



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)
PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project
THE GEF TRUST FUND

Submission Date: 28/04/10

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

GEF PROJECT ID¹: 4091 **PROJECT DURATION:**48months

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID:

COUNTRY(IES): Ethiopia

PROJECT TITLE: Capacity building for Access and Benefit Sharing and Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants

GEF AGENCY(IES): UNEP

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNER(S): Ethiopian Environmental Protection Agency, Ethiopian Institute of Biodiversity Conservation

GEF FOCAL AREA (S)²: Full-sized Project

GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): SP4/5, SP8

NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM/UMBRELLA PROJECT (if applicable):

INDICATIVE CALENDAR*	
Milestones	Expected Dates mm/dd/yyyy
Work Program (for FSP)	June 2010
CEO Endorsement/Approval	Feb 2011
Agency Approval Date	May 2011
Implementation Start	July 2011
Mid-term Evaluation (if planned)	July 2013
Project Closing Date	July 2015

* See guidelines for definition of milestones.

A. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Project Objective: To ensure conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and associated traditional knowledge through conservation and sustainable use of medicinal plants and the effective implementation of a revised national access and benefit sharing (ABS) regime.								
Project Components	Indicate whether Investment, TA, or STA ^b	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Indicative GEF Financing ^a		Indicative Co-Financing ^a		Total (\$) c = a + b
				(\$) a	(\$) b			
1. <i>In-situ</i> and <i>ex-situ</i> conservation and sustainable use of medicinal plants in selected conservation and production sites	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation status of threatened medicinal plant species improved within the pilot areas covering 150,000 ha; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A GIS-based, spatial population density map of endemic and threatened medicinal plant species with high economic and social values made across the project areas (selected from BMNP, south [Borena, South Omo], 	1,030,000	50	1030000	50	2060000

¹ Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

² Select only those focal areas from which GEF financing is requested.

			<p>southwestern forests [Masha, Bonga, Benshangul Gumuz], southeastern lowlands [Babile, Jijiga] and west [Dejene, Koser]; and medicinal plants database enriched:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A field survey of levels of (i) “from the wild” collection, (ii) on farm propagation, and (iii) local market demand for medicinal plants conducted in the same regions; • Review and revision of existing policy and legislative framework for Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) collection and sale. Review of adequacy of existing community-based land 					
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased revenue flows to local communities and businesses arising from sustainable use of medicinal plants; <p>New and diversified livelihood opportunities based on natural resources and biodiversity-</p>	<p>management system for Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) collection and sale.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation and sustainable use management plans for priority threatened medicinal plants drawn up, agreed and being implemented by community management committees. Guidelines for sustainable harvesting for priority species in the 3 <i>in situ</i> sites prepared, based on internationally agreed standards; A ex-situ nursery and stocking programme developed for priority medicinal plants to establish “feedstock” supplies for home gardens, 					
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			<p>replication of field gene banks, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A catalogue or compendium of propagation and cultivation methods of selected medicinal plants developed. • 750 home gardens supplied with medicinal plants and linked to market opportunities in the study sites; • “Export” potential assessment for selected species currently under-utilized or with potential for large increase in sustainable production; • An Ethiopian Trade Directory for Medicinal Plant Trade established; Market information system established 					
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small group trade associations, representing the trade from local levels right up to federal level, established; • National bio-prospecting, screening, DNA sequencing, characterization, product development and marketing capacity developed; • Pilot study on ecosystem services as an additional revenue stream for local communities 					
2. Capacity Building for wider application of ABS measures in Ethiopia	TA	Revenue streams from fair and equitable sharing of the benefits of sustainable use of genetic resources increased	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within the pilot areas, capacity of local communities and traditional healers to assess, inventory and monitor genetic resources, and related traditional knowledge, enhanced; • Pilot 	770000	50	770000	50	1540000

			<p>initiatives for contract-based export trade in medicinal plants established with ABS agreements in place;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of existing ABS regulations and recommendations for revision based on the experience of the pilot studies and in the light of the negotiations of the International Regime (post-COP 10) • Administrative system for handling ABS contract negotiations strengthened at central government, and piloted at district (woreda) and local community level 					
3. Project M&E				50000	50	50000	50	100000
4. Project manage ment				197000	50	175,000	50	372000
Total				2047000	50	2025000	50	4,07,200

project costs						0
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^a List the \$ by project components. The percentage is the share of GEF and Co-financing respectively of the total amount for the component.

^b TA = Technical Assistance; STA = Scientific & Technical Analysis.

B. INDICATIVE Co-financing FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE and by NAME (in parenthesis) if available, (\$)

Sources of Co-financing	Type of Co-financing	Project
Project Government Contribution	In -kind	2025000
GEF Agency(ies)	(select)	
Bilateral Aid Agency(ies)	(select)	
Multilateral Agency(ies)	(select)	
Private Sector	(select)	
NGO	(select)	
Others	(select)	
Total Co-financing		2025000

C. INDICATIVE FINANCING PLAN SUMMARY FOR THE PROJECT (\$)

	Previous Project Preparation Amount (a) ³	Project (b)	Total c = a + b	Agency Fee
GEF financing		2047000	2047000	204700
Co-financing		2025000	2025000	
Total		4072000	4072000	204700

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. STATE THE ISSUE, HOW THE PROJECT SEEKS TO ADDRESS IT, AND THE EXPECTED GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED: Error! Not a valid bookmark self-reference.

B. DESCRIBE THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH NATIONAL/REGIONAL PRIORITIES/PLANS: One of the objectives of the National Biodiversity Conservation and Research Policy is ensuring communities share from the benefit accrued from the utilisation of genetic resources and their traditional knowledge. The overall goal of the NBSAP is, “effective systems are established that ensure the conservation and sustainable use of Ethiopia’s biodiversity, which provide for the equitable sharing of the costs and benefits arising therefrom, and that contribute to the well-being and security of the nation. One of the strategic objectives of the NBSAP is, “the costs and benefits on biodiversity conservation are equitably shared through a range of public, private, community/CBO and NGO partnerships for PA management and for sustainable use and marketing of biodiversity”. The action plan specifies development of access and benefit sharing legislation as a matter of priority to comply, among other concerns, with Article 15 (genetic resources), Article 16 (technology) and Article 19 (handling of biotechnology and distribution of benefits). In determining this by law, the “Access to Genetic Resources and Community Knowledge, and to Provide for the Rights of Communities over Genetic Resources and Community Knowledge” promulgated in 2006. A

³ Include project preparation funds that were previously approved but exclude PPGs that are awaiting for approval.

regulation was prepared and approved by the Council of Ministers in 2009. The regulation cited as “Access to Genetic Resources and Community Knowledge, and Community Rights” facilitates Access Agreement, which will be signed in accordance with article 14(2) of the proclamation. In addition, with the civil service reform broadly taking place in the country, the Government has established a directorate of ABS within the Institute of Biodiversity Conservation (IBC). The aim is to promote access and benefit-sharing as a key focus area that can develop capacity to implement ABS laws and regulations.

- X. DESCRIBE THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH [gef strategies](#) AND STRATEGIC PROGRAMS:** The project aims at sustained and coordinated efforts to transform the currently unsustainable practices of medicinal plant mining from wild sources to more ecologically sustainable, socially acceptable, and economically equitable production and utilization systems. The project attempts to undertake appropriate action and impact changes on the full range of societies and stakeholders involved in the conservation, production, management, marketing, processing and use of medicinal plants and their derivatives. Thus the project concept fits closely with Biodiversity SO-2: mainstreaming biodiversity into production landscapes and also SO-4: to build capacity on access and benefit sharing; GEF-4 Strategic Programs: SO-2: SP-4 and SP-5, SO-4: SP-8.
- Δ. JUSTIFY THE TYPE OF FINANCING SUPPORT PROVIDED WITH THE GEF RESOURCES:** N/A
- E. OUTLINE THE COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED INITIATIVES:** This project will build on lessons learned from a previous GEF-UNDP and World Bank project on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants in Ethiopia. The project will be partner to the Bale Eco-region Sustainable Management Programme. The programme receives support from in-country donor consortium (Embassies of the Netherlands, Norway and Ireland) with the purpose of supporting the government and local communities in the sustainable management of natural resources in the Bale Eco-region. A General Management Plan (GMP) for the BMNP was prepared jointly. The project will have strong linkages with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MoARD)/UNDP/GEF Protected Areas Project. Other partners include Farm Africa and SOS Sahel through their Participatory Natural Resource Management Programme, and the GTZ SUN unit. The Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants (Ethiopia) project was designed to help integrate traditional and modern medicine by identifying phyto-medicines based on traditional plant remedies and fostering longer-term conservation of threatened medicinal plants. The project helped to: (i) build foundation for the development of phytomedicines by engaging the actors in process, increase local awareness of the importance of conserving medicinal plants, (ii) provide alternative livelihood and income strategies, (iii) enhance capacity to manage home gardens and nurseries for better conservation and income, (iv) increase social mobilization and development of new Traditional Healers Associations (THA), (v) improve the supply of selected medicinal plants in nurseries and home gardens, (vi) preserve knowledge of indigenous medicinal plants, (vii) enhance the commitment to participatory management of the Bale Mountain National Park (BMNP), (viii) foster national awareness of the importance of conserving medicinal plants (including the economic value), (ix) improve technical capacity to manage biodiversity conservation and (x) confirm the potential for marketable surplus of medicinal plants, including for export. This project will build on and incorporate lessons learnt from the WB project. Through the in situ (on-farm) conservation program of the project entitled “Dynamic Farmer-Based Approach to the Conservation of Ethiopia’s Plant Genetic Resources”, farmers’ varieties of locally and globally significant crops of cereals, pulses, oil and other horticultural crops are conserved. By establishing 12 community gene banks (CGBs) in 12 districts of some 6 agroecological zones, the project has linked farm communities and their local varieties/landraces with the existing genetic resources conservation efforts of the Institute of Biodiversity Conservation (IBC). Twelve Crop Conservation associations (CCAs) have also been established to provide the overall oversight and management of each CGB. The CCAs and CGBs represent a valuable opportunity for farmers to be integrated into the international plant genetic resources community. Landrace evaluation and enhancement programs are undertaken to undertake production-based conservation and more extensive utilization of genetic resources that have already adapted to these regions.
- Φ. DISCUSS THE VALUE-ADDED OF GEF INVOLVEMENT IN THE PROJECT DEMONSTRATED THROUGH [incremental reasoning](#):** To maintain and enhance the stream of benefits being generated by medicinal plants in Ethiopia, three major interventions are required.
- Supply needs to be sustained - With no plant supply, the benefits of the sector will no longer exist. Therefore, conservation and sustainable harvesting of wild stocks need to be in place and cultivation of high value plants need to be developed.
 - Developing market places with market information systems and involving the private sector would speed up the development of the entire sector.

- Consumers need to be educated to be more discerning in their consumption of traditional medicine, because more discerning consumers demand for better products, which in turn facilitate the cultivation of medicinal plants. This GEF project will prepare a full-scale plan to remove the barriers stipulated in section A and enable the conservation, development and effective utilization of this resource by involving all actors including government agencies, CBO's, universities, research institutions, NGO's and the private sector.

The current baseline for medicinal plants in Ethiopia is one of rapid, possibly accelerating decline through a combination of land-use change, unsustainable use and changing climate. The World Bank project in the Bale mountains has shown that this situation can be reversed with the appropriate combination of interventions to (i) conserve core populations of endemic and threatened plants, (ii) bring utilisation under local community management, and (iii) increase ex-situ cultivation of key medicinal plant species to both reduce collection from the wild and to increase revenue flows. Replication and improvement of the Bale Mountain project could demonstrate to other communities that sustainable management and increased revenues can be achieved at the same time. The GEF investment will allow the government to put in place sufficient pilot schemes to allow improved management of medicinal plants to spread to a much wider area in the country.

Γ. INDICATE RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS, THAT MIGHT PREVENT THE PROJECT OBJECTIVE(S) FROM BEING ACHIEVED, AND IF POSSIBLE INCLUDING RISK MITIGATION MEASURES THAT WILL BE TAKEN:

RISK	RATING	MITIGATION MEASURE
Unwillingness to share knowledge: Traditional Health Practitioners (THPs), religious organizations, women and farmers might not share the knowledge that is critical for identifying, implementing, and managing a medicinal plant conservation and cultivation programme.	H	The proposed project will speed up the issuance of the draft policy guideline for IPR, and the Regulation on Access to Genetic Resources and Community Knowledge and Community Rights in order to inspire confidence and trust. The project will also facilitate the development of knowledge transfer agreements
Capacity problem: Limited institutional capacity and low levels of collaboration for medicinal plant conservation, management and utilization.	H	Measures will be put in place to enhance or strengthen institutional capacity and collaboration on medicinal plant conservation, management and utilization
Slow changes: Rural poverty is being tackled, but changes are slow.	H	The proposed project will contribute to poverty alleviation with important links to environment, alternative livelihood and rural development.
IPR: The project is sensitive to the risk of foreign access to medicinal plant materials and loss of ownership. Many individuals treat with skepticism the outsiders' interest in their plants and therapies, believing they will receive no credit or royalties for any future drug discoveries derived from their knowledge.	M	The policy guidelines and regulations, as well as a public awareness strategy will be developed and used to address the concerns.
Land Management: Weak enforcement of protected area status can threaten wild populations of medicinal plants that need to be conserved as a "resource base" from which ex situ stocks can be established	M	Strengthening of local community management to ensure that both conservation and sustainable use plants are agreed and supported.
Climate Change: Other factors, including climate change may become important determinants of population status of medicinal plants, especially at higher altitudes.	M	All conservation planning will include design to increase resilience through incorporation of altitudinal and corridor movement options

- H. **DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED [cost-effectiveness](#) OF THE PROJECT:** The global values of Ethiopia's biodiversity resources including medicinal plants suggest that an intervention of US\$ 4 million (of which US\$ 2 million is GEF) is not an excessive investment. The premise of the project is based on cost efficiency. Removing the barriers to the ABS in genetic resource and associated traditional knowledge as outlined previous in sections that currently impede the sustainable and efficient conservation and marketing as well as mainstreaming of biodiversity in general and medicinal plants in particular will increase the conservation dividend of resources invested in agricultural eco-systems. Especially, by mainstreaming medicinal plants conservation through markets, recurrent

costs will be virtually eliminated, with conservation supported by economic production systems that increase financial benefits for local communities. This will promote adoption by farming communities outside the project area with farmers using their own resources to replicate practices and achieve scale up well beyond what would be possible with only GEF funds. The government of Ethiopia is supporting conservation by allocating resource to the budget of IBC, regional environment agency and district offices of agriculture and rural development agricultural extension support to local communities. The project will also secure other matching funds form the government treasury and other development partners. Moreover, the project will have a general impact that will help the rural community to generate income from medicinal plant trade as an alternative livelihood and reduce food insecurity, which costs the global community well in excess of an average US\$ 50 million per year in Ethiopia. Reversing decline and expanding production in the four pilot areas would be sufficient to demonstrate the market value to local communities such that the same activities will be taken up in other areas; i.e. the project will be catalytic in nature and not only self-sustaining but expanding with no further GEF support.

- I. **JUSTIFY THE [comparative advantage](#) OF GEF AGENCY:** UNEP is currently the only GEF Implementing Agency working with countries on ABS projects using GEF finance. In addition, UNEP, through its Division of Environmental Law and Conventions (DELIC) has collaborated with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) to provide assistance to countries and to facilitate their participation in the CBD ABG Working Group meetings and the negotiations for the development of an International Regime for ABS. Through its portfolio of projects in agro-biodiversity and land degradation, UNEP has gained considerable experience with promoting sustainable use of natural resources in mixed land-use landscapes under community management, as is found in Ethiopia. This project fits within UNEP's biennial Programme of Work as Sub-Programme 3: Ecosystem Management and also Sub-Programme 4: Environmental Governance.


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

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):
(Please attach the [country endorsement letter\(s\)](#) or [regional endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE <i>Month??day??year??</i>
GEBRE EGZIABHER, Tewolde Berhan	Director General	FEDERAL ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY	3 RD SEPTEMBER 2009

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for project identification and preparation.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date <i>Month, Day, Year</i>	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Maryam Niamir-Fuller Director UNEP Division of Global Environment Facility (GEF) Coordinati on		12/03/2009	David Duthie UNEP-DGEF International Environment House (Room D608) 15, Chemin des Anemones, 1219 Geneva Switzerland	+ 41 22 917 8741	david.duthie@unep. ch