

REQUEST 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 Egypt					
Country(ies):	Egypt	GEF Project ID:	TBD			
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	4864			
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of State for the Environment, Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA), Nature Conservation Sector (NCS)	Submission Date:	April 16, 2012			
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration (Months)	24			
Check if applicable:	NCSA 🗌 NAPA 🗌	Agency Fee (\$):	\$22,000			

A. EA FRAMEWORK

EA Objective: To support implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity by enabling Egypt to update the NBSAP, develop a workable National CHM and undertake a fifth National Report to COP 12.

EA Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co- financing (\$)
1) NBSAP stocktaking and national target setting	ТА	 By mid-2012, a national biodiversity steering committee is established and it finishes the stocktaking process. By end 2012, national targets in line with the global Aichi Targets are developed and agreed upon. 	 1.1 The national biodiversity steering committee, through participatory process, reviews and evaluates the previous NBSAP and other related national polices and strategies that could enhance the biodiversity national planning processes. 1.2 In response to the global Aichi Targets, national biodiversity targets are developed and agreed upon in a manner that is attuned to the situation in Egypt. 1.3 Standardised national monitoring schemes are developed to provide continuous updating mechanisms about the achievement of national targets in support of CBD national reports and other reporting means. 1.4 Well-defined cooperation and information exchange processes are established to help Egypt participate effectively in global networks and initiatives on biodiversity and indicators (such as the Biodiversity Information Facility², the World Conservation Monitoring Centre³ and the Global Environment Outlook portal⁴, among other relevant ones). 	38,000	65,000
2) NBSAP review and update, and	ТА	 By early 2014, Egypt's NBSAP is fully 	2.1 A revised National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for Egypt, anchored in national development frameworks, is prepared in a	97,000	115,000

¹ www.bipindicators.net

³ www.unep-wcmc.org

² www.gbif.org

⁴ geodata.rrcap.unep.org

EA Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co- financing (\$)
adoption by the Egyptian Government		revised, updated and adopted, it is in line with the guidance in the CBD Strategic Plan (2011- 2020) and has been submitted to the CBD COP	 participative manner and widely disseminated; it fully integrates new aspects of the CBD Strategic Plan, such as: (i) valuing of ecosystem goods and services; (ii) mainstreaming biodiversity; (iii) safeguarding and restoring key ecosystem services; (iv) strengthening protected area networks and their integration in land-and seascapes; (v) strengthening ecosystem resilience and promoting ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation; and (vi) creating sustainable finance for biodiversity conservation. This will include, inter alia, the following strategic studies: Ecosystem Valuation in Egypt Advances in sectoral mainstreaming of biodiversity are identified and adaptation measures mainstreamed into NBSAP, through a strategic studies with the following theme: Exploring and costing options for biodiversity adaptation to climate change and desertification, and for ecosystem-based adaptation through the development of a climate-resilient PoWPA Action Plan in Egypt, including with due attention to desertification issues. 		
			2.3 The revised, updated and fully endorsed NBSAP for Egypt is submitted to the CBD within the deadline set by the COP.		
3) National frameworks for NBSAP implementation, CBD reporting and appropriate CHM exchange mechanisms		- By 2014, the implementation plan for the NBSAP is completed and includes capacity, technology and finance needs assessment.	3.1 The national framework for NBSAP implementation is in place and includes: (i) institutional mechanism for implementation and strategic partnerships (nationally and internationally); (ii) a costed and prioritized Action Plan appended to the NBSAP; (iii) needs assessments on capacity, technology and finance; and (iv) a strategy for resource mobilization for the implementation of the NBSAP including a baseline assessment of existing biodiversity finance.	65,000	70,000
		 By 2014, the Egyptian CHM is upgraded and fully operating By 2014, the 5th National Report is prepared and submitted 	 3.2 The Egyptian CHM is developed and upgraded and includes a national biodiversity database, and links with other related biodiversity websites. The CHM becomes the central depository for biodiversity information in Egypt enhancing data availability and access, and eliminating redundancies. 3.3. Immediate CBD reporting obligations are met by Egypt in a timely manner, in particular the Fifth National Report to the CBD by 31 March 2014. 		
Subtotal			Trauonal Report to the CDD by 51 Match 2014.	200,000	250,000
EA Management	Cost ⁵			20,000	60,000
Total EA Cost				220,000	310,000

^a List the \$ by EA components.

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 State for the Environment Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (MSE - EEAA)	In kind	200,000
National Government	Ministry of State for the Environment Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (MSE - EEAA)	Grant	110,000
Total Co-financing	310,000		

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	Global	220,000	22,000	242,000
Total Gra	Total Grant Resources			220,000	22,000	242,000

D. EA MANAGEMENT COST

Cost Items	[GEF only] Total Estimated Person Weeks/Months	Grant Amount (\$)	Co- financing (\$)	EA Total (\$)
Local consultants*	18 weeks GEF	18,000	35,000	53,000
International consultants*	0	0	0	0
Office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications*		1,000	19,000	20,000
Travel*		0		
Other**	Project Audit	0	2,000	2,000
Other	Miscellaneous	1,000	4,000	5,000
Total		20,000	60,000	80,000

* 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:

As much as 75% of all project management costs will be borne by the government as the co-financier. The GEF is being requested to pay only for the time of the NBSAP National Project Manager that will be dedicated to managerial tasks (18K), plus communication costs of the project unit and miscellaneous expenses. This is detailed in the TBW in Annex C.

PART II: ENABLING ACTIVITY JUSTIFICATION

A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Biodiversity significance:

Egypt covers an area of about one million square kilometres and can be divided into four physiographic regions: the Nile Valley, Western Desert, Eastern Desert and the Sinai Peninsula. The arid desert covers 92% of the land, the remaining 8% of arable land being restricted to the Nile Valley and Delta and a few oases scattered in the Western Desert.

Despite being dominated by desert and drought, Egypt's biodiversity is of global significance due to the fact that it is situated at the juncture of three continents (Europe, Africa and Asia) and four bio-geographical regions (Irano-Turanian, Mediterranean, Saharo-Sindian and Afro-tropical). It is the home of 800+ species of non-flowering plant species, 2300+ flowering plant species

and subspecies (c. 62 endemic; 2-4 threatened), 108-126 mammal species (6 terrestrial endemic; 23 terrestrial + 2 marine threatened), 150 resident bird species (0 endemic, 4 threatened), 320 migratory bird species (15 threatened), 109 reptile species (6 terrestrial endemic, 1 terrestrial + 5 marine threatened), 9 amphibian species (1 endemic) and 1000+ fish species. Invertebrates are very diverse and include 5,000-10,000 arthropods, more than 200 coral species, 800 molluscs, and 1000+ crustaceans. 143 of Egypt's species are of particular conservation interest according to the Egyptian Red List.

In terms of biodiversity significance, the most valuable areas in Egypt yare the Red Sea marine systems including coral reefs and sea grasses beds; the St Catherine region in the southern Sinai; the coastal and near-coastal habitats along the Mediterranean coast including the Nile Delta; and Wadi Allaqi and Gabel Elba in Egypt's south-eastern corner near the border to Sudan.



Left: Important Plant Areas © PlantLife 2011. Right: Important Bird Areas © BirdLife International 2012.

Developmental context and challenges:

Since 2000, Egypt has made significant strides toward achieving the MDGs. The targets for infant mortality, under-five mortality, contraceptive prevalence, primary and secondary enrolment, and access to safe drinking water are likely to be met. However, Egypt continues to face many development challenges, both old and new.

Because so much of the area is arid, 99% of Egyptians live on less than 4% of the land. There are severe challenges related to agriculture and water security. In addition, there are pervasive gaps in the delivery, availability, and quality of publicly financed services and programs. The legal system is highly fragmented, and there is an overall lack of opportunity for civil society participation in development processes. There is also insufficient reliable and timely data to allow monitoring Egypt's progress toward achieving its development goals, including the MDGs. The strategies that the government of Egypt has adopted in order to better meet development challenges include a) strengthening government stewardship and regulation; b) encouraging community participation; c) improving the targeting of publicly financed services; e) promoting knowledge, awareness, and behaviour changes in relation to biodiversity; and f) adopting a multi-sectoral framework.

However, the dramatic events that began in January 2011 and the rapidly shifting political, economic and social environment, provide Egypt and its development partners with new development opportunities. As a result, the Egyptian government has additional development priorities, opportunities and challenges, including: a) supporting expanded and effective political participation and decision making, including in decisions related to biodiversity; b) supporting greater transparency and accountability; c) promoting a culture of human rights; and d) supporting local development, poverty reduction and social justice, including through ecosystem-based and biodiversity-based means.

Threats to biodiversity:

There are numerous main threats to biodiversity in Egypt. :

- (i) <u>Habitat loss and degradation</u>: One of the major threats is habitat destruction. There is tremendous human development pressure on those areas that are most important for biodiversity, resulting in high degrees of habitat destruction, conversion and degradation. The large-scale and continuing conversion of natural land cover along the coasts is having a large impact on marine and coastal species and habitats, in particular.
- (ii) <u>Over-exploitation:</u> Excessive hunting is endangering the very existence of several species of resident and migratory birds and a number of ungulates (e.g. gazelles, antelopes).
- (iii) <u>Pollution</u>: Pollution continues to be a major threat to biodiversity. There are numerous sources of pollution in Egypt, as in other countries. However, the formation and levels of dust, small particles and soot is more pronounced in Egypt than presently found in industrialized countries. Some of the sources for these pollutants, such as industries, open-air waste burning and transportation, were well known problems also in industrialized countries up to 10-20 years ago. These pollutants are having adverse impacts on terrestrial biodiversity, while water pollution in the Nile and its tributaries are having major impacts on aquatic biodiversity.
- (iv) <u>Invasive species</u>: Egypt, like nearly all countries, faces numerous threats to biodiversity from invasive alien species, including from rats, birds, insects and the American cotton worm. Egypt has a particular role also as manager of the Suez Canal which has been s source of biological invasions between the Red Sea and the Mediterranean.
- (v) <u>Climate Change:</u> Climate change is increasingly becoming a threat to biodiversity in Egypt. In particular, hydrological stresses from extreme heat events and drought are stressing aquatic species. Some studies show that by 2020, there will be 15% less precipitation, requiring resilience and adaptation measures to be put in place as soon as possible for both human and natural communities. In addition to drought-related impacts, Egypt will also experience sea-level rise, increasing salinity along coasts, flooding of some low-lying parts of the northern Delta and some coastal zones, increasing rates of coastal erosion, penetration of salt water in soil and groundwater, reduced agricultural productivity, impacts on fish production, increased desertification, and high impacts on grazing lands.

Institutions responsible for managing biodiversity:

In Egypt, the primary party responsible for managing biodiversity is the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) falling under the Ministry of State for the Environment. As part of the restructuring of the EEAA in 1992, the Nature Conservation Sector (NCS) was created as the government body responsible for nature conservation, undertaking the necessary policies, programs, studies and other actions to protect the nation's natural heritage. The organisation is entrusted with overseeing compliance with habitat and species protection legislation and with commitments to international conventions for the conservation of nature. The mandate of the NCS is: "To protect, manage and develop Egypt's wild resources on behalf of its people, by conserving the nation's biological diversity, preserving representative samples of the country's natural landscape, and ensuring that the management and use of all wild resources are sustainable and economically productive."

Protected area system:

Egypt has made great strides in implementing the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas. There are currently 27 protected areas covering 15% of the terrestrial area as well as over 9% (well above the global average of 4%) of the coastal and near-shore environment. In addition, an ecological gap assessment was recently completed that identifies important priorities to expand the existing PA network and improve its overall representativeness. Two major national parks have been declared within the past few years, and major buffer zones were added around many other protected areas, including the White Desert National Park. The country recently completed a comprehensive assessment of the management effectiveness of existing protected areas as well as a detailed threats assessment. New connectivity corridors have been created between Elba and Wadi El-Gemal areas to conserve gazelle migration. More than half of all protected areas have recent management plans, well above the global average of 25%. Recent efforts are ongoing to create transboundary protected areas with Libya, and Egypt declared the Gilf El-Kebir National Park as a step towards declaring the area of Gabal Uweinat as a transboundary protected area between Egypt, Libya and Sudan.

There are several national NGOs working closely with some protected areas in Egypt. The most well-known one is Nature Conservation Egypt (NCE) which was established in 2005 to add more expertise to Egypt through a professional NGO in the field of nature conservation. It is dedicated to the conservation of Egypt's natural heritage and the promotion of its sustainable use for the benefit of the present and future generations. NCE seeks to complement and augment the conservation work of its national and international partners. It achieves these aims through conservation, applied studies, awareness raising activities and by the promotion, funding and demonstration of practical conservation measures.

Barriers to implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan:

Some of the major obstacles in implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity in Egypt include: a) inadequate means of ensuring effective public participation – a challenge that has become increasing critical for success in biodiversity planning in

the country; b) the limited presence of instrumental processes to evaluate and integrate the economic value of biodiversity and the true costs of land degradation; c) lack of an integrated approach in national policies; d) lack of integration at the national level between biodiversity, climate change and desertification conventions; e) lack of necessary tools and practices for proper law enforcement in protected areas; f) absence of proper enforcement of legislation and need for further environmental protection measures; g) lack of mechanisms for mobilizing sustainable biodiversity finance; h) lack of long-term awareness programmes for education; i) lack of mechanisms for enhancing citizen participation in community decision making; j) weak capacity among local communities; k) an absence of linkages between research institutes, policy makers and national implementation agencies; l) dispersed and fragmented research programs; m) absence of country data, networking system and information exchange that facilitate the acquisition, processing and dissemination of technical knowledge, legislation formulation and enforcement, and monitoring and evaluation; n) lack of database for EIA formulation, and of related monitoring and enforcement; and o) limited training and capacity building due to staffing shortages.⁶

Other related biodiversity planning processes:

The formulation of Egypt's new NBSAP will of course build on prior biodiversity planning, CBD reporting processes and on the conclusions from previous capacity needs assessments, including:

1) National Reporting to CBD						
Reports	Date of Submission	Current	Comments			
	to CBD Secretariat	Status*				
NBSAP, version 1	1998-07-31	Submitted	Outdated			
NBSAP, version 2	-	Not started	Funding sough	nt through this project		
1 st National Report	1998-03-09	Submitted				
2 nd National Report	2004-12-26	Submitted				
3 rd National Report	2005-10-12	Submitted				
4 th National Report	2009-03-30	Submitted				
Interim National Report on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	1998-03-09	Submitted				
First Regular National Report on the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	1998-03-09	Submitted				
Review of the Implementation of the Protected Areas Work Programme	2006-11-02	Submitted				
Chapters on biodiversity extracted from Egyptian State of Environment Reports for 2007 and 2008	2009-12-23	Submitted				
of Environment responsitor 2007 and 2000						
2) Capacity Needs Assessments carried out	YES 🛛 NO 🗌					
Start Date: 23 May 2005	End Date: Ma	ay 2007				
Please list all of the CBD Program of Work and cross-	-cutting themes that were	e addressed in		Dates		
the Biodiversity Enabling Activities Capacity Needs A	Assessments:					
Sustainable use of biodiversity				2007		
Agricultural biodiversity and traditional agricultural biodiversity agricultural biodiversity and traditional agricultural biodiversity agricultural biodiversity and traditional agricultural biodiversity agricultu	ltural practices			2007		
Forest biodiversity				2007		
Non-governmental organizations				2007		
• Identification, monitoring and assessment				2007		
Climate change				2007		
Desertification				2007		
National Capacities Self-Assessment (all 3 Rio	Conventions including C	(BD)		2007		
3) Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) established?		YES NO				
CHM link(s): <u>http://www.egyptchm.org/</u>						
Is the CHM website maintained up to date?		Yes				
How many people currently operate and maintain the national CHM? 1						
How many people visited the national CHM website in the past 12 months? 680,000						

⁶ Adapted from Egypt's National Capacity Self Assessment (NCSA), December 2007, <u>http://www.undp.org/mainstreaming/docs/ncsa/ncsa-reports/finalreportsandplan/ncsa-egypt-fr-ap.pdf</u>

Note: Egypt has already developed its Clearing House Mechanism (CHM). This CHM inventoried information sources, and strengthened capacities and resources for content management. However, more recent decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-10) meeting require all Contracting Parties, including Egypt, to further strengthen the CHM. For example, CBD recognized the interoperability of CHM networking as a crucial element to enhance its effectiveness; it introduced the use of a "controlled vocabulary" to improve searching, locating and retrieving information by serving as a biodiversity thesaurus; and it mandated the CHM to facilitate technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation. CHM was also asked to further contribute towards achieving outcome-oriented targets of the Convention's programmes of work by adopting indicators for biodiversity change and its impacts. Based on that, Egypt has identified the need to strengthen its CHM efforts, including the need to address one of the most crucial networking issues – content management – through improvement of interoperability among networks and databases. Therefore, this proposal also request support to strengthen Egypt's CHM.

In order to further develop the CHM so that it can play a full role in the promotion of biodiversity at both national and international levels, there is a need to upgrade and update the website and the equipment used to develop and host the website. The CHM component of the overall enabling activities proposal will comprise the following activities:

- Establish technical team for CHM;
- Establish a consultancy and purchase of hardware and software to develop and operate CHM based on the recently published CHM Toolkit⁷
- Set-up existing web page in a faster internet provider system to be able to have fast access from outside to update website during the EA project;
- Train project staff working on CHM component on information management systems;
- Identify information sources, existing biodiversity databases, possible partners, types of existing information that could be used in CHM (questionaires, meetings, face to face interviews);
- Prepare a web-based index of existing databases, information sources and roster of contact details of organisations;
- Analyse gaps and needs of CHM for national and international information sharing and technical and scientific cooperation systems for Turkey and decide on information types to be presented in national and international web page of biodiversity CHM (national workshop);
- Update web page design basing on the conclusions of the workshop;
- Acquire software for national CBD information system and install in institutions that were identified as information sources *related to Convention process;*
- Prepare and publish public awareness materials;
- Present NBSAP and regular public awareness materials on web page; and
- Organize public awareness workshop.

In addition to the above, Egypt has been developing or is about to finalise the following further national-level policies, strategies and/or planning processes that are equally of relevance to the NBSAP formulation:

- The National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP):

In 2002, EEAA approved a National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP), which was also approved by the Prime Minister. NEAP dealt with many environmental issues including water, air, soil, waste, biodiversity conservation and biosafety, protection of the marine environment, desertification, global environmental problems such as climate change, economic issues such as environmental accounting, natural resources accounting and economic incentive tools, and finally social issues including minorities, youth, women and old people.

The NEAP has identified corrective measures to meet the challenges of biodiversity. These include issues related to compliance, strengthening institutional framework, building capacity on biodiversity (e.g. research and monitoring), and preparation of legislation on biodiversity and biotechnology.

To mainstream Biodiversity Conservation into the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP), it was agreed that NEAP need to be revised according to three main issues: current status and assessment of biodiversity; corrective measures to be taken, and supportive measures for action. NCS has provided NEAP the current status of biodiversity to be integrated in NEAP. There were: biodiversity information system (database available, networks, websites, data management, assessment), surveys conducted, habitat and ecosystem assessment, endangered and threatened species, economic value of biodiversity, genetic resources, bioprospecting, reference collections, monitoring and research programmes.

Corrective measures proposed include the following; improve the existing protected area network, use of modern technology in natural resources management, enhance economic studies on biodiversity to generate revenues, and hence self-financing of PAs, establish a natural history museum, establish a captive breeding centre, promote a national programme on biodiversity monitoring and research, support pilot projects on sustainable use of biodiversity, NCS institutional reform, and review the existing legislation.

Supportive measures requested included the following: upgrade (amend) the existing legislation and issue new ones on wildlife and biosafety, implement NCS reform into an authority, partnerships with private sector, enhance implementation of regional and international agreements, provide more funding for nature conservation, and continue political support to nature

conservation.

- The National Plan of Action to Combat Desertification:

In 1994, the Arab Republic of Egypt signed the UNCCD (United Nations Convention on Combating Desertification) and was ratified by the Republican decree No. 155 of 1995. In 2001, the state assigned the implementation of the Convention to the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation and mandated the Desert Research Centre to be the national coordinator for the Convention. Egypt implemented all the commitments and obligations stated by the Convention and prepared the National Action Program for Combating Desertification – together with the necessary legislations and institutions for its implementation. The concerned authorities approved the program activities and the program was submitted to the UNCCD Secretariat in October 2005.

The Egyptian National Program on Combating Desertification included five major programs of which emanate a number of projects for combating desertification in various agricultural/environmental regions, summarized in the following:

- 1. Principal programs, including: (a) evaluating and monitoring desertification; (b) capacity building programme.
- 2. Pastures Improvement programs, including: (a) rehabilitating degraded pasture/range lands; (b) preserving land and water resources; (c) managing natural grazing lands.
- 3. Sand dunes stabilization programs, including: (a) protecting Nasser Lake shores against sand dunes; (b) stabilizing sand dunes in Siwa Oasis; (c) stabilizing sand dunes in north Sinai.
- 4. Irrigated agriculture programs, including: (a) improving and modernizing irrigation techniques; (b) integrated management of irrigation projects; (c) managing and improving lands; (d) treating soil and water pollution; (e) treating environmental pollution in Wadi Al-Rayan pan/Depression.
- 5. Rain-fed agriculture programs, including: (a) planning land usage in the north coast; (b) improving animal wealth; (c) improving small ruminant animal's productivity in the north part of Sinai; (d) limiting soil erosion.

The National Strategy on Ecotourism:

The National Ecotourism Strategy and Action Plan offers a work programme for formulating national policies and strategies for the development of ecotourism in Egypt that takes into accounts various stakeholder. It is based on the NBSAP as well as CBD Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development. Ecotourism is one of the main principles for declaring Protected Areas in Egypt. This ecotourism strategy describes the current situation of ecotourism (positive and negative aspects; links between ecotourism, biodiversity and Protected Areas), main goals, guiding principles, and proposes and national programmes. The National Ecotourism Strategy aims to: establish a world class ecotourism destination: ensure that conservation of Egypt natural heritage is the cornerstone for the ecotourism industry: establish an equilibrium between tourism development needs and natural resources conservation fundamentals; encourage tourism patters which do not degrade the resource base; enhance environmental management of relevant legislation; promote the use of "clean technologies": enhance public and corporate awareness and undertaking of ecotourism; promote cooperation and networking amongst stakeholders; and maximize benefits to indigenous people from tourism.

- The National Wetland Strategy:

Emanating from the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, the National Wetland Strategy responds to both the CBD and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. It describes the current wetlands in Egypt, threats and services, goals, guiding principles, objectives and actions needed. Wetlands are recognized as ecological and national assets, and shall be managed for the benefit of present and future generations. The main objectives of the strategy are: (1) Conserve and wisely manage, an ecological basis, wetlands as integral elements of national natural resources; (2) Management, rehabilitation or restoration of a wetland site are implemented with support of governmental agencies and local communities; (3) Create and promote institutional arrangement required for the effective implementation of the planned actions; (4) Ensure community recognition of wetlands as natural assets, and so promote public support to programmes of action for sustainable management of wetlands sites; (5) Identify, on scientific basis, wetlands sited that are ecologically important at local, national and international scales, and ensure their conservation; (6) To survey the wetlands of Egypt, build up a comprehensive inventory of these wetlands and their resources, and to make this information accessible.

The National Action Plan on the Conservation of Wetlands intends to complement the existing Protected Areas, and comprise the following programmes: (1) Establishment of the National Council of Wetlands; (2) Survey of wetlands (ecology, hydrology, biodiversity, socio-economic); (3) Selection of sites for wetland nature reserve (national wetland network) and proposals for international (Ramsar) sites; (4) Research programme in selected wetland sites; (5) Formulation of management plans for each site; (6) Public awareness programme; (7) Establishment of national wetland databank; (8) Training and capacity building programme; (9) Inventories of cultural heritage and indigenous knowledge of wetlands in Egypt; (10) Consolidated national laws for wetlands, and means for enforcement; and (11) Financial mechanism to support programmes of action.

This wetlands strategy was discussed, and approved by participants of two workshops on wetlands (November. 2004 and February 2005). Later, it was sent to the Ministry of Planning to be part of the National Development Plan.

Projects implemented since Egypt became a party to the CBD and summary of results achieved:

The Egypt Biodiversity Report Capacity Building, an enabling activity project funded by UNEP/GEF, resulted in the identification and prioritization of capacity building requirements in Egypt to enhance compliance with the CBD and other related environmental conventions. This has been achieved through assessment processes, generating awareness, developing consensus and fostering high level support to facilitate implementation of the identified capacity building measures. Issues identified included root causes of biodiversity loss, in-situ conservation and sustainable use of biological components, taxonomy, threatened and protected species, hunting management, incentives, traditional knowledge, and evaluation of management effectiveness in Protected Areas. Priorities were given to implement selected work programmes on inland, coastal and marine biodiversity.

Further projects funded by donor states and organizations (GEF – Italian cooperation – USAID – EU) contributed in developing protected areas network and implementing programmes for building capacities, monitoring and conserving biological diversity and raising public awareness. These projects enhanced infrastructures of many protected areas by providing them with equipment and tools; prepared and implemented management plans for about 50% of protected areas and business plans for some protected areas; declared new protected areas, and prepared studies on institutional reforms. But, in spite of these achievements Egypt's protected areas still need more financial and human resources and technical support to be able to fulfil their goals of protecting and conserving the country's biodiversity.

With support from GEF-UNEP, Egypt established the National Biodiversity Unit (NBU) at the NCS. The NBU has undertaken several Enabling Activities to comply with CBD provisions, including the preparation of a National Country Study on Biodiversity in 1992 and the national Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) submitted to the CBD in 1998. The country also participated during the 1990s in two UNEP-GEF global initiatives, the Biodiversity Data Management Capacitation in Developing Countries and Networking Biodiversity Information project, and the Development of National Biosafety Framework Project that assessed and built capacity in these fields. Egypt has since been developing and implementing Medium and Full Size GEF biodiversity projects along with projects funded by the GEF Small Grants Programme.

B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

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

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 current NBSAP for Egypt was completed and submitted to the CBD in 1998, and although it indicates the then-perceived priorities for biodiversity conservation, much additional information on Egypt's biodiversity has since been gathered and on the threats it faces; moreover the first NBSAP was developed long before COP-10 and the range of historic agreements agreed in Nagoya including the CBD Strategic Plan for 2011-2020. It therefore does not include a range of new or significantly strengthened elements in the CBD Strategic Plan's Aichi Targets that will need to be incorporated into the revised NBSAP.

Proposed Response and Rationale: The new generation of BD EA

This project seeks to fully incorporate all newly required aspects into the NBSAP. This 'new generation' of NBSAP will help set a standard of excellence by creating a national road map for achieving the Aichi Targets. Special emphasis will be placed on fully realising the values of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and mainstreaming these into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies as well as into national accounting frameworks; safeguarding and restoring key ecosystem services; strengthening protected area networks and their integration in land- and seascapes; strengthening ecosystem resilience to climate change and promoting ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation and mitigation; and creating sustainable finance for biodiversity conservation.

Alignment with Focal Area Outcome(s):

<u>BD5</u> 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 Egypt'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 <u>Outcomes</u> (corresponding to components described in detail below):

- Outcome 1 A participative stocktaking process on biodiversity planning is conducted and national biodiversity targets are developed in response to the global Aichi Targets.
- Outcome 2 The NBSAP is revised, updated and adopted by the Egyptian Government, and it fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan.
- Outcome 3 National frameworks for NBSAP implementation, CBD reporting, proper CHM exchange mechanisms and resource mobilisation are established and strengthened.

Refer to Part I, Table A and to the next section for more details.

How the project plans to build national capacity

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.

The approach to building national capacity in this proposal follows the guidance from the *GEF Strategic Approach to Enhance Capacity Building* $(2003)^8$ 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 $2010)^9$:

"At the <u>individual</u> 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 <u>organizational</u> 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 <u>systemic</u> 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 Egypt in the following manner:

⁸ 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.

⁹ GEF Capacity Development Initiative, Global Support Programme for National Capacity Self-Assessment, 2010: "Monitoring Guidelines of Capacity Development in GEF Operations".

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 developing a the organisational capacity for reporting to the CBD and for maintaining the CHM interesting and up to date. This implies institutionalizing this capacity for eventually achieving these goals with as little external assistance as possible. Given the ambitious targets of the CBD Strategic Plan for 2011-2020, it is recognized 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 organizational 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
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 for 2011-2020 become fully anchored into national development frameworks. The knowledge developed through these activities will become part of Egypt'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, into sectoral plans and strategies, and into national accounting frameworks Incorporating climate change issues into the NBSAP, including the incorporation of challenges and opportunities linked to ecosystem-based adaptation and mitigation and ecosystem resilience. 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	Distribution of GEF funding
1	I. Preparation	9.0%
1	II. Setting national targets, principles & main priorities of the strategy	10.0%
2	III. Strategy and action plan development	49.0%
2	IV. Development of implementation plans and related activities	12.0%
3	V. Institutional, monitoring, reporting and exchange	20.0%

Component 1. NBSAP stocktaking and national target setting

Key Outputs expected under this component include the following:

- 1.1 The national biodiversity steering committee, through participatory process, reviews and evaluates the previous NBSAP and other related national polices and strategies that could enhance the biodiversity national planning processes.
- 1.2 In response to the global Aichi Targets, national biodiversity targets are developed and agreed upon in a manner that is attuned to the situation in Egypt.
- 1.3 Standardised national monitoring schemes are developed to provide continuous updating mechanisms about the achievement of national targets in support of CBD national reports and other reporting means.

1.4 Well-defined cooperation and information exchange processes are established to help Egypt participate effectively in global networks and initiatives on biodiversity and indicators (such as the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership10, Global Biodiversity Information Facility11, the World Conservation Monitoring Centre12 and the Global Environment Outlook portal13, among other relevant ones).

Key Outcomes:

- By mid-2012, a national biodiversity steering committee is established and it finishes the stocktaking process.
- By end 2012, national targets in line with the global Aichi Targets are developed and agreed upon.

Key Products or publications resulting from activities:

- Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Egypt and of the key barriers and challenges in the policy environment to effective biodiversity conservation/sustainable use
- Biodiversity Targets for Egypt: As part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020

Key Activities (I-II):

This activity will be led by the NBSAP National Project Manager, with the support from the Senior National Expert -Biodiversity Planning and Consultation, one or more of the national working groups, which will be under formation at this phase of the project, and the NBSAP International Advisor. More importantly, the national biodiversity steering committee will play a key role in stocktaking and target setting. Sub-activities will involve the following steps:

I. Preparing for the NBSAP revision

- <u>Revision and stocktaking of the NBSAP and identifying barriers to its implementation</u>: This activity will focus on rapidly but accurately revision of existing plans, policies and practices, and of the root causes of biodiversity loss. Within country-specific 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. Based on existing studies and analyses, the emphasis of this activity will be on identifying key gaps in the existing NBSAP, understanding the primary drivers and root causes, and identifying the means of overcoming existing barriers and challenges.
- 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. The aim is to develop and sustain a national biodiversity steering committee in order to increase the likelihood of successful implementation of the NBSAP. This is especially important relative to the goals of mainstreaming biodiversity into national development plans, and promoting resilient landscapes that include production sectors.

II. Setting targets

- <u>Setting targets and priorities</u>: This activity focuses on setting specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound targets for the NBSAPs 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.

Component 2. NBSAP review and update, and adoption by the Egyptian Government

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

- 2.1 A revised National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for Egypt, anchored in national development frameworks, is prepared in a participative manner and widely disseminated; it fully integrates new aspects of the CBD Strategic Plan, such as: (i) valuing of ecosystem goods and services; (ii) mainstreaming biodiversity; (iii) safeguarding and restoring key ecosystem services; (iv) strengthening protected area networks and their integration in land- and seascapes; (v) strengthening ecosystem resilience and promoting ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation; and (vi) creating sustainable finance for biodiversity conservation. This will include, inter alia, the following strategic studies:
 - Ecosystem Valuation in Egypt
 - Advances in sectoral mainstreaming of biodiversity in Egypt

¹⁰ www.bipindicators.net

¹¹ www.gbif.org

¹² www.unep-wcmc.org

2.2 Climate change and desertification impacts on biodiversity are identified and adaptation measures mainstreamed into NBSAP, through a strategic studies with the following theme:

- Exploring and costing options for biodiversity adaptation to climate change and desertification, and for ecosystem-based adaptation through the development of a climate-resilient PoWPA Action Plan in Egypt, including with due attention to desertification issues.

2.3 The revised, updated and fully endorsed NBSAP for Egypt is submitted to the CBD within the deadline set by the COP.

Key Outcome:

- By early 2014, Egypt's NBSAP is fully revised, updated and adopted; it is in line with the guidance in the CBD Strategic Plan (2011-2020) and has been submitted to the CBD COP.

Key Products or publications resulting from activities:

- Second version of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Egypt
- Sub-product 1: Study on ecosystem valuation in Egypt
- Sub-product 2: Study on advances in sectoral mainstreaming of biodiversity in Egypt
- Sub-product 3: Study on exploring and costing options for biodiversity adaptation to climate change and desertification, and for ecosystem-based adaptation through the development of a climate-resilient PoWPA Action Plan in Egypt, including with due attention to desertification issues.

Key Activities (III)

This activity will be led by the NBSAP National Project Manager, with the support from the Senior National Expert - Biodiversity Planning and Consultation, the National Expert - Biodiversity and Climate Change, the national Specialist - Environmental Economics & Finance, and the NBSAP International Advisor. By then, several national (and possibly sub-national) working groups would be operational and will be able to participate fully in the preparation of the required project products.

III. Developing the NBSAP

This step will seek to achieve the following: (i) Developing the strategy and actions to implement the agreed targets through 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, national accounting and climate change plans through sectoral consultations supporting the NBSAP formulation.

While the project will focus on updating *all* aspects of the NBSAP, it will focus especially on the range of new or significantly strengthened elements in the CBD 2011-2020 Strategic Plan's Aichi Targets that will need to be incorporated into the revised NBSAP. These include the following:

- Integrating biodiversity values into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes, as well as into national accounting and reporting systems, as appropriate, by 2020 at the latest (**Target 2**). This was identified as a priority in Egypt's 4th National Report of 2009.
- Eliminating, phasing out or reforming harmful incentives including subsidies, and developing and applying positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, by 2020 at the latest (**Target 3**).
- Achieving sustainable production and consumption and ensuring that the use of natural resources falls well within safe ecological limits, by 2020 at the latest (**Target 4**). This will be particularly important given the predictions for climate-related changes in precipitation and water runoff patterns in the coming years in Egypt, with the consequent implications for agriculture, forestry and related land uses.
- Reducing the rate of loss of all natural habitats, so it is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and significantly reducing degradation and fragmentation, by 2020 (**Target 5**).
- Managing and harvesting all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, to avoid overfishing and significant adverse impacts of fisheries on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems, by 2020 (**Target 6**).

Egypt has its own a national strategy for fisheries and aquacultures, which seeking for development and achievement of a sustainable new fishing industry, the valuation of the marine resources of the country in a sustainable way, thus making the sector an engine of growth of the Egypt economy. This strategy aims to increase

the number of mainland jobs (industry and fish farming), as well as increase the value of exports of sea products.

- Contributing to the CBD global target of ensuring that, by 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland waters, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes (**Target 11**). The target's measures correspond to fully implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas. While both the NBSAP and the 4th National Report mention the importance of protected areas, there is not yet a clear plan for integrating protected areas into wider landscapes, seascapes and sectors, a plan for integrating protected areas into climate resilience and adaptation plans, and a plan for increasing the protected area coverage required for attaining a fully representative and well-connected protected area system that contributes to the global CBD target.

Egypt has established a law on protected areas in 1983. This law aims to reclassify former protected areas and create new protected areas. Egypt also intends to establish new marine protected areas.

- Ensuring that by 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity (**Target 13**).
- Restoring and safeguarding ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, health, livelihoods and well-being, by 2020 (**Target 14**). This is an issue of particular importance to Egypt, given how large a percentage of the population relies upon subsistence agriculture.
- Enhancing ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks, including through the restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation and combat desertification, by 2020 (**Target 15**).

Egypt has set up a national strategy to combat climate change that is focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, vulnerability assessments and adaptation to climate change impacts.

- Assessing the resources needed for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and for substantially increasing the mobilization of financial resources from all sources in accordance with the agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, by 2020 at the latest (**Target 20**).

The following three elements will be dealt with in particular depth resulting in individual studies that will be integrated into the NBSAP:

- <u>Assessing and integrating ecosystem services through economic valuation</u>. 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, Egypt has not yet linked the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services to its national development goals, including poverty eradication and sustainable livelihoods. Through this activity, Egypt 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 wellbeing, but that biodiversity and associated ecosystem services can make a significant contribution to poverty reduction and economic development. By engaging national specialists and enlisting 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 facilitate the process of mainstreaming biodiversity into sectoral planning through concrete biodiversity valuation examples.
- Specific steps in this process include:
 - 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.
 - 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.
 - o 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.

- 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.
- This sub-activity will involve a number of stakeholders in working groups who will discuss the above themes and avail data for national consultants to compile reports from.
- A specific study report (Ecosystem valuation in Egypt) will be produced that will be incorporated into Egypt's new NBSAP.
- <u>Mainstreaming biodiversity into development policies, plans and practices, into national accounting frameworks, and into sectoral plans and strategies</u>. 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.¹⁴
- As part of this process, the project will focus on the following <u>sectors</u>: Agriculture; Medicinal and aromatic plants; Livestock and grazing; Tourism; Commerce, Trade and Transport; Energy; Fisheries; Mining, Oil and Gas; Development Planning & Finance; Water quality and supply, including irrigation and the management of dams.
- The Project will also focus on the following <u>development areas / topics</u>: Land-use management, including spatial and infrastructural development planning; Development finance; Poverty alleviation; Rural development and livelihoods; Food security; Water quality and security; Local development and decentralization; Local communities; Gender; Climate change mainstreaming, adaptation and resilience; 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 interests of key stakeholders, 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
 - A specific study report (Advances in sectoral mainstreaming of biodiversity in Egypt) will be produced that will be incorporated into Egypt's new NBSAP.
- <u>Recognising and responding to the impacts of climate change</u>. The previous NBSAP did not adequately address aspects of climate change. This activity will involve incorporating aspects of climate change into the NBSAP, such as:
 - assessing the impact of climate change on biodiversity and the functioning of ecosystem services, such as water provisioning;
 - updating the country's ecological gap assessment to include predicted future distribution of biodiversity under climate change scenarios;
 - identifying areas important for improving nature's ability to adapt to climate change, such as altitudinal gradients and conservation corridors;
 - o identifying, protecting and appropriately managing areas important for carbon storage and sequestration;
 - Identifying areas of particular conservation and restoration potential for enhancing climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation.
- This sub-activity will involve a number of stakeholders in working groups who will discuss the above themes and avail data for national consultants to compile reports from. A specific study report (Advances in sectoral mainstreaming of biodiversity in Egypt) will be produced that will be incorporated into Egypt's new NBSAP. A specific study report (Exploring and costing options for biodiversity adaptation to climate change and desertification, and for ecosystem-based adaptation through the development of a climate-resilient PoWPA Action Plan in Egypt with due attention to desertification issues) will be produced that will be incorporated into Egypt's new NBSAP.

<u>Component 3. National frameworks for NBSAP implementation, CBD reporting and appropriate CHM exchange</u> <u>mechanisms.</u>

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

¹⁴ Petersen, C and B. Huntley. 2005. Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Productive Landscapes. Working Paper 20. Washington DC: GEF.

- 3.1 The national framework for NBSAP implementation is in place and includes: (i) institutional mechanism for implementation and strategic partnerships (nationally and internationally); (ii) a costed and prioritized Action Plan appended to the NBSAP; (iii) needs assessments on capacity, technology and finance; and (iv) a strategy for resource mobilization for the implementation of the NBSAP including a baseline assessment of existing biodiversity finance.
- 3.2 The Egyptian CHM is developed and upgraded and includes a national biodiversity database, and links with other related biodiversity websites. The CHM becomes the central depository for biodiversity information in Egypt enhancing data availability and access, and eliminating redundancies.
- 3.3. Immediate CBD reporting obligations are met by Egypt in a timely manner, in particular the Fifth National Report to the CBD by 31 March 2014.

Key Outcomes:

- By 2014, implementation plan for the NBSAP is completed and includes capacity, technology and finance needs assessment.
- By 2014, Egyptian CHM is upgraded and fully operated
- By 2014, the 5th National Report is prepared and submitted

Key *Products* or publications resulting from activities:

- One overall and several straightforward and feasible specific NBSAP implementation plans, which ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP

Key Activities (IV – V)

These two activities will be led by the NBSAP National Project Manager, with the support from the Senior National Expert -Biodiversity Planning and Consultation, the National Expert - Capacity Assessment and Development and the national Specialist - Environmental Economics & Finance. If needed, and if funds permit, the NBSAP International Advisor may be called upon to support. The activities will also count on the input from several national (and possibly sub-national) working groups in the preparation of the required project products.

IV. Developing implementation plans

This activity will focus on developing the plan for implementing the updated new NBSAP. This will include the following elements:

- <u>Developing an overall implementation plan</u>: 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.
- <u>Integrating the NBSAP implementation plan with the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas implementation</u> <u>plan:</u> This activity will ensure that work and progress on protected areas, including goals, objectives and next steps, are fully integrated into the NBSAP. Particular emphasis will be placed on aspects of the CBD Aichi Target 11, including plans for expanding the protected area network, improving management effectiveness of existing protected areas, securing sustainable finance, 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 any Party "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 proliferation of innovative biodiversity finance mechanisms, such as payments for ecosystem services, conservation trust funds, biodiversity offsets and bio-carbon funding, among many others. Egypt is still in the early stages of exploring these mechanisms. This activity will therefore focus on the following:
 - Determining the biodiversity financing baseline (past and current biodiversity investment) and the efficiency and effectiveness of resource utilisation
 - o Determining the existing financing needs and gaps for implementing the NBSAP
 - o Identifying potential traditional and innovative sources of revenue for filling the financing gap
 - Assessing the feasibility for these revenue sources
 - o Developing a detailed plan for operationalising these revenue sources

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 Egypt develops a road map for strengthening these specific capacities. Building on existing capacity needs assessment, and using existing guidance, Egypt will identify the following gaps, along with capacity-building strategies to fill those gaps (from the National Capacity Self-Assessment report):

Biodiversity Capacity Gaps:

- The overuse of temporary ad-hoc decision-making bodies
- Lack of coordination between key agencies
- Insufficient protection and conservation finance and measures
- Low public awareness of environmental issues
- o Lack of effective systems and adequate databases for sharing biodiversity information,
- Inadequate means of monitoring trends in biodiversity resources

Crosscutting Capacity Gaps:

- Weak planning capacity for mainstreaming biodiversity into sectors
- Inadequate institutional and legislative frameworks
- o Weak EIA enforcement
- o Inadequate knowledge base to handle emerging issues, such as climate change adaptation

V. Institutionalizing, monitoring and reporting

- <u>Monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity under climate change scenarios:</u> 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, Egypt will ensure that future monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity and ecosystem services is comprehensive, and fully incorporates climate change issues.
- <u>Developing a permanent framework for reporting to the CBD</u>: Parties to the CBD committed to submitting a fifth national report by 2014. In this project, Egypt will submit a 5th National Report that fully covers the NBSAP, key changes in the status and trends in biodiversity status, threats and conservation, and will develop a long-term reporting framework that will enable a better tracking of changes over time.

Project consistency with national strategies and plans or reports and assessments relevant for the CBD, as well as other cross-cutting assessments and priority setting exercises

At national level, the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP, 2002) defines the overarching environmental objectives and strategies for the Government of Egypt. It in turn provides for the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP version 1, 1998). This project is a follow on to the existing NBSAP, but it is consistent with it. It will be guided by priorities in the NEAP. The project builds on previous biodiversity planning and CBD reporting processes. It also builds on the conclusions from previous capacity assessments, taking this one step further. In addition, Egypt intends to update its National Strategy on Sustainable Development, which will cover a number of environmental and sustainable development aspects of public life in Egypt. This project will be an important policy contribution to the biodiversity aspects of the National Sustainable Development Strategy.

Collaboration and synergies with related initiatives

Egypt has in the past implemented, or is in the process of implementing, a number of GEF grants, including the following key projects upon which this project will build and with which it will integrate where possible:

- Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants in Arid and Semi-arid Ecosystems (GEF # 776, UNDP): The project's objective is to conserve globally significant medicinal plant species and associated habitats in the St

Katherine's Protectorate by: foreclosing the use of critically endangered medicinal plant species in hotspots; introducing small-scale community-based cultivation, processing and medicinal plant marketing to relieve pressure from wild sources in orchards and gardens; introducing best practices for wild medicinal plant collection and sustainable collection levels throughout the protectorate; promoting alternative energy sources in demonstration areas; dispersing grazing pressure throughout the Protectorate; protecting community intellectual property rights in Egypt; and replicating project successes in Egypt.

- Mainstreaming Global Environment in National Plans and Policies by Strengthening the Monitoring and Reporting System for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (GEF # 3190, UNDP): This project aims to strengthen monitoring activities, to improve data management (including acquisition, processing, exchange and utilization), to delineate the monitoring and reporting roles and responsibilities of different concerned entities, and to ensure the financial sustainability for environmental monitoring, evaluation and reporting.
- Strengthening Protected Area Financing and Management Systems (GEF #3209, UNDP): This project focuses on the establishment of a sustainable protected area financing system, with associated management structures, systems and capacities needed to ensure the effective use of generated revenues for priority biodiversity conservation needs
- Adaptation to Climate Change in the Nile Delta through Integrated Coastal Zone Management (GEF #3242, UNDP): This project focuses on the integration of the management of sea-level rise risks into the development of Egypt's Low Elevation Coastal Zone in the Nile Delta.
- Enhanced Water Resources Management (GEF # 3991, IBRD/WB): This project aims to pilot International Waters Resource Management in the Nile Delta and enhance the knowledge and capacity of water sector institutions for IWRM in Egypt, contributing to pollution reduction in the Mediterranean Sea

The project managers, the host institutions and the UNDP Country Office together with UNDP's regional support structures will ensure that the NBSAP project coordinates and integrates with these key projects to maximise exchanges and reciprocal input, such as by arranging meetings and participating in relevant events and workshops.

For the sake of brevity not all nationally executed biodiversity projects are listed here.

Institutional arrangements N/A

Project implementation arrangement:

The project will be implemented over a period of 24 months. The Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA) through its Department of Nature Conservation/National Biodiversity Unit) 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, 1987) between the UNDP and the Government of Egypt and the Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) for 2005-2011.

The overall responsibility for the project implementation by EEAA implies the timely and verifiable attainment of project objectives and outcomes. EEAA will provide support to, and inputs for, the implementation of all project activities.

A national *Project Steering Committee* (PSC) will be convened by the EEAA, and will serve as the project's oversight, coordination and decision-making body (Project Board). The PSC will include representation of all the key project stakeholders. It will meet according to necessity, but not less than once every 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.

The day-to-day administration of the project will be carried out by a *Project Coordinating Unit* (PCU), comprising a Project Manager (PM) who will be located within EEAA offices. The PM and further project staff including consultants will be recruited using standard UNDP recruitment procedures. The NPM is accountable to the EEAA, UNDP 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 manage the implementation of all project activities, liaising and working closely with all partner institutions including the UNDP Country Office staff and UNDP/GEF Regional Technical Advisor responsible for the project, to link the project and ensure synergies with complementary national programs and initiatives. The NPM will also be supported by contracted additional national consultants and service providers. Contracting of these consultants and service providers for the project will be done by the PM, in consultation with UNDP and the EEAA.

Working closely with the EEAA, the UNDP Country Office will be responsible for: (i) providing project assurance services to government (ii) recruitment of project staff and contracting of consultants and service providers; (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.

Comparative advantage of UNDP in Egypt with respect to this project:

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 GEF global project 'Biodiversity Support Programme' was jointly implemented with UNEP and has set the stage at the global level in the field of biodiversity planning among GEF eligible countries. Furthermore, UNDP assisted Egypt in the preparation of its 4th National Report to the CBD.

The Government of Egypt has requested UNDP assistance in designing and implementing this project, due to UNDP's track record in supporting the preparation of NBSAPs and National Reports. UNDP currently supports the development and implementation of GEF projects in areas related to climate change, mainstreaming and biodiversity. UNDP has an established national office in Cairo with well-developed working relationships with the key stakeholders of the project. At least 9 professional staff and 5 support staff are directly in charge of the environment portfolio, in addition to senior management and operation support. Moreover, the project will benefit from the presence of a UNDP/GEF Regional Technical Advisor dedicated to Ecosystems and Biodiversity based in Bratislava, Slovakia. 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 Egypt

GEF biodiversity, climate change, and international waters projects, including on enabling activities, are all in accordance with priorities identified in the second UNDP Country Co-operation Framework (2002–06) for Egypt: "UNDP will continue to demonstrate and transfer environmentally sound technologies for sustainable development in the focal areas of climate change, biodiversity and international waters." In the biodiversity area, UNDP seeks to support projects contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity by involving local communities and making sure they maintain and benefit from these biodiversity and ecosystem services. The clear linkages between biodiversity and both sustainable development and achievement of the MDGs make projects in this field highly relevant to UNDP. Biodiversity and protected area management is also identified as a priority area for the latest United Nations Development Assistance Framework. UNDP also focuses on sustainable land management to combat desertification, since land degradation is a major cause of rural poverty in Egypt, and it supports the promotion of clean energy technologies to mitigate climate change and energy activities to reduce poverty.

Stakeholder involvement in the implementation of the project

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 operationalize this proposal at the level of UNDP, allowing Egypt to access the funding. This plan will depart from the following indicative and non-exhaustive list:

National government departments:

- Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs
- Ministry of Electricity and Energy
- Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
- Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Housing,
- Ministry of Culture
- Ministry of Health and Population
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Higher Education
- Ministry of Scientific Research
- Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
- National Institute of Water Research

Academia / Institutions:

- Ain Shams University
- Al Azhar University
- Alexandria University
- American University in Cairo
- Arab Academy for Science & Technology

- Assiut University
- Benha University
- Cairo University
- German University in Cairo
- Helwan University
- Higher Technological Institute
- Mansoura University
- Menoufia University
- Minia University
- Misr International University
- Misr University for Science and Technology
- Modern University For Technology and Information
- October University for Modern Sciences & Arts
- South Valley University
- Suez Canal University
- Tanta University
- Université Française d'Égypte
- Zagazig University

Non Governmental Organisations:

- Nature Conservation Egypt (NCE)
- African Soil Science Association (ASSS)
- African Farmers Association (AFA)
- Arab Association for Information and Technology Systems (AAITS)
- Arab Fertilizer Association (AFA)
- Association for health and environmental development (AHED)
- Arab Media Forum for Environment and Development.
- Arab NGO Network for Environment and Development (RAED).
- Arab Office for Youth and Environment (AOYE).
- Egyptian Association for Development in Fayoum.

International/bilateral cooperation agencies and international organisations:

- African Development Bank
- African Development Fund
- Food and Agriculture Organization
- United Nations Development Programme
- United Nations Environment Programme
- United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- World Health Organization
- World Tourism Organization
- World Trade Organization
- European Union (EU)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Italian Cooperation

Gender marking

Factors such as religion, social class and rural or urban location all affect the situation of Egyptian women, but it is cultural traditions – which are often discriminatory – that most strongly shape their lives. The law is partly based on Islamic Sharia and does provide for equality between the sexes, but still discriminates against women in some aspects. One example of these influences is that Egyptian women have fewer employment and economic opportunities than men, partly because of high female illiteracy rates but also because society generally discourages women from pursuing careers. Marriage of girls is also an issue -- an estimated 15 percent of girls between 15 and 19 years of age are currently married, divorced or widowed in Egypt. Despite this, women enjoy a relatively high degree of freedom. Moreover, Egyptian law does not restrict women's access to land, access to property other than land or access to bank loans, and an increasing number of women are engaged in business transactions and financial activities, even though some culturally rooted traditions may restrict their actual control over and management of assets.

The project coordination will ensure that that gender considerations become an integral part of the updated NBSAP. COP

guidance will be followed^[1]. More specifically two pieces of guidance are worth mentioning: (i) COP Decision 1X/24 on the approval and endorsement of the CBD Gender Plan of Action; and (ii) COP Decision X/19, which amongst other matters invited Parties to consider gender as a core cross-cutting issue in the implementation of biodiversity-related activities.

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 <u>COST-EFFECTIVENESS</u> OF THE PROJECT:

The development of the updated NBSAP presents opportunities for a highly cost-effective intervention. This includes that Egypt has already taken important steps in defining protected areas covering an important portion of the country's globally and nationally significant biodiversity. Also, the low level of inputs currently being directed at the management of PAs (under the NBSAP) imply that project inputs, if well prioritized, can achieve high marginal benefits. The project's approach of focusing on updating the NBSAP in conjunction with emphasis on management effectiveness, business planning and resource mobilisation, represents a strategic use of GEF funds – particularly regarding its goal of a substantial and long-term increase in domestically generated conservation funding.

The project combines GEF funding with government co-financing investment in order to achieve its objectives. The government contribution to the project includes part of the staff time of a Project Manager and of support staff at the EEAA for a number of project activities, the organisation of and participation in Project Board meetings, plus other work related to reporting, work plan approvals, signing off on CDR reports, RDPs, reviewing APRs/PIRs, etc. In addition, information and data will be collected and provided by the EEAA and other government agencies regularly over the duration of the project.

The cost-effectiveness of the proposed activities will further be ensured by combining government internal, national and international expertise in implementing similar projects. GEF funding for consultancy services will be kept to a minimum, as government can finance much of it from existing resources. The same applies to the national contribution to EA working groups.

At the same time, the government of Egypt wishes the work on the new NBSAP to be transformational from a biodiversity planning point of view, in particular with respect to the mainstreaming and ecosystem valuation aspects. Hence, the GEF's financing of specialised consultants and knowledge / capacity building within the framework of this project is essential to its success, to the extent that it finances the costs of going beyond what government would be able to do without foreign assistance. The GEF funding to the project will focus in overcoming this specific barrier. UNDP is well positioned to assist Egypt in sourcing the necessary expertise for this EA project in a cost-effective manner.

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 built upon the strong foundation of Egypt's previously developed NBSAP, Capacity Assessments and National Reports.

. DESCRIBE THE BUDGET	TED 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	\$5,000	Within first two months of project start up
Inception Report	Project Team	None	Immediately following

^[1] See e.g. www.cbd.int/doc/nbsap/nbsapcbw-pac-02/nbsap-nadi-scbd-gender.pdf and www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-49-en.pdf.

	UNDP CO		Inception Workshop
Measurement of Means of	Oversight by Project	To be finalized during the	Annually prior to
Verification for Project Purpose	Manager	inception phase and determined	ARR/PIR and to the
Indicators, Project Progress and	Project team	as part of the Annual Work	definition of annual work
Performance (measured on an		Plan's preparation.	plans
annual basis)			-
Simplified Biodiversity Enabling	Project Team	None	Annually
Activities Annual Project Review /	UNDP-CO		
Project Implementation Report	UNDP-GEF		
(APR/PIR)			
Quarterly progress reports	Project team	None	Quarterly
Combined Delivery Reports	Project Manager	None	Quarterly
Lessons Learned Log	Project Manager	None	Quarterly
Lessons Learned Log	UNDP CO Programme Staff	Trone	Quarterry
Terminal Report	Project team		At least one month before
L L	UNDP-CO	Printing costs only, if any.	the end of the project
Lessons learned	Project team	To be determined as part of the	Yearly
	UNDP-GEF Regional	Annual Work Plan's preparation.	
	Coordinating Unit (suggested		
	formats for documenting best		
	practices, etc.)		
Audit	UNDP-CO	\$2,000 in total - to be included	Yearly
	Project team	in the UNDP CO audit plan as	
		in kind contribution.	
TOTAL indicative COST			
Excluding project team staff time and	UNDP staff and travel	US\$ 7,000	
expenses			

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

N/A

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

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the <u>country endorsement letter(s)</u> with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE
Chem. Hossam Hegazy	CEO / GEF OFP	Ministry of State for	February 9th, 2012
		Environmental Affairs	

B. CONVENTION **PARTICIPATION***

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT
	ACCESSION	
UNCBD	March 21, 2004	Moustafa Fouda
UNFCCC	March 05, 1995	Lydia Mohamed Kamel Elewa
UNCCD	July 07, 1995	Dr. Ismaill Abdel Galil Hussein
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	February 05, 2003	Ms. Fatma Mohamed Ibrahim Abou-Shok

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

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

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Yannick Glemarec, UNDP/GEF Executive Coordinator	A	April 16, 2012	Yves de Soye, Regional Technical Advisor and Financing Specialist, Ecosystems & Biodiversity	+421 2 59337 332; +421 911 360 250	yves.desoye@undp.org

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 A. CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE ENABLING ACTIVITY

Position Titles	\$ / Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
For Project Managem	ent		
Local Consultants			
NBSAP National Project Manager (managerial tasks) 18 weeks financed by GEF refer to the	1000	18	<i>Objective</i> : The NBSAP National Project Manager (NPM) will oversee and undertake the general administrative requirements of the project, including those related to project management and budget execution; and lead the overall process of the stocktaking, stakeholder consultation, national target setting processes, as well as the development of the NBSAP and its implementation plans in Egypt, having overall responsibility for its quality and timely finalisation. <i>Key tasks</i> :
incumbent's magerial tasks, while 37 weeks, also financed			 Ensure that the project's scope, budget, outcomes, outputs and activities are executed and objectives met in a timely and appropriate manner. Identify and coordinate with other initiatives, programmes, national and international organisations and persons
by GEF, refer to technical tasks.			 Identify and coordinate with other initiatives, programmes, national and international organisations and persons of relevance to the project's objectives. Select suitable further project implementation partners, where required, and develop an overall implementation
technical tasks.			 plan. Ensure that the inception meeting results in a clear roadmap on the scope of services and project tasks to be accomplished, in association with UNDP and national execution partners. Lead the development of detailed work plans and budgets, for submission to UNDP and national execution partners and others as appropriate. Prepare the different project monitoring (technical and financial) reports required by UNDP and GEF. Provide timely reporting of project status as required by the UNDP and national execution partners. Develop TORs for consultants, experts and working groups as well as specifications of materials required by the project, in consultation with UNDP. Lead the recruitment of the other consultants and experts involved in the NBSAP, and serve as their team leader facilitating, coordinating and monitoring their work and input, UNDP and national execution partners. Hold meetings with key stakeholder representing sectors targeted for mainstreaming with a view to embedding and institutionalizing sectoral biodiversity mainstreaming strategies in the institutions, policies, agreements, programs and mechanisms of each sector, assisting the sectors in the development of targets and policy mainstreaming proposals. Ensure that the conclusions from the different studies conducted under the project are incorporated into the NBSAP.
			 Ensure that all climate change-related issues that affect or are affected by biodiversity (including both adaptation and mitigation opportunities and measures), including those that are highlighted in the latest National Communication to the UNFCCC, are integrated and addressed in the NBSAP. Ensure the timely drafting, completion and submission as well as a high technical quality of all consultancy and project deliverables, in association with the Project Steering Committee, UNDP.
			 Ensure the timely submission of the new NBSAP to the CBD Secretariat in compliance with agreed deadlines. Any other duties assigned by the Project Committee that have direct relevance to the project. <i>Contribution to the following deliverables:</i> Brief review of the biodiversity planning process in Egypt and of the key barriers and challenges in the policy

Position Titles	\$ / Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed					
			 Review of the root causes of biodiversity loss in Egypt by first identifying the threat and then the drivers behind the threats Biodiversity targets for Egypt, as part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020 Study on ecosystem valuation in Egypt Study on advances in sectoral mainstreaming of biodiversity in Egypt Study on exploring and costing options for biodiversity adaptation to climate change and for ecosystem-based adaptation through the development of a climate-resilient PoWPA Action Plan in Egypt Assessments of capacity and finance gaps and needs, and of existing biodiversity finance Second version of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Egypt Set of straightforward and feasible NBSAP implementation plans that ensure the effective implementation of th Action Plan contained in the NBSAP Fifth National Report <i>Qualifications and experience</i>: The NPM should have a graduate or, preferably, advanced degree (MSc) in environmental or natural sciences, economics, social sciences, or management, with a minimum of 10 years' experience in national or international project management, including at least 3 years at the senior level, and a track record in biodiversity management and policy. The NPM should also have: good leadership, coordination and facilitation skills and knowledge of environmental issues in Egypt; a proven track record of drafting relevant materials (publications, reports and related documentation); a proven ability to collect, verify and analyse information, and to finish and present work with a high degree of accuracy and technical quality; ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing, in order to communicate complex, technical information to both technical and general audiences; good knowledge and understanding of the CBD decisions and processes. Previous experience in NBSAP development is an advantage.					
For Technical Assistant Local Consultants	nce							
NBSAP National Project Manager (technical tasks)	1000	37	The number of weeks refers to the technical tasks in the above-described TOR. Note that the incumbent is expected to work full-time throughout the duration of the project (i.e. up to 104 weeks), though only 55 weeks will be financed by GEF. The remainder of the time will be covered by government co-financing.					
Senior National Expert - Biodiversity Planning and Consultation	1000	24	 Play a leading and resource person role vis-a-vis the National Target Setting and in a number of national sub-national consultation processes for all relevant activities under the Enabling Activity project, and be the lead author for the Fifth National Report. Identify the root causes of biodiversity loss in Egypt by first identifying the threat and then the drivers behind the threats. Take stock of existing plans, policies and practices in Egypt that result in biodiversity conservation or loss, and identify the challenges and key barriers in the policy environment impeding effective biodiversity management. Identify options for overcoming existing barriers and challenges and the key gaps in the existing NBSAP Develop methodologies and processes for the national and sub-national technical meetings and consultations, including for the participatory validation of the national targets and the draft NBSAP, increasing the likelihood of successful implementation of the new NBSAP. Review base documents for the inputs to the sub-national technical meetings and consultations Work on the preparation of base documents for technical meetings. Carry out consultations with provincial authorities and organize sub-national technical meetings and consultations and National Technical meetings. 					

Position Titles	\$ / Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			 Collect and consolidate information arising from the technical meetings and regional consultations Provide inputs for evaluation of institutional capabilities. Work with local experts and government authorities to collect available information on biodiversity. Provide inputs to the development of the NBSAP and its implementation plans Function as the lead author of the Fifth National Report to the CBD. <i>Contribution to the following deliverables:</i> Brief review of the biodiversity planning process in Egypt and of the key barriers and challenges in the policy environment to effective biodiversity loss in Egypt by first identifying the threat and then the drivers behind the threats Biodiversity targets for Egypt, as part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020 Study on ecosystem valuation in Egypt Study on ecosystem valuation in Egypt Study on exploring and costing options for biodiversity in Egypt Study on exploring and costing options for biodiversity adaptation to climate change and for ecosystem-based adaptation through the development of a climate-resilient PoWPA Action Plan in Egypt Assessments of capacity and finance gaps and needs, and of existing biodiversity finance Second version of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Egypt Fifth National Report <i>Qualifications and experience:</i> Should have a bachelor or, preferably, advanced degree (MSc) in environmental or natural sciences, economics, social sciences, or management, preferably with professional exposure to biodiversity conservation issues. Good facilitation skills and knowledge of environmental issues in Egypt; a proven track record of drafting relevant materials (publications, reports and related documentation); a proven ability to collect, verify and analyse information, and to finish and present
National Expert - Biodiversity and Climate Change	1000	12	 Objectives: The consultant will be responsible for carrying out specific tasks relating to the production of a report (under Component 2) on "Exploring and costing options for biodiversity adaptation to climate change and for ecosystem-based adaptation through the development of a climate-resilient PoWPA Action Plan in Egypt". <i>Key tasks</i>: Review, assess and expand on existing data relating to the full range of climate change impacts on, and the specific vulnerabilities of, biodiversity, ecosystems and their functioning, ecosystem services, economic sectors and human communities in Egypt, in a geographically specific manner. Identify further work required in this regard. Identify areas important for improving nature's ability to adapt to climate change, such as altitudinal gradients and conservation corridors. Assess the extent to which the country's ecological gap assessment includes the predicted future distribution of biodiversity under climate change scenarios, making specific recommendations for protected area and corridor expansion, recommendations that should be realistically incorporated into Egypt's national biodiversity targets and revised NBSAP. Identify areas offering opportunities for cost effective and robust ecosystem-based adaptation measures and

Position Titles	\$ / Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			 make recommendations for their management Based on existing data (e.g. from the WCMC work on carbon sinks and the Protected Area Database) and fine resolution GIS modelling, identify potential areas important for carbon sequestration in Egypt and make recommendations for their protection and management, which may be incorporated into the national target setting exercise (in line with the global Aichi Targets) and into the country's revised NBSAP. Identify areas of particular importance for restoration in order to improve climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation. As a result of the above, prepare specific inputs for the development of Egypt's new biodiversity targets, its new NBSAP and its Fifth National Report to the CBD, and the PoWPA Action Plan. Develop a written report that summarizes all findings. Prepare a set of simple but strong key economic and political messages backed up by credible data from the results of the analysis to be included in the conclusion of the case study. <i>Contribution to the following deliverables:</i> Biodiversity targets for Egypt, as part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020 Study on exploring and costing options for biodiversity adaptation to climate change and for ecosystem-based adaptation through the development of a climate-resilient PoWPA Action Plan in Egypt Second version of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Egypt Fifth National Report Selection criteria: The consultant should have an advanced degree (MSc) in the natural sciences and have significant technical experience on the climate change-biodiversity interface, internationally and in the region of not Egypt. Proven track record of drafting relevant materials (publications, reports and related documentation). Proven ability to collect, verify and analyse information, and to finish and present work with a high degree of accuracy and technical infor
National Expert - Capacity Assessment and Development	1000	10	 Objective: To objectively reveal Egypt's capacity to effectively implement the obligations under the CBD, and to consolidate and prepare project components related to capacity needs and capacity development. Key tasks: Consolidate and analyze information on the existing legal framework, the current national and provincial institutional capacities and operational procedures, and the level of implementation and enforcement of the CBD and its decisions Determine the level of willingness to implement a harmonized legal and policy framework as well as actions on the ground that protect, sustainably use and safeguard biodiversity, ensuring relevant CBD obligations and activities are fulfilled. Assess whether the identified primary and secondary duty bearers have the necessary human resources to meet the specific obligations. Assess the pattern and efficacy of participation at CBD regional and global 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. Identify and prioritise the capacity gaps and the capacity development needs required to effectively implement CBD obligations at all levels. Based on international best practice, generate recommendations for capacity enhancement at all levels, and to

Position Titles	\$ / Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			 enable rationalisation of capacity and efficient resource allocation during implementation with other MEAs. Develop a comprehensive Capacity Development Programme and Training Action Plan aimed at an effective implementation and coordination of CBD at the national and sub-national government levels. <i>Contribution to the following deliverables:</i> Brief review of the biodiversity planning process in Egypt and of the key barriers and challenges in the policy environment to effective biodiversity conservation/sustainable use. Set of straightforward and feasible NBSAP implementation plans that ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP, especially with regard to the assessment of capacity needs <i>Selection criteria:</i> should have an advanced degree (Masters) in a relevant discipline such as Human Resource Management or Public Administration, and/or a minimum of 5 years professional experience in institutional/organisational development and change management. Proven experience in skills assessment, capacity development and training.
National Expert - Environmental Economics & Finance	1000	22	 Objectives: The consultant will be responsible for carrying out specific tasks relating to: (i) Assessing and integrating ecosystem services through economic valuation (under Component 2); ii) Mainstreaming biodiversity into development policies, plans and practices, into national accounting frameworks, and into sectoral plans and strategies (under Component 2); and iii) Securing sustainable finance for NBSAP implementation, to include an assessment of finance gaps and needs, and of existing biodiversity finance and sources of funding (under Component 3). <i>Key tasks</i>: Identify and assess the full range of values of key ecosystem services within Egypt, based on existing local, national, regional and global studies on the value of ecosystems and biodiversity, including: global and regional maps and overlays of key ecosystem services, the national TEEB valuation results (if any), and valuations of protected areas, medicinal and aromatic plants, and any other national ecosystem services studies that have been conducted (e.g. water, carbon). 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 through policies such as payments for ecosystem services and other positive incentives. Implement the mainstreaming component of the project Identify priority biodiversity investment needs and opportunities based on the NBSAP Analyse existing internal sources of finance for NBSAP implementation (bilaterals and multilaterals, foundations, NGOs, private sectore c.) Analyse all existing external sources of finance for NBSAP implementation (bilaterals and multilaterals, foundations, NGOs, private sector etc.) <li< td=""></li<>

Position Titles	\$ / Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			 Study on ecosystem valuation in Egypt Study on advances in sectoral mainstreaming of biodiversity in Egypt Second version of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Egypt Set of straightforward and feasible NBSAP implementation plans that ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP, in particular the assessment of finance gaps and needs, and of existing biodiversity finance Selection criteria: The consultant should have an advanced degree (MSc) in economics, environmental economics or a related field, with exposure to biodiversity valuation and financing issues at the international level. Proven track record of drafting relevant materials (publications, reports and related documentation). Proven ability to collect, verify and analyse information, and to finish and present work with a high degree of accuracy and technical quality. Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing, in order to communicate complex, technical information to both technical and general audiences. Full proficiency in English and/or French is required and knowledge of Arabic an advantage.
International Consult	ants	•	
NBSAP International Advisor	3000	5	 Objectives: To provide overall technical support through advisory and capacity building services to the stocktaking, stakeholder consultation, national target setting processes, as well as to the development of the NBSAP and its implementation plans in Egypt. The NBSAP International Advisor will be an experience expatriate consultant, with wide experience in biodiversity management and policy, and preferably with experience working in the Arab States region. The NBSAP International Advisor will render services to the National Steering Committee and the NBSAP National Project Manager as his/her main clients. Key tasks: Assist the National Project Manager, national execution partners and the UNDP technical staff, in developing a detailed work plan on the basis of the inception meeting. Assist the National Project Manager at basis, in executing the project's scope and budget, in identifying further implementation partners, and in coordinating the efforts allocated to the different activities and deliverables including the input and outputs of the different project consultants and service providers. This will imply reviewing and revising TORs and providing support to the consultants and working groups involved in the NBSAP, ensuring high technical quality of project deliverables. Ensure that all climate change-related issues that affect or are affected by biodiversity (including both adaptation and mitigation opportunities and measures), including those that are highlighted in the latest National Communication to the UNFCCC, are integrated and addressed in the NBSAP. Constribution to the following deliverables: Biodiversity targets for Egypt, as part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020 Study on advances in sectoral mainstreaming of biodiversity in Egypt

Position Titles	\$ / Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			 Study on exploring and costing options for biodiversity adaptation to climate change and for ecosystem-based adaptation through the development of a climate-resilient PoWPA Action Plan in Egypt Assessments of capacity and finance gaps and needs, and of existing biodiversity finance Second version of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Egypt Set of straightforward and feasible NBSAP implementation plans that ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP Fifth National Report Selection criteria: The consultant should have an advanced degree (MSc) in environmental or natural sciences, preferably with exposure to biodiversity conservation issues at the international level, in both the field and policy arenas. Proven track record of drafting relevant materials (publications, reports and related documentation) in the biodiversity and ecosystem-based adaptation/mitigation areas. Proven ability to collect, verify and analyse information, and to finish and present work with a high degree of accuracy and technical quality. Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing, in order to communicate complex, technical information to both technical and general audiences. Solid knowledge and understanding of the CBD decisions and processes. Previous experience in the development of NBSAPs, especially at the international level, is an advantage. Full proficiency in English and/or French is required and knowledge of Arabic an advantage.

ANNEX B. CH	IRONOGRAM OF ACTIVITIES
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Comp	Modules	Guiding activities under each module		20	12			20	13		2014			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1) NBSAP	I. Preparation	1. Rapid stocktaking and review of relevant												
stocktaking and		plans, policies and reports												
national target		2. Identification of stakeholders; consultations												1
setting		and awareness												
seamg		3. Rapid assessment of the causes and												1
		consequences of biodiversity loss highlighting the												ĺ
		value of biodiversity and ecosystem services and												ĺ
		their contribution to human well-being												<u> </u>
	II Setting national	4. Setting national targets, principles, & main												1
	targets, principles &	priorities of the strategy though national												1
	main priorities of the	consultations												ĺ
	strategy													 '
2) NBSAP	III. Strategy and action	5. Developing the strategy and actions to												1
review and	plan development	implement the agreed targets through national												1
update, and		consultations 6. Application of the NBSAP to sub-national												'
adoption by the														1
Egyptian		entities through sub-national and local consultations												1
Government		7. Sectoral integration including mainstreaming												
		into development, poverty reduction and climate												1
		change plans through sectoral consultations												1
		change plans through sectoral consultations												1
														1
3) National	IV. Development of	8a. Develop overarching and specific												
frameworks for	implementation plans	implementation plans												1
NBSAP	and related activities	8b. Development of a plan for capacity												
implementation,		development for NBSAP implementation.												1
CBD reporting		9. Technology needs assessment												ĺ
		10. Development of a communication and												ĺ
and appropriate		outreach strategy for the NBSAP.												1
CHM exchange		11. Development of a plan for resource												
mechanisms		mobilisation for NBSAP implementation												1
	V. Institutional,	12. Establishment/ strengthening of national												1
	monitoring, reporting	coordination structures												<u> </u>
	and exchange	13. CHM updating												
		14. Development of indicators and monitoring												1
		approach												<u> </u>
		15. Fifth National Reports												L'

ANNEX C. UNDP TOTAL BUDGET AND WORKPLAN

GEF Component (Outcome) /Atlas Activity	Resp. Party	Fund ID	Donor Name	ERP / ATLAS Budget Code	Altlas Budget Description	TOTAL Amount (USD)	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Budget Notes
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71200	International Consultants	5,000	5,000			а
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	5,000	4,000	1,000		b
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	5,000	4,000	1,000		с
Comp 1.	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	2,000	2,000			d
Stocktaking and	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	3,000	3,000			h
national target	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	75700	Training, Workshop & Conferences	4,000	4,000			e
setting	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	4,000	4,000			f
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	75700	Training, Workshop & Conferences	5,000	5,000			q
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72200	Equipment and Furniture	5,000	5,000			g
	GEF Sul	ototal Atlas	Activity 1 (Com	p 1)		38,000	36,000	2,000	0	
TOTAL ACTIVI	ITY 1 (Co	mp 1)				38,000	36,000	2,000	0	
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71200	International Consultants	5,000		5,000		а
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	12,000		12,000		j
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	12,000		12,000		k
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	20,000		15,000	5,000	b
Comp 2. NBSAP update	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	15,000		10,000	5,000	с
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	18,000		12,000	6,000	d
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	3,000		3,000		h
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	75700	Training, Workshop & Conferences	12,000		8,000	4,000	e
	GEF Sul	ototal Atlas	Activity 2 (Com	p 2)		97,000	0	77,000	20,000	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 2 (Comp 2)						97,000	0	77,000	20,000	
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71200	International Consultants	5,000		,	5,000	а
Comp 3.	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Local Consultants	10,000		6,000	4,000	1
National	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	12,000		2,000	10,000	b
frameworks for	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	10,000		6,000	4,000	i
NBSAP	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	4,000		,	4,000	c
implementation,	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	4,000			4,000	h
CDB reporting	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	75700	Training, Workshop & Conferences	8,000		6,000	2,000	е
and exchange	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	75700	Training, Workshop & Conferences	6,000		- , 0	6,000	r
mechanisms	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	6,000			6,000	S
		ototal Atlas	Activity 3 (Com			65,000	0	20,000	45,000	
TOTAL ACTIVI						65,000	0	20,000	45,000	
Project Mgt	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	18,000	4,500	9,000	4,500	b
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72200	Equipment and Furniture	1,000	300	400	300	g
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	1,000	500	500	2.50	<u>8</u>
			Activity 4 (Proj			20,000	5,300	9,900	4,800	
TOTAL ACTIVI						20,000	5,300	9,900	4,800	
			,			20,000	41,200	100.000	(0.000	

SUB-TOTAL GEF	220,000	41,300	108,900	69,800	
GRAND TOTAL (in cash)	220,000	41,300	108,900	69,800	

Budget N	Budget Notes				
а	Int. Cons. (short-term): NBSAP International Advisor - 30 days at \$500/day, totalling \$15,000, spread over the project's three Components				
b	Nat. Cons. (long-term): NBSAP National Project Manager: 18 weeks (@ \$1000/week) financed by GEF refer to the incumbent's managerial tasks, w				
U	weeks (same rate), also financed by GEF, refer to technical tasks				
с	Nat. Cons. (long-term): Senior National Expert - Biodiversity Planning and Consultation: 24 weeks @ \$1000/week				
d	Domestic travel by stakeholders in connection with national consultations				
e	National consultations in connection with target setting, CHM, NBSAP update and 5NR				
f	Functioning of national and thematic working groups in connection with target setting, CHM, NBSAP update and 5NR				
g	IT acquisition				
h	International travel costs to bring international consultants to country				
j	Nat. Cons. (short-term): National Expert - Environmental Economics & Finance: 22 weeks @ \$1000/week				
k	Nat. Cons. (short-term): National Expert - Biodiversity and Climate Change: 12 weeks @ \$1000/week				
1	Nat. Cons. (short-term): National Expert - Capacity Assessment and Development: 12 weeks @ \$1000/week				
m	Communication costs of the project unit				
n	Bank charges, insurance, exchange rate fluctuations and miscellaneous expenses				
q	Inception workshop				
r	Final workshop for the official adoption of the NBSAP by the Egyptian Government				
S	Dissemination of 5th National Report				