

KENYA
ENABLING ACTIVITY PROPOSAL IN BIODIVERSITY

Country	Kenya
Project Title	Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, and First National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity
GEF Focal Area	Biodiversity
Country Eligibility	Ratified the CBD on 26 July 1994
GEF Financing Request	US \$ 157,000
Government Contribution	In kind and personnel
GEF Implementing Agencies	World Bank and UNEP
National Executing Agency	National Environment Secretariat
GEF Operational Focal Point	National Environment Secretariat
CBD Focal Point	National Environment Secretariat
Estimated Starting Date	April 1997
Project Duration	12 months.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

Kenya lies on the eastern side of the African continent and is bisected by the Equator into two almost equal parts. The country has an area of 587,900 km² and a coastline which is 608 km long. The population of Kenya is estimated at about 25 million. Only about 20 percent live in urban areas. The population has been growing at a rapid rate of 3.5 percent per year. Kenya's people include a wide variety of ethnic groups with different languages and lifestyles. The country has diverse landforms ranging from the coastal plains, through the dry Nyika Plateau to the savanna grasslands and the highlands on both sides of the Rift Valley. The highlands which are traversed by the Rift Valley are dominated by Mount Kenya (5199 m above sea level), Aberdares or Nyandarua Range (3999 m above sea level) and Mount Elgon (4321 m above sea level). The vast expanse of northern Kenya varies from flat semi-desert in the east to the more rugged dry country west of Lake Turkana.

About 80 percent of Kenya's total area is classified as arid and semi-arid. The remaining 20 percent is of medium and high agricultural potential. This classification is based on average annual rainfall and evapotranspiration. The high and medium potential lands are utilized for crop and dairy production. The arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs) are largely used for livestock production as well as habitats for wildlife both in and outside protected areas. The medium and high potential lands contain important forested water catchments rich in biodiversity.

Kenya has biological resources that are of considerable domestic and international economic value. The country has about 35,000 known species of plants, animals and microorganisms. This number includes 24,995 described animal species. For some taxa, notably birds (1079 species) and mammals (325 species), the totals reported approximate the true species diversity. In other taxa, the majority of the species have yet to be formally described. The total number of plant species documented is 6,817 (excluding 299 species of algae), of which the majority are flowering plants.

Agriculture, livestock, fisheries and forests account for most of the subsistence and cash economy, employment and export earnings. Ecotourism, which is largely based on the presence of wildlife and the coastal ecosystems, is a key foreign exchange earner. About 8 percent of Kenya's land area has been set aside for wildlife conservation. This includes 26 National Parks and 30 National Reserves. Kenya also undertakes wildlife conservation in private, state and trust lands (lands held in trust for the benefit of

resident communities by the local government) where more than 70 percent of the wildlife animals live, outside protected areas. Some of Kenya's protected areas are internationally recognized as Biosphere Reserves, and World Heritage and Ramsar Sites. Kenya will continue to be dependent on its biodiversity for food, fuel, medicine, shelter and income.

The loss of habitat, primarily due to the expansion of agriculture and livestock grazing, ranks among the most significant threats to biodiversity conservation. Currently, several species of plants and animals (159 tree species, 71 bird species and 34 mammals) are threatened because of loss of habitat and over-exploitation. An average of 5,000 ha of the forest reserve land are being lost annually. Forest degradation through over-exploitation has led to a 50 percent loss of standing wood volume from most forest reserves over the last 3 decades. Agricultural activities up-country are the source of agro-based pollutants and silt threatening the survival of estuarine and coral reef organisms. The grim reality of the threats to Kenya's biodiversity was best demonstrated during the period 1976 to 1991 when 85 percent and 97 percent of the elephant and rhino populations respectively were wiped out due to poaching pressure. There is, therefore, an urgent need to prepare a national strategy on biodiversity conservation in Kenya and to take immediate action to implement it.

The Government of Kenya's commitment to biodiversity conservation is illustrated in the *National Environment Action Plan (NEAP)*, which was prepared and approved by the government in 1994. Biodiversity is highlighted as a major issue including forestry, wildlife, biotechnology, and indigenous knowledge. The top priority action identified under biodiversity in the NEAP is the preparation of a national biodiversity strategy to maintain, use and preserve Kenya's rich biodiversity. Kenya signed the CBD in June 1992 and ratified it on 24 July 1994. The country is also party to the Ramsar Convention, CITES, World Heritage Convention, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. Kenya has also signed the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Kenya Wildlife Service has been decentralized to eight regions and biodiversity considerations have been included in the Policy Framework Paper (1996) and the eighth National Development Plan (1997-2001). An *Environmental Management and Coordination Bill* which has been developed through a consultative process involving all stakeholder groups is at an advanced stage of preparation. This is expected to be the principal instrument for environmental and biodiversity conservation as it proposes a comprehensive legislation to replace many, sometimes conflicting, sectoral laws.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND SHORT DESCRIPTION

The principal objective of the project is to assist the Government of Kenya to prepare its *National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan*, in compliance with Articles 6 and 8 of the CBD and as a means of defining priority actions for biodiversity conservation and utilization within the context of sustainable development. The preparation of the *First National Report* to the CBD will enable Kenya to meet the obligations under Article 26 of the Convention as stipulated in Decision II/17 adopted by the second meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD (COP 2).

The *National Environment Secretariat (NES)*, in the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, will establish a multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral *Task Force* to function as a broad-based consultative and advisory group, and a *Planning Team* to coordinate and execute the implementation of this project with the assistance of national and international consultants. Key institutions will be represented in the *Planning Team*. The process of developing the *Biodiversity Strategy and National Report* will be as consultative and participatory as possible. To meet this objective, the Planning Team, with the input of the

Task Force, will organize four regional seminars and two national workshops. The first national workshop, likely to be held in Nairobi, will launch the consultative and participatory process and will set broad parameters and priorities. The regional seminars will focus on identifying and analyzing threats, constraints, challenges and opportunities for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the context of the national sustainable development plan in the following areas which have not been adequately covered by previous work: coastal and marine, arid and semi-arid lands, wetlands and agrobiodiversity. The second national workshop, likely to be held in Nairobi, will identify and synthesize key issues and options to include in NBSAP drawing on significant biodiversity-related work which has been carried out in Kenya in recent years and the results of the regional seminars and should provide a forum for engaging policy makers in the finalization of the strategy. Issues of policy, legislation, institutional framework, public participation, awareness, resource economics, and economic incentives will be addressed. The final draft of the ***Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan*** document will be presented to the Inter- Ministerial Committee on Environment (IMCE) for discussion and endorsement. The ***First National Report*** will describe the development of the ***Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan*** process and other measures taken by Kenya to implement CBD, and will be prepared by December 31, 1997.

In the initial stages of the strategy preparation process, the ***Planning Team*** will receive training from an international consultant on biodiversity analysis and planning, and review existing information on the status of and threats to biodiversity in Kenya to serve as a baseline in preparing the ***NBSAP***. The country study on biological diversity completed in 1992 and additional data gathered since then will form the basis of the review process. This review process will also be facilitated by the activities conducted to date under the Biodiversity Data Management and Networking (BDM) Project supported by UNEP and GEF.

COVERAGE WITHOUT DUPLICATION

The preparation of a ***National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan*** was identified as a priority in the Kenya National Environment Action Plan (NEAP). The Strategy will expand and complement the section on Biodiversity in the NEAP and address the recommendations contained in the document especially the need to conserve biodiversity in and outside protected areas through community-based programs. The preparation of the ***NBSAP*** will also complement the Kenya Forestry Master Plan (KFMP), the National Water Master Plan, the World Bank's Protected Areas and Wildlife Services Project and benefit from the achievements of the UNEP funded country study on biological diversity, GEF/UNDP/FAO Institutional Support for the Protection of East Africa Biodiversity (Phase I), the UNEP/GEF Biodiversity Data Management and Networking (BDM) project, the GEF Tana National Primate Reserve Project and the World Bank's Forestry Development Project. The ***NBSAP*** will provide the context for the GEF Lake Victoria Environment Management Project (LVEMP) as well as the imminent Phase II of the GEF/UNDP/FAO East African Biodiversity Project, hence there will be no duplication.

TIME PLAN AND SEQUENCING OF ACTIVITIES

The ***NBSAP*** and the ***First National Report*** will be produced over a period of 12 months according to the schedule shown below, starting in April. The project will follow to a large extent the sequence of activities recommended in the ***National Biodiversity Planning: Guidelines Based on Early Experience Around the World (WRI/UNEP/IUCN: 1995)*** as well as the ***Operational Criteria for Enabling Activities: Biodiversity (GEF: 1996)***. A draft of the First National Report will be available by June 30, 1997.

<i>Activity/Month</i>		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
1	Establishment of Task Force and Planning Team	X											
2	Training of Planning Team on Biodiversity Analysis and Planning	X	X										
3	Preparation of Work Plan	X	X										
4	Review of Existing Information		X	X									
5	First National Workshop				X								
6	Regional Seminars and Discussions				X	X	X	X					
7	Analysis and Identification of Options and Priorities							X	X				
8	Drafting of NBSAP								X	X			
9	Second National Workshop										X		
10	Finalization of NBSAP										X	X	
11	Printing and Publication of NBSAP											X	X
12	Preparation of First National Report to COP									X			

BEST PRACTICE

The methods used in the implementation of this project will follow the approaches described in the *National Biodiversity Planning: Guidelines Based on Early Experiences Around the World (WRI/UNEP/IUCN, 1995)* and comply with the best practices outlined in the *Operational Criteria for Enabling Activities: Biodiversity (GEF, 1996)*. The overall direction of this consultative and participatory process will be focused on a national consensus building. As much as possible, the project will be implemented and driven by national expertise. The lessons learned from the country study on biological diversity, the NEAP process, KFMP, and the Biodiversity Data Management and Networking (BDM) Project will be fully utilized. The *First National Report* to the CBD will be based on the information contained in the country study and the progress made in preparing the *NBSAP*.

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

The *National Environmental Secretariat (NES)* will be the lead agency for the project. The implementation of the project will be guided by the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Environment (IMCE) Sub-Committee on Biodiversity. The Sub-Committee will constitute a multi-sectoral *Task Force* to oversee

the project execution. The *Task Force* for this project shall be composed of representatives from the government, academic and other research institutions, NGOs and the private sector and is intended to function as a broad-based consultative and advisory group. NGO representation on the Task Force will be drawn from a number of on-going and related activities (i.e. The Kenya Forest Working Group, the Wetlands Working Group, etc.) The Task Force is expected to meet once every two months. A smaller and more tightly focused *Planning Team* will be responsible for the actual implementation of the project with the assistance of national and international consultants. Seven consultants will be engaged for the project. They will include an international consultant, a lead national consultant, and five thematic national consultants.

The World Bank will be the GEF Implementing Agency for preparation of the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, while UNEP will be the GEF Implementing Agency for preparation of the First National Report to the CBD. Administrative arrangements between the Implementing Agencies are subject to future agreement.

COST EFFECTIVENESS

The cost effectiveness of this proposal rests on the maximum use of the existing information and the existing capacity developed in the course of the country study on biological diversity, the NEAP, and other processes. Under the country study, Kenya completed a report on the status of her biological diversity. Elements of a national biodiversity strategy are outlined in the country study report and the NEAP document. Kenya has locally available expertise at the national and international levels. Kenya has also a high level of political and social commitment to biodiversity activities, which will enhance the process making it as participatory as possible.

DEVIATION FROM CRITERIA AND NORMS

The project does not deviate from the operational criteria and norms for GEF biodiversity enabling activities.

PROJECT FINANCING			
Activity	Product	Process	Total
<i>Stocktaking and Assessment of Existing Information</i>	5,000	5,000	10,000
<i>Identification and Analysis of Options</i>	20,000	66,000	86,000
Training for Planning Team		3,000	3,000
Regional Seminars		28,000	28,000
National Workshops		14,000	14,000
International Consultant	3,000	3,000	6,000
National Consultants	12,000	18,000	30,000
Materials and Reports	5,000		5,000
<i>Preparation of Strategy and Action Plan</i>	25,000	15,000	40,000
International Consultant	3,000	3,000	6,000
National Consultants	12,000	3,000	15,000
Task Force Consultations		4,000	4,000
Dissemination and Public Awareness		5,000	5,000
Printing and Publication	10,000		10,000
<i>First National Report</i>	11,000	0	11,000
National Consultants	5,000		5,000
Printing and Publication	6,000		6,000
<i>Coordination and Management Costs</i>	7,000	3,000	10,000
<i>Total</i>	68,000	89,000	157,000

STANDARD ACTIVITY MATRIX						7
Enabling activity commitment	Output	Capacity Building		Public participation	Comments (See notes)	
		Institutional Strengthening	Training			
Stocktaking and Assessment Based on Existing Information	UNEP/GEF				1,2,3	
Identification and Analysis of Options to Meet the Objectives of the CBD - strategies for conservation - strategies for sustainable use - strategies for benefit sharing	X X X	X X X	X X X	X X X	1,2,3,4,5,6	
Planning and preparation of NBSAP - national strategy - national action plan	X X	X X	X X	X X	4,5,6	
Preparation of the First National Report - first national report	X			X	6	

Notes and comments on the Standard Activity matrix

1. Kenya carried out a country study on biological diversity in 1992 with assistance from UNEP. This study attempted a preliminary identification of priority actions.
2. The UNEP/GEF Biodiversity Data Management and Networking (BDM) Project is currently under way and is collecting data through various initiatives.
3. Kenya completed a policy review process in 1996 with the assistance of World Bank, UNEP and UNDP. The formulation of legislation is in progress.
4. A training session for the project *Planning Team* and consultants on biodiversity analysis and planning will be conducted at the onset of the project.
5. A number of programs, strategies and measures for sustainable development in Kenya exist in documents such as the NEAP (1994), KFMP (1994) and the National Water Master Plan (1992).
6. Regional seminars and national workshops will be conducted to ensure public participation and to enhance the national ownership of the *NBSAP*. Four planned regional seminars will seek to involve as many stakeholder groups as possible including regional government departments, local institutions, local NGOs, community based organizations, community leaders and the private sector. The estimated number of participants in each seminar is 40. The *NBSAP* and the *First National Report* to CBD will be distributed as widely as possible in the country.

Additional Notes Related to this Enabling Activity Proposal

It is expected that advisory services will be required from a *Biodiversity Conservation Specialist* (internationally recruited), a lead *National Coordinator*, and five *Thematic Consultants*.

The internationally-recruited *Biodiversity Conservation Specialist* will supervise the technical management of the *NBSAP* process; plan and conduct training sessions in biodiversity analysis and planning; give technical assistance in the organization and planning of regional seminars and national workshops; address issues of policy, legislation, institutional framework, public participation and awareness, resource economics and economic incentives; and provide guidance in the preparation of *NBSAP* document and the *First National Report*.

The *National Coordinator* will: coordinate the review of existing information and all aspects of the *NBSAP* and the *First National Report* including seminars and workshops; coordinate the activities of the thematic consultants; undertake responsibility for material and financial management; act as secretary to the *Planning Team*; and prepare and edit the final *NBSAP* document and the *First National Report*.

Thematic national consultants will be employed to provide support services and technical expertise in the following areas: genes and species; freshwater and marine ecosystems; arid and semi-arid lands; forests; and agrobiodiversity. The consultants will conduct a review of existing information, identifying threats to biodiversity and the gaps in the information available; determine goals and objectives for biodiversity conservation; analyze and select specific measures to address the threats and to close the gaps identified in the review; address issues of policy, legislation, institutional framework, public participation, awareness, resource economics and economic incentives; identify potential roles of all the stakeholder groups; determine which public and private organizations will implement which activities in which location or region, by what means and with which funds, and set a time for action; present findings at regional seminars and national workshops and obtain inputs from these meetings; and prepare components of the *NBSAP* document and the *First National Report*.

Two *national workshops* are planned for the *NBSAP* process. The first workshop will launch the detailed participatory and consultative process and set broad parameters and priorities. The second workshop will identify and synthesize key issues and options to include in *NBSAP* drawing on significant biodiversity-related work which has been carried out in Kenya in recent years and the results of the regional seminars and discuss drafts of *NBSAP* document and the *First National Report*. The national workshops will draw together the full range of actors involved in biodiversity in Kenya including government institutions, universities, NGOs, and representatives of communities and the private sector. The estimated number of participants in each workshop is 60.

Four *regional seminars* are planned for the *NBSAP* process. The seminars will be held in different parts of Kenya to cover areas which have not been addressed adequately by previous work such as coastal and marine, arid and semi-arid lands, wetlands and agrobiodiversity. The regional seminars will serve as a mechanism to identify and analyze the threats, constraints, challenges, and opportunities for biodiversity conservation; prioritize areas for biodiversity conservation and management to target investments at the local level; and to reach a consensus on acceptable targets and mechanisms. The regional seminars will involve as many stakeholder groups as possible including regional government departments, local institutions, local NGOs, community based organizations, community leaders and the private sector. The estimated number of participants in each seminar is 40.