



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF) ¹

PROJECT TYPE: Medium-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF Trust Fund

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Title:	ABS Guatemala: Access to and Benefit Sharing and Protection of Traditional Knowledge to Promote Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use		
Country(ies):	Guatemala	GEF Project ID: ²	4618
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP (select) (select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	729
Other Executing Partner(s):	<p>Executing Agency: National Council of Protected Areas (CONAP).</p> <p>Partners: Ministry of Culture and Sports (MCD), Universities, NGOs, Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (MARN), Ministry of Agriculture (MA), National Council on Science and Technology (CONCYT), local communities and indigenous authorities.</p>	Submission Date:	2011-10-11
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration(Months)	48
Name of parent program (if applicable): ➤ For SFM/REDD+ <input type="checkbox"/>		Agency Fee (\$):	87,450

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK³:

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Indicative Financing from relevant TF (GEF/LDCF/SCCF) (\$)	Indicative Cofinancing (\$)
(select) BD-4	4.1 Legal and regulatory framework and administrative procedures established that enable access to genetic resources and benefit sharing in accordance with the CBD provisions	4.1 Access and benefit sharing agreements that recognize the core ABS principles of Prior Informed Consent (PIC) and Mutually Agreed Terms (MAT) including the fair and equitable sharing of benefits	795,000	810,000
(select) (select)				
(select) (select)				
(select) (select)				

¹ It is very important to consult the PIF preparation guidelines when completing this template.

² Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

³ Refer to the reference attached on the Focal Area Results Framework when filling up the table in item A.

(select) (select)				
(select) (select)				
(select) (select)				
(select) (select)				
(select) (select)				
(select) (select)				
(select) (select)	Others			
Project management cost ⁴			79,500	82,500
Total project costs			874,500	892,500

⁴ GEF will finance management cost that is solely linked to GEF financing of the project.

B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Project Objective: To develop policy and legal frameworks and institutional mechanisms for access and benefit sharing (ABS), in order to strengthen biodiversity conservation, promote rural development and support climate change adaptation					
Project Component	Grant Type (TA/IN V)	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Indicative Financing from relevant TF (GEF/LDCF/SCCF) (\$)	Indicative Cofinancing (\$)
1. Developing a national framework for accessing genetic resources, protecting traditional knowledge and ensuring benefit sharing	TA	1. a) Guatemala has in place the instruments needed to facilitate access to GR, protect traditional knowledge, and engage in benefit sharing via regulatory means	<p>1. a (i) A National policy on access to GR and traditional knowledge presented to the National Ministerial Council for approval.</p> <p>1. a (ii) A proposal of national regulation on access to genetic resources (GR) and benefit sharing mechanisms, developed in a participatory fashion, and including traditional knowledge related to GR; through the sensibilization of the indigenous groups to participate in this effort.</p> <p>1. a (iii) National regulations and enhanced legal mechanisms and procedures (possibly sui generis) available to promote the protection of traditional knowledge</p> <p>1.a (iv) Framework for traditional</p>	120,000	120,000

			knowledge promotes cross-linkages between policies relating to biodiversity, climate change adaptation and the processes of desertification and land use change		
2. Protecting traditional cultural knowledge associated with sustainable use of biodiversity to catalyze its potential for rural development	TA	2. a) Enabling conditions established within the relevant Guatemalan Institutions for the development of rural community-based initiatives relating to the sustainable use of biodiversity and the transfer and use of traditional knowledge	2. a (i) A protocol to develop a traditional knowledge inventory, with information on the distribution, diversity and sociolinguistic relevance of traditional knowledge, and on its potentiality for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and rural development 2. a (ii) Inter-generational transfer of traditional knowledge and technologies at a subnational level improved in at least two sociolinguistic, bilingual, multicultural educational institutes.	80,000	60,000
3. Building linkages between biodiversity conservation and sustainable use	TA	3. Strengthened integration of Traditional Knowledge (TK) and Sustainable Use of Genetic Resources in accordance with CBD provisions consistent with development at local and sub-national levels.	3. a (i) Four (4) ABS pilot demonstrations promoting sustainable use of genetic resources including one example each of the following: *non-commercial: conservation *commercial use:	595,000	630,000

			biotrade; *commercial use: value chain *merging scientific and traditional knowledge 3. a (ii) Informative material and cross sharing events to disseminate lessons learned in demo pilots.		
	(select)				
	(select)				
	(select)				
	(select)				
	(select)				
	(select)				
	TA				
Project management Cost ⁵				79,500	82,500
Total project costs				874,500	892,500

C. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME IF AVAILABLE, (\$)

Sources of Cofinancing	Name of Cofinancier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount (\$)
National Government	National Council of Protected Areas (CONAP)	Unknown at this stage	160,200
National Government	Ministry of Culture and Sport (MICUDE)	In-kind	37,300
Private Sector	Universities	In-kind	100,000
CSO	NGOs	In-kind	20,000
National Government	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA).	In-kind	100,000
National Government	National Council of Science and Technology (CONCYT)	Grant	250,000
National Government	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN)	In-kind	90,000
National Government	National Council of Protected Areas - National Fund for Nature Conservancy (CONAP - FONACON)	Grant	100,000
GEF Agency	UNEP -DEPI	Unknown at this stage	35,000
(select)		(select)	
Total Cofinancing			892,500

⁵ Same as footnote #3.

D. GEF/LDCF/SCCF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY¹

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal area	Country name/Global	Project amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)²	Total c=a+b
UNEP	GEF TF	Biodiversity	Guatemala	655,875	65,588	721,463
UNEP	GEF TF	Biodiversity	Global	218,625	21,862	240,487
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
Total Grant Resources				874,500	87,450	961,950

¹ In case of a single focal area, single country, single GEF Agency project, and single trust fund project, no need to provide information for this table

² Please indicate fees related to this project.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:

A.1.1 THE GEF FOCAL AREA STRATEGIES:

The project will help move Guatemala towards ratification of the Protocol. The project is also consistent with COP 9 Decision IX/26 for promoting the engagement of businesses and establishing, as a priority, the need to build a business case for biodiversity. It highlights the opportunity to create a business community made of up of small and medium-sized enterprises. In light of the recent adoption of Nagoya Protocol (COP 10 Decision X/1) and its signature by Guatemala in May 2011, this project will contribute to bring the country closer to both ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. There are also nuances in this project pertaining to cross-cutting capacity development for the implementation of environmental Conventions that align it well with Objectives 1 to 4 of the GEF's Corporate Programs Strategy for capacity development (GEF/R.5/31/CRP.1).

A.1.2. FOR PROJECTS FUNDED FROM LDCF/SCCF: THE LDCF/SCCF ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES: N/A

A.2. NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS:

Recently, a National Policy on Biological Diversity was approved by Guatemala's Council of Ministries and the President (Central America Diary on July 15 No- 36 Tomo CCXCII), in which all the issues relating to the scope of the Nagoya Protocol were included. Moreover, Guatemala signed the Nagoya Protocol at the UN Headquarters in May 2011, as a demonstration of the importance ascribed to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge.

However, according to Guatemala's third and fourth National Reports on fulfillment of the CBD, the country has made little progress in implementing the above tasks. Application of CBD's Article 15 has been delayed and constricted due to the complexity of the tasks at hand, as well as lack of continuity, capacity and resources. Neither has the country presented to the CBD Secretariat a thematic report on ABS. Likewise, Guatemala has reached few outcomes in the application of Article 8(j), which covers traditional knowledge and related provisions. The project "Definition of National Priorities and Assessment of Capacity Building Needs in Biodiversity in Guatemala" (GUA/97/G31, Phase II) conducted by CONAP (National Council for Protected Areas) included a genetic resources component, and helped to provide data and a diagnosis of the current national situation concerning access to genetic resources and traditional knowledge. One of the identified gaps was the need to work with the holders of traditional knowledge in the identification and documentation of traditional and community knowledge relating to the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity. Despite not ascribing a high level of priority to these issues in the past, Guatemala has recently come to realize that sharing the benefits that may come from the use of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge represents an opportunity and a value-adding process to the country's rich biological and cultural diversity.

In relation to climate change and policies, Guatemala has a National Policy in place since September 2009. The Policy presents 3 strategic objectives, one for capacity development, and seeks the adoption of measures for risk prevention, vulnerability reduction and

improvement of adaptation practices to climate change. Under the overarching objective of capacity development, the Policy specifically homes in on: (a) promoting applied research through an applied research program in which the identification and systematization of traditional knowledge and practices associated with biological diversity and climate change are included, and (b) strengthening the traditional systems of indigenous and local communities aimed at good practices for adaptation.

This project is therefore responsive to these concerns and to the need to recognize the contribution that both genetic resources and traditional knowledge make to sustaining and climate-proofing the country's development. Although Guatemala did not carry out a National Portfolio Formulation Exercise, the endorsement of this proposal and the Government's support (including co-financing) was agreed and prioritized early in the GEF-5 cycle.

B. PROJECT OVERVIEW:

B.1. DESCRIBE THE BASELINE PROJECT AND THE PROBLEM THAT IT SEEKS TO ADDRESS:

The total number of species on the planet is declining and the distribution of species is becoming more homogeneous. Over the past few hundred years, humans have increased species' extinction rates by as much as 1,000 times over background rates, the majority of species have seen their populations fragmented and their population sizes and ranges decline, and genetic diversity has also dropped globally, particularly with respect to cultivated species. The need to build a "business case" for biodiversity conservation is therefore urgent, especially considering that biodiversity loss is further aggravated by the impacts of climate variability and change which are already before us. Having established a link between biodiversity protection and the provision of ecosystem services, society needs to step up efforts to avoid further biodiversity and habitat loss. The axiom that ecosystem health is closely linked to human wellbeing is particularly true for rural communities that are directly reliant on the natural resources that surround them. The reality faced by many rural and indigenous communities, in particular those of Guatemala, is far from the idealized notion that these "stewards of nature" live in harmony with all living things. Few alternatives exist for poor rural communities to subsist without degrading, fragmenting and depleting the very ecosystems they depend on, which is why innovative incentives are needed to stimulate sustainable rural development and ensure that sustainable practices prevail.

Traditional knowledge associated with natural resources represents an unexplored source of wealth in Guatemala. Indigenous communities have long been known to possess extensive knowledge on the use of wild and domesticated plants, for food, fiber and medicine, and of their relation to climatic conditions. This knowledge could be tapped into for the good of the communities, and of the wider population. Genetic resources (GR) were considered for a long time as human heritage. However, this situation had changed since FAO and the CBD recognized the sovereignty of the States over their biodiversity and the rights of farmers and indigenous communities when they add their own ingenuity and traditional knowledge. For this reason, access to genetic resources must be based on international and national regulations which have to include benefit sharing of the use of genetic resources. Those legal norms have not been developed in Guatemala and must be developed in order to secure these rights and regulate the relationships between providers and users.

NATIONAL FRAMEWORK. In 1997, the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention 169 of the ILO entered into force in Guatemala. 169. The ILO 169 convention is the operative international law guaranteeing the rights of indigenous peoples. Taken together with the signature of the Acuerdos de Paz (1996), access to lands and resources was guaranteed for those who had traditionally held access through their traditional and subsistence activities. The project will help to create a legal and regulatory framework and administrative procedures for ABS in accordance with CBD provisions, and especially with the recently approved Protocol of Nagoya. It also seeks to increase knowledge on the value of GR in the professional sector as well as in civil and economic sectors; and identify the norms of conduct of indigenous communities regarding access and benefit sharing; and to stimulate a wide discussion and consensus-seeking with the different sectors of the Guatemalan society to elaborate and approve a national framework for ABS. Therefore, developing a comprehensive institutional framework for ABS is the aim of project **Component 1**. Component 1 also implies the following specific actions: creation of a temporal ad hoc commission on genetic resources property and associated traditional knowledge; legal regime for the recognition of property rights over the genetic material and local knowledge; and creation of an access regime for genetic and biochemical resources.

TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE. Guatemala is Like-minded Mega diverse Group (LMMG) as a result of its high biological and cultural richness, but the rapid westernization of its indigenous communities is causing a waning interest in indigenous youth in acquiring traditional knowledge, favoring instead a more western culture. This scenario places vital community knowledge in eminent danger of being lost forever. For this reason, it is necessary to guarantee continuity in the inter-generational transfer of this knowledge as well as to construct mechanisms to permit the consensual systematization, documentation and utilization by outside parties of traditional knowledge. According to the Third and Fourth National Reports to the CBD, Guatemala has reached few outcomes in the application and enforcement of a national policy framework that supports Article 8(j). One of the identified gaps is the need to work with holders of traditional knowledge in the identification and documentation of traditional knowledge related to the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity.

For this reason, the project's **Component 2** aims to develop a protocol to build a national inventory of traditional knowledge and mechanisms to protect it, be they legal or sui generis, and guarantee benefit sharing at a sub-national level. Also to ensure the intergenerational transfer of traditional knowledge and technologies at a subnational level, through component 2 these mechanisms will be improved in at least two sociolinguistic, multicultural educational institutes.

SUSTAINABLE USE. It is worth remembering that sustainable development can only be reached if the value of biodiversity and its associated traditional knowledge is taken into consideration. Moreover, the sustainable use of biodiversity implies broad participation of local communities deeply in contact with their surrounding environment. Basic mechanisms to support research and development around wild and neglected species that may be relevant to the generation of new products or to climate change adaptation need to be explored and established.

Project component 3 aims to achieve this by capitalizing on strategic alliances, on the "business sense" of local communities, and on the understanding that biodiversity is at the

core of all ecosystem services and that traditional knowledge can contribute to both scientific knowledge and to rural development. Through this component, demonstration pilots arrangements will be developed which specifically develop the potential of community-based enterprises and agreements. Through local level studies and projects, selected through a competitive process and co-funded by national institutions and the GEF, this project will provide the initial ground work and create enabling conditions to further exploit commercial and R&D opportunities that favor sustainable biodiversity management, rural development and the integrate climate change adaptation measures.

Work under project component 3 will comprise the following elements: market identification, economic evaluation of planned activities, identification of key elements to develop new products as well as institutional participation to promote financial and technical support to generate community enterprises based on traditional knowledge of wild and neglected species. The pilots will test arrangements in ABS relevant themes, including: non commercial use-conservation; commercial use- biotrade; a demonstration of value chains, and lastly piloting the merging of scientific and traditional knowledge.

Component 3 will further feature information and experience sharing with a view towards upscaling and learning.

CAPACITY BUILDING. The project "Definition of National Priorities and Assessment of Capacity Building Needs in Biodiversity in Guatemala" (GUA/97/G31, Phase II) conducted by CONAP (National Council for Protected Areas) included a genetic resources component. This component led to the compilation and discussion of an inventory of the national legal norms that are in force related to access to GR, traditional knowledge, and intellectual property rights. Furthermore, a few national laws on access to GR currently implemented by other countries were analyzed. Knowing the important role that Guatemala's cultural richness plays, the conduct of two sociolinguistics groups regarding access and benefit sharing was explored. Additionally, a minimal content of key elements to be considered in a national law on access and benefit sharing was proposed. This prior project therefore provided an important baseline on which to build and orient further efforts and to the current proposal can also contribute knowledge on how to work with indigenous communities and understand their way of life.

The current proposal builds on this baseline inventory of capacity building needs with the intent of strengthening links between biodiversity protection, climate change adaptation and rural development and further seeking to follow through with the aforementioned instruments. As a first step, the project will carry out activities which will demonstrably implement national regulations on access and benefit sharing, while working directly with indigenous peoples in community-led initiatives, and, concomitantly addressing Articles 15 and 8(j) of the CBD and their relevance to climate change adaptation and rural development.

In summary, the baseline project here intended centers on national and local efforts to mainstream biodiversity protection into development processes through the explicit valuation of biodiversity, its components and associated traditional knowledge, all the while building capacity at each level of engagement: national level capacity level – component 1; inter-institutional level capacity building – component 2; local and sub-national level capacity building – component 3. With assistance from the GEF, this project will move Guatemala significantly further along the path of CBD implementation, and with this, will accrue global

biodiversity benefits. Ultimately, implementation of this project will promote the sustainable use of the biodiversity of Guatemala, recognized in COP-10 in Nagoya as a member of the Link-Minded Mega diverse Countries of the CBD, as well as foster the recognition and valorization of its cultural richness, and will pave the way for sustaining or replicating these efforts after project completion.

B. 2. INCREMENTAL /ADDITIONAL COST REASONING: DESCRIBE THE INCREMENTAL (GEF TRUST FUND) OR ADDITIONAL (LDCF/SCCF) ACTIVITIES REQUESTED FOR GEF/LDCF/SCCF FINANCING AND THE ASSOCIATED GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS (GEF TRUST FUND) OR ASSOCIATED ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF) TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT:

Mechanisms that respond to the Guatemala's obligations on access and benefit sharing and the protection of traditional knowledge will probably not be adequately implemented without the full participation of GEF in this project. Inter-institutional coordination will be weaker if there is no link between national organizations and GEF investments. As a result, the country probably will not be able to respond to its obligation on access and benefit sharing as well as to other activities, including COP/MOP decisions. Results -especially those requiring broad support or consensus- will be improved through GEF involvement since project activities can be designed around participatory and technically-sound processes.

Guatemala's biodiversity is of global value (e.g. underexploited native species to improve and support food and nutritional security, genetic reservoir for improvement of worldwide important crop species, medicinal plants, among others) and can be found in Protected Areas co-located with many local and indigenous communities who make use of these resources. Using ABS and the promotion of small-scale enterprises around biodiversity products as a means to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity will bring not only local socioeconomic benefits, but also global environmental benefits. Likewise, local traditional knowledge can be of global value if it sheds light on species and practices that are relevant to climate change adaptation.

The main global benefits expected from this project include reducing the loss of biodiversity by creating a "business case" for genetic resources, instituting benefit sharing arrangements and promoting sustainable biodiversity management. The creation of national ABS regimes that contribute to reducing biodiversity loss (caused by ecosystem conversion and poverty-induced pressures) will favor the continued provision of ecological services and will avoid increased emission of greenhouse gases resulting from ecosystem conversion. These benefits will derive principally from: (a) Progress in the development of national frameworks for ABS for the sustainable use of genetic resources and the protection and valorization of traditional knowledge; (b) Strengthened human and institutional capacity of key stakeholders, including local communities and indigenous peoples, for implementing ABS measures for genetic resources and traditional knowledge; (c) Enhanced awareness and understanding of the principles ascribed by the CBD for the effective management of genetic resources and for the respect and preservation of the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities; d) CONAP in the Strategic Institutional Plan (PEI) 2011 - 2015, has adopted entirely the CDB's objectives and the implementation of the National Policy on Biological Diversity, which contains all the elements related to ABS, as well the institutional compromise to maintain and assume the structure, functionality and sustainability derived from this project.

Without GEF and parties involvement, incremental global benefits would not accrue from this project. Without effective and demonstrated measures for ABS, coupled with the valorization of

traditional knowledge associated with biodiversity, Guatemala will continue to fail to derive benefits from its genetic resources (in the process, facilitating inequitable appropriation of benefits by others) and possibly losing knowledge that may be valuable for facing climate change challenges, thereby foreclosing options that could contribute to rural economies and to national sustainable development. Hence, in order to shift national environmental benefits towards global benefits, Guatemala needs to experience the full potential of "benefit sharing" schemes, and how these not only contribute to in situ conservation of biodiversity, but also to climate change adaptation and poverty alleviation. Furthermore, leveraging co-financing from a wide range of organizations will only be possible with GEF as a partner, while the summed total of these contributions would be insufficient to achieve the anticipated outcomes.

The project was designed with in country expertise and features very strong country ownership. The project will contribute towards CBD and Nagoya Protocol objectives with impacts at the national, and other, levels to promulgate ratification of the Nagoya Protocol. The project will create enabling conditions at the country level to implement foundational regulatory foundations and operational adjustments. The emphasis on market opportunities at the community level associated with ABS and TK are a cost effective, innovative means to deliver expected project outcomes. The project will promote lessons learned by local and sub national partners in implementing ABS arrangements at the field level and effect knowledge transfer. The project's overall cost effectiveness lies in the transfer of capacity to multi-tiered beneficiaries at the local, sub-national, national and institutional levels. Further elaboration will be delineated at the CEO endorsement phase.

B.3. DESCRIBE THE SOCIOECONOMIC BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS, INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF GENDER DIMENSIONS, AND HOW THESE WILL SUPPORT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT BENEFITS (GEF TRUST FUND) OR ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF):

The project "Definition of National Priorities and Assessment of Capacity Building Needs in Biodiversity in Guatemala" carried out in 1997 allowed the conduct of two sociolinguistics groups regarding access and benefit sharing to be explored, as a first effort to understand the relation between community dynamics and use of genetic resources. This study revealed that each ethnic group has its own perception of the process, and that community behavior will depend on land management and ownership issues, and on the management and use given to the species to be accessed. This finding showed that it would be recommendable to conduct consultations processes to devise which criteria are needed to adequately apply the "Prior Informed Agreement" (PIC) and "Mutually Agreed Terms" (MAT) processes advocated by the CBD, in the context of indigenous communities. Ultimately, the different responses and positions exhibited by the country's various sociolinguistic groups will have to be accommodated in any national programs and regulations on ABS.

In adaptation to climate change, the role of indigenous communities is vital because most of the genetic and biological resources they utilize for medicine, food and other survival needs are intrinsically related to their cultural heritage. The putting in place of a national ABS framework which encompasses traditional knowledge will enable the country to enjoy socioeconomic benefits at the national and local level since biodiversity per se and Traditional Knowledge associated with GR will be recognized and valued. In addition, the design and implementation of an economic program based on the management of biodiversity and traditional knowledge at the local and sub-national level will lift the economic opportunities of rural communities. It should

be stressed that the important role that indigenous women play in biodiversity conservation and community development will be taken fully into consideration.

B.4 INDICATE RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS THAT MIGHT PREVENT THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES FROM BEING ACHIEVED, AND IF POSSIBLE, PROPOSE MEASURES THAT ADDRESS THESE RISKS TO BE FURTHER DEVELOPED DURING THE PROJECT DESIGN:

Since this project is mostly at the policy, regulatory and instrumental level, focusing on CBD implementation, climate variability and climate change phenomena are not likely to impede the project from attaining its objective. Nevertheless, in its work at the community level, the project will need to take into account climatic factors when programming field activities and setting timelines for pilot projects or community-led initiatives, which may be slowed or interrupted by poor weather conditions or natural phenomena such as floods. Climate change will in fact figure as a transversal topic in this project, and all available opportunities will be used to bring home the message that climate adaptation has to be factored into rural development efforts and national public policies.

The theme of access and benefit sharing is not well known for all the groups and practitioners that manage or use the various components of biodiversity. In the beginning it is possible that some actors will not show much interest in participating in the formulation of normative that regulates the least recognized component of biodiversity. Additionally, there are some groups that are opposed to the use of genetic resources and its associated traditional knowledge, especially if there is no regulatory or policy framework that can guarantee that the benefits will be channeled to the local indigenous communities and farmers in question. For this reason, it is necessary for this project to conduct a wide participatory process that includes public awareness on the importance of obtaining compensations in exchange for utilizing genetic resources, and of conserving those resources in situ. To fully reach the objectives of this proposal it will be essential to obtain the understanding and support of the political sector. Components 1 and 2 will require political coaxing if non-environmental Government sectors are to be brought on board in the joint construction of a comprehensive framework for ABS.

B.5. IDENTIFY KEY STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT INCLUDING THE PRIVATE SECTOR, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ROLES, AS APPLICABLE:

Stakeholders	Role in project implementation
CONAP (National Council of Protected Areas)	Through its national mandate and as the country's Primary National Focal Point for the CBD, CONAP will coordinate and execute the main components of the project. (Executing Agency).
MARN (Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources)	As GEF operational focal point and the environmental authority, MARN will provide support and guidance for the development of the legal and institutional framework regarding Access and Benefit sharing and Traditional Knowledge associated with Genetic Resources
MAGA (Ministry of Cattle management, Agriculture and Food)	MAGA will support activities related with agro-biodiversity and food security in selected regions
MCD (Ministry of Culture and Sport)	It will provide support and guidance for the development of the legal and institutional framework regarding traditional knowledge

NGOs	NGOs will participate in support of the project activities conducted in selected regions of the country
Local communities	Organization, empowerment and participation in the formulation and implementation of plans for including biodiversity into community productive systems based on biodiversity and traditional knowledge, community protocols access and in identifying business opportunities derived from specific applications.
UNEP	UNEP will offer project management tools, and theoretical and practical knowledge to the Executing Agency to aid in implementing project activities.
National Council of Science and Technology (CONCYT) and Universities	CONCYT and Universities will recognize and integrate the traditional knowledge in to the national system of Science and Technology and will support trough grants the integrated and applied research to achieve the outputs of this project.

B.6. OUTLINE THE COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED INITIATIVES:

Guatemala has been a Party to the CBD since 1995 and has a National Strategy for Biodiversity in place since 1999. The country has participated in some capacity building initiatives relating to ABS (such as the genetic resources component of the project "Definition of National Priorities and Assessment of Capacity Building Needs in Biodiversity in Guatemala" carried out in 1997; the Fourth Mesoamerican Workshop on capacity building for indigenous and local communities regarding article 8j, traditional knowledge and ABS, conducted in 2010; discussion groups on ABS and 8j as preparatory activities prior to participation of the Guatemalan delegation in COP 10 in Nagoya, in October 2010) but there are currently no ongoing projects or parallel initiatives, be these donor-funded or Government-funded, in relation to ABS or traditional knowledge. This project would in fact be the Government's first concerted and focused effort to set up an ABS regime and make a qualitative difference in the way GR and traditional knowledge are regarded by several sectors of society.

UNEP, in fulfilling its role as GEF Implementing Agency, has been stewarding ABS proposals under GEF-4 and will continue to do so under GEF-5. Guatemala can take advantage both of the tools and lessons learned deriving from the approved LAC ABS project: "Strengthening the implementation of ABS regimes in Latin America and the Caribbean currently". Though Guatemala is not part of the regional initiative, there are opportunities for cross-fertilization as well as coordination of agendas and exchange of information, which will be explored once this project has initiated. This coordination will aided by the fact that UNEP is the GEF Implementing Agency in both cases, and by the extensive contacts network managed by IUCN-South and IUCN-Mesoamerica, the Executing agency and supporting partner, respectively, for the LAC ABS project.

C. DESCRIBE THE GEF AGENCY'S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROJECT:

The project is consistent with the June 2007 GEF Council approved paper GEF/C.31/5 entitled "Comparative Advantages of GEF Agencies". Annex L of this paper particularly stipulates UNEP's comparative advantage in the areas of 1) Capacity Building/Technical Assistance together with 2) Scientific and technical analysis, assessment, monitoring/tools, standards, and norms -- with specific regard to Access and Benefits Sharing.

Extracts from this paper note that: UNEP addresses environmental management issues in the following ways: (a) Emerging issues and adaptive learning: UNEP has an advantage in its

extensive experience in piloting approaches and innovations to address emerging environmental issues. UNEP assists countries in identifying, testing and demonstrating the use of tools and methods for improving environmental management, related to UNEP's involvement with the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). (b) Monitoring and assessment: The emphasis on science as a basis for policy in the work of UNEP has led to a recognized leadership role in global scale environmental assessments. (c) International and national environmental policy and law: UNEP has developed expertise over the years in the field of international environmental policy and law, supporting the development of a number of seminal conventions and protocols. UNEP has fostered the negotiation of many other multilateral environmental agreements, and through its environmental law program, provided support to the development of national policy and law aimed at translating countries global obligations into national level legal instruments. (d) Implementing a programmatic approach in key focal areas: UNEP has developed significant programs with support from its Environment Fund to support the implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). (e) Fostering transboundary collaboration: UNEP has been successful in co-hosting the IPCC and in fostering the development and negotiation on global environmental issues, including four MEAs, for which the GEF acts as the financial mechanism and 14 regional seas conventions and action plans. UNEP has built expertise in supporting the transboundary and multi-country collaboration required for the sustainable management of water bodies and ecosystems across borders. (f) Establishing networks with other organizations: UNEP works through partners, including United Nations bodies such as UNDP, FAO, UNIDO and the WHO, non-governmental organizations such as IUCN and networks such as the system of Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) centers and the International Council for Science (ICSU).

UNEP has aided countries, namely India and Ethiopia, as well as regions (Africa, Asia, and Latin America and Caribbean) to access GEF-4 funding for ABS, resulting in a portfolio valued at more than US\$8 Million. This group of projects is set to expand under GEF-5 to include several more country level proposals.

C.1 INDICATE THE CO-FINANCING AMOUNT THE GEF AGENCY IS BRINGING TO THE PROJECT:

UNEP's potential for leveraging co-financing for GEF projects resides in its ability to secure a robust partnership around projects. At this early stage of the proposed project conceptualization, the project has secured co-financing commitments of USD 892,500 from different national and private sector partners, with an initial USD 35,000 from UNEP. During the project preparation phase, UNEP will define its exact additional contribution, in particular, related to UNEP's ABS program and the fledgling Inter-Governmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

C.2 HOW DOES THE PROJECT FIT INTO THE GEF AGENCY'S PROGRAM (REFLECTED IN DOCUMENTS SUCH AS UNDAF, CAS, ETC.) AND STAFF CAPACITY IN THE COUNTRY TO FOLLOW UP PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:

UNEP has long been involved in bridging ABS positions in the LAC region. The UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC) coordinates, since 2005, an ABS Working Group formed under the mandate of the 15th Forum of Environment Ministers for LAC. At this Forum, ABS was defined as a priority line of work, given the region's high value biodiversity and prominence of bioprospecting activities, and great importance was ascribed to the region's participation in shaping the CBD's International Regime. As a consequence of its role as the Working Group's Secretariat, ROLAC is viewed as a lead agent in the conduction of ABS processes in the region.

This ongoing effort has not only helped to put ABS on the region's horizon, but has also consolidated a network of actors and sectors with an interest in ABS, is linked to an important political platform in charge of setting the region's environmental agenda (the Forum of Environment Ministers) and facilitates the consideration of Traditional Knowledge in ABS discussions through the integration of both issues.

This line of work is already part of UNEP's Programme of Work (PoW) 2010-2011, and will again be reflected in the 2012-2013 PoW currently being put together. Within the framework of Environmental Governance Sub-programme, UNEP uses its expertise in environmental policy and law to (i) help governments in the development and implementation of access and benefits sharing (ABS) policies, and (ii) to build capacity for harmonized national processes to implement the CBD provisions on access to genetic resources and sharing of benefits. This project is therefore well aligned with UNEP's PoW. It is also in line with the UNEP's Division of Environmental Laws and Conventions current work in assisting national partners and Governments in providing support for regional and national ABS capacity building activities and development of biodiversity strategies and action plans that will have specific focus on ABS issues.

UNEP, as the GEF Agency implementing the project, has staff located at the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC) from both the GEF Coordination function of the Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI) and the Division of Environmental Law and Conventions (DELIC) who specialize in ABS regimes, negotiations and COP decisions. UNEP also has regional presence through ROLAC in Panama, and is the GEF Implementing Agency for the various national and regional ABS projects already approved under GEF-4.


UNOPS will be providing financial and administrative support to the executing agency. The UNOPS focus areas include environment and the Guatemala UNOPS Office is currently providing financial and administrative support to GEF-funded initiatives. UNOPS tasks will comprise administration of the project funds, employment of all project coordination staff and procurement of goods and services. UNEP through its regional presence in Panama will provide technical back stopping (theoretical and practical) to the project team

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 [Operational Focal Point endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template. For SGP, use this [OFP endorsement letter](#)).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Luis Armando Zurita Tablada	Minister of Environment and Natural Resources	ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES	08/09/2011

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF criteria for project identification and preparation.					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Maryam Niamir-Fuller Director, GEF Coordination Office, UNEP		10/11/2011	Kristin McLaughlin	1(202)974-1312	Kristin.mclaughlin@unep.org