CIREQUEST FOR BIODIVERSITY ENABLING ACTIVITY

PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GEF TRUST FUND

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

EA Title:	**National Biodiversity Planning to Support the implementation of the CBD 2011-2020 Strategic Plan in Ecuador**		
Country(ies):	**Ecuador**	GEF Project ID:	4863
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	4828
Other Executing Partner(s):	**Ministry of the Environment, National Direction for Biodiversity**	Submission Date:	April, 03 2012
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration (Months)	24
Check if applicable:	NCSA ☐ NAPA ☐	Agency Fee ($):	25,144

A. EA FRAMEWORK

EA Objective: To integrate Ecuador's obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) into its national development and sectoral planning frameworks through a renewed and participative 'biodiversity planning' and strategizing process, in a manner that is in line with the global guidance contained in the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020.

EA Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount ($)	Confirmed Cofinancing ($)
1) Stocktaking and national target setting	TA	By end of 2012, a multi-sectoral/multi-stakeholder working group is established and it completes the stock-taking exercise. By 2012, national targets in response to the global Aichi Targets are developed.	1.1 Review and stocktaking of products and results from previous biodiversity planning processes at the national level are carried out in participative manner. This will include an eco-regional approach to enable tailoring the draft targets initially defined at the national level to take into account eco-regional specific threats; responses; implementation constraints, opportunities and priorities. Specific products will be: • Updated baselines for different Aichi targets for each of the eco-regions of the country, as well as new challenges and resource availability identified. • Ecoregional diagnoses and targets aggregated into matrices showing relative importance of the different Aichi targets in all sub-regions and the potential targets that could be defined along with costs and challenges. 1.2 In response to the global Aichi Targets, the final national biodiversity targets will be defined to reflect the highly significant differences of each eco-region and the emerging decentralization of environmental governance, in particular: • Specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound sub-regional targets (Andean, Amazon; Coast and Galapagos) • Validated specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound national targets based on eco-regional targets and initial assessment of costs and resources for their achievement 1.3 The achievement of national targets, developed in line with the global Aichi Targets, is duly monitored during the project duration and beyond, and this is reported upon to the CBD through national reports and other means. 1.4 In an iterative manner, Ecuador taps into useful information on, and participates into, global networks and initiatives on biodiversity data and indicators (such as the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership[1], Global Biodiversity Information	36,067	91,126

[1] www.bipindicators.net

EA Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount ($)	Confirmed Cofinancing ($)
			Facility[2] and the World Conservation Monitoring Centre[3], the Global Environment Outlook portal[4], among other relevant ones).		
2) NBSAP update	TA	- By early 2014, the Ecuador's NBSAP is fully updated, it is in line with the guidance in the CBD Strategic Plan (2011-2020) and has been submitted to the CBD COP	2.1 A National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for Ecuador's, anchored into national development frameworks, is revised, in a manner that is participative, widely disseminated and fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan, such as: mainstreaming; the valuing of ecosystem goods and services; and the incorporation of challenges and opportunities linked to ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience. This strategy will also include specific strategies anchored in the development plans of the Regional Governments that constitute each major environmental region of the country. 2.2 The updated and fully endorsed NBSAPs for Ecuador is submitted to the CBD preferably within the deadline set by the COP. 2.3 The economic cost and benefits of sustainable environmental management practices within one agricultural sub-sector has been determined and socialized amongst decision makers as a way to foster understanding of the value of ecosystem maintenance for the economy and food security and sovereignty in line with the national efforts to achieve good living (Sumak Kawsay) for the people.	95,708	180,391
3) National frameworks for NBSAP implementation, CDB reporting and exchange mechanisms	TA	- By 2013, complete the updating and improvement of national clearinghouse mechanisms - By 2014, complete plan for implementing the NBSAP, including capacity, technology and finance needs assessment	3.1 National frameworks for NBSAP implementation is in place and includes: institutional leadership for implementation established and strategic partnerships forged (nationally and internationally). Emphasis will be also placed on: • a costed and prioritized Action Plan appended to the NBS; • a needs assessments on capacity, technology; • an in-depth assessment on the financial needs of biodiversity management and AP implementation 3.2 A strategy for resource mobilization for the implementation of the NBSAP is produced and includes a baseline assessment of existing biodiversity finance and an estimate of the implementation costs of the NBSAP and how they would be distributed amongst stakeholders. 3.3 An effective, user-friendly and easily updatable country-driven CHM site is developed; it is linked up to the CBD's global CHM networks and to other information and knowledge exchange network on biodiversity. 3.4. Immediate CBD reporting obligations are met by Ecuador in a timely manner, in particular the fifth National Report to the CBD by 31 March 2014.	98,072	112,791
Subtotal				229,847	384,308
EA Management Cost[5]				21,595	59,250
Total EA Cost				251,442	443,558

[2] www.gbif.org
[3] www.unep-wcmc.org
[4] geodata.rrcap.unep.org
[5] This is the cost associated with the unit executing the project on the ground and could be financed out of trust fund or co-financing sources.

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount ($)
National Government	Ministry of Environment, National Direction for Biodiversity	In Kind	50,000
National Government	Ministry of Environment, National Direction for Biodiversity	Grant	273,558
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grant	120,000
Total Co-financing			**443,558**

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

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/Global	EA Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)=(a)+(b)
UNDP	GEF TF	Biodiversity Focal Area Set-Aside	Ecuador	226,442	22,644	249,086
UNDP	GEF TF	Biodiversity (STAR)	Ecuador	25,000	2,500	27,500
Total Grant Resources				**251,442**	**25,144**	**276,586**

D. EA MANAGEMENT COST

Cost Items	Total Estimated Person Weeks	Grant Amount ($)	Co-financing ($)	EA Total ($)
Local consultants*	35	21,595	25,000	46,595
International consultants*		0	0	0
Office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications*		0	4,250	4,250
Travel*		0	25,000	25,000
Other**: Workshops co-financed by government		0	5,000	5,000
Total		**21,595**	**59,250**	**80,845**

* Details to be provided in Annex A. ** Other items to be clearly specified.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR TABLE D, IF APPLICABLE:

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

A number of expenses related to office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications will be covered by the Ministry of Environment of Ecuador (MAE). This has been estimated at approximately US$4,250 In addition, the time that managerial staff from this entity will dedicate to the project, in particular the time spent on coordinating activities, has been estimated at $25,000 for the duration of the project. This amounts to approximately 60 persons-week.

In addition there will be a significant amount of travel required from the management team to take part in and guide the eco-regional specific consultations; analyses and target setting required to update the NBSAP in a way that reflects Ecuador's bio-diverse, multiethnic, multicultural and pluri-national characteristics. These expenses have been estimated at $25,000 from co-funding.

GEF's resources are requested for engaging the managerial services of the 'Project Coordinator' for approx 35weeks ($21,595), which is equivalent to 40% of the person's time for the larger part of the project dedicated strictly to project management. In addition to managerial skills a successful candidate would have biodiversity planning expertise and would provide technical assistance for part time (60%) to specific Project outputs (see Annex C).

Refer to Annex A and to the Total Budget and Workplan in Annex C for more details.

PART II: ENABLING ACTIVITY JUSTIFICATION

A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

1. The Republic of Ecuador covers 276,840 square kilometres and shares borders with Colombia and Peru. Its physical geography consists of three continental regions: the highland or sierra region, the lowland Amazon or Oriente region, and the Pacific coastal region. In addition a fourth region is the Galapagos archipelago. Each of these regions has highly different ecological and socio economic characteristics. The *coastal region* to the west of the Andean range is characterized ecologically by the critically endangered Ecuadorian Dry Forest and Western Ecuadorian moist forest; as well as the rich Esmeraldas, Manbi and Gulf of Guayquil mangrove complexes. Socio-economically this region consists of 6 provinces and is the country's most fertile and productive land, with large banana exportation plantations and where most of Ecuador's rice crop is grown. Along the coast there are active fisheries particularly shrimp farms. The *Andean region* is characterised by the NW and Cordillera Real Andean Montane forests and the Northern Andean Paramo ecoregions. This region has 7 provinces and most of Ecuador's volcanoes. Agriculture is mainly traditional crops of potato, maize, and quinua in a rural population that is predominantly Kichua indigenous groups. In the east of the Andes *the Amazon region* is characterised by vast stretches of the Napo tropical moist forest ecoregion. It has 6 provinces; a large number of national parks and indigenous intangible zones set aside for the Amazon indigenous tribes (Shuar, Huaorani and Kichua) to continue living traditionally. It is also the area with the largest reserves of oil in Ecuador,

2. Ecuador's marine and insular regions consist of the Galapagos Archipelago – a globally outstanding repository of marine and terrestrial biodiversity and centre of endemism, located 972 km from the mainland with 5 islands larger than 500 km^2, 14 smaller ones, and over 90 islets and rocks. In addition Ecuador's coastline covers 2,237 km with a high diversity of ecosystems including beaches, bays, estuaries, cliffs, coastal lagoons and rocky coasts being the most representative.

3. This diverse geography along with Ecuador's equatorial location at the juncture of two ocean currents and the relatively recent rise of the Andean mountain range has resulted in an extremely high level of biodiversity within the relatively small area of the country. It has the highest biodiversity per unit area for the South American continent and is ranked 8th in the list of 18 "megadiverse" countries of the world. Ecuador houses 2 of the 34 hot spots of the world, Tumbes-Chocó-Madgalena and Tropical Andes. At the level of ecosystem diversity, the most recent classification, specifically tailored for the country, identifies a total of 66 ecosystems on the continent, with 27 in the Highland Region, 21 in the Coastal Region and 18 in the Amazon Region.

4. Ecuador is considered to have amongst the highest biodiversity of animal and plant species in the world by surface area, reaching 9.2 species per square kilometer (excluding all the marine species and habitats). It has an estimated 25,000 species of plants and 15,306 vascular plants listed (approximately 10% of the world's total), of which 4,173 plants are endemic and around 8,200 orchids alone have been identified. The fauna of Ecuador is also very rich, with an estimated 800 species of freshwater fish and 450 marine fish, 422 amphibians species (third in the world), 375 reptile species, 333 mammal species, 1,618 bird species (more than half the bird species of the continent and more than a sixth of the total bird species of the world) and over one million insect species, of which around 4,500 are butterflies. Furthermore, it has a high level of endemism as a result of the interaction of ecological, climatic and paleo-geographic factors. For example, it hosts almost 15% of all endemic bird species of the world.

5. Ecuador's HDI value for 2010 was 0.695 —high human development category— positioning the country at 77 out of 169 countries and areas. However, when the value is discounted for inequality, the HDI falls to 0.554, i.e. a loss of 20 per cent due to inequality. Ecuador's economy has traditionally relied on exporting primary products. Cocoa beans were the main export between 1900 and 1925, bananas between 1948 and 1970, and oil from 1972 onwards. Since 2006, migrant remittances have represented the second largest source of national income after oil revenues. Life expectancy at birth is 75.4 years; and the mean years of schooling are 7.6. One of the most pressing challenges for Ecuador is the improvement of the wellbeing of the country's rural poor, especially through productive initiatives that can generate income and reduce inequity while preserving the country's cultural and environmental wealth. Currently 51% of Ecuadorians live under poverty conditions, and 15.5% (approximately 2 million people) live in extreme poverty. Eighty percent of the poor are concentrated in rural areas. Ecuador is a multiethnic and multicultural and plurinational society, integrated by 13 indigenous nationalities, as well as communities of African descent and people of mixed cultural roots. The indigenous and Afro Ecuadorian communities are the most vulnerable groups: 95% of indigenous households and 83% of Afro Ecuadorian households live below the poverty line According to the first National Report on the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), Ecuador is not likely to achieve MDG Objective 1 by 2015 (to diminish extreme poverty by 50%).

Threats to Biodiversity:

Habitat / land use change :

6. Habitat loss and fragmentation are caused principally by deforestation and desertification. Losses are already significant. Natural vegetal ecosystems in Ecuador have been calculated to amount to 55% of the mainland surface in 2001. The remains of dry inter-Andean vegetation are only 5%, while Andean rainforest remains are calculated at 21%. The main drivers include petroleum production, mining, forestry, sheepherding and agriculture. Aquaculture and fishing are also increasingly placing intense pressure on fragile ecosystems. Close to 28% of GDP comes from these sectors. Much of the informal economy, especially in rural areas, also depends indirectly on extractive industries. Without properly established and implemented legal and economic tools, incentives and effective alternatives, these economic practices will continue to prevail, to the detriment of Ecuador's biological heritage. New settlements are increasingly occurring in the buffer zones of Protected Areas. Farmers typically practice low-productivity agriculture and sheepherding characterized by inefficient soil and water conservation practices. This creates a vicious cycle that increases encroachment into PAs in search for new land. The prevalence of high density grazing puts pressure on paramos and coastal forests and leads to further degradation of pastures. The relative instability of agricultural commodities prices, compared to livestock commodities, has created incentives to switch land use, especially on the Coast. Farmers also use livestock as savings and securities for emergency expenses. Extensive cattle-rearing and subsistence agriculture is listed as one of the major threats in the Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve, Chimborazo Faunal Reserve, Cayambe-Coca Ecological Reserve, and Los Illinizas Ecological Reserve. In coastal and marine areas, such as Galera San Francisco, aquaculture is listed as a major threat.

Overexploitation:

7. Demand for Ecuador's timber has increased steadily (9.7 cubic meters/ year). Most of the public protected areas are affected by this threat. For instance, timber extraction is listed as the main threat in the Mache-Chindul Ecological Reserve, amongst others. Indirect drivers of unsustainable logging include high discount rates that act as a perverse incentive for other uses of forest resources, and lack of access to improved technology and knowledge systems which perpetuate unsustainable timber extraction practices. In private forests that have not yet been legally declared as protected forests, current and expected legislation create incentives to clear 50-80% of the forest in order to avoid public expropriation of private lands. An estimated 492,494 people living in protected areas and their buffer zones use fuel wood as their main source of energy; an estimated 5 million cubic meters of wood is lost every year as fuel wood. Alternative options for reducing dependence on forest for fuel wood are not available to villagers, or are too costly to obtain. In marine and coastal PAs, high demand for resources such as lobsters and sea cucumbers, is leading to overexploitation.

Invasive Alien Species

8. Introduced aggressive exotic species are the most severe threat in the Galapagos Island with its numerous endemic plant and animal species. More than 50 percent of the Galapagos flora has been introduced in the last 500 years since the discovery of the archipelago by the Spanish. This is about 10 000 times the rate at which species arrived in Galapagos prior to human settlement. More than 40 of the 550 introduced plant species have become invasive. Adverse effects of aggressive invasive exotic species include predation on endemic giant tortoise eggs and young by feral animals, competition from aggressive colonizing plant species such as guava (*Psidium guajava*) that threatens the survival of numerous endemic plant species. With the support of the GEF Ecuador has made significant advances in the control of some of the most aggressive IAS for example eradication feral goats from the largest Island Isabela; setting up improved quarantine and inspection procedures and establishing a fund for IAS. However the threat is still great and all introduced species in the Galapagos Islands should be considered potentially harmful to its endemic organisms and natural evolutionary processes and require continued control and surveillance. IAS are also a growing threat in continental Ecuador Thirty invasive exotic species have been recorded in Ecuador, they include: one microorganism, one fungus, five aquatic plants, seven terrestrial plants, two terrestrial invertebrates, three amphibians, five fishes, and six mammals. Sixteen of these species occur on one or more of the Galapagos Islands; two occur in the Amazon and the coastal plain; three occur in the Amazon; four occur in the highlands and the other five are not restricted to a specific region (MAE, 2010). The lessons learnt in Galapagos may be replicated elsewhere in the country and into other islands within the archipelago; the NBSAP updating process provides an excellent opportunity for this task.

Pollution

9. Since the early 1970's, about 30% of the Ecuadorian Amazon has been deforested and/or polluted and entire indigenous cultures, such as the Tagaeri and Taromenane have been placed in danger of extinction as a result of the oil industry and accelerated colonization facilitated by the oil roads. Until the recent Constitution, the oil industry was allowed to operate not only in national parks and reserves, but also in indigenous territories. The newly endorsed NDP[6] and Constitutional commitment to fulfill *Sumak Kawsay* (good living) and the Rights of Nature provide the legal framework to work towards ensuring this is no longer possible. In coastal and marine areas, discharge of household sewage and urban waste water is a major threat. In sewage

[6] Ecuador's National Programme Document submitted to the 6th UN-REDD Policy Board Meeting

runoff is a particularly serious issue as waste waters of some municipalities are still being dumped directly into the rivers that flow into natural reserves.

Climate Change

10. Climate change is expected to increase previously cited pressures to Biodiversity. The Global Climate Risk Index, constructed for a period between 1997 and 2006 and covering both human and economic impact, ranks Ecuador 29th out of 177 countries, underscoring the country's high vulnerability to weather-related events. According to the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Aquaculture and Fisheries, the floods affecting Ecuador in January 2008 lead to the destruction of 114,384 hectares of agricultural land, the floods affecting Ecuador in January 2008 lead to the destruction of 114,384 hectares of agricultural land, the majority of these being pastures for animal grazing, rice fields as well as land dedicated to the cultivation of cocoa, banana and corn. These changes are expected to have an impact on natural habitat as more farmers look for new land in new altitudes to ensure crop adequacy. Increased variability and overall decline in rainfall as well as increase in temperatures are predicted over large parts of Ecuador's that will increase sudden fires that are common during summer in the whole country due to its equinoctial position. Numerous Ecuadorian Government institutions and planning agencies are concerned about the impacts of climate change and comprise a recently-formed Inter-Institutional Committee on Climate Change, led by the Ministry of the Environment.

Institutions responsible for managing biodiversity

11. In recent decades Ecuador has promoted a series of rules and regulations for the protection, conservation and sustainable use of natural resources that have high relevance for this project. The country is embarking on a new development model based on the respect for the rights of nature, social equity, and the sustainable use of resources. One of the most significant reforms is the new 2008 Constitution of the Republic of Ecuador, which states that the major driving force in policy is the fulfilment of Sumak Kawsay[7] and the Rights of Nature. A second is a new Environmental Code that continued to strengthen the process of decentralised governance. In February 2011 a Code of Territorial Organization, Autonomy and Decentralization (COOTAD) was approved under this new Code. In alignment with the Constitution of the Republic, the Autonomous Decentralized Governments (GAD) are responsible for the conservation and management the environment in their respective territories, pursuant to the guidelines given by the environmental authority and subject to their abilities to perform these roles. Thus although the Ministry of the Environment heads the environmental regulatory system and defines overall policies and regulations, this is implemented under a decentralized national system of environmental management. Provincial autonomous governments govern direct, order, arrange, or organize environmental management, environmental advocacy and nature, within their territory. They are in charge of the recovery and conservation of nature and the maintenance of a sustainable environment. Environmental licensing can be undertaken at the local government level if registered as a recognized authority if not it is undertaken at the level provincial government. In addition in recognition of Ecuador's pluirnational status, there are some specific territorial units formed based on environmental cultural or ethnic population reasons, for example, territorial districts of indigenous peoples and nationalities and the governing council of the province of Galapagos. This increasing level of decentralization of the overall governance framework for biodiversity conservation requires the participation of all levels in the NBSAP updating process not only to reflect the reality of the country but to also enable successful implementation.

The PA system in Ecuador:

12. This decentralisation and increasing relevance of local action in attaining conservation goals is reflected in Ecuador's approach to protected areas which is central to the Government's biodiversity conservation strategy. Forty five (45) public protected areas (PAs) have been created that are referred to as the Natural Protected Areas Heritage of Ecuador (or PANE by its Spanish acronym). Protected areas within the existing PANE sub-system are established on State-owned land and mandated by the Constitution (Article 86, Number 3).They encompass 4,822,186 hectares of land (approximately 18.8% of the country's total land area), as well as 14,220,468 hectares of marine area. The sub-system is distributed over all 24 Ecuadorian provinces, covers all four of the primary geographic regions, and ranges in altitude from 0 to 6,700 meters above sea level. With respect to PANE's ecological representativity, the PANE PA includes 40 of the 46 vegetation formations found in Ecuador[8]. Excluding the Galapagos National Park and Marine Reserve and the Yacuri Protected Area, 80.27% of the 4,822,186 hectares on Ecuador's mainland is classified either as: very high, high or medium in terms of priority for conservation [2,047,193 Ha of very high priority; 1,503,123 Ha of high priority, and 320,918 Ha of medium priority] [9,10,11]. In recognition of the need to expand the

[7] Sumak Kawsay is a Quichua word that means life at its fullest in harmony with nature.

[8] An updated study of ecosystems conservation gaps was done in 2007 with similar findings but using a different methodology: Cuesta-Camacho, F. y M. Peralvo, 2007, Identificación de vacios de Conservación de la Biodiversidad Terrestre en el Ecuador Continental. Informe Final de Trabajo, Ministerio del Ambiente del Ecuador, Dirección Nacional de Biodiversidad y Áreas Protegidas, Quito Ecuador.

[9] These priorities were developed by Sierra et al. based on several variables including assessing representation and biological risk (% of original vegetation formation in PANE's PA species-level ecosystem attributes; and exposure to human pressure. Sierra, R., F. Campos y J. Chamberlin (1999). Areas Prioritarias para la Conservacion de la Biodiversidad en el Ecuador Continental. Un Estudio Basado en la Biodiversidad de Ecosistemas y su Ornitofauna. Proyecto INEFAN/GEF, EcoCiencia and Wildlife Conservation Society. 171 pp.

ecological represetnativity, and in a bid to increase connectivity, a 10 year Protected Area Plan was developed in 2007 outlining an expanded National System of Protected. This is known as the SNAP and would include 4 sub-systems The PANE; a decentralised government area sub system; community areas subsystem and a protected private lands subsystems. With the support of GEF the GoE is developing a financial framework that would enable the full development of such an expanded system. In summary Ecuador has made significant progress in implementing the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas. It has completed comprehensive terrestrial and marine ecological gap assessments and made great progress in filling those gaps, more than half of protected areas have management plans, far exceeding the percentage globally; the country has assessed the social and economic value of protected areas; there is a comprehensive capacity assessment for protected areas; and the Ecuador is making good progress in assessing sustainable finance needs.

Barriers to effective NBS implementation:

13. As a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Ecuador has historically fulfilled its obligations. Between 2000 and 2001 it generated baseline assessments and a national policy and strategy for the period 2001 to 2010; an action plan and the first national communication to the Convention. Subsequently the strategy was published and disseminated (MAE, 2001) and formalized as a state policy in January 2007. Advances have been made in the implementation of the NBSAP however there is a need to update this to reflect the highly significant reforms described above not least of which is the fulfilment of Sumak Kawsay and the Rights of Nature and the realities of the new decentralised governance framework. Likewise, there are a number of gaps that have not been addressed by NBSAP in particular with regards to the eco-regional approach; finance and climate change and other issues that have encountered constraints in implementation. These become more relevant in the context of the CBD's Strategic Plan 2011-2020 (Aichi Targets). Some barriers for the effective implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan include:

14. PA representativity: As noted above despite the fact that PANE incorporates areas from the majority of ecosystems within the country, there are some remaining gaps in terms of representativity. The 6 vegetation formations not covered are coastal foothill semi-deciduous forest, Bálsamo Mountain range, Andes lower montane semi-deciduous forest and other vegetation types located in central and southern inter Andean valleys (sierra) of Ecuador such as Andes montane dry shrub and the Southern Andes humid shrub.[12] Moreover, 25 of these vegetation formations are underrepresented and 21 are represented with less than 10% of original surface in the PANE protected areas subsystem.[13] In addition, the country has only begun to identify and establish connectivity corridors. There are a number projects that will provide support for this but challenges remain, particularly in regard to community; private and municipal protected areas.

15. Decentralised Governance: Equally although the new COOTAD establishes clear roles and responsibilities for decentralised governance many regional and local authorities have encountered capacity constraints to fulfil these new functions. On the other hand national institutions also require additional strengthening so they will act as promotional organizations of national policies and create incentives for local actions for implementing the National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan. Furthermore they also need strengthening to promote scientific research to create a solid basis for decision-making processes, policy development appropriate guiding frameworks.

16. Poverty alleviation in rural poor: At a more generic level given the priority Ecuador has placed on the improvement of the wellbeing of the country's rural poor, increasing efforts are being made to identify productive initiatives that can generate income and reduce inequity. These will need to be carefully planned to ensure they take into account the need to preserve the country's cultural and environmental wealth. This will require careful assessments of different productive possibilities particularly in the agricultural area and the assessment of trade-offs and costs of action so that decision makers have a stronger understanding of the value of ecosystem maintenance for the economy and food security.

17. Biodiversity funding gap: A further challenge is to fully determine the cost of biodiversity conservation. Although some advances on the financial needs have been made for protected areas little has been done to determine costs in the broader landscape or to adopt an ecoregional approach that recognises the different degrees of threats- and hence management costs – in each region. The existing NBSAP does not detail biodiversity threats specific to each eco-region or to regional-specific opportunities, challenges and hence costs to address these threats. Similarly the expected impact of climate change on many ecosystems and Ecuador's high vulnerability will shift the cost equation and will need to be assessed in a financial planning. Determining the funding gap is only one side of the coin. Reliable resource flows will be required to enable the achieved the Aichi targets once the NBSAP has been defined. Although Ecuador has made significant progress in developing new financial mechanisms such as the emerging Yasuni ITT initiative. There is insufficient funding for conservation actions including

[10] Ministry of Environment, Strategic Plan for the National System of Protected Areas of Ecuador 2007-2016, Final Report of GEF/WB Project consultancy, REGAL-ECOLEX, Quito.

[11] In addition to harbouring unique biodiversity, the PANE is a source of key environmental services, especially those related to hydrological services that meet electricity and water supply needs of Ecuadorian cities. Salazar and Rodriguez (2007) calculated that water-related environmental services provided a total value of 3.4% of GDP, while potential carbon-related environmental services would contribute an additional value of 24.7% of GDP.

[12] Vegetation types are based on Sierra et al. 1999 classification. . Sierra, R., C. Ceron, W. Palacios, & R. Valencia, 1999, Mapa de Vegetación del Ecuador Continental, Scale 1:1,000,000, Proyecto INEFAN/GEF-BIRF, Wildlife Conservation Society and EcoCiencia, Quito, Ecuador.

[13] Freile, J F. & Santander T. 2005. Áreas importantes para la conservación de las aves en el Ecuador. pp. 283-470, Serie de Conservación de BirdLife No. 14. As well as in: Sierra R., F. Campos &J. Chamberlin, 1999, *ibid*

insufficient incentives for private sector conservation of biodiversity. Underlying this is the need to continue and increase the level of awareness among citizens and the private sector regarding biodiversity conservation actions and mainstreaming.

1) National Reporting to CBD			
www.cbd.int/reports/search			
Reports	**Date of Submission to CBD Secretariat**	**Current Status***	**Comments**
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan	30-3-2001	Submitted	Now out of date; need to incorporate Aichi Targets
Revision of NBSAP		Not completed	Funding being applied in this proposal
1st National Report	11-03- 1998	Submitted	
2nd National Report	17-02-2010	Submitted	
3rd National Report	17-02-2010	Submitted	
4th National Report	31-03-2010	Submitted	

2) **Capacity Needs Assessments carried out**	**YES X☒**	**NO ☐**
Start Date 2004	End Date 2010	
Please list all of the CBD Program of Work and cross-cutting themes that were addre0ssed in the Biodiversity Enabling Activities Capacity Needs Assessments:		**Dates**
▪ Cross-cutting capacity needs assessments for the implementation of the Rio Conventions See e.g. http://ncsa.undp.org/report_detail.cfm?ProjectId=347&statusId=1		2004
▪ Under the Fourth National Report to the CBD: – Agricultural Biodiversity – Forest Biodiversity – Migratory species – Wetlands – Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing – Biodiversity for Development – Invasive Alien Species – Protected Areas – Sustainable Use of Biodiversity		2010
3) Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) established?		**YES X☒ NO ☐**
CHM link(s):	Not available at the moment, site under renovation	
Is the CHM website maintained up to date?		**YES ☐ NO ☒**
How many people currently operate and maintain the national CHM?		**1**
How many people visited the national CHM website in the past 12 months?		0
Note: Although there is a CHM, it is not up to date. Funds from this grant will ensure that the CHM is up to date, and serves as a true clearinghouse of information regarding national implementation of the various elements of the CBD Strategic Plan.		

B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (The proposal should briefly justify the need for the project.)

The Baseline Project: The Current NBSAP and the new CBD Strategic Plan

18. The new CBD Strategic Plan, adopted at CoP-10 in 2010 in Nagoya, clearly addresses the need for updating NBSAPs, stating in Target 17 that "By 2015, each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan." The strategic plan also covers a range of issues that will need to be incorporated into the revised NBSAPs, including guidance to countries to: a) fully realise the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and incorporate these values into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies (Targets 1 and 2); b) increase the global terrestrial protected area estate from 12% to 17% and the marine estate from 6% to 10% (Target 11); c) restore and safeguard key ecosystem services, especially for water, health and livelihoods (Target 14); and d) strengthen ecosystem resilience to climate change and promote ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation (Target 15).

19. In 2001, Ecuador completed the NBSAP that has covered a period up to 2010. In 2011 Ecuador started the updating process that will be expanded and completed through this proposal. The existing approved NBSAP (2001) needs to be updated to incorporate the following plans:

- A plan for integrating the value of biodiversity into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems (Target 2)
- A plan for creating incentives and removing harmful subsidies (Target 3)
- A plan for developing landscapes that have sustainable production and consumption and ensure the use of natural resources falls well within safe ecological limits. (Target 4)
- A plan for fully implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas, including increased protection and landscape/seascape connectivity (Target 11)
- A plan for restoring and safeguarding ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being (Target 14)
- A plan for strengthening ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks, including the restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems (Target 16)
- A plan for the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources (Target 20)

20. The past decade has witnessed significant progress in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, but also significant political changes such as the enactment of a new constitution in 2008 and the environment Code that have direct implications on biodiversity conservation and management. This makes even more pressing the need to adopt of a new National Biodiversity Strategy (NBS) for the period 2012 to 2020 – a strategy that both considers new legal framework, but that is also inclusive of the new commitments of the CoP-10 in 2010 in Nagoya.

21. As note the government has started this process and developed a draft assessment for a NBS with support of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), through the consulting firm Ecobiotec. This draft was developed through a rapid assessment of the level of implementation of the 2001-2010 NBS to identify outstanding issues and the issues that must be incorporated in the updated taking into account changes in the environment. The evaluation was based on initial expert consultation, and found that of the 34 outcomes that comprise the NBS from 2001 to 2010, 64.7% had some level of progress. Only one of the expected outcomes had a high level of progress, and two had no breakthrough results. Of the 34 expected outcomes outlined in 2001, Ecobiotec draft recommends keeping 33 outcomes as only one result is no longer relevant. The assessment concluded although some of the outcome would likely keep similar targets and elements others need modification and furthermore there was a need include a focus on regions particularly in the Tropical Andes and that an outcome on Climate Change should be included.

22. The following were identified as difficulties to implementation of the 2001-2010 NBS:

- Insufficient information about the necessary financial resources and flows to comply with CBD commitments and National Biodiversity Strategies

- Limited ownership and lack of NBS by public and private entities. While the strategy was first published and disseminated in 2001 and subsequently published in the Official Gazette in 2007, the evaluation found widespread ignorance of it by civil servants.

- Insufficient coordination, inter-institutional collaboration or monitoring to support the implementation of the NBS. No mechanism has been established to institutionalize the strategy or assess the responsibilities of various entities with regards to implementation; there is also no monitoring and evaluation system for the strategy and no clear targets or indicators were set for it.

- Significant technical and budgetary constraints by the Ministry of Environment to address the full scope of the strategy.

- Changing priorities for international conservation agenda. Some issues, although important to Ecuador, lost force in the international agenda and the priorities for international cooperation, limiting technical and financial support.

- Finally, despite progress during the decade 2001 - 2010, the main risks to biodiversity that were addressed by the previous NBS, still exist, so same areas of intervention of the period 2011 to 2020 are still relevant.

Proposed Response and Rationale: The new generation of BD EA. This project seeks to fully incorporate the above issues into the NBSAP. This 'new generation' of NBSAP will help set a regional and global standard of excellence by creating a national road map for achieving the Aichi Targets. Special emphasis will be placed on mainstreaming biodiversity into development plans, incorporating protected area networks and sustainable production systems into ecosystem-based climate adaptation and resilience plans, and creating sustainable finance for biodiversity conservation through the full valuation of key ecosystem services.

Alignment with Focal Area Outcome(s):

BD5 Objective: Integrate CBD Obligations into National Planning Processes through Enabling Activities (herein serving as the 'Project Development Goal'):
Focal Area Outcome 5.1: Development and sectoral planning frameworks at country level integrate measurable biodiversity conservation and sustainable use targets

The Project *Objective* is:
To integrate Ecuador's obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) into its national development and sectoral planning frameworks through a renewed and participative 'biodiversity planning' and strategizing process, in a manner that is in line with the global guidance contained in the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020.

This will be achieved through the following *Outcomes* (corresponding to components described in detail below):

- Outcome 1 – A participative review of the stocktaking exercise conducted by on biodiversity planning takes place and national biodiversity targets are developed in response to the global Aichi Targets

- Outcome 2 – The NBSAP is revised/updated and it fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan, such as mainstreaming and anchoring the implementation of the plan into national development frameworks, valuing ecosystem services and promoting ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience

- Outcome 3 – National frameworks for resource mobilization, Convention reporting and exchange mechanisms are established and strengthened

How the project plans to build national capacity

23. Enabling Activities are considered foundation activities within the framework of the GEF. The ultimate goal of Biodiversity Enabling Activities is to build national capacity across the board for biodiversity management. The effective achievement of global biodiversity benefits depend on the development of national capacity for managing biodiversity. The more robust this capacity is in a given country, the more effective the national implementation of the CBD will be.

24. The approach to building of national capacity in this proposal follows the guidance from the *GEF Strategic Approach to Enhance Capacity Building* (2003)[14] under the GEF's cross-agency Capacity Development Initiative. Three levels of capacity were identified: individual, organizational and systemic. Quoting from a recent GEF publication on the theme of capacity (GEF 2010)[15]:

> *"At the individual level, capacity development refers to the process of changing attitudes and behaviors, most frequently through imparting knowledge and developing skills through training. However it also involves learning by doing, participation, ownership, and processes associated with increasing performance through changes in management, motivation, morale, and improving accountability and responsibility.*
>
> *Capacity development at the organizational level focuses on overall performance and functioning capabilities, such as developing mandates, tools, guidelines and management information systems to facilitate and catalyze organizational change. At the organizational level, capacity development aims to develop a set of constituent individuals and groups, as well as to strengthen links with its environment.*
>
> *At the systemic level, capacity development is concerned with the "enabling environment", i.e., the overall policy, economic, regulatory, and accountability frameworks within which organizations and individuals operate. Relationships and processes between organizations, both formal and informal, as well as their mandates, are important."*

In this light, this project will build national capacity in Ecuador in the following manner:

Individual	Much of the work under this project will be carried out through working groups. There is already a very effective working group in place on protected areas, involving the Ministry of Environment through the National Direction for Biodiversity. For many of the civil servants and NGO staff in Ecuador, the opportunity for working within a project

[14] GEF, 2003: "Strategic Approach to Enhance Capacity Building". Global Environment Facility. See also: GEF Evaluation Office, 2006: "Evaluation of GEF Capacity Development Activities. Approach Paper". GEF EO.
[15] GEF Capacity Development Initiative, Global Support Programme for National Capacity Self-Assessment, 2010: "Monitoring Guidelines of Capacity Development in GEF Operations".

	like this is a form of training. Furthermore, consultation, participation and ownership are guiding principles of biodiversity planning processes. These are part and parcel of this proposal.
Organizational	UNDP's approach to Biodiversity Enabling activities in GEF5 goes beyond the mere production of national reports and strategies to the CBD and the development of a website for the CHM. Rather, it is concerned about the developing a permanent framework for reporting to the CBD and for maintaining the CHM interesting and up to date. This implies institutionalising the capacity for eventually achieving this with as little external assistance as possible. Given the ambitious targets of the CBD Strategic Plan (2011-2020), it is recognised that actions to engage external assistance and retain national are in the meanwhile needed. This will be availed through the project. In particular, the following activities are specially targeted at building organisational capacity: ▪ Taking stock of the NBSAP and identifying barriers to its implementation ▪ Setting targets and priorities ▪ Developing implementation plans for the revised NBSAP ▪ Assessing and strengthening capacity needs ▪ Developing clearinghouse mechanisms ▪ Developing a permanent framework for reporting to the CBD
Systemic	The approach that UNDP has developed for Biodiversity Enabling Activities in GEF5 is transformational with respect to systemic capacity elements (i.e. policy, economic, regulatory, and accountability frameworks within which organizations and individuals operate). The aim is to ensure that the objectives, targets and guidance from the CBD Strategic Plan (2011-2020) become fully anchored into national development frameworks. This will be achieved by the development of the following new aspects of the CBD strategic plan: (i) the valuing of ecosystem goods and services; (ii) mainstreaming; and (iii) the incorporation of challenges and opportunities linked to ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience. The knowledge developed through these activities will become part of Ecuador's new NBSAP and will have a greater chance of influencing and even becoming policy. In particular, the following activities are specially targeted at building systemic capacity: ▪ Assessing and integrating ecosystem services through economic valuation ▪ Mainstreaming biodiversity into development policies, plans and practices and into sectoral plans and strategies ▪ Incorporating climate change issues into NBSAPs ▪ Integrating the NBSAP implementation plan with the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas implementation plan ▪ Securing sustainable finance for NBSAP implementation ▪ Monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity under climate change scenarios

C. DESCRIBE THE ENABLING ACTIVITY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

(discuss the work intended to be undertaken and the output expected from each activity as outlined in Table A).

Detailed Description of Activities per Project Component / Outcome

The description that follows has been organized in five modules (I -V), following the GEF's guidance, but which for the sake of simplicity were grouped within the three already mentioned Components / Outcomes. The following are modules:

Component	Outline of modules for NBSAP Revision and Related Activities	Actual Percentage of total GEF funding in the proposal
1	I. Preparation II. Setting national targets, principles, & main priorities of the strategy	14.3%
2	III. Strategy and action plan development	38.1%
3	IV. Development of Implementation plans and related activities V. Institutional, monitoring, reporting and exchange	39.0%
4	Management	9.4%

25. At a generic level the GoE has identified an overall approach to the updating process that maximizes on-going processes in the country and addresses the countries realities and needs and the CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020. In recognition of the need to update the existing NBSAP the Ministry of the Environment in Ecuador has already started the process. This has taken the form of a technical review and diagnosis (stocktaking) that has assessed the status of NBSAP implementation; reviewed some of the current threats to biodiversity and trends. It has identified on a technical basis priority issues and potential ranges of targets both in terms the new COP plan and Aichi targets and new national requirements related to the National Plan of Well Being and the Rights of nature defined in the new Constitution.

26. This relied on MAE staff with technical inputs from external consultants. A draft outline strategy has been defined. This now needs to be expanded and verified to address eco-regional differences, the emerging new governance structure for the environment in Ecuador and determine or reaffirm targets. For this at the national level, government institutions need to be

consulted to ensure the inputs of other key areas such as planning; SENPLADES (National Planning Secretariat), the Secretariat for Peoples, Social Movements, and Citizen Participation, the National Secretary for Water, and other key institutions. Autonomous governments with key functions in natural resources management also need to provide inputs both on the draft stocktaking and initial target setting. This is of utmost importance given their mandate but also to ensure any updated strategy and action plan reflects the extremes of the different bio-geographical regions of the country (Coast; Andean Mountains, Amazon and Galapagos). A further and parallel step would be expanding and validating this assessment with representatives of productions sectors and broader society including indigenous peoples. This is also essential given the recognition of Ecuador as a pluri-national country and the key role of indigenous groups and traditional knowledge in biodiversity conservation.

27. In addition to the participatory planning and consultations processes in each module, a second cross-cutting issue will require particular attention to provide inputs to the final definition of targets and strategies for achieving them. This is a more detailed analysis of funding needs and possible sources of these funds. The long term economic benefits of sustainable environmental management practices when compared to unsustainable business as usual practices within different economic sub-sectors needs to be better understood by decision makers both to define real costs but also to increase investments. Given the priority the GoE is placing on increasing production opportunities for the rural poor the NBSAP updating process will include an economic valuation study comparing two management practices for an agricultural sector that will be defined as part of the consultation process. This study will combine UNDP's sectoral scenario analysis methodology, with multi-criteria valuations. The results will feed into a broader analysis to be undertaken to determine existing funding and funding needs –hence the funding gap for biodiversity management. Inputs for this will be drawn from relevant studies such as those to be commissioned as part of the UNDP-GEF PA Financing project studies on financial flows of protected area systems. These studies will provide valuable information to the address the implementation constraints identified in previous NBSAP, in particular with regards to knowledge about financial requirements to finance NBS action plans.

Information on the different components is provided below along with specific outputs to be delivered and activities required to achieve these.

Component 1. Stocktaking and national target setting

Key *outputs* expected under this component includes the following:

1.1 Review and stocktaking of products and results from previous biodiversity planning processes at the national level are carried out in participative manner. This will include an eco-regional approach to enable tailoring the draft targets initially defined at the national level to take into account eco-regional specific threats; responses; implementation constraints, opportunities and priorities. Specific products will be :

- Updated baselines for different Aichi targets for each of the eco-regions of the country, as well as new challenges and resource availability identified;
- Ecoregional diagnoses and targets aggregated into matrices showing relative importance of the different Aichi targets in all sub-regions and the potential targets that could be defined along with costs and challenges.

1.2 In response to the global Aichi Targets, national biodiversity targets are developed to reflect the highly significant differences of each eco-region and the emerging decentralization of environmental governance, in particular:

- Specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound sub-regional targets (Andean, Amazon; Coast and Galapagos)
- Validated specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound national targets based on eco-regional targets and an initial assessment of costs and funding sources for achieving these.

1.3 The achievement of national targets, developed in line with the global Aichi Targets, is duly monitored during the project duration and beyond, and this is reported upon to the CBD through national reports and other means.

1.4 In an iterative manner, Ecuador taps into useful information from, and participates into, global networks and initiatives on biodiversity data and indicators (such as the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, Global Biodiversity Information Facility and the World Conservation Monitoring Centre, the Global Environment Outlook portal, among other relevant ones).

Key *products* or publications (maybe combined into one):

- Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Ecuador
- Biodiversity Targets for Ecuador: As part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020

Key *activities* (I-II)

I. Preparing for the NBSAP revision

Taking stock of the NBSAP and identifying barriers to its implementation The assessment of the previous NBSAP and the draft outline of issues that need to be reviewed will be used as the basis of a more detailed and expanded stocking exercise designed to consider the specific characteristics; challenges and opportunities of each of the 4 macro regions of Ecuador. This activity will focus on rapidly but accurately taking stock of existing plans, policies and practices, and of the root causes

of biodiversity loss. Within country-specific and bioregional contexts, the aim is not only to identify key threats, but to understand the drivers behind these threats, as well as the key aspects of the policy environment that are barriers and challenges to effective conservation/sustainable use. It will also take a wider approach and look at potential costs and funding sources at the regional and ecoregional level taking into account the contribution of ecosystem services to production. This is especially important relative to mainstreaming biodiversity into national and regional development plans, and promoting resilient landscapes that include production sectors and to planning and budgeting their support for biodiversity management.

II. Stakeholder consultation and participation:

This activity will focus on ensuring a robust consultative process that engages representatives from key sectors, administrative leaders, and traditionally under-represented groups.

III. Setting targets

Based on these further stocktaking and target setting exercises the strategy with be adjusted and an action plan defined that identifies short and long term targets; commitments of institutions. The targets for the NBSAPs will be based on the global Aichi Targets, including targets on restoration of ecosystems, protected area coverage, overall biodiversity loss, and other aspects of the Strategic Plan. This activity, which is linked to priority setting among different aspects within the NBSAP, will be completed by CoP-11. A final step will be to develop a costed action and finance plan and disseminate this to the different sectors and civil society.

Component 2. NBSAP Update

Key *outputs* expected under this component include the following:

2.1 A National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for Ecuador's, anchored into national development frameworks, is revised, in a manner that is participative, widely disseminated and fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan, such as: mainstreaming; the valuing of ecosystem goods and services; and the incorporation of challenges and opportunities linked to ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience. This strategy will also include specific strategies anchored in the development plans of the Regional Governments that constitute each major environmental region of the country.

2.2 The updated and fully endorsed NBSAPs for Ecuador is submitted to the CBD preferably within the deadline set by the COP.

2.3 The economic cost and benefits of sustainable environmental management practices within one agricultural sub-sector has been determined and socialized amongst decision makers as a way to foster understanding of the value of ecosystem maintenance for the economy and food security and sovereignty in line with the national efforts to achieve good living (Sumak Kawsay) for the people.

Key *products* or publications

- Updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Ecuador

Key *activity* (III)

IV. Developing the NBSAP

This step will seek to achieve the following: (i) Developing the strategy and actions to implement the agreed targets though national consultations; (ii) Application of the NBSAP to sub-national entities through sub-national and local consultations; and (iii) Sectoral integration including mainstreaming into development, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectoral consultations.

While the project will focus on updating all aspects of NBSAPs, it will place particular emphasis on those aspects that are both highlighted in the 2011-2020 CBD Strategic Plan, and that are typically absent from its existing NBSAP. These include the following:

Assessing and integrating ecosystem services through economic valuation: The study on the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) has drawn attention to the global economic benefits of biodiversity and ecosystem services and to the growing costs of biodiversity loss and degradation. However, Ecuador has not yet linked the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services to our own national development goals, including poverty eradication and sustainable livelihoods. Through this activity, Ecuador will be able to demonstrate the benefits and values of ecosystems and biodiversity at a national level, and better link ecosystems and priority sectors in national development plans, in order to guide allocation of resources. The aim is to strengthen the point that biodiversity not only underpins human well-being, but that biodiversity and associated ecosystem services can make a significant contribution to poverty reduction and economic development. By

engaging national specialists and providing support from global specialists, hard economic data will be collected and processed at the country level to demonstrate the costs and benefits of investing in biodiversity management. Capacity to carry out the assessments and make important links to priority economic sectors will be simultaneously built within the country. The availability of essential data and the analysis will allow us to "make the case" for biodiversity and will facilitate the process of mainstreaming biodiversity into sectoral planning through concrete biodiversity valuation examples.

Specific steps in this process include:

a. Identify and assess the full range of values of key ecosystem services within the country, based on existing local, national, regional and global studies on the value of ecosystems and biodiversity, including: the national TEEB valuation results, the valuation of protected areas, any other national ecosystem services studies that have been conducted (e.g., water, carbon), and existing global and regional maps and overlays of key ecosystem services
b. Identify the implications of these services for different stakeholder groups within the country, including those who benefit from, and pay for, the maintenance of these ecosystem services, and those that degrade ecosystems through unsustainable use.
c. Estimate and demonstrate the value of key ecosystem services (using methods appropriate to each service), including the value of the ecosystem service in contributing to climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation; reducing poverty, and sustaining livelihoods.
d. Where appropriate, this activity will also identify potential means of capturing the value of targeted ecosystem services including through policies such as payments for ecosystem services and other positive incentives.

Mainstreaming biodiversity into development policies, plans and practices and into sectoral plans and strategies: Mainstreaming has been defined as the internalization of biodiversity conservation goals into economic and development sectors, policies and programs, such that they become an integral part of their functioning of these sectors.[16]

As part of this process, Ecuador will focus on the following sectors:

Agriculture,
Forestry
Hunting
Livestock
Tourism, Trade, Travel and Transport
Energy
Fishery
Mining
Oil and Gas
Development Planning & Finance
Water

The Project will also focus on the following development areas / topics:

- ✓ Land-use management, including spatial and infrastructural development planning
- Development finance
- Poverty alleviation
- Rural development and livelihoods
- Food security
- Local development and decentralization
- Rights of indigenous groups
- Gender
- Climate change mainstreaming
- Population & urban planning
- Health provision, including traditional medicine

Specific steps in this process will include:

- Forming partnerships between relevant stakeholders interested in biodiversity conservation issues and in development issues
- Explicitly identifying key stakeholders' interests, and desired outcomes
- Identifying potential conflicts and trade-offs, and work towards mutually acceptable solutions, including strategies that serve mutually beneficial interests and achieve mutually beneficial outcomes
- Embedding and institutionalizing these strategies in the institutions, policies, agreements, programs and mechanisms of each sector

28. Incorporating climate change issues into NBSAPs: The previous NBSAP did not adequately address aspects of climate change. This activity will involve incorporating aspects of climate change into NBSAPs, including, for example:

a) identifying, protecting and appropriately managing areas important for carbon sequestration;

[16] Petersen, C and B. Huntley. 2005. Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Productive Landscapes. Working Paper 20. Washington DC: GEF.

b) updating the country's ecological gap assessment to include predicted future distribution of biodiversity under climate change scenarios;
c) assessing the impact of climate change on the functioning of ecosystem services, such as water;
d) identifying areas important for improving nature's ability to adapt to climate change, such as altitudinal gradients and conservation corridors
e) identifying areas of particular importance for restoration in order to improve climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation.
f) articulating the NBSAP with the National Strategy for Climate Change and other strategies resulting from other global environmental conventions and treaties of which Ecuador is signatory

Component 3. National frameworks for NBSAP implementation, CDB reporting and exchange mechanisms

Key *outputs* expected under this component includes the following:

3.1 National frameworks for NBSAP implementation is in place and includes: institutional leadership for implementation established and strategic partnerships forged (nationally and internationally). Emphasis will be also placed on: a costed and prioritized Action Plan appended to the NBS; a needs assessments on capacity, technology; an in-depth assessment on the financial needs of biodiversity management and AP implementation.

3.2 A strategy for resource mobilization for the implementation of the NBSAP is produced and includes a baseline assessment of existing biodiversity finance and an estimate of the implementation costs of the NBSAP and how they would be distributed amongst stakeholders.

3.3 An effective, user-friendly and easily updatable country-driven CHM site is developed; it is linked up to the CBD's global CHM networks and to other information and knowledge exchange network on biodiversity.

3.4 Immediate CBD reporting obligations are met by Ecuador in a timely manner, in particular the preparation of the Fifth National Report for submission to the CBD by 31 March 2014.

Key *products* or publications (maybe combined into one):

- NBSAP Finance Plan
- Set of 'straight-forward' and feasible NBSAP implementation plans, which ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP
- Fully functional CHM for Ecuador, based on best international practice on the matter

Key *activities* (IV-V)

V. Developing implementation plans

This activity will focus on developing an overall plan for implementing the NBSAP. This implementation plan will include the following components:

Developing an overall implementation plan: The primary output of this activity is an overall implementation plan that delineates major steps, responsible parties, costs for main activities, expected outcomes and a timeline

Integrating the NBSAP implementation plan with the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas implementation plan: Ecuador are in the process of finalizing its PoWPA implementation plan, and this step will ensure that our work on protected areas, including goals, objectives and next steps, are fully integrated into the NBSAP. Ecuador will place particular emphasis on those aspects of Target 11 from the CBD Strategic Plan, including our plans for expanding protected areas, improving management effectiveness, sustainably financing protected areas, improving connectivity, and integrating protected areas into the wider landscape and seascape.

Securing sustainable finance for NBSAP implementation: Article 20 of the Convention mentions the need for Parties "to provide, in accordance with its capabilities, financial support and incentives in respect of those national activities which are intended to achieve the objectives of this Convention." In the past few years, there has been a wide proliferation of innovative biodiversity finance mechanisms, such as payments for ecosystem services, conservation trust funds, biodiversity offsets and bio-carbon funding, among many others. Ecuador is still in the early stages of exploring these mechanisms. This activity will draw from aspects related to finance undertaken in the stocktaking and national strategy modules and will focus on the following:

- Identifying the existing financial gap for implementing the NBSAP
- Identifying potential sources of revenue for filling these gaps

- Assessing the feasibility for these revenue sources
- Developing a detailed plan for operationalizing these revenue sources including combining sequencing different sources of funds to meet biodiversity-financing needs

Assessing and strengthening capacity needs: One of the primary areas of enabling activities is the assessment of capacity needs. The decisions at CoP-10 place new and ambitious demands on countries, including requirements to protect and sustainably manage their lands and water, to develop comprehensive plans that integrate climate change into their land use, development and sectoral plans and strategies, and to develop appropriate biodiversity and climate policies, laws and incentives. This activity will ensure that we develop a road map for strengthening these specific capacities. Building on existing capacity needs assessment, and using existing guidance, we will identify the following gaps, along with capacity-building strategies to fill those gaps:

- Untimely reporting to CBD
- Limited funds for direct implementation of NBSAP
- Absence of valuing biodiversity and ecosystem services in monetary terms
- Environmentally derived economic benefits (e.g. from tourism and fisheries) do not feed back into environmental programmes, except indirectly through general revenue
- Environmental laws and policies addressing biodiversity are fragmented
- Protected areas are numerous and difficult to manage and patrol with existing resources
- General lack of the financial, human and information resources needed for an ecosystem approach

VI. Institutionalizing, monitoring and reporting

Monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity under climate change scenarios: Monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity is a key aspect of several Programmes of Work within the CBD. To date, efforts to monitor and report on the status of biodiversity have been sporadic and have typically not taken into full account the status and trends of biodiversity, the status of effective conservation, the contribution of ecosystem services (such as water and carbon), and the likely impacts of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystem services. Through this project, we will ensure that future monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity and ecosystem services is comprehensive, and fully incorporates climate change issues.

Developing clearinghouse mechanisms (CHM): Of the 90 countries that accessed funding under the Fourth National Report joint global project (UNDP-UNEP/GEF), only 44 had national CHM sites, and of those, 25 were kept up-to-date (data from 2010). At the same time that CHMs are largely out of date, reliance on digital information has increased exponentially. Ecuador is no exception. In 2000 Ecuador had a CHM web-based portal. However, for different staff and financial constraints the site ceased to be functional. Currently, the country has begun a process of updating the CHM website validated by various organizations and public institutions and has appointed a National focal point for the CHM. Also, Ecuador is generating links between CHM and other networks for information exchange, including IABIN. This aspect of the project will help us develop an effective, user-friendly and easily-updatable CHM that will enable us to effectively share information nationally, regionally and globally. The project will also work in collaboration with the CHM of the Secretariat of the CBD, to ensure that lessons and information are disseminated globally.

Developing a permanent framework for reporting to the CBD: Parties to the CBD committed to submitting a fifth national report by 2014. In this project, Ecuador will submit a 5th National Report that fully covers the NBSAPs, key changes in the status and trends in biodiversity status, threats and conservation, and will develop a long-term reporting framework that will enable us to better track changes over time.

Project consistency with national strategies and plans or reports and assessments relevant for the CBD

29. The project is aligned with the Government of Ecuador priorities and plans, as evidenced by National Development Plan for Good Living (2009-2013), guaranteeing the rights of nature and promoting a healthy and sustainable environment, as stated in policies 2: Efficiency of Strategic Resources for Sustainable Development: Water, Air, Land and Biodiversity and 4.1: Conserve and sustainably manage natural heritage and its terrestrial and marine biodiversity. The project will furthermore build on the capacity building achievements of previous biodiversity planning and CBD reporting efforts, as previously indicated.

Collaboration and synergies with related initiatives

30. The project will find synergies with, and build upon, the following related projects programmes and initiatives:

- IFAD/GEF project on Sustainable Finance Management and Sustainable Management of Biodiversity and Water

Resources in the Ibarra-San Lorenzo Corridor (GEF 3717): This project aims to promote biodiversity conservation as well as sustainable land and forest management in the Ibarra-San Lorenzo corridor so as to preserve and improve the provision of environmental services in the area, reduce poverty and foster social inclusion to the benefit of indigenous people and local communities.

- IADB/GEF project on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Conservation (GEF 3548): This project aims to improve the conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity in Ecuador through the promotion of a network of representative and well managed marine and coastal protected areas and targeted actions for the protection of key threatened marine species.

- FAO/GEF project on Management of Chimborazo's Natural Resources (GEF 3717): This project aims to conserve and sustainably manage the Chimborazo's paramos and the biodiversity of the mountain ecosystems and to improve local livelihoods through strengthening of necessary policy, legal and institutional frameworks and local awareness, capacities and incentives for participation in planning and sustainable natural resource management.

- UNDP/GEF project on sustainable financing of Ecuador's national system of protected areas and associated private and community-managed areas (GEF 3829): This project aims to develop a field-tested financial and operational framework is institutionalized for an expanded Ecuadorian National System of Protected Areas (SNAP).

- UNDP/GEF project on adaptation to climate change through effective water governance (GEF 2931): This project aims to reduce Ecuador's vulnerability to climate change through increased adaptive capacity for the effective water resources management in a changing climate and improved access to timely and accurate climate data. The project will facilitate the implementation of efficient water management practices to withstand the effects of climate change through: sound water governance arrangements; decentralization of climate-resilient water management; information management and dissemination, and flexible financial mechanisms to promote local innovation in sustainable water management.

- UNDP-European Union global project Biodiversity Policy and Financing Frameworks in Support of Enabling Activities will also provide valuable inputs and synergies. This project will run for three years from 2012–2014 and be managed through UNDP's Regional Centre in Bratislava, Slovakia. Ecuador has been selected as one of the participating countries for the global project and specific work will be undertaken in the country as inputs to the NBSAP17 . In addition close coordination will be maintained with the global work undertaken in this project and with the studies underway in the other pilot countries – all selected because of their exemplary commitment to addressing the 2011-2020 targets set by the Convention on Biological Diversity, and their current engagement in seeking innovative sources of finance.

31. For all above-mentioned projects, the key idea is for them to assist the NBSAP process by providing data and sharing studies carried out in connection with the implementation of these projects. Project officers and consultants for the above-mentioned projects will be invited to key events under the BD EA project, so that synergies and collaboration can effectively take place.

32. The list herein is covers the initiatives which are immediately relevant for the BD EA project. This does not exclude other possible synergies with a number of different initiatives lead by partners, either governmental, non-governmental, research centres, interest groups, private sector etc.

Project implementation arrangement:

33. The project will be implemented over a period of 2 years with the peak of activities occurring in an 18 month period. The Ministry of the Environment, National Direction for Biodiversity is the government institution responsible for the implementation of the project and will act as the *Executing Agency*. UNDP is the *GEF Agency* for the project and accountable to the GEF for the use of funds. The project is nationally executed (NEX), in line with the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA, 2005) between the UNDP and the Government of Ecuador, and the Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) for 2008-2012.

34. The overall responsibility for the project implementation by the Direction for Biodiversity of the Ministry of the Environment implies the timely and verifiable attainment of project objectives and outcomes. The Directorate for Biodiversity of the Ministry of the Environment will provide support to, and inputs for, the implementation of all project activities.

35. The Directorate for Biodiversity of the Ministry of the Environment will also nominate a high level official who will serve as the National Project Director (NPD) for the project implementation. The NPD will chair the Project Steering Committee (PSC) and other relevant stakeholder, sectoral and working groups under the project, and be responsible for providing government oversight and guidance to the project implementation. The NPD will not be paid from the project funds, but will

[17] This forms part of UNDP co-finance for the project related to component 2: mainstreaming biodiversity into development policies, plans and practices and into sectoral plans and strategies and Component 3: Securing sustainable finance for NBSAP implementation (see table B).

represent a Government in kind contribution to the Project.

36. The NPD will be technically supported by a project technical team as well as UNDP's technical backstopping provided by the UNDP/GEF Regional Technical Advisor responsible for the project and the UNDP Environment Focal Point at the Country Office.

37. All consultants hired by the project will be recruited using standard UNDP-CO recruitment procedures and will report directly to the NPD.

38. Working closely with the Directorate for Biodiversity of the Ministry of the Environment, the UNDP Country Office (UNDP-CO) will be responsible for: (i) providing financial and audit services to the project; (ii) recruitment of project staff and contracting of consultants and service providers, upon request of government; (iii) overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets approved by PSC; (iv) appointment of independent financial auditors; and (iv) ensuring that all activities including procurement and financial services are carried out in strict compliance with UNDP/GEF procedures. A UNDP staff member will be assigned with the responsibility for the day-to-day management and control over project finance.

39. A *National Project Steering Committee* (PSC) will be convened by the Direction for Biodiversity of the Ministry of the Environment, and will serve as the project's coordination and decision-making body (Project Board). The PSC will include representation of all the key project stakeholders. The PSC meetings will be chaired by the NPD. It will meet according the necessity, but not less than once in 6 months, to review project progress, approve project work plans and approve major project deliverables. The PSC is responsible for ensuring that the project remains on course to deliver products of the required quality to meet the outcomes defined in the project document.

40. The day-to-day administration of the project will be carried out by a *Project Coordinating Unit* (PCU), comprising a Project Manager (PM) and Project Assistant, who will be located within the Direction for Biodiversity of the Ministry of the Environment, offices. The project staff will be recruited using standard UNDP recruitment procedures. The PM will, with the support of the Project Assistant, manage the implementation of all project activities. The Project Manager will liaise and work closely with all partner institutions to link the project with complementary national programs and initiatives. The PM is accountable to the Direction for Biodiversity of the Ministry of the Environment, and the PSC for the quality, timeliness and effectiveness of the activities carried out, as well as for the use of funds. The PM will also be technically supported by contracted national and international consultants and service providers. Recruitment of specialist services for the project will be done by the PM, in consultation with the UNDP and the Direction for Biodiversity of the Ministry of the Environment.

UNDP's comparative advantage for Biodiversity Enabling Activities

41. UNDP has historically been the largest GEF implementing agency in terms of assisting countries in undertaking biodiversity enabling activities, having assisted more than 100 countries with it through several projects. The GEF2 project Biodiversity Support Programme was jointly implemented with UNEP and has set the stage for biodiversity planning among GEF eligible countries. Ecuador has accessed funding through UNDP for preparing its first NBSAPs and for preparing the first and fourth national reports to the CBD.

42. The Government of Ecuador has requested UNDP assistance in designing and implementing this project, due to UNDP's track record in Latin America and the Caribbean. UNDP currently supports the development and implementation of GEF projects in support of the country's PA system (Financial Sustainability for the National System of Protected Areas - SNAP), as well as the Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Ecuador.

43. UNDP has an established national office in Quito with two dedicated environment officers and well-developed working relationships with the key stakeholders of the project. Moreover, the project will benefit from the presence in Panama of the UNDP Regional Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean. UNDP also has extensive experience in integrated policy development, human resources development, institutional strengthening, and non-governmental and community participation.

Project's alignment with UNDP's programme for Ecuador

44. This project complements the existing portfolio and has direct bearings on the 2010-2014 UNDAF objective for environmental sustainability and risk management [Outcome 5/Strategic component 3, Environmental sustainability and risk management: Institutions and local stakeholders promote a safe and healthy environment and environmental sustainability, that considers biodiversity conservation, natural resources and environmental management]. It is also of relevance to the Objective on production, employment, food security and economic solidarity and to the cross-cutting issues of human rights, gender equity, and inter-culturalism.

Stakeholder involvement in the implementation of the project

45. The stakeholder involvement element is embedded in the description of several activities within this proposal which will have a consultative and participatory character. A full stakeholder involvement plan will be developed in connection with the preparation of the UNDP Project Document that will operationalise this proposal at the level of UNDP, allowing Ecuador to access the funding. This plan will depart from the following indicative and non-exhaustive list:

National Planning and Development Secretariat
Ministry of Environment
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Labour
Ministry of Education
Ministry for Social Inclusion

Ministry of Health
Consortium of Provincial Councils of Ecuador
AME: Ecuadorian Association of Municipalities
JUNACUPARE: National Council of Parish Boards

National Episcopal Conference
International Union for Conservation of Nature
Ecuadorian Institute for International Cooperation

SENPLADES National Secretary of Planning and Development
SENESCYT, Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MAGAP, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Aquaculture Fisheries
IEPI, Ecuadorian Institute of Intellectual Property
INIAP, National Autonomous Institute for Agricultural Research
ECORAE, Institute for Regional Development in the Amazonian Region

46. More specifically, the participation of NGOs and CSOs stakeholders in the implementation of this project will be ensured in every stage of it. NGOs and CSOs in Ecuador are very active in the environment arena. They play an important advocacy and 'watchdog' role with respect to biodiversity. Many of them count on extensive networks of stakeholders and have produced research data that can help enrich the products that this project will be concerned with. These advantages will be explored in full during project implementation. In line with the national constitution and the national plan for good living particular attention will be paid to autonomous governments (GADs); indigenous peoples; academia and NGOs; CSO. Although final identification and confirmation of individual participating NGOS and CSO will be completed during the inception stage these stakeholders will include the Association of partnership and political representation of Ecuadorian non profit civil organizations dedicated to the defence of nature and the environment and the promotion of sustainable development (CEDENMA for its acronym in Spanish -this organization represents most of the NGOs that work with Biodiversity and Conservation issues in Ecuador-); the Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA), The Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of the Ecuadorian Amazon (CONFENIAE), amongst others.

47. The project coordination will ensure that the voice of indigenous and traditional groups will be duly heard and taken into consideration in the preparation of the new NBSAP. Special attention will be paid to CBD's guidance on the engagement of traditional and indigenous peoples in biodiversity planning processes. Specific COP guidance on the matter, linked to implementation of the Convention's Article 8(j), will be followed.[18]

48. NGOs and CSOs that participated in the preparation of previous national report and which remain relevant for biodiversity planning in Ecuador will be surveyed again to confirm their location and continued activities in the field, as well as to share information relevant for the preparation of the new NBSAP, the development of the CHM and the completion of the 5th national report.

Gender marking

49. Ecuador enjoys a very high degree of gender equality. The Constitution of Ecuador upholds the principle of gender equality and guarantees human rights. It prohibits any form of sexual discrimination without exception and provides for equal opportunity for men and women in access to productive resources and in marriage. The Family Code is broadly favourable to women in Ecuador, and the Constitution of Ecuador provides for equal family responsibilities for men and women, and parental authority is exercised jointly by both spouses. However, the economic independence of women depends largely on their relationship to

[18] See e.g. www.cbd.int/traditional.

means of production and their access to property, in particular access to natural resources. In reality, few women own land, and households headed by women generally have a lower income than those headed by men. Therefore this project will place special emphasis on gender issues.

50. During the project inception the mandatory UNDP gender marker will be applied. This requires that each project in UNDP's ATLAS system be rated for gender relevance. This will for example include a brief analysis of how the project plans to achieve its environmental objective by addressing the differences in the roles and needs of women and men.

Furthermore, gender marking implies the production of the following data by the project's year 2 and by its end:
- Total number of full-time project staff that are women
- Total number of full-time project staff that are men
- Total number of Project Board members that are women
- Total number of project Board members that are men
- The number jobs created by the project that are held by women
- The number jobs created by the project that are held by men

D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:

51. Ecuador is a megadiverse country and as such, biodiversity contributes extensively to the national economy, being the backbone of the tourism, agricultural and fishery economic sectors. It is generally accepted that protecting Ecuador biodiversity will generate benefits worth millions of dollars. Although the Government is aware of these resource potentials, limited budgets have prevented them from fully financing sustainable management of such resources. The proposed GEF project will ensure that a national strategy and action plan guides all stakeholders and partners in the conservation of these precious resources, in order to avoid duplication and to ensure the application of resources in the most critical areas.

52. The cost-effectiveness of the proposed activities will further be ensured by combining government internal, national and international experience in implementing similar projects. Consultation costs will be kept to a minimum, as government can finance much of it from existing resources.

53. Other options have been considered, e.g. sub-contracting an NGO to assist in NBSAP update as a 'package' of services to be rendered. High costs in fees to service providers would make such option less cost effective, coupled with the risk of biasing a document such as the NBSAP, which needs to reflect broad societal views on the national strategy for biodiversity.

54. The project adopts the least-cost means of achieving the project's objectives and follows the activity norms and cost benchmarks defined by GEF guidelines. It will be build upon the strong foundation of previous developed NBSAPs, Capacity Assessments and CHMs. Much relevant information for the compilation of an updated NBSAP has been generated by previous and on-going biodiversity projects in Ecuador. The missing step is the actual compilation and strategizing, which the project will enable.

E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:

Type of M&E activity	**Responsible Parties**	**Budget US$** *Excluding project team staff time*	**Time frame**
Inception Workshop	Project Coordinator UNDP CO UNDP GEF	$8,000	Within first two months of project start up
Inception Report	Project Team UNDP CO	None	Immediately following IW
Measurement of Means of Verification for Project Purpose Indicators, Project Progress and Performance (measured on an annual basis)	Oversight by Project Manager Project team	To be finalized during the inception phase and determined as part of the Annual Work Plan's preparation.	Annually prior to ARR/PIR and to the definition of annual work plans
Simplified Biodiversity Enabling Activities Annual Project Review / Project Implementation Report (APR/PIR)	Project Team UNDP-CO UNDP-GEF	None	Annually
Quarterly progress reports	Project team	None	Quarterly
CDRs	Project Manager	None	Quarterly
Issues Log	Project Manager UNDP CO Programme Staff	None	Quarterly
Risks Log	Project Manager UNDP CO Programme Staff	None	Quarterly
Lessons Learned Log	Project Manager	None	Quarterly

	UNDP CO Programme Staff		
Terminal Report	Project team UNDP-CO	Printing costs only, if any	At least one month before the end of the project
Lessons learned	Project team UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit (suggested formats for documenting best practices, etc.)	To be determined as part of the Annual Work Plan's preparation.	Yearly
TOTAL indicative COST *Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff and travel expenses*		US$ 8,000	

F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE):

55. Ecuador's highly diverse geographical and socio economic regions and its multiethnic plurinational state will require above normal consultations and analysis for this NBSAP process. Plurinational states are characterised by political and administrative decentralization. In Ecuador the new administrative system is culturally heterogeneous and recognises the participation of all the social sectors and groups again reinforcing the need to broad based consultations for the updating process. In addition the new Environment code provides a framework for decentralised environmental governance. The successful implementation of the NBSAP thus will require that Regional Governments and Ecuador's diverse stakeholders are involved in all stages of the process. As a result stocktaking; target setting planning and consultations will be above those of smaller; less diverse and centralised countries.

56. In addition Ecuador is striving to place emphasis on more detailed costing and resource mobilisation to facilitate NBSAP implementation. It seeks to expand its current evaluation of funding needs that are mainly focused on protected areas, to incorporate consideration biodiversity management in the production landscape. As a step towards this the NBSAP is including an economic study on the agricultural sector as one that could potential resolve both its poverty and off security issues but that needs careful guidance and solid data to ensure it does not do this at the expenses of biodiversity assets. In addition, it will place emphasis on funding needs and gaps analysis supported in part through co-funding.

57. Taking into account these specific characteristics and studies the NBSAP update process has been costed at US$695,000, of which only $251,442 (or 36%) are being requested from the GEF. This cost also reflects the fact that the current costs of national consultants that are somewhat higher than some other LAC countries. The GoE and UNDP are providing 64% of the total project resources. Of the GEF grant request the amount of US$ 226,442 is being sought from the GEF focal area set aside in the recognition of the additional complexities in this megadiverse and multicultural country and the additional outputs needed for these characteristics.

58. More specifically, these additional outputs include: (i) Updated baselines for different Aichi targets for each of the eco-regions of the country, as well as new challenges and resource availability identified; (ii) Ecoregional diagnoses and targets aggregated into matrices showing relative importance of the different Aichi targets in all sub-regions and the potential targets that could be defined along with costs and challenges; (iii) Specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound sub-regional targets (Andean, Amazon; Coast and Galapagos); (iv) Validated specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound national targets based on eco-regional targets and an initial assessment of costs and funding sources for achieving these; (v) The economic cost and benefits of sustainable environmental management practices within one agricultural sub-sector has been determined and socialized amongst decision makers as a way to foster understanding of the value of ecosystem maintenance for the economy and food security and sovereignty in line with the national efforts to achieve good living (Sumak Kawsay) for the people and (vi) an in-depth assessment on the financial needs of biodiversity management and the implementation of the NBSAP.

59. All of the above additional outputs are absolutely essential for the successful update of Ecuador's NBSAP, which will provide the country with a much stronger foundation for implementing the CBD's Strategic Plan (2011-2020) at the national level. A reduced budget would impose considerable limitations in terms of achieving this goal in full, given the special circumstances of Ecuador -- megadiverse, multicultural in addition to significant logistical challenges, such as mountainous areas, islands, jungle etc. in terms of implementing the Ecoregional approach.

PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):

(Please attach the country endorsement letter(s) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (Month, day, year)
Marcela AGUINAGA	GEF Operational Focal Point	Ministry of the Environment	March 29, 2012

B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION*

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

*To be filled for NCSA proposals only

B. GEF AGENCY CERTIFICATION

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

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Adriana Dinu UNDP-GEF Deputy Executive Coordinator		April 04, 2012	Helen Negret Regional Technical Advisor - EBD	(507) 302-4508	helen.negret@undp.org

ANNEX A: CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE ENABLING ACTIVITY

Position Titles	*$ / Person Week*	*Estimated Person Weeks*	*Tasks to be Performed*
For EA Management			
Local			
Project Manager	35	617	Under the guidance of the National Director, this is a part time position for a lead consultant to be responsible for the general managerial/administrative requirements of the project, including those related to project management and funding. The key tasks are: - Ensure that project Objective, Outcomes, Outputs and Activities are executed in a timely and appropriate manner. - Develop annual work plans and budgets, and submit these to the Steering Committee and to the UNDP Country Office for approval. - Organize and assist in project related activities, where required. These may include overseeing the planning for meetings, local and national workshops, consultations, trips, and other project related activities. - Establish and maintain linkages with national and international organizations and persons which/who can be of assistance to the objectives of the Project. - Provide timely reporting of project status as required by the Project Committee and the UNDP. - Maintain records of Project Committee meetings, decisions, actions etc. - Coordinate with other initiatives and programs whose outcomes and outputs are relevant to this project's objectives. - Any other duties assigned by the Project Committee that have direct relevance to the project. - Oversees administrative tasks related to project implementation *Selection criteria*: should have a Bachelor's degree in management, administration, environmental management or related field with a minimum of 5 years management experience at a senior level, or an advanced degree with 3 years management experience. Knowledge and understanding of the relevant UN Convention, environmental issues in Ecuador, good leadership, coordination, communication, and facilitation skills are essential. A successful candidate would in addition to the above managerial skills also have expertise in biodiversity planning and thus perform technical functions part time as indicated below.
For Technical Assistance			
Local			
Lead BD Planning Expert.	45	617	Under the guidance of the National Director, this is a part time position for a lead technical consultant to be responsible for the following tasks: - Lead the incorporation of stocktaking and target setting into an updated NBSAP overseeing regional and national consultations and the coordination of inputs and outputs of all consultants (contractors); - Develop TORs for Consultants for technical services, consultants, experts, and specifications of materials as required by the project, in consultation with the Project Director/UNDP. - Facilitate, guide and monitor the work of consultants, and approve their deliverables in association with the Project Committee - Define the tasks, articulation of roles and skills for the implementation of products and by products that have been proposed. - Reviews studies and analysis undertaken by the different consultant to identify compliances with ToR and major gaps still remaining - Contributes to the development of all project results (components and / or products), and its tracking and monitoring. A successful candidate would in addition to technical skills in biodiversity planning would also have expertise in project management and coordination thus project manager task part time as indicated above
Lead Policy/economics Advisor	72	606	To provide environmental economics advisory functions and technical assistance to the National Director and the Project Manager/Biodiversity planning expert in the overall process and development of the NBSAP. This includes the following tasks regarding

Position Titles	*$ / Person Week*	*Estimated Person Weeks*	*Tasks to be Performed*
			generic assistance: - Advise the PM on the economic valuation of BD and other relevant technical aspects of the project to ensure effective implementation in-line with the formally approved project document and to achieve the stated project outcomes and outputs. - Provide strategic and technical guidance to the project manager on the implementation of the project. - Review Terms of Reference developed under the project and where relevant sit on the evaluation committee and recommend bids. - Provide strategic guidance to the Project Steering Committee. *In particular provide direct contribution to the following deliverables*: - Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Ecuador to ensure inclusion of economic aspects and regional and national development issues - Biodiversity Targets for Ecuador: A review of economic implications as part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020 - Economic cost and benefits of sustainable environmental management practices within an agricultural sub-sector. - Set of 'straight-forward' and feasible NBSAP implementation plans, which ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP - The NBSAP Financing Plan - Fully functional CHM for Ecuador, based on best international practice on the matter *Selection criteria:* should have a MA or MSc in Economics, with particular background in Environmental Economics. Minimum10 years' experience in national and international natural resources projects in multi-stakeholder settings, in particular concerning Biodiversity Conservation. Prior GEF project experience.

ANNEX B. SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Comp	Modules	Guiding activities under each module	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1) Stocktaking and national target setting	**I. Preparation**	1. Rapid stocktaking and review of relevant plans, policies and reports								
		2. Identification of stakeholders; consultations and awareness								
		3. Rapid assessment of the causes and consequences of biodiversity loss highlighting the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services and their contribution to human well-being								
	II Setting national targets, principles, & main priorities of the strategy	4. Setting national targets, principles, & main priorities of the strategy though national consultations								
2) NBSAP update	**III. Strategy and action plan development**	5. Developing the strategy and actions to implement the agreed targets though national consultations								
		6. Application of the NBSAP to sub-national entities through sub-national and local consultations								
		7. Sectoral integration including mainstreaming into development, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectoral consultations								
3) National frameworks for NBSAP implementation, CDB reporting and exchange mechanisms	**IV. Development of Implementation plans and related activities**	8. Development of a plan for capacity development for NBSAP implementation.								
		9. Technology needs assessment								
		10. Development of a communication and outreach strategy for the NBSAP.								
		11. Development of a plan for resource mobilization for NBSAP implementation								
	V. Institutional, monitoring, reporting and exchange	12. Establishment/ strengthening of national coordination structures								
		13. CHM development.								
		14. Development of indicators and monitoring approach								
		15. Fifth national reports								

ANNEX C. OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE TO FOCAL AREA ENABLING ACTIVITIES

Biodiversity

- GEF/C.7/Inf.11, June 30, 1997, *Revised Operational Criteria for Enabling Activities*
- GEF/C.14/11, December 1999, An *Interim Assessment of Biodiversity Enabling Activities*
- October 2000, *Revised Guidelines for Additional Funding of Biodiversity Enabling Activities (Expedited Procedures)*
- GEF5 Focal Area Strategy (download)

ANNEX D. UNDP TOTAL BUDGET AND WORKPLAN

GEF Component (Outcome) /Atlas Activity	Responsible Party/ Implementing Agent	Fund ID	Donor Name	ERP / ATLAS Budget Code	Atlas Budget Description	TOTAL Amount (USD)	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Budget Notes
Comp 1. Stocktaking and national target setting	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	12,217	6,108	6,108	a
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	5,000	2,500	2,500	b
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	8,000	4,000	4,000	c
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72800	Information Technology Equipmt	5,000	2,500	2,500	d
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	4,850	2,425	2,425	e
	NEX	62000	GEF-10005	74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	1,000	500	500	t
	GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 1 (Comp 1)					36,067	18,033	18,033	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 1 (Comp 1)						**36,067**	**18,033**	**18,033**	
Comp 2. NBSAP update	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	27,765	13,883	13,883	f
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	20,943	10,472	10,472	g
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	5,000	4,000	1,000	b
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	35,000	17,500	17,500	h
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	4,000	2,000	2,000	i
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	74100	Professional Services	2,000	900	1,100	j
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	1,000	500	500	t
	GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 2 (Comp 2)					95,708	49,254	46,454	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 2 (Comp 2)						**95,708**	**49,254**	**46,454**	
Comp 3. National frameworks for NBSAP implementation, CDB reporting and exchange mechanisms	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	10,472	5,236	5,236	k
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	9,000	4,500	4,500	l
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	5,500	2,750	2,750	m
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	10,000	5,000	5,000	n
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	8,500	4,250	4,250	o
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	13,500	6,750	6,750	p
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	10,500	5,250	5,250	q
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	10,000	5,000	5,000	r
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	17,500	8,750	8,750	s
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	3,100	1,550	1,550	t
	GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 3 (Comp 3)					98,072	49,036	49,036	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 3 (Comp 3)						**98,072**	**49,036**	**49,036**	
Project Management	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	21,595	10,798	10,798	u
	GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 4 (Proj Mgt)					21,595	10,798	10,798	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 4 (Project Management)						**21,595**	**10,798**	**10,798**	
	SUB-TOTAL GEF					**251,442**	**127,121**	**124,321**	
	GRAND TOTAL (in cash)					**251,442**	**127,121**	**124,321**	

Budget Notes	
a	Lead policy advisor spread over Components 1, 2 and 3s.: Provide technical guidance to NBSAP Action plan and implementation process with particular emphasis on economic issues/links with development and finance. 72 weeks @ $606, spread over Components 1, 2 and 3s. Under component 1 particular emphasis will be to advise on the stocktaking and target setting process to ensure inclusion of economic aspects and regional and national development issues; economic implications as part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020.
b	Travel for key technical experts to attend sub-national technical meetings (including sites as Galapagos & Amazonia).
c	Support for the preparation, holding and consolidations of technical meetings for sub-national stocktaking and target setting processes.
d	Team computer equipment: Purchase of IT equipment (laptops and printers) to facilitate data consolidation from subregional stocktaking and target setting processes and the preparation consolidated matrices and drafts of proposals.
e	Print production costs: Documentations (typesetting, printing and distribution) of materials needed for regional and national stocktaking and target setting and national strategy exercises.
f	Lead BD planning expert: Leads the incorporation of stocktaking and target setting into an updated NBSAP overseeing regional and national consultations and the coordination of inputs and outputs of all consultants/contractors. This includes definition of planning methodologies and technical guidance to studies and consultants meetings and consultations. (45weeks @ $617).
g	Local Policy Advisor: Provide technical guidance to NBSAP Action plan and implementation process.72 weeks @ $606, spread over Components 1, 2 and 3s. Component 2: Oversight of the economic cost and benefits of sustainable environmental management practices within an agricultural sub-sector study; technical guidance for a set of 'straight-forward' and feasible NBSAP implementation plans, which ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP.
h	Economic Valuation Study: The economic cost and benefits of sustainable environmental management practices within one agricultural sub-sector as an input to the mainstreaming of the NBSAP into the agricultural sector and the development of the NBSAP implementation and financing plans.
i	Support for the preparation; holding and evaluation of technical meetings and sectoral consultation to integrate new aspects of the updated NBSAP.
j	Editorial & web design support: to ensure broad participation and dissemination of the update process.
k	Lead Policy advisor 72 weeks @ $606, spread over Components 1, 2 and 3s. Under component 3: Provide technical guidance to determine timelines and responsibilities for Ecuador's different administrative units and incorporate this into a feasible NBSAP implementation plan. Provide particular emphasis on economic issues/links with development and finance. Provide oversight on the financial capacity needs studies; and guidance to the financial gaps analysis: Oversees consultancy for the final NBSAP Financing Plan.
l	Communication outreach consultancy for developing a communications and dissemination strategy for the NBSAP (refer to Annex E for the TOR).
m	Technology needs assessment: IT system design for user-friendly and easily-updatable CHM (refer to Annex E for the TOR).
n	Develop a capacity development plan for NBSAP implementation (refer to Annex E for the TOR).
o	Develop inputs to an NBSAP Financing Plan (in conjunction with inputs from other studies funded through cofinance and existing projects) and provide support to the definition of Resource Mobilization Plan (refer to Annex E for the TOR).
p	Provide support for the development of indicators and monitoring approach (refer to Annex E for the TOR).
q	Support CHM development: Consultancy for the redesign of the CHM and database (refer to Annex E for the TOR).
r	Establishment / strengthening of national coordination structures (refer to Annex E for the TOR).
s	Fifth National Report & NBSAP
t	Bank charges, insurance, audit, security costs and other miscellaneous expenses spread over Components 1, 2 and 3
u	Pro rata: 40% Project Manager: (35 weeks @ $617) Will undertake the general managerial / administrative requirements of the project, including those related to project management and funding.

ANNEX E. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE PROVISION: TOR FOR LAUNCHING A REQUEST FOR QUOTES

As per the Total Budget and Workplan (TBW) in Annex D of this proposal, three technical output-based consultancies are planned under the project. This Annex describes the work under each of them. The content herein will form the basis to prepare complete **Requests for Quotes**[19] for each consultancy. Below is the overview:

#	Title of the Output-based consultancy	Amount reserved in the TBW ($)	TBW Budget note reference
1	Costs and financing strategy for the NBSAP	35,000	h
2	Communication Outreach Consultancy	9,000	l
3	Technology needs assessment	5,500	m
4	Capacity Development Plan Facilitator	10,000	n
5	Resource Mobilization Strategy & Financing Plan Facilitator	8,500	o
6	Support Development of indicators and monitoring approach	13,500	p
7	Redesigning of the CHM and database	10,500	q
8	Establishment/ strengthening of national coordination structures	10,000	r

Services will be tendered out to qualified national consultancy service providers. Services may be assigned to a centre of excellence or NGO that can avail the required expertise and field staff. TOR for consultancies #7 and #8 will be developed during project inception and are not detailed herein.

The complete **Requests for Quotes** prepared by UNDP normally has the following structure:
i. Instructions to Offerors
ii. General Conditions of Contract
iii. Terms of Reference (TOR)
iv. Proposal Submission Form
v. Price Schedule

In this annex, **only the TOR is described**. The remainder of the chapters of the Requests for Quotes will be completed before launching the tenders and after due validation by UNDP.

The complete TOR for Requests for Quotes will include the following headings:
(1) Summary and Background
(2) Objective of the Consultancy
(3) Scope of Work
(4) Expected Results
(5) Duty station
(6) Requirements to the documents
(7) Responsibility
(8) Qualification requirements
(9) Available information
(10) Selection Process

Section 1 of the TOR is the same for all four output-based consultancies. Sections 5, 6 and 7 are also common to all four output-based consultancies and are included after the description of Section 1. Sections 8, 9 and 10 are to be completed before launching the tenders.

The number of minimum mission days and schedule of payment are to be completed when composing the final documentation for the Request for Quotes.

[19] With reference to the applicable procurement process for the type of services being sought and budget allocated to financing them.

Common Sections to all for TORs

(1) Summary

Ecuador is in the process of implementing a GEF biodiversity planning project whose objective is to integrate the country's obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) into its national development and sectoral planning frameworks through a renewed and participative 'biodiversity planning' and strategizing process, in a manner that is in line with the global guidance contained in the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020.

The following key outcomes are sought as part of the project, each representing one Component of the project:

1) Revision of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Ecuador and the mechanisms to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.
2) Ecuador's NBSAP fully updated, it is in line with the guidance in the CBD Strategic Plan (2011-2020) and has been submitted to the CBD COP
3) Set of 'straight-forward' and feasible NBSAP implementation plans, which ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP

The ultimate goal of the project is to build national capacity within the topic of biodiversity planning. This implies procuring knowledge and capacity building services that are usually not available within State Institutions, due to the specificity of the topics at hand and the technical requirements.

(5) Duty station:

Quito, Ecuador
Home based, for the completion of certain reports
*Note: all travel expenses should be included into the breakdown of contract total amount by submission of financial proposal.

(6) Requirements to the documents

- Draft and final documents should be submitted in Spanish in MS Word (2007 and later). Used font: Arial, size: 12;
- Presentational documents should be prepared in Power Point.

[This may be complemented when composing the final documentation for the Request for Quotes]

(7) Responsibility

- Agrees the above results with the NBSAP Project Coordinator;
- Ensures timely and quality execution of the Terms of Reference;
- Ensures unconditional implementation of requirements of the contract

Specific Sections for each of the for TORs

[Annex E-1]
OUTPUT-BASED CONSULTANCY 1:
COSTS AND FINANCING STRATEGY FOR THE NBSAP

(2) Objective

To start up and lead activities to estimate costs, identify funding sources and develop a financial plan to implement NBSAP.

(3) Scope of Work

Provide knowledge and capacity building services to the government of Ecuador, as well as to other key stakeholder involved in the implementation of the Biodiversity Enabling Activities Project, according to the TOR's requirements and within the following area(s) of expertise:

Analysis of costs and productivity
Financing of biodiversity

[To be further developed during project inception]

(4) Expected Results

Significant contributions to the following results:

- Develop a guidance document on financial instruments and mechanisms and methodologies for cost estimate as an input to the regional consultations
- Assess the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services and their contributions to human wellbeing.
- Draw up a cost estimate for implementing NBSAP.
- Carry out research to identify appropriate institutional donors, including trust funds, non profits and government agencies.
- Identify funding opportunities and follow-up on them.
- Establish links with potential donors (communicate with them, invite them to participate in project activities, submit concept papers or proposals)
- Collaborate with associate organizations in fund raising and promote the development of joint proposals
- Survey national and provincial agencies, civil society organizations, institutions and other funding sources to obtain short and long-term funding.
- Develop a structured database to manage information on all prospects and donors to enable follow-up and evaluation.
- Develop a financing plan with specific mechanism for ensuring revenue and fund raising in the short, medium and long term.

(8) Qualification requirements

Professional with over 5 years of experience in analysing costs, productivity, and financing of biodiversity, as well as identifying funding sources and develop a financial plan for Biodiversity Strategies or similar.

[Annex E-2]
OUTPUT-BASED CONSULTANCY 2:
TECHNOLOGY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

(3) Scope of Work

Provide knowledge and capacity building services to the government of Ecuador, as well as to other key stakeholder involved in the implementation of the Biodiversity Enabling Activities Project, according to the TOR's requirements and within the following area(s) of expertise:

Use of information technology
Database development and management
Training in IT use
Webdesign

- Assess the information systems needs in order to identify what is needed to sustain the CHM. This includes: human resources (dedicated personnel, responsibilities, skills for administration, operations, development, maintenance, support and communications); technical - network (local area network) description and connectivity issues; existing architecture including servers (file, print and utility servers etc.); operating software (operating systems, databases, system management tools etc.); policies in place; and existing databases.
- Comprehensively assess the existing IT environment and needs at relevant ministries and government entities responsible for implementation of NBSAP components
- Identify hardware and software needs to facilitate the various databases and upgrades required for NBSAP implementation and effective CHM functioning e.g. server capacity needs and software including antivirus software, backup and security measures amongst others.
- Recommend IT skills and training needed to enable staff to support the CHM and various databases in the medium term at both institutions.

(8) Qualification requirements

Should have an advanced degree (Masters) in IT or related area. At least 5 years experience in development of technology needs assessment.

[Annex E-3]
OUTPUT-BASED CONSULTANCY 3:
COMMUNICATION OUTREACH CONSULTANCY

(2) Objective of the Consultancy

Provide technical assistance to the NBSAP team on designing and managing communication initiatives; increasing their advocacy and policy engagement capacity; capturing, documenting and presenting data; developing communication policies and strategies; and using mass media resources for the NBSAP.

(3) Scope of Work

Provide knowledge and capacity building services to the government of Ecuador, as well as to other key stakeholder involved in the implementation of the Biodiversity Enabling Activities Project according to the TOR's requirements and within the following area(s) of expertise:

Advocacy and/or communication

[To be developed during project inception]

(4) Expected Results

- Comprehensive communications and advocacy protocols and manuals designed for the NBSAP
- Implementation of advocacy and communications tools to allow national and global stakeholders visualize the results and impacts of the NBSAP
- Constant substantive monitoring and evaluation of the NBSAP, identification of advocacy and communication problems in order to suggest a timely readjustment of the activities if needed
- Analysis and research of information on donors, preparation of substantive briefs in close collaboration with Academia and top notch practitioners, on possible areas of cooperation, identification of opportunities for initiation of new projects, active contribution to the overall National effort in resource mobilization for the NBSAP
- Identification of sources of information related to policy-driven issues. Identification and synthesis of best practices and lessons learnt directly linked to the NBSAP and country policy related goals
- Active collaboration with policy networks, advisors, centres and development of specialized technical and knowledge networks and communities of practice

(8) Qualification requirements

Professional with over 5 years of experience in developing advocacy campaigns, citizen engagement strategies, communication strategies and tools, and/or presentation of research findings Experience in project management and implementation of national and / or international public policy and knowledge in this area.

[Annex E-4]
Output-based Consultancy 4:
Resource Mobilization Strategy & Financing Plan Facilitator

In order to complement national expertise enshrined in working groups and stakeholder institutions and organizations involved in the Enabling Activity Project, **Request for Quote** is being launched in view of having services rendered by a group of specialist consultants within the following areas of expertise:

Environmental economics
Finance and biodiversity mainstreaming

Services will be based on CVs presented of Ecuadorian nationals. Quotes for qualified companies should be presented as a package of services, including honoraries, travel expenses and admin costs

(2) Objective

Identify and assess the full value of biodiversity and ecosystem services within Ecuador, and promote, through the national target-setting exercise and the revision of the country's NBSAP, the incorporation of economic valuation of biodiversity into various sectors, including development plans and sectoral plans.

(3) Scope of Work

Provide knowledge and capacity building services to the government of Ecuador, as well as to other key stakeholder involved in the implementation of the Biodiversity Enabling Activities Project according to the TOR's requirements and within the following area(s) of expertise:

Environmental economics
Environmental finance
Biodiversity mainstreaming

More specifically, the key tasks will entail:

- Identify and estimate, to the extent possible, the full range of values of key ecosystem services in Ecuador, based on existing local, national, regional and global studies on the value of ecosystems and biodiversity, including: the valuation of protected areas, any other national ecosystem services studies that have been conducted (e.g., water, carbon), and existing global and regional maps and overlays of key ecosystem services. This may also include comparing valuation studies from ecosystems in neighbouring countries. Special focus will be put on assessing and capturing value in ecosystems' goods and services in the Department of Huancavelica, for which a specific report will be prepared.
- Identify the implications of these services for different stakeholder groups within the country, including those who benefit from, and pay for, the maintenance of these ecosystem services, and those that degrade ecosystems through unsustainable use.
- Estimate and demonstrate the value of key ecosystem services (using methods appropriate to each service), including the value of the ecosystem service in contributing to climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation; reducing poverty, and sustaining livelihoods.
- Identify mechanisms for incorporating these values into national accounting practices.
- Where appropriate, this activity will also identify potential means of capturing the value of targeted ecosystem services, including through policies such as payments for ecosystem services and other positive incentives.
- Develop a written report that summarizes all findings.

Service providers will work together with the team of national consultants for the project in Ecuador, in particular the National Project manager, who will play a coordinating role vis-a-vis project activities, as well as with other project consultants and service providers.

(8) Qualification requirements

- As minimum 5 years of work experience (preferably more, given the complexity of the services in question) in the relevant field for the three blocks of services: (a) environmental or natural science, with a specialization in ecosystem based climate change adaptation and/or mitigation; (b) national biodiversity valuation studies, payment for ecosystem services, sectoral mainstreaming of biodiversity, policy development, national accounting practices and methods; (c) human resource management or public administration, skills assessment, capacity development and training.
- Valid certificates and licenses for consulting services in the field of biodiversity.
- Available qualified personnel with university degrees in the field of biodiversity management, economics, human resource / public administration.
- Outline of proposed approached for the fulfilment of the TOR
- List of rendered consulting services for the past 3 years.
- Ability to submit the 2 reference letters confirming the successfully rendered services for the last 2 years.
- Ability to hold the trainings in Spanish

(10) Selection Process

The selection of the company will follow an open competitive process in line with UNDP procurement standards. The successful company would be required to enter into a standard UNDP Institutional Contract. The contract will be awarded according to the cumulative analysis scheme: proposal with the overall highest score after adding the score of the technical proposal and the financial proposal will be chosen.

[Annex E-5]
OUTPUT-BASED CONSULTANCY 5:
CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN FACILITATOR

(2) Objective

Coordination, development and implementation of Capacity development and training plans for the NBSAP

(3) Scope of Work

Provide knowledge and capacity building services to the government of Ecuador, as well as to other key stakeholder involved in the implementation of the Biodiversity Enabling Activities Project according to the TOR's requirements and within the following area(s) of expertise:

Internationally recognized methodologies of capacity development

[To be developed during project inception]

(4) Expected Results

- Provide capacity strengthening support to the Government in facilitating articulation of capacity development needs and drawing up on capacity development plans for effective implementation of the NBSAP
- Identify and prioritise the capacity development needs required to effectively implement CBD obligations at all levels within central government.
- Assess whether the identified primary and secondary duty bearers have the necessary human resources to meet the specific obligations.
- Generate recommendations for capacity enhancement at all levels.
- Generate recommendations to enable rationalisation of capacity and efficient resource allocation during implementation of NBSAP
- Develop a comprehensive Capacity Development Programme and Training Action Plan for effective implementation and coordination of CBD at the district and central government levels.
- Design of Plan for capacity development for NBSAP implementation
- Assess extent of CBD implementation and enforcement across all primary and secondary stakeholders in central government.
- Assess the pattern and efficacy of participation at regional technical committees and COP meetings.
- Based on international best practice, recommend the most suitable institutional and/or accountability structure for the effective implementation and coordination of the CBD.
- Provide insight and access to best practices and exposure to various innovations and initiatives in facilitating effective NBSAP implementation

(8) Qualification requirements

Professional with over 5 years of experience in Capacity development and training plans or any other relevant fields; prior work experience in development partner's community, including multilateral development agencies.

[Annex E-6]
OUTPUT-BASED CONSULTANCY 6:
REDESIGNING OF THE CHM AND DATABASE.

(2) Objective

The main objective of the Consultancy is to provide regionally-based stakeholder engagement support to the entire Biodiversity Planning Process in Ecuador outlined in the Enabling Activities project.

(3) Scope of Work

This is a specialized consultation to support the renovation and redesign of the platform of the CHM / Ecuador in accordance with the requirements of the CBD with output indicators, reporting and networking. The complete scope of the work and the specific tasks for this consultancy will also be developed during the project's inception phase and will be within the following area(s) of expertise:

Coordination, logistics, organisation of meetings
Data-base and web-development

[To be developed during project inception]

(4) Expected Results

- Ensure an automated platform to update the metadata information through relevant information on existing biodiversity
- Installation of bioinformatics capabilities for maintaining and updating the CHM, within the National System of Ecuador and Environmental Information
- Generating reports on reports that account on interim progress and final evaluation of the consultancy
- Support dissemination, communication and information to monitor the ENBD.
- An effective, user-friendly and easily updatable country-driven CHM site is developed; it is linked up to the CBD's global CHM networks and to other information and knowledge exchange network on biodiversity.

(8) Qualification requirements

Consulting firm specializing in bioinformatics, with proven experience in generating and information technology systems over 5 years experience in generating spatial information and documents and Web sites, manage, and have proven experience in international standards and protocols and bioinformatics have networking nationally and internationally. With knowledge in public policy, communications, and bioinformatics

Services will be restricted to nationally-based expertise and quotes for qualified companies a centre of excellence or NGOs should be presented as a package of services, including honoraries, travel expenses and administrative costs.