



REQUEST FOR BIODIVERSITY ENABLING ACTIVITY

PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GEF TRUST FUND

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

EA Title:	National Biodiversity Planning to Support the implementation of the CBD 2011-2020 Strategic Plan in Nicaragua		
Country(ies):	Nicaragua	GEF Project ID:	t.b.d.
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	5008
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA)	Submission Date:	September 4, 2012
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration (Months)	18
Check if applicable:	NCSA <input type="checkbox"/> NAPA <input type="checkbox"/>	Agency Fee (\$):	22,000

A. EA FRAMEWORK

EA Objective: To integrate Nicaragua's obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) into its national development and sectoral planning frameworks through a renewed and participative 'biodiversity planning' and strategizing process, in a manner that is in line with the global guidance contained in the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020.

EA Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co-financing (\$)
1) Stocktaking and national target setting	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By end of 2013, a multi-sectoral/multi-stakeholder working group is established and it completes the stock-taking exercise. - By 2013, national targets in response to the global Aichi Targets are developed. 	<p>1.1 Review and stocktaking of products and results from previous biodiversity planning processes at the national level are carried out in participative manner.</p> <p>1.2 In response to the global Aichi Targets, national biodiversity targets are developed in a manner that is attuned to Nicaragua's reality.</p> <p>1.3 The achievement of national targets, developed in line with the global Aichi Targets, is duly monitored during the project duration and beyond, and this is reported upon to the CBD through national reports and other means.</p>	32,945	37,050
2) NBSAP update	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By early 2014, the Nicaragua's NBSAP is fully updated, it is in line with the guidance in the CBD Strategic Plan (2011-2020) and has been submitted to the CBD COP 	<p>2.1 A National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for Nicaragua, anchored into national development frameworks, is revised and updated, in a manner that is participative, widely disseminated and fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan, such as: (i) mainstreaming; (ii) the valuing of ecosystem goods and services; and (iii) the incorporation of challenges and opportunities linked to ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience.</p> <p>2.2 The updated and fully endorsed NBSAP for Nicaragua is submitted to the CBD preferably within the deadline set by the COP.</p> <p>2.3 Integrating the challenges to Protected Areas in the 21st Century into the NBSAP and the national</p>	104,515	67,500

EA Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co-financing (\$)
			implementation of the CBD's Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA).		
3) National frameworks for NBSAP implementation, CDB reporting and exchange mechanisms		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By 2013, complete the updating and improvement of national clearinghouse mechanisms - By 2014, complete plan for implementing the NBSAP, including capacity, technology and finance needs assessment 	<p>3.1 National frameworks for NBSAP implementation is in place and includes: (i) institutional leadership for implementation is established and strategic partnerships forged (nationally and internationally); (ii) a costing and prioritized Action Plan is appended to the NBS; (iii) needs assessments on capacity, technology and finance are carried out; and (iv) a strategy for resource mobilization for the implementation of the NBSAP is produced and includes a baseline assessment of existing biodiversity finance.</p> <p>3.2 An effective, user-friendly and easily updatable country-driven CHM site is developed; it is linked up to the CBD's global CHM networks and to other information and knowledge exchange network on biodiversity.</p> <p>3.3. Immediate CBD reporting obligations are met by Nicaragua in a timely manner: The Fifth National Report to the CBD by 31 March 2014.</p>	63,085	51,750
Subtotal				200,545	156,300
EA Management Cost ¹				19,455	29,700
Total EA Cost				220,000	186,000

^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 Co-financing	Amount (\$)
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grant	81,000
National Government	Nicaragua	Grant	9,450
National Government	Nicaragua	In-kind	95,550
Total Co-financing			186,000

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)	Total (c)=(a)+(b)
UNDP	GEF TF	Biodiversity Focal Area Set-Aside	Nicaragua	220,000	22,000	242,000
Total Grant Resources				220,000	22,000	242,000

D. EA MANAGEMENT COST

Cost Items	[GEF only] Total Estimated Person Weeks	Grant Amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	EA Total (\$)
Local consultants*	72 + 72 = 144	16,380	27,700	44,080
International consultants*		0	0	0
Office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications*		1,075	2,000	3,075

¹ 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.

Cost Items	[GEF only] Total Estimated Person Weeks	Grant Amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	EA Total (\$)
Travel*				0
Others**	Project Audit	2,000		2,000
Total		19,455	29,700	49,155

* Details to be provided in **Annex A**. For the GEF column, amounts and # of persons-week relate to managerial tasks of the National Enabling Activity Technical Coordinator (9% of the incumbent's time / remuneration) and the remuneration of a part-time Technical Administrative-Assistant.

** Other items to be clearly specified.

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:

IT equipment purchase is required for project management, due to the obsolescence of the existing equipment in the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources. Refer to Annex C (Total Budget and Work Plan) for more details.

In addition, the Government of Nicaragua will contribute with the time of managerial staff from MARENA (estimated at \$7,450 for the time dedicated by the Project Director to supporting and managing the project throughout its duration). This will ensure government engagement in the organization in Project Board meetings; project reporting; work plan approvals, signing off on delivery reports, reviewing monitoring reports, including the simplified APR/PIR.

MARENA will also provide office space and local transport estimated at \$2K.

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):

Context and Biodiversity Significance

Nicaragua, bordered by Costa Rica on the South and Honduras on the North, is the largest Central American republic. The vast Pacific Ocean forms its western border, the balmy Caribbean Sea, the east. The country is divided into three geographic regions: the Pacific Lowlands on the west, the mountainous Central Region and the Atlantic Lowlands on the east.

Nicaragua has a warm tropical climate dominated by moist easterly trade winds with alternating wet and dry seasons. This in combination with Nicaragua's varied topography produces three distinct climatic regions with a mosaic of terrestrial and marine ecosystems that support exceptional species diversity. Given its geographic position in the narrow Central American isthmus, Nicaragua is an inflection point for biodiversity forming a transition zone from tropical to sub-tropical climates where the ranges of distribution of globally important species converge. Conversely, the San Juan River, that divides Nicaragua and Costa Rica, marks an insurmountable physical barrier for other groups of species, making Nicaragua the northernmost distribution limit for species of the southern hemisphere (e.g. primates and marsupials) and the southernmost limit of many species of the northern hemisphere (e.g. Caribbean pine trees, coyotes and pumas). Nicaragua's 11 distinct ecoregions² and 53 natural ecosystems³ including 28 types of forest (including 3 types of mangroves), 7 types of savannah, and 7 types of aquatic ecosystems⁴ contribute to the Mesoamerican Biodiversity Hotspot, which spans from central Mexico to the Panama Canal. Among these there are ecosystems unique to Nicaragua, such as the tectonic (crater) lakes Xolotlán and Cocibolca that provide unique habitat for endemic ichthyologic fauna. In addition, 13 man-made, productive ecosystems, such as coffee stands or pasture systems are described. Biodiversity is distributed from North to South along the Pacific and Atlantic flanks of Central America's mountainous continental divide where the isolation of biota have led to two chains of connected ecosystems with separate

² WWF defines an eco-region as a large area of land or water that contains a geographically distinct assemblage of natural communities that (a) share a large majority of their species and ecological dynamics; (b) share similar environmental conditions, and; (c) interact ecologically in ways that are critical for their long-term persistence.

³ Using UNESCO criteria

⁴ Meyrat, A. "State of Conservation of Nicaragua's Ecosystems", MARENA 2002.

natural histories.

Along these flanks, globally important species, whose regional endemism rates are approximately 15% for mammals, 17% for (higher) plants, 19% for birds, 35% for reptiles, 65% for amphibians, and 67% for freshwater fishes, depend on the continuity of ecosystem chains for their maintenance.⁵

The country is multi-ethnic with no official religion. Nicaragua's population of 5.5 million people is very young in its profile, with 60% under 17 years of age. Mestizos of mixed Indian and Spanish blood make up the majority of the population.

Managua is the nation's capital with a population of approximately 1.4 million, 27% of the entire country's population. On the Atlantic Coast there is also strong African influence which has its roots in the black workers brought in by the British to work the plantations and in Jamaican immigration. Another predominant ethnic group is the Miskito Indian.

Nicaragua's primary activities are agriculture, cattle, silviculture and fishing. Within the manufacturing activities manufacturing itself, construction, mines and quarries are mentioned; as tertiary activities commerce, central government, transportation, communications, financial services, electricity, gas, water, social and personal services. The foreign direct investment has gone from US\$266 million in 2000 to US\$626 million for 2008; most of this foreign invested money has gone to energy, communications and manufacturing.

Nicaragua's main exports are coffee, meat, peanuts, cattle, sugarcane, gold, lobster, dairy products, shrimps, beans, bananas, sesame seeds, and others. In the last years, non-traditional products such as handmade furniture and hammocks.

Tourism has also become a meaningful source of economic development for Nicaragua. It is receiving more and more support from both the government and private investment and at the same time it has been placed as the first most important source.

Main macroeconomic indicators 2010

GDP at constant prices (growth rates)	4.5
GDP per capita in dollars	1,126.5
GDP per capita (growth rates)	4.1

Human Development indicators (UNDP Report)

Health, life expectancy at birth (years)	74.0
Education, Index of education (and average expected years of instruction)	0.525
Gross national income (GNI) per capita (Constant 2005 international \$)	2,430
Inequality, human development index adjusted for equal	0.427
Multidimensional poverty index (%)	0.128
Index of gender inequality	0.506
Adjusted net savings (% of GNI)	3.4
Demography, total both sexes (in thousands)	5,869.9

Nicaragua's HDI is 0.589, which gives the country a rank of 129 out of 187 countries for which comparable data. The HDI of Latin America and the Caribbean (OR) as a region has increased from 0,582 in 1980 to 0,731 today, so Nicaragua is below the regional average.

Nicaragua's economic growth for 2011 was 4.7% percent higher in Central, the positive impact of this situation led to a dramatic increase in foreign direct investment (FDI). In 2011 foreign direct investment in Nicaragua reached the \$ 900 million.

Major environmental problems that threaten our biodiversity:

- The lack of environmental education at all educational levels in the community, neighborhood, workplace, institutions, public and private companies and the media.
- Dependence on fossil fuel for 80% of our electricity generated as a result of privatization of electricity generation by

⁵ Nicaragua's endemism rate is characteristically low (informally estimated at < 1%) due to its connectivity to regionally important ecosystems.

previous governments.

- Mismanagement of watersheds, has led to the reduction and contamination of surface and ground water resources, including reserves in the country, corresponding to the basin of the lakes Cocibolca and Managua and San Juan River and Old River basin.
- Soil contamination by discharges of pollutants from the agricultural, livestock and domiciliary
- The environmental pollution by solid and liquid wastes that affect the health and human health and the scenic beauty of the country and its tourism potential.
- Continued use of pesticides classified as prohibited
- Improper management of forests, the change of use of forest land for agriculture and livestock, and the use of inappropriate agricultural practices have led to the development of the agricultural frontier, loss of medicinal plants, forest and timber wildlife and other terrestrial and aquatic organisms that ensure soil fertility and reproduction of plants and animals.
- Loss of genetic diversity, especially native and endemic such as pine Yucul, Apacunca, Dipilto and Jalapa.
- The loss of forests due to lack of care Pinares increased bark beetle plague.

The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA) is the national institution in charge of biodiversity protection, specifically through the Biodiversity Directorate, aimed to propose politics, coordinate strategies and regulate integrally the conservation and protection of biodiversity, natural ecosystems and the sustainable use of natural resources in the different biogeographic and ecological regions of the country.

The Ministry is also responsible for the SINAP, the National Protected Areas System, which includes a total of 72 PAs, of which 66 are terrestrial (2,093,747.38 ha) and 5 are marine-coastal (113,551.65 ha) all of which count on PA declaration decrees and laws. Nine PA management categories apply in Nicaragua, covering an area of 2,207,299.03 hectares, equivalent to 17% of the national territory. In the past few years, there have been major improvements in PA management effectiveness, not least also through the help of a GEF project.

1) National Reporting to CBD			
Reports	Date of Submission to CBD Secretariat	Current Status*	Comments
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan	2002-04-02	Posted in the CBD Website	Popular version available in the site.
Revision of NBSAP	-	Funds being requested for completing the NBSAP revision through this project	A revision was made on 2007, but was not sent to CBD. Further work is required to align it to Aichi Targets and the CBD Strategic Plan
1 st National Report	-	Not submitted	
2 nd National Report	2002-02-11	Posted	
3 rd National Report	2006-01-30	Posted	
4 th National Report	2010-09-03	Posted	
1 st Biosafety Report			
2 nd Biosafety Report			
2) Capacity Needs Assessments carried out YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>			
Start Date (dd-Mmm-YY): January 2002		End Date (dd-Mmm-YY): January 2003	
Please list all of the CBD Program of Work and cross-cutting themes that were addressed in the Biodiversity Enabling Activities Capacity Needs Assessments:			Dates
▪ Methodologies to evaluate and mitigate specific threats to biodiversity components			2002-2003
▪ Initial assessment and programs monitoring, including taxonomy			2002-2003
▪ Incentives			2002-2003
3) Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) established?			YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CHM link(s):			
Is the CHM website maintained up to date?			YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
How many people currently operate and maintain the national CHM?			--
How many people visited the national CHM website in the past 12 months?			--
Note: Nicaragua National would-be CHM site requires a total overhaul.			

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

The Baseline Project: The Current NBSAP and the new CBD Strategic Plan

The new CBD Strategic Plan, adopted at CoP-10 in 2010 in Nagoya, clearly addresses the need for updating NBSAPs, stating in Target 17 that “By 2015, each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.” The strategic plan also covers a range of issues that will need to be incorporated into the revised NBSAPs, including guidance to countries to: a) fully realise the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and incorporate these values into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies (Targets 1 and 2); b) increase the global terrestrial protected area estate from 12% to 17% and the marine estate from 6% to 10% (Target 11); c) restore and safeguard key ecosystem services, especially for water, health and livelihoods (Target 14); and d) strengthen ecosystem resilience to climate change and promote ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation (Target 15).

The most recent NBSAP for Nicaragua was completed in 2002. This version of the NBSAP does not include the following elements of the CBD Strategic Plan’s Aichi Targets:

- A plan for integrating the value of biodiversity into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems (Target 2)
- A plan for developing landscapes that have sustainable production and consumption and ensure the use of natural resources falls well within safe ecological limits. (Target 4)
- A plan for fully implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas, including increased protection and landscape/seascape connectivity (Target 11)
- A plan for restoring and safeguarding ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being (Target 14)
- A plan for strengthening ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks, including the restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems (Target 16)
- A plan for the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources (Target 20)

Proposed Response and Rationale: The new generation of BD EA. This project seeks to fully incorporate the above issues into the NBSAP. This ‘new generation’ of NBSAP will help set a regional standard of excellence by creating a national road map for achieving the Aichi Targets. Special emphasis will be placed on mainstreaming biodiversity into development plans, incorporating protected area networks and sustainable production systems into ecosystem-based climate adaptation and resilience plans, and creating sustainable finance for biodiversity conservation through the full valuation of key ecosystem services.

The Project Objective is:

To integrate Nicaragua’s obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) into its national development and sectoral planning frameworks through a renewed and participative ‘biodiversity planning’ and strategizing process, in a manner that is in line with the global guidance contained in the CBD’s Strategic Plan for 2011-2020.

This will be achieved through the following Outcomes (corresponding to components described in detail below):

- Outcome 1 – A participative stocktaking exercise on biodiversity planning takes place and national biodiversity targets are developed in response to the global Aichi Targets
- Outcome 2 – The NBSAP is revised/updated and it fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan, such as mainstreaming and anchoring the implementation of the plan into national development frameworks, valuing ecosystem services and promoting ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience
- Outcome 3 – National frameworks for resource mobilization, Convention reporting and exchange mechanisms are established and strengthened

Refer to Part I, Table A and to the next section for more details.

How the project plans to build national capacity

Enabling Activities are considered foundation activities within the framework of the GEF.

The ultimate goal of Biodiversity Enabling Activities is to build national capacity across the board for biodiversity management. The effective achievement of global biodiversity benefits depend on the development of national capacity for managing biodiversity. The more robust this capacity is in a given country, the more effective the national implementation of the CBD will be.

The approach to building of national capacity in this proposal follows the guidance from the *GEF Strategic Approach to Enhance Capacity Building* (2003)⁶ under the GEF's cross-agency Capacity Development Initiative. Three levels of capacity were identified: individual, organizational and systemic. Quoting from a recent GEF publication on the theme of capacity (GEF 2010)⁷:

"At the individual level, capacity development refers to the process of changing attitudes and behaviors, most frequently through imparting knowledge and developing skills through training. However it also involves learning by doing, participation, ownership, and processes associated with increasing performance through changes in management, motivation, morale, and improving accountability and responsibility.

Capacity development at the organizational level focuses on overall performance and functioning capabilities, such as developing mandates, tools, guidelines and management information systems to facilitate and catalyze organizational change. At the organizational level, capacity development aims to develop a set of constituent individuals and groups, as well as to strengthen links with its environment.

At the systemic level, capacity development is concerned with the "enabling environment", i.e., the overall policy, economic, regulatory, and accountability frameworks within which organizations and individuals operate. Relationships and processes between organizations, both formal and informal, as well as their mandates, are important."

In this light, this project will build national capacity in Nicaragua in the following manner:

Individual	Much of the work under this project will be carried out through working groups or focal groups. This is an ideal forum for imparting knowledge among different individuals involved in biodiversity planning and in environmental matters in Nicaragua in general. For many of the civil servants and NGO staff in Nicaragua, the opportunity for working within a project like this is a form of training. Furthermore, consultation, participation and ownership are guiding principles of biodiversity planning processes. These are an essential part of this proposal.
Organizational	In particular, the following activities are specially targeted at building organizational capacity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Taking stock of the NBSAP and identifying barriers to its implementation ▪ Taking stock of the lessons learned in the use of promotion mechanisms for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. ▪ Setting targets and priorities ▪ Developing implementation plan for the revised NBSAP ▪ Assessing and strengthening capacity needs ▪ Developing the clearinghouse mechanism ▪ Developing a permanent framework for reporting to the CBD
Systemic	In particular, the following activities are specially targeted at building systemic capacity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessing and integrating ecosystem services through economic valuation ▪ Mainstreaming biodiversity into development policies, plans and practices and into sectoral plans and strategies ▪ Incorporating climate change issues into NBSAPs ▪ Integrating the NBSAP implementation plan with the CBD Program of Work on Protected Areas implementation plan and Nagoya Protocol, among others. ▪ Securing sustainable finance for NBSAP implementation ▪ Monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity under climate change scenarios

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).

Detailed Description of Activities per Project Component / Outcome

The description that follows has been organized in five modules (I -V), following the GEF's guidance, but which for the sake of simplicity were grouped within the three already mentioned Components / Outcomes. The following are modules:

⁶ GEF, 2003: "Strategic Approach to Enhance Capacity Building". Global Environment Facility. See also: GEF Evaluation Office, 2006: "Evaluation of GEF Capacity Development Activities. Approach Paper". GEF EO.

⁷ GEF Capacity Development Initiative, Global Support Programme for National Capacity Self-Assessment, 2010: "Monitoring Guidelines of Capacity Development in GEF Operations".

Component	Outline of modules for NBSAP Revision and Related Activities	Indicative percentage of total GEF funding in the proposal
1	I. Preparation	5%
	II. Setting national targets, principles, & main priorities of the strategy	10%
2	III. Strategy and action plan development	55%
3	IV. Development of Implementation plans and related activities	15%
	V. Institutional, monitoring, reporting and exchange	15%

Component 1. Stocktaking and national target setting

Key Outputs expected under this component includes the following:

- 1.1 Review and stocktaking of products and results from previous biodiversity planning processes at the national level are carried out in participative manner.
- 1.2 In response to the global Aichi Targets, national biodiversity targets are developed in a manner that is attuned to Nicaragua's reality.
- 1.3 The achievement of national targets, developed in line with the global Aichi Targets, is duly monitored during the project duration and beyond, and this is reported upon to the CBD through national reports and other means.

Key Outcomes:

- By end of 2013, a multi-sectoral/multi-stakeholder working group is established and it completes the stock-taking exercise.
- By 2013, national targets in response to the global Aichi Targets are developed.

Key Products or publications resulting from activities:

- Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Nicaragua
- Biodiversity Targets for Nicaragua: As part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020

Key Activities (I-II):

I. Preparing for the NBSAP revision

- Taking stock of the NBSAP and identifying barriers to its implementation: This activity will focus on rapidly but accurately taking stock of existing plans, policies and practices, and of the root causes of biodiversity loss. Within country-specific contexts, the aim is not only to identify key threats, but to understand the drivers behind these threats, as well as the key aspects of the policy environment that are barriers and challenges to effective conservation/sustainable use. Based on existing studies and analyses, the emphasis of this activity will be on identifying key gaps in the existing NBSAP, understanding the primary drivers and root causes, and identifying the means of overcoming existing barriers and challenges.
- Stakeholder consultation and participation: This activity will focus on ensuring a robust consultative process that engages representatives from key sectors, administrative leaders, and traditionally under-represented groups. The aim is to develop and sustain a participatory process in order to increase the likelihood of successful implementation of the NBSAP. This is especially important relative to the goals of mainstreaming biodiversity into national development plans, and promoting resilient landscapes that include production sectors.

II. Setting targets

- Setting targets and priorities: This activity focuses on setting specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound targets for the NBSAPs based on the global Aichi Targets, including targets on restoration of ecosystems, protected area coverage, overall biodiversity loss, and other aspects of the Strategic Plan. This activity, which is linked to priority setting among different aspects within the NBSAP, will be completed by CoP-11.

Component 2. NBSAP Update

Key Outputs expected under this component include the following:

- 2.1 A National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for Nicaragua, anchored into national development frameworks, is revised and updated, in a manner that is participative, widely disseminated and fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan, such as: (i) mainstreaming; (ii) the valuing of ecosystem goods and services; and (iii) the incorporation of challenges and opportunities linked to ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience.

- 2.2 The updated and fully endorsed NBSAPs for Nicaragua is submitted to the CBD preferably within the deadline set by the COP.⁸
- 2.3 Integrating the challenges to Protected Areas in the 21st Century into the NBSAP and the national implementation of the CBD's Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA).

Key Outcome:

- By early 2014, Nicaragua's NBSAP is fully updated, it is in line with the guidance in the CBD Strategic Plan (2011-2020) and has been submitted to the CBD COP

Key Products or Publications resulting from activities

- Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Nicaragua
- Sub-product 1: Study on Advances in Sectoral Mainstreaming of Biodiversity in Nicaragua
- Sub-product 2: Study on the Incorporation of Challenges and Opportunities linked to Ecosystem-Based Adaptation and Resilience in Nicaragua

Key Activity (III)

III. Developing the NBSAP

This step will seek to achieve the following: (i) Developing the strategy and actions to implement the agreed targets through national consultations; (ii) Application of the NBSAP to sub-national entities through sub-national and local consultations; and (iii) Sectoral integration including mainstreaming into development, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectoral consultations.

While the project will focus on updating all aspects of NBSAPs, it will place particular emphasis on those aspects that are both highlighted in the 2011-2020 CBD Strategic Plan, and that are typically absent from its existing NBSAP. These include the following:

- Assessing and integrating ecosystem services through economic valuation: The study on the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) has drawn attention to the global economic benefits of biodiversity and ecosystem services and to the growing costs of biodiversity loss and degradation. However, we have not yet linked the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services to our own national development goals, including poverty eradication and sustainable livelihoods. Through this activity, we will be able to demonstrate the benefits and values of ecosystems and biodiversity at a national level, and better link ecosystems and priority sectors in national development plans, in order to guide allocation of resources. The aim is to strengthen the point that biodiversity not only underpins human well-being, but that biodiversity and associated ecosystem services can make a significant contribution to poverty reduction and economic development. By engaging national specialists and providing support from global specialists, hard economic data will be collected and processed at the country level to demonstrate the costs and benefits of investing in biodiversity management. Capacity to carry out the assessments and make important links to priority economic sectors will be simultaneously built within the country. The availability of essential data and the analysis will allow us to "make the case" for biodiversity and will facilitate the process of mainstreaming biodiversity into sectoral planning through concrete biodiversity valuation examples.
 - ✓ Specific steps in this process include:
 - a. Identify and assess the full range of values of key ecosystem services within the country, based on existing local, national, regional and global studies on the value of ecosystems and biodiversity, including: the national TEEB valuation results, the valuation of protected areas, any other national ecosystem services studies that have been conducted (e.g., water, carbon), and existing global and regional maps and overlays of key ecosystem services
 - b. Identify the implications of these services for different stakeholder groups within the country, including those who benefit from, and pay for, the maintenance of these ecosystem services, and those that degrade ecosystems through unsustainable use.
 - c. Estimate and demonstrate the value of key ecosystem services (using methods appropriate to each service), including the value of the ecosystem service in contributing to climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation; reducing poverty, and sustaining livelihoods.
 - d. Where appropriate, this activity will also identify potential means of capturing the value of targeted ecosystem services including through policies such as payments for ecosystem services and other positive incentives.

⁸ The actual submission of the NBSAP to the CBD Secretariat is the responsibility of the government of the Republic of Nicaragua, not UNDP's.

- Mainstreaming biodiversity into development policies, plans and practices and into sectoral plans and strategies: Mainstreaming has been defined as the internalization of biodiversity conservation goals into economic and development sectors, policies and programs, such that they become an integral part of their functioning of these sectors.⁹
 - ✓ As part of this process, we will focus on the following sectors: Agriculture, Livestock, Energy and Mining
 - ✓ The Project will also focus on the following development areas / topics: Land-use management, including spatial and infrastructural development planning, Poverty alleviation, Rural development and livelihoods and Food security
 - ✓ Specific steps in this process will include:
 - Forming partnerships between relevant stakeholders interested in biodiversity conservation issues and in development issues
 - Explicitly identifying key stakeholders' interests, and desired outcomes
 - Identifying potential conflicts and trade-offs, and work towards mutually acceptable solutions, including strategies that serve mutually beneficial interests and achieve mutually beneficial outcomes
 - Embedding and institutionalizing these strategies in the institutions, policies, agreements, programs and mechanisms of each sector
- Incorporating climate change issues into NBSAPs: The previous NBSAP did not adequately address aspects of climate change. This activity will involve incorporating aspects of climate change into NBSAPs, including, identifying areas of particular importance for restoration in order to improve climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation.

Component 3. National frameworks for NBSAP implementation, CDB reporting and exchange mechanisms

Key outputs expected under this component includes the following:

- 3.1 National frameworks for NBSAP implementation is in place and includes: (i) institutional leadership for implementation is established and strategic partnerships forged (nationally and internationally); (ii) a costed and prioritized Action Plan is appended to the NBS; (iii) needs assessments on capacity, technology and finance are carried out; and (iv) a strategy for resource mobilization for the implementation of the NBSAP is produced and includes a baseline assessment of existing biodiversity finance.
- 3.2 An effective, user-friendly and easily updatable country-driven CHM site is developed; it is linked up to the CBD's global CHM networks and to other information and knowledge exchange network on biodiversity.
- 3.3. Immediate CBD reporting obligations are met by **Nicaragua** in a timely manner, in particular the Fifth National Report to the CBD by 31 March 2014.

Key Outcomes:

- By 2013, complete the updating and improvement of national clearinghouse mechanisms
- By 2014, complete plan for implementing the NBSAP, including capacity, technology and finance needs assessment

Key Products or publications (maybe combined into one):

- Set of 'straight-forward' and feasible NBSAP implementation plans, which ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP
- Fully functional CHM for Nicaragua, based on best international practice on the matter
- Fifth National Report to the CBD

Key Activities (IV – V)

IV. Developing implementation plans

This activity will focus on developing an overall plan for implementing the NBSAP. This implementation plan will include the following components:

- Developing an overall implementation plan: The primary output of this activity is an overall implementation plan that delineates major steps, responsible parties, costs for main activities, expected outcomes and a timeline
- Integrating the NBSAP implementation plan with the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas implementation plan: Nicaragua has made various efforts to implement its PoWPA implementation plan, and this step will ensure that our work on protected areas, including goals, objectives and next steps, are fully integrated into the NBSAP. We will

⁹ Petersen, C and B. Huntley. 2005. Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Productive Landscapes. Working Paper 20. Washington DC: GEF.

place particular emphasis on those aspects of Target 11 from the CBD Strategic Plan, including our plans for expanding protected areas, improving management effectiveness, sustainably financing protected areas, improving connectivity, and integrating protected areas into the wider landscape and seascape.

- Securing sustainable finance for NBSAP implementation: Article 20 of the Convention mentions the need for Parties “to provide, in accordance with its capabilities, financial support and incentives in respect of those national activities which are intended to achieve the objectives of this Convention.” In the past few years, there has been a wide proliferation of innovative biodiversity finance mechanisms, such as payments for ecosystem services, conservation trust funds, biodiversity offsets and bio-carbon funding, among many others. We are still in the early stages of exploring these mechanisms. This activity will therefore focus on the following:
 - Identifying the existing financial gap for implementing the NBSAP
 - Identifying potential sources of revenue for filling these gaps
 - Assessing the feasibility for these revenue sources
 - Developing a detailed plan for operationalizing these revenue sources
- Assessing and strengthening capacity needs: One of the primary areas of enabling activities is the assessment of capacity needs. The decisions at CoP-10 place new and ambitious demands on countries, including requirements to protect and sustainably manage their lands and water, to develop comprehensive plans that integrate climate change into their land use, development and sectoral plans and strategies, and to develop appropriate biodiversity and climate policies, laws and incentives. This activity will ensure that we develop a road map for strengthening these specific capacities. Building on existing capacity needs assessment, and using existing guidance, we will identify the following gaps, along with capacity-building strategies to fill those gaps¹⁰:
 - Lack of an appropriate legal and institutional framework and of adequate enforcement of environmental laws;
 - Incipient human and material resources for monitoring the Convention at different levels, including of specialized capacity for biodiversity management.
 - Lack of capacity, standardized methodologies, indicators and information management systems for monitoring;
 - Not all policies that deal with biodiversity management are harmonized to allow for a consistent implementation of the Convention;
 - Need to improve coordination and strategic partnerships among government agencies, including local government, centers of excellent and civil society.

V. ***Institutionalizing, monitoring and reporting***

- Monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity under climate change scenarios: Monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity is a key aspect of several Programmes of Work within the CBD. To date, efforts to monitor and report on the status of biodiversity have been sporadic and have typically not taken into full account the status and trends of biodiversity, the status of effective conservation, the contribution of ecosystem services (such as water and carbon), and the likely impacts of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystem services. Through this project, we will ensure that future monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity and ecosystem services is comprehensive, and fully incorporates climate change issues.
- Developing clearinghouse mechanisms (CHM): Of the 90 countries that accessed funding under the Fourth National Report joint global project (UNDP-UNEP/GEF), only 44 had national CHM sites, and of those, 25 were kept up-to-date (data from 2010). At the same time that CHMs are largely out of date, reliance on digital information has increased exponentially. Nicaragua is no exception. Several efforts have been done to join and put on line national information, but still remain disperse. This aspect of the project will help us develop an effective, user-friendly and easily-updatable CHM that will enable us to effectively share information nationally, regionally and globally. The project will also work in collaboration with the CHM of the Secretariat of the CBD, to ensure that lessons and information are disseminated globally.
- Developing a permanent framework for reporting to the CBD: Parties to the CBD committed to submitting a fifth national report by 2014. In this project, Nicaragua will submit a 5th National Report that fully covers the NBSAPs, key changes in the status and trends in biodiversity status, threats and conservation, and will develop a long-term reporting framework that will enable us to better track changes over time.

¹⁰ Adapted from Nicaragua’s National Capacity Self-Assessment for implementing the Rio Conventions (2005). [Link](#).

Project implementation arrangement:

The project will be implemented over a period of 18 months. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA) is the government institution responsible for the implementation of the project and will act as the *Executing Agency*. UNDP is the *GEF Agency* for the project and accountable to the GEF for the use of funds. The project is nationally executed (NEX), in line with the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA, 1978) between the UNDP and the Government of Nicaragua, and the Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) for 2008-2012.

The overall responsibility for the project implementation by MARENA implies the timely and verifiable attainment of project objectives and outcomes. MARENA will provide support to, and inputs for, the implementation of all project activities. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources will nominate a high level official who will serve as the National Project Director (NPD) for the project implementation. The NPD will chair the Project Steering Committee (PSC), and be responsible for providing government oversight and guidance to the project implementation. The NPD will not be paid from the project funds, but will represent a Government in kind contribution to the Project. The NPD will be technically supported by a project technical officer as well as UNDP's technical backstopping provided by the UNDP/GEF Regional Technical Advisor responsible for the project and the UNDP Environment Focal Point at the Country Office.

All consultants hired by the project will be recruited using standard UNDP-CO recruitment procedures and will report directly to the NPD.

Working closely with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, the UNDP Country Office (UNDP-CO) will be responsible for: (i) providing financial and audit services to the project; (ii) overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets approved by PSC; (iii) appointment of independent financial auditors; and (iv) ensuring that all activities including procurement and financial services are carried out in strict compliance with UNDP/GEF or national procedures. A UNDP staff member will be assigned with the responsibility for the day-to-day management and control over project finance.

A *National Project Steering Committee* (PSC) will be convened by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, and will serve as the project's coordination and decision-making body (Project Board). The PSC will include representation of all the key project stakeholders. The PSC meetings will be chaired by the NPD. It will meet according to the necessity, but not less than once in 6 months, to review project progress, approve project work plans and approve major project deliverables. The PSC is responsible for ensuring that the project remains on course to deliver products of the required quality to meet the outcomes defined in the project document.

The day-to-day administration of the project will be carried out by a *Project Coordinating Unit* (PCU), comprising a Project Manager (PM) and Project Administrative Assistant, who will be located within MARENA offices. The project staff will be recruited using standard national recruitment procedures. The PM will, with the support of the Project Administrative Assistant, manage the implementation of all project activities. The Project Manager will liaise and work closely with all partner institutions to link the project with complementary national programs and initiatives. The PM is accountable to the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, and the PSC for the quality, timeliness and effectiveness of the activities carried out, as well as for the use of funds. The PM will also be technically supported by contracted national consultants and service providers. Recruitment of specialist services for the project will be done by the PM, in consultation with the UNDP and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources.

Project consistency with national strategies and plans or reports and assessments relevant for the CBD, as well as other cross-cutting assessments and priority setting exercises

At a national level, the key strategies, policies and plans that are relevant for Nicaragua's Enabling Activity Proposal:

- Nicaragua's Framework Law on the Environment (217)
- Nicaraguan Environmental Plan (2001-2005) – set the basis for environmental policies, but remained to be updated
- The National Biodiversity Strategy (2002)
- National Programme for Environmental Awareness and Community Engagement for Life (2009-2013)
- Gender Equity Strategy in the New Environmental Management Policy (2007)
- Policies of the National Protected Areas System (2006)

This project is a follow-on to the existing NBSAP, and it is consistent with it. It will be guided by priorities in above-mentioned strategies, policies and plans. The project builds on previous biodiversity planning and CBD reporting processes. It also builds on the conclusions from previous capacity assessments, taking them one step further.

Other plans, policies and strategies may include (from Fourth National Report to the CBD):

- Política Nacional de Desarrollo Forestal (2000 – 2015).

- Política Nacional de Pesca y Acuicultura
- Política General de Ordenamiento Territorial
- Política Nacional de Recursos Hídricos
- Criterios e Indicadores de Sostenibilidad del Bosques
- Política Nacional de Humedales
- Política Nacional de Descentralización
- Política Nacional de Producción Más Limpia
- Política Nacional Agropecuaria
- Política Nacional de Turismo
- Política Nacional de Transporte e Infraestructura
- Estrategia Nacional de Cambio Climático
- Plan de Ordenamiento Territorial de Río San Juan
- Planes de Manejo, 23 formulados en 2007 / 08
- Indicadores Ambientales a Nivel Nacional
- Elaboración de las fichas RAMSAR
- Declaratoria de 42 Reservas Silvestres Privadas
- Comités de Agua a Nivel Nacional

Collaboration and synergies with related initiatives

UNDP has a large and active GEF biodiversity portfolio in Nicaragua. The project manager, the host initiatives and the UNDP Country Office will ensure that this project projects can benefit from technical synergies. These synergies will be created primarily with the following projects:

- ✓ UNDP/GEF Project PIMS 3422 *Strengthening and Catalyzing the Sustainability of Nicaragua's Protected Area System* – under implementation. The project has produced interesting results and it is strengthening the SINAP in several aspects. Much data has been collected on ecosystems and PA management. The involvement of local communities in governing the PAs is something to showcase in the new NBSAP.
- ✓ UNDP/GEF Project on PIMS 3617 *Mainstreaming the Multilateral Environmental Agreements into the Country's Environmental Legislation* – recently completed. The results of the assessments and capacity development initiatives will guide the gap analysis in the capacity assessment activities under the current project.
- ✓ UNDP/GEF Regional Project *Central American Markets for Biodiversity (CAMBio): Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable use within Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Development and Financing* – under implementation. The project support the mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use within small, micro, and medium sized enterprise development and financing in five Central American countries, including Nicaragua. Much data has been collected on sustainable financing of biodiversity-friendly initiatives. This could be showcased in the new NBSAP

A number of other relevant initiatives could be mentioned (including several at the regional level), but are not for the sake of brevity. Representatives and experts from the on-going relevant biodiversity projects will be invited to NBSAP workshops and to participate, where relevant, in specific working groups. The aim is to ensure that the knowledge on biodiversity that these projects have collected and are producing can be incorporated into the NBSAP, as well as the knowledge that project staff can bring to the discussion table based on their experience.

Comparative advantage of UNDP in Nicaragua with respect to this project:

UNDP has historically been the largest GEF implementing agency in terms of assisting countries in undertaking biodiversity enabling activities, having assisted more than 100 countries with it through several projects. The GEF2 global project 'Biodiversity Support Programme' was jointly implemented with UNEP and has set the stage at the global level in the field of biodiversity planning among GEF eligible countries. Furthermore, UNDP assisted Nicaragua in the preparation of its existing and its existing NBSAP and the 2nd, 3rd and 4th National Reports to the CBD.

The Government of Nicaragua has requested UNDP assistance in designing and implementing this project, due to UNDP's track record in Latin America and the Caribbean. UNDP currently supports the development and implementation of several GEF projects in Nicaragua within the focal areas of biodiversity, but also climate change and international waters. UNDP has an established national office in Managua with well-developed working relationships with the key stakeholders of the project. The UNDP Country Office's Environment & Energy Unit counts on four professional staff, plus senior management, operations and support staff. Moreover, the project will benefit from the presence of a UNDP/GEF Regional Technical Advisor dedicated to Biodiversity in the UNDP Regional Service Centre in Panama. UNDP also has extensive experience in integrated policy development, human resources development, institutional strengthening, and non-governmental and community participation.

Finally, UNDP is providing co-financing to this project amounting to \$81K in core resources.

Project's alignment with UNDP's programme for Nicaragua

The UN Development Assistance Framework for Nicaragua (UNDAF) covers the period 2008 – 2012 and includes under MDG 7 the following two strategic axes, which are relevant for this project: (i) Reduction of environmental vulnerability and sustainable human development; (ii) Sustainable management of natural resources and people's access to water, sanitation, energy and a healthy environment. UNDP is a key agency within the UNDAF for delivering on these goals. A new UNDAF is in the process of being prepared and it is expected that UNDP will continue to be a key UN agency in Nicaragua for delivering environmental finance services.

UNDP's Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) also covers the period 2008-2012 and it is fully aligned with the UNDAF. The CPAP's thematic areas are: a) Democratic Governance and security; b) Equitable economic development; c) Environment, energy and risk management; and d) Sustainable development of the Caribbean coast. In particular, the project is aligned to the third thematic area, under which the following result is sought: "development of capacity in public and private institutions to formulate and implement policies and plans to reduce environmental vulnerability and promote sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem recovery and equitable access to supply, sanitation and energy".

Stakeholder involvement in the implementation of the project

The stakeholder involvement element is embedded in the description of several activities within this proposal which will have a consultative and participatory character. A full stakeholder involvement plan will be developed in connection with the preparation of the UNDP Project Document that will operationalize this proposal at the level of UNDP, allowing Nicaragua to access the funding. This plan will depart from the following indicative and non-exhaustive list:

- Ministerio del Ambiente y los Recursos Naturales - MARENA
- Ministerio Agropecuario y Forestal - MAGFOR
- Ministerio de Hacienda y Crédito Público - MHCP
- Ministerio de Educación - MINED
- Instituto Nacional Forestal - INAFOR
- Instituto Nicaragüense de Tecnología Agropecuaria. - INTA
- Instituto Nicaragüense de Turismo. - INTUR
- Instituto Nicaragüense de la Pesca y la Acuicultura - INPESCA
- Instituto Nacional de Información para el Desarrollo - INIDE
- Instituto Nicaragüense de Apoyo a la Mediana y Pequeña Empresa - INPYME
- Centro de Investigación de Recursos Acuáticos. - CIRA
- Comisión Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo. - CCAD
- Fundación para el Desarrollo de la Costa Caribe Nicaragüense. - FADCANIC
- Alianza Centroamericana de protección a la Diversidad Biológica. - ACPB
- Regiones Autónomas (Atlántico Norte, Atlántico Sur) - catering for indigenous matters - RAAN/RAAS
- Secretaria de Recursos Naturales de la Costa Atlántica - SERENA
- Universidad Centroamericana. - UCA
- Universidad Nacional Agraria. - UNA
- Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua - UNAN
- Bluefields Indian Caribbean University. - BICU
- Programa de Monitoreo de Supervivencia Invernal de Aves Migratorias - MOSI
- Fundación Amigos del Río San Juan - FUNDAR
- Fundación Esperanza Verde - FUNDEVERDE
- The Nature Conservancy - TNC
- Flora y Fauna Internacional – FFI

More specifically, the participation of NGOs and CSOs stakeholders in the implementation of this project will be ensured in every stage of it. NGOs and CSOs in Nicaragua are very active in the environment arena. They play an important advocacy and 'watchdog' role with respect to biodiversity. Many of them count on extensive networks of stakeholders and have produced research data that can help enrich the products that this project will be concerned with. These advantages will be explored in full during project implementation.

The participation of indigenous and traditional groups in the project will be ensured through locally based CSOs, but also through the institutions and contact groups set up under the RAAN and RAAS.

The seven indigenous peoples of Nicaragua live in two main regions: firstly, the Pacific Coast and Centre North of the country

(or simply the Pacific), which is home to the Chorotega (221,000), the Cacaopera or Matagalpa (97,500), the Ocanxiu or Sutiaba (49,000) and the Naho or Náhuatl (20,000); and, secondly, the Caribbean (or Atlantic) Coast, inhabited by the Miskitu (150,000), the Sumu-Mayangna (27,000) and the Rama (2,000).¹¹ Indigenous peoples of Nicaragua enjoy collective rights in accordance with the Political Constitution of Nicaragua (1987). Many of these groups live traditional lifestyles deeply linked to the use biodiversity as an intrinsic part of it.

The project coordination will ensure that the voice of indigenous and traditional groups will be duly heard and taken into consideration in the preparation of the new NBSAP. Specific COP guidance on the matter, linked to implementation of the Convention's Article 8(j), will be followed.¹²

Gender marking

The State in Nicaragua recognizes women's rights in the Constitution (it grants equal civil rights to all citizens and prohibits gender-based discrimination). However, patriarchal attitudes and deep-rooted stereotypes regarding women's and men's roles in society still persist. The government therefore recognises the need to empower women so they can fully enjoy their rights in the daily social life. With respect to environmental management, MERENA is implementing the - Gender Equity Strategy in the New Environmental Management Policy (2007), based on the fundamental principles ensuring equity between women and men, as matters of fundamental human rights and social justice and a precondition for sustainable development.

The project coordination will ensure that gender considerations become part and parcel of the updated NBSAP. COP guidance will be followed.¹³ More specifically two are worth mentioning: (i) COP Decision 1X/24 on the approval and endorsement of the CBD Gender plan of Action; and (ii) COP Decision X/19, which amongst other matters invited Parties to consider gender as a core cross-cutting issue in the implementation of biodiversity-related activities.

During the project inception the mandatory UNDP gender marker will be applied. This requires that each project in UNDP's ATLAS system be rated for gender relevance. This will for example include a brief analysis of how the project plans to achieve its environmental objective by addressing the differences in the roles and needs of women and men.

Furthermore, gender marking implies the production of the following data by the project's year 2 and by its end:

- Total number of full-time project staff that are women
- Total number of full-time project staff that are men
- Total number of Project Board members that are women
- Total number of project Board members that are men
- The number jobs created by the project that are held by women
- The number jobs created by the project that are held by men

D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:

The proposed GEF project will ensure that a national strategy and action plan guide all stakeholders and partners in the conservation of the country's precious resources. This is one way of making optimal use of biodiversity planning resources.

First, the project approach is formulated to ensure that the revised NBSAP becomes a relevant policy instrument, which will be effectively integrated into development plans, development finance, as well as plans, strategies and policies aimed at managing climate risk; and that convention reporting and the CHM frameworks are produced in a cost-effective manner and with technical quality.

Secondly, the project closely builds on and is aligned with the government's past, on-going and planned activities related to the CBD, including GEF financed biodiversity projects.

Thirdly, with the strategic and additional investment by the GEF and the co-financing from the Government and UNDP, the project aims to generate synergetic impact to significantly further the biodiversity agenda in the country, by producing practical tools for NBSAP mainstreaming and implementation, ecosystem-based adaptation planning, and mainstreaming biodiversity into key sectors.

Furthermore, the project is considered cost-effective in that it seeks to produce the new generation of NBSAP which will help set a regional standard of excellence by creating a national road map for achieving the Aichi Target. This is expected to generate

¹¹ Cited from www.iwgia.org/regions/latin-america/nicaragua.

¹² See e.g. www.cbd.int/traditional.

¹³ See e.g. www.cbd.int/doc/nbsap/nbsapcbw-pac-02/nbsap-nadi-scbd-gender.pdf and www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-49-en.pdf.

positive influence in biodiversity planning in the Latin America and Caribbean Region.

Other options have been considered, e.g. sub-contracting an NGO to assist in NBSAP update as an entire 'package' of services to be rendered. High costs in fees from service providers would make such option less cost effective, coupled with the risk of biasing a document such as the NBSAP, which is supposed to reflect broad societal views on the national strategy for biodiversity.

The project adopts the least-cost means of achieving the project's objectives and follows the activity norms and cost benchmarks defined by GEF guidelines. It will be built upon the strong foundation of the previous developed NBSAP, Capacity Assessments and National Reports.

E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US\$ <i>Excluding project team staff time</i>	Time frame
Inception Workshop	Project Coordinator UNDP CO UNDP GEF	\$5,000	Within first two months of project start up
Inception Report	Project Team UNDP CO	None	Immediately following IW
Measurement of Means of Verification for Project Purpose Indicators, Project Progress and Performance (measured on an annual basis)	Oversight by Project Manager Project team	To be finalized during the inception phase and determined as part of the Annual Work Plan's preparation.	Annually prior to ARR/PIR and to the definition of annual work plans
Simplified Biodiversity Enabling Activities Annual Project Review / Project Implementation Report (APR/PIR)	Project Team UNDP-CO UNDP-GEF	None	Annually
Quarterly progress reports	Project team	None	Quarterly
CDRs	Project Manager	None	Quarterly
Issues Log	Project Manager UNDP CO Programme Staff	None	Quarterly
Risks Log	Project Manager UNDP CO Programme Staff	None	Quarterly
Lessons Learned Log	Project Manager UNDP CO Programme Staff	None	Quarterly
Terminal Report	Project team UNDP-CO local consultant	Printing costs, if any	At least one month before the end of the project
Lessons learned	Project team UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit (suggested formats for documenting best practices, etc.)	To be determined as part of the Annual Work Plan's preparation.	Yearly
Audit	UNDP-CO Project team	\$2,000 in total To be included in the CO audit plan.	Yearly
TOTAL indicative COST <i>Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff and travel expenses</i>		US\$ 7,000	

F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE):

-- n/a--

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 (<i>Month, day, year</i>)
Roberto Araquistain Cisneros	Vice Minister	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources	July 16, 2012


B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION*

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT
CBD	Nov, 20 1995	Lic. Freddy Rivera Umanzor

*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 Biodiversity Enabling Activity approval.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (<i>Month, day, year</i>)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Yannick Glemarec, UNDP/GEF Executive Coordinator		September 4, 2012	Santiago Carrizosa, Regional Technical Adviser, EBD	+507 302-4520	santiago.carrizosa@undp.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			
<i>Local</i>			
National Enabling Activity Technical Coordinator (managerial tasks, corresponding to 9% of the incumbent's time / remuneration)	40	72	<p>To undertake the general administrative requirements of the project, including those related to project management and funding. The key tasks are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that project Objective, Outcomes, Outputs and Activities are executed in a timely and appropriate manner. - Develop annual work plans and budgets, and submit these to the Steering Committee and to the UNDP Country Office for approval. - Develop TORs for Consultants for technical services, consultants, experts, and specifications of materials as required by the project, in consultation with the Project Director/UNDP. - Facilitate, guide and monitor the work of consultants, and approve their deliverables in association with the Project Committee. - Organize and assist in project related activities, where required. These may include planning for meetings, local and national workshops, consultations, trips, and other project related activities. - Establish and maintain linkages with national and international organizations and persons which/who can be of assistance to the objectives of the Project. - Provide timely reporting of project status as required by the Project Committee and the UNDP. - Maintain records of Project Committee meetings, decisions, actions etc. - Coordinate with other initiatives and programs whose outcomes and outputs are relevant to this project's objectives. - Any other duties assigned by the Project Committee that have direct relevance to the project. <p><i>Selection criteria:</i> should have a Bachelor's degree in management, administration, environmental management or related field with a minimum of 5 years management experience at a senior level, or an advanced degree with 3 years management experience. Knowledge and understanding of the relevant UN Convention, environmental issues in Nicaragua, good leadership, coordination, communication, and facilitation skills are essential.</p>
Technical Administrative-Assistant (part-time)	187.5	72	<p><i>Objective:</i> To perform as the liaison person on administrative and finance matters for the project between UNDP and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources</p> <p><i>Key tasks are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist in preparing for Project Steering Committee meetings (Project Board) and prepare and circulate minutes and any other documentation necessary for the meetings - Compile background material, working papers and statistical data for briefing sessions - Arrange programme visits and prepare reports including travel administration functions - Assist in preparing for training sessions - Prepare payment requests to UNDP including adequate supporting documentation and follow up on status - Draft routine correspondence and follow up and respond to queries on programme matters - Support with procurement of goods and services including contracts administration - Maintain an asset register for programme equipment - Collect, maintain and update data relevant to the programme - Maintain a consultants' database for the programme. - Maintain programme files for technical and financial records and keep information and reference material in a manner which allows easy reference and retrieval. - Provide programme information and data as requested by audit and evaluation missions - Support with preparation of work plans, progress reports including financial reports and obtaining necessary approvals and authorisations.

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>\$ / Person Week</i>	<i>Estimated Person Weeks</i>	<i>Tasks to be Performed</i>
			<p><i>Required Skills and Experience</i></p> <p>Secondary Education preferably with specialized certification in Accounting and Finance. University degree in Public Administration, Business, Finance would be desirable.</p> <p>5 years or more of relevant administrative or programme experience is required at the national or international level.</p> <p>Experience in office management, equipment, usage of computers and office software packages (E-mail/Internet, MS Word, Excel, Publisher, etc.) and knowledge of spreadsheet and database packages and in handling of web-based management systems.</p> <p>Knowledge and experience of Government and UNDP project administration procedures will be an asset. Experience in Biodiversity programming will be an added advantage.</p>
Project Director (government contribution equivalent to \$ 7,450 with the services of support staff included)	n/a	n/a	<p>The National Project Director (NPD) is a senior civil servant, who will serve as the focal point for the project within the designated national Implementing Partner, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA). Specifically with respect to this project, the NPD will be responsible for the following tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have overall responsibility for the implementation of the Project and the engagement of government institutions. - Guide and oversee the work of the Enabling Activities Technical Coordinator on a daily basis together with UNDP; - If applicable and so endorsed by the LPAC, certifying the work plans for the project, financial reports and request for advance of funds, ensuring their accuracy and in accordance with the project document; - Be responsible for the conduct of Project Steering Committee meetings, ensuring in particular high level participation from government and of other relevant stakeholders. - Ensure that products and publication produced by the project follow due the processes of approval within the government.
For Technical Assistance			
<i>Local</i>			
National Enabling Activity Technical Coordinator (technical tasks, corresponding to 91% of the incumbent's time / remuneration)	400	72	<p><i>Objective:</i></p> <p>To lead the overall process of the stocktaking, stakeholder consultation, national target setting and the development of the NBSAP and be responsible for the timely drafting and finalization of the NBSAP.</p> <p><i>Key tasks are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serve as team leader for other consultants involved in the NBSAP and be overall responsible for the timely drafting of the document for submission to the CBD Secretariat; strictly adhering to the deadlines agreed to; and ensuring quality control. ▪ Ensure that the inception meeting results in a clear roadmap on the scope of services and project tasks to be accomplished under the guidance of the NBSAP Coordination Unit, key national implementing partners and the UNDP technical staff. ▪ Develop a stakeholder consultation and participation plan that will ensure that the NBSAP development process is participatory, increasing the likelihood of successful implementation of the NBSAP. ▪ Submit draft and revised versions of all studies and reports of the NBSAP activities to NBSAP Principal Advisor, key national implementing partners and UNDP technical staff, per reporting timelines agreed on or before the inception meeting. ▪ Play a pivotal role in developing a work plan and coordinating the input and outputs of all consultants, as well as overseeing the technical quality of deliverables. ▪ Ensure that all Climate Change-related issues highlighted in the second National Communication to the UNFCCC that affect Biodiversity (Adaptation) or affected by Biodiversity (Mitigation) are integrated and addressed in the final NBSAP. ▪ Ensure that all lessons learnt in the mainstreaming of biodiversity into the production sectors (this includes measures against Invasive Alien Species) are incorporated into the NBSAP. ▪ Identify implementation partners for the undertaking of the various activities and develop an overall implementation plan. ▪ Submit a final draft to the NBSAP Principal Advisor, incorporating stakeholder inputs and guidance provided. ▪ Function as the main author of the 5th national report to the CBD, working closely with the relevant working group. <p><i>Contribution to the following deliverables:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Nicaragua ➤ Biodiversity Targets for Nicaragua: As part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020 ➤ Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Nicaragua and the National Biodiversity Policy ➤ Sub-product 1: Study on Ecosystem Valuation in Nicaragua and Nicaragua Aichi Targets (TEEB).

Position Titles	\$ / Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sub-product 2: Study on Advances in Sectoral Mainstreaming of Biodiversity in Nicaragua ➤ Fifth National Report to the CDB (key author and coordinator) ➤ Publications and Communication Strategy to disseminate the NBSAP. ➤ Set of 'straight-forward' and feasible NBSAP implementation plans, which ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP <p><i>Qualifications and experience:</i> Experience developing consultation and strategic planning, preferably with academic training in areas related to biodiversity and natural resources, participatory methodologies and group work. Must be knowledgeable of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Biodiversity Law No. 7788, be updated on the latest decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and have knowledge of other agreements relating to this matter, such as Framework Convention on Climate Change, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, among others.</p>
Working Group on the PoWPA and Fifth National Report to the CBD	300	42	<p><i>Objective</i> To assist the Enabling Activities Technical Coordinator and other project consultants in taking stock of the success of the existing NBSAP, developing national targets, in line with the global Aichi Targets, and updating Nicaragua's NBSAP. Key focus will be on Targets 11, on protected areas, but also Target 14, on the role ecosystem services in development.</p> <p>This same group will also be followed through for helping Nicaragua prepare its Fifth National Report.</p> <p>The experts will cover the specific themes and objectives related to the planning and implementation of the CBD's Protected Area Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) in Nicaragua. Other expertise, not necessarily linked to PAs may be drawn in in the context of preparing the Fifth National Report.</p> <p>Experts will be both agents of capacity building, but also recipients of it, in an iterative process that seeks to develop national capacity at the individual, organizational and systemic level. Refer to relevant descriptions in the approved Enabling Activity Proposal.</p> <p>The group is expected to make a significant contribution to the Study on 'Integrating the challenges to 21st Century Protected Areas into the NBSAP and the national implementation of the CBD's PoWPA'.</p> <p>The group will also contribute to <u>Output 2.1</u> (A National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for Nicaragua, anchored into national development frameworks, is revised and updated, in a manner that is participative, widely disseminated and fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan, such as: (i) mainstreaming; (ii) the valuing of ecosystem goods and services; and (iii) the incorporation of challenges and opportunities linked to ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience.); as well as <u>Outputs 1.1</u> (Review and stocktaking of products and results from previous biodiversity planning processes at the national level are carried out in participative manner.); <u>Output 1.2</u> (In response to the global Aichi Targets, national biodiversity targets are developed in a manner that is attuned to Nicaragua's reality) and <u>Output 1.3</u> (The achievement of national targets, developed in line with the global Aichi Targets, is duly monitored during the project duration and beyond, and this is reported upon to the CBD through national reports and other means).</p> <p>In connection with the 5NR, <u>Output 3.3</u> (3.3. Immediate CBD reporting obligations are met by Nicaragua in a timely manner: The Fifth National Report to the CBD by 31 March 2014).</p> <p>Membership will include experts in different areas that are essential for the management of protected areas, e.g. PA design, site and PA system management, ecological monitoring, management of PAs in changing climatic regimes, policy, legal institutional and socio-economic frameworks for effective PA systems, PA finance, PA site governance, in particular the engagement of riparian community in PA management. The group will be formed by 4-5 specialists in key domains. The principles for selecting</p>

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>\$ / Person Week</i>	<i>Estimated Person Weeks</i>	<i>Tasks to be Performed</i>
			<p>stakeholders as outlined in the approved Enabling Activity Proposal will apply: value adding, inclusivity, accessibility and access, transparency, fairness, accountability, constructive, redressing, capacitating, needs based, flexible, rational and coordinated, excellence. Else, the actual membership will be determined by available funding and opportunity.</p> <p><i>Key tasks of the group are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stocking of existing plans, policies and practices in Nicaragua that result in biodiversity conservation or loss – the focus will be on protected areas (PA) management. ▪ Identify the root causes of biodiversity loss in Nicaragua by first identifying the threat and then the drivers behind the threats, as well as the role played by PAs in averting those threats. ▪ Identify the key barriers and challenges in the policy environment to effective management of PAs in Nicaragua with focus on the systems and on sites. ▪ The (UNDP) Capacity Development Scorecard for the Management of Protected Areas Systems will be applied in an analytical fashion to identify specific capacity barriers at the individual, organizational and systemic levels. Other tools, including on the PA finance and the site management effectiveness (METT) can also be applied across the entire system of PAs. The GEF SO1 Tracking Tools includes both and may provide a more in-depth insight into the status of the system, and of the barriers faced at different levels. ▪ The PoWPA E-learning Curricula for protected area management will be explored, in terms of how it can contribute to improving capacity for it in Nicaragua. These are available in Spanish (www.cbd.int/protected). ▪ The group will ensure that Nicaragua taps into and participate in relevant knowledge fora and databases for protected area management. ▪ Identify the means to overcome existing barriers and challenges to integrating the challenges to 21st Century Protected Areas into the NBSAP and the national implementation of the CBD's PoWPA in Nicaragua. ▪ Provide inputs of technical nature de help Nicaragua define a set of national targets in response to the Aichi Targets and a means to track the implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020 at the national level. ▪ Take an active part in the technical and editorial group that will help Nicaragua develop its new NBSAP. ▪ Submit all required information by team leaders for finalizing the NBSAP activities. ▪ Play a pivotal role in the completion of the Fifth National Report to the CBD. <p>The group of experts will work extensively with all consultants responsible for specific products.</p> <p><i>Contribution to the following deliverables:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Nicaragua ➤ Biodiversity Targets for Nicaragua: As part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020 ➤ Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Nicaragua ➤ Sub-product 2: Study on the Incorporation of Challenges and Opportunities linked to Ecosystem-Based Adaptation and Resilience in Nicaragua ➤ Fifth National Report to the CBD

ANNEX B: 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 \(Expedited Procedures\)](#)
- GEF5 Focal Area Strategy ([download](#))

INDICATIVE CHRONOGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

Comp	Modules	Guiding activities under each module	2013				2014			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1	I. Preparation	1. Rapid stocktaking and review of relevant plans, policies and reports	x	x						
		2. Identification of stakeholders; consultations and awareness	x	x	x					
		3. 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		x	x	x				
	II Setting national targets, principles, & main priorities of the strategy	4. Setting national targets, principles, & main priorities of the strategy through national consultations			x	x				
2	III. Strategy and action plan development	5. Developing the strategy and actions to implement the agreed targets through national consultations			x	x	x			
		6. Application of the NBSAP to sub-national entities through sub-national and local consultations				x	x			
		7. Sectoral integration including mainstreaming into development, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectoral consultations			x	x	x	x		
3	IV. Development of Implementation plans and related activities	8. Development of a plan for capacity development for NBSAP implementation.				x	x	x		
		9. Technology needs assessment					x	x		
		10. Development of a communication and outreach strategy for the NBSAP.					x	x		
		11. Development of a plan for resource mobilization for NBSAP implementation					x	x		
	V. Institutional, monitoring, reporting and exchange	12. Establishment/ strengthening of national coordination structures					x	x	x	
		13. CHM development.			x	x	x	x	x	x
		14. Development of indicators and monitoring approach			x	x	x	x	x	x
		15. Fifth national reports						x	x	

ANNEX C. TOTAL BUDGET AND WORK PLAN

GEF Component (Outcome) /Atlas Activity	Responsible Party/ Implementing Agent	Fund ID	Donor Name	ERP / ATLAS Budget Code	Atlas Budget Description	TOTAL Amount (USD)	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Budget Notes
Comp 1. Stocktaking and national target setting	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	11,520	7,680	3,840	a
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	21,425	12,705	8,720	b
	GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 1 (Comp 1)					32,945	20,385	12,560	
	NEX	04000	UNDP TRAC - 00012	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	20,250	13,500	6,750	c
	TRAC Subtotal Atlas Activity 1 (Comp 1)					20,250	13,500	6,750	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 1 (Comp 1)						53,195	33,885	19,310	
Comp 2. NBSAP update	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Local Consultants	7,200	7,200	0	d
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	8,640	5,760	2,880	a
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	4,500	3,000	1,500	e
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	69,375	46,000	23,375	b
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72500	Supplies	3,000	2,500	500	f
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72800	Information Technology Equipmt	4,800	4,800		g
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	74100	Professional Services	7,000	7,000		h
	GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 2 (Comp 2)					104,515	76,260	28,255	
	NEX	04000	UNDP TRAC - 00012	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	20,250	13,500	6,750	c
TRAC Subtotal Atlas Activity 2 (Comp 2)					20,250	13,500	6,750		
TOTAL ACTIVITY 2 (Comp 2)						124,765	89,760	35,005	
Comp 3. National frameworks for NBSAP implementation, CDB reporting and exchange mechanisms	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Local Consultants	5,400	0	5,400	d
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	8,640	5,760	2,880	a
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	4,500	3,000	1,500	e
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	36,120	23,160	12,960	b
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72500	Supplies	1,925	1,500	425	f
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	74200	Audio Visual & Print Prod Costs	6,500	1,500	5,000	i
	GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 3 (Comp 3)					63,085	34,920	28,165	
	NEX	04000	UNDP TRAC - 00012	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	20,250	13,500	6,750	c
	TRAC Subtotal Atlas Activity 3 (Comp 3)					20,250	13,500	6,750	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 3 (Comp 3)						83,335	48,420	34,915	
Project Mgt	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	2,880	1,920	960	j
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	13,500	4,500	9,000	k
	NEX	62001	GEF-10003	72800	Information Technology Equipmt	1,075	1,075		l
	NEX	62001	GEF-10003	74100	Professional Services	2,000	1,000	1,000	m
	GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 4 (Proj Mgt)					19,455	8,495	10,960	
	NEX	04000	UNDP TRAC - 00012	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	20,250	13,500	6,750	c
	TRAC Subtotal Atlas Activity 4 (Proj Mgt)					20,250	13,500	6,750	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 4 (Project Management)						39,705	21,995	17,710	
SUB-TOTAL GEF						220,000	140,060	79,940	
SUB-TOTAL UNDP TRAC						81,000	54,000	27,000	
GRAND TOTAL (in cash)						301,000	194,060	106,940	

Budget Notes	
a	National Enabling Activity Technical Coordinator (technical tasks, corresponding to 91% of the incumbent's time / remuneration). Total \$28,800 spread across the project's Components 1, 2 and 3. Refer to Annex A for more info.
b	National consultations in connection with target setting (Comp 1), NBSAP update (Comp 2), CHM and 5NR (Comp 3). Refer to Annex D for more information on Output-based consultancies in connection with these activities.
c	Salary of Programme Officer in charge of providing technical backstopping and management support to the project, plus operational costs.
d	PoWPA and 5 th National Report Working Groups. Lump-sum \$12,600. Refer to Annex A for more info.
e	In-country travel by national consultants
f	Office supplies
g	Two laptops, one projector to facilitate consultation processes, printers and other peripherals
h	Editorial, typesetting, translation and interpretation services
i	General printing and publishing: (1) Newspaper advertisement; (2) Professional printing of key project deliverables
j	National Enabling Activity Technical Coordinator (managerial tasks, corresponding to 9% of the incumbent's time / remuneration). Total \$2,880. Refer to Annex A for more info.
k	Technical Administrative Assistant. 72 weeks @ 187.50 = \$13,500. Refer to Annex A for more info.
l	One desktop computer to be used by the project coordination.
m	Project Audit

ANNEX D. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE PROVISION: TOR FOR LAUNCHING A REQUEST FOR QUOTES

[C-I]

Technical and Editorial Support Services for National Biodiversity Target-setting, for the development of the NBSAP and the CHM and National Reporting in Nicaragua

(1) Summary

Nicaragua is in the process of implementing a GEF biodiversity planning project whose objective is to integrate the country's obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) into its national development and sectoral planning frameworks through a renewed and participative 'biodiversity planning' and strategizing process, in a manner that is in line with the global guidance contained in the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020.

The following key outcomes are sought as part of the project:

- 1) A participative stocktaking exercise on biodiversity planning takes place and national biodiversity targets are developed in response to the global Aichi Targets
- 2) Nicaragua's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) is revised/updated and it fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan, such as mainstreaming and anchoring the implementation of the plan into national development frameworks, valuing ecosystem services and promoting ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience
- 3) National frameworks for resource mobilization, Convention reporting and exchange mechanisms, including the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) of the CBD, are established and strengthened

The ultimate goal of the project is to build national capacity within the topic of biodiversity planning. This implies procuring knowledge and capacity building services that are usually not available in the country, due to the specificity of the topics at hand and the technical requirements.

Hence, an international **Request for Quotation** is being launched in view of having services rendered by a group of specialized consultants within the following areas of expertise:

- (A) The interface between biodiversity & climate change
- (B) Environmental economics, finance and biodiversity mainstreaming
- (C) Web-design and editorial support

Services may combine national and international expertise and quotes for qualified companies should be presented as a package of services, including honoraries, travel expenses and admin costs.

(2) Background

- To be added when composing the final documentation for the Request for Quotes -

(3) Objective

Provide knowledge and capacity building services to the government of Nicaragua, as well as to other key stakeholder involved in the implementation of the Biodiversity Enabling Activities Project, with the following specific sub-objectives:

- (A) To identify opportunities for incorporating ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience into Nicaragua's national biodiversity targets (in line with the global Aichi Targets) and into the country's revised NBSAP.
- (B) Identify and assess the full value of biodiversity and ecosystem services within Nicaragua, and promote, through the national target-setting exercise and the revision of the country's NBSAP, the incorporation of economic valuation of biodiversity into various sectors, including development plans and sectoral plans.
- (C) To provide web-design and editorial support for the finalization and publication (including electronically) of documents in Spanish produced by Nicaragua's Biodiversity Enabling Activities project and for the development of an effective, user-friendly and easily updatable country-driven CHM site for Nicaragua.

Block of Services (A) Biodiversity and Climate Change

- Based on existing data and fine resolution GIS modeling, identify potential areas important for carbon sequestration in Nicaragua and make recommendations for their protection management, which may be incorporated into the national target setting exercise (in line with the global Aichi Targets) and into the country's revised NBSAP.
- Assess the extent to which the country's ecological gap assessment include predicted future distribution of biodiversity under climate change scenarios, making specific recommendations for protected area and corridor expansion, recommendations that should be realistically incorporated into Nicaragua's national biodiversity targets and revised NBSAP.
- Assess the impact of climate change on the functioning of ecosystem services, such as water and nutrient recycling, in a geographically-based manner.
- Identify areas important for improving nature's ability to adapt to climate change, such as altitudinal gradients and conservation corridors.
- Identify areas of particular importance for restoration in order to improve climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation.
- As a result of the above, prepare specific inputs in Spanish for Nicaragua's set of biodiversity targets (in line with the global Aichi Targets) (due in mid-2013), for the country's new NBSAP (due by early 2014) and for its Fifth National Report to the CBD (due in March 2014).
- Develop a written report that summarizes all findings.

Block of Services (B) Environmental economics, finance and biodiversity mainstreaming

- Identify and assess the full range of values of key ecosystem services within the country, based on existing local, national, regional and global studies on the value of ecosystems and biodiversity, including: the valuation of protected areas, any other national ecosystem services studies that have been conducted (e.g., water, carbon), and existing global and regional maps and overlays of key ecosystem services. This may also include comparing valuation studies from ecosystems in neighboring countries.
- Identify the implications of these services for different stakeholder groups within the country, including those who benefit from, and pay for, the maintenance of these ecosystem services, and those that degrade ecosystems through unsustainable use.
- Estimate and demonstrate the value of key ecosystem services (using methods appropriate to each service), including the value of the ecosystem service in contributing to climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation; reducing poverty, and sustaining livelihoods.
- Identify mechanisms for incorporating these values into national accounting practices.
- Where appropriate, this activity will also identify potential means of capturing the value of targeted ecosystem services, including through policies such as payments for ecosystem services and other positive incentives.
- As a result of the above, prepare specific inputs in Spanish for Nicaragua's set of biodiversity targets (in line with the global Aichi Targets) (due in mid-2013), for the country's new NBSAP (due by early 2014) and for its Fifth National Report to the CBD (due in March 2014).
- Develop a written report that summarizes all findings.

Block of Services (C) Web-design and editorial support with respect to documents in Spanish produced by Nicaragua's Biodiversity Enabling Activities project and for the development of the country's CHM

- Web-design Support:
 - Analyze the existing CHM for Nicaragua, the current international and official guidance on the matter (see e.g. www.cbd.int/chm) and discuss options, through concrete proposals, for improving the site with the national CHM focal point, the CBD national focal point and key project staff and stakeholders.
 - Once these proposals are approved, implement improvements to the web-design of the existing CHM website for Nicaragua, aimed at increasing and improving its visibility with current and potential target audiences and the general public.
 - Roll-out a hands-on training programme on how selected focal points in Nicaragua will be able to manage and improve web-site contents and graphics in the future, as needed. This training is also expected to widen the understanding by these focal points and others on how Nicaragua can tap into useful information on, and participates into, global networks and initiatives on biodiversity data and indicators (such as the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership¹⁴, Global Biodiversity Information Facility¹⁵ and the World Conservation Monitoring Centre¹⁶, the Global Environment Outlook portal¹⁷, among other relevant ones).
 - The assignment will also contribute to developing the 'Nicaragua CHM Database' on a number of biodiversity themes deemed relevant. This includes providing training to focal points on how to periodically update relevant information in the CHM and its database.
 - All the activities will be carried out in a participatory and skill-sharing fashion to ensure sustainability of the contribution of this consultancy.
- Editorial Support:

¹⁴ www.bipindicators.net

¹⁵ www.gbif.org

¹⁶ www.unep-wcmc.org

¹⁷ geodata.rrcap.unep.org

- Provide any support needed in the final compilation and editing of materials for wide dissemination and publication in connection with the project.
- Once the content is approved for publication, develop the graphical design and ready-to-print versions of the mentioned documents, or ready-to-publish-electronically, as needed. In summary, these will be: (1) Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Nicaragua (due by mid 2013); (2) Biodiversity Targets for Nicaragua (due end 2012); (3) Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for Nicaragua, complete with all due studies and implementation plans (due around early-2014); (4) Nicaragua's CHM based on best international practice on the matter (where editorial support will be on-going throughout the duration of the project).

The above services, including all three blocks, comprise a minimum of 25 person-weeks in total. This is but indicative. Each bidder will need to indicate the number of days of service the company can offer based on the scope of the consultancy.

Service providers will work together with the team of national and international consultants for the project in Nicaragua, in particular the Enabling Activities Technical Coordinator, who will play a leading and coordinating role vis-à-vis project activities and the relevant working groups.

(4) Expected Results

[The Enabling Activities Technical Coordinator will elaborate more and finalize the expected results when composing the Request for Quotes' documentation]

Contribution to the following deliverables:

- Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Nicaragua
- Biodiversity Targets for Nicaragua: As part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020
- Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Nicaragua
- Sub-product 1: Study on Advances in Sectoral Mainstreaming of Biodiversity in Nicaragua
- Sub-product 2: Study on the Incorporation of Challenges and Opportunities linked to Ecosystem-Based Adaptation and Resilience in Nicaragua
- Set of 'straight-forward' and feasible NBSAP implementation plans, which ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP
- Fully functional CHM for Nicaragua, based on best international practice on the matter

– Number of minimum mission days and schedule of payment to be completed when composing the final documentation for the Request for Quotes –

(5) Duty station:

- Managua, Nicaragua, for the mission part*
- Home based, for the completion of certain reports

*Note: all travel expenses should be included into the breakdown of contract total amount by submission of financial proposal.

(6) Requirements to the documents

- Draft and final documents should be submitted in Spanish in MS Word (2007 or later). Used font: Arial, size: 12; Presentational documents should be prepared in Power Point.

– May be complemented when composing the final documentation for the Request for Quotes –

(7) Responsibility

- Agrees the above results with the Enabling Activities Technical Coordinator;
- Ensures timely and quality execution of the Terms of Reference;
- Ensures unconditional implementation of requirements of the contract

(8) Qualification requirements

- As minimum 5 years of work experience (preferably more, given the complexity of the services in question) in the relevant field for the three blocks of services: (a) environmental or natural science, with a specialization in ecosystem based climate change adaptation and/or mitigation; (b) national biodiversity valuation studies, payment for ecosystem services, sectoral mainstreaming of biodiversity, policy development, national accounting practices and methods; (c) web-design and editorial support with respect to documents in Spanish produced by Nicaragua's Biodiversity Enabling Activities project and for the development of the country's CHM.
- Valid certificates and licenses for consulting services in the field of biodiversity and or development.

- Available qualified personnel with university degrees in the field of biodiversity management, economics, journalism and web-design.
- Outline of proposed approaches for the three blocks of services
- List of rendered consulting services for the past 3 years.
- Ability to submit the 2 reference letters confirming the successfully rendered services for the last 2 years.
- Ability to write hold the trainings in Spanish is a requirement.

(9) Available information:

Complete Project Document for the UNDP/GEF PIMS 4870 “National Biodiversity Planning to Support the implementation of the CBD 2011-2020 Strategic Plan in Nicaragua”

– *Relevant hyperlink to the project document to be added when composing the final documentation for the Request for Quotes* –

(10) Selection Process

The selection of the company will follow an open competitive process in line with UNDP procurement standards. The successful company would be required to enter into a standard UNDP Institutional Contract. The contract will be awarded according to the cumulative analysis scheme: proposal with the overall highest score after adding the score of the technical proposal and the financial proposal will be chosen.