



PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

PROJECT TYPE: Medium-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF Trust Fund

Submission date: March 28, 2012

GEF PROJECT ID: 4844

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID: 4934

COUNTRY(IES): Kyrgyzstan

PROJECT TITLE Improving the coverage and management effectiveness of PAs in the Central Tian Shan Mountains

GEF AGENCY(IES): UNDP

GEF FOCAL AREA(S): Biodiversity

A. PROJECT PREPARATION TIMEFRAME

Start date of PPG	1 May 2012
Completion date of PPG	1 May 2013

B. PROPOSED PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES

Describe the PPG activities and justifications:

The PPG process will engage stakeholders and will support activities that will inform the preparation of the complete project document and CEO Endorsement Request for the Medium-Size Project (MSP) “*Improving the coverage and management effectiveness of PAs in the Central Tian Shan Mountains*”. This document will be submitted to the GEF following further information gathering and stakeholder consultation, and will be accompanied by co-financing letters in line with pledges made in the PIF. The respective partners and co-financers will be fully engaged in the project design phase; one-on-one consultations, working group meetings, and project development workshops will be convened for the purpose, as appropriate. The project partners listed as co-financiers in the PIF will have ensured proportional co-funding for the PPG, and will fully participate in the preparation of the medium-size project documentation. In this way the involvement of co-financing partners will be ensured. The PPG activities will consolidate and supplement the existing information supplied in the PIF on the state of biodiversity and protected area system in Kyrgyzstan and specifically in Central Tian Shan Mountains, as well as in the economic landscapes around and between the protected areas in Central Tian Shan. The PPG will address comments of the GEF Secretariat made at the PIF stage. The PPG activities will take into account the lessons learnt from previous UNDP-GEF projects in Kyrgyzstan, and initiatives of other agencies and donors relevant to the subject matter of the project. The project’s technical feasibility and economic viability will be assessed, as will the risks associated with its implementation. In order to achieve these objectives, the PPG has been organized into the following components and activities:

Component 1. Detailed assessment of the policy, regulatory and methodological setting of the project. Preparatory activities under this component will result in the following outputs: (i) information gathered and policy and regulatory gaps defined in regard to planning, operating and expanding the protected area system in Central Tian Shan, including establishment and operation of buffer zones and corridors: analysis of the relevant laws, regulations, policies and programmes, taking note of the best international practices; (ii) confirmation of policy and regulatory gaps to be addressed by the project and definition of entry points of the project; (iii) detailed definition of the baseline programs.

Activities to achieve the above PPG outputs include:

- Assessment of the current state of protection of biodiversity in Central Tian Shan, focusing on flagship species (e.g. Snow Leopard, Argali), and their habitats. Development of an action plan (with activities, roles and responsibilities) for the expansion of PAs in the Central Tian Shan;
- Detailed description of pressures from human activities on the ecosystems of Central Tian Shan; quantification of their impacts in terms of species and habitat loss, habitat fragmentation;
- Assessment of the strengths, weaknesses, existing clauses and gaps within the legal and regulatory framework governing establishment of buffer zones and corridors;
- Analysis of legislative, policy and methodological approach for engagement of communities / local people in the management of natural resources in Central Tian Shan, in and around protected areas.
- Detailed description of the two national baseline programs used in the project;
- Definition of the strategic entry points for the implementation of such project outputs as Outputs 2.1 (legal and regulatory basis for buffer zones and corridors), 1.4 (biodiversity monitoring system), 2.3 (adjustment of territorial plans), 2.2 (introduction of buffer zones): identification of new regulations and standards required; monitoring requirements and enforcement mechanisms;
- Definition of tools to be used for biodiversity monitoring (Output 1.4).

Component 2. Assessment of the capacity of different agencies to support the implementation of project activities. This PPG component is designed to ensure that implementation arrangements, partnership strategies and capacities are in place and adequate for the successful project implementation and its sustainability. As such it is relevant to all outputs of the MSP, but especially for Outputs 1.2 (vocational training), 1.3 (METT), 2.4 (work with communities). The funding support from the PPG will be used to conduct: (i) stakeholder analysis: roles, functions and/or responsibilities of the key stakeholder institutions and groups (Ministries, agencies, scientific institutes, local authorities, local herders, farmers, NGOs, CSOs and local communities); (ii) assessment of capacity constraints (including NGOs, CSOs and local communities) in supporting and/or implementing project activities and capacity building needs and measures to address these needs. Further, the focus of this assessment will be on identifying potential incentives and the capacity development needs of the various stakeholder groups to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of the project interventions and results beyond the term of the project.

The activities will include:

- Analysis of the roles, functions and responsibilities of different players (governmental, farmers, research, UNDP supported financial mechanisms / institutions (such as those promoted through the UNDP Area Based Development baseline program), NGOs/CSOs) with respect to regulating, planning, implementing activities affecting sound management of ecosystems in Central Tian Shan;
- Analysis of the level of interest and support/resistance from the main stakeholders for introduction of protected areas, buffer zones and corridors in Central Tian Shan. This will contribute to the risks management strategy of the project.
- Define the vocational training output (ref. Output 1.2): who will be trained, for which subjects. Define the institution which will be the host for such trainings, and which will commit to continue funding the trainings after the project.
- Define the action sequence and budget for Output 1.3 – training workshops for local authorities.
- Define the capacity constraints and process for introduction of METT as a system to measure PA effectiveness (Output 1.3).
- Definition of the capacity of the key national stakeholders to implement and sustain the proposed project activities, with recommendations for capacity building activities to be supported by the project, with particular focus on NGOs and communities;
- Feasibility analysis of different options for the implementation of the project activities and project governance. This will include the selections and detailed description of the preferred implementation and governance arrangements for the project. A stakeholder Involvement plan and a Public Participation plan will be developed and agreed;
- Action plan for incorporation of gender aspects in the project, with quantifiable baseline and target indicators, as per GEF and UNDP guidance. In line with STAP comments, consider gender differentiation issues when designing site-specific activities.

Component 3. The specifics of on-the-ground action on protected areas, buffer zones, corridors and restoration designed in detail. The focus under this component will be on designing the implementation measures for the project sites. The preparatory activities under this component will provide a substantive basis for defining the detailed barrier-removal strategy and the specifics of the on-the-ground activities. The PPG results will be: (i) the territory for the establishment of the new protected area under Output 1.1 (Khan Tengri) is confirmed, described and action plans for its establishment finalized; (ii) measures and budgets defined for patrolling, enforcement and surveillance systems at the two target sites (Khan Tengri and Sarychat Ertash, ref. Outputs 1.2.1 and 1.2.2); (iii) geographic and operational parameters confirmed for the expected buffer zones and corridors (ref. Output 2.2); (iv) menu of land use changes to be introduced in the buffer zones and corridors (ref. Output 2.3); (v) detailed activity plans for implementation of alternative livelihood program (ref. Output 2.5); (vi) completed BD METT tracking tool for two sites, including respective baselines, indicators and targets to measure project progress.

The activities will include:

- Finalized description of the new protected area (Khan Tengri) and draft feasibility study for its establishment (ref. Output 1.1). Preparing maps, initial economic and ecological studies, management requirements checklists (human resources, equipment, infrastructure).
- Description of activities and budget to support the patrolling, enforcement and surveillance systems at Khan Tengri and Sarychat Ertash (ref. Output 1.2). The focus is:
 - For Sarychat Ertash (existing PA): establishment of joint anti-poaching teams between Park authorities and local communities (horse-mounted rangers groups)
 - For Khan Tengri (new PA): creation of a Local Management Board and joint ranger groups to enforce anti-poaching, fire prevention, resource use regulations, control over species and habitat management activities.
- Prepare action plan for introduction of the buffer zones and corridors (Output 2.2),
- Landscapes surrounding the new and expanded PAs in Central Tian Shan where land use plans will be changed: which administrative districts will be covered; what is going to be the step-by-step process for adjusting their territorial plans to eliminate threats to biodiversity (ref. Output 2.3).
- Provide detailed action plans and budgets for (ref. Output 2.3):
 - upgrade of the status of high value forests adjacent to Khan Tengri PA, - which forests will be upgraded, where and through what procedure.
 - restoration and maintenance of access roads to raise the mobility of livestock and balance livestock grazing pressure in mountain ecosystems, define a list of roads and map.
 - rehabilitation of degraded rangelands through improved local pasture management plans. Define clearly which lands

- needs rehabilitation, provide the budget and initial sequence of actions to implement the rehabilitation.
- introduction of regulated timing, places and methods of hunting – clarify at which areas, and with what budgets.
- Confirm the feasibility and describe the actions needed to implement the Alternative livelihood program (Output 2.5) *(to be included in MSP as an annex)*:
 - Feasibility study: prove the demand and supply for the proposed types of activities (apiculture, yak breeding, and community-based ecotourism), taking into account the operational and market risks as described in the PIF Risks table.
 - Confirm partnership with UNDP, WWF and SGP. Define institutional roles and responsibilities,
 - Micro-crediting or other crediting/grant conditions to be used defined (interest, duration, template of contract with recipients).
 - Criteria for identification and assessment of on-the-ground activities that will be eligible for support.
 - Marketing plan prepared in draft for the advertisement and support of the facility at the MSP stage.
 - Funding of this output clarified: what funding comes from UNDP, any funding that is to be used from GEF and for which incrementally valuable activities.
 - Produce a forecast of the impact of the introduction of the scheme on species and habitat in Central Tian Shan.
 - Based on the above, finalize the Action Plan for the introduction of the alternative livelihoods program, and produce it as an Annex to the MSP project document submitted to GEF
- Prepare the two METTs for the target sites.. This will include detailed description of the baseline and setting the respective indicators for each of the tracking tools.

Component 4. Feasibility analysis and budget. The key four outputs of these component can be summarized as follows: (i) detailed project strategy, including incremental cost analysis, cost-effectiveness, and risks; (ii) detailed budget, (iii) detailed monitoring and evaluation plan; (iv) BD benefits quantified alongside with other global environmental and local socio-economic benefits.

The activities will include:

- Detailed incremental-cost analysis as per GEF guidance: precise definition of baseline projects, activities, budgets, goals and co-financial links to GEF outcomes; definition of GEF incremental value per outcome and output; presentation of results of the incremental cost-analysis in matrices;
- Thorough risk analysis and development of risk mitigation strategy for the project;
- Development of the project monitoring and evaluation plan, and budget;
- Costing the expected project outcomes and outputs, identify co-financing sources and secure co-financing commitments (letters).

Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Outputs of the PPG Activities	Trust Fund	Grant Amount (a)	Co-financing (b)	Total c = a + b
Component 1. Detailed assessment of policy and regulatory settings of the project.	(i) information gathered and policy and regulatory gaps defined in regard to planning, operating and expanding the protected area system in Central Tian Shan, including establishment and operation of buffer zones and corridors: analysis of the relevant laws, regulations, policies and programmes, taking note of the best international practices; (ii) confirmation of policy and regulatory gaps to be addressed by the project and definition of entry points of the project; (iii) detailed definition of the baseline programs.	GEFTF	5,000	34,000	39,000
Component 2. Assessment of the capacity of different agencies to support the implementation of project activities.	(i) stakeholder analysis: roles, functions and/or responsibilities of the key stakeholder institutions and groups (Ministries, agencies, scientific institutes, local authorities, local herders, farmers, NGOs, CSOs and local communities); (ii) assessment of capacity constraints (including NGOs, CSOs and local communities) in supporting and/or implementing project activities and capacity building needs and measures to address these needs. Further, the focus of this assessment will be on identifying potential incentives and the capacity development needs of the various stakeholder groups to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of the project interventions and results beyond the term of the project.	GEFTF	10,000	52,000	62,000
Component 3. Specifics of on-the-ground actions	(i) the territory for the establishment of the new protected area under Output 1.1 (Khan Tengri) is confirmed, described and action plans for its establishment finalized; (ii) measures and budgets defined for patrolling, enforcement and surveillance systems at the two target sites (Khan Tengri and Sarychat Ertash, ref.Outputs 1.2.1 and 1.2.2); (iii) geographic and operational parameters confirmed for the expected buffer zones and corridors (ref. Output 2.2); (iv) menu of land use changes to be introduced in the buffer zones and corridors (ref.Output 2.3); (v) detailed activity plans for implementation of alternative	GEFTF	14,000	80,000	94,000

	livelihood program (ref. Output 2.5); (vi) completed BD METT tracking tool for two sites, including respective baselines, indicators and targets to measure project progress				
Component 4. Feasibility analysis and budget.	(i) detailed project strategy, including incremental cost analysis, cost-effectiveness, and risks; (ii) detailed budget, (iii) detailed monitoring and evaluation plan; (iv) BD benefits quantified alongside with other global environmental and local socio-economic benefits	GEFTF	21,000	55,000	76,000
Total Project Preparation Financing			50,000	221,000	271,000

C. FINANCING PLAN SUMMARY FOR PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT: (\$)

	Project Preparation	Agency Fee
Grant Amount	50,000	5,000
Co-financing	221,000	
Total	271,000	5,000

D. PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), FOCAL AREA(S) AND COUNTRY(IES)¹

NA

E. PPG BUDGET


Cost Items	Total Estimated Person Weeks for Grant (PW)	Grant Amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)**	Total(\$)
Local consultants*	77	24,900	65,000	89,900
International consultants*	7	21,000	50,000	71,000
Travel		4,100	41,000	45,100
Other**			65,000	65,000
Total PPG Budget		50,000	221,000	271,000

* Annex A for Consultant cost details was prepared first before completing this table. This table is the sum of all local and international consultants presented in Annex A.

** Co-financing for "Other" covers cash and in-kind inputs from project partners directly associated with preparation of the GEF project. These are subcontracts to institutions issued for: (1) production of mapping material for the targeted protected area sites (USD 17,000); (2) regional stakeholder consultations (USD 11,000), (3) PR materials on the subject matter of the project (USD 15,000), (4) marketing studies for the ABD program (10,000), (5) renting office space; office supplies and communal services (stationery, water, electricity, etc.); equipment; communications (internet, phones); and technical maintenance of office equipment (USD 12,000).

F. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the GEF LDCE/SCCF Trust Fund criteria for project identification and preparation.

Agency Coordinator, Agency Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Yannick Glemarec, UNDP/GEF Executive Coordinator		March 28, 2012	Maxim Vergeichik, Regional Technical Advisor, EBD	+421 359 428 152	maxim.vergeichik@undp.org

Annex A

Consultants Financed by the Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Type of Consultant	Position / Titles	\$/Person Week ¹	Estimated PWs ²	Tasks to be Performed
Local	Protected area specialist and team leader	350	36	<p>This is the key expert and team leader. He/she coordinates the work of all other national and international consultants, is responsible for quality control and preparation of all reports and documentation in time:</p> <p>Overall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develops, with the support of the the international landscape ecosystems policy and capacity development specialist, an initial PPG inception report detailing the practical steps required to develop the full sized project proposal, including an overall workplan and detailed TORs and workplans for all local consultants - Coordinates project preparation with all partners engaged (co-financiers, local authorities, Government). - Guides the work of consultants and subcontractors and oversee compliance with the agreed work plan; - Develops a risk analysis table, and development of risk mitigation strategy for the project to be reviewed by the international expert. - Develops a plan for the replication of project activities, assisted by the international expert. - Designs project monitoring and evaluation plan, and budget, building on information from all national experts, and jointly with the international expert. - Develops a costing table for all expected project outcomes and outputs, - Finalizes the project logical framework, with particular emphasis on ecological indicators, bird & mammals. - Monitors PPG expenditures, commitments and balance of funds under the project budget lines, and draft project budget revisions; Liaise with project partners to ensure their co-financing contributions are provided within the agreed terms; <p>Protected areas development /species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develops a description of the social, economic and financial sustainability of proposed project activities. - Compiles a detailed description of pressures from human activities on targeted ecosystems in Central Tian Shan. - Prepares an assessment of the current state of protection of Tian Shan ecosystems. - Coordinates the development of the establishment of the new protected area in Khan Tengri, defines the sequence of action for its establishment (with activities, roles and responsibilities); - Writes an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of legal and regulatory framework governing creation of buffer zones and corridors - Assesses engagement of communities in the management of desert landscapes. Analysis of programmes, plans and specific tools (such as buffer zones and corridors) for effective engagement of communities in conservation activities in desert landscapes; - Prepare the draft of the quantified description of the global environmental benefits of the project, to be finalized by the international expert.; - Prepares METTs for the two target sites. <p>Stakeholder capacity assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordinates the development of the stakeholder involvement plan, - Feasibility analysis of different options for the implementation of the project activities and project governance. This will include the selections and detailed description of the preferred implementation and governance arrangements for the project. - Describes roles, functions and responsibilities of different players (governmental, farmers, research, financial institutions (with assistance from

				<p>UNDP), NGOs/CSOs) with respect to regulating, planning, implementing activities affecting sound management of desert ecosystems;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Defines the capacity of the key national stakeholders to implement and sustain the proposed project activities, including recommendations for building capacity integration into the project design; - Analyzes the levels of interest and support/resistance from the main stakeholders for introduction of the landscape approach to desert management. This will contribute to the risks management strategy of the project, among other things. - Defines activities and budgets for the training outputs - Drafts an initial Action plan for incorporation of gender aspects in the project, with quantifiable baseline and target indicators, as per GEF and UNDP guidance.
Local	Expert on agricultural land uses	300	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist in defining and describing threats to species stemming from unsustainable agricultural land use in Central Tian Shan - Assists in preparing actions and budgets for the introduction of buffer zones and corridors - Provides recommendations for legal and regulatory amendments to enable introduction of buffer zones and corridors - Defines project strategy with respect to introduction of changes in the district territorial plans in Khan Tengri and Sarychat Ertash with the view to eliminate threats to biodiversity - Works with team leader and international consultants to complete METTs - Assists the expert on sustainable livelihoods in the feasibility study on the alternative land uses - Assists the team leader in the studies on the zonation of the future national park. - Assist in quantifying the BD impacts of the project with respect to management of non-forest habitats
Local	Forestry and biodiversity expert	300	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Defines project activities aiming at the strengthening and restoring targeted forest areas - Defines a sequence of actions on upgrade of the current forests in Central Tian Shan to higher levels of protection - Assists in the definition of baseline activities and in raising co-financing from the forest using institutions - Helps to define the project strategy with respect to introduction of changes in the district territorial plans in Khan Tengri and Sarychat Ertash as long as these relate to forest use - Assists the team leader and international consultant in completing the METTs - Assists the expert on sustainable livelihoods in the feasibility study on the alternative land uses - Assists the team leader in the studies on the zonation of the future national park. - Assist in quantifying the BD impacts of the project with respect to management of forest habitats.
Local	Economic expert / expert on sustainable livelihoods	300	11	<p>Leads on the feasibility study for the alternative livelihoods output and describes the actions needed to implement the Alternative livelihood program (Output 2.5) (to be included in MSP as an annex). The responsibilities of the expert include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feasibility study: prove the demand and supply for the proposed types of activities (apiculture, yak breeding, and community-based ecotourism), taking into account the operational and market risks as described in the PIF Risks table. - Confirm partnership with UNDP, WWF and SGP. Define institutional roles and responsibilities, - Micro-crediting or other crediting/grant conditions to be used defined (interest, duration, template of contract with recipients). - Criteria for identification and assessment of on-the-ground activities that will be eligible for support. - Marketing plan prepared in draft for the advertisement and support of the facility at the MSP stage. - Funding of this output clarified: what funding comes from UNDP, any funding that is to be used from GEF and for which incrementally valuable activities. - Produce a forecast of the impact of the introduction of the scheme on

				<p>species and habitat in Central Tian Shan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Based on the above, finalize the Action Plan for the introduction of the alternative livelihoods program, and produce it as an Annex to the MSP project document submitted to GEF - Supports the development of detailed incremental-cost analysis as per GEF guidance: - Assists in the development of the presentation of the socio-economic benefits of the proposed interventions at national and local levels
International	Landscape ecosystems policy and capacity development specialist	3,000	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compiles and shares with the national PPG team and stakeholders the international best experience in policy development, legal and regulatory frameworks and enforcement systems for protected area management and connectivity instruments, such as buffer zones and corridors; - Provide support and guidance to the team leader in both planning and management of the PPG implementation and in regard to technical tasks. - Based on the inputs from national experts and in close cooperation with the key national stakeholders compiles final baseline/situational analysis for the MSP. This will include a precise definition of baseline projects, activities, budgets, goals and co-financial links to GEF outcomes; definition of GEF incremental value per outcome and output; presentation of results of the incremental cost-analysis in matrices. - Based on the inputs from national experts and the best international practice, prepares a quantified assessment of global environmental benefits for BD. - Based on the international experience, assists in reconfirming/specifying the project strategy, finalizing project sections on: (a) An assessment of the social, economic and financial sustainability of proposed project activities; (b) Assessment of alternatives to the project strategy and establishing the cost effectiveness of the preferred strategy and suite of activities; (c) A replication strategy for project activities; (d) Assessment of the risks to the proposed project activities and identifying measure to mitigate these risks; (e) incremental cost analysis; - Based on national experts inputs, develops project monitoring and evaluation system for the MSP including the completed tracking tool for BD (METTs), including a set of indicators, baselines and targets. - Elaborates a Logical Framework of the project. - Prepares M&E plan and budget. - Based on national experts input, elaborates Stakeholder Involvement and Public Participation plans, along with an action plan for incorporation of the gender aspects in the project. - Based on national experts inputs, drafts ToRs for the key consultants/contracts to be employed by the project.

¹ Dollar amount per person week.

² Person weeks needed to carry out the task