

SIGAP

**MINISTERIO DE AMBIENTE Y RECURSOS NATURALES
GUATEMALA, C.A.**

Michon

Mr. Xavier Michon
Resident Representative a.i/
Country Director
UNDP Guatemala

November, 05th, 2009
Oficio No. MI-677/2009/LAFF-FC-pm

Fecha: 02/12/2009 Hora: _____

Recibido en Recepción por: _____

Recibido en Registro por: MA

Acción (Original): ALOROSCO

CC. _____

Observaciones: _____

Endorsement for Project Proposal: "Promoting ecotourism to strengthen the sustainability of the Guatemalan Protected Areas System (SIGAP)"

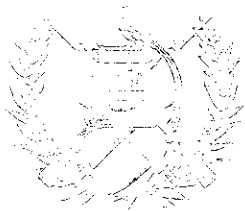
Dear Mr. Michon,

In my capacity as GEF Operational Focal Point for Guatemala, I had reviewed the draft PIF for the project "Promoting ecotourism to strengthen the sustainability of the Guatemalan Protected Areas System (SIGAP). I confirm that the above mentioned project proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities as defined in Guatemala's socio-environmental policy and the commitments made by Guatemala under main environmental. This proposal has been discussed with relevant stakeholders in accordance with GEF's policy on public involvement.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the preparation of the above project proposal with the support of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). If approved, the proposal will be prepared and implemented by the Guatemalan Council for Protected Areas, CONAP. Further I request this project to be presented through the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to the Global Environment Facility.

This proposal is especially relevant in consolidating a coherent GEF portfolio in Guatemala in terms of its different focal areas and through a territorial and targeted beneficiary approach: the Western Highland's rural, indigenous communities that are increasingly vulnerable to climate change. In order to promote the productive use of protected areas through ecotourism, this project aims to allow more income generation as well as ecosystems resilience, a strategy identified in our climate change policy as well.





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The total GEF funding requested for this project is US\$1,502,501. This amount includes the full size project, project preparation grant (PPG) and a 10% Agency fee to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) for project cycle management services associated with this project. This amount also includes the 10% Agency fee that corresponds to the PDF a grant approved under GEF 3.

I consent to the use of Guatemala's allocation for the Biodiversity Focal Area under the GEF Resource Allocation Framework –RAF-4- to cover the GEF project as long as the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources is included in the PPG as a main actor.

Biodiversity US\$1,502,501,00

Yours truly,

Luis Alberto Ferraté Felice
Minister of Environment and Natural Resources



c.c. Lioda. Francisca Cárdenas, Cooperation and International Relations Unit, Environment and Natural Resources Ministry
Lioda. Hilda María Morales, Guatemalan Council of Protected Areas, -CONAP-