



REQUEST FOR BIODIVERSITY ENABLING ACTIVITY

PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GEF Trust Fund

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

EA Title:	BD-EA for revision/updating of the NBSAP, preparation of 5th National Report to CBD and undertaking clearing house mechanism activities		
Country(ies):	Lebanon	GEF Project ID: ¹	4818
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP (select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	00831
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Environment of Lebanon	Submission Date:	04-04-2012
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration (Months)	24
Check if applicable:	NCSA <input type="checkbox"/> NAPA <input type="checkbox"/>	Agency Fee (\$):	18000

A. EA FRAMEWORK

EA Objective: With the overarching goal of integrating CBD Obligations into National Planning Processes through Enabling Activities, the main objective of this project is to enable the Republic of Lebanon to revise its National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, to prepare the Fifth National Report to the CBD and upgrade its existing Clearing House Mechanism

EA Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co-financing (\$)
1. Stocktaking and Assessment	TA	1.1 Improved and more realistic decision making on Biodiversity (BD) conservation by the relevant Ministries of Government of Lebanon (GoL), resulting from improved baseline data and better understanding of the current baseline situation	1.1 Stakeholder Inventories: comprehensive stakeholder inventories and elaboration of best consultation modalities 1.2 Review of existing National Plans: completed reports from reviews of existing national plans & policies related to Biodiversity conservation 1.3 Assessment reports: Reports emanating from review of threats, underlying causes and possible consequences of BD loss, and including value of BD to human well	22000	25000

¹ Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

			being		
2. Setting national targets, principles, & main priorities of the strategy	TA	2.1 National implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is improved and enhanced as status of biodiversity, and measurable targets for conservation and sustainable use are operationalised in Lebanon at national and sub-national levels, and mainstreamed into other relevant sectors and development plans	2.1.1 Targets & Priorities: Country specific Targets, principles, and priorities of BD conservation compiled for Lebanon	18500	21000
3. Strategy and Action Plan Development (indicators and targets)	TA	3.1 Lebanon adopts and commences to use updated country-specific indicators and targets	3.1.1 NBSAP Reports are shared with and integrated into sectoral development, poverty reduction, and climate change plans in Lebanon	61500	75000

4. Development of Implementation plans and related activities	TA	4.1 GoL BD Budgets are adjusted as a result of an improved understanding of existing BD conservation capacity, available technology, and BD conservation gaps	<p>The following key documents (including cost-estimates) will be produced, to support the implementation of the revised NBSAP:</p> <p>4.1.1 Capacity Development Plan</p> <p>4.1.2 Technology Needs Assessment Report</p> <p>4.1.3 Communication Strategy</p> <p>4.1.4 Resource Mobilisation Plan</p>	21000	28000
5. Institutional, monitoring, reporting and exchange	TA	<p>5.1 Major stakeholders and the general public are better informed and enabled to lobby for improved BD Conservation measures in Lebanon</p> <p>5.2 The CBD Conference of the Parties (COP) uses the results of the project to support decision making to improve BD conservation actions in Lebanon</p>	<p>5.1.1 National Coordination Structures to support CBD implementation and BD conservation action at the national level are strengthened</p> <p>5.1.2 Clearing House Mechanism: the National CHM for Lebanon is enhanced and updated</p> <p>5.2.1 the Fifth National Report from Lebanon is submitted to the SCBD by the recommended COP 10 deadline</p>	39000	46000

	(select)				
	(select)				
	(select)				
	(select)				
	(select)				
Subtotal				162000	195000
EA Management Cost²				18000	25000
Total EA Cost				180000	220000

^a List the \$ by EA components.

B. CO-FINANCING FOR THE EA BY SOURCE AND BY NAME

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount (\$)
National Government	Ministry of Environment of Lebanon	In-kind	220000
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
Total Co-financing			220000

² This is the cost associated with the unit executing the project on the ground and could be financed out of trust fund or co-financing sources.

C. GRANT RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/Global	EA Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)²	Total (c)=(a)+(b)
UNEP	GEF TF	Biodiversity	Lebanon	180000	18000	198000
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
Total Grant Resources				180000	18000	198000

D. EA MANAGEMENT COST

Cost Items	Total Estimated Person Weeks/Months	Grant Amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	EA Total (\$)
Local consultants*	47	15000	19000	34000
International consultants*		0	0	0
Office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications*		1000	1000	2000
Travel*		2000	2000	4000
Others**				0
				0
				0
Total		18000	22000	40000

* Details to be provided in Annex A. **For Others, to be clearly specified by overwriting fields (1)-(3)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR TABLE D, IF APPLICABLE: n/a

PART II: ENABLING ACTIVITY JUSTIFICATION

A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT (Provide brief information about projects implemented since a country became party to the convention and results achieved):	<p>Since Lebanon ratified the CBD in 1994, a wide range of initiatives related to biodiversity conservation have been implemented in collaboration with several partners and donors, including the GEF. These national or regional-level initiatives were implemented through various national institutions and mainly under the auspices of the Ministry of Environment (MoE) of Lebanon, and include i.e.:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Biodiversity Enabling Activity Project (NBSAP Phase 1) (GEF/UNDP/MoE)2. Biodiversity Planning Support (GEF/UNDP/MoE)3. Coastal Area Management Programme (CAMP) (UNEP/MAP/MoE)4. Protected Areas Project (PAP) (GEF/UNDP/MoE)5. Conservation of Wetlands and Coastal Zones in the Mediterranean – Regional: MedWetCoast project (FFEM/UNDP/MoE)6. Methyl Bromide Alternatives Project (LEB/FUM/26/DEM/24)7. Integrated Management of Cedar Forests In Lebanon in Cooperation with other Mediterranean Countries (Tannourine Project) (GEF/UNEP/MoE)8. Stable Institutional Structure for Protected Areas Management (SISPAM) (EC-Life/UNDP/MoE)9. Development of the National Biosafety Frameworks (NBF) (GEF/UNEP/UNDP/MoE)10. Top-up Biodiversity Enabling Activity (NBSAP Phase II) (MoE/UNDP/GEF)11. Darwin Initiative (AUB/Royal Botanic Garden-Kew/University of Reading)12. Millennium Seed Bank Project (MSBP) (LARI/ Royal Botanic Garden-Kew)13. “Conservation and Sustainable Use of Dryland Agrobiodiversity in the Near East” (Agrobiodiversity project) (GEF/UNDP/LARI)14. Strategic Action Plan for the Conservation of biological diversity in the Mediterranean Region (SAP_BIO) (RAC/SPA-UNEP/MAP)15. Design, Testing and Evaluating of Best Practices for in situ Conservation of Economically Important Wild Species” (PDF_B phase) (GEF/FAO)16. Integrated Coastal Management between Jbeil/Amsheet (Lebanon) and Latakia (Syria) (EU-SMAP/MoE-Lebanon/MoLAE-Syria)17. Sustainable Hunting Project (EC-Life/Birdlife International/SPNL)18. Mainstreaming of Conservation of Medicinal Plant Species into Economic Sectors (GEF/UNDP/LARI)19. Safeguarding and Restoring Lebanon’s Woodland Resources (GEF/UNDP/MoE)20. Mainstreaming Conservation of Migratory Soaring Bird Migration into into Key Productive Sectors along the Rift Valley/Red Sea Flyway Project (GEF/UNDP/MoE)21. Supporting the Management of Important Marine Habitats and Species in Lebanon (aacid/IUCN/MoE)22. Sustainable management of marine and coastal biodiversity and habitats through policy and legislative development for mainstreaming in Lebanon (GEF/UNEP/MoE) (The MSP will be launched very soon)23. Towards a National Strategy on Forest Fires (EU/MoE/AFDC) <p>A summary of the Lebanon’s contribution to the CBD includes (additional information can be found at: http://biodiversity.moe.gov.lb/LebanonContributionToCBD/Pages/Ratification_and_implementation.aspx), i.e.:</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First NBSAP prepared and submitted to CBD in 1998 (NBSAP Phase I) - First, second, third and fourth biodiversity national reports prepared and submitted to CBD - An “Addendum” to the Lebanese NBSAP was prepared in 2005 (NBSAP Phase II) - Thematic reports on “Access & Benefit Sharing”, “Protected Areas”, “Alien and Invasive Species”, “Forest Ecosystems”, “Mountain Ecosystems”, “Transfer of Technology and Technology Cooperation”, “Implementation of Programme of Work for the Global Taxonomy Initiative” were prepared and submitted to CBD - A report on “Priorities for Capacity Building Needs for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Lebanon” was prepared - A report on “National Capacity & Needs in Taxonomy in Lebanon” was prepared - A biodiversity clearing-house mechanism for Lebanon was established http://biodiversity.moe.gov.lb - A National Biosafety framework was prepared - A draft decree on “Interim measures regarding biosafety” was prepared - A draft national law on “Access & Benefit Sharing” was prepared - Improved vegetation cover due to reforestation effort - Increased Protected Areas surface due to improved awareness and legislation - Improved capacity of protected areas management teams - improved infrastructure in the protected areas in addition to preparation of management plans, business plans, etc. - Development of necessary legislation for strengthening the institutional structure of Protected Areas - Development of a “National Action Plan for Protected Areas - NAPPA” - Development of a “National Strategy on Forest Fires” - Preparation of a “National Report on Marine & Coastal Biodiversity” - Identification of candidate Marine Nature Reserves in order to establish a network of MPAs in Lebanon - Carrying out biodiversity field surveys and mapping in some candidates MPAs - Development of GIS database along the Lebanese coast - Development of a “Marine Protected Areas Strategy” - Development of a website on marine biodiversity http://www.moe.gov.lb/marinebiodiversity - Development of national professional capacity for a shift towards sustainable hunting practices - Proposed code of practice, necessary legislation and guidelines for sustainable hunting - Awareness campaigns for the protection of migratory soaring birds and for the promotion of sustainable hunting
<p>B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (The proposal should briefly justify the need for the project).</p>	<p>Justification: The Government of Lebanon (GoL) has ratified the CBD in 1994 and is therefore obliged and committed to implementing the requirements of the Convention and the decisions of the CBD COP. The Convention requires countries to prepare a National Biodiversity Strategy (or equivalent instrument) and to ensure that this strategy is mainstreamed into the planning and activities of all those sectors whose activities can have an impact (positive and negative) on biodiversity.</p> <p>a) Baseline for NBSAPs: Lebanon, a signatory of the Convention on Biological Diversity, is officially addressing its obligations to the Convention through the Ministry of Environment. In this context,</p>

Lebanon through the UNDP/GEF “Biodiversity Enabling Activity Project” developed and published in 1988 its National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and the first National Biodiversity Report. The preparation of the first NBSAP involved 44 national experts who contributed in various capacities (contributors, technical consultants, steering committee) and two international consultants. Local communities were also actively involved in the preparation of the document: Awareness campaigns were conducted and community participation was sought by organizing regional workshops in which approximately 500 individuals from all regions in Lebanon participated in the process.

Afterwards, Lebanon reported the first progress towards implementing its obligations to the CBD through its second national report. At this stage, a discrepancy was identified between how the structure and priorities of the first Lebanese NBSAP and the themes and cross-cutting issues that had been developed by the CBD. While reporting Lebanon’s progress to the CBD according to the National Reports templates, it became clear that although Lebanon’s first NBSAP was an important step for addressing biodiversity issues, the first Lebanon NBSAP did not encompass all issues raised by the CBD. Furthermore the absence of a clear implementation strategy resulted in suboptimal progress on stated tasks, as the majority of these actions stipulated in the first NBSAP were either in progress or had not been initiated.

Therefore, in 2004-2005, through the UNDP/GEF “Top-up Biodiversity Enabling Activity” (or NBSAP phase II), Lebanon reviewed the NBSAP and prepared an “Addendum” to the NBSAP. The purpose of the addendum was to elaborate expressed national needs and aspirations under the umbrella of the CBD to ensure that the Convention is embraced in Lebanon by all public and private authorities and stakeholders. Through this addendum, Lebanon revised and aligned its first 1998 NBSAP actions with the CBD 2010 global goals and targets. Thus it should be clarified that the 1998 NBSAP was not fully updated, but that some form of revision of the first NBSAP was performed to highlight Lebanon’s effort towards the 2010 Biodiversity Targets. In addition, the 2005 addendum was never formally published, and still requires finalisation to be released in its final form. At present, and after the adoption by COP10 of the Strategic Plan for biodiversity for the 2011-2020 and the new Aichi Biodiversity targets, there is therefore a need and opportunity to update the current NBSAP+*addendum*, in line with the revised and updated CBD Strategic Plan. The revised NBSAP will integrate the new biodiversity targets while taking in consideration both global and local needs and aspirations, as well as reflecting Lebanon’s specific realm and the current existing professional capacities and awareness levels.

b) Baseline for National Reporting

Article 26 of the Convention states that the objective of national reporting is to provide information on measures taken for the implementation of the Convention and the effectiveness of these measures. So far, Lebanon has undertaken the necessary steps to fulfil its commitments towards the CBD and has recently completed its Fourth National Report in 2009 (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/lb/lb-nr-04-en.pdf>) and therefore is eligible to receive funds for the Fifth National Report. The current project will provide assistance to the country to develop both its NBASP and 5th National Report in parallel, in other words in this project, development of the 5th National Report by the GoL will be embedded in the consultation process and will not be a stand alone process. UNEP will ensure that the GoL will submit the 5th National Report ahead of the deadline of March 2014.

Further to the above reporting requirements, the project is in conformity and responds to several Decisions of the COP and resultant guidelines as follows:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. COP Decision X/10-National Reporting³: The project responds to this COP Decision and the resultant specific SCBD document on Guidelines for Fifth National Report is given at the SCBD website⁴ ii. Notification for 5th National Report and revision of NBSAPs: The proposal responds to the recent SCBD Notification⁵ to Parties to prepare the 5th National Reports and Update the NBSAP of 21-Jan-2011. This notification informs Parties that the deadline for submitting duly completed Fifth National Report to the CBD is 31st March 2014 iii. AICHI targets: The project will further be in conformity with the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity & Aichi BD Targets⁶ for biodiversity as agreed by countries in COP 10 iv. Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs): Component 3 of this project will articulate how the NBSAP will be integrated into future national Poverty Reduction policies, strategies and targets, and will support the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). <p>In terms of the GEF strategies, the project is consistent with the GEF 5 Results chain and Biodiversity focal area strategies as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. GEF Strategic Goal: This project is aligned to the GEF 5 Strategic Goal 4 - Build national and regional capacities and enabling conditions for global environmental protection and sustainable development ii. Focal Area Goal: Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance of ecosystem goods and services iii. Focal area objective: The project addresses focal area Objective Five: Integrate CBD Obligations into National Planning Processes through Enabling Activities iv. Project objective: With the overarching goal of improving decision-making for the conservation of global biodiversity, the main objective of this project is to enable Lebanon to review and update its NBSAP and to develop the Fifth National Report to the CBD.
<p>C. DESCRIBE THE ENABLING ACTIVITY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION (discuss the work intended to be undertaken and the output expected from each activity as outlined in Table A).</p>	<p>COMPONENT 1. Stocktaking and Assessment: This component will entail (a) Rapid stocktaking and review of relevant plans, policies and reports; (b) Identification of stakeholders and raising awareness and (c) Rapid assessment of the causes and consequences of biodiversity loss highlighting the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services and their contribution to Human well-being. Part (a) will be implemented by national consultants before it is shared and discussed with key stakeholders, while parts (b) and (c) will be implemented in a consultative fashion, through a series of multi-sectoral stakeholder meetings.</p> <p>COMPONENT 2. National Targets, Principles, & Priorities of the Strategy: Before the development of an updated NBSAP, Lebanon will determine its targets and priorities taking into account the results emerging from Component 1. Small multi-sectoral committees will undertake the ground work, which will then be discussed and validated by all stakeholders. This component will be further guided by the relevant decisions of the</p>

³ - <http://www.cbd.int/decision/cop/?id=12276>

⁴ www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-10/official/cop-10-11-en.doc

⁵ -<http://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2011/ntf-2011-015-nbsap-en.pdf>

⁶ <http://www.cbd.int/decision/cop/?id=12268>

	<p>CBD COPs including emerging issues which are relevant to Lebanon. Emerging issues will include:</p> <p>i) The recently adopted Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020) and its associated goals, the Aichi Targets, and indicators;</p> <p>ii) Integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development: The process will explore ways of integrating the NBSAP into the relevant development plans and poverty reduction policies and strategies, national accounting, economic sectors, spatial planning processes, and the MDGs</p> <p>iii) Indigenous peoples: the globally important Lebanon coastal and mountain habitats host indigenous communities that play a major role and can significantly contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources and biodiversity. The NBSAP will consider strategies to preserve the rights of indigenous knowledge of the communities in accordance with the recently adopted Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>iv) Gender considerations and social and environmental safeguards: The NBSAP will consider mainstreaming of gender perspectives into the implementation of the Convention at the national level and promote gender equality in achieving its three objectives. This aspect will be included to ensure that views on how various social groups utilize biodiversity, how lack of conservation might affect both genders and how the needs of indigenous groups other local communities should be addressed in BD conservation. In the same vein, issues of BD conservation and poverty alleviation will be articulated within the consultations held in the framework of this project. Although the project itself is not intervention-based, it is important to discuss the poverty-conservation nexus, so that the right principles are reflected in the final official documents.</p> <p>v) Biodiversity: Lebanon covers approximately 10,451 km² and yet is one the most “biodiversity-rich” countries in the Eastern Mediterranean region. Its variety of habitats encompasses marine, coastal zones and island habitats (along its 250 km of coastline), freshwater habitats including wetland and riverine ecosystems, as well as low, medium and high-altitude mountain ecosystems (culminating at 3088m a.s.l.). The country thus hosts a high density of species (with a total of 9,119 species of which 4,633 are of the plant and 4,486 of the animal kingdoms) with high levels of regional endemism. Four principal factors have interacted in this region to produce an exceptionally rich and unique biodiversity: biogeography, geology, ecology and historic human settlements in the Mediterranean area. More than any other region in the world, the Mediterranean region best exemplifies the environmental change in response to man-environment interactions. Lebanon is an integral region in the Mediterranean basin, it falls within a recognized centre of plant diversity that is considered a global hotspot which ranks third in the world among hotspots in both plant diversity and endemism, surpassed only by some ultra-diverse tropical ecosystems. As outlined above, the topography of the country hosts various micro-environments for both terrestrial and fresh water biodiversity. Most ecosystems, however, have narrow ranges and their biotypes are struggling for existence against a changing environment and increasing pressure from human activities resulting in habitat loss, chemical pollution, unsustainable use of natural resources -including illegal hunting and fishing- especially along coastal habitats and in mountain forest ecosystems.</p>
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Geologically, Lebanon consists almost exclusively of limestone. Most are of Cretaceous origin, with Jurassic limestone in some areas, principally in the south. Only in a few places, especially in the north, do basaltic rocks appear. The softness of the limestone has allowed the 17 perennial rivers as well as the 23 seasonal rivers to create impressive valleys in many places with near-vertical sides. The climate of Lebanon is Mediterranean but with some particularities caused mainly by the topography. Predominantly westerly winds bring abundant rain -principally in winter- while the summers are mainly dry. Coastal areas receive over 800 mm of rain per year, and most mountain areas over 1000 mm. Most rainfall is received by the western slopes of the Lebanon range, with the summits receiving less than lower areas. On the other hand, the Beqaa valley (that is a part of the African Rift complex) and Anti-Lebanon generally receive less than 700 mm and the Hermel semi-desert in the northern Beqaa less than 250 mm.

What is remarkable in Lebanon is the gradual change from Mediterranean to continental Mediterranean and sub-desert conditions from west to east and the gradual altitudinal change from the batha (degraded garrigue) of the Thermo Mediterranean to the tragacanth of the Sub-alpine and Alpine zones through garrigues (degraded maquis) and maquis of Oak and forests of Pine, Cedar and Fir. The latter finds its southern limit of world distribution in northern Lebanon.

Lebanon marine habitats are part of the Mediterranean Sea which is characterized by a relatively high biodiversity (The Mediterranean represents less than 1% of the world's ocean surface, while holding as much as 6% of all marine species). The connection established by the Suez Canal in year 1869 resulted in the introduction of Indo-Pacific marine organisms (Lessepsians) to the east Mediterranean; including in Lebanon's waters, where at least 67 species (nektons, nectobenthos, benthos fauna and flora) originated from the Red Sea do occur. Unfortunately, there are no national red lists of flora or fauna species in Lebanon. Furthermore, it seems that the monitoring, control or eradication of neither the naturally hybridized or of alien invasive species are given sufficient attention or priority in the country. Additional details are presented in the Fifth National Report to the CBD

vi) The NBSAP will be used to integrate the targets of biodiversity-related Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) within the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and Aichi targets as a guiding framework, as well as to support the accession to those MEAs (such as the CMS or CITES) that are not yet ratified by Lebanon.

COMPONENT 3. Strategy and action plan development: this component will include the definition of a revised and fully updated national strategy and associated actions required to implement the agreed targets. This will be achieved through a series national stakeholder consultations on the draft revised NBSAP at the national level. Based on results from stakeholder consultations, a small team of national experts will be commissioned to draft the final revised Strategy and Action Plan, which will later be reviewed and validated by the key stakeholders.

COMPONENT 4. Development of Implementation Plans: Once there is a draft strategy and a broad action plan, further consultations will be required to develop fully costed implementation plans and related activities. This component will address the necessary supporting systems for the NBSAP implementation process, and will cover several areas including (a) development of a costed plan for the development of national capacity in BD conservation; (b) a technology needs assessment; (c) development of a costed communication and outreach strategy to support the NBSAP; and (d) Development of a

costed plan for resource mobilization to support NBSAP implementation.

COMPONENT 5. Institutional, monitoring, reporting and exchange: This component will assist in the strengthening of existing national coordination structures including the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) at the Ministry of Environment (MOE) of Lebanon. The component will also support the development of the Fifth National Report to the CBD which will be prepared following the guidelines given by the COP and the SCBD. Using the framework for goals and targets adopted by the CBD COP in its Decision 10 and the Guidelines for the Fifth National Report to the CBD, the development of the report will use the data already gathered during consultations for the NBSAP process and from data gathered by various experts. This means the development of the national report and the development of the NBSAP will be undertaken as one integrated process but with two distinct and different products. The outputs of this project will feed into the SCBD portal that will be established on NBSAP and National Reporting.

CHM: Lebanon's biodiversity CHM was first developed in 2005 and it requires updating and enhancement. The updated Lebanon CHM will play a significant role in the promotion of biodiversity conservation at both national and international levels. The CHM component of the EA proposal will entail (a) collection of new information and data to update the CHM; (b) strengthening of a viable network of new and existing national partners for the dissemination and use of biodiversity data; (c) establishment of new national protocols for information and data management, access and dissemination; (d) strengthening of the network linking national partners with their regional and international counterparts based on existing work; (e) setting updated indicators and appropriate and cost-effective biodiversity monitoring approaches and (f) capacity development for national professionals in MOE and other sector ministries. The primary target of the CHM training will be the staff of MOE that will be responsible to upgrade and continue to manage the existing national CHM in the long term. However, also other external stakeholders are expected to participate in selected aspects of the training. These include staff of national environmental NGOs, as well as other relevant government agencies, that should be able to understand the scope and objectives of the national and global CHM and to enhance their contribution to the further development and continuous updating of the existing national CHM that will be updated through the project. The enhanced CHM will provide a universal platform that will be designed to serve also other related CBD commitments such as e.g. the Biosafety BCH and ABS trade related information exchange and technology transfer. Therefore an enhanced and broad based IT infrastructure will be set-up in the framework of this project.

The consultant is expected to undertake the following steps: (a) undertake an initial rapid Training Needs Assessment (TNA) with MOE and partner organisations, to define existing capacity and training needs. This will result in (b) the design of a formal training and informal capacity building programme for MOE staff and partner organisations. The programme will be tailored to existing capacity within MOE and partner organisations, adapted to the situation and context of Lebanon and MOE, and will take into account the experience and capacity developed in neighbouring Arab-speaking countries. Thereafter (c) the capacity building programme will be implemented as an integral part of the project, through formal as well as on-the-job training. Trainees will be expected to acquire:

- A good understanding, and be able to train others, on the scope and objectives of an enhanced national Clearing House Mechanism, and the links to the international CHM of

the CBD. Be able to provide clear examples of practical tools and approaches that can be used to meet the objectives of the CBD.

- Capacity to use and develop the new and enhanced web, database, GIS as well as language and communication tools associated with the operation of the enhanced CHM, so as to effectively provide and manage public access to information on Lebanon's implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and coordinate the development of the central directory for information on conservation work undertaken in Lebanon.

- Capacity to search international information sources so as to find relevant tools and information which will benefit biodiversity conservation in Lebanon and globally.

- An understanding of the importance of and tools and opportunities to inform partner organisations and stakeholders of the importance to submit information on projects, programmes and case studies which help meet the objectives of the CBD in Lebanon and neighbouring countries.

- Understand the Ecosystem Approach concept, and be aware of main examples of case studies and information on the CBD's ecosystem approach, as well as other cross-cutting issues and thematic programmes, including i.e. sustainable forest management and integrated coastal zone management, information on specific tools, such as habitat monitoring, national legislation and incentive measures, on tools associated with particular habitats, on related international environment conventions (e.g. Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, CMS, AWEA, CITES, and others) etc. This will facilitate access to and understanding of the broad range of information and tools that will be available to national stakeholders, through the enhanced CHM.

- Be aware of main existing funding sources to support CBD objectives at national and international level.

Format for the 5th National Report: As per the guidelines (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/nr/nr-05/NR5-guidelines-en.doc>), the 5th BD national report will address 3 areas;

Part I - An update on biodiversity status, trends, and threats and implications for human well being

Part II - The national biodiversity strategy and action plan (NBSAP), its implementation, and the mainstreaming of biodiversity.

Part III - Progress towards the 2015 and 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets and contributions to the relevant 2015 Targets of the Millennium Development Goals.

Project Execution: The Ministry of Environment (MoE) of Lebanon will be the national Executing Agency. The project execution will be supervised by a senior level Director at the MOE and the GEF Operational Focal Point. The Project Manager, placed within the Ministry, will oversee all the activities of the project as per the TORs given in Appendix 9 and the workplan provided in Appendix 10. He/She will further follow the reporting requirements summarized in Appendix 8 and the project deliverables are provided in Appendix 7.

This execution approach will also (a) ensure institutional sustainability of the EA: project

	<p>implementation will be fully enshrined in existing national institutions, (b) EA outcomes will also be sustained financially in the longer term through the MOE’s institutionalized budget allocations and (c) the project will also contribute to the enhancement of MOE’s professional capacity through the direct and continued engagement of MOE staff at all stages of project implementation thus providing an opportunity for capacity development on-the-job and throughout EA execution.</p> <p>Project Management at UNEP: UNEP will support the project through (i) providing the national project team with technical back up, i.e. provide one to one question and answer sessions as required, throughout the project duration; (ii) support the country with comments on technical input and content of the reports prepared; (iii) keeping a project database at UNEP (using the web based project management tool ANUBIS). Specifically, UNEP will provide technical support as well as supervision for the project, though the assigned Task Manager, Fund Manager in UNEP Nairobi and, if and as required, with support by other technical staff in the UNEP Regional Office for Western Asia, in the following manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) disburse funds (according to the UNEP budget shown in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 that also shows co-financing from Lebanon). This budget follows closely on the general component budget outline given by the GEF Secretariat and is shown in Appendix 6, which provides cost benchmarks/or sample budget for enabling activities in biodiversity ii) provide technical support to the national MOE team in Lebanon to execute the project using the training modules earlier developed by UNEP and Secretariat of the CBD (SCBD) and guidelines given by the SCBD (http://www.cbd.int/doc/training/nbsap/a3-train-intro-nr-en.pdf) iii) provide guidance and technical advice to national country teams, as and when required during implementation of the project, and provide comments on draft NBSAPs before they are submitted to the SCBD. This may include developing TORs in consultation with the EA and based on identified specific needs, and recruiting international consultants to assist Lebanon with the development of national indicators and targets, CHM development, capacity building and institutional strengthening. iv) UNEP will provide project oversight, including participation in the Project Steering Committee if and as required.
<p>D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED <u>COST-EFFECTIVENESS</u> OF THE PROJECT:</p>	<p>Cost effectiveness: The proposed approach will be highly cost effective in that it will help strengthen the institutional foundations for BD conservation planning capacity within the host national institution (MoE), supporting the review and updating of the NBSAP that if well implemented will generate significant benefits for Lebanon. More specifically, Lebanon has recently emerged from a long period of instability and is yet undergoing a process of institutional development and strengthening in the environment sector. This provides a unique opportunity to integrate biodiversity conservation needs and priorities in the country’s important development phase. In addition, this project is an intervention in alignment with the GEF’s mandate to generate global benefits by paying for the incremental costs of planning and foundational enabling activities that countries implement to generate global biodiversity benefits. Specifically, the project will concentrate on overarching themes that touch upon protected area systems, biodiversity hot spots, endemic and threatened species, as well as biomes and ecosystems of global significance.</p> <p>Without GEF funds, the GoL might not be able to entirely “self-finance” the development of its revised updated NBSAPs nor the preparation of the Fifth National Report. As a</p>

	<p>result, Lebanon might not develop or delay its updated NBSAP and the 5th National Report to the CBD. In either case, the functioning of the CBD, in particular its decision-making processes, will be negatively affected. Without a significant number of national reports, the CBD COP cannot review the implementation of the CBD and consequently provide adequate guidance for the CBD implementation at various levels. This will hamper the implementation of the Strategic Plan for 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity & Aichi BD Targets⁷ for biodiversity, meaning that a limited GEF contribution can leverage significant gains for Lebanon and for the CBD COP process in general.</p>
<p>E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:</p>	<p>The project will follow United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Global Environment Facility (GEF) minimum requirements for project monitoring, reporting, evaluation processes and procedures. Substantive and financial project reporting requirements are an integral part of the UNEP legal instrument, that will be signed by the National Executing Agency and UNEP. Evaluation of the project's success in achieving its outcomes will be monitored continuously throughout the project through key pillars this project which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A project log frame (Appendix 3). b) A project's web-based portal '5NR Portal' (www.cbd.int/nr5) based and managed at the SCBD Clearing House Mechanism to allow monitoring the status of the project implementation by updating the portal regularly c) Project Steering Committee (PSC): The project steering committee will be composed of GEF Operational Focal Point, CBD focal Point, Representative of the MOE Lebanon, and a representative of UNEP. The PSC will meet once every twelve months physically and on teleconference in between when required. The UNEP Task Manager will further take reports of this project to a global Steering committee that will be overseeing the global development of 5th national reports and revision of NBSAPs. d) A budgeted M&E plan as shown in Appendix 5.
<p>F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE):</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>

⁷ <http://www.cbd.int/decision/cop/?id=12268>

PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):

(Please attach the [country endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (Month, day, year)
Nazem El-Khoury	Minister of Environment	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT	3 FEB 2012


B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION*

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT
UNCBD	11/08/1994	Ms LARA SAMAHA
UNFCCC	11/08/1994	"
UNCCD	12/21/1995	"
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	08/08/2002	"

*To be filled for NCSA proposals only

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the standards of the GEF Project Review Criteria for (select) Enabling Activity approval.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Maryam Niamir-Fuller Director, UNEP GEF coordination Office		04/04/2012	Edoardo Zandri, Task Manager, Biodiversity and Natural Resources, UNEP Nairobi	+254 762 20 4380	edoardo.zandri@unep.org

CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE ENABLING ACTIVITY

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>\$/ Person Week</i>	<i>Estimated Person Weeks</i>	<i>Tasks to be Performed</i>
For EA Management			
Local			
1. Project Manager (& Technical Coordinator) Budget Line: 1101 (component 5 only)	600	13	Portion of Project Manager staff costs related to overall project coordination and management. Management of project staff and consultants, logistics and administration, communications and reporting to UNEP & partners. From GEF budget: 8,000\$
2. Administrative Assistant BL: 1301	300	23	Full time administrative and financial assistant to support project execution. From GEF budget: 7,000\$
International			
Explanation of Travel costs: BL 1601			The amount of 2,000 US\$ represents the estimated share of in-country and possible international travel that is directly associated with project management tasks performed by the Project Manager/Technical Coordinator and Administrative Assistant during project implementation.
For Technical Assistance			
Local			
3. Technical Assistant BL: 1302	400	52.5	Technical Assistance to the project manager - support and coordination of all technical components. From GEF budget: 23,000\$

<p>4. Technical Coordination (& Project Manager) BL: 1101 (components 1,2,3 and 4)</p> <p>[NOTE: sorry it was impossible to add rows in this locked table - hence additional items added below]</p> <p>5. National Technical consultants (@ 600 x week x 35 weeks) BL: 1201</p>	600	50	<p>(4) Portion of Project Manager costs related to the Technical and Coordination tasks and direct contribution to all technical components of the project. From GEF budget: 32,000\$</p> <p>(5) work with MOE team and international consultants to support the execution of each specific project technical component. Act as trainers, facilitators of know-how transfer and mentors/supervisors for junior MOE staff and trainees involved in the EA. Technical tasks include i.e.: ecological field surveys fo Labanon's coastal areas, data collection and analysis, database/GIS and CHM enhancement and management, principles of biodiversity conservation and marine and coastal protected areas management, development and implementation of a comprehensive stakeholder consultation process at national and local levels, communications and outreach, environmental education and awareness, website management, development of project publications and other communication material, report writing, principles of environment law, ICZM, understanding and applying major international environmental conventions, etc. From GEF budget: 21,000\$</p>
International			
<p>International Consultant (Indicators and Targets development) BL: 1202</p>	2500	2	<p>Assisting the MOE in developing indicators and targets at national and sub-national level, according to CBD guidelines and best practice, including assistance for the facilitation of broad stakeholder consultation workshops and validation process as well as reporting. From GEF budget: 6,000\$ (rest from co-fin)</p>
<p>International Consultant (CHM, Institutional Strengthening, capacity building) BL: 1203</p>	2500	6	<p>Assisting the EA on building national capacity for all technical and institutional strengthening aspects of the project, including the enhancement and management of the upgdared CHM, as well as reporting. GEF budget: 14,000\$ (rest from co-fin)</p>

OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE TO FOCAL AREA ENABLING ACTIVITIES

Biodiversity

- [GEF/C.7/Inf.11, June 30, 1997, Revised Operational Criteria for Enabling Activities](#)
- [GEF/C.14/11, December 1999, An Interim Assessment of Biodiversity Enabling Activities](#)
- [October 2000, Revised Guidelines for Additional Funding of Biodiversity Enabling Activities \(Expedited Procedures\)](#)

Climate Change

- [GEF/C.9/Inf.5, February 1997, Operational Guidelines for Expedited Financing of Initial Communications from Non-Annex 1 Parties](#)
- [October 1999, Guidelines for Expedited Financing of Climate Change Enabling Activities – Part II, Expedited Financing for \(Interim\) Measures for Capacity Building in Priority Areas](#)
- [GEF/C.15/Inf.12, April 7, 2000, Information Note on the Financing of Second National Communications to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change](#)
- [GEF/C.22/Inf.15/Rev.1, November 30, 2007, Updated Operational Procedures for the Expedited Financing of National Communications from Non-Annex 1 Parties](#)

Persistent Organic Pollutants

- [GEF/C.17/4, April 6, 2001, Initial Guidelines for Enabling Activities for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants](#)
- [GEF/C.39/Inf.5, October 19, 2010, Guidelines for Reviewing and Updating the NIP under the Stockholm Convention on POPs](#)

Land Degradation

- [ICCD/CRIC\(5\)/Inf.3, December 23, 2005, National Reporting Process of Affected Country Parties: Explanatory Note and Help Guide](#)

National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)

- [Operational Guidelines for Expedited Funding of National Self Assessments of Capacity Building Needs, September 2001](#)
- [A Guide for Self-Assessment of Country Capacity Needs for Global Environmental Management, September 2001](#)

National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA)

- [GEF/C.19/Inf.7, May 8, 2002, Notes on GEF Support for National Adaptation Plan of Action,](#)