



REQUEST FOR BIODIVERSITY ENABLING ACTIVITY

PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GEF Trust Fund

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

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|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------|------------------|
| EA Title: | Support to Macedonia for the Revision of the NBSAPs and Development of Fifth National Report to the CBD | | |
| Country(ies): | Macedonia | GEF Project ID: ¹ | 4685 |
| GEF Agency(ies): | UNEP (select) | GEF Agency Project ID: | 00770 |
| Other Executing Partner(s): | MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PHYSICAL PLANNING | Submission Date: | 20 february 2012 |
| GEF Focal Area (s): | Biodiversity | Project Duration (Months) | 30 |
| Check if applicable: | NCSA <input type="checkbox"/> NAPA <input type="checkbox"/> | Agency Fee (\$): | 22,000 |

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 Macedonia to revise its National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and to develop the Fifth National Report to the CBD | | | | | |
|--|------------|--|---|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| 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 in Macedonian Ministries resulting from knowing the current baseline | 1.1 Stakeholder Inventories: Comprehensive stakeholder inventories and elaboration of best consultation modalities 1.2 Biodiversity National Plans: Completed reports from reviews on national plans & policies on Biodiversity conservation 1.3 Assessment reports: Reports emanating from review of causes and consequences of BD loss, and value of BD to human well being | 22,200 | 20,000 |
| 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 | 2.1.1 Targets & Priorities: Country specific Targets, principles, and priorities of BD conservation | 31,000 | 30,000 |

¹ Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

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| | | enhanced as status of biodiversity, and measurable targets for conservation and sustainable use are operationalised in Macedonia at national and sub national levels, and mainstreamed into sectors and development plans | compiled by Macedonia | | |
| 3. . Strategy and action plan development (for indicators and targets) | TA | 3.1 Macedonia commences to use country specific indicators and targets | 3.1.1 NBSAP Reports: (With sub national elaboration) integrated into sectoral development, poverty reduction, and climate change plans in Macedonia | 66,050 | 50,000 |
| 4) Development of Implementation plans and related activities | TA | 4.1 Macedonian BD Budgets adjusted as a result of knowing capacity, technology, and conservation gaps | 4.1.1 Capacity Development Plan: For NBSAP Implementation. 4.1.2 Technology Needs: Assessment Reports. 4.1.3 Communication Strategy 4.1.4 Resource Mobilisation Plan for NBSAP implementation | 30,600 | 37,000 |

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|--|----------|--|--|---------|---------|
| 5) Institutional, monitoring, reporting and exchange | TA | 5.1 Informed professional entitites (and the general public are better able to lobby for or improve BD Conservation. b) The CBD Conference of the Parties (COP) uses results of the project for decion making to imprive BD conservation actions in Macedonia | 5.1.1 National Coordination Structures: Operatinal BD Coordination structures. 5.1.2 CHMs: National CHM Operational 5.1.3Fifth National Reports submitted to the SCBD by the recommended COP 10 deadline 5.1.4 communication strategy | 50,200 | 40,000 |
| | TA | | | | |
| | (select) | | | | |
| | (select) | | | | |
| | (select) | | | | |
| | (select) | | | | |
| Subtotal | | | | 200,050 | 177,000 |
| EA Management Cost² | | | | 19,950 | 35,000 |
| Total EA Cost | | | | 220000 | 212000 |

^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 AND PHYSICAL PLANNING | In-kind | 212,000 |
| (select) | | (select) | |
| Bilateral Aid Agency (ies) | | (select) | |
| (select) | | (select) | |
| (select) | | (select) | |
| (select) | | (select) | |
| (select) | | (select) | |
| (select) | | (select) | |
| Total Co-financing | | | 212,000 |

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 | Macedonia | 220,000 | 22,000 | 242,000 |
| (select) | (select) | (select) | | | | 0 |
| (select) | (select) | (select) | | | | 0 |
| (select) | (select) | (select) | | | | 0 |
| (select) | (select) | (select) | | | | 0 |
| Total Grant Resources | | | | 220,000 | 22,000 | 242,000 |

D. EA MANAGEMENT COST

| Cost Items | Total Estimated Person Weeks/Months | Grant Amount (\$) | Co-financing (\$) | EA Total (\$) |
|--|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Local consultants* | 72.00 | 15,950 | 35,000 | 50,950 |
| International consultants* | | | | 0 |
| Office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications* | | 2,000 | | 2,000 |
| Travel* | | 2,000 | | 2,000 |
| Others** | Specify "Others" (1) | | | 0 |
| | Specify "Others" (2) | | | 0 |
| | Specify "Others" (3) | | | 0 |
| Total | | 19,950 | 35,000 | 54,950 |

* 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:

If costs for office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications, travels are requesting for GEF financing, please provide justification here:

The \$2,000 required is for office equipment such as laptops, servers and printers for facilitating the CHM aspects.

PART II: ENABLING ACTIVITY JUSTIFICATION

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| <p>A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT (Provide brief information about projects implemented since a country became party to the convention and results achieved):</p> | <p><u>Background Information</u></p> <p>Macedonia is a landlocked country that is geographically clearly defined by a central valley formed by the Vardar river and framed along its borders by mountain ranges. The terrain is mostly rugged, located between the Šar Mountains and Osogovo, which frame the valley of the Vardar river. Three large lakes — Lake Ohrid, Lake Prespa and Dojran Lake — lie on the southern borders, bisected by the frontiers with Albania and Greece. Ohrid is considered to be one of the oldest lakes and biotopes in the world.</p> <p>Macedonia also has scenic mountains. They belong to two different mountain ranges: the first is the Šar Mountains that continues to the West Vardar/Pelagonia group of mountains (Baba Mountain, Nidže, Kozuf and Jakupica), also known as the Dinaric range. The second range is the Osogovo–Belasica mountain chain, also known as the Rhodope range. The mountains belonging to the Šar Mountains and the West Vardar/Pelagonia range are younger and higher than the older mountains that are part of the Osogovo-Belasica mountain group. The numerous mountains have interspersed the country with many river valleys and significant water resources. Of the total land area, 40% is forested and 51% is under agricultural production. There is significant diversity among the higher plants (with 3,700 known species, including 117 endemic species). In addition, 1,580 species of lower plants have been described (of which at least 72 are considered endemic). A significant number of plant species are considered to be at some threat of extinction (over 500 species). At present, 9,339 animal species have been recorded in the Republic of Macedonia, including 602 endemic species. The difficult economic transition over the last decade has negatively affected the country’s biodiversity. The economic benefits arising from the use of biological resources have often outweighed the investment in protection measures. http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/mk/mk-nr-04-en.pdf</p> <p>Ecosystems.</p> <p>Aside from the mountainous ecosystem, Macedonia is endowed with great floristic and faunal diversity. This can be explained due to the central position of the Macedonia and the various influences to which its territory has been exposed. The ecosystems present in the country include: Wetlands ecosystem, Agricultural ecosystems, Grassland ecosystems, Mountain ecosystems and forest ecosystems. All of these ecosystems have their own benefits to the country and as a result they are at risk from various degradation activities.</p> <p>Currently, the country’s National Parks protect a total of 83 floral species. To protect these ecosystems the country intends to protect 11.5% of its territory by 2024. A number of significant areas are designated for protection, such as Important Bird Areas (IBA), Important Plant Areas (IPA), and Prime Butterflies Areas (PBA). In addition, the country is committed to incorporating the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into all governmental policies, strategies, plans, and programmes. The State also intends to: increase the level of biodiversity conservation and restoration by 30%; establish a database for species, habitats and protected areas; reduce the number of threatened species by 5%; implement sustainable forestry management; and introduce appropriate mechanisms for</p> |
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stimulating biodiversity conservation and deterring biodiversity loss outside of protected areas. (<http://www.cbd.int/countries/profile.shtml?country=mk#thematic>)

Macedonia is thus committed to securing its biodiversity future, by establishing time bound, measurable national-level protected areas targets. In addition, the recently adopted Law on Nature Protection sets up the time frame for re-categorization of the existing protected areas and for establishing a protected areas network, according to the Natura 2000 principles (<http://www.natura.org/>).

While the country is tasked with a lot of its national conservation a lot of the impetus has come from the international arena especially when Macedonia became a party to the CBD on the 2nd of December 1997. Since the CBD COP instituted the Enabling Activity genre of GEF projects to assist countries in planning for conservation, Macedonia has so far implemented 3 such projects (though Macedonia has also developed other Enabling Activities without GEF assistance). **Appendix 4** shows these Enabling Activity Projects and what they have accomplished in Macedonia. As a result of this planning process, Macedonia has to date been able to secure a total of 3 biodiversity projects, representing a GEF investment of US\$ 1,743,500 with an additional \$4,432,400 being leveraged in co-finance, and this information is available at <http://www.gefonline.org/projectList>

B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
 (The proposal should briefly justify the need for the project.)

Justification: The Government of Macedonia has ratified the CBD 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 and Action Plan (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. The following is a summary of Enabling Activities done in Macedonia. Details of what was accomplished can be found in **Appendix 4**.

| Reports | Date of Submission to CBD Secretariat or completion of project | Comments |
|--|--|---|
| Initial National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) | | Supported in 2000 by World Bank (WB) and completed in 2004/2005. Project experienced delays due to domestic unrest, but picked up again after recruitment of an international consultant. As a result the closing date was extended and progress is now satisfactory. Approval was granted for a second extension of the closing date for six months through June 30, 2004. Completion Report was delivered and submitted on 2/14/2005. http://www.gefonline.org/projectDetailsSQL.cf |

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|---|------------------------------|---|
| | m?projID=918 | |
| Revision of NBSAP | n/a | |
| 1 st National Report | 19-11-2003 | |
| 2 nd National Report | 02-06-2005 | |
| 3 rd National Report | 04-11-2005 | |
| 4 th National Report | 26-03-2010 | |
| 2) Capacity Needs Assessments carried out | n/a | |
| National CHM | continuous | <p>The CBD provides within its CHM links to networks of national CHMs. The section on Macedonia does not include or indicate the presence of a CHM. But there may be some indication that a CHM may have been worked on as per the link below but this is a PDF version of a 'Macedonia CHM'. In any case this 2 page Portable Document Formant link is an indication that the CHM is not active or has not been updated recently.</p> <p>http://www.catsg.org/balkanlynx/04_land-use/4_3_protected-area/protected-areas/Pdfs/CHM_2004_Protected_Areas_FYR_Macedonia.pdf</p> |
| <p>a) Baseline for NBSAPs: Macedonia received biodiversity enabling activity assistance initially in 2000 through WB to support the preparation of the NBSAP and the First National Report to the CBD. These activities were executed by the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning/ Since the completion of this project in 2005 the baseline situation within which the</p> | | |

framework of the original NBSAP was developed has changed for Macedonia and thus the NBSAP is due for revision for various reasons including the fact that it was completed 7 years ago and needs updating due to emerging issues. The emerging issues are discussed in Component 2 below. More importantly, the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity & Aichi BD Targets came out with new biodiversity targets which should be factored in the NBSAP. UNEP will work with Macedonia to provide the necessary assistance in the revision of the Macedonia NBSAP.

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, Macedonia has completed its First, Second, Third and Fourth National Reports to the CBD 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 NBSAP and 5th National Report in parallel, in other words, in this project the development of the 5th National Report by Macedonia will be embedded in the consultation process and will not be a stand alone process. UNEP will ensure that the Macedonia will submit the 5th National Reports ahead of the given 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:

- i) COP Decision X/10-National Reporting: The project responds to this COP Decision and the resultant specific SCBD document on Guidelines for Fifth National Report is given at the SCBD website.
- ii) Notification for 5th National Report and revision of NBSAPs: The proposal responds to the recent SCBD Notification 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 complicity with the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity & Aichi BD Targets for biodiversity as agreed by countries in COP 10.
- iv) Country Assistance Strategy, Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) <http://www.imf.org/external/np/prsp/2000/mkd/01/> and related documents such as the Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation (ERS).

Component 3 of this project will articulate how the NBSAP will be integrated into national planning documents and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Justification for requesting \$220,000 excluding Agency fees

Assistance to Macedonia for first NBSAP was in the year 2000. This necessitates an overhaul and updating on all chapters.

In terms of the GEF strategies, the project is consistent with the GEF 5 Results chain and Biodiversity focal area strategies as follows:

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| | <p>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.</p> <p>ii) Focal Area Goal: Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance of ecosystem goods and services.</p> <p>iii) Focal area objective: The project addresses focal area Objective Five: Integrate CBD Obligations into National Planning Processes through Enabling Activities</p> <p>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 Macedonia to revise its NBSAP and to develop the Fifth National Report to the CBD.</p> <p>Fit with UNEP programme of Work <u>SUB Programme: Environmental governance</u> Expected accomplishment a: The United Nations system demonstrates increasing coherence in international decision-making processes related to the environment, including those under multilateral environmental agreements. Output 4: The needs and activities of multilateral environmental agreements are identified and mainstreamed to ensure coherence across United Nations System</p> <p>Expected accomplishment b: Enhanced capacity of States to implement their environmental obligations and achieve their environmental goals, targets and objectives through strengthened institutions and the implementation of laws Output 5: Capacity of government officials and other stakeholders from developing countries and countries with economies in transition is enhanced for their effective participation in multilateral environmental negotiations is enhanced</p> <p>Expected accomplishment (c): National development processes and United Nations common country programming processes increasingly mainstream environmental sustainability into the implementation of their programmes of work Output 3 Support provided to countries to integrate environmental sustainability into national and sectoral development planning processes</p> <p>Expected accomplishment d): Improved access by national and international stakeholders to sound science and policy advice for decision-making Output 1-3: Global, regional, sub regional and thematic environmental assessments, outlooks, indicator reports and alerts produced, communicated and used by decision makers and relevant stakeholders in decision-making in national and international policy processes. (2)Multidisciplinary scientific networks more strategically connected to policymakers and development practitioners to integrate environment into development processes (3) Institutional and technical capacities of governmental and partner institutions in environmental monitoring, assessment and early warning demonstrated to support national decision making.</p> |
| <p>C. DESCRIBE THE ENABLING ACTIVITY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT</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.</p> |

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| <p>IMPLEMENTATION (discuss the work intended to be undertaken and the output expected from each activity as outlined in Table A).</p> | <p>This will be an extension of the assessment the country did while developing the 4th national report to the SCBD where an initial assessment was done on the status trends and threats of biodiversity (http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/mk/mk-nr-04-en.pdf). Part (a) will be done by national consultants before it is discussed by the stakeholders while parts (b) and (c) will be done in a consultative manner in multi sectoral meetings. Specific policies and laws targeted for this assessment (not amendment) include the Macedonian Laws on ambient air quality, law on nature protection, law on waste management, law on environment, the national waste management plan 2009-2015, National Strategy for Sustainable Development, National Environmental Investment Strategy 2009-2013, National Strategy for Clean Development Mechanism of Macedonia for the first commitment period of the Kyoto protocol 2008-2012, Environmental Monitoring Strategy, Environmental Communication Strategy, Environmental Awareness Strategy, Environmental Data Management Strategy, and water strategy for the republic of Macedonia.</p> <p>COMPONENT 2: National Targets, Principles, & Priorities of the Strategy Before the NBSAP is developed, the country will determine its targets and priorities first and taking into account the guiding results from Component 1. Small multi-sectoral committees will do the ground work, which will then be discussed by all stakeholders. This component will be further guided by the instructions given by the CBD COP, and assisted by an international consultant (if necessary) based on the many emerging issues which will be updated in the NBSAPs and which will add different dimensions to the consultations. These emerging issues include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The recently adopted Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020) and its associated goals, the Aichi Targets, and indicators which require fresh consultations by countries; ii) Integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development: It will be necessary to include ways of integrating the NBSAPs into national development and poverty reduction policies and strategies, national accounting, economic sectors and spatial planning processes and the MDGs iii) Human Rights and Indigenous peoples: The Macedonia population may be homogeneous but it is necessary to factor issues on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and those who still adhere to culture and live close to nature. iii) Gender considerations and social and environmental safeguards: -the initial NBSAPs had ignored mainstreaming of gender perspectives into the implementation of the Convention and promote gender equality in achieving its three objectives. This aspect will now 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, forest communities and other local communalities should be taken care of in BD conservation. In the same vein, issues of BD conservation and poverty alleviation should be well articulated in the consultations in this project. Although the project itself is not intervention based, it is important to discuss the poverty- conservation nexus, so that the right principles |
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are laced in the final official documents. While changes in the environment affect everyone, they affect men and women differently. Women in minority groups such as the Romani, Serbs, Croats, Vlachs who live in Macedonia may be more adversely affected if BD is not taken care of due to the fact that they live closest to nature in rural areas. Women's and girls' traditional responsibilities as food growers, water and fuel gatherers, and caregivers connect them closely to available natural resources and the climate, making them more likely to be impacted by environmental hardships. (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-49-en.pdf>). This project will therefore ensure articulation of these gender aspects in the planning for BD conservation.

iv) Marine and coastal Biodiversity needs: Macedonia is a land locked country with no marine and or coastal biodiversity. However there is need to articulate issues regarding biodiversity in its rivers and other inland water masses. .

COMPONENT 3: Strategy and action plan development: Components 3 will entail developing the strategy and actions to implement the agreed targets through national consultations. The resultant NBSAP will be discussed at sub-national levels and local consultations. Based on results from stakeholder consultations (including sub national levels) national experts will be used to draft the final Strategy and Action Plan, which will later be moderated and validated by the stakeholders.

COMPONENT 4: Development of Implementation Plans: Once there is a revised draft strategy and action plans – further consultations will be required to develop implementation plans and related activities. Component 4 addresses the supporting systems for the NBSAP process and will have several areas including (a) Development of a plan for capacity development for NBSAP implementation; (b) Technology needs assessment; (c) Development of a communication and outreach strategy for the NBSAP; and (d) Development of a plan for resource mobilization for NBSAP implementation

COMPONENT 5: Institutional, monitoring, reporting and exchange: This component will address establishment and or strengthening of national coordination structures such as a Biodiversity Unit at the Executing Agency, strengthening of the CHM development of indicators and monitoring approach. The component will also develop 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 revision of the NBSAP is one process but with 2 different products. A portal to assist the preparation of the 5th National Report and revision of the NBSAP will be developed by the SCBD and will be constantly updated, permitting also on-line status reporting in real-time to the CBD, the implementing agencies, the GEF, countries and interested audience, as well as allowing countries to exchange experiences. UNEP will assist in facilitating this inter-country knowledge exchange

and a communication for the process will be developed in this Component for the general public, media and legislators.

Format for 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 national executing agency (NEA) will work in collaboration with the UNEP Regional Office for EUROPE Vienna Office - to ensure successful implementation of the project for the development and implementation of the whole project cycle at the national level, having in mind the limited capacities of our Ministry of **Environment and Physical Planning**. With this arrangement the UNEP Regional Office and the NEA will jointly appoint someone to oversee all the activities of the project as per the TORs given in **Appendix 9**, and following the work plan shown in **Appendix 10**. He/She will further follow the reporting requirement summarized in **Appendix 8** and the project deliverables are given in **Appendix 7**.

Project Implementation by UNEP

i) UNEP will disburse funds (according to the UNEP budget shown in **Appendix 1** and **Appendix 2** shows co financing from Macedonia. This budget follows closely on the general component budget outline given by the GEF Secretariat and is shown in **Appendix 6**, which is cost benchmarks/or sample budget for enabling activities in biodiversity. However these cost benefits are based on the budgets for LDCs and SIDs and so the percentage proportions for each component will be extrapolated according to Macedonia's needs.

ii) UNEP will support the country 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) In addition, using non-GEF funds, the UNEP and SCBD will collaborate in training country teams for the revision on NBSAPs as per the schedule issued by the SCBD (<http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/training/>).

iv) Through the UNEP Task manager provide project oversight, including coordinating the PSC, and monitoring evaluation. UNEP will use project fees for undertaking normal project implementation and oversight items (i-iv).

UNEP will give oversight and monitor this project from its in Nairobi Offices. This will be done mainly through:-

- a) A project supervision plan will guide UNEP and Macedonia in ensuring that the scheduled activities for the project are run within the required timeframe as shown in Appendix 10. This can be facilitated by virtual meetings online,

via telephone and via e-mail.

- b) Technical verification of draft outputs before Macedonia submits these outputs to the SCBD.
- c) UNEP has a dedicated Task Manager (TM) with experience in Enabling Activity programming and management. The TM may attend important functions such as the inception workshop or final commissioning of the NBSAP document.

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN:

The executing agency (MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PHYSICAL PLANNING) is the national authority in charge of environmental matters in the country and is the agency that will follow up the recommendations made in this project in collaboration with UNEP Regional Office for Europe based in Vienna. This will be done by making sure that:

- a) The MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PHYSICAL PLANNING will include a national budget for continuous monitoring of the key issues that will be recommended in the new NBSAP.
- b) The MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PHYSICAL PLANNING will ensure that GEF 5 projects, and others funded by other donors or by Macedonia itself will adhere to the key recommendations in the NBSAP.
- c) Registering the project with the UNDAF process in the country is another measure to anchor it into the donor matrixes for future possible funding of its outcomes

Through its website, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PHYSICAL PLANNING will ensure that the CHM is active and is used by all stakeholders as a clearing mechanism to keep stakeholders updated and to receive information from the stakeholders

Capacity Development

While the NBSAP is a planning document on how to conserve a countries biodiversity over time, it is important for the country to be aware of its biodiversity content. This project will build the Macedonia's biodiversity planners capacity in biodiversity data collection, presentation and archiving in the national CHM that will be developed in component 5 of this project.

The project will have a strong stakeholder component, inclusion of stakeholders into the countries biodiversity planning will;

- Build capacity on monitoring and evaluation of biodiversity conservation activities from different sources.
- Build their capacities by exchanging experiences and lessons learnt in biodiversity planning and conservation, the value of which will be evident in the NBSAP and 5th National report.
- Include indirect aspects of conservation such as , gender mainstreaming, a human rights based approach to conservation etc

Ultimately the networks that will have been created by this stakeholder mixing will provide sustainable resource options for Macedonian biodiversity planning and conservation.

STAKEHOLDERS:

Stakeholders will include (a) National Stakeholders: Government Ministries (multi sectoral), local authorities, local communities, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) local NGOs and Universities - all of which will be active in consultations and working teams. (b) private sector entities- will be active in providing inputs on their role in Biodiversity conservation and how it can be improved (c) local communities and indigenous groups will be consulted and represented in the consultations so that indigenous methods of conservation are included, and the needs of indigenous communities which live close to nature are taken care of. (d) International NGOs related to Biodiversity conservation and which operate at country level will attend the consultations and these include IUCN, WWF, Birdlife international, Wetlands International and many others. They will also be active in checking final documents before they are submitted to the SCBD (e) Multi laterals such as FAO, UNDP, World Bank and others will be invited to attend the consultations.

Indigenous People's Participation

The **Macedonians**, also referred to as **Macedonian Slavs** are a South Slavic people who are primarily associated with the Republic of Macedonia. They speak the Macedonian language, a South Slavic language. About two thirds of all ethnic Macedonians live in the Republic of Macedonia and there are also communities in a number of other countries.

The transition to a market economy resulted in lowered standards of living across Macedonia. Minorities have been especially affected, in part because rural areas neglected by the government, where most minorities live, have felt the greatest blow, and in part due to ongoing discrimination against minorities. The Roma and Turkish communities have been most affected, and suffer widespread poverty, and lack of access to such basic necessities as health care and electricity. This could be detrimental to biodiversity as has happened elsewhere in the world.

However, according to Article 8(j) of the CBD, all contracting Parties as expected to, as far as possible and as appropriate: Subject to national legislation, respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge innovations and practices. In the 4th National report, while reviewing the National Environmental Action Plan, as part of steps aimed at Macedonia set goals to do an inventory of traditional knowledge related to the sustainable use of grasslands in Shar Planina, Bistra, Korab, Jablanica, Galichica, Baba-Pelister, Jacupica, Kozuf and Osogovo Mountain (summer pastures) to protect auto-chthonic sheep in rural areas in Macedonia. As this is a Macedonian project the indigenous Macedonians and Macedonian groups such as the

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| <p>D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:</p> | <p>Macedonian Turks will form a core resource in this project.</p> <p>Cost effectiveness: This project requests \$220,000 from the GEF Trust Fund for support for revision of the NBSAP and development of 5th National Report. It will be highly cost effective in that it lays the foundational planning for conservation, which if well implemented has great gains for the country as all conservation efforts will depend on it in the future. 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>If GEF funds are not provided, Macedonia would “self-finance” for the preparation of their Fifth National Reports and revision of the NBSAPs to achieve the outcomes of this project. However past experience has shown that this method would be the least effective. Macedonia might not revise its NBSAP and develop the 5th National Report to the CBD at all or may be very late in doing so. In both cases, the functioning of the CBD, in particular its decision-making processes, will be seriously 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 Plans for Biodiversity & Aichi BD Targets for biodiversity, meaning that as little as \$ 220,000 can leverage great gains for Macedonia and for the CBD COP process in general.</p> <p><u>Coordination with Other Related Initiatives.</u></p> <p>Currently in Macedonia there is a wide range of on going environmental projects from different proponents. These projects can be a source of valuable information for the NBSAP and the especially the 5th National Report that will be reporting on how Macedonia is conserving its biodiversity through the revised NBSAP. Such initiatives include;</p> <p>(i) The GEF funded project, ‘Support the Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework’ – that seeks to achieve Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework in line with national priorities and obligations to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety</p> <p>While techniques of modern biotechnology are viewed as a new and promising tool for crop improvement and novel uses of plants, animals, and microorganisms, there are concerns about the safety of LMO’s to human health and the environment. The Biosafety project addresses issues regarding national biosafety systems, intended to serve as mechanisms for ensuring the safe use of biotechnology products without imposing unacceptable risk to human health or the environment, or unintended constraints to technology transfer</p> |
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Consultations on the NBSAP revision will link with the Biosafety project to capture how implementation of the Biosafety framework reduces threats to biodiversity and ecosystems. This linkage will be easy to explore and take on board as the two projects are under the same ministry

(ii) The GEF funded project, ‘Strengthening the Ecological, Institutional and Financial Sustainability of Macedonia's National Protected Areas System’- whose project goal is to conserve the biological diversity of Macedonia by strengthening the planning, establishment and management of Macedonia's national system of protected areas.

The NBSAP project shares an executing agency with the UNDP project, the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (MEPP). The Project Oversight Committee for the UNDP project will be part of the stakeholders and discussants of issues on protected areas in the NBSAP revision so that recommendations and information from the UNDP project will be transmitted to the NBSAP revision without having to duplicate efforts. There will be complementarity between the two projects in that the NBSAP project will be discussing how to set achievable BD targets for Macedonia based on the 2020 targets. Target 11 will be on protected areas and will therefore benefit from the baselines and results established by the UNDP project. Target 11 reads:-

“By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes”.

(iii) Promoting the Concept of “High nature value” (HNV) Farming through Civil Society Organizations in Macedonia. – This project is focusing on the positive benefits of certain types of agriculture in Macedonia for protecting our valuable habitats and important species of wildlife. - <http://www.dem.org.mk/hnv.html>

Fifty one per cent (51%) of Macedonia is under agriculture. The NBSAP project will address how Target 7, which reads, “By 2020, areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity” can best be fulfilled. In order to do this, there will be an analysis of sustainability of the agricultural methods currently used in the country. The concept of promoting “high nature value” farming will be one of the methods discussed to show how it will protect valuable habitats and important species. The results of the

on- going project on high nature value farming will therefore feed into the NBSAP discussions , and in particular make recommendations on how this type of farming can be made more popularized, and its advantages over other types of farming. The civil society entities implementing this project are listed as part of the stakeholders invited to the NBSAP project.

Biodiversity Mainstreaming

In Macedonia the national policies are expressed in development plans, action plans that are developed to put them into practice, as well as in sectoral policies and other similar documents. The Republic of Macedonia ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in 1997. In June 1999 Macedonian Government established a National Committee for CBD. In July 2003 Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (MEPP) developed the Country Study for Biodiversity and the National Strategy of Biodiversity and Action Plan (NBSAP). In January 2004 Macedonian Government adopted the first Action Plan (2004-2008). Macedonia has so far prepared and published biodiversity related issues in different ministries and offices Including:-

1. The Environmental Strategy and the NEAP 2;
2. The draft for Nature Conservation Development Plan;
3. State Budget Strategy; the Sustainable Macedonia 21;
4. The Rural Development Plan;
5. The Forestry Development Plan;
6. The Fisheries Development Plan;
7. The draft for National Strategy on Environmental Education;
8. Hunting Activities Development Plan;
9. Final report of the monitoring system for the ecological tax reform.

Other related documents in which mainstreaming BD conservation will be considered include

10. National Master Plan of Macedonia 2020;
11. MDG
(<http://www.undp.org.mk/content/Publications/MDG%20Report%2009%20ENG.pdf>)
12. PRSP (latest version)
<http://www.imf.org/external/np/prsp/2000/mkd/01/111000.pdf>
13. Long-term Public Fuel and Energy Sector Development Plan until 2015;
14. Changes to the Rural Development Plan and Tourism Development Plan.

How mainstreaming will be done.

Step 1: As part of component 1, a consultant will be engaged to look through the above country strategies and policy documents to determine the most relevant ones which should be updated with information on mainstreaming biodiversity conservation. In addition this stock taking will include determining the main gaps found in the current documents and how best to improve them.

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| | <p>Step 2: As part of Component 3, and using the selected sectoral strategy/policy papers, consultation groups will discuss and make recommendations on how BD should be mainstreamed into these sectors. This process should include suggested action plans. Consultants will further make final versions with addendums on what was recommended. These strategies will further be updated in the NBSAP itself.</p> <p>Step 3: During the final stages of the GEF project, the NBSAP committee will make presentations to the Government Heads of each sector, with the aim of encouraging them to implement the recommendations from the national stakeholders and to ensure budget allocation for the same.</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. The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) process will include an end of project assessment undertaken by independent reviewer. The project will be evaluated on the basis of: execution performance, output delivery, and project impact. 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 (1) GEF OFP and CBD FP – this is one person; President of the National Committee of Biodiversity; (2) Director of the Administration of Environment (this is the body responsible on the national level to implement the NBSAPs); (3) expert for conservation of biodiversity and management of the protected areas from Nature Department and representative from UNEP. (4) GEF Operational Focal Point, (5) CBD focal Point, and (6) UNEP DEPI. The PSC will meet once every six 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) The M&E process will be guided by key deliverables and bench marks as shown in Appendix 7. e) The M&E process will be ensure that the project will follow the summary of reporting requirements as shown in Appendix 8 d) A budgeted M&E plan as shown in Appendix 5. |
| <p>F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES</p> | <p>N/a</p> |

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| (WHERE APPLICABLE): | |
|----------------------------|--|

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) |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------|
| Ms. Daniela STEFKOVA RENDEVSKA | Head of Unit for Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperationr | MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND PHYSICAL PLANNING | 07/07/2011 |
| | | | |
| | | | |


B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION*

| CONVENTION | DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yy) | NATIONAL FOCAL POINT |
|----------------------|---|-----------------------|
| UNCBD | 02/12/1997 | MS. DANIELA RENDEVSKA |
| UNFCCC | | |
| UNCCD | | |
| STOCKHOLM CONVENTION | | |

*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 |  | 02-20-2012 | Esther Mwangi | 2547623717 | esther.mwangi@unep.org |
| | | | | | |

ANNEX A

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 | | | |
| Project Manager | 152.5 | 72 | Overall project coordination at Executing Agency , main contact person with UNEP, prepare reports and submit to UNEP according the to activity schedule in appendix 10 |
| Administrative Support | 69 | 72 | full time administrative and financial assistant to support project execution. |
| International | | | |
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| For Technical Assistance | | | |
| Local | | | |
| Local Consultants | 528 | 72 | Technical Assistance for all projects' components in Macedonia providing, technical backstopping to the project manager, data collection, support and coordination of all technical components. |
| | | | |
| International | | | |
| International Consultant (Indicators, Targets developoment, International CHM, Institutional Strenghtening, capacity building) | 1630 | 20 | Assisting the EA 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. |
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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,](#)