



**PROJECT DEVELOPMENT FACILITY
REQUEST FOR PDF BLOCK A FOR MSP**

AGENCY'S PROJECT ID: 3217

GEFSEC PROJECT ID: 3192

COUNTRY: Kyrgyzstan

COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY: CBD ratification July 26, 1996.

PROJECT TITLE: Conservation of endemic ichthyofauna of the Issyk-Kul lake basin

GEF AGENCY: UNDP

OTHER EXECUTING AGENCY: ALIFSD (NGO execution)

DURATION: Estimated 5 years

GEF FOCAL AREA: Biodiversity

GEF OPERATIONAL PROGRAM: OP 2 Coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems

GEF STRATEGIC PRIORITY: SP2 Mainstreaming BD in Production

ESTIMATED STARTING DATE: November 2004

FINANCING PLAN (US\$)	
GEF PROJECT	
PDF A	25,000
<i>Sub-Total GEF</i>	25,000
CO-FINANCING	
GEF Agency	9,050
National Contribution	
In Kind (ALIFSD – NGO)	2,100
Others	
<i>Sub-Total Co-financing:</i>	11,150
<i>Total PDF Financing:</i>	36,150

RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT:

*Mr. Kanat Januzakov, GEF Operational Date: June 25, 2004
Focal Point, Deputy Minister of Ecology
and Emergencies*

This proposal has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the standards of the GEF Project Review Criteria for PDF Block A approval.

Frank Pinto
UNDP/GEF Executive Coordinator
Date: February 1, 2005

Mr. Nick Remple
Project Contact Person
Tel. and email: (421 2) 59337 458
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PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

1. PROJECT LINKAGE TO NATIONAL PRIORITIES, ACTION PLANS AND PROGRAMS

The project is a priority according to the Biodiversity Protection Strategy (1998)¹. Specifically, the NBSAP has Issyk-Kul Lake as a priority in the areas of "In-situ conservation", and "Environmental Education and Public Awareness". The area has also been identified as of importance in the National Action Plan on Environmental Protection (1998) and was declared a Biosphere Reserve in 2000.

2. PROJECT RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVES

The Issyk-Kul Lake is a Ramsar site of globally significant biodiversity and the site of a Biosphere Reserve. It is located approximately 160 km east of Bishkek, the Kyrgyz capital (see location in Annex 1). The project site contains highly endemic ichthyofauna biodiversity, as shown in the list below:

Latin	English	Characteristics
<i>Salmo issyko-gegarkuni</i> Lushin	Sevan Trout	
<i>Salmo gairdneri</i> Rich	Rainbow Trout	
<i>Coregonus lavaretus ludoga</i> Poljakov	Common Whitefish	
<i>Leuciscus sehmidtii</i> Her	Schmid's Dace	Endemic and threatened
<i>Leuciscus bergi</i> Kashkarov	Issyk-Kul Dace	Endemic and threatened
<i>Phoxinus ph. poljakovi</i> (ph. <i>issykkulensis</i> Berg)	Balkhash Minnow	Endemic and threatened
<i>Gobio gobio latus</i> Anikin	Issyk-Kul Gudgeon	Endemic and threatened
<i>Tinca tinca</i> L.	Tench	
<i>Schizothorax pseudoaxaensis issykkuli</i> Pivnev	Issyk Kul Marinka	Endemic and threatened
<i>Diptychus dybowskii</i> Kessler	Nacked Osman	Endemic and threatened
<i>Alburnoides taeniatus</i> Kessler	Striped Bystranka	
<i>Abramis brama orientalis</i> Berg	Bream	
<i>Carassius auratus gibelio</i> (Bloch)	Goldfish	
<i>Cyprinus carpio</i> L.	Carp	
<i>Pseudorasbora parva</i> (Schlegel)	False Harlequin	
<i>Nemachilus stoliczkai elegans</i> (Kessl.)	Tianshan Stone Loach	
<i>Nemachilus dorsalis</i> (Kessl.)	Grey Loach	
<i>Nemachilus strauchi ulacholicus</i> Anikin	Spotted Thicklip Loach	Endemic and threatened
<i>Leucioperca leucioperca</i> L.	Zander	

Some of these species, including 2 of the endemic, are highly endangered. There two causes for that. The first is overfishing, which takes place throughout the whole year, including the spawning period. The second cause is the past introduction of alien species into the lake, particularly the Sevan trout and pikeperch, which prey on all other species including the endemic and endangered ones.

¹ See the NBSAP at http://www.undp.org/bpsp/nbsap_links/nbsap_links.htm

There are no other threats to fish species in Issyk-Kul lake than the present patterns of fishing and introduction of exotics. The water quality in the lake is currently very good, and there are no pollution problems of significance affecting fish populations. There are no concerns about cross border water management problems as the entire lake basin is in Kyrgyzstan. There are no projects or discussions to extract water from the lake for other purposes (e.g. expansion of agriculture) than the current supply to local communities. Economic activities around Issyk-Kul Lake are not of an industrial nature and the population density is low. Tourism is not a threat to the conservation of the lake. The number of tourists coming to Kyrgyzstan is still low, and most of them come for trekking and/or climbing. In summary, the long-term preservation of endemic species in Issyk-Kul Lake depends on making the fishery sector biodiversity friendly.

The population around the lake engages in livestock breeding, agriculture, tourism services and fishing. The contribution of fishing to average annual family income is on average 5-10% though for some groups can go up to 30%. Its importance is also seasonal, as in winter other sources of income are mainly on stand-by. The livelihood strategy of the population is to accumulate grain and savings in summer months and live off this stock during winter. A number of families complement the consumption of savings and grain stocks with winter fishing.

The objective of the project is to make the fishing activity in Issyk-Kul Lake biodiversity friendly. The project plans to do that by:

1. Defining and implementing a new fishing regime in the lake. This new regime would redirect fishing pressure to non-endangered species and, in general, would bring fishing back to sustainable levels. The new regime, which could comprise the gradual introduction of a selective fishing ban on endemic and endangered, would be flexible and based on the fact that endangered and non-endangered species do not always have similar spawning periods or similar migration patterns within the Lake basin. It is also estimated that one of the endemic species shows population levels critically low and requires short-term hatchery support for long-term survival. There exist a local facility for hatchery purposes as well as local technical staff. These could need external technical and capital support to ensure a successful reproduction program.
2. As a key component of a new fishing regime, a ban on further introductions of exotics will be applied and observed. Various other measures are to be applied as well on earlier introduced exotic populations. Species such as Sevan trout (*Salmo issykogegarkuni Lushin*) and Common Whitefish (*Coregonus lavaretus ludoga Poljakov*) have fisheries value and are not considered to be a significant threat to endemics – as such, their populations will be maintained at appropriate levels. Extirpation of these two species would redirect pressures to endangered endemics. Populations of the remaining exotic species will be reduced by redirecting fishing pressures to them and away from endemics and endangered species via deliberate culling, fishing at particularly vulnerable periods, destruction of selected habitats, etc. Populations of specific species might also be kept at specific levels, providing attractive prey for exotic predators, which would ease pressures on endemics. Populations of Zander

(*Leucioperca leucioperca* L.), the most aggressive predator, will be reduced as much as possible to extirpation. This measure by itself will provide relief to endemic species of Issyk-Kul Lake. The new fishing regime, which would be of an adaptive nature, would be designed in consultation with local stakeholders.

3. Increasing capacity of the local population to comply with the new fishing regime. The alternative regime will require the gradual introduction of some restrictions on fishing periods and areas. The project would undertake a wide public awareness campaign about the contents and purposes of the new fishing regime, emphasizing the short, medium and long term-benefits of the regime.
4. Increasing institutional capacities for management and enforcement. At present, the local capacities for management and monitoring of fishing activities are weak and fragmented among a number of local agencies. As a pilot initiative, the Government has recently issued a decree authorizing the Oblast (regional government) to merge these local agencies so as to unify responsibilities for management and enforcement. It is not clear yet the final shape of this reorganization, nor the responsibilities of the Biosphere Reserve. The project will assist the Oblast in strengthening local institutional capacity.

3. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The project outcomes are the following:

1. Fishing pressure on endemic and endangered species brought down to levels compatible with long-term sustainability
2. Population numbers of endemic species increased above critically low thresholds.
3. The majority of the population follows the fishing patterns allowed by the new fishing regime

Outcome indicators will be developed during PDF-A.

4. PLANNED OUTPUTS TO ACHIEVE OUTCOMES

The project outputs are the following:

1. A new fishing regime defined and incorporated into the Biosphere Reserve management plan
2. The fishing regime is formally reflected on a new regulation approved by the authorities of the Issyk-Kul Oblast regarding the use of fishing resource in Issyk-Kul Lake
3. An effective institutional framework for management and enforcement of fishing regimes in Issyk-Kul Lake.
4. A technical capacity and public awareness campaigns designed and implemented

5. A program of support to the Biosphere Reserve Administration on artificial reproduction programs designed and implemented

Output indicators will be developed during PDF-A.

5. STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN PROJECT

1. *The Administration of the Issyk-Kul Biosphere Reserve.*
2. *The State Forestry Service (SFA).* It is the national agency in charge of biodiversity conservation and management of protected areas. The SFA will be the executing agency of the project and its locally developed facilities and structures such as the Issyk-Kul Biosphere Reserve will be actively involved into project development.
3. The “*Alliance of Local Initiatives Facilities for Sustainable Development of Communities and Environment*”. This Association of NGOs is applicant of this project proposal and has a locally developed network of its members and partners and all together has an active record of work in the Issyk-Kul Lake and region.
4. *State Fish Inspection under Ministry of Agriculture*
5. *Issyk-Kul Biostation of National Academy of Sciences of KR*
6. *Ton, Grigorievka, and Karakol fish factories*
7. *Issyk-Kul regional administration*
8. GTZ. The German Agency for Technical Cooperation will contribute resources to the project. A letter of intention is available upon request.
9. UNDP. The agency will be the GEF implementing agency.

PART II: INFORMATION ON BLOCK A ACTIVITIES

6. EXPECTED OUTCOMES/COSTS AND COMPLETION DATES OF THE PDF A

The PDF-A will finance the following activities:

1. The implementation of a baseline socio-economic survey. This survey will contain sections on (i) income/expenditures, sources of income and general household characteristics; (ii) livelihood security, particularly food security; and (iii) general perceptions and attitudes. The objective of the survey is to provide information about the socio-economic conditions of families, their reliance on fishing, and their expected responses to the introduction of new fishing regimes.
2. The implementation of a consultation process with the local stakeholders about the introduction of new fishing regimes. The PDF-A will undertake a series of village meetings to discuss local perceptions about overfishing and alternatives to restore endangered populations back to sustainable numbers. The meetings will involve representatives of the villages, general public, local authorities, scientific institutes and private companies holding fishing licenses. This consultation process will take place once the household survey has been completed.
3. The development of a draft fishing regime for Issyk-Kul Lake. The PDF-A will finance the completion of an advance draft of a new fishing regime. While it is likely that some gaps will be filled out during project implementation stage, the draft document will provide enough information about the nature and extent of the proposed fishing regime.
4. The functioning of a project implementation unit (PIU). The PDF-A will finance a small PIU for 6 months.
5. Preparation of the MSP document. The PDF-A will pay for the development of the MSP document according to UNDP/GEF requirements.

Component, cost and completion dates

Activity	Cost	Completion date
Household survey	10,000	3 months
Consultation process	2,000	2 months
Draft fishing regime	3,000	3 months
Missions (2; international)	8,500	15 days
Preparation of the MSP prodoc	2,450	15 days
PIU (salaries and equipment)	8,100	6 months
Operations (Premises, internet, equipment)	2,100	-
Total	36,150	7 months

Timetable

Activity/month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Household survey							
Consultation process							
Draft fishing regime							
Missions (2; international)							
Preparation of the MSP prodoc							

TOTAL PROJECT WORKPLAN AND BUDGET							
(to be read in conjunction with Advisory Note on Atlas and Total Workplan and Budget Terminology)							
1	Award ID:						
	Project Title: Mountain Pasture Management in Valley of Susamir in Kyrgyzstan						
GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Responsible Party	Source of Funds	Atlas Code	ERP/ATLAS Budget Description/Input	Amount (USD) Year 1	Total (USD)	
Preparation of the MSP project proposal and document	NEX-NGO	62 000	71200	International Consultants	4, 500		4, 500
	NEX-NGO	62 000	72100	Contractual Services	16, 500		16, 500
	NEX-NGO	62 000	71600	Travel	4, 000		4, 000
	GEF Sub-total				25, 000		25, 000
	NEX-NGO	04000	72100	Contractual Services	7, 050		7, 050
	NEX-NGO	04000	74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	2, 000		2, 000
	UNDP Sub-total	04000			9, 050		9, 050
	TOTAL					34, 050	

7. OTHER POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTORS/DONORS AND AMOUNTS

UNDP: US\$ 9,050

ALIFSD: US\$ 2,100; in-kind (office premises, office equipment, and internet connectivity).

PART III: INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANT INSTITUTION

<p>8: Name: Alliance of Local Initiative Facilities for Sustainable Development of Communities and Environment (ALIFSD)</p>	<p>9. Type: Association of NGOs, majority of which are Grantees of GEF/SGP and UNDP LIFE Programme</p>
<p>10. Date of Establishment, Membership, and Leadership: ALIFSD was established on January 16, 2003 by 7 NGOs representing all 7 country's regions. Membership is open for all organizations recognizing its Charter and requirements. Annual membership fee is 2500 soms (about USD 55). At present it has 50 members over the whole county. The Alliance is governed by its General Assembly; its elected Chairman is Mr. T. Makeyev with responsibility for overall leadership and management; then its Executive Director is Mr. Aziz Kenjebayev, who is in charge of daily management of the Alliance.</p>	<p>11. Sources of Revenue: The basic and most stable source is membership fees. ALIFSD implements various environmental projects and renders chargeable services such as projects' case studies, project appraisal, household surveys and etc.</p>

12. Mandate/Terms of Reference:

Mission

Facilitate the local and international initiatives directed for sustainable development of local communities and environment.

Objectives

- . Coordinating activity of its members' programs;
- . Rendering technical, legal, advisory and information services to its members.

Priority task

Strengthen the livelihoods capacities of rural and urban communities through environmentally sustainable income generation projects and initiation of dialogue between the communities, public organizations, business groups, authorities in the sphere of sanitary, hygiene, urban ecology, biodiversity conservation, protection of quality of the international waters, mitigations of consequences of climate changes, prevention of land degradation and desertification.

13. Recent Activities/Programs, in particular those relevant to GEF.

ALIFSD is currently completing the project "Capacity Building of NGOs - GEF/SGP and UNDP LIFE Programme Grantees in Kyrgyzstan". The budget of the project is USD 36,300 of which: 20, 000.00 USD from GEF/SGP, 6,300.00 USD from UNDP LIFE and 10,000.00 - own contribution

Major project inputs are:

- 7 regional and 1 national seminars “Capacity Building and Networking of NGOs - GEF/SGP and UNDP LIFE Programme Partners in Kyrgyzstan” for improvement of NGOs’ Staff professional skills and knowledge on global environmental problems, requirements of GEF/SGP and UNDP LIFE Programme and National Strategies of these programs;
- 7 regional and 1 national Round Tables for discussion over updating and renewal of National Strategies of GEF/SGP and UNDP LIFE Programme in Kyrgyzstan.
- Improvement of technical and information facilities of NGO - GEF/SGP and UNDP LIFE Programme Partners in Kyrgyzstan via:
 - renovation and equipping of ALIFSD Office;
 - designing and launching ALIFSD Web-site: www.alifsd.in.kg;
 - publishing signal issue of ALIFSD Bulletin;
- Publishing of GEF/SGP Country’s Strategy Document

PART IV: INFORMATION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

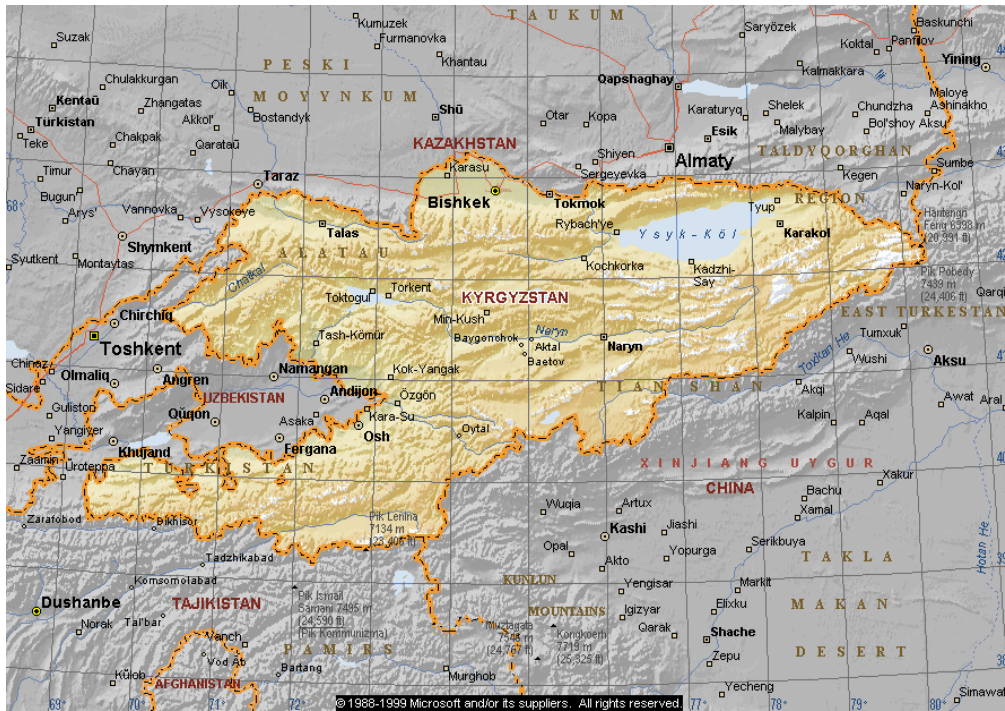
14. Project Linkage to Implementing Agency program(s)

The UNDP Country Programme in Kyrgyzstan supports the Government in achieving the goals of the MDGs and CDF, and contributes to the implementation of the UNDAF. The outcomes of the Country Programme are aligned with the UNDAF priority areas and outcomes, and address four development priority needs: Poverty reduction through sustainable development; Promoting good governance; Strengthening human security; and Enhancing regional cooperation.

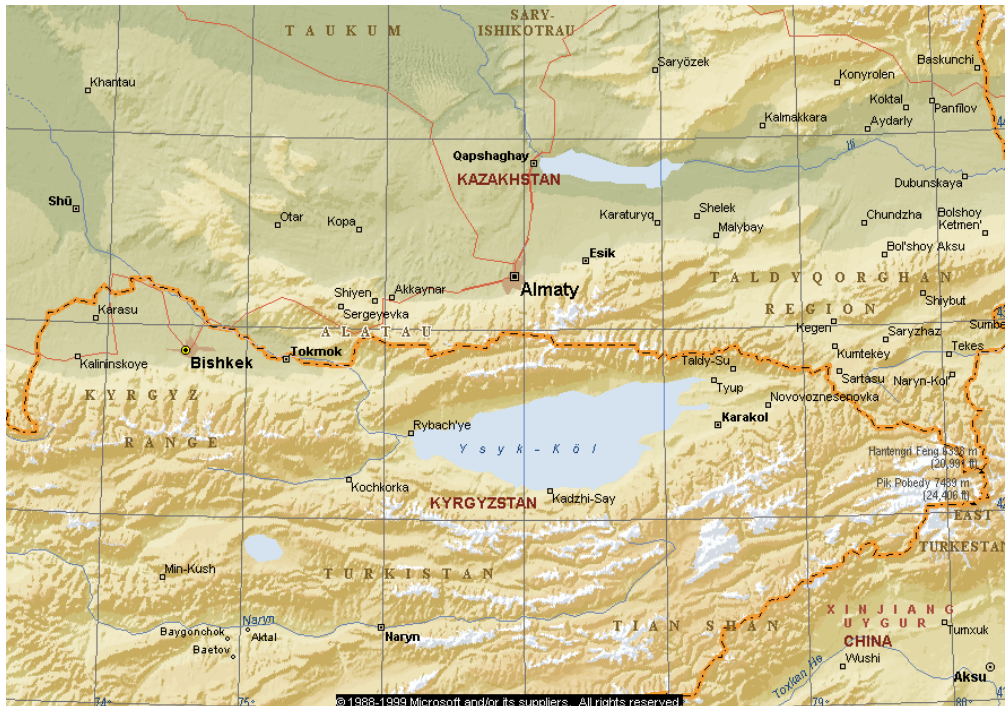
This project falls within the area “Poverty reduction through sustainable development”. Specifically, the country program states that UNDP will work in close cooperation with the GEF to assist both the Government and local communities in promoting sustainable resource and land management. This project will result in sustainable management of the Issyk-Kul Lake ichthyofauna and therefore it will contribute to increased food security of vulnerable populations.

ANNEX 1: MAP OF THE PROJECT AREA

Map 1: The Kyrgyz Republic



Map 2: The Issyk-Kul Lake



ANNEX 2: ENDORSEMENT LETTER

КЫРГЫЗ РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫН
ЭКОЛОГИЯ ЖАНА ӨЗГӨЧӨ
КЫРДААЛДАР МИНИСТРЛИГИ



МИНИСТЕРСТВО ЭКОЛОГИИ
И ЧРЕЗВЫЧАЙНЫХ СИТУАЦИЙ
КЫРГЫЗСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ

720055, Бишкек ш.,
А.Токтоналиева көч 2/1
Тел.: (3312) 21-22-27, Факс: (3312) 54-11-79
e-mail: admin@mccd.bishkek.gov.kg

Биринчимай РОК-2
АКБ «Кыргызстан» Биринчимай бөлүмү
р/а 208012001 МФО 330105505
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Первомайское РОК-2
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25.06.2004г. № с.04/2158

На _____

To: Mr. Jerzy Skuratowicz
Resident Representative
UNDP in the Kyrgyz Republic

C.c.: Mr. Frank Pinto
Executive Coordinator
Global Environmental Facility and Deputy Leader, ESDG

Dear Mr. Skuratowicz,

In my capacity as Global Environment Facility (GEF) Operational Focal Point for the Kyrgyz Republic, I hereby endorse the enclosed proposal to access GEF funding to develop the project on Conservation of Endemic Ichthyofauna of the Issyk-Kul Lake Basin through the United Nations Development Programme.

An importance and timeliness of conservation of disappearing endemic species in the Issyk-Kul Lake Basin as well as compatibility of key project features with appropriate country's development strategies and programmes and country's international obligations within appropriate international conventions is major reason for the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to endorse this project proposal and request its funding.

Pursuant to GEF Guidelines, the Biodiversity Focal Point has been fully consulted and its view taken into consideration while completing this proposal.

Looking forward to have a positive consideration of yours,
Sincerely,

Kanat Januzakov,
GEF Operational Focal Point,
Deputy Minister of Ecology and Emergencies,
Kyrgyz Republic

ANNEX 3: LETTER OF COMMITMENT FROM ALIFSD NGO



**АССОЦИАЦИЯ МЕСТНЫХ ИНИЦИАТИВ ЗА УСТОЙЧИВО
РАЗВИТИЕ СООБЩЕСТВ И ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЫ**
**ALLIANCE OF LOCAL INITIATIVE FACILITIES FOR
SUSTANAIBLE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITIES AND
ENVIRONMENT**

Кыргызкая Республика, г. Бишкек, ул. Токтогула 129, кв. 9, т.: 0 (312) 664355, ф.: 0 (312) 664355, E-mail: alifsd@elcat.kg; URL: www.alifsd.elcat.kg

исх. №: 54
Дата: «27»09 2004 г.

To: Mr. Jerzy Skuratowicz
Resident Representative,
UNDP in the Kyrgyz Republic

Dear Mr. Skuratowicz,

The “Alliance of Local Initiative Facilities for Sustainable Development of Communities and Environment” (ALIFSD) in its capacity to represent the interests of its members – nearly 50 local ecological NGOs of the Kyrgyz Republic – Grantees of GEF/SGP and UNDP LIFE Programme has the honour to convey its complements to UNDP in the Kyrgyz Republic and as an applicant of “Conservation of Endemic Ichthyofauna of the Issyk-Kul Lake Basin” project has the honour to announce its commitment to make a contribution in kind to the PDF-A of said project.

ALIFSD would like to offer its Office in Bishkek at Toktogul st. 129/9 to the Team, which will be engaged for project development under PDF – A for scheduled 6-7 months, within which PDF –A is to be utilized and final project document to be developed.

ALIFSD will bear the cost of utilities (water, heating, electricity, internet, telephone (in-country calls)) and will provide appropriate premises with three equipped office work stations. ALIFSD has found that its cost to host the PDF-A project team will amount USD 2100 for the period of 7 months as it was reflected in applied PDF-A Application to GEF.

Assuring ALIFSD commitment and succession to cooperate with UNDP in the Kyrgyz Republic fruitfully and creatively.

Sincerely,

Mr. Talaybek Makeyev,
Chairman

