



United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

Ref: GEF/AD

11 January 2002

Dear Kenneth,

The Global Environmental Citizenship Project for Latin America and the Caribbean has started its activities in 1997 under a PDF phase jointly implemented by UNDP and UNEP. The Project Brief was approved at the GEF Council Meeting in March 1998. The project has successfully mobilized support from seven pilot participating countries as well as from six relevant regional citizenship networks working in the region (respective letter of endorsement refers). Altogether, some 924 parliamentarians, 205 national associations and municipalities, 390 community radio broadcasters, 131 national organizations representing groups of educators, governmental experts on environment education, school and university teachers, 34 national organizations of consumers and 2.81 millions of members of religious groups will be directly involved in project actions.

The project has received widely support from the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, who firmly encouraged the involvement and full participation of civil society, particularly of the regional networks and organisations, which have a great political and social influence. It has also been considered as one of the most important tools in addressing the relevant environmental objectives at regional level.

The project budgeted at US\$3,165,000, including co-financing from the participating countries, regional citizens networks, Inter American Development Bank (IDB), University of Cordoba and the Institute for the Development. So far, the following amounts have been committed:

UNEP and UNDP	US\$ 350,000
Regional citizens networks	US\$ 980,000
Governments of 7 participating countries	US\$1,305,000
IDB	US\$ 150,000
Institute for the Development	US\$ 180,000
University of Cordoba, Argentina	US\$ 200,000
TOTAL	US\$3,165,000

In cash and in kind contributions has been mobilized from the seven participating governments. These contributions, not envisaged in the original proposal, reflect not only the level of interest of participating countries in this initiative but also meet the commitments made at the Ministerial Forum. Furthermore, pledges demonstrate strong government and non-governmental ownership of the project and the sound baseline the project was able to build up.

As it can be noticed from the supporting documentation full co-financing package has been committed as requested by the GEF Secretariat (letter dated 28 April 2000 refers).

OFFICE OF THE GEF EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR

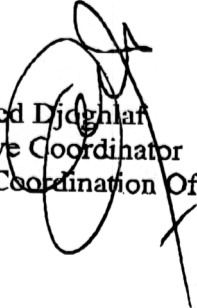
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Please note that the only modification effected to the document refers to the change in GEF Implementing Agency, which previously listed both UNEP and UNDP as GEF Implementing Agencies for the project. Now, the project's single GEF Implementing Agency will be UNEP. It is important to note however, that UNDP will continue to provide agreed upon project services and support to project implementation through its network of corresponding Country Offices and through its presence in the project's Steering Committee. UNDP's financial contribution, as stipulated in the Project Brief approved by Council, will also materialize by way of the services and support to implementation rendered by the relevant local UNDP offices.

The above modification has been duly agreed upon by both Agencies and is reflected in the Project Document currently being presented for final clearance and CEO endorsement.

Having in mind that four years have been elapsed since the preparatory phase of the project and that all technical capacities and institutional counterparts are mobilized to start implementation and co-financing package has been successfully completed, no further constraints are envisaged for the immediate releasing of GEF funding.

Yours sincerely,


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