

GEF Medium-Sized Project Brief

PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Identifiers	
1. Project name: Promoting best practices for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of global significance in arid & semi-arid zones	2. GEF Implementing Agency: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
3. Country/ies in which the project is being implemented: The project will be implemented in the following four regions: Africa (Burkina Faso, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal); North Africa and the Middle East (Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia); Asia (Mongolia, Pakistan); Latin America and the Caribbean (Brazil, Jamaica, Mexico). (more countries might be added if more letters of endorsement are received).	4. Country eligibility: (country/date of CBD ratification) <u>Africa</u> Burkina Faso (2/9/93) Mali (29/3/95) Nigeria (29/8/94) Senegal (17/10/94) <u>North Africa and the Middle East</u> Egypt (2/6/94) Jordan (12/11/93) Kuwait (<i>Kuwait has not ratified the CBD – funding for this country will come from non-GEF resources</i>) Morocco (21/8/95) Syria (4/1/96) Tunisia (15/7/93) <u>Asia</u> Mongolia (30/9/93) Pakistan (26/7/94) <u>Latin America & Caribbean</u> Brazil (28/2/94) Jamaica (6/1/95) Mexico (11/3/93)
5. GEF Focal Area: Biodiversity	6. Operational Programme OP#1: Arid & Semi-Arid Zone Ecosystems
7. Project linkage to national priorities, action plans and programmes: Ministers of Science and Technology and Higher Education and Heads of Science Academies and Research Councils in Developing Countries have established, in 1998, the Third World Network of Scientific Organizations (TWNSO) as a non-governmental organization to promote science-based sustainable economic development in the South. At present TWNSO has 147 Members, including 36 Ministries of Science & Technology and Higher Education, 41 science academies, 43 research councils and 27 other organizations from 73 countries in the South. In addition, TWNSO National Committees have been established in 23 countries in the South. TWNSO's Executive Board in fact comprises of the Minister of Science & Technology of Brazil, Federal Minister of Science & Technology of Nigeria, Minister of Higher Education of Syria, Chairman of the State Science and Technology Commission (SSTC) of China, Director General of the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT) of Mexico and the Executive Director of the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS).	

Its Members are Minister for Science, Technology and Higher Education of Tanzania, Minister of Scientific Research and Technology of Senegal, Secretary of State for Scientific Research and Technology of Tunisia, Minister of Culture and Higher Education of the Islamic Republic of Iran, President of the Indian National Science Academy, Secretary of Science & Technology of Argentina, Director of the Colombian Fund for Scientific Research and Special Projects (COLCIENCIAS). In May 1995 in Trieste, Italy when the Consultative Meeting on "Strategies for Scientific and Technological Research in Biodiversity and Land Degradation in the South," attended by, among others, representatives of a number of centres of excellence in the South in the fields of biodiversity and land degradation and representatives of the CBD and the UN CCD Secretariats, resulted in recommendations for addressing the needs and priorities of the South in biological diversity and land degradation, TWNSO with its Board and membership of national governments mentioned above supported these recommendations confirming their national importance.

Among the priorities listed, was the recommendation for increased cooperation and coordination of activities between Institutions of Excellence in both biodiversity and land degradation in order to foster activities that achieve the greatest possible impact in those areas of global concern. This project responds to this priority area by bringing together these Institutions of Excellence and other relevant partners to analyze their experiences and identify best practices that would promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid zones. In addition, the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, at its seventh session held 27-28 November 1997, in Dakar, noted their recognition for support to institutions and programmes relating to research and that helped build further capacity. By bringing together the Institutions of Excellence in this project, best practices and lessons learned will be shared between these institutions and will result in increased capacity to deal with the issue under consideration.

8. **Status of national operational focal point (OFP) review:**

Brazil: Washington Aquino De Mendonca, Ministry of Budget and Management Secretariat for International Affairs July 7, 1999.

Burkina Faso: Jean Baptiste Kambou, Ministry of Environment and Tourism. Endorsed September 10, 1998.

Egypt: Ibrahim Abdel Gelil, Chief Executive Officer, Environmental Affairs Agency. Endorsed August 17, 1998.

Jamaica: Dr. Leonie Barnaby, for Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Housing. Endorsed March 11, 1999.

Jordan: Nabil Ammari, Minister of Planning. Endorsed September 13, 1998.

Kuwait: Mohammed A. al-Sarawi. Director General, Environment Public Authority. Endorsed November 30, 1998.

Mali: Kalilou Traore, Secrétaire General, Ministère de l'Environnement. Endorsed January 7, 1999.

Mexico: Ricardo Ochoa, Director, Organismos Financieros Internacionales. Endorsed December 1, 1998.

Mongolia: Ts. Adyasuren, Adviser to the Minister, Ministry of Nature and the Environment. Endorsed January 4, 1999.

Morocco: Bani Layachi, Directeur de l'Observation, des Etudes et de la Coordination, Ministère de l'Amenagement de Territoire, de l'Organisme et l'Habitat. Endorsed September 4, 1998.

Nigeria: Anne Ene-Ita, Federal Environmental Protection Agency. Endorsed August 21, 1998.

Pakistan: Mahboob Elahi, Director General, Ministry of Environment, Local Government and Rural Development. Endorsed November 10, 1998.

Senegal: Fatima Dia Toure, Directrice de l'Environnement, Ministère de l'Environnement et de la Protection de la Nature. Endorsed February 24, 1999.

Syria: S. Sounkur, Minister of Higher Education (on behalf of General Commission for Environmental Affairs). Endorsed September 19, 1998.

Tunisia: Khalil Attia, Director of Cooperation, Ministry of Environment and Land Use. Endorsed September 9, 1998.

<p>9. Project rationale and objectives:</p> <p>a) Identifying and disseminating best practices for conserving and sustainably using biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid ecosystems;</p> <p>b) Increasing collaboration between centres of excellence in biodiversity of drylands by facilitating exchange of information, research cooperation and co-ordination of lessons and best practices;</p> <p>c) Assisting the efforts of local populations in drylands regions to manage and sustainably utilize the fragile ecosystems.</p>	<p>Indicators:</p> <p>a) Wide dissemination of best practices in conservation and sustainable utilization of natural resources in drylands biodiversity resources;</p> <p>b) Increased communication between centres of excellence working in biodiversity areas of common concern;</p> <p>c) Effective community-based management measures of fragile ecosystems implemented by local populations.</p>
<p>10. Project outcomes:</p> <p>a) Increased availability and access to information on best practices for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in dryland ecosystems;</p> <p>b) Increased awareness of local populations and communities world-wide of lessons and best experiences for effective management and sustainable utilization of natural resources in arid and semi-arid regions;</p> <p>c) Increased awareness of the values of the biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid ecosystems in accordance with the Convention on Biological Diversity;</p> <p>d) Increased coordination between institutions working towards the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid ecosystems, resulting in turn, in more effective programming of scarce financial resources and lesser duplication of activities;</p> <p>e) Increased partnerships of institutions of excellence in the South working on similar issues in drylands ecosystems, resulting in turn in increased capacity of the institutions.</p>	<p>Indicators:</p> <p>a) Collection and synthesis of best practices and successful experiences in the conservation of biological resources in dryland ecosystems;</p> <p>b) Development of datasets of these best practices for wide distribution to the local and international communities;</p> <p>c) Joint action by institutions to improve and develop further their best experiences in biodiversity conservation;</p> <p>d) Dissemination of best practices and successful experiences in the conservation of biological resources in dryland ecosystems on the World Wide Web, journals, and other relevant media channels.</p>

<p>11. Project activities to achieve outcomes (including cost in US\$ of each activity):</p> <p>a) Preparation by centres of excellence of case studies and best practices in (i) conservation and, (ii) sustainable use of biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid areas based upon agreed criteria on what constitutes 'global significance' (US\$300,000);</p> <p>b) Convening four regional meetings to share best practices, disseminate information, generate lessons and facilitate effective coordination and cooperation as well as increase awareness of the opportunities provided by the GEF (US\$300,000);</p> <p>c) Convening, in consultation with STAP, of one global meeting in Egypt (US \$100,000) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share regional and national experiences that may have some bearing on issues being addressed by institutions in other regions; • identify the best practices, generate lessons learned and ensure the dissemination of this information to a wider audience of practices that can be applied at the national level based on the commonalties; and, • ensure effective coordination of the regional and national network of pertinent institutions. <p>d) Increasing coordination and promoting partnerships between institutions by catalyzing the establishment of a network of relevant institutions, working towards the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in arid and semi-arid ecosystems at regional and, in particular, national levels, and capable of disseminating the identified lessons learned and best practices (US \$50,000).</p> <p>e) Compilation and analysis of the best practices and the development, publication and wide dissemination of datasets of these practices (US\$150,000).</p>	<p>Indicators:</p> <p>a) Agreements with identified centres of excellence to prepare best practices;</p> <p>b) Setting-up appropriate databases to analyze and collate the information received on best practices;</p> <p>c) Reports, conclusions and follow-up of workshops and conferences;</p> <p>d) Modalities for how centres of excellence will continue to work together and share experiences developed and agreed;</p> <p>e) Information on best practices/lessons learned on I) conserving and ii) sustainably using biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi arid ecosystems disseminated through a range of media including the World Wide Web, Journals, magazines, among others.</p>
<p>12. Estimated budget (in US\$):</p> <p>GEF: \$750,000 Co-financing: \$150,000 Total: \$900,000</p>	

13.	Information on project proposer: <p>TWNSO is a non-governmental organization founded in 1988 to promote science-based economic development of the developing world, and cooperation among nations of the South in areas of science and technology critical to their sustainable development. The Network membership stands at 151 members including 35 Ministries of Science and Technology and Higher Education, 44 Science Academies, 43 Research Councils and 29 other organizations from 73 developing countries. TWNSO has Regional Offices in China, Mexico, Nigeria and Syria and has established National Committees in 23 countries. In collaboration with the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and the Geneva-based South Centre, TWNSO has compiled biographical data of over 400 world-class research and training centres in the developing world. In 1995, a small GEF grant was utilized to expand the database to cover a wide range of centres with specific expertise in issues related to biodiversity and land degradation, adding an additional 150 institutions from 61 developing countries. TWNSO's network now comprises, among others, those Institutions of Excellence that carry out projects in areas related to biodiversity and land degradation.</p>
14.	Information on proposed executing agency (if different from above): <p>same as above</p>
15.	Date of initial submission of project concept: May 28, 1998
16.	Project Identification number
17.	Implementing Agency contact person: Ahmed Djoghlaif, GEF Coordination Office, UNEP, Nairobi, Kenya.
18.	Project linkage to Implementing Agency program(s): In the United Nations system, UNEPs mandate is to catalyze scientific research in and assessment of major environmental problems and to disseminate information for assisting decision making. In the GEF, UNEP has furthermore been entrusted with the responsibility of catalyzing and advancing scientific and technical analysis in GEF funded activities.

Project Description

Project rationale and objectives

The GEF Work Programme does not have a large portfolio of projects aimed at conserving and sustainable using biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid ecosystems under threat from land degradation, although there is a high potential for achieving global diversity benefits through appropriately designed activities in arid and semi-arid ecosystems particularly with regard to the conservation of rare and endemic species, diversity of soil microfauna, and the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources of global significance.

A primary cause of this problem lies in the fact that successful experiences achieving significant global biodiversity benefits have not been publicized widely enough and hence not replicated in other relevant circumstances. In the *Report of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel of the Global Environment Facility Expert Workshop on Land Degradation*, STAP noted that the scarcity and unreliability of needed scientific and technical information, particularly relating to potential global benefits, is one of the main constraints that would impact upon potential GEF projects tackling this issue.

Indeed, the *Study of GEF's Overall Performance* concluded that the GEF has not resolved difficulties associated with projects for sustainable use of biodiversity, a major problem being the dearth of published information on successful experiences in such projects. It also noted that the GEF might better focus on, in the biodiversity focal area, projects that can provide models for the entire bilateral and multilateral funding community in terms of type of intervention, rather than a site-specific criterion stating that this is consistent to the GEF's overall operational principle of a diverse portfolio of projects, that "provide lessons beyond their immediate impact" and "catalyze complementary actions or have a multiplier effect".

The Consultative Meeting on "Strategies for Scientific and Technological Research in Biodiversity and Land Degradation in the South," held in May 1995 in Trieste, Italy, recommended the urgent need for identifying lessons learned and best practices for promoting conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in arid and semi-arid ecosystems. The objective of this project is therefore to identify lessons learnt and disseminate best practices for conserving and sustainably using biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid ecosystems under threat from land degradation, the long-term objective being to strengthen a network of centres of excellence in support of the implementation of OP#1. This objective responds directly to those in the GEF Operational Strategy and its Programmes as it will focus on the lessons learned and best practices associated with activities that aim to protect systems of conservation areas in arid and semi-arid ecosystems at threat from activities leading to land degradation and its root causes. As the GEF portfolio does not have a large portfolio of projects from which such lessons learned can be generated, the project will include identifying lessons learned and best practices from non-GEF funded activities as well as GEF funded activities. It will also focus on lessons learned and best practices associated with sustainable use management of resources in arid and semi-arid ecosystems that combine production, socio-economic and biodiversity goals.

The project also responds to the priorities recommended for GEF action by the Conferences of the Parties (COPs) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in particular responding to Recommendations II/7 and III/9 on, in particular, Articles 8c, 8d, 8f and 8j.

In accordance with the constraints affecting GEF projects identified by STAP at its September 1996 workshop, the project will address the lack of adequate institutional coordination, particularly at the regional and transboundary levels, which has been noted as a major constraint impacting potential GEF projects, as the relevant institutions are "working separately and not disseminating information for mutual benefit." The project will therefore apply a regionally based approach in order to ensure that it provides an adequate forum for enabling exchanges of experiences between countries sharing similar problems in the region, and, in particular, for ensuring that experiences in tackling the more complex transboundary problems are identified and the best practices promoted. This will, in turn, ensure that institutional coordination is promoted to the extent necessary to ensure that a multiplier effect replicating best practices is achieved.

The GEF Implementing Agencies have recently increased efforts to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in arid and semi-arid zones and UNEP is a major partner in these initiatives. In response to the gaps identified in the planning of this portfolio and building on UNEP's experience in this area, this project will involve the other GEF partners in order to help ensure that further activities undertaken in this arena do indeed have the greatest impact on the earth's biodiversity. It will therefore take into account the experiences of the GEF Implementing Agencies, governments, local communities, NGOs and in particular, the pertinent Institutions of Excellence, in the development and implementation of their projects, including among others, the "Transnational Green Belt Project" in North Africa, the "Combustible Energy Utilization Project" in Senegal, and the "Community-based Rangeland rehabilitation for Carbon Sequestration and Biodiversity" projects in Benin and Sudan, the "Transfrontier Conservation Areas Pilot and Institutional Strengthening Project" and "Management of Indigenous Vegetation for the Rehabilitation of Degraded Rangelands in the Arid Zone of Africa (Botswana, Kenya, Mali)".

Current situation

This project has been developed in response to the urgent need to identify and widely disseminate best practices in conservation and sustainable utilization of biological resources in arid and semi-arid ecosystems in the developing world. Currently these successful experiences have not received wide publicity and are hence not replicated in similar situations. The project will utilize already existing research groups and expertise within a network of centres of excellence to first identify the best conservation practices

including those of local communities and build upon these to achieve its goals through information dissemination and exchange. The centres of excellence participating in the network have expertise in research areas ranging from meteorology, desertification control, water catchment management, arid zone agriculture, geology and natural resource management to cartography, sociology and biodiversity inventories. The institutions have extensive research and training programmes which have benefits at the national and often also at the regional scale, but the dissemination of lessons learned and best practices seldom go beyond that.

Project outcomes

The project activities will yield the following major outcomes:

- a) Increased availability and access to information on best practices for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid ecosystems;
- b) Increased coordination between institutions working towards the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid ecosystems, resulting in turn, in more effective programming of scarce financial resources and lesser duplication of activities;
- c) Promoting partnerships between institutions by catalyzing the establishment of a network of relevant institutions, working towards the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in arid and semi-arid ecosystems at regional and national levels, and increasing capability of disseminating the identified lessons learned and best practices;
- d) Increased awareness of the local, regional and global values of biodiversity in arid and semi-arid zones in accordance with the priorities outlined in the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- e) Increased impact of future GEF activities on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid ecosystems.

Activities and financial inputs needed to enable changes

- a) Identifying case studies and best practices in activities designed to (i) conserve; and (ii) sustainably use biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid areas through a combination of production, socio-economic (food security) and biodiversity goals, based upon agreed criteria on what constitutes "global significance". The emphasis will be on those activities that result in better management/protection of rare and endemic species and their habitats, soil microfauna and microflora, and other important genetic resources. Case studies prepared will take into consideration, among others, the role of traditional knowledge and stakeholder participation. Case studies will be prepared in collaboration with centres of excellence in countries implementing the project. A list of 14 centres which have been identified as possible candidates is shown in Annex 1. The cost of preparation of about 30 case studies is US\$300,000.
- b) Convening, in consultation with STAP, of 4 regional meetings in Africa (Senegal), Latin America (Mexico), North Africa and the Middle East (Egypt) and Asia (Pakistan) with the aim of:
 - (i) analyzing the experiences of case studies;
 - (ii) generating lessons learned and identifying best practices that are applicable to each region (and, particularly taking into account the role of traditional knowledge in these best practices, in accordance with the recommendations of the September 1996 STAP workshop);

- (iii) increasing awareness of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its objectives and to increase awareness on identifying biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid areas under threat from land degradation. The cost of the 4 workshops is US \$300,000.
- c) Convening in consultation with STAP, of one global meeting in Egypt to:
 - (i) share regional and national experiences that may have some bearing on issues being addressed by institutions in other regions;
 - (ii) identify the best practices, generate lessons learned and ensure the dissemination of this information to a wider audience of practices that can be applied at the national level based on the commonalities; and,
 - (iii) ensure effective coordination of the regional and national network of pertinent institutions. The cost of the meeting is US \$100,000.
- d) increasing coordination and promoting partnerships between institutions by catalyzing the establishment of a network of relevant institutions, working towards the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in arid and semi-arid ecosystems at regional and, in particular, national levels, and capable of disseminating the identified lessons learned and best practices (US \$50,000);
- e) Compilation and analysis of the best practices and the development, publication and wide dissemination of datasets of these practices (US\$150,000).

Sustainability analysis and risk assessment

The project is strongly supported by a network of centres of excellence in 14 countries. These centres will provide the expertise and the technical support to execute the project. To ensure long-term sustainability the project will aim at establishing permanent links between cooperating institutions working in similar conservation issues for the purpose of sharing and developing further their best practices. The experiences collected will be made available to national governments to facilitate further dissemination and replication by the local communities, and a close cooperation with national policymaking entities will be established to ensure maximum long-term impact of the project outcomes.

Stakeholder involvement and social assessment

The Third World Network of Scientific Organizations (TWNSO) will be responsible for identifying through its network the most relevant bodies to participate in each workshop. Participants will comprise of representatives from the Institutions of Excellence, Ministries of Science and Technology and Higher Education, Science Academies, Research Councils and other relevant bodies. To ensure the widest possible stakeholder participation, participants will be expected to network with their relevant constituencies, including local communities and farmers within their constituencies, to ensure that all relevant issues and activities are brought to the forefront. STAP will be involved to provide additional guidance on the conduction and application of the case studies in line with GEF and CBD objectives and priorities (all participation of STAP will be paid by the project budget).

INCREMENTAL COST ASSESSMENT

Baseline Actions

The institutions of excellence participating in this project have achieved a good level of scientific excellence and are internationally renowned for their work in biodiversity and dryland ecosystems (see Annex 1 for the full list and description of activities). Over the last decade, they have been involved in among other activities undertaking efforts to conserve and sustainably manage natural resources in arid and semi-arid regions. In addition, presently on-going is an ambitious project aimed at upgrading a number of competent scientific institutions in the South to international centres of excellence so as to enable them to provide advanced training and research opportunities to young scientists from the South. Twelve nodes of the Network have been established at already

existing and highly competent institutions in Bolivia, Brazil, China, Colombia, Ghana, Jamaica, Jordan, Nigeria, Pakistan, Syria, Tanzania, and Turkey. In addition, profiles of Science Ministries, Academies and Research Councils in the South are being produced so that identifying institutions working on similar issues can be found more easily. Also, to facilitate ease of information sharing, compilation and publication of information in the form of a directory with detailed information about its Members, including their programmes, functions and budget is being produced. This will provide useful information to many organizations concerned with the status and prospects of science and technology in the South. But all institutions have a limited budget and rarely have the means and capacity to disseminate their results beyond the national and regional level, and the synthesis of best practices and lessons learned is only at a preliminary stage. The funding for biodiversity conservation related activities are mainly directed to local, national and sometimes regional activities.

Incremental Actions

A wealth of information therefore exists among these collaborating institutions on a wide variety of best practices and lessons learned for conserving and sustainably using arid and semi-arid zone biodiversity of global significance. Best practices for biodiversity management in relation to pastoralism, land tenure, drought patterns, wild relatives to crop species, invasive and alien species, water catchment area management etc will therefore be compiled and compared, and recommendation packages for dissemination to all stakeholder levels (from farmers to Government decision makers) will be developed. Publications and training manuals using experience gained and lessons learned will be produced and made widely available, utilising the extensive contacts of the participants in the network. As the capacity and means to undertake these activities do not exist within the single institutions, the activities in project are therefore incremental actions, which would not otherwise be undertaken under the current scenario. The information that exists on best practices and lessons learned would remain within the institutions in which it has been generated and not shared between others working on similar issues for the mutual benefit of the global environment.

The present proposal therefore adds to the baseline scenario presented above by enabling the countries to accelerate and strengthen implementation of the CBD by sharing with one another the wealth of information that exists in a variety of fields related to dryland biodiversity conservation so that past mistakes are not duplicated and best practices are replicated. The expertise of the participating institutions in various areas will be utilised for the benefit of the other institutions and countries. Without this proposal, the participating countries are likely to continue not benefiting adequately from each other's experiences. It is envisaged that the activities in this project relating to collation of data and knowledge, regional and international workshops for sharing experiences and the eventual dissemination of lessons learned are incremental actions that will result in a leap towards additional global benefits.

The incremental costs provided by the project will enable these institutions to provide detailed reports and studies about their most successful experiences in conservation issues as well as those generated in their country by other institutions and local populations. By compiling, collating and widely disseminating these experiences the project will complement and strengthen the work of the institutions as well as benefit the global efforts.

In short, the networking will:

- a) facilitate the exchange of information and expertise and sharing of local and traditional knowledge through the creation of a link to the global information network;
- b) undertake joint research and training programmes which integrates biodiversity and land degradation and the interactions of these;

- c) provide short and medium-term training of scientists, technicians, decision-makers and national plan implementers;
- d) support joint research activities on the scale of ecological zones of bioclimatic regions and upgrading the facilities where necessary;
- e) facilitate the inventory of biota and the identification of unique occurrences and endangered species, by providing standardised methodologies for data collection and analysis.

PROJECT BUDGET

Component	GEF	Other sources	Project total
Personnel:	100,000	50,000	150,000
Coordination:	30,000		30,000
Training/Workshops (including sub-contracts and travel):	410,000	100,000	510,000
Compilation, publication and dissemination:	150,000		150,000
Monitoring and Evaluation	20,000		20,000
Administrative Costs	40,000		40,000
Project total	750,000	150,000	900,000

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Duration of project (24 months)								
ACTIVITIES	PROJECT- MONTHS							
	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24
1. Collection of case studies (12 months)								
2. Workshops (six months)								
3. Compilation, analysis and dissemination of best practices (six months)								

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN

The case studies will be prepared by experts from the institutions of excellence selected with full cooperation of other experts in the country and local populations in the arid and semi-arid zones. A fully participatory process will ensure the maximum validity and applicability of the outcomes of the case studies.

The four regional workshops and the international conference will involve participants from scientific communities, STAP, NGO's Government officials, private sectors, the media, and local populations.

Dissemination of results and recommendations will also involve stakeholders on all levels, including policy makers and local communities. Socio-economic aspects and incentives to biodiversity conservation will be taken into account and integrated into the recommendations.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

The project will be monitored by TWNSO in collaboration with UNEP and TWAS in accordance with UNEP procedures. An independent consultant contracted by UNEP will carry out one mid-term and one final evaluation of the project.

Major impact indicators to be monitored will include: 1) the level of communication between the centres of excellence working in areas of common concern; 2) the effectiveness of the community-based management systems for fragile dryland ecosystems developed with local populations; and 3) the extent of dissemination of best practices for dryland conservation and sustainable use of dryland biodiversity resources. Joint actions by institutions, accessibility of recommendations, datasets and best practices and visibility of actions and experiences are other relevant indicators.

Annex I

List of Centres of Excellence to be involved in Project Implementation

1. Centre National de Semences Forestieres (CNSF)

Ouagadougou
Burkina Faso

Annual budget for biodiversity related activities: US\$ 400,000. Fields of scientific interest: Environmental Sciences, Biological Sciences. Main research in: Seed technology, germplasm conservation, silviculture, agroforestry. Major results and products: Collection and distribution of tree seeds from the Sudano-Sahelian Zone, promotion of local species in reafforestation programmes. Research facilities available: Seed storage facilities, seed collection. International cooperation: FAO, IPGRI, CILLS, European, Central American and Asian institutions.

2. Desert Research Centre (DRC)

Cairo
Egypt

Fields of scientific interest: Agriculture, Biochemistry/Biophysics, Energy, Chemistry, Engineering/Technology, Earth Sciences, Environment, Veterinary Sciences. Annual budget for biodiversity related research: US\$2.000.000. Research in: Exploration and evaluation of aquifers in desert regions; well drilling and testing; monitoring of groundwater in desert and reclaimed areas; management of desert and newly reclaimed soils; research on performance of species and cultivars of field crops, fodder, vegetables and fruits; investigations into use of agricultural byproducts and processing of less palatable desert plants for animal feed; monitoring and control of desertification; creation of urban green belts. Identification, collection and classification of desert plant and landraces germplasm. Main results: exploration and evaluation of new aquifers; national research projects of soils; production of leguminous and cereal plants under desert conditions; protection of eastern portion of Siwa Oasis from sand dune encroachment; review of economic, social and urban studies in five desert governorates; biannual scientific periodical. Main research facilities available: Satellite receiving station, GIS, computer centre, library, laboratories for soil, geology, geophysics, hydrogeology, ecology, tissue culture, gene bank (under construction), plant and animal production. International cooperation: Cooperation with Arab countries and Sahara-Sahel countries, training courses for Afro-Asian developing countries, training and research cooperation with European and North and South-American countries.

3. University of the West Indies (UWI) - Centre for Environmental and Nuclear Science (CENS)

Mona, Kingston 7
Jamaica

Fields of scientific interest: Agricultural sciences, Chemistry, Geological/Earth Sciences, Environment, Medical Sciences. Research in: Analytical chemistry, geochemical mapping, application of geochemistry to agriculture, natural resource management and health. Main results: Geochemical atlas of Jamaica, identification, definition and first steps in amelioration of lead hazards. Main research facilities available: Research reactor, gamma detector systems and multi-channel analysers, X-ray fluorescence spectrometers, chromatography unit with conductimetric and spectrophotometric detectors, full access to convex 3400 supercomputer. International cooperation: Mexico and Argentina, British Geological surveys, SLOWPOKE Centre at Dalhousie University, Institute for Earth and Oceans University in New Hampshire.

4. National Centre for Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer

Amman
Jordan

Annual funding for biodiversity related work: US\$ 387,200. Biodiversity related research Plant genetic resources, medicinal plants, agricultural biodiversity, biochemistry. Main results: National gene bank (seeds), field gene bank (mainly fruit trees), in vitro conservation of threatened plant genetic resources (endemic species), ex and in-situ conservation of medicinal plants. Main research facilities: Herbarium, facilities for cold storage of seeds, seed

preparation lab, DNA-fingerprinting lab, database, field stations. International cooperation: World Bank, USAID, ICARDA, IPGRI, GTZ, GEF, regional cooperation with Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine National Authority.

5. Institut du Sahel

Bamako
Mali

(detailed information is in the post)

6. Colegio de Postgraduados- Centro Regional para Estudios de Zonas Aridas y Semi-aridas

(CREZAS), San Luis Potosi
Mexico

29 research scientists, 18 technical staff. Yearly budget: US\$350,000 (Government) Annual funding for biodiversity related activities: US\$ 52,400. Fields of scientific interest: Biology, Biochemistry and Biophysics, Engineering Sciences and Technologies, Environment, Veterinary Sciences. Research in: animal production in backyards and grasslands; crop production in rainfed and irrigated conditions; use and conservation of wild species; gathering and classification of wild vegetable produce. Biodiversity related activities: Management of wild animals and their habitats, identification and characterisation of dynamics of dryland agroecosystems, conservation efforts of cacti. Publication of technical manuals on soil erosion and conservation tillage, development of tillage equipment suitable for semiarid conditions. Main research facilities available: Soil tillage equipment testing laboratory; laboratory for Plant Cell Tissue culture work; soils laboratory for physical and chemical analysis; two greenhouses, regional collection of Mexican flora; hydroponics research unit; full documented library; field experimental station.

7. The Mongolian Academy of Sciences - Institute of Biological Sciences

Ulaanbaatar
Mongolia

Annual funding for biodiversity related activities: US\$15,000. Research in: Species composition and geographic distribution of plants and wildlife, vegetation resources in arid and semi-arid zones. Main results: Inventory and description of flora and fauna. Drafting of rules and regulation for protection of endemic and vulnerable species. Training of local population in conservation and rational use of natural resources.

8. Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA),

Rabat
Morocco

178 research scientists, 2165 technical staff. Fields of scientific interest: Agriculture. Research in: Soil science; cereals; legumes; vegetable crops; sugar crops; fruit trees; fodder plants; animal products; dryland farming; Saharan farming systems. Collection, evaluation and preservation of local foods. Main research facilities available: Department of Documentation, gene bank facility, four internal databases on CD-ROM, on-line research, computer stations. International cooperation: Cooperation with France, USA and Germany.

9. Forestry Research Institute - Savannah Forestry Research Station

Ibadan,
Nigeria

Annual allocations for biodiversity research: US\$37,543. Research in: In-situ conservation of endangered natural forest ecosystems, sand dune stabilization, taxonomic studies of ecosystems, ex-situ conservation. Results: Vegetation map of Nigeria, Flora of Nigeria, establishment of strict nature reserves and permanent sample plots. Research facilities available: Herbarium, Permanent Sample Plots.

10. Pakistan Agricultural Research Council - Arid Zone Research Institute (AZRI)

Quetta
Pakistan

30 scientific staff, 50 technical staff. Annual budget for biodiversity related activities: US\$ 237,000. Fields of scientific interest: Agricultural Sciences, Range Ecology, Veterinary Sciences. Research in: Generation of appropriate technologies for improving small ruminant production and dryland cropping in the arid and semi-arid zones; develop solutions to problems in drylands while improving sustainability of the biological systems and lessening dangers of future environmental degradation of these fragile ecosystems; rangeland monitoring; establish strong linkages between federal, provincial and international agencies; generate and acquire information relating to dryland agriculture and disseminate to potential users; medicinal plants. Major scientific results or products: strategic supplemental feeding for improved sheep and goat production; health cover package provision; enhancing forage production; high yielding wheat and food forage legumes; catchment basin water harvesting techniques suitable to low rainfall areas. Research facilities available: Computer lab; range livestock research station; shade house; library with references on CD-ROM. International cooperation: Germplasm exchange with ICARDA, CYMMIT and ICRISAT. Collaborative project with ICARDA on relating range and livestock marketing.

11. Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR)

Safat
Kuwait.

77 research scientists, 401 technical staff. Fields of scientific interest: Agriculture; Biology; Biochemistry/Biophysics; Energy; Materials; Chemistry; Engineering/Technology; Geological/Earth Sciences; Environment; Marine Sciences; Veterinary Sciences. Research in: Food and biological resources; arid land agriculture, biotechnology, food technology, mariculture and fisheries; water resources, petrochemical research, terrestrial and atmospheric environments, coastal and marine environments environmental risk assessment. Results: Patents on degradable mulch films, mud drilling additives etc; checking pollution on melamine manufacturing plants. Main research facilities available: Central analytical laboratory; national scientific and technical information centre; computer centre; pilot plants; hydraulics laboratory; DOHA reverse osmosis plant; research vessel. International cooperation: cultural arrangements with Cuba, Islamic Republic of Iran, Morocco, Korea, China, India and Sultanate of Oman; cooperative arrangements with Saudi Arabia National Centre of Science and Technology, University of Petroleum and Minerals Research Centre, Saudi Arabia, King Abdulaziz City of Science and Technology, Saudi Arabia, and Ministry of Scientific Research, Egypt. Cooperation arrangements with UNESCO, FAO, UNDP, UNIDO, UNEP, and various cultural agreements with European and North American institutions.

12. Institute Senegalais de Recherches Agricoles (ISRA) - Direction des Recherches sur les Productions Forestieres (DRPF)

Dakar
Senegal

Annual allocations to biodiversity-related activities: US\$20,000. Research in: Exploration of natural vegetation for seed collection for reforestation programmes, ex- and in-situ conservation of forest genetic resources, assessment of forest genetic resources. Results: Identification of over 1000 provenances, conservation of seeds of endangered and important species, progeny trials of forestry priority species.

13. Arab Centre for the Studies of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD)

Damascus
Syria

60 research scientists, 45 technical staff. Annual budget for biodiversity related activities: US\$ 80,000. Fields of scientific interest: Agriculture, Biology, Energy, Earth Sciences, Environment, Water Resources. Research in: Production of drought-and salinity-tolerant and pest-resistant varieties of wheat and barley. Development of fruit trees suitable for arid conditions. Rangeland and forest development. Arid land farming systems, ruminant productivity, use of saline waters and soils in agriculture, water management and harvesting. Assessment of status and conservation of plant and animal genetic resources in the Arab region. Main results: Identification of genetic resources suitable for increasing productivity in arid zones, rehabilitating desert areas, best farming systems in rainfed areas, principles and basics for prevention of water pollution and excessive use. Main research facilities available: Library, field stations, data banks, field gene banks of plants and animals, cartiographic section, remote sensing laboratory, soil, water, plant and animal analysis laboratories, training centres. International cooperation: Data exchange with regional and international

organisations, conduction of training and studies in cooperation with regional and international agencies. Participation in UNDP/GEF regional agrobiodiversity project.

14. **Institut des Regions Arides (IRA)**
Sectretariat d'Etat a la Recherche Scientifique et a La Technologie
Medenine
Tunisia

35 research scientists, 80 technical staff. Annual budget allocations to biodiversity related research: US\$100,000. Fields of scientific interest: Agriculture; Biology; Energy; Earth Sciences; Environmental Science; Veterinary Sciences. Research in: Techniques to control sand dunes; management of water harvesting in wadis; study of behaviour of main pastoral plant species; creation of bank of arid zone species; cartography of pastoral resources; desertification dynamics; study of insect life cycles; identification of production systems in arid and desert zones, conservation of indigenous plants, range management method development, wildlife conservation. Main results: Scientific and technical reports on arid zone agriculture and the fight against desertification; training of technicians and engineers; promulgation and sensitisation; implementation of information programme for farmers, seed bank. Main research facilities available: Nine laboratories (water and soil, agronomy, statistics, genetics, remote sensing, pastoral resources, economics, wind erosion, livestock), library, four field stations. International cooperation: Cooperative projects and information exchange visits with the Arab Maghreb countries, Arab, African and Asian countries; cooperation with FAO, UNESCO, UNSO, ALECSO, ISESCO, ACSAD, ICARDA, TWAS, ICDRA, RUG, ASDI and laboratories in Germany.

**MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT
ET DU TOURISME**

CABINET DU MINISTRE

BURKINA FASO

Unité - Progrès - Justice

N° 98 - /MEU/CT.KAM

Ouagadougou, le 10 septembre 1998

Exp. : Jean Baptiste KAMBOU
Conseiller Technique du Ministre de
l'Environnement et de l'Eau. Point
Focal Opérationnel GEF du Burkina
Faso

OUAGADOUGOU

A

**Dest. : Monsieur Mohamed H. A
Hassan, Secretary General TWNSO**

**Objet : Lettre d'endossement relative au projet
intitulé "Promotion des meilleures pratiques
pour la conservation et l'utilisation durable de
la diversité biologique d'intérêt mondial dans
les zones arides et semi-arides"**

Monsieur le Secrétaire Général,

Suite à votre lettre en date du 5 août 1998 relative au projet ci-dessus cité en
objet, j'ai l'honneur de vous communiquer mes commentaires en ma qualité de point
focal opérationnel GEF du Burkina Faso.

En effet, le Burkina Faso a ratifié la convention sur la diversité biologique le
2 septembre 1993. Par conséquent, notre pays est éligible aux projets financés par le
FEM. Le projet proposé s'inscrit bien au niveau national dans le cadre du programme
cadre de gestion des patrimoines nationaux et concerne plus particulièrement le
programme de gestion de l'information sur le milieu défini par le Plan d'Action
National pour l'Environnement (PANE), Agenda National 21 du Burkina Faso.

Par ailleurs, le Burkina Faso oeuvre depuis un certain temps à faire bénéficier
aux autres pays de l'expérience de ses centres d'excellences en matière de conservation
et d'utilisation durable de la diversité biologique, et à recevoir celle des autres.

Au regard de tout ce qui précède, le projet est en conformité avec les politiques
et stratégies en cours au Burkina Faso en matière de diversité biologique et reçoit ainsi
un avis favorable de notre part.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Secrétaire général, l'expression de mes salutations
distinguées

Jean Baptiste KAMBOU

1013405962 3405962
Arab Republic Of Egypt
Cabinet Of Ministers
Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency

18 AUG 98 10:26 No. 004 P. 01
رئاسة مجلس الوزراء
جهاز شؤون البيئة

Mr. Mohamed H.A. Hassan
Secretary General, TWNSO
Fax : (+39 040) 324559

17 August 1998

Dear Mr. Hassan,

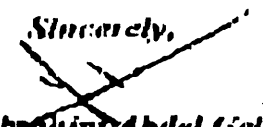
RE : Promoting best practices for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid zones.

The Arab Republic of Egypt is committed to the conservation of biodiversity, having ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity on 2nd June 1994, as well as other international agreements for the conservation of nature. The country has given high priority to nature conservation and meeting its global obligations. The fore mentioned proposal is in line with the GEF operational strategy.

Therefore, we endorse the Global Environment Facility (GEF) proposal for promoting best practices for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid zones.

Egypt welcomes such a project as a valuable contribution towards achieving the nation's conservation objectives. We request GEF support for the execution of this project and look forward to continued participation.

Sincerely,

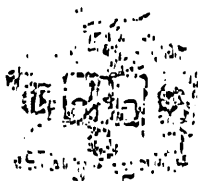

Dr. Ibrahim Abdel Gellil
GEF Operational Focal Point
Chief Executive Officer
(EPCA)

ENVIRONMENT MEH ;

3-11-99 7:20PM; 809 820 7287 =>

+88 040224559;

#1/1



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING

2 HASLEY PARK ROAD

P.O. BOX 397.

KINGSTON 10

JAMAICA

March 11

19 99

For information on environmental issues,
contact the Environmental Section,
Ministry of Environment and Housing,
Kingston, Jamaica.

No.

Mr. Mohamed H.A. Hassan
Secretary
Third World Network of Scientific Institutions
Beirut
Fax (39040) 224559

Dear Sir:

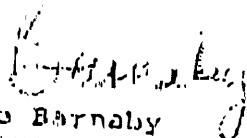
The project proposal outlining "Promoting best practices for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid zones" has been reviewed by the relevant agencies in Jamaica.

A general comment is that the project idea is an excellent one within the context of small island states, due to the obvious links between biodiversity and land degradation. The project has the potential to be a "win-win" sustainable endeavour, providing that it is made to have links with other sectors and activities including sustainable tourism, watershed development, social forestry, people participation and the establishment of a gene bank.

On this basis, as UNEP Operational Policy Point, I hereby endorse the project proposal.

Other specific comments on the document are attached.

Yours faithfully,


Leonie Barnaby
for Permanent Secretary

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM
OF JORDAN
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
AMMAN

Ref.No. 12/13/13/5167
Date 13/9/1999



المملكة الأردنية الهاشمية
وزارة التخطيط

عمان

الرقم

التاريخ

الموافق

Mr. Mohamed Hassan
Secretary General
The Third World Network
of Scientific Organizations
P.O. Box 586
Via Beirut 6
34014 Trieste - Italy

Subject: Promoting best practices for the conservation
and sustainable use of biodiversity of global
significance in arid and semi-arid zones project

Excellency:

Reference is made to your letter dated 5/8/1998 regarding the
above mentioned project to be funded by the Global Environment Facility
(GEF) for the sum of US\$900,000 to be provided to centres of excellence
in 20 developing countries including Jordan.

Kindly, note, that the government of Jordan endorses the above
mentioned project and looks forward to future cooperation.

Yours Sincerely,

Nabil Ammari
Nabil Ammari
Minister of Planning

ماتف 05/13/1998 08:06 022-6-649341 21/19 NPC Jo. P.O.Box 555 Amman 11118 Jordan
E-Mail: moad@moa.gov.jo
Cairo NPC Jo. Tel: 4642247-4642248
NPC Jo. Tel: 4642247-4642248
Tel: (9626) 4644466-70-4644431/85 - Telefax



الهيئة العامة للبيئة
ENVIRONMENT PUBLIC AUTHORITY



Ref. EPA/6629

مكتب المدير العام

Date 30.11.1998

الرقم

التاريخ

Mr. Mohammad H.A. Hassan
Secretary General
TWNSO
P.O. Box 586
34014 TRIESTE
ITALY

Fax No: 0039 040 224559

Sub: Project for Promoting Best Practices for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity of Global Significance in Arid and Semi-Arid Zones

Dear Mr. Hassan,

Reference to your urgent fax dated November 23, 1998 addressed to Dr. Mohammad A. Al-Sarawi, Director General of the EPA regarding the above subject. We have studied this project and we find that it is well directed towards the sustainable use of resources and management of arid and semi-arid ecosystems. EPA welcomes the initiative taken by the TWNSO and UNEP to achieve the biodiversity goal and hence endorses this project.

EPA looks forward to promoting conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity especially after the environmental catastrophe due to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990. We are looking forward to participate and contribute towards achieving the objectives of this project.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Mohammad A. Al-Sarawi
Director General



FROM : Panasonic FAX SYSTEM

321401

PHONE NO. : 321401

Jan. 31 1999 03:48PM P1



MINISTRY OF NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Government Building No. 3
Sags Tolgoi - 44
Ulaanbaatar - 11
Mongolia

Tel: 976-1-321401
Fax: 976-1-321401
Email: Daigram@mgenv.mn

Dear Mr. Mohammad H.A. Hassan,

1999.01.04

Letter of Endorsement

Re: Promoting best practices for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of global significance in arid & semi-arid zones

Mongolia as a country located in arid and semi-arid zones, is suffering from land degradation and it is crucial to exchange information on and utilization of traditional knowledge, best practices for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity among countries in arid and semi-arid zones, while in the transition period of economy, facing serious socio-economic problems.

Objectives of the project are the most actual among developing countries and with the line of Government policy on conservation nature and sustainable use of natural resources, thus, Government of Mongolia fully supports and endorses the project concept on Promoting best practices for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of global significance in arid & semi-arid zones.

With best regards,

Dr. Ts. Agyasuren, GEF Focal Point,
Advisor to the Minister

Mr. Mohamed H.A. Hassan
Secretary General
The Third World Network of Scientific Organizations
Trieste- Italy
Tel:
+39040 2240386
+39040 224559

FILE No.149 26.02.'99 14:48

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FAX:+39 040224559

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PAGE 9

ENVOI DE: M ENVIRONNEMENT;

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2127680746 --

0039 040 224550;

MOROCCO

ROYAUME DU MAROC
MINISTRE DE L'AMENAGEMENT DU TERRITOIRE
ET DE L'ENVIRONNEMENTSECRETARIAT DE L'AMENAGEMENT
DU TERRITOIREDIRECTION DE L'AMENAGEMENT
DU TERRITOIREDIRECTION DE L'AMENAGEMENT
DU TERRITOIREDE L'AMENAGEMENT DE TERRITOIR
DE L'ORGANISME
D'ETAT CHARGE DE

0039

LE DIRECTEUR DE L'OBSERVATION, DES ETUDES
ET DE LA COORDINATION

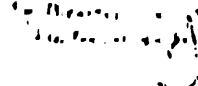
MONSIEUR H. A. HASSAN

SECRETAIRE GENERAL DE "THE THIRD WORLD
NETWORK OF SCIENTIFIC ORGANISATIONS" (TWNISO)
COORDINATEUR INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR THEORETICAL PHYSICS
P.O. Box 586, Via Beirut, 34014 Trieste, Italia.
Fax: +39 040 22 44 50Objet / CTF-TWNISO : Promotion des bonnes pratiques de conservation et
d'utilisation durable de la biodiversité d'importance mondiale dans les
zones arides et semi-arides.
Lettre d'endossement.

Monsieur

J'ai l'honneur de me référer au PDF du projet "Promotion des bonnes
pratiques de conservation et d'utilisation durable de la biodiversité d'importance
mondiale dans les zones arides et semi-arides", préparé par le PNUF et le
TWNISOCompte tenu de l'importance accordée à la protection de la biodiversité en
général, et celle des zones arides et semi-arides en particulier, je souhaiterais
confirmer par la présente, la demande du Gouvernement du Maroc au
PNUF-TWNISO pour la soumission au financement du FEM de la proposition
du projet susmentionné

Cordialement salutations.



Monsieur Hassan

endossement project

FILE No.149 26.02.'99 14:47

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NO.450 HQ07.015

SENT BY:

FAX:+39 040224559

PAGE 6

MIN DE CAU

27-1-88 : 11:52 :
N° FAX : 237201

UNEP- 0038 040

MINISTÈRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

CABINET



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UNEP
GEF COORD. OFFICE
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12 JAN 1999
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REPUBLICQUE DU
Un Peuple - Un But -

17 JAN. 1999

Ministre de l'Environnement

Mohamed Ahmed DJOGLAN
Executive Coordinator
GEF Coordination Office
Fax N° (254 2) 62 42 68/62 42 60

OBJET:

Appui au projet "Promotion des meilleures pratiques de conservation et d'utilisation durable de la diversité biologique d'importance mondiale en zones arides et semi-arides".

NAIROBI (KENY)

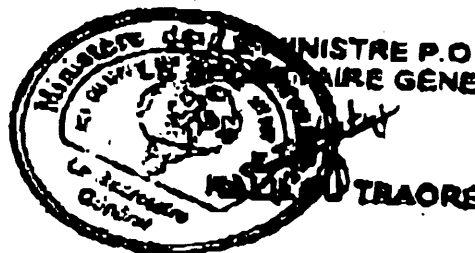
Monsieur,

Comme suite à la correspondance de Monsieur Mohamed H. A. HASSA Secrétaire Général de TWNSO concernant le Projet cité en objet, j'ai l'honneur vous confirmer par la présente l'appui du Mali audit Projet.

Notre pays est aride et semi-aride. Il subit depuis plus de deux décennies, les effets de la sécheresse et de la désertification entraînant des inquiétudes sérieuses pour la gestion des ressources biologiques.

Nous aimerions que l'Institut d'Economie Rurale qui est le point focal de la Convention sur la Diversité Biologique soit associé au processus d'élaboration du Projet.

Vous en souhaitant bonne réception, je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Coordinateur, l'expression de ma considération distinguée



FILE No. 149 26.02. '99 14:48

ID: ICTP TWAS

FAX: -39 040224559

NO. 350 QUEB. 015

PAGE 7

ON: SEMARNAT-UCAI

925 6260553

TO: 0039040224559

12-02-99 22:47

PAGE: 2

DIRECCION GENERAL DE CREDITO PUBLICO
DIRECCION DE ORGANISMOS FINANCIEROS
INTERNACIONALES
Subdirección de Proyectos Ambientales y de
Desarrollo Urbano

JOA

Oficina No. 393, III. 4, - 418

S: 10

Mexico, D.F., 1 de diciembre de 1998

LIC. JOSE LUIS SAMANIEGO LEYVA
Coordinador de la Unidad de Asuntos Internacionales
Secretaría de Medio Ambiente, Recursos Naturales y Pesca
Lateral del Periférico Sur 4208, piso 6,
Colonia Jardines en la Montaña
C i u d a d

Hago referencia a su comunicación No. UCAI/5547/98, del 24 de noviembre de 1998, relativo a la propuesta para el proyecto "Promoción de mejores prácticas para la conservación y uso sustentable de la biodiversidad de importancia global en zonas áridas y semiáridas", que será presentada por The Third World Network of Scientific Organizations, para ser apoyada con recursos del Fondo Mundial para el Medio Ambiente (GEF).

Sobre el particular, a través del presente me permito comunicar a Usted que esta Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público, en su carácter de Punto Focal del GEF en México, está de acuerdo en que dicha propuesta se someta a consideración del Secretariado del GEF en Washington, a través del PNUMA como Agencia Instrumentadora del GEF en México; lo anterior, en virtud de que su financiamiento contribuirá al cumplimiento de metas sectoriales de desarrollo.

Mucho le agradeceré nos mantenga informados del trámite que guarden estas gestiones, y sin otro particular por el momento, aprovecho la ocasión para reiterar a Usted las seguridades de mi más atenta y distinguida consideración.

A t e n t a m e n t e,
SUPRAGIO EFECTIVO. NO REELECCION.
El Director de Organismos Financieros
Internacionales

DEC 2 1998 12:26

Ricardo Ochoa
Ricardo Ochoa



OFFICE OF THE
FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
THE PRESIDENCY

Independence Way South Central Area,
P.M.A. 300, Cairo, Egypt.

TELEMAX
TELEPHONE: 08-2342007



FEPA/IPA/001/T/03

OUR REF.
YOUR REF.
DATE: 21st AUGUST, 1998.

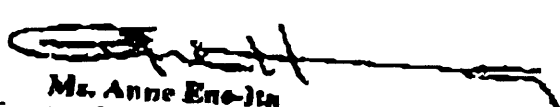
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Mr. Ahmed Djogief
The Executive Coordinator
UNEP/GEF Coordination Unit
P. O. Box 30552
Nairobi, Kenya
Fax: (2542) 623162/820825/623587

**RE: PROMOTING BEST PRACTICES FOR CONSERVATION AND
SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY OF GLOBAL SIGNIFICANCE IN
ARID AND SEMI-ARID ZONE**

I am directed to refer to a letter dated 5 August 1998 from The Third World Network of Scientific Organizations (TWNISO) on the above project proposal (please see attached) and to endorse the project as it will be of immense benefit to the region in general and Nigeria in particular.

Thank you for your cooperation.


Ms. Anne Ena-Jin
for: Director General/Chief Executive

CC

✓
Mohamed H. A. Hassan
TWNISO
c/o The Abdus Salam International Centre
for Theoretical Physics
P. O. Box 584
Via Beirut 6
14014 Trieste
Italy.
Fax (30 040) 224559

Please forward the letter to Mr. Ahmed Djogief as requested.

27/11 '98 FRI 12:38 FAX 254 2 824841 254 2 824841

UNEP GEF OFFICE

Gram
Tel. ENVIRONMENT
Fax. (92-51-9201143)
P.Code (92-51-9202311)
Telex 44000
54434 EUA PAK

48/3203

No.4(11)97-Bia
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
Ministry of Environment, Local Government
And Rural Development



Director General (Env.)

Islamabad, November 10, 1998.

Subject: PROMOTING BEST PRACTICES FOR CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE
USE OF BIODIVERSITY OF GLOBAL SIGNIFICANCE IN ARID AND SEMI-
ARID ZONES

Dear Mr. Djoghlaif,

A project proposal on 'Promoting Best Practices for Conservation and Sustainable use of Biodiversity of Global Significance in arid and semi-arid Zones' submitted by The Third World Network of Scientific Organizations (TWNCO), based in Italy, under GEF Medium Size Funding is forwarded.

2. The sponsors of the project have requested for a grant of US\$ 750,000 under GEF Medium Size Programme.

3. The project aims to identify lessons learnt and disseminate best practices for conserving and sustainably using biodiversity of global significance in arid and semi-arid ecosystems under threat from land degradation and to strengthen a network of centers of excellence in support of the implementation of objective mentioned above. The project is in consonance with the policy objectives of the Government with focus on the involvement of local communities in the protection of biological diversity.

4. The Ministry of Environment, Local Government and Rural Development, as the national focal point of GEF initiatives in Pakistan, endorses the above mentioned project for Medium Size GEF funding.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Coordinator,
UNEP/GEF Coordination Unit,
Nairobi, Kenya.
Fax: (254 2) 226886 / 226890

UNEP
GEF COORDINATION UNIT
RECEIVED
ACTION
NO ☐
25 NOV 1998
WITH COMPL ☒
CIRCULATE
FILE IN ☐ YES ☐

(MAHBOOB ELAHI)

SENT JUL.19.1999 12:47PM

UNEP/GEF WASHINGTON ;
UNEP SECRETARIAT / AHMED DJOGHLAF

UNEP-

NO.9612 88JP.30/3213/15

FILE No.149 26.02.'99 14:49

ID:ICTP TWAS

FAX:-39 040224559

NO.450 8013.015

PAGE 12

00 221 32 96 17

FROM : TERA URB FORET

PHONE NO. : 00 221 32 96 17

Feb. 24 1999 18:58PM P1

W G U 7 1 9

République du Sénégal

Dakar, le 24 février 1999

Ministère de l'Environnement et de la
Protection de la Nature

Direction de l'Environnement

Monsieur Mohamed H.A. HASSAN
Secretary General, TWNSO

Objet : lettre de recommandation de la candidature
de la DRPF/ASRA comme centre d'excellence du projet
- Promoting best practices for conservation and sustainable use
of biodiversity of global significance in arid & semi-arid zones -. TWNSO

Monsieur le Secrétaire Général,

En ma qualité de point focal national pour le GEF, j'ai plaisir à vous recommander très fortement la candidature de la DRPF comme centre d'excellence du projet cité en objet. En effet, la DRPF dispose de compétences et une expertise avérées dans le domaine de la biodiversité garantissant une participation effective et efficace à l'exécution dudit projet.

Plaise à vous croire, Monsieur le Secrétaire Général, en l'expression de ma franche collaboration.

La Directrice de l'Environnement
Point Focal National du GEF

DIATA TOULIE

FROM : AMBASSADE DE SYRIE

PHONE No. : 6794989

SYRIA

SEP.22 1998 1:48PM PG

Fax:00963113310140

27 Sep '98

10:15

F.02/98

الجمهورية العربية السورية
 وزارة الخارجية
 دمشق

السيد الدكتور محمد حسن
 الامين العام لمنظمة اوانسو
 تريستا (ايطاليا)
 مكتب وزارة الخارجية (الادارة العامة)

تحية طيبة :

اشارة الى كتابكم الموجه لي في ١٩٩٨/٦/٢٢ حول مشروع :
 " تحسين اقل المناطق للمناطق والاحتفاء بالحقول المملوكة لجمعية العالمية
 في المناطق الحارة وفي الحالة " .
 القوي والقيمة بالتعاون مع برنامج الأمم المتحدة المحلية ، مؤسسة البيئة العالمية .
 كما نرحب بأن نطرح مواثيق لنا من وزارة التعليم العالي والبيئة العامة لعلوم البيئة
 على سطح المشروع المذكور ، وذلك لتواكب فيها خطط المشاريع المقترحة من قبل الهيئة العامة
 لعلوم البيئة والتي سوف تتركز على اقامة المجتمات الطبيعية وزيادة الوعي الجماهيري بعلوم
 وأهمية العلوم البيئية .

مع خالص التحية

رئيسة اللجنة العلمية

مادة : حالة



Handwritten signature

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السيد شاذي

السيد وزير الخارجية
 السيد وزير التعليم العالي
 السيد مدير عام البيئة
 السيد مدير عام التخطيط
 السيد مدير عام العلاقات العامة