



GEF

Global Environment Facility

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Facsimile Cover Sheet

DATE: December 28, 1998 No. of Pages: 1
Inc. Cover sheet

TO: Mr. Rafael Asenjo PHONE:
ORGANIZATION: UNDP/GEF Executive Coordinator FAX: (212)906-6998

FROM: Mario A. Ramos PHONE: (202) 473-3297
Program Manager FAX: (202) 522-3240

CC: E. Torres, E. Fuentes (UNDP), K. Kumari, H. Acquay, and R. de Mesa (GEF)

SUBJECT: **PDF A: Pakistan: Balochistan Juniper Conservation Through Community Participation**

Message:

Dear Rafael:

As requested, we have reviewed the above PDF A and would like to offer the following comments:

Although the PDF A is eligible, the Secretariat would like to discuss its endorsement and approval. The country ratified the CBD as highlighted in the proposal. The concept fits OP #3, and GEF financing should be for the incremental costs of those measures and activities which will accrue global environmental benefits. The concept has been submitted to the national operational focal point and has been endorsed. Key issues that the Secretariat would like to discuss with UNDP are: (a) concerns about the apparent piecemeal approach taken by both UNDP and the Bank to conservation work in Pakistan. If the area proposed is as important as suggested in the Medium-sized proposal, why it has not been included in the larger UNDP and World Bank projects; (b) the Secretariat would have to have a better understanding of the pipeline that UNDP has for Pakistan. It seems that both IUCN and WWF have other projects in the pipeline. What is UNDP strategy for assisting Pakistan in conserving/sustainably using biodiversity and its resources? (c) information would be needed regarding the resulting project size as the medium-sized grant and associated co-financing may be unable to fully address the underlying causes. Planned activities seem unlikely to address main threats and underlying causes; (d) issues related to the strategic fit of the various initiatives, the absorptive capacity and recurrent financing needs would need discussion too; (e) information about the potential IUCN and government contributions, as well as other co-financing would be helpful; (f) a meeting with both UNDP and the Bank may be needed to clarify this issues before proceeding further. Thank you.

Rafael Asenjo

- 2 -

December 28, 1998

MAR/mar

Cleared with and cc: A. Duda

bcc: Chron MAR

Central Files YES, PDF A

MTE No

Circulating BB Yes

Others in SEC W. Lusigi, H. Mishra, C. Cruz, J. Taylor (for project files)

Outside SEC None

File name: mario\word\pdfakistan.doc\December 28, 1998

GEFSEC Project Tracking System

Response Due Date: 12/31/98

Correspondence Description

Addressed to: Mr. Kenneth King

Correspondence Date: 12/18/98

Date Received: 12/22/98

Organization: UNDP

From: Emma Torres

Assigned To: M. Ramos

Status: Open

Type: Memorandum

Topic: PDF A: Pakistan - Balochistan Juniper Forest Conservation Through Community Participation

Action Instructions

- For Bilateral meeting
- For information only. No action needed.
- Please handle/respond on behalf of Mr. Kenneth King and provide a copy.
- Please handle/respond on behalf of Mr. Mohamed El-Ashry and provide a copy.
- Please prepare a draft response and return to Program Coordinator
- Please reply directly and provide a copy.
- Please review and/or technical comments

Special Instructions

Information Copies Sent To:

K. Kumari, H. Acquay, W. Lusigi, M. Cruz, J. Taylor

Projects File Room Location:

Note: A copy/original of the document is being sent directly to your attention.

Please return this page with a copy of the incoming correspondence and the reply/action taken to Program File Manager (GEFSEC Project File Room) before or by due date with the original copy of the correspondence and the reply/action.

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

**United Nations Development Programme**
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)

To: Mr. Kenneth King
Assistant Chief Executive Officer
GEF Secretariat

Date: 18 December 1998

Mr. Lars Vidaeus, Chief
Global Environment Div.
World Bank

Mr. Ahmed Djoghla
GEF Executive Coordinator
UNEP, Nairobi, Kenya

Fax: 202-522-3240
202-522-3256
2542-520-825

Pages: (8 including this sheet)

From: Emma Torres
Officer-in-Charge and
Deputy Executive Coordinator

Subject: PDF A Funding - Pakistan: Balochistan Juniper Forest Conservation Through community Participation

Please find attached for your review a PDF Block A request for funding entitled: "Pakistan: Balochistan Juniper Forest Conservation Through community Participation".

We would appreciate receiving your comments no later than c.o.b. Monday 23 December 1998.

Thank you.

PM

Street Address: 304 East 45th Street, 10th Floor
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Telephone: (212) 906 5044
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UNDP-GEF PDF PROPOSAL TRACKING SHEET PDF BLOCK "A"

Project Title: Balochistan Juniper Forest Conservation Through Community Participation

Regional Bureau: BBAP (Jim Boyle / Aisha NAZARIO)

GEF Thematic Area: Biodiversity

Office of Executive Coordinator	Received by: <u><i>P. Marting</i></u> (Signature)	Date: <u>18/12/98</u>
UNDP-GEF Technical Advisor:	Endorsement of Concept: _____ (Signature)	Date: _____
Chief, Programme Support Unit:	Funds available: _____ (Signature)	Date: _____
Executive Coordinator:	Endorsement in principle: <u><i>[Signature]</i></u> (Signature)	Date: <u>21/12/98</u>
The following information is to be provided Regional Coordinators:		
Distributed to Implementing Agencies by:	_____	Date: _____
Comments received from UNEP	No: _____	Yes: (Comments attached) If yes, what action proposed
Comments received from World Bank	No: _____	Yes: (Comments attached) If yes, what action proposed
Comments received from Secretariat	No: _____	Yes: (Comments attached) If yes, what action proposed
Executive Coordinator:	Final Approval: _____ (Signature)	Date: _____
Distributed to Secretariat for Records by:	_____	Date: _____
Assigned Project Number*: _____		
Project numbers are assigned by Programme Support Unit after Executive Coordinator signs final approval.		

PROJECT PROPOSAL**BLOCK A PDF****PART I - ELIGIBILITY****1. Project name:**

Balochistan Juniper Forest Conservation Through Community Participation

2. GEF Implementing Agency:

United Nations Development Program

3. Country or countries in which the project is being implemented:

Pakistan

4. Country eligibility:

Pakistan ratified the CBD in July 1994

5. GEF focal area(s), and/or cross-cutting issues:

Biodiversity

6. Operational Program/Short-term measure:

This proposal falls primarily within the Forest Operational Program, but is also relevant to the Arid/Semi-Arid and Mountain operational programs. Experience gained during the implementation phase of the project will help the local communities use their natural resources on a sustainable basis, and develop effective liaison between government line departments and the communities in addressing conservation issues relating to the ecology and use of juniper forests in Balochistan. The project will also enhance capacity of forestry staff and local communities to implement appropriate protection measures.

7. Project linkage to national priorities, action plans and programs:

The juniper forests of Balochistan are believed to represent one of the largest remaining tracts of *Juniperus excelsa* in the world and are, therefore, of global significance. These forests have been identified as one of the most critically threatened ecosystems in Pakistan by the National Conservation Strategy and the Biodiversity Action Plan. This ecosystem is also a focus of the Balochistan Conservation Strategy, particularly for its biodiversity and watershed values.

26 June, 1998

Both the federal and provincial governments have stressed the importance of the juniper forests. Its water retention ability in the arid mountains of the region have been given prominence in the Biodiversity Action Plan of Pakistan.

The project will emphasise protecting the unique biodiversity of the juniper forests through community based conservation and by developing a proposal for World Heritage Site designation. As such the project will complement the restructured juniper component of the World Bank funded Balochistan Natural Resource Management Project (BNRNP). The BNRNP focuses on community mobilisation through entry point funding of activities such as control of mistletoe disease, grazing management, development of juniper management plans, water channel/water spreading, nurseries and growing alternate fodder on farmlands.

The juniper forests fall outside of the proposed Pakistan Mountain Areas Conservancy Project (UNDP/GEF) which focuses on the mountain ecosystems of the North West Frontier Province and Northern Areas as recommended by an independent evaluation mission (April, 1997). The Protected Areas Management Project (World Bank/GEF) is restricted in its coverage to strengthening management of 3 existing national parks in Pakistan. Hence, the need for protecting the Balochistan juniper forests through an alternate funding source (such as the Medium-Sized Grant Facility) as part of an integrated GEF package.

8. GEF national operational focal point and date of country endorsement:

Ministry of Environment, Local Government and Rural Development

9. Project rationale and objectives:

The project will assist in conserving the juniper forest ecosystem covering an area of about 100,000 hectares in the Ziarat and Zarghoon Hill Ranges in Balochistan. These forests contain unique fauna and flora, having Sino-Himalayan, central Asian, Iranian and Turkish affinities. Mature stands of thousand year old trees and middle aged trees occur at elevations between 2000 to 3000 meters. The forests are home to spectacular mammals such as the endangered straight-horned markhor (*Capra falconeri megaceros*) possibly a few remaining Balochistan black bears (*Ursus thibetanus gedrosianus*), the rare Balochistan urial (*Ovis vignei blanfordi*), Pallas's cat (*Felis manul*), Afghan pika (*Acetone rufescens*), about 100 species of birds, nearly 30 species of reptiles and a large number of medicinal plants; some of whose economic potential has been explored so far. Growing in catchment areas, the junipers are also essential for soil binding and water conservation in the area. This is of particular significance in the largely arid province of Balochistan.

The resource is of global significance and represents one of the largest remaining tracts

of *Juniper excelsa* forest in the world. The juniper forests are a strong candidate for designation as a protected area and a World Heritage Site. However, the ecosystem is under severe threat due to habitat degradation from a number of sources. These include increased human settlement and access, overgrazing, cutting of junipers for fuelwood and other purposes, land development (growth of orchards and irrigated croplands) water stress, diseases, and lack of a sense of ownership of natural resources amongst the communities.

The main aims of the project are to ensure conservation of globally significant biodiversity by providing communities, living in and around the juniper forests, an opportunity to work towards achieving sustainable development and develop their capacity for biodiversity conservation. Developing a proposal for designating the area as a World Heritage Site (WHS) will be an important step in ensuring the long-term protection of the area, and is one of the objectives of the medium-sized project.

10. **Expected outcomes:**

The result of the PDF-A would be a medium-sized GEF project designed to: 1) ensure conservation and sustainable use of Juniper forest ecosystem in Ziarat and Zarghoon Hill Ranges; and 2) nominate the Juniper forest ecosystem in Ziarat as a WHS, which will insure its long-term protection. The outcome of activities initiated during the medium-sized project will aim to reduce present threats to biodiversity by focussing on the following main project components: a) strengthening information base; b) legal/policy review; c) community empowerment; d) awareness raising and e) nomination as a WHS to help protect the forests. The project will also promote regional cooperation and links with other conservation initiatives working to protect the remaining juniper forests.

11. **Planned activities to achieve outcomes:**

A) Strengthening the information base

- > complete a diagnostic survey of the juniper forests to understand the ecology of the ecosystem, its significance, and the social and biological threats which have an adverse effect on the forests;
- > develop an information base for the juniper forests as an integral part of the GIS of the Balochistan Area Development Program;
- > assess perceptions and needs of different groups, especially women, through participatory and rapid rural appraisal planning, i.e. both traditional and new groups that are emerging in the business centres;
- > conduct a gender analysis of the data to enable formulation of policies which address both men and womens role in Natural Resource Management
- > finalize information requirements after a through review of existing information available with organizations/agencies and projects (such as BNRMP) working in

the relevant sector and area

B) Reforming policy and legal frameworks

- > review existing policies and laws to identify barriers to greater community involvement in resource protection efforts; make contact and establish collaborative efforts with other organizations which have been working on legal and policy reforms in the forest sector both within and outside Balochistan
- > initiate legal and policy reform to facilitate community participation in the management and protection of natural resources (e.g. forests, wildlife, livestock grazing and tourism) and provide communities with a sense of ownership and opportunities for economic incentives.

C) Promoting community empowerment

- > support collaborative management of juniper forests by the Balochistan Forest Department and custodian communities;
- > involvement of women-who are the main users and managers of forests-would be ensured in all stages of project cycle
- > enhance local capacity for management and sustainable use through creation of village conservation committees, which voice the opinions and encourage the involvement of women users
- > implement pilot initiatives in the areas of forest conservation, ecotourism and conservation awareness in the local communities after reviewing initiatives taken in the area by other organizations and assessing the impact of activities undertaken for ecotourism and conservation;
- > propose alternative livelihood activities (including visitor facilities and guide training) as part of management planning; efforts will be made to ensure that introduction of any new activity does not overburden women and benefits derived are shared by all household members

D) Raising awareness

- > emphasize the role of women in forest management and the need to address their concerns and educate them with regard to conservation measures
- ➔ develop appropriate linkages in planning and implementing of the World Heritage Site proposal with BNRMP and other initiatives;
- ➔ promote environmental education and awareness in local schools and institutions by building on the BNRMP's awareness raising work;

-> disseminate new information globally, nationally and locally.

12. Stakeholders involved in the project:

Through the involvement of the Jirgah (tribal council), communities will get the opportunity to actively participate in conservation and sustainable use practices. The supportive role of the government line departments (Balochistan Forestry and Livestock Departments) in this direction, and coordination with the villagers, will improve the relationship of the stakeholders having varied demands on the forests. A strong awareness program will help all involved parties understand the international, national and local importance of the resource and the significance of a World Heritage Site. This will result in enhanced support and commitment for forest conservation.

Since this is a multi-sectoral initiative, project formulation will be done by a team of foresters and livestock officials co-ordinated by IUCN-The World Conservation Union and its regional programme office in Quetta. Participation of other key departments/agencies including Education Department, Pakistan Forest Institute (PFI), Arid Zone Research Institute (AZRI), Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) and representatives of local communities will be actively encouraged. Linkages with the BNRMP, ADPB and the Balochistan Conservation Strategy (BCS) will be maintained throughout the project.

The Forest Department, being one of the main stakeholders (the other being the local communities), will be playing a vital role along with IUCN in joint planning, developing a WHS proposal, empowering local communities, reforming policy and local frameworks, and linking BNRMP to proposed project activities.

PART II - INFORMATION OF BLOCK A PDF ACTIVITIES

13. Activities to be funded by the PDF:

(a) Hiring of consultants with requisite local expertise; travel cost of local and foreign experts;

(b) Participatory rapid appraisals (initial scoping for social feasibility); identification of stakeholders;

(c) Secondary data collection for development of a Project Document;

(d) Consultative workshops with representative groups.

14. Expected outputs and completion dates:

A GEF Project Brief will be completed by December 31, 1998 upon approval of the brief by the GEF CEO, the brief would be converted into a UNDP Project Document within the stipulated period of 8 weeks.

15. Other possible contributors/donors and amount:

Other potential donors would be sought during the course of Project Brief preparation.

16. Total budget and information on how cost will be met (including the Block A grant):

a) Coordinator's salary and consultant fees	US\$ 10,000
b) Surveys/PRA's/Field appraisals	US\$ 8,000
c) Consultative workshops	US\$ 5,000
c) Preparation of Project Brief and full-scale proposal	US\$ 2,000
TOTAL	US\$ 25,000

PART III - INFORMATION ON THE APPLICANT INSTITUTION**17. Name:**

IUCN - The World Conservation Union

18. Date of establishment, membership, and leadership:

1948, 913 members in 138 countries. IUCN-Pakistan has 5 regional offices including its programme office in Quetta.

19. Mandate/terms of reference:

As a non-profit organisation, IUCN is a union of countries and NGOs that seeks to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.

20. Sources of revenue:

Membership fee, donations, grants etc.

21. Recent activities/programs, in particular those relevant to the GEF:

Biodiversity Conservation Project (UNDP/GEF; PAK/93/G41)
Biodiversity Action Plan and Protected Area Management Project (World Bank/GEF)

PART IV - INFORMATION TO BE COMPLETED BY IMPLEMENTING AGENCY**22. Project identification number:**

PAK/98/A03

23. Implementing agency contact person:

Mr. Jim Boyle, Regional Coordinator, Biodiversity/International Waters, RBAP, UNDP/GEF, New York.

24. Project linkage to Linkage Agency program(s)

PAK/93/G41: Maintaining Biodiversity with Rural Community Development (GEF funded)

PAK/96/006: Balochistan Area Development Programme (UNDP TRAC funded)

PAK/96/021: Trial District Management Project (UNDP TRAC funded)

PAK/96/013: Rural Women Enterprise Development in Balochistan (UNDP TRAC funded)

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RB

M. P. I

A. T. Boyle

[Signature]

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D.O.No.215/98 Tech.I
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
Ministry of Environment, Local Government
and Rural Development



Islamabad, 27 November 1998

D12

DIRECTOR GENERAL (ENV.)

SUBJECT: BALUCHISTAN JUNIPER-GEF MEDIUM SIZED GRANT PDF-A PROPOSAL

Dear Mr. Sakaguchi,

A project proposal on Balochistan Juniper-GEF Medium Sized Grant PDF-A submitted by IUCN, the World Conservation Union is forwarded. The sponsors of the project have initially requested PDF-A grant of US \$ 25,000, leading ultimately to the development of a full-scale project.

2. The overall goal of the project is to ensure conservation of globally significant Juniper Forests, and promotion of Sustainable Development, in the area with active involvement of communities in conserving biodiversity and developing a proposal for possibly designating the area as a heritage site.

3. The project after completion will ensure conservation and sustainable use of Juniper forest eco-system in Ziarat and Zarghoon hill ranges on a long-term basis. The project will also promote regional cooperation a linked to the conservation and protection of juniper forests in other area of the world.



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FROM RAFAEL ASENJO UNDP GEF

TEL: 212-906-5825

P. 003

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4. Given the benefits occurring from the project at the global and national level, the Ministry of Environment, Local Government and Rural Development, as the National Focal Point of GEF initiatives in Pakistan, endorses the above mentioned project for MSP grant.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,


(MAHBOOB ELAHI)

Mr. Harumi Sakaguchi,
Director
United Nations Development Programme
(UNDP) Saudi Pak Tower,
61-Jinnah Avenue,
Islamabad.

3/9