

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

ENABLING ACTIVITY PROPOSAL

Country: Mali

Project Title: Mali's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, and Country Report to the COP

GEF Focal Area: Biodiversity

Country Eligibility: Ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity 29 March 1995

GEF Financing: \$252,180

Government Contribution: In kind

GEF Implementing Agency: UNDP

National Executing Agency: Comité Interministériel du Suivi (CIS), Ministry of Rural Development and Environment (MDRE)

GEF Operational Focal Point: None designated

Convention on Biological Diversity Focal Point: Ministry of Rural Development and Environment

Estimated Starting Date: 1 March 1997

Duration of Project: 12 months

Background

Mali is a landlocked country that stretches over a land area of 1,240,000 km². The country is located in west Africa, between 10° and 27° latitude north and between 4° longitude east and 12° longitude west. It is surrounded by Mauritania, Algeria, Niger, Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Guinea and Senegal. The country is administratively subdivided into 9 regions (Ségou, Sikassou, Koulikoro, Bamako, Kayes, Mopti, Tombouctou, Gao and Kidal). In 1994, the population of Mali was estimated at around 9,112,950 with an annual growth rate of 2.78%. The annual per capita income remains among the lowest in the continent at \$183 (United Nations Statistics Division 1994). Mali is among the poorest countries in the world. Agriculture, animal husbandry, and fishing are the major occupations of 80% of the population, of which 10% have a nomadic life. The center of the country is mostly settled along Niger River, but the average density is about 7.3 inhabitants/km².

Bio-geographically, Mali belongs to the Saharo-Sahelian region. There are 4 phyto-geographical zones in the country; that is, (a) a Saharan zone in the north (made up of the administrative regions of Ségou and Sikasso) ; (b) a Sahelo-Saharan zone (regions of Koulikoro, Bamako and Kayes) as well as (c) a Sahelo-Sudanian zone (administrative regions of Mopti and Tombouctou) in the center; and (d) a Sudanian zone (administrative regions of Gao and Kidal) in the south. Desert sands and semi-desert vegetation dominate in the northern half of the country, while *Acacia* woodlands occupy the Sahelian zone in the center of the country, and Sudanian woodlands and grasslands can be found in the south. Although the vegetation has two major components: Saharo-Sahelian flora (dry) and Soudanian flora (more mesic), along Niger River and in the south of the country there are wetlands and pockets of forests, but these are threatened by land use pressures for agriculture and livestock pastures. Mali is one of the Sahel countries that has suffered from recurring droughts and overgrazing by livestock. Deforestation, soil erosion, desertification, and inadequate supply of drinking water along with poaching and human encroachment on the habitats within protected areas are the major issues that face conservation and sustainable use of Mali's natural resources. As a result natural resources are now severely depleted.

The importance of biodiversity in Mali is little known. About 1,600 vascular plant species are believed to occur in the country, with only 11 endemics. Animal life in Mali is somewhat diverse. There occur 15 species of large antelopes, many bird species, and several reptiles species, including crocodiles and tortoises. In the wetland habitats, there are important populations of manatees, warthogs, but hippos are nearly extinct in the country. Six hundred elephants survive in the Gourma Elephant Faunal Reserve, and they constitute a conservation priority population for west Africa (IUCN 1990). Parrots are threatened by a large export trade.

There are, however, several important sites under conservation regime (IUCN 1992). First in the east, there are two faunal reserves: Gourma Elephant and Ansongo-Menaka Faunal Reserves. Second in the center of the country, there is the Inner Niger Delta, which is made up of a series of lakes, wetlands and floodplains. Among these, the wetlands and reserves of Lakes Debo, Horo and Seri have been recognized as Ramsar sites. Third, the west of the country has an important reserve complex, which is centered on the Boucle de Baoulé National Park with its contiguous Fina, Bandiko and Kongossambougou Faunal Reserves as well as Bossofolia Forest Reserve. All these reserves and protected areas are managed under the Ministry of Rural Development and Environment (MDRE) by the *Opération Parc National de la Boucle de Baoulé et des Réserves Adjacentes* (OPNBBRA), which plays the role of the national park service. Moreover, several projects related to biodiversity conservation have been or are currently being implemented by the European Union (conservation of the elephants of Gourma), the government of the Netherlands (e.g. village forestry in Segou and Koulikoro), the WWF (development of the Niger Delta Reserves and Ramsar sites). There are also several multi-agency projects by GTZ, IUCN, FAO, UNDP, the World Bank, etc. Although these projects have been locally making positive contribution, their efforts have not yet been integrated into a global strategy for biodiversity sustainable use and conservation. The gap needs to be filled.

The extent and trends in biodiversity loss in Mali have been only superficially surveyed. Repeated droughts, poaching, illegal trade of wild animals, and severe overgrazing by livestock is resulting in serious degradation of ecosystems and in biodiversity loss for much of the country. In view of all these gaps and threats, the Government of Mali has undertaken a National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP), which will result into new laws and institutional reforms. NEAP process is supported by the GTZ, UNDP, and the World Bank. It is due to finish its assessment in March 1997. Through NEAP a multi-sectoral consultative body for the environment and desertification control has been put in place under the Ministry of Rural Development and the Environment (MDRE). This inter-agency body is known as the *Comité Interministériel du Suivi (CIS)*. CIS is coordinating NEAP and it is developing a country strategy to fight and control desertification. To coordinate these efforts and integrate biodiversity concerns into the country's general plans and strategies, the Government of Mali has requested GEF-UNDP for support to prepare a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) and to craft a Country Report for the Biodiversity Conference of Parties (COP).

Project Objectives and Short Description

The principal objective of this enabling activity is to assist Mali in preparing a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP), which will define the current status of, pressures on, options for, and priority actions to ensure the conservation, sustainable use, and equitable share of its biological diversity. The project will build on the existing knowledge base to elaborate the BSAP through a process of participatory planning and stakeholder consultation. This will also enable Mali to both meet its obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CDB) by preparing its first country report to the Conference of the Parties, and to integrate biodiversity concerns into the National Environment Action Plan (NEAP), which is nearing completion. During the NEAP process, the Government of Mali established, within the Ministry of Rural Development and Environment (MDRE), a multi-agency consultative body, namely CIS. CIS includes representatives from the public sector (government and public institutions), the private sector (NGOs and local communities). CIS will participate in the overseeing committee for BSAP.

To ensure coordination of efforts (between NEAP, efforts to combat desertification, and BSAP), the Government of Mali will initially appoint a steering committee to supervise the BSAP process and provide overall direction and policy guidance. Members of the steering committee will represent the full range of concerned biodiversity stakeholders, including representatives to be drawn from CIS, other biodiversity stakeholders, and the donor community. Under supervision of the steering committee, a planning team will undertake the work of the enabling activity. Planning team members will be selected according to their biodiversity and planning expertise. The BSAP process will also draw from different sectors of the society and will include the organization of two national workshops and 4 regional workshops.

The planning team will be assisted by one lead national consultant, several national and short term consultants experienced in biodiversity issues. The lead national consultant will coordinate and facilitate project activities. The national consultants will help to run the national workshops, and the

short term consultants will run the 4 regional workshops. An international consultant will provide assistance in familiarizing the planning team in biodiversity planning, framing key strategies, drafting the BSAP and facilitating participation by all relevant biodiversity resources' stakeholders.

The planning team and consultants will initially undertake a review of WRI/IUCN/UNEP guidelines (Miller and Lanou 1995) for the preparation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans. They will then compile and summarize existing information on the status of, and threats to the nation's biodiversity. This information, along with summaries of the NEAP, Forestry Action Plan, and other donor financed natural resource activities in Mali, will be presented at the first national workshop.

With support from national and international consultants, the planning team will conduct the first national workshop, which will draw together the full range of actors and stakeholders relevant to biodiversity. The first national workshop will include participants from national and local government agencies and institutions, the private sector, NGOs, local communities, and the donor community. The workshop participants will analyze the results of the stocktaking and inventory to select objectives, identify key issues and options as well as actors and priority areas for review. In conjunction with the first national workshop and with the help of the lead national consultant, the international consultant will provide familiarization sessions in participatory methods, biodiversity analysis, strategic planning techniques and dissemination techniques to the planning team particularly to the national and short term consultants.

Following the first national workshop, a detailed analysis of the issues and options will be carried out by the planning team with the help of national consultants. As part of this process, 4 regional workshops will put together representatives from local communities and institutions, private sector, government agencies, and the donor community. The regional workshops will assess various issues and options by region of the country and involve the full range of local stakeholders in the BSAP process. The regional workshops will be conducted primarily by the short term consultants with assistance from the planning team and the national consultants.

The results of the analysis and regional workshops will then be drawn together by the planning team assisted by the short term consultants, and a draft BSAP will be prepared with the assistance of the national and international consultants. A second national workshop, to be attended by government agencies, NGOs, the private sector, local communities, and the donor community will invite comment on the initial analysis and draft BSAP. New alternatives and options will be identified and developed to seek consensus among the stakeholders prior to the finalization of the details of the BSAP.

Upon approval by the CIS and the Government of Mali, the BSAP will be disseminated widely within Mali and a country report to the COP of the biodiversity convention will be prepared by the planning team. Because the First Country Report will not be available until February 1998, in November 1997 the planning team will draft an interim report that the Government of Mali will present for the COP deadline of December 1997.

Coverage Without Duplication

The BSAP will allow better linkages between government ministries and integrate biodiversity conservation within existing legislation and the forthcoming NEAP's recommendations. The BSAP will be based on existing data to be compiled by national consultants under the guidance of the planning team. Significant stocktaking activities will be undertaken, as there is need to synthesize the existing information from biodiversity related projects and to repatriate data from abroad, primarily from France and the Netherlands. Because CIS originated from NEAP, and it is completing the strategy to fight and control desertification, coordination of these endeavors by CIS will be smoothly made and there will be no duplication.

Time Plan and Sequencing

The project will follow the sequence of activities recommended in the WRI/IUCN/UNEP Guidelines, with variations as appropriate, based on lessons learned from early country experiences around the world (Miller and Lanou 1995). Activities will start in March 1997 and will last for 12 months.

Activity / Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Establishment of steering committee and planning team	x	x										
Stocktaking, inventory of information (digest)	x	x	x									
Training (familiarization) of planning team				x								
First national workshop				x								
Identification and analysis of options, regional (provincial) workshops					x	x	x	x				
Preparation of biodiversity strategy, action plan								x	x	x		
Second National Workshop										x		
Adoption of BSAP by the Government and dissemination											x	
Preparation of interim report and submission to COP									x	x		
Preparation of first country report and submission to the COP											x	x

Best Practice

The project will follow methodology recommended in the IUCN's "Guide to the Convention on Biological diversity" (Glowka, et al. 1994) and the WRI/IUCN/UNEP's "Guidelines for Preparing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans" (Miller and Lanou 1995). The BSAP will prepare the ground and identify priority needs of activities in the fields of biodiversity conservation, sustainable

development, and benefit sharing to be undertaken by follow up projects. Guidance and lessons will be drawn from the NEAP process.

Project Financing

	Product	Process	Total
<i>Stocktaking and Inventory of Information</i>	13,000		13,000
- national consultants	7,000		7,000
- documentation, misc.	6,000		6,000
<i>Identification and Analysis of Options</i>	16,000	115,000	131,000
- national consultants	9,000	10,000	19,000
- international consultant	7,000	13,000	20,000
- first national workshop		24,000	24,000
- training (familiarization)		7,000	7,000
- regional workshops (4)		56,000	56,000
- travel and miscellaneous		5,000	5,000
<i>Preparation of Strategy and Action Plan</i>	18,000	59,000	77,000
- national consultants	7,000	16,000	23,000
- international consultant	9,000	12,000	21,000
- second national workshop		23,500	23,500
- travel and miscellaneous		4,000	4,000
- publication and dissemination	2,000	3,500	5,500
- <i>First National Report</i>	6,500	6,000	12,500
- preparation of interim report	1,500		1,500
- preparation of first country report	1,500	2,000	3,500
- publication of final report	3,500		3,500
- dissemination and miscellaneous		4,000	4,000
<i>Coordination and Management Costs (8%)</i>	4,280	14,400	18,680
Total For Enabling Activity	57,780	194,400	252,180

Deviations from Criteria and Norms

The project does not deviate from GEF enabling activity criteria and norms.

Institutional Framework and Project Implementation

The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Rural Development and Environment with support from UNDP's country office. Under the guidance of the multi-sectoral Steering Committee, chaired by the Secretary General of Environment, an inter-agency planning team will manage project activities with the assistance of national and international consultants. At its first meeting the Steering Committee will agree on the country's biodiversity vision, as well as on methodologies and indicators for assessing progress and performance.

The first country report will be prepared following the guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties in November 1995 and in the guidelines by Miller and Lanou (1995). The report will be developed in consultation with diverse governmental and non-governmental agencies, including both the private sector and community representatives. The report and the BSAP will be disseminated widely upon completion.

Activity Matrix

Enabling Activity Commitment	Output	Capacity Building		Public Participat.	Comments
		Inst. Strength	Training		
<i>Stocktaking and Assessment, based on Existing Information</i>					
- biodiversity & biological resources	x				1
- cross-sectoral issues	x				1
- policy and regulatory framework	x				1
- institutional and human capacity	x				1
- analysis of root causes of BD loss	x				1
- technologies for conservation and sustainable use	x				1
- activities with adverse impacts					1
- existing measures and programmes	x				1
- preliminary statement of objectives	x				1
- identification of gaps	x				1
- assessment of existing needs	x				1
					1
<i>Identification and Analysis of Options to Meet the Objectives of the CBD</i>					
- strategies for conservation	x (NEAP)	x	x	x	2
- strategies for sustainable use	x	x	x	x	2
- strategies for benefit sharing	x	x	x	x	2
<i>Planning and Preparation of a Strategy and Plan</i>					
- national strategy	x	x	x	x	3
- national action plan	x	x	x	x	3
<i>Preparation of the first National Report</i>					
- interim report to COP	x				
- first national report	x			x	

Notes on the Activity Matrix

1. The BSAP stocktaking will build on the base of information which exists as a result of initiatives and projects by WWF, IUCN, UNDP, OPNBBRA, FAO, UNESCO and GTZ. However, existing information needs to be summarized and reorganized to fit into BSAP process.
2. The BSAP will extend strategies forthcoming in the NEAP, however it is necessary to develop strategies more focused on biodiversity resources, as well as participatory strategies towards meeting provisions of the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) and persistent problems of resource degradation and desertification. For this purpose, 2 national workshops and a series of consultations will be carried out in order to incorporate on-ground realities and needs.

3. The BSAP will effectively complement and enhance the provisions from existing plans and strategies, particularly those being developed through the NEAP process. Coordination of efforts will be made by CIS, and there will be no duplication.

References

Glowka, L., F. Burhenne-Guilmin, H. Synge, J.A. McNeely, and L. Gundling 1994. *A guide to the Convention on Biological Diversity*. IUCN Gland and Cambridge. xii + 161pp.

IUCN., The World Conservation Union. 1990. *Biodiversity in Sub-Saharan Africa and its Islands*. Gland, Switzerland.

IUCN., The World Conservation Union. 1992. *Protected Areas of the World*. Gland, Switzerland.

Miller, K.R. and S.M. Lanou 1995. *National Biodiversity Planning: Guidelines Based on Early Experiences Around the World*. WRI, UNEP, IUCN. 162 pp.

United Nations Statistics Division 1994. *1994 per capita gross domestic product for African countries in US Dollars*. Economic Statistics Branch.

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PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES
POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT

DEVELOPPEMENT MONDIAL

FAX MESSAGE

3 FEV. 1997

FAX / N° 273

REFERENCE

FAX N° : 212 906 63 62

LE 13 FEVRIER 1997

A

DR. TRINTO E. MUGANGU
ACTIVITES HABILITANTES DE BIODIVERSITE
PNUD-FEM/BPA, NEW YORK

DE

DORIS SYLLA
CONSEILLER EN DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE
PNUD, BAMAKO

NOMBRE DE PAGES: 3

OBJET

POINT FOCAL OPERATIONNEL GEF AU MALI

COMME SUITE A TES DIFFERENTS MESSAGES, VOUS CI-JOINTES LA COPIE DE LA LETTRE DU MINISTRE DES FINANCES ET DU COMMERCE ADRESSEE AU MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES QUI EST L'INSTITUTION DE COOPERATION PARTENAIRE DU PNUD, ET LA COPIE DE LA LETTRE DU MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ADRESSEE AU REPRESENTANT RESIDENT DU PNUD. IL EST A NOTER QU'AU MALI, DE PAR LES PROCEDURES ADMINISTRATIVES ET JURIDIQUES POUR DE TELLES REQUETES, LE MINISTRE DES FINANCES ET DU COMMERCE NE PEUT PAS ADRESSER UNE CORRESPONDANCE DIRECTE AU PNUD. C'EST AUX AFFAIRES ETRANGERES DE LE FAIRE.

DESOLE POUR TOUTES LES CONTRAINTES. JE VEUX SURLIGNER QUE MAINTENANT LE DOSSIER SERA FINALEMENT BOUCLÉ. J'ENVOIE COPIE A MS. SONG LI, COMME DEMANDE.

MERCI ET MEILLEURS SALUTATIONS.



Secrétariat des Nations Unies
Département du Développement Humain

**MINISTERE DES FINANCES
ET DU COMMERCE**
SECRETARIAT GENERAL

REPUBLIQUE DU MALI
Un Peuple - Une Patrie - Une Foi

Bamako, le 17 JAN 1997

N° 0076 / MFC-SOUT. 3 q

*Le Ministre des Finances
et du Commerce*



A Monsieur le Ministre d'Etat,
Ministre des Affaires Etrangères

- KOUZIMA -

Dans le cadre du suivi des activités préparées sur la Convention Internationale sur la Diversité Biologique, j'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance que le Ministère du Développement Rural et de l'Environnement est désigné comme point focal opérationnel du Fonds pour l'Environnement Mondial du Mali.

Il me plaît de vous demander de bien vouloir informer le PNUD de cette désignation.

Le Ministre

[Signature]
Soumalla



SR
MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES
ET DES MAIENNES D'I/EXTÉRIEUR

DIRECTION DE LA COOPÉRATION
INTERNATIONALE

- 0 1 3 2

N°...../MARM/DCI/DCM/82-R

RÉPUBLIQUE DU MALI
UN PEUPLE, UN BUT, UNE VOI

Kouleuba, le 13 FEV. 1997

LE MINISTRE D'ÉTAT, MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES
ÉTRANGÈRES ET DES MAIENNES D'EXTÉRIEUR

A MONSIEUR LE REPRÉSENTANT RÉSIDENT
DU FNUD.

BAMAKO

Monsieur le Représentant Résident,

Dans le cadre du suivi des activités préparatoires sur la Convention Internationale sur la Diversité Biologique, j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Ministère du Développement Rural et de l'Environnement est désigné comme point focal opérationnel du Fonds pour l'Environnement Mondial au Mali.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Représentant Résident, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

LE MINISTRE P.O.
LE DIRECTEUR DE LA COOPÉRATION
INTERNATIONALE



[Signature]
MADY TRAORE
Ministre P.O.

**MINISTERE DU DEVELOPPEMENT
RURAL
ET DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT**

République du Mali
Un Peuple - Un But - Une Voie

SECRETARIAT GENERAL

A-1560

30 SEP 1988

N° **/MDRE-SG**

Bamako, le



**Le Ministre du Développement
Rural et de l'Environnement**

**/- / Monsieur le Ministre d'Etat,
Ministre des Affaires Etrangères
et des Relations de l'Extérieur**

**Objet : Requête de financement
pour les activités préparatoires
de mise en oeuvre de la Convention
Cadre des Nations Unies sur la
diversité biologique**

J'ai l'honneur de vous informer que dans le cadre de la mise en oeuvre de la Convention Cadre des Nations Unies sur la diversité biologique, le PNUD et le Fonds pour l'Environnement Mondial ont mis à la disposition des pays les moyens avancés un fonds pour le financement des activités préparatoires.

Le Mali ayant ratifié ladite Convention envisage de démmarrer des activités préparatoires pour sa mise en oeuvre.

A cet effet, il me plaît de vous demander de bien vouloir adresser une requête de financement au PNUD pour la mise à disposition de ressources financières nous permettant de réaliser des actions.



11 OCT. 1996

M.B. MAIGA
MINISTRE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES
ET DES MALIENS DE L'EXTERIEUR

REPUBLIQUE DU MALI
Un Peuple - Un But - Une Foi

01708

N° _____/MAEME-DCI-DCM-82B

Bamako, le 11 OCT. 1996

Le Ministre d'Etat, Ministre des Affaires
Etrangères et des Maliens de l'Extérieur

/- Monsieur le Représentant Résident du PNUD

BAMAKO

Objet : Requête de Financement pour les activités
Préparatoires de mise en oeuvre de la Convention
Cadre des Nations Unies sur la diversité biologique.

Monsieur le Représentant Résident,

J'ai l'honneur de vous rappeler que dans le cadre de la mise en oeuvre de la
Convention Cadre des Nations Unies sur la diversité biologique, le PNUD et le Fonds pour
l'Environnement Mondial ont mis à la disposition des Pays les Moins Avancés, un fonds
pour le financement des activités préparatoires.

Le Mali qui a signé et ratifié ladite Convention, envisage de démarrer des activités
préparatoires pour sa mise en oeuvre.

Je vous saurais gré de toute disposition utile que vous voudriez bien faire prendre
pour la mise à disposition du Mali des ressources financières permettant de réaliser ces
actions.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Représentant Résident, l'assurance de ma haute
considération.

P/LE MINISTRE P.O.
LE DIRECTEUR DE LA COOPERATION
INTERNATIONALE

