

a:madagascar pp 20.5.97

**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
ENABLING ACTIVITY PROPOSAL**

Country:	Madagascar
Project Title :	First National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity
GEF Focal Area:	Biodiversity
GEF Country Eligibility	Ratified the CBD on 4 March 1996
GEF Financing	US\$ 25,000
GEF Implementing Agency	UNEP
National Implementing Agency	Office National pour l'Environnement (ONE)
National Executing Agency (NEA)	Association Nationale pour la Gestion des Aires Protégées (ANGAP)
GEF Operational Focal Point	Embassy of Madagascar, Washington D.C
CBD Focal Point	Directeur, Centre de Recherches sur l'Environnement (CNRE)
Estimated Starting Date	June 1997
Duration of project:	4 months

I. Background/Context:

Known as "La Grande Ile" (i.e. the Big Island) in the Indian Ocean, with her 594,000 km² of land area, varied climate and topography, Madagascar constitutes a veritable microcontinent separated from Africa by the Mozambique Channel.

The geological and tectonic history of the island, its separation from the African continent some 165 million years ago, its position in the Indian Ocean and several other factors including climate and topography have led to a unique and remarkable biodiversity. The diversity of natural ecosystems and of flora and fauna found in Madagascar make the island one of the 12 countries characterized as "megadiverse" in the world. The biodiversity of Madagascar is undoubtedly of global significance: the richness of species and, particularly, the high level of endemism encountered in the island are perhaps unmatched anywhere else on earth. Another remarkable feature of the fauna and flora of Madagascar is their archaism as evidenced by the presence of species that existed on Gondwanaland and have disappeared on other continents. The scientific value of this biodiversity is thus exceptional. All these factors contribute to push the conservation of the biodiversity of Madagascar at the top of global priorities.

The presence of a terrestrial fauna that is 90% composed of sylvatic species suggests that the island was originally covered almost entirely by forests. This forest cover has now been reduced to 8-10 million ha or 20% of what was there when Madagascar was "discovered" by the Portuguese some 500 years ago. Despite this massive deforestation, Madagascar remains home to a rich terrestrial biodiversity. A UNEP/GEF country study is under finalization and has revealed the following indicative numbers of flora and fauna species recorded in Madagascar: 12,000 species of vascular plants (with a level of endemism varying from 76% to 93%); 179 species of amphibians (98% endemic); 363 species of reptiles (90% endemic); 197 species of resident birds of which 106 are endemic; 117 species of wild mammals (97% endemic); 639 species of land insects (96% endemic); 380 species of land mollusks (95% endemic); 121 species of fresh water fishes (32% endemic). Madagascar is also among the countries with a highly diverse marine life.

This truly unique and rich biological diversity is facing increasing various pressures and threats. The principal threat, i.e. habitat destruction, results from deforestation, bush fires, demographic pressures, shifting slash and burn agricultural practices and infrastructure development. Moreover, because of their unique features and huge scientific interest, the fauna and flora of Madagascar have become victims of their own fame which has led to overexploitation for commercial and collection purposes.

The government of Madagascar is however aware of the value of its biological resources for the sustainable development of the island as well as of the global importance of this biodiversity. With assistance from and collaboration with a number of bilateral and multilateral funding agencies, NGOs and several other concerned players, the GOM has launched several initiatives to try to preserve this priceless heritage through establishment of protected areas, effective policies, legislations, public awareness and education, and institutional strengthening.

A national environmental action plan (NEAP) was formulated in 1989 as a fifteen year programme defining priority measures to be taken for the protection of the environment and its mainstreaming into macroeconomic management and sector programmes. Conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, including biodiversity, is one of the objectives of the NEAP. Phase II of this NEAP currently under implementation is dealing with components of relevance to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, including: Multiple Use Forest Ecosystems (ESFUM) , Protected Areas and Ecotourism (CAPE), Coastal and Marine Environment (EMC), biodiversity inventory and training in biodiversity management. It is anticipated that the biodiversity component of the NEAP will allow the integration of the objectives of the CBD into the national sustainable development and environmental protection framework.

II. Project Objectives and Short Description:

This project will permit Madagascar to prepare and submit its first country report to the Conference of the Parties (COP) in line with Article 26 of the CBD and Decision II/7 of COP2. The Office National de l'Environnement (ONE) will oversee the preparation of the report by national consultants from Association Nationale pour la Gestion des Aires Protégées (ANGAP) and ensure its submission to the Secretariat of the CBD within the time frame stipulated by COP3 (i.e. by 1 January 1998).

III. Operational Criteria:

i) Coverage without duplication:

None of the enabling activities Madagascar has undertaken so far involved the preparation of a report to the CBD. The report will draw on existing information contained in the biodiversity country study, the NEAP and other relevant activities.

ii) Appropriate overall sequencing of activities:

The project will be carried out according to the following time table. The report will be completed by December 1997 and will be submitted to the Secretariat of the CBD by the deadline of 1 January 1998 stipulated by COP3.

	Activity/Month	1	2	3	4
1	Preparation of draft report by ANGAP consultants	x	x		
2	Review of national report by ONE			x	
3	Finalization of the report based on the comments of ONE			x	x
4	Editing, Publication, Promotion and Submission of the report to the CBD				x

iii) Best practice:

The report will be prepared taking into account the guide suggested in Decision II/17 of COP2. Relevant guidance contained in the following documents will also be used: "National Biodiversity Planning: Guidelines based on early country experiences around the world" (WRI/UNEP/IUCN, 1995) and "A Guide to the Convention on Biological Diversity" (IUCN, 1994).

(iv) Deviations from criteria and norms:

None.

IV Institutional Framework:

L'Office National de l'Environnement (ONE) will be the agency overseeing the implementation of this project and reporting to UNEP, the GEF Implementing Agency, on the execution of the project. ONE has designated Association Nationale pour la Gestion des Aires Protégées (ANGAP) to carry out the preparation of the first national report of Madagascar to the CBD. ANGAP was the executing agency for the UNEP/GEF biodiversity country study of Madagascar and is thus well placed to prepare the first national report based on the information contained in, inter alia, the country study.

V. Project Financing
Project Budget (US\$) Madagascar First National Report

Activity	Product	Process	Total
1. First National Report	23,000		23,000
- Preparation/Editing (National Consultants)	12,000		12,000
- Publication/Promotion/Dissemination	10,000		10,000
- Miscellaneous	1,000		1,000
5. Co-ordination & Management Costs (8%)	2,000		2,000
Total	25,000		25,000

TABLE A: Dimensions of Enabling Activities (Standard Activity Matrix)

Enabling Activity	Output	Capacity Building		Public Participation	Comments (See footnotes)
		Institutional Strengthening	Training		
Stocktaking of existing information	Country study, NEAP				1,2,3
Identification and Analysis of Options to meet the objectives of the CBD	Country study, NEAP				1,2,3
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan	NEAP				2
First National Report to the CBD	x			x	

x: activity to be undertaken in this project

Footnotes:

1. Madagascar is finalizing a biodiversity country study with assistance from UNEP/GEF. A draft report was produced in March 1997.
2. The Phase II of the National Environmental Action Plan is currently under implementation. The NEAP is supported by a group of donors, international agencies and NGOs led by the IBRD. The NEAP has a strong capacity building component including institutional strengthening and training in biodiversity management, as well as community participation in forest resources management and sustainable use.
3. There are numerous other biodiversity related activities and projects that have taken or are taking place in Madagascar with assistance from bilateral and multilateral funding agencies and NGOs (e.g. European Union, USAID, IFAD, UNDP, Japan, France, Norway, Switzerland, Germany, WWF and IUCN). Many of these initiatives have emphasized biota inventory, establishment and management of protected areas, legislation, public awareness and education, and institutional strengthening.



RECEIVED
ASSOCIATION NATIONALE POUR LA GESTION DES AIRES PROTEGEES

NO YES

10 MAR 1997

Antananarivo le, 25 Février 1997

WHAT
WHO Monsieur Ahmed Djoghlaif
WHEN COMPLETED Executive Coordinator
NO YES UNEP/GEF Coordination Office
 Nairobi

N° 405 / ANGAP / DG / DIVB

K-65/99

KENYA

97/10792

Objet: Assistance pour la préparation du 1er Rapport National
Réf.: N/L n° / ANGAP / DG / DIVB du
V/L AD / CS / sm / 96 / 1316 du 16.12.96

Monsieur le Coordonnateur Exécutif,

Nous avons l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre fax citée en seconde référence et vous remercions de l'appui que le PNUE/GEF voudra bien apporter à Madagascar pour l'élaboration de son Premier Rapport National.

A cet effet, et suite à votre demande, nous vous prions de trouver ci-joint, quelques informations concernant ce projet.

Nous vous prions de trouver annexé à la présente le budget estimatif de ce projet dont le montant total s'élève à 25.000 \$ US ainsi que la liste des projets et programmes pouvant fournir les informations nécessaires à la réalisation de ce rapport.

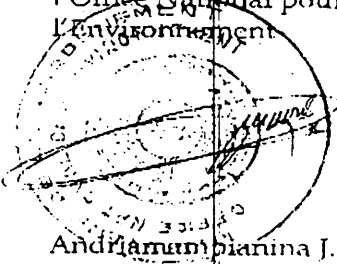
Pour réaliser ce projet qui, nous le souhaitons pour être dans les délais, démarrera au mois d'Avril 1997. L'Office Nationale de l'Environnement est proposé pour être l'agent d'exécution mais, l'ANGAP est l'agent de réalisation de ce rapport étant donné que l'Unité Nationale de la Biodiversité se trouve à l'ANGAP.

Par ailleurs, nous nous excusons de ne pas pouvoir joindre à cette correspondance la lettre de soutien du point focal du GEF à Madagascar car celui-ci est actuellement en cours de nomination. Etant donné les délais demandés par toute administration, cela a également retardé notre réponse.

Vous remerciant de votre compréhension et de votre soutien,

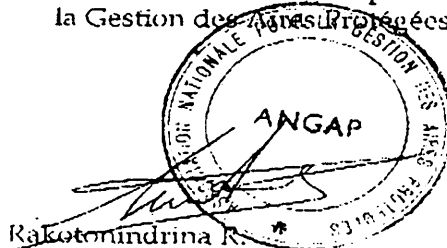
Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Coordonnateur Exécutif, l'assurance de nos considérations distinguées.

Le Directeur Général de
l'Office National pour
l'Environnement



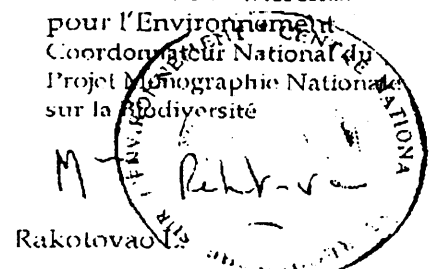
Andriamanjivana J.

Le Directeur Général de
l'Association Nationale pour
la Gestion des Aires Protégées



Rakotonindrina R.

Le Directeur du Centre
National de Recherches
pour l'Environnement
Coordonnateur National du
Projet Monographie Nationale
sur la Biodiversité



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