 2. In depth analysis of national and local capacities related to the conservation of BD in areas targeted by current and future tourism development | 28,538 | 22,038 | 6,500 |
| 3. Development of key project design elements | 28,600 | 16,796 | 11,804 |
| Total | 77,138 | 42,869.00 | 34,269.00 |

⁵ If at CEO Endorsement, the PPG activities have not been completed and there is a balance of unspent fund, Agencies can continue undertake the activities up to one year of project start. No later than one year from start of project implementation, Agencies should report this table to the GEF Secretariat on the completion of PPG activities and the amount spent for the activities.