

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION



United Nations Development Programme
 GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)



To: Mr. Kenneth King
 Assistant Chief Executive Officer
 GEF Secretariat

Date: 2 September 1998

Mr. Lars Vidaeus, Chief
 Global Environment Div.
 World Bank

Mr. Ahmed Djoghla
 GEF Executive Coordinator
 UNEP, Nairobi, Kenya

Fax: 202-522-3240
 202-522-3256
 2542-520-825

Pages: (6 including this sheet)

From: Richard Hosier
 Officer-in-Charge

Subject: PDF A Funding - Iran: Conservation of the Asiatic Cheeta, its natural habitat and Associated biodata

Please find attached for your review two PDF Block A requests for funding entitled ***Conservation of the Asiatic Cheeta, its natural habitat and Associated biodata***

We would appreciate receiving your comments no later than c.o.b. Thursday 10 September 1998.

Thank you.

PM

Block A PDF	
PART I – ELIGIBILITY	
1. Project name: Conservation of the Asiatic Cheetah, its natural habitat and associated biota	2. GEF Implementing Agency: UNDP
3. Country or countries in which the project is being implemented: Islamic Republic of Iran	4. Country eligibility: CBD Ratification: 6 August 1996. GEF participation since 25 May 1994
5. GEF focal area(s), and/or cross-cutting issues: Biodiversity Protection	6. Operational programme/Short-term measure: Short-term response measure
<p>7. Project linkage to national priorities, action plans, and programmes: Article 50 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran defines environmental protection as a duty for all legal and real persons, and prohibits all activity - economic or otherwise - that may result in irreparable damage to the environment. The national Environmental Protection Act of 1974, provides for strong authority in the Department of Environment (DOE) and the top policy making body "High Council for Environmental Protection". Chapter 6 of the National Strategy for Environment and Sustainable Development studies calls for, <i>inter alia</i>,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "...preparation of a management plan based on the [protected] areas' ecological capabilities and socio-economic needs of the surrounding population... as a prerequisite for management practices." [strategy One]; • "NGOs should... act as advisory and controlling bodies in relation to... protected areas." [Strategy Four]; • "...ecotourism in [protected areas] for economic gain should be promoted, as well as resource protection through proper management practices..." [Strategy Five]; • Mapping biodiversity and zoning protected areas according to biophysical capabilities, compatible and non-compatible activities of people living in the peripheries and the needs of ecotourism; maximizing community participation in management of protected areas; identifying the actual and proposed protected areas of various categories; and preparing management plans for protected areas. [Objectives and Plans of Action of same]. <p>The same document lists the Asiatic Cheetah, along with the Jebeer gazelle and the Persian wild ass among the endangered species of the Irano-Turanian biome, which covers most of the country and half of its protected areas.</p>	
<p>8. GEF national operational focal point and date of country endorsement: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 25 May 1994</p>	
<p>9. Project rationale and objectives: The project will assist in conserving a complex of rare and endangered wildlife species and their natural habitat. The flagship species is the Asiatic Cheetah (<i>Acinonyx jubatus venaticus</i>), once prevalent in south and Southwest Asia and North Africa, now limited only to parts of the semi-arid biomes of Iran. In fact the 1996 <i>IUCN Red List</i> of Threatened Animals lists the Asiatic Cheetah as "critically endangered." Six other endemic species of wild cats of Southwest Asia, which are in different states of danger, and their food pyramid, including the endangered Jebeer gazelle, and other fauna, as well as some wild rangeland plants, will also be included in the project. The most important element in the proposed action will be involving the local communities as the main actors, along with new strategies, action plans and protected areas that will be organized by DOE as government. Local community conservation and development funds will be set up as reinvestment mechanisms controlled by the local population, which will respond to both local environmental conservation needs and wealth - and income - generation for the local communities, including in the hitherto unexploited field of ecotourism, following successful experiences elsewhere in the region. In addition to the involvement of the local grassroots communities, government agencies, NGOs and international development and conservation agencies, the private sector's support will be sought both nationally and internationally. Indigenous knowledge, organization and managerial skills will be identified, revived and invoked as one of the most important pillars of action. This project will serve to forge new models of sustainable development and use of natural resources that combine an ecosystem perspective with community based social and economic need satisfaction, thus achieving one of the goals of the National Strategy for Environment and Sustainable Development.</p>	

10. Expected outcomes:

- A Collaborative Management Plan (CMP) for the Asiatic Cheetah and its associated web of biota and habitat in partnership with the local communities, the government, NGOs and the private sector, supported by appropriate international development and conservation agencies. The plan which will be implemented during the project life will also serve as a pilot experience to be extended to other habitats and biotic complexes. It will include the preparation of a biotic map with assessment of all sources of threats, and ways of overcoming them;
- A network of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) together with their Community Conservation and Development Funds that will regenerate and increase their reinvestment capacity;
- A co-operation programme with other countries in the region, especially Pakistan and Turkmenistan, which are areas of possible or periodic existence of the Asiatic Cheetah, and which still have suitable environments and elements of the relevant food chain;
- An Internet-based information and database system for the project and a more aware public;
- A national/international resource mobilization plan to bring to bear maximum support and financial resources for the improvement of the conservation status of the Cheetah and its associated biota, along with collaborative programmes of social and economic activities;
- Improved protection status for the Asiatic Cheetah and the associated biota and habitats, with a view of taking the relevant species out of the *IUCN Red List*.

11. Planned activities to achieve outcomes:

- Community mobilization using participatory techniques to design and implement the CMP, including the setting up of Community Conservation and Development Funds;
- Creation of a Joint International/National Panel of Experts/Advisory Group in relation with the existing Steering Committee for the National Biodiversity Action Plan (DOE/UNDP/GEF), and preparation of a National Conservation Plan for the Asiatic Cheetah and other Endangered Wildlife to guide partnership action;
- Preparation of a comprehensive biotic map for the Cheetah, its associated biota and habitat and conservation status including in protected areas and outside;
- Designing and setting up an Internet-based information system for the project;
- Preparation of a Resource Mobilization Plan for national and international support;
- Organizing local and national workshops and other information and awareness campaigns with media and publications activities for the general public and government employees, farmers, livestock raisers and industrial and mining workers in the areas concerned.

12. Stakeholders involved in project:

- The local communities of farmers, shepherds, mining workers and government employees;
- Government agencies concerned with conservation and development;
- Hunters, tourists and casual visitors;
- DOE game guards;
- NGOs and CBOs, both formal and informal

PART II – INFORMATION ON BLOCK A PDF ACTIVITIES**13. Activities To be financed by the PDF:**

- a) Mission by two IUCN experts, i.e. one cat specialist and one community participation expert, each for three weeks;
- b) Contribution from three national consultants each for six weeks;
- c) One/two local workshops to hear out views of local communities;
- d) A national round-table to discuss findings of international and national consultants, inter alia the determination of the baseline and incremental costs.

14. Expected outputs and completion dates: Project brief to be completed by end October 1998.

15. Other possible contributors/donors and amounts: IUCN technical backstopping (approx. \$5,000), DOE administrative and logistical support including workshop, round-table facilities (approx. \$5,000)
Total: \$10,000 in kind

16. Total budget and information on how costs will be met (including the Block A grant):

- a) Workshop \$5,000 by Government;
- b) Technical Backstopping \$5,000 by IUCN;
- c) Consultancy missions within the country \$25,000 (GEF) = \$15,000 (2 int. consultants x 3 weeks)
 - \$ 3,000 (Int. travel)
 - \$ 6,000 (3 nat. cons x 6 weeks)
 - \$ 1,000 (Misc./reporting)

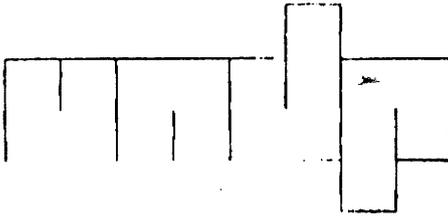
Total: \$35,000

PART III – INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANT INSTITUTION	
17. Name: Department of Environment in collaboration with IUCN and a national NGO namely CENESTA	18. Date of Establishment, membership and leadership: 1973, with over 4000 employees. Director is Ms. M. Ebtekar, the first woman Vice-President of the Republic of Iran.
19. Mandate/terms of reference: Governmental organization at ministerial level mandated to conserve environment, set environment norms and standards and monitor their implementation; carry out research/training in environment.	20. Source of revenue: Government budget
21. Recent activities/programmes, in particular those relevant to the GEF: Major partner to UNDP in implementing a \$16 million ODS phase out programme under Montreal Protocol, major partner to a Wetland Conservation Programme presently under review by GEF. Prepared a National Strategy for Sustainable Environment under Capacity 21. Counterpart to EIA project with UNDP.	

PART IV – INFORMATION TO BE COMPLETED BY IMPLEMENTING AGENCY
22. Project identification number:
23. implementing Agency contact person:
24. Project linkage to Implementing Agency programme(s):

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United Nations Development Programme
 185 Ghaem Magham Fardhani Ave., Tehran
 15868, Islamic Republic of Iran
 Tel.: +98 (21) 8732812-5
 Fax: 198 (21) 8738864
 Tlx.: 021 212397 & 224626 UNDP IR

To: Mr. Tim Boyle GEF Regional Coordinator for Biodiversity RBAP, UNDP - New York		Date : July 30, 1998	
Cc: Mr. Carlos Manuel Tito Santos		Fax No.: 11(212) 906 5825 or 5898	
From: <i>[Signature]</i> Jamid-Reza Ghaffarzadeh Assistant Resident Representative (Prog.) UNDP - Tehran		E-DIP : 067	
Signature: <i>[Signature]</i>			
Subj.: Asiatic Cheetah			
Drafter: TD	Total Pages: 2	Agency: UNDP	Project: Bio: AC

Dear Mr. Boyle,

Further to our Higgins message dated 27 July 1998, please find enclosed the letter of endorsement, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the project BDP Block "A" - Asiatic Cheetah, for your further action.

With best regards,

RECEIVED
 RBAP SECRETARY
 JUL 30
 ACTION INFORMATION
 TO:
Mr Boyle
 ACTION COMPLETED
 ACKNOWLEDGE
 NO ACTION REQ'D
 INITIALS

From :



جمهوری اسلامی ایران

وزارت امور خارجه

امور اقتصادی بین المللی

اداره شماره ۶۲۲/۸۵۲ مورخ ۱۳۷۷/۰۷/۲۸ و ضمیمه آن در خصوص متن توافقنامه همکاری برای حفاظت از تنوع زیستی و یوزپلنگ آسیایی که بین سازمان حفاظت محیط زیست و IUCN به امضاء رسیده است، به اطلاع می رسد اجرای پروژه یاد شده از نظر این اداره بلامانع می باشد.

بسمه تعالی

نمایندگی برنامه عمران ملل متحد - تهران

نسایر

با سلام، پیرو نامه شماره ۶۲۲/۸۵۲ مورخ ۱۳۷۷/۰۷/۲۸ و ضمیمه آن در خصوص متن توافقنامه همکاری برای حفاظت از تنوع زیستی و یوزپلنگ آسیایی که بین سازمان حفاظت محیط زیست و IUCN به امضاء رسیده است، به اطلاع می رسد اجرای پروژه یاد شده از نظر این اداره بلامانع می باشد.

مدیر کل امور اقتصادی و تخصصی بین المللی

پیروز حسینی
وزارت

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION

From: International Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
To: UNDP, Tehran
Date: 27 July 1998 (5.5.77)
No: 622/930

Creetings. With reference to the letter no. 622/852 dated 28/4/1377 which was attached to the signed Letter of Agreement between the Department of Environment and IUCN for "Cooperation on Conservation of Biodiversity and the Asiatic Cheetah in Iran", we hereby endorse the above mentioned project.

Piروز Hosseini
Director General
International Economic Affairs & Specialized Agencies